

Senate cuts would affect local funding

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

The news the Republican-controlled Senate voted to cut state-revenue sharing to local communities by 10 percent came as no big surprise for local government officials.

Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards has been saying for years the township can expect to continue to lose the lion's share of its statutory revenue sharing purse, which for the

moment stands at some \$200,000.

"Five years ago, we were getting \$700,000 or \$800,000, and they were telling us it was going to grow," Edwards said. "As far as anything the state does to us, we've been planning for it for two or three years now, and it's really not going to affect anything for us. We'll be OK."

Plymouth financial director Mark Christiansen has been so sure the state would cut the funds he's built a 12-percent loss into the city's five-year financial plan. The city currently gets some \$240,000 in statutory state revenue sharing.

"It's the same old story: The state taking care of its problems on the backs of the local communities, whether it's the school districts or cities and townships," Christiansen said. "We've already programmed into our five-year budget projections the total loss of the statutory share. We've already accounted for the fact it's probably going to happen, and sure

enough it's right on target."

Gov. Jennifer Granholm and the state Senate agreed on \$344.6 million in budget cuts in an effort at dealing with the state's \$940 million deficit. The Senate then voted to remove some \$377 million from the State School Aid Fund and \$255 million from the general fund, including \$40 million in revenue sharing. The plan now goes to the Democrat-controlled House.

The school funding cut - \$34 per

pupil - would cost the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools some \$600,000, a pay cut district officials said would have to be made up out of the fund balance.

"Our ability to react so late in our budget vear is zero," said Patricia Brand, Plymouth-Canton Schools assistant superintendent for business services. "It will just have to come out of fund equity, and we'll have that

PLEASE SEE CUTS, A5

City OKs money for study

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Plymouth city commissioners literally voted to "show me the money" by authorizing payment for its share of a feasibility study to determine if a regional fire department can work for several communities in western Wayne County. Representatives from a possible six communities -Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton Township, Livonia, Westland and Northville Township - could decide Monday if they will hire consultants Plante Moran to conduct a \$100,000 feasibility study on the regionalization of fire and EMS services, and how much money it may save. If not. the effort could be shelved. "Plymouth has been in the forefront, the leaders of it, and I think this is just another example of that," said Mayor Dan Dwyer, who has spearheaded the effort to consider regionalization. "I think it (the vote) will help other communities to remain in the process." Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack said earlier his community would opt out once a monetary commitment was needed to continue. Westland has balked at the cost. The others are wait-and-see. If based on community population, Livonia would pay nearly \$30,000 for its share of the feasibility study, while the city of Plymouth would contribute \$2,700. However, Dwyer has said he would propose each community pay the same, which would average the cost at \$16,667. "We need to start looking at other options that are more cost-effective, yet provide the same or better service," said Commissioner Michele Potter, who voted in favor of the study. "If it costs us \$16,000 to find that out, the savings will more than outweigh it, in my opinion."



More jobs on block among additional \$1.5M in cuts

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Jim Ryan is expected to announce another \$1.5 million in budget cuts Tuesday, which will get closer to the \$5.5 million the Board of Education wants to cut to balance the 2007-08 budget.

Ryan said among the reductions will be the layoffs of two key personnel: Tom Sklut, the district's development director, and Terry Sawchuk, Plymouth High School athletic director. Contractually, administrative cuts need to be made by the end

of March. Both could be recalled

planned for the 2008-09 school

On Tuesday, Ryan announced

\$3.3 million in cuts for 2007-08.

tion of 40 teaching positions and

Trustees also want Ryan to

the amount of expenditures that

is greater than revenue - to keep

reduce the structural deficit -

from using fund equity to bal-

According to Patricia Brand,

assistant superintendent of busi-

for next year is estimated to be

ness services, the structural deficit

\$7.4 million. That would mean an

additional \$4.1 million in cuts for

"We'll always have an incre-

mental structural deficit." Brand

our expenses, including increas-

said. "It occurs when we don't

have enough revenue to cover

the 2007-08 school year. Brand projected the structural deficit for

2008-09 at \$4 million.

The cornerstone of his plan -\$2.37 million - is the elimina-

Ryan also indicated he'll accel-

by the Board of Education.

erate some of the cutbacks

year to next year.

raising class sizes.

ance the budget.

es in health care, utilities and the retirement rate." Trustees want to eliminate the structural deficit to keep more

money in the fund balance. "We need an answer on ... how you recommend we address it each year," said board Secretary Judy Mardigian to Ryan. "I brought up the idea of a threeyear projection because I don't think it's achievable in two. I don't know how to make the numbers work, but I want to find the kinds of cuts that aren't in a classroom.'

Board Vice President Mark Slavens wants to investigate more administrative cuts, such

BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Practice makes perfect

Down in the orchestra pit, cellists Karl Riggs and Derek Thieleman warm up for the dress rehearsal of the Park Players' production of "Footloose." Fore more on the play's preparations, see page A3.

GEMS conference focuses on math, science

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER,

When 13-year-old Emily Prieskorn attended her first GEMS (Girls Excel in Math and Science) conference, she had no idea what a landscape architect was.

Now she wants to be one.

"I didn't know about some of the careers we learned about, like engineering and landscape architecture," said Prieskorn of Canton Township, an eighthgrader at East Middle School. "I'd never even heard of a landscape architect, and I never really thought about engineering before, but it was pretty

interesting. I think it's really good to get out there and really explore some different possibilities that you might not know about."

Janet Kahan, Plymouth-Canton Schools K-12 curriculum coordinator for math and

PLEASE SEE GEMS, AS

as in purchase services, and the finance, human resources and technology departments.

"It looks like we're doing a whole lot of cutting with regard to instruction, but I'm not seeing a whole lot from finance, technology ... we need to have cuts across the board," Slavens said. "Have you made the analysis there's absolutely nothing else to cut? I'd like them to put their thinking caps on.'

Ryan said he'll look into administrative reductions, but reminded the board those kinds of cuts were made first, before the educational cut recommendations.

"We've cut in those areas before and left instruction alone," Ryan said. "That's why you're seeing a higher end of instructional people cut now.

"If we make cuts in those (administrative) areas, there are things we won't be able to do," he said. "We've stayed away from things like privatization of our custodial, maintenance and transportation because it's not feasible for our district. We're just too large."

All-Saints

students Mary

Ganich (left)

and Lindsay

handled some

slime when

the **GEMS**

they went to

competition.

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> Volume 121 Number 62





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Plymouth 101

Spaces are still available for "Plymouth 101," the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's workshop series that replaced the Leadership Plymouth program.

There are still two sessions left on the schedule: "Main Street to Wall Street, Part II," 8-11:30 a.m. Friday, April 20, during which students take an indepth look at the City of Plymouth government, services, people and programs; and "Law & Order," 8-11:30 a.m. Friday, May 11, during which students follow a crime from beginning to end as someone is moved through the system from arrest to trial to prison. The session starts at 35th District Court and ends at the Detroit Regional Correctional Facility.

Plymouth 101 consists of half-day sessions designed to help participants get involved and learn about their community. Cost is \$45 per session.

For more information, contact the chamber, (734) 453-1540.

Village Voices concert

The BeckRidge Chorale presents its ensemble, Village Voices, in their second concert of 2007, Strictly A Cappella, with no piano, no drums, nothing but the beauty of the human voice.

The centerpiece of this performance will be "The Peaceable Kingdom" by

Randall Thompson. The concert will also include an eclectic mix of music demonstrating the beauty of harmony found only in the human voice.

The concert takes place 4 p.m., Sunday, March 25 at the Village Theater of Canton, 50400 Cherry Hill. Tickets are \$12 for general seating and can be purchased by phone at (734) 416-9885 or log on to the Chorale web site www.plymouthchorus.org

Showcase concert

The PCCS Showcase Concert featuring the PCEP Festival Singers takes place 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Tickets are \$6 and may be purchased through the Village Theatre Box Office or Web site at www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater. A portion of ticket proceeds

benefit the PCEP Choirs.

Council on Aging

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging will host "Diet and Nutrition" sponsored by Heartland Plymouth Court, 10:45-11:45 a.m., Thursday, April 19, at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

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 to regis-

PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

Guests at Crescent

ter. Free coffee and nutritional

snacks.

Some 35 Plymouth-Canton teachers and administrators, members of

community. A focus of the presentation was to inform public school

teachers and administrators of the needs of their Muslim students.

Canton earlier this month, where they heard Sister Sommish,

Crescent's principal, speak about Muslim students and their

Delta Kappa Gamma is a sorority for women educators.

Delta Kappa Gamma, were guests at Crescent International Academy in



New Morning School is including a tasty addition to the school's 31st-annual fundraising auction, set for Saturday, March 31.

New Morning School will host a wine tasting to accompanying their "La Dolce Vita" theme. The open public is welcome to attend and indulge in tastings of their favorite wines with the some 600 attendees expected to bid fast and high on such items as a "Top Gun" style jet ride, a first-class ski trip to Lake Tahoe, tickets to see Oprah Winfrey, a day at the spa or a weekend of morel mushroom hunting.

The New Morning School auction is held annually at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Parents, families and the local community work from the beginning of the school year gathering merchandise and sponsorships. The over \$120,000 raised every year help offset tuition and make up a large portion of the schools operating budget. All donations are completely taxdeductible; New Morning School is a non-profit educational institution.

Anyone interested in attending the auction can purchase tickets by calling (734) 420-3331. Tickets are \$75 per person for the meal and \$25 for the wine tasting room. Monetary and item donations are gratefully accepted.

Spring Break camp

The Plymouth Family YMCA is accepting registrations for it Spring Break Camp, set for April 9-13 at First Baptist Church in Plymouth.

Camp hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and campers camp be dropped off any time between 7:30-9 a.m. and picked up any time between 4-6 p.m. Activities will include swimming, field trips, character development and fun. Camp for YMCA members costs \$37 per day or \$155 for the week. The cost for community members is \$50 per day or \$205 for the week.

For more information, contact the YMCA office, (734) 453-2904 or go to www.ymcadetroit.org

Little Lambs registration

Little Lambs Christian Preschool is now enrolling for the 2007-2008 school year.

The school is located inside First Baptist Church, 45000 N. Territorial in Plymouth Township, and offers kindergarten readiness programs with degreed teachers, low student/teacher ratios of 1-5, prereading, writing and math skills, Spanish and sign language, student evaluations and parent conferences, field trips and a book club.

Easter Bunny breakfast

E.G. Nick's hosts "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny" 9-10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 31. Attendees will enjoy a full buffet breakfast (includes eggs, bacon and sausage), an Easter Egg hunt and an extra special visit from the Easter Bunny. Parents are encouraged to bring cameras for pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Tickets must be purchased in advance from the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce (9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday), located at 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth, or at E.G. Nick's located at 500 Forest.

Ticket prices are \$8 for children and \$12 for adults; children 3 and younger admitted free. Visa and Mastercard are accepted.

Contact the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce with any questions or for ticket information at (734) 453-1540.

Wrestlemania bowling

Bowldetroit.com has announced a partnership between WrestleMania 23, the Make-A-Wish Foundation and **Community Bowling Centers** to bring the "Bowl with Bobby Lashley WrestleMania 23 Make A Wish Foundation Charity Bowling" event.

The Make a Wish Foundation is a participant in the WWE Circle of Champions program. This first bowling event revolving around WrestleMania 23 will be held Saturday, March 31, at Skore Lanes in Taylor.

The event runs 1-3:30 p.m. Skore Lanes is located at 22255 Ecorse in Taylor. It features a photo with Extreme Championship Wrestling champion Bobby Lashley; unlimited pizza and soda; more than two hours of bowling; door prizes; a silent auction; trophies and awards. Tickets begin at \$100. For more information, call (313) 291-6220.

Student Citizenship Scholarship

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce are accepting applications for the Student

Citizenship Award scholarship. Nominations from all employees, parents and friends of high school seniors from the Plymouth and Canton area will be accepted until 4 p.m. April 5. The \$500 scholarship is based on community service only. Grade point average does not play a role in the



The Plymouth Township Police Department hosts a free Child Safety Seat clinic 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 14, at the Plymouth Township Police Department, located at 9955 N. Haggerty. The inspections will be by "appointment only," and limit-

Sounds of Canton, hosted

by the Plymouth Community

1:30 p.m. April 9 at the

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Council on Aging, will perform

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Call (734) 453-1234, Ext.

236 ASAP to register for this

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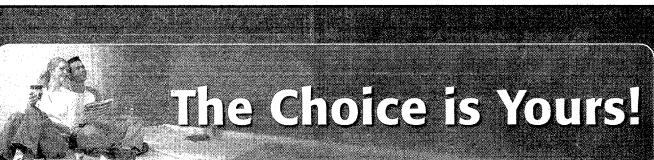
ed space is available. If you would like to have your child's seat inspected by a national certified Child Passenger Safety Technician, make an appointment by calling Officer Jamie Senkbeil at (734) 354-3243.

Antiquing opportunity

There's a friendly group who travels to different locations once a month to shop and have lunch, and they're looking for more members.

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Anyone interested can call Helen at (734) 455-4863.

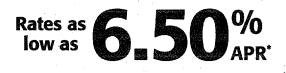


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DAR meets

The Daughters of the American Revolution, Northville/Plymouth chapter, meet noon Monday, April 16, for a sandwich luncheon at the Northville District Library in Northville. It is the chapter's annual meeting.

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

The selection committee will pick one student each from Canton, Plymouth, Salem, Starkweather and a non-P-CCS high school for the award. The scholarship application, which is available at the Board of Education office, requires the student to give a one-paragraph description of what community service means to them, a one-page, bulleted list of the student's community service and a one-page testimonial by the person nominating the student for the award. Inquires should be directed to the P-CCS Community Relations office at (734) 416-2757.

CORRECTION

A story in the March 11 issue about a fund-raising walk for Lighthouse of Oakland County listed the wrong Web site address. Walkers can register now for the June 2 event at www.lighthouseoakland.org on the Internet.



Observer

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committee's decision.

Park Players cut 'Footloose'

Spring musical a challenge for huge cast

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

In her tenure as director of the Park Players, Kristen Quesada has always loved a challenge.

With 55 cast members, many of them auditioning for their first production without stage or dance experience, producing Footloose certainly qualifies. That's the task the Players took on for their spring production, which continues Friday and Saturday at the Gloria Logan Auditorium in Salem High School.

"Footloose drew a variety of students, many of whom have never auditioned or been in a show before," Quesada said. "There's talent everywhere, though. There's lots of dancing to choreograph, which I love, but it's a bit of a challenge with so many new cast members who haven't had any dance or stage experience."

The Park Players' production of *Footloose* is based on the 1980s screen version starring Kevin Bacon and Lori Singer., 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. McCormack falls for Ariel Moore, the daughter of town preacher Shaw Moore.

Quesada had a big cast to choose from, with 55 cast members, 30 on the production staff and 25 in the orchestra pit — all of them students.

From among that vast group, Salem High School senior Chris King was chosen to play McCormack, the role played by Bacon.

"He was cast for his raw, believable portrayal of a confident city kid, and his rockstyle singing voice," Quesada said. "Footloose is a rock musical and calls for some non-traditional voice types."

Playing opposite King is Plymouth sophomore Jen Schinker as Ariel, the rebel-

Reverend Shaw Moore (Brandon Verdi) tries to keep a lid on the activities that kids enjoy during the Park Players' production of Footloose.

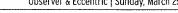
The Park Players continue their production of "Footloose" Friday and Saturday at the Gloria Logan auditorium in Salem High School.

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hous daughter of Reverend Moore, who ends up falling for Ren.

"Jen was cast because she IS Ariel," Quesada said. "From her amazing belt voice, to her acting abilities, to her look, she fit the part best out of everyone who auditioned for the show."

Salem junior Brandon Verdi, whom Quesada called "experienced and highly talented," plays the conservative Reverend Moore.

"(Verdi's) acting and vocal skills are rich beyond his years," Quesada said. "He puts his heart and soul into this role and will amaze the audience. He's dependable and focused, and one of the most genuine people I have ever met."

Performances are at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for all shows, all ages. Tickets can be purchased 2:30-5:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday in the upper auditorium at Salem High School, or at the door one hour before curtain on performance nights.

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



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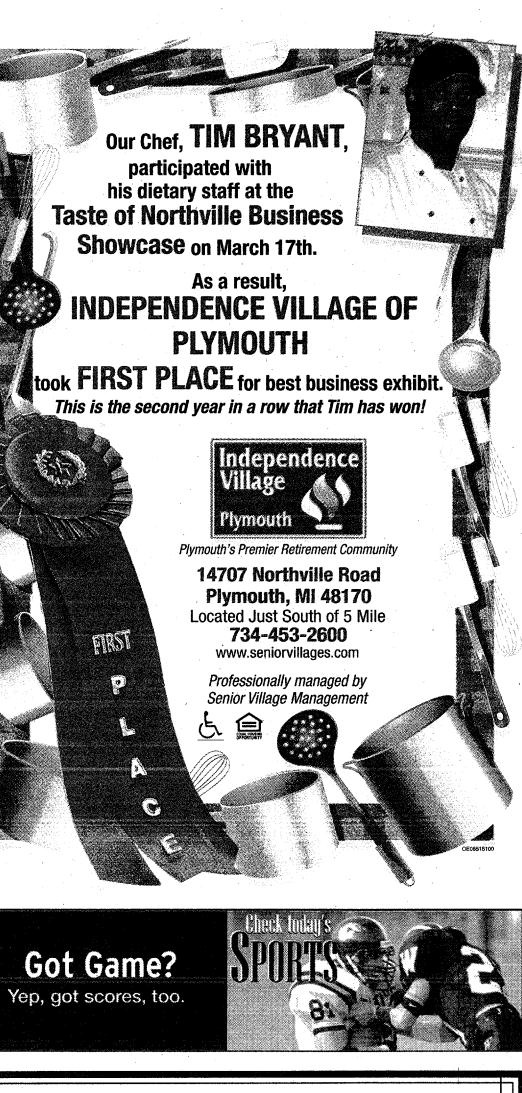
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D.A. S. I.S. I.A.N

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FIRE RUNS

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period March 14-20:

Tuesday, March 20 -Residential rescue runs on Beacon Hill, on Cassidy Place, on Mill, on Haggerty and on Pine; rescue run at Hartsough & Dewey; vehicle accident with wash-down on Haggerty south of Schoolcraft.

📕 Monday, March 19 — Vehicle accidents on eastbound M-14 at Beck and at N. Mill at the railroad crossing; commercial rescue run on Haggerty; industrial rescue run on Schoolcraft.







Sunday, March 18 — Vehicle accident on Beck Road at the M-14 ramp: vehicle accident with extrication and downed wires on eastbound M-14 east of I-275; commercial rescue run on Haggerty; vehicle accident (with wash-down) on the eastbound M-14 ramp to Sheldon; residential rescue runs on Newport, on Orangelawn and on Northville Road.

Saturday, March 17 — Rescue run on N. Territorial; commercial rescue run on Haggerty; residential rescue runs on Northville Road, on Junction and on Sutherland.

Friday, March 16 – Residential rescue runs on Adams and on Howland Park Drive; special run on Sheldon, south of 5 Mile; vehicle accident at Northville Road and 5 Mile.

Thursday, March 15 — Residential rescue runs on Spicer, on Northville Road, on Harvest, on South, on Coolidge and on Plymouth Road; commercial rescue run on Beck; investigation on Roosevelt.

Wednesday, March 14 – Residential rescue runs on Jackson, on Trailwood, on Turtlehead, on Northern, on Andover, on Sheridan and on Orangelawn; vehicle accident on Beck south of Ann Arbor Road; commercial rescue runs on Genoa and on Beck.

DEATHS

В

Mary Alice "Mickie" Beyer Beyer, 79, of Plymouth, died March

Charles Victor Booth Booth, 83, of Rochester, died March 18. Jon Lee Brimhall

Brimhall, 44, died March 9.

Marilyn Madge Cresswell Cresswell, 87, formerly of Rochester Hills, died March 15.

Elmer (nee Bell) Emorey Emorey, 80, died March 18.

Roberta Cole Holcomb Holcomb, 83, of Birmingham, died March 16.

Miguela A. "Mike" Menendez

Menendez, 60, of Southfield, died March 20.

Harold W. "Rex" Rector Rector, 88, died March 19.

Manson G. Taylor Taylor, 88, died March 22.

Marguerite E. Webster Webster, 88, formerly of Redford, died. W. Douglas Wright

Wright, 79, formerly of Rochester, died March 20.

Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page C7.

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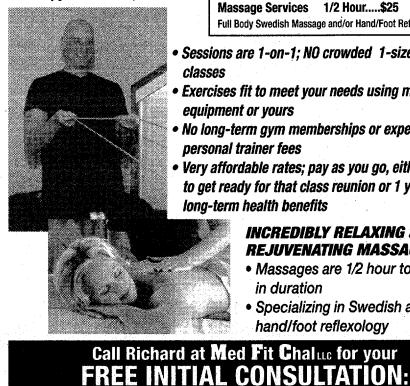
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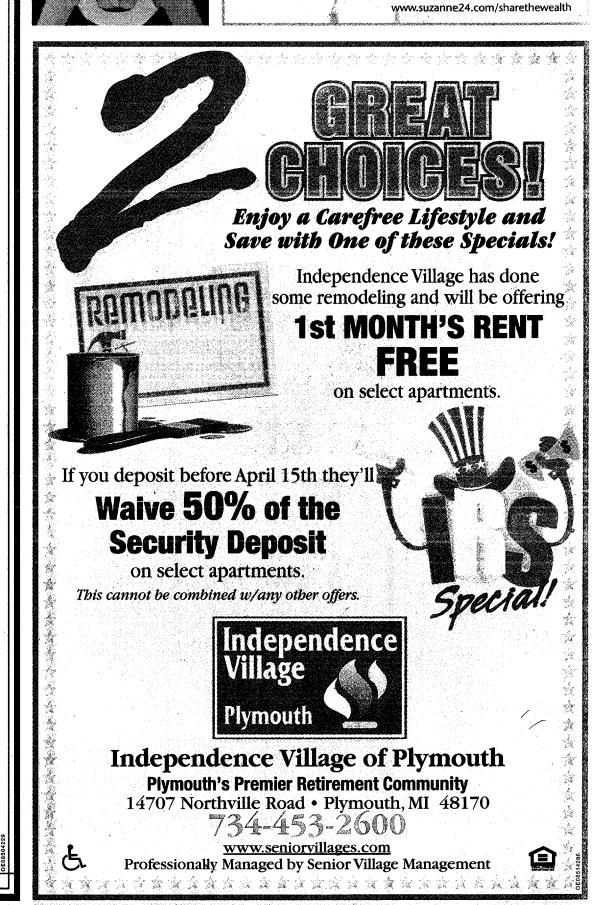
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CONTINUED FROM A1

GEMS FROM PAGE A1

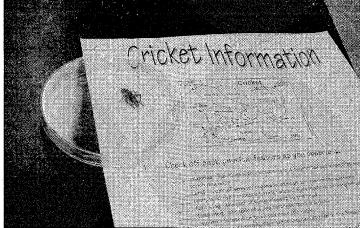
science, said the GEMS conference – for fifth- through eighth-grade girls - showcases some of the career paths open to girls with strong math and science backgrounds.

"Our keynote speakers are a pair of women from General Motors, and we want for them to tell about what they do, how it matters to them and the world, and how they got ready to do it," Kahan said. "We want kids to see that people who have careers didn't decide what they wanted to do when they were 6 years old. They'll see how you go from being a person who doesn't know what you want to do to ending up with a career you love.

"We're trying to encourage girls to consider math and science technology, engineering and math-related careers," she added, "because we think it's a wonderful way to make a living.'

Some of the role-model sessions at the half-day conference March 31 at Plymouth High School will include presentations by an architect, banker, engineers, a museum educator, a bio-chemistry researcher and a forensic scientist.

"It's important to expose young girls to careers in the science field, things they may not be familiar with, and show them the opportunities out there for them," said Danielle



Crickets were among the items of interest in the science categories at GEMS, a conference for girls in fifth through eighth grades, focused on careers involving math and science.

Hankinson, a forensic scientist at the Michigan State Police Crime Lab in Northville, who will speak at GEMS. "Giving them a realistic viewpoint of working in the field and letting them know it's not like CSI on TV.

"I will tell them that while sometimes they might think it's boring, there are a lot of exciting things about working in science," she added. "As a forensic scientist, I use the same techniques every day, but there are different types of evidence, and it's certainly not boring.

"Math and science are relevant to things in everyday life. You can't ignore the fact that if you didn't take math, you couldn't balance your checkbook."

This year, Plymouth-Canton is teaming with Livonia Public Schools, which signed up

who registered for GEMS. Kahan said she wants them to know that those in math and science aren't like the stereotypes - nerdy people who wear long, white coats.

to know there are lots of choices, but it doesn't just fall on you, you do have to do some work," Kahan said. "In a lot of cases it's a helping profession. Science isn't isolated, it's really a very social endeavor, lots of interaction with people."

school, Kahan debunks the perception there are more boys than girls taking math and science classes.

in the science and higher math classes," Kahan said. "But women are still underrepresented in the science and engineering fields, and there are

of a given that you went to museums and saw the stuff," Winther said. "GEMS made me realize there are jobs out there you never really think about, and maybe I should

Kahan said many of the GEMS sessions are filled, but there are some still open. Registration forms are on the Plymouth-Canton Schools

CUTS FROM PAGE A1

much less to cover current expenditures. Even though our fiscal year ends June 30, the state aid payments for us are still being received in July and August. They'll probably just take off one of those two state aid payments."

Brand said if the Senate cut eventually makes its way through the legislature, next year's projected \$9.4 million fund balance will be trimmed to \$8.8 million as a result.

"That's about five weeks

worth of expenses," Brand said. 'That's not very much." Christiansen doesn't think residents will actually notice the effects of the latest proposed cuts because city officials have already planned around them.

"We are finding ways to cope with the overall problem," Christiansen said. "Because of the big cuts we went through two years ago, we're actually doing fairly well right now. I don't see this manifesting itself in any particular way because we anticipated losing that money."

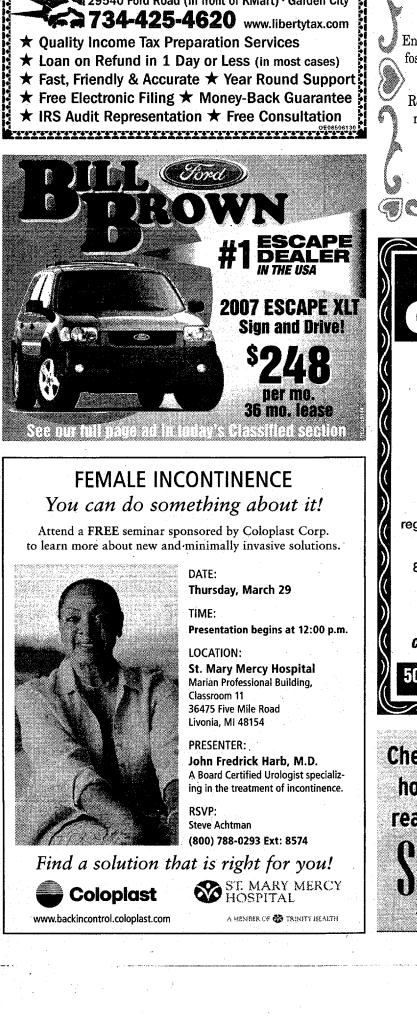
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recently been released that reveals an amazing new medical breakthrough that has proven 86% successful treating debilitating back pain. Even with multiple herniated discs. Find out how space travel solved astronauts back pain treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" call 1-800-469-3618 and listen to the toll-free 24 hr. recorded message for all the details. If phone lines are busy, visit: www.midischerniation.com



LIBERTY TAX SERVICE 29540 Ford Road (in front of KMart) · Garden City



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 25, 2007

Ignition charity bowling event to benefit orphans

The Detroit Ignition will join forces with local charity **Relieving Orphan Suffering** Everywhere (ROSE) to host a bowling fund-raiser to support orphan children in Russia. The event is scheduled for 7 p.m., March 27 at the Super Bowl located at Ford and Canton Center roads in Canton.

A6

(P)

The cost is \$20 per bowler, which covers bowling, shoe rental, pizza, salad and pop. Tickets to the bowling outing are available in advance by calling Mike Laginess at (734) 560-6686 and will also be available at the door.

All proceeds will go to ROSE, a local non-profit Christian group that was formed in 2005 by a group of people from Livonia, Canton, Farmington Hills and South Lyon. The group's mission is to raise money to fund nutrition, education, shelter and other needs for orphan children, who receive little or no attention.

In a recent mission trip by ROSE, the ROSE team, worked with a Russian charitable organization to distribute 240 pounds of coats, hats, gloves, mittens and scarves to homeless children and those living in orphanages. The trip also helped the mission team members inform ROSE members about the great need for support of orphans in Chita, Siberia and other portions of Russia.

If you want to support ROSE, but cannot attend Tuesday's bowling benefit, call Mike Laginess at (734) 560-6686 or reach ROSE by mail at P.O. Box 871007, Canton, MI 48187-6007.

The Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth, offers the following programs in March:

■ NEEDLECRAFTERS MEETING, Monday, March 26, 7 p.m. – Kick off a new project or keep after your current one. Knitters, quilters, needlepointers are all invited to attend this informal group gathering. Lessons are not provided, but ideas exchanged among attendees. No registration required.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS/PLYMOUTH COM-MUNITY ARTS COUNCIL, Monday, March 26, 7 p.m. -For nearly 10 years, the Arts Council has offered exceptional presentations about the DIA's

permanent collections and special exhibits. Register by calling the Library's Reader's Advisory Desk at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

BROWN BAG BOOK DISCUSSION, Wednesday, March 28, noon — This month's discussion invites members to read The Year of Magical Thinking by Joan Didion. Copies of this book are available at the circulation desk. Bring a lunch; beverages are provided. For more information about Brown Bag Books, ask at the Reader's Advisory Desk, call Linda Pride at the Library, (734) 453-0750, or e-mail lpride@ply-

mouthlibrary.org. HOMEBOUND BOOK

@ THE LIBRARY

DELIVERY — Joining the Plymouth Community Council on Aging, the Plymouth District Library will deliver library books and audio books to homebound residents of the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township. Call (734) 453-0750, ext 240 to enroll or go to plymouthlibrary.org and complete the homebound delivery service registration.

Youth programs

BABY PLAY, Monday, March 26, 10 & 11 a.m., Saturday, March 31, 10 a.m. -This fun program is for babies ages 6-24 months. Baby Play is a less formal companion to our Lapsit program. Babies

and caregivers listen to a story, followed by play with developmentally appropriate toys and interaction with other children. Registration is not required for Baby Play.

You need to know this

All Teen Zone programs are FREE - it costs you nothing to participate. The Friends of the Plymouth District Library provide FREE refreshments for every teen program. All the info you need about our teen programs can be found at plymouthlibrary.org/ya.htm

For more information on any library programs, please contact Susan Stoney, Plymouth District Library, (734) 453-0750, ext. 242.

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDINANCE NO. C-07-01** AMENDMENT TO WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE C-06-02 TO **REVISE MINIMUM WATER RATES, THE MINIMUM** SEWAGE RATES AND SINGLE RESIDENCES UNMETERED WATER RATES; PROVIDING FOR VIOLATION AND PENALTY; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL **OTHER INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR** THE SAVINGS CLAUSE OF THIS ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE ORDINANCE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

SECTION 1.

Article I of the Water and Sewer Ordinance, Chapter 73, Paragraph C of Section 73.040 is hereby amended to read as follows

C. Minimum Water Rates. The following Minimum Rates shall be charged in addition to the appropriate Service Charge and Capital Charge

Meter <u>Size</u> 3/4x5/8"	Minimum Quarterly <u>Rates</u>	Minimum Gallonage <u>Charged</u>	Minimum Monthly <u>Rates</u>	Minimum Gallonage <u>Charged</u>	
- 3/4x5/8 - 3/4"	\$ 11.80 \$ 14.16	5,000 6,000	\$4.72 \$7.08	2,000 3,000	
1"	\$ 14.10 \$ 23.60	10,000	\$ 7.08 \$ 9.44	4,000	
1-1/4"	\$ 35.40	15,000	\$14.16	6,000	
1-1/2"	\$ 35.40	15,000	\$14.16	6,000	
2"	\$ 35.40	15,000	\$14.16	6,000	
` 3"	\$35.40	15,000	\$14.16	6,000	
. 4"	\$ 47.20	20,000	\$18.88	8,000	
· 6"	\$47.20	20,000	\$18.88	8,000	
~\ 8 "	\$47.20	20,000	\$18.88	8,000	
10"	\$47.20	20,000	\$18.88	8,000	

SECTION 2

Article I of the Water and Sewer Ordinance, Chapter 73, Paragraphs B and C of Section 73.050 is hereby amended to read as follows

B. Minimum Sewage Rates. The minimum monthly and arte all be as follows vage use rates

People Mover moving on Transit system's first retiree ready for open road

Charles Goodwin, 63, has . always enjoyed being a part of something big.

He was there two decades ago when cranes first lifted trains onto the Detroit People Mover's downtown Detroit guideway. He was there with the 40 million passengers who have taken a ride on Michigan's only automated light rail system. He's been up several stories high in the snow and rain, walking the 2.9-mile loop. And he's been under the heavy vehicles making repairs on the midnight shift.

Now Goodwin has ended his transit career on a high note: As the first person to retire with the Detroit Transportation Corporation, operators of the Detroit People Mover. The Detroit People Mover began operating July 31, 1987.

Goodwin has been promoted several times, including serving as Assistant Maintenance Manager and Maintenance Supervisor, his last position. He was recognized for his numerous contributions to the company with a commemorative plaque and luncheon where DTC's staff all wished him well.

"I will miss the job in general," said Goodwin. "I enjoyed my work because I always believed that I could contribute and make the system better." Prior to joining DTC,

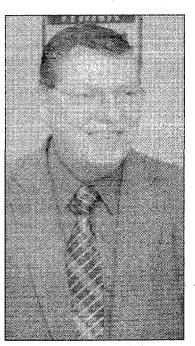
Goodwin had 20 years in elec-

have been on the technical level. Always organized and known for his knowledge of the system, Goodwin even left his original training manuals for the next generation of mainte-

nance staff. Goodwin remains proud he was part of a system that was ultimately built to last. Back in 1986, only Vancouver, British Columbia operated a similar mode.

communications," Goodwin said. "The whole place had landmark stuff.'

"We greatly value the time, dedication and experience Mr. Goodwin has given to DTC and to the Detroit People Mover," said DTC General Manager Barbara Hansen. "As the People Mover begins its next 20 years of service, it is the staff, like Charles Goodwin, who make it possible to serve





Charles Goodwin of Plymouth is presented with a commemorative plaque and is congratulated by Detroit Transportation Corporation General Manager Barbara Hansen on his retirement from the company, where he worked for more than 20 years since the opening of the Detroit People Mover.

	Minimum	Minimum	Minimum	Minimum
Meter	Quarterly	Gallonage	Monthly	Gallonage
Size	Rates	Charged	Rates	Charged
3/4x5/8"	\$15.30	5,000	\$6.12	2,000
3/4"	\$18.36	6,000	\$ 9.18	3,000
1"	\$30.60	10,000	\$12.24	4,000
1-1/4"	\$45.90	15,000	\$18.36	6,000
1-1/2''	\$45.90	15,000 '	\$18.36	6,000
2"	\$45.90	15,000	\$18.36	6,000
3"	\$45.90	15,000	\$18.36	6,000
4"	\$61.20	20,000	\$24.48	8,000
6"	\$61.20	20,000	\$24.48	8,000
8"	\$61.20	20,000	\$24.48	8,000
10"	\$61.20	20,000	\$24.48	8,000

C. Single Residences Unmetered Water. For single residences having unmetered water supply, the rate shall be \$308.60 per year billed at the rate of \$77.00 quarterly and for each trailer in a trailer court having an unmetered water supply, the rate shall be \$308.00 per year billed at the rate of \$77.00 per quarter.

SECTION 3. VIOLATION AND PENALTY.

Unless otherwise provided, any person, corporation, partnership or any other legal entity who violates the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined not more than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars or imprisoned for not more than ninety (90) days, or both, at the discretion of the Court.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.

If any clause, sentence, section, paragraph or part of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any person, firm, corporation, legal entity or circumstances, shall be for any reason adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, said judgment shall not affect, impair or invalid the remainder of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to the legislative intent of this body that the Ordinance is severable, and that the Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid or unconstitutional provision not have been included in this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES.

All Ordinance or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect

SECTION 6. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

All rights and duties which have matured, penalties which have been incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this Ordinance are not affected or abated by this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. PUBLICATION.

The Clerk for the Charter Township of Plymouth shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance, as amended, shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted by the Township Board Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth at its regular meeting called and held on the 13th day of March, 2007, and was ordered to be given publication in the manner required by law.

MARILYN MASSENGILL, Clerk

OF08514986

Introduced:	February 13, 2007
Adopted:	March 13, 2007
Effective:	March 25, 2007
	* · · ·

Publish: March 25, 2007

tronics and went back to college for his degree at age 39. While working at the Detroit People Mover, he said some of his greatest accomplishments

"At the time (it was constructed), the People Mover was on the cutting edge for rail technology, propulsion power, Automatic Train Controls,



ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS **MEETING NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN** (734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals will be held on Thursday, April 5, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following item:

Z 07-04 277 Fair Non-Use Variance Requested Extension of Non-Conforming Side Yard Setback Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential **Applicant: Frank Brace**

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, the City 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 the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

> Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

Publish: March 25, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FY2007 CDBG ACTION PLAN

On April 10, 2007, at 2 p.m. in the Administrative Services Conference Room, first floor, Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan, there will be a public hearing on the FY 2007 Community Development Block. Grant (CDBG) project proposals. The purpose of the Action Plan is to identify projects and project funding levels for the FY 2007 CDBG program. The funding requests are: First Step, \$36,000; Growth Works, \$7,040; Neighborhood Legal Services Michigan, 20,500; Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency, \$3,000; Canton Township Leisure Services handicap accessible athletic equipment purchase, \$1,500; Canton Township Volunteer Coordinator, \$6,500; HelpSource Teen Parenting, \$4,000; HelpSource Adult Day Services, \$2,000; Leisure Services Department doors retrofit for handicap access at Summit community center, \$30,000; Canton Township Human Services Center building improvements, \$58,760; Affordable Housing Activities (housing rehabilitation and lot purchase), \$170,000; Construction Contingency, \$20,000. Not all project proposals are necessarily listed, and not all projects will be approved or funded at the requested amounts. The FY 2007 CDBG allocation is \$374,160. Written comments or requests for information should be directed to: Gerald Martin, Community Services Specialist, Finance Department, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188-1699, (734) 394-5194.

Terry Bennett, Clerk

OE08515017

Publish: March 25 and 29, 2007

our patrons quickly and efficiently."

DTC has 15 employees who have been with the company since its inception and DTC will celebrate the People Mover's 20th Anniversary with public events in late July.

Next up for Goodwin is a trip on the new motor home, as he and his wife Elizabeth hit the road for six weeks. First stop: Dollywood, where he hopes to meet the country legend while he's there.

Charles Goodwin of Plymouth hopes to hit the road to do some traveling after retiring from the People Mover, where he worked for more than 20 years.

OE08515010

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: March 25 & 29, 2007

OE08515217

PLYMOUTH HOUSING COMMISSION **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)** FAMILY SELF SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM

The Plymouth Housing Commission (the Commission) is seeking proposals from individuals and/or organizations interested in providing coordination and/or case management services for the Commission's Family Self Sufficiency Program (FSS).

Interested parties may respond to provide program coordination services, case management, or both.

A copy of the RFP describing the scope of service requirements, general instructions, and evaluation criteria may be obtained from the Commission at 1160 Sheridan, Plymouth, MI 48170, or by contacting Sharon Thomas at 734.455.3670.

Proposal packages shall be submitted on or before 3:00 pm, Friday, APRIL 20, 2007. Six (6) copies of the proposal package are to be addressed and submitted Plymouth Housing Commission, 1160 Sheridan, Plymouth, MI 48170. All packages must be clearly marked as RFP FAMILY SUFFICIENCY COORDINATION AND CASE SELF MANAGEMENT SERVICES.

We reserve the right to reject all proposals in the event that less than three (3) are received.

Plymouth Housing Commission

Sharon L. Thomas, Director

Published: March 25, 2008

SUNDAY PERSPECTIVES

With a little bit of vision, county can reverse decline

wo weeks ago, Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano was telling

Observer editors about the challenges facing a county with 2 million residents.



Hugh

Gallagher

Well, not exactly. According to U.S. Census figures released Thursday, the county's population is down to 1,971,853, a 4-percent decline since the 2000 census, representing a

loss of 89,309 people. Though, undoubtedly, many of those people have made their way to

the booming counties of the south and west, many have also just moved around to Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Washtenaw counties. Livingston grew by a healthy 18 percent in the same period, Washtenaw by 7 percent and even blue-collar Macomb by 6 percent.

Detroit has seen its population wither away and the process goes on unabated. Estimates are that the big city is now under 900,000. Older housing, high crime, fierce poverty, troubled schools and a lack of retail shopping are driving Detroit's population into the suburbs. This has been a trend since the early 1960s and now the city's majority black population is making the move once made by white Detroit residents.

Some sections of Wayne County, particularly Canton, have been growing despite the state's economic problems. But communities closer to the central city such as Redford are continuing to lose.

It's easy to get panicked by these figures. Everyone remembers the 1970s and the jokes about the last person leaving Michigan. Foreclosures are at record numbers. The auto companies seem to be laying off thousands of workers every other week. Other businesses are more quietly going out of business. Only the hurricane-devastated counties of south Louisiana have lost more residents than Wayne County.

Though the state's population is holding steady, that's not enough to offset the growth in Florida, Texas, Arizona, Nevada and California. Experts predict we will lose a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives and the political clout that implies.

But in a glass half full view, the fact that many residents are moving within the region rather than away from it says something about a desire to hang on and see if things can turn around.

Ficano sought inspiration in another Democrat facing dire economic challenges, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Ficano said Roosevelt probably failed at 70 percent of the ideas he advanced in his first term. But his programs and his optimism gave people hope and helped them survive through the Great Depression.

With that in mind, Ficano has been vigorously promoting several ideas. On top of that list is a renovated and expanded Cobo Center. As Ficano sees it, Cobo is central to reviving downtown Detroit, keeping the city as a major venue for conventions and trade shows, particularly what Ficano calls the city's trademark, the North American International Auto Show. He is also tossing out some interesting tax proposals – making Cobo a tax-free zone (and possibly the airport as well) and a tax holiday during the shopper-heavy, backto-school period.

More long range, Ficano envisions Wayne County's future centering around its two airports along I-94, Metro and Willow Run. If anything holds a promise of reversing the population trend for Wayne County, the aerotropolis is the most visionary and also the most practical.

The two airports could serve as a hub for high-tech businesses demanding just in time delivery, for warehousing operations, for growth in research and development at corporations and at the University of Michigan and Wayne State University.

It's argued that those businesses will stimulate residential and retail growth. Ficano argues that mass transit, realistically a combination of mainline commuter trains and buses, is essential to the overall development.

This model has been successful in several European and Asian countries. In April, Ficano will be leading a delegation to Amsterdam and Frankfurt to seé how it works in the real world.

Cobo Center, the aerotropolis and restoring and revitalizing the city of Detroit are important not just to reversing Wayne County's population decline. They are central to the future health and vitality of Michigan.

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

State needs fiscal restraint

I have had the good fortune to have traveled our great country from one end to the other over a 20year career in the Air Force. When I retired from the military, my wife and I decided that Michigan (the state where we both were born) was to be our permanent retirement site. That was 30 years ago and we haven't regretted that decision for one moment. We feel the same today as we did then - Michigan is one of the most beautiful states in the entire country. Over that period, we have seen a great deal of change in our home state, some good, some not so good. We are now going through one of those not so good periods.

Michigan has been blessed with a wide diversity of talent in the political arena, again, some good, some not so good. At the present time, we have an administration in Lansing that feels raising taxes on business as well as the individual taxpayer base is the answer to all of our economic woes.

Fortunately, we who live in the 21st state legislative district, and the 7th state senatorial district, have chosen two very fiscally responsible individuals to represent us. Bruce Patterson and Phil LaJoy. Phil has had the presence of mind to suggest to our governor that there may be other avenues to explore before we ask our tax-weary citizens for more money. Phil has proposed setting up a commission to thoroughly examine every Michigan state agency to determine how much excess fat can ultimately be trimmed. This time, the panel would not be made up of former tax and spend governors such as James Blanchard and William Milliken, but, rather, professionals whose jobs are dependent upon getting results.

In the past, I suggested our representatives should consider taking a 10 percent pay cut and putting a hold on any future compensation increases until our fiscal mess is cleaned up. Imagine my astonishment when I heard state Sen. Bruce Patterson, on the radio, propose an immediate 50 percent pay reduction for all state electeds and department heads. To some skeptical individuals, such a gesture might be construed as political gimmickry. However, Bruce puts his money where his mouth is. He has written a check for \$3,500 as a first installment to be deposited in a special "Turnaround Fund" when the rest of our state electeds do the same. Let's see how long it takes the others to respond in kind. Go Bruce!

Ralph Shufeldt

Canton

Don't bail out Singh

Count me among the many Canton residents opposed to the building of an Oakwood Hospital facility or any other commercial or institutional project at the corner of Geddes and Beck. I have read with interest the Observer articles, editorials and reader opinions regarding the proposed Oakwood Hospital project. I won't repeat but do endorse the many well-stated valid reasons against any deviation from the Canton Land Use Map to accommodate commercial or institutional interests.

But, let me add one more perspective. To the concerned Canton residents Mr. Kahm of Singh Development states that "Things change and it's a part of life." However, evidently neither he nor Singh is prepared to accept and live with the fact that, at least for this moment in the state's economy, they may have made a poor investment decision. The Planning Commission should not allow Singh to "bail out" of their commitment to the community by letting Oakwood or any other commercial or institutional entity obtain "bargain priced" land for their project in a residential area of the township – no matter how many berms, ponds or walking paths they promise.

> G. K. Peters Canton

Wake up

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

People, please wake up and smell the coffee. Canton must keep growing or else we will be the next Livonia. Sure, I know these people paid a lot of money for their houses. But we live north of Ford Road and we paid a lot for our home. Did we have any say in the Ikea building? No, but we adapted and to tell the truth it ain't that bad. There's some vacant land east of Warren and I-275, why can't they put this hospital and let them build exit ramp there, too?

> **Bob Hourly** Canton

Quit complaining

The people complaining about the Oakwood proposal asked for a new hospital just by coming here in such numbers. Don't they understand, where there are more people, you need more doctors. I have lived here for 28 years and have seen all the newcomers destroy the farmland and woods by putting their houses on top of them. I am now seeing people speed down Saltz Road doing 90 mph because there are no speed signs posted between Beck and Ridge. And now a hospital. Makes perfect sense. There are going to be a lot more accidents in Canton with all these people moving in, good thing a hospital will be so close by.

Nancy Tychewicz

Canton

Area not suited for Oakwood

I live on Beck south of Geddes. I think a hospital at the intersection is a wrong move. It is residential land. The condominiums on the northeast corner have stopped being built because the builder has run out of money and the site looks horrible. Building berms and retention ponds does not hide a fourstory building towering over the neighborhood or stop the traffic or emergency sirens at all hours. There is plenty of land on Michigan Avenue which I think would be better suited for a hospital. I understand Singh wants to sell the property.

They already have office property located on Michigan Avenue that I believe is not leasing well. If you travel Beck Road you will notice that it has remained residential with a few exceptions. Hospitals first, banks next, followed by gas stations and 7-Elevens. Let's not spoil what little we have of peaceful locations to live. Does every location have to have businesses?

CREDIT UNION

Joanne Mendal

Canton

Do you have Diabetes, Swollen Feet, Legs and Ankles? LASER FOOT SURGERY Burning, Tingling, Cramping, Numbness or Ulcers? ireannean Oi ⇒Ungrown Nails → Wants → Hands & Reef • Do you have Bunions, Hammertoes, Corns, Calluses? Stars

 Fungus Natis
 Growths
 Group

 Do you have Discolored, Ingrown, Fungus Nails? Sports Injuries, Fractures, Sprains, Skin Problems? • 2nd Opinions • Orthotics • Warts - (hands and leet) **Circulation or Nerve Problems? Wound Care? Children's Foot & Ankle Problems?** WE CATER TO **Diabetic Therapeutic Shoes** COWARDS Varicose & Spider Vein Treatment **Neuropathy Treatment** Treating all diabetic We Know Why And We Can Help! Come to the office NON-SURGICA Consult Available that cares about you! **Initial Consultation FREE** Peripheral



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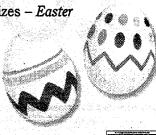
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NCUA COUNTY NEWS

Public safety expo

Recruiters educate job seekers and bring out the big equipment

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

(*)

Considering Michigan's tottering economy, it was understandable that a recruiter from the Dallas, Texas, Police Department was getting a good response March 21 at Schoolcraft College's Public Safety Career Expo at the college's Radcliff Center in Garden City.

But why was Dallas coming to metro Detroit?

Population is booming and the need for police is growing. "We have 350 openings and

we'll have 1,500 over the next five years," said Monique Alex, a senior corporal with the Dallas Police Department. "We tested in January at Schoolcraft and had a good response. With the economy here, we do testing and recruiting. Yesterday, we tested 126 applicants. The last time, we tested 186."

The Dallas Police was among many local, state and federal

safety and law enforcement organizations putting their best foot forward for job seekers.

A recruiter from Fairfax County, Va., was telling some young future police officers that things were booming in Virginia. But many local police and fire departments

were making their pitch as well — Canton, Livonia, Kalamazoo, Troy and Wayne and Oakland county sheriff's departments, plus the state police.

TOUGH MARKET

""But job some seekers were not optimistic. """It's hard to find a job," Bryan

Kubasta of Detroit said. "It's really competitive." Kubasta and Josh

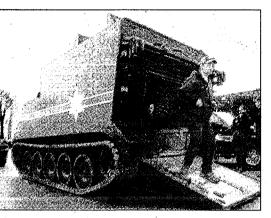
Wischmeyer of Redford are students in Schoolcraft's fire academy.

"It's always been the job for me," Wischmeyer said. Wischmeyer and Kubasta

were interested in seeing what



Dan Ketvirtis, with the Michigan State Police bomb squad, talks with Rob Hunter and Rob Domenzain, both from Canton.



Mike Twigg, from Garden City, checked out Wayne County's armored personnel carrier, used by the special response team.

An associate's degree can come latér," he said. The paramedic requirement

comes as a surprise to some. "This has been changing over

"We were not on the cutting ' edge, but somewhere in the middle on this."

For Cheryl Lozen, forensic scientist with the Northville laboratories of the Michigan State Police, it's a matter of separating fact from the highly popular fiction of the CSI programs. She said many are surprised that most forensic scientists do not go out to the crime scene, but do their work in the laboratory.



Choose a mortgage that is right for your needs

We are in the process of purchasing a new home. We have not purchased a house in a number of years and I wanted to get your thoughts on the type of mortgage that we should get. In addition, does it make sense to purchase the most expensive home we can afford considering real estate prices in Michigan?

In today's mortgage world, there are virtually hundreds of mortgages that an individual can obtain. To me, there is no one right answer. It is similar to investing because you have to choose the best strategy for your situation. The key to determining the right type of mortgage is knowing a how long you plan to be in vour home. If you plan to live in the house for a short period of time, less than five years, then one of the adjustable-rate mortgages may make sense. On the other hand, if you plan to be live in the house longer than five years, a traditional fixedrate mortgage is what you should get. Mortgage rates are favorable at the present time and I would lock in for the long term.

If you are going to be in your house long term, the issue is whether to choose a 15-year or 30-year mortgage. I recommend the 30-year fixedrate mortgage. My theory is based on the fact mortgage interest is tax-deductible. After taxes, in today's market, the mortgage is costing you 4-5 percent, which is relatively inexpensive. I would take advantage of the inexpensive money and lock up the mortgage for 30 years.

I recognize many people do not want to have a mortgage 30 years from now and that is why they choose a 15-year mortgage. A better strategy is to have your house paid off in 15 years, get a 30-year mortgage and then have the discipline on a monthly basis to take the savings of a 30-year vs. a 15-year mortgage and invest it on a regular basis in a good growth mutual fund such as the Selected American Shares Fund. Fifteen years down the road, you should have enough to pay off the mortgage and have money left over.

In today's market, I only recommend adjustable-rate



that you have, such as saving for retirement or a child's college education. And don't forget to factor in the other costs that go hand-in-hand with the more expensive house, such as increased maintenance, homeowners insurance and property taxes.

I am 54 years old and will not retire for at least 10 years. I heard something on your radio show regarding Roth IRA conversions. Can you tell me when someone should consider converting into a Roth IRA?

When it comes to converting an existing IRA into a Roth IRA, my general rules are as follows:

■ You have to have the money to pay the taxes on the Roth conversion without touching any of the money converted.

You should convert an amount that will not push you into a higher tax bracket.

You can invest the money long term, generally at least five to seven years.

If you meet those three criteria, then it generally pays to convert. The advantage of converting an existing IRA into a Roth IRA is from this point on money would grow tax-free vs. tax-deferred. Money in a traditional IRA is always subject to ordinary income taxes money when withdrawn. In a Roth IRA, withdrawals made after age 59 are never subject to income taxes. In addition, in a Roth IRA you are not subject to the minimum required distribution rules. At 70, in a traditional IRA, you must begin to make withdrawals. That is not the case with a Roth IRA. A Roth IRA can grow tax-free for as long as vou choose.

The downside of converting into a Roth IRA is that you must pay income taxes on the money. However, by taking a short-term hit on taxes, you will have a long-term gain.

is available.

Marty Heator, director of marketing at Schoolcraft, said having the departments from other states at the fair gives Schoolcraft students and other job seekers another option. "Alex said Dallas had much to offer.

"We're offering a \$10,000 signing bonus, which helps," she said. "We're also selling climate. I'm from Alaska and went to Texas for the warmer weather."

EDUCATING APPLICANTS

In addition to enticements, recruiters were also educating job applicants on what they need to do to get the job they want.

For Tom Kiurski of the Livonia Fire Department, it's a matter of explaining what being a firefighter means.

"I tell them, the minimum requirements are certification and training as a paramedic. "That's a surprise to a lot of people," she said. "It's really a science degree, rich in chemistry and biology."

She said CSI glamorizes and exaggerates what real forensic scientists do.

"We don't wear high heels and tank tops to crime scenes," she said.

But there is an element of show business to police and fire work. The state police had an officer from the bomb squad demonstrating bomb protection gear and a bomb detecting robot. Outside on the Radcliff parking lot, a carnival atmosphere prevailed with fire engines, motorcycles, rescue units and a tank-like personnel carrier on display.

The armored personnel carrier was one of several vehicles displayed by the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, which has motorcycle, patrol car, mounted and marine units. The black box on a rubber track

Pittsfield Township brought their largest fire truck.



Hailey Robinson and Erika Dickman, both of Canton, talk with Monique Alex of the Dallas, Texas Police Department.

was drawing a steady line of

visitors according to Lt. Richard Holme. "It's to get members of the team into hostile situations," he

said. "Say a barricaded gunman

in a house. This gets us as close as possible. It stops just about anything and it's very solid."

Other participants at the expo included the federal Immigration, Customs and mortgages for someone who is going to be in their house short term. One of the reasons the sub-prime mortgage market is going through some difficulty right now is that too many people went with adjustable-rate mortgages in order to get into a house they could not afford using a traditional fixed-rate loan. The longer you stay in a home with an adjustable-rate mortgage, the more risk you have when rates begin to climb.

How much should you spend for your home? My view is that houses are great for quality of life, but not good investments. After all, many people in Michigan are in a situation where they paid more for their house than it's now worth. You have to make sure you own your house and it doesn't own you. In deciding how much you can afford for a home, factor into the equation other financial goals Remember, a Roth IRA grows tax-free, not tax-deferred. By converting to a Roth IRA, you are paying your taxes earlier, but you would have always had to pay the taxes down the road if you stayed with the traditional IRA.

Many seniors who are over 70 are under the mistaken belief that they cannot convert their IRAs into a Roth IRA. That is not the case. Although you cannot convert your required minimum distribution, you can convert anything above and beyond that.

One last note, you have until April 17 to make a Roth IRA contribution for 2006.

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



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Warriors aim to make final season a special one - Lacrosse, Page B3



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

Time's on Joe's side OHL rookie Underwood earns veteran minutes for playoffs-bound Guelph

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

On a scale of 1-to-10, Canton native Joe Underwood's first year as a defenseman for the Ontario Hockey League's Guelph Storm could be graded somewhere in the 7-plus range.

However, on the scales, Underwood admits there's room for growth.

"Things are going better than I expected as far as the number of minutes I'm playing," said Underwood, a 17year-old OHL rookie who played in 60 of the Storm's 68 regular-season contests. "Rookies usually don't get the opportunity to play much, but because of injuries and some other things – a few guys played in the World Juniors – I've been able to play a lot.

"The hardest thing for me has been putting weight on. I lost 15 pounds during training camp due to the intense workouts and I haven't been able to put it back on. I'm at about 170 (pounds) now. They eventually want me to get up to 185 or 190, so I'm going to have to work hard over the summer and drink a lot of protein shakes."

TOUGH COMPETITION

The 6-foot-1 Underwood, who attended his first two years of high school at Canton, said the game-by-game competition level is quite a few notches higher than he faced prior to this season, but it's nothing he didn't expect.

"Everybody is bigger, faster and stronger, but that hasn't really been a surprise to me," he said. "Some of the guys I'm going up against are 6-foot-4, 220 pounds and they can skate like the wind.

"Maybe the most important thing I've learned is that you have to be mentally tough every minute you're out on the ice because if you're not, the puck will be in the net real fast."

HOME SWEET HOME

The first round of the OHL playoffs, which started Saturday night, will serve as a sort of homecoming for Underwood, who will be skating against his hometown Plymouth Whalers. Guelph finished as the seventh seed in the OHL's Western Conference while the Whalers skated into the post-season in the No. 2 spot.

"They've been playing very well, so it was a tough draw for us," Underwood said of the Whalers. "They have an experienced team while we're a little younger, but you never know what could happen. Maybe we'll be the Cinderella team of the playoffs."

Underwood's statistics are about what you'd expect from a rookie defenseman: one goal, three assists and 18 penalty minutes. His plus/minus rating is an impressive plus-9.

LAMP-LIGHTER

His lone goal came in a pre-Christmas 6-3 Guelph victory over OHL power London.

"At the beginning of the year, I wasn't pressing and I wasn't necessarily looking to score," said Underwood. "But as the season went on, I started to feel





WALT DMOCH

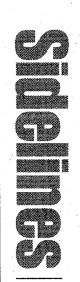
Canton native Joe Underwood has been playing regular shifts for the Ontario Hockey League's Guelph Storm despite his rookie status. The 17-year-old defenseman will be squaring off against the Plymouth Whalers this week in the first round of the OHL playoffs.

THE BOOK ON UNDERWOOD

- Name: Joe Underwood;
- **Age:** 17
- Size: 6-foot-1, 165 pounds;
- Hometown: Canton;
- Parents: Doug and Tammy;
- Current team: OHL's Guelph Storm;
- 2006-07 statistics: 1 goal, 3 assists, 18 penalty minutes in 60 games;
- Off the ice: Underwood has compiled a stellar grade-point average at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School in Guelph;
- Year eligible for NHL draft: 2008.

Seroka blazing fast trail to pool stardom

the state.



In search of elite coaches

Sunday, March 25, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

Is there a youth sports coach you know who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to make your child's athletic experience a memorable one?

If so, Observer Sports Editor Ed Wright would like to know about him or her so he can include them in an upcoming feature story on what makes a good youth sports coach.

Please e-mail the coach's name, phone number and the sport he or she coaches to Wright at: ewright@hometownlife.co m.

Detroit Lions football camp

The third annual Detroit Lions Summer Youth Football Camp will be held July 5-8 at Central Middle School in downtown Plymouth. The camp will be held from 8:30 a.m. to noon each day and is open to boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 14 years old.

The \$159 camp fee includes:

Four days of non-contact, fundamental football instruction;

 A Lions camp T-shirt;
 Guest appearances from current or former Lion players;
 Chalk talk and video sessions; and
 Skills contests and scrimmages. For more information, call (313) 262-2248.

Seroka bla



Canton resident Lauren Seroka is one of the most-accomplished 12-and-under swimmers in the state based on her six first-place finishes at the state meet held March 9-11 in Jenison.

BY ED WRIGHT Staff Writer

Lauren Seroka wore out a path to the medal stand during the 12 & Under Michigan Swimming State

Championships March 9-11 in Jenison. The Canton 12-year-old is also stroking an early path to greatness in the pool.

While competing against Michigan's elite swimmers in her age group in

Jenison, the Club Wolverine standout collected six individual first-place medals and was a key member of two gold medal-winning relay teams. The allaround effort earned Seroka the top spot on the high-point leaderboard for the talent-rich tournament that attracted the best 11- and 12-year-old swimmers in

"What Lauren did was more or less

PLEASE SEE SEROKA, B2

MISL final set for Plymouth

The Major Indoor Soccer League (MISL) announced this week that the 2007 MISL Championship Series final game has been scheduled for Saturday, April 21, at Compuware Sports Arena, home of the MISL Detroit Ignition in Plymouth Township.

The opening kick is set for 4 p.m.

Tickets for the 2007 MISL Championship Series Final are available through the Detroit Ignition Box Office, online through TicketMaster and at all TicketMaster locations, or by phone at 888-436-GOAL (4625).

The MISL Championship Series final game will be nationally televised on VERSUS, to a potential audience of over 72 million homes. This marks the firstever nationally televised soccer match originating from Compuware Sports Arena.

"We are honored and excited to be selected to host the 2007 MISL Championship Series Final," stated Greg Bibb, president of the Detroit Ignition. "We look forward to bringing the league's marquee event to Compuware Sports Arena as a finale to our inaugural season in the MISL. We're eager to present a first-class sports entertainment experience to not only the fans in the arena, but to our fans around the country on VER-SUS."

The 2006-07 regular season concludes on Saturday, April 7. The 2007 MISL Championship Series is scheduled to begin with the semifinal round on the weekend of April 13-15, 2007. The Championship Series consists of four teams.

The MISL regular-season champion will earn an automatic bid to postseason play and receives the No. 1 seed as determined by regular-season winning percentage. The other postseason spots are allotted to the three teams with the next best regular season win percentage, determining the No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4 seeds.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Defenseman Jonathan Greenfield has turned into a fan favorite at the Compuware Sports Arena during his first season with the expansion Detroit Ignition.

Greenfield stabilizes the Ignition defense

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Jonathan Greenfield's Major Indoor Soccer League career was progressing quite nicely with the perennially strong Milwaukee Wave last summer when he received a career-altering piece of news that jolted him like a close-range penalty kick to the mid-section.

"I received a call and was told that I had been taken in the MISL Expansion Draft by the Ignition," remembered Greenfield. "And to tell you the truth, I wasn't real happy about it."

Who could blame Greenfield for being a bit miffed? He was an established member of a Wave team that regularly qualified for the MISL playoffs and he had just grown comfortable with a new set of friends as well as a new environment.

"I had met a lot of people in Milwaukee and was just starting to settle down when I got the news that I would have to move again," he said. "Also, I knew that the expansion team in California had lost its first 10 games the year before, so I dreaded the idea of going to an expansion team with all new guys and getting crushed.

"But now that I've been here a while, I realize that getting drafted by the Ignition was a blessing in disguise."

TWO-WAY BLESSING

As it turns out, it's been a blessing for both Greenfield and the Ignition. The 6-0, 170-pound native of Cape Town, South Africa, has been a stabilizing force on a defensive unit that is among the stingiest in the MISL heading into the league's

PLEASE SEE GREENFIELD. B2

Coaches: Please call in results

The local high school, spring sports coaches are encouraged to report all of their team's results to the Observer so that their players' achievements can be deservedly publicized.

Coaches are encouraged to report the scores whether their team wins or loses; or whether their team is home or on the road.

To report results, either call Observer Sports Editor Ed Wright at (734) 953-2108; e-mail results to ewright@hometownlife.co m; or fax results to (734) 591-7279.

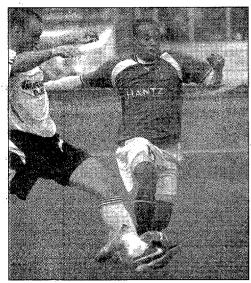
OLGC football

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 at 1151 William St. in Plymouth. OLGC offers teams for boys in third through eighth grades. Families that belong to the following parishes are eligible: OLGC, St. Kenneth, Our Lady of Victory, St. Mary's of Wayne, St. Richard, St. Thomas a'Becket, Divine Savior, Resurrection, St. James (third-graders only) and St. John Neumann.

Parents of interested players should attend the meeting. Program information and registration materials will be distributed. For further information, contact Kevin Suppelsa at ksuppelsa@wowway.com; or (734) 414-8275; or visit www.olgcfootball.net.

LOCAL SPORTS

Ignition clinch MISL playoff berth



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Detroit Ignition forward Jamar Beasley (right), pictured above in a game earlier this season, registered his 100th point of the season during Friday night's victory over California.

The Detroit Ignition defeated the California Cougars, 17-8, before a sellout crowd at Compuware Sports Arena Friday night to secure a Major Indoor Soccer League playoff berth in their

first year of existence. The Ignition improved to 17-10 while the Cougars slipped to 6-22.

The game-winning two-point goal was registered by league-leading scorer Jamar Beasley at the 6:22 mark of the third quarter. Beasley led all Ignition scorers with six points, including his 100th of the season.

Hewerton ignited the scoring with a goal to hand the Ignition the early 2-0 advantage at 2:17 of the opening frame. Detroit defender Jonathan Greenfield registered the club's second shorthanded goal of the season, a two-pointer off a pass from Droo Callahan, to extend the advantage to 4-0 just over five minutes later.

Greenfield close the first-quarter scoring with his second goal of the night five minutes before the break.

SOCCER

The second frame began with a twopoint goal from Ricardinho at 4:44, extending the Ignition advantage to 8-0. California midfielder Brian Farber put the Cougars on the board for the first time at 10:05 to make it 8-2. Cougars midfielder Craig Scheer brought the Ignition's lead down to 8-4 with a two-point goal at 11:12 at the end of the second quarter.

The third quarter began with a twopoint goal just 59 seconds in by Farber, his second of the game, as the Ignition was cut to 8-6. Beasley then recorded a power-play net-finder for the Ignition at 6:22 to pad his team's edge to 10-6.

Carlos Farias's 16th goal of the season, a two-pointer past Cougars netminder Bayard Elfvin, made it 12-6.

Ignition goalkeeper Danny Waltman (4-1) earned the victory between the pipes for the Ignition.

GREENFIELD

FROM PAGE B1

5 **B2** (CP)

2006-07 stretch run. His hustling, all-out style of play has also made him a fan favorite among the first-year franchise's growing legion of enthusiasts.

He's also chipped in with a few timely goals, including a pair in Friday night's playoffclinching 17-8 victory over California.

"In the beginning, it was hard here because everybody needed time to adjust to the new team, a new coach," he said. "But everything has worked out great and we actually have a chance to win a championship in our first year.

"Playing in Plymouth has

been unbelievable. The arena only holds about 4,000 people, but it's great because the fans are right on top of you. In Milwaukee, we played in an arena that held 9,000 to 10,000 people, so if you had two or three thousand people. at a game, it felt empty.'

LONG WAY FROM HOME

The 25-year-old Greenfield was born and raised in soccer-rich Capetown, South Africa, where he resided until he moved to the United States in 2004 to follow his pro soccer dream.

"In South Africa, soccer is everything," he said. "It's like football and basketball are here.

"When I came over here, I had never played indoor soccer, so I found it kind of

bizarre at first. But it's addictive after a while and I really started to like it. It's a lot like hockey - fast-paced and high-scoring.

Living half a world away from his homeland hasn't always been easy, Greenfield admitted.

"Obviously, I miss seeing my family," he said. "I haven't been home in three years, so that's been hard. It's a 27hour flight (to Capetown), so it's difficult to just go home for a little while. I've promised myself that I'm going home for a couple of weeks after this season is over no matter what."

NO REST FOR THE WEARY

Greenfield won't be taking it easy once the indoor season concludes next month. He'll

take a few weeks off before competing for the Vancouver Whitecaps in a professional outdoor league.

"That's soccer — you do what you have to do," he said of his indoor/outdoor career. "Indoor soccer is probably more grueling on the body because the surface we play on is so hard. But it's easier in a way because we only play 45-second shifts and then we rotate out. When I play outdoor, I'm playing 90 straight minutes on a lot bigger field.

"Playing indoor and outdoor definitely takes a toll on my body. I just have to make sure I look after myself, eat right and get a lot of rest. It's all part of being a professional."

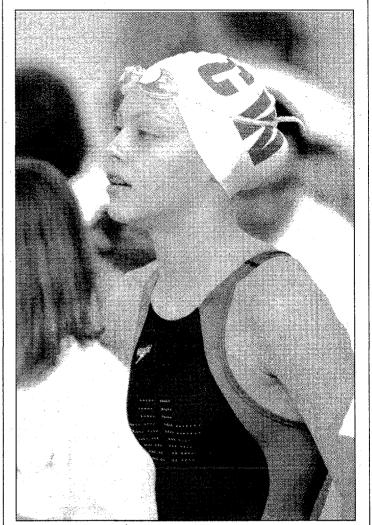
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explosive device which, if discharged as threatened, would violate a Federal, State or local law.

F. Threat or harm to Oneself or Others. The verbal or written threat of physical harm to oneself or another or another's property, which if carried out would be a violation of Federal, State or local

G. <u>Structure Demolition</u>. The tearing down of a structure damaged by fire which must, in the opinion of the Building Official or his/her designee, be promptly demolished following the fire to protect public safety.

H. Emergency Response. The providing, sending and/or utilizing public service, police, fire fighting, ambulance, or inhalator services by the Charter Township of Plymouth to protect the health, safety, or welfare of persons or property located in the Township, including, but not limited to, the release of dangerous or hazardous substances or materials, utility line failure, false alarm, illegal fire, bomb threat, threat of harm to oneself or others, structure demolition, extrication, standby suppression, medical assistance, and similar services.



ANDY RUBENSTEIN

www.hometownlife.com

Lauren Seroka prepares to race during a meet earlier this year. The seventh-grader is a straight-A student at West Middle School.

SEROKA

FROM PAGE B1

what we were aiming for," said Josh Morgan, Seroka's Club Wolverine coach. "We certainly knew she had the capability of winning all those events. Lauren did a great job of managing herself throughout the weekend.

"Lauren has great physical abilities. She's a natural in the water and she works hard in practice. She doesn't stop working on something until she perfects it. In fact, she probably works as hard or harder than a lot of the high school swimmers we have."

The week after her performance in Jenison, Seroka excelled in a 15-and-under competition, where she placed second in the mile event. The West Middle School seventh-grader is ranked in the top 10 nationally in three races — the mile, 1,000-meters and 400 IM - events that aren't

said. "The sky's the limit for her as far as swimming in college and at the international or Olympic level."

Seroka displayed flashes of brilliance at the age of 7 when she started swimming competitively at the Colony Swim Club.

"I remember when she first started taking swim lessons when she was 7 and the kids had to show that they could swim the width of the pool before they could use the diving board or slide," said Lisa Seroka, Lauren's mom. "She jumped in there and did it right away. Not long after that, she was placing and earning points in races for the Colony team."

By the time she was 8, Seroka was breaking records for the Plymouth-Canton Cruisers — the team for which she competed before switching to Club Wolverine last fall.

Seroka works out two hours a day five or six days a week.

"My goal is to eventually

law.

AMENDMENT TO THE COST REIMBURSEMENT FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES ORDINANCE ASSOCIATED WITH EMERGENCY INCIDENTS INVOLVING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS, UTILITY LINE FAILURES, ILLEGAL FIRES, FALSE ALARMS, BOMB THREATS, THREATS OF HARM TO ONESELF OR OTHERS, STRUCTURE DEMOLITION, EXTRICATIONS, STANDBY SUPPRESSION, MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND SIMILAR EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATIONS THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF INVALID SECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF WAYNE

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

SECOND AMENDMENT TO

COST REIMBURSEMENT FOR

EMERGENCY SERVICES ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO: C-07-02

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE C-99-02 OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH WHICH ORDINANCE

SHALL BE THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 9.

PART I. ADMINISTRATION, PROVIDING FOR A SECOND

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCE C-99-02. SECTION 1. Section 9.010 Definitions, of Chapter 9, Part I, Administration, of the Code of Ordinances of the Charter Township of Plymouth, is hereby amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 9

PART 1 ADMINISTRATION

COST REIMBURSEMENT FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES

SECTION 9.010: DEFINITIONS

Definitions. For the purpose of this section, the following terms, phrases, words and their deviations shall have the meanings given herein. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words using in the singular number include the plural, and words used in the plural include the singular. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely discretionary.

A. Release of Dangerous or Hazardous Substance or Material. The release, spillage, or leakage from its container of any material or substance that has been identified by the Charter Township of Plymouth, State or Federal laws or regulations to be dangerous or hazardous, including, but not limited to, chemicals, and gases, poisons, etiologic (biologic) agents, flammables and corrosives, or obnoxious by reason of odor, when the party that caused or controlled the release, spillage or leakage fails to immediately remove the dangerous or hazardous substance or material and fully restore the area of the release, spillage or leakage to its condition before the release, spillage, or leakage.

B. <u>Utility Line Failure.</u> The failure of disabling of operation of a cable, conduit, wire, pipeline or other transmission device, used to transport electricity, natural gas, petroleum products, water or sanitary or storm sewage, when the party responsible for maintaining the cable, conduit, wire, pipeline or other transmission device fails to undertake repair of the failure or disabling within a reasonable time, not to exceed one hour for the time a Township representative or employee notifies the party responsible for repairing the failure or disabling, or when the party responsible fails to complete repair of the failure or disabling within a reasonable time. This section shall not apply to communication transmission devices or facilities.

C. Illegal Fire. A fire set or determined to have been set in violation of a Federal, State or local law and shall include and arson fire and a fire set in violation of a "no burning" ban or order, but does not include a fire caused by an act of God.

D. <u>False Alarm.</u> Any device designed to request or summon emergency assistance, which device is activated intentionally or otherwise, in the absence of an actual need for emergency assistance. The determination that there was no actual need for emergency assistance shall be made by the most senior person responding to a false alarm. A false alarm shall not be deemed to have occurred if caused by an act of God or originated from a motor vehicle alarm system

E. Bomb Threat. The verbal or written threat of a bomb or other

I. Expenses of an Emergency Response. The reasonable costs incurred by the Charter Township of Plymouth in making an emergency response. Such reasonable costs shall include the salary or wages, including overtime pay, of police department, fire department, and emergency medical service personnel for time spent responding to, managing, correcting, treating, and clean-up of an emergency response and all persons or property affected thereby. Such costs shall also include the cost of equipment and supplies lost or expended by the police department or fire department in responding to the emergency.

J. Extrication. The response to, and removal of individuals from vehicles and/or structures requiring the assistance of emergency response personnel and /or equipment.

K. Standby Suppression. The response to circumstances involving or expected to involve fire suppression, whether fire suppression activity occurs or not.

L. Medical Assistance. Providing medical assistance, equipment and personal to the elderly, the infirm, the handicapped, or any individual requiring medical assistance, transportation or support.

SECTION 2. VIOLATION AND PENALTY.

Any person, corporation, partnership of other legal entity who violates the provisions of this Ordinance shall be quilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined not more than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars or imprisoned not more than ninety (90) days, or both, at the discretion of the Court. Each day that the violation continues after due notice has been served in accordance with terms and provisions hereof shall be deemed a separate offense.

SECTION 3. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

All rights and duties which have matured, penalties which have been incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this Ordinance are not affected or abated by this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.

If any clause, sentence, section, paragraph or part of this Ordinance, is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion hereof.

SECTION 5. REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES.

All Ordinance or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 6. PUBLICATION.

The Clerk for the Charter Township of Plymouth shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance, as amended, shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted by the Township Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth at its regular meeting called and held on the 13th day of March, 2007, and was ordered to be given publication in the manner required by law.

Marilyn Massengill, Clerk

OE08515007

Introduced: February 13, 2007 Adopted: March 13, 2007 Effective: March 25, 2007

Publish: March 25, 2007

even offered in her agegroup tournaments.

"In the eight years I've been coaching with Club Wolverine, we've only had a handful of swimmers her age who were ranked in the top 10 nationally," Morgan

swim for a D1 college and then — like every young swimmer — I'd like to someday qualify for the Olympic team."

ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2108

ate error dooms MU

After more than a week of inactivity due to rainy, snowy March weather, Madonna University finally returned to action Friday in Kentucky, losing 6-5 to host Spalding University.

The Crusaders trailed 5-4 until shortstop Kyle Fedorka doubled in the tying run in the top of the ninth. But Fedorka's error in the bottom half of the frame enabled the Golden Eagles to come away with the victory.

Taking the loss for MU (8-6) was senior right-hander Mike Hand, who came on for Regits to open the eighth.

After playing Saturday and Sunday games against Spalding, Madonna will - weather permitting - open the home portion of its schedule 2 p.m. Tuesday against Rochester (Mich.) at Ilitch Ballpark in Livonia.

Madonna already has had two home doubleheaders cancelled -March 17 against Malone and March 20 against Indiana Wesleyan.



PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE **CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN** WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2007 7:00 PM (734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be held in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall to consider the following:

PUBLIC HEARING:

- RZ 07-01 Proposed Rezoning 445 W. Ann Arbor Trail Currently Zoned: RM-1, Multiple Family Residential
 - Proposed Zoning: B-3, General Business
 - Applicant: Carol Hathaway

SITE PLAN APPROVAL:

SP 07-02 Sweet Dreams, Pastry & Coffee House

- 614 S. Main
- Zoned: B-1, Local Business
- Applicant: John Janviriya
- All interested persons are invited to attend.

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, the City 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 the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

> Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170 (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

> > OE0851521

Publish: March 25, 2007

Warriors aim to make final season a special one

BY ED WRIGHT Staff Writer

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem boys lacrosse team hopes to go out with a bang in its final season of unification.

After the last stick is raised later this spring, the Warriors will be split into three squads, one for each of the schools at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Mike Costello, who has served as the program's head coach since its inception six years ago, has mixed emotions about the break-up.

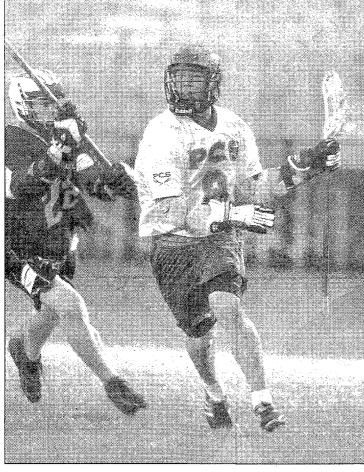
"It will be bittersweet," admitted Costello, who will coach one of the three teams next season. "It will be great to see the teams branch out because more kids will be able to play the sport. But I like the unified aspect, too, because it's neat to see kids from all three schools pull together like they have the past six years with no politics involved.

"We haven't talked a lot about this being our last year together, but I'm sure we will more as the season goes on. I'm sure everyone — especially the seniors — will want to leave a lasting legacy."

The Warriors enjoyed a superb season in 2006 when they racked up a 13-5 record and were ranked as high as 25th in the state's power rankings. Although they lost several key players to graduation including All-Staters Chris Sorensen, Johnny Groat and Mitch French — optimism prevails thanks in part to a strong turnout at the first practice two weeks ago.

"We had 74 boys come out for the team this year, which is the most we've ever had," said Costello. "I like what I've seen in practices so far and we have some good players back from last year.

"Our biggest problem may be our depth. Our top 10 players can handle their own, but our second and third teams aren't quite where I want them to be yet, but that's the same as it is with a lot of teams out there. The thing that separates the elite teams like the Brother Rices from the rest is that their third- and fourth-team players



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth senior Jared Ruark is one of the top returning players for the Plymouth-Canton-Salem lacrosse team, which is playing its final season as a unified squad.

are as experienced and talented as our first-team players." A quartet of seniors attackmen Nick Cote (Plymouth), Jared Ruark (Plymouth) and Devin Murphy (Canton); and defenseman Brian Walsh (Salem) — will lead the Warriors into competition this season. "Nick has the potential for greatness this season," said



PREP LACROSSE PREVIEW

Costello. "He's a hockey player and he brings a lot of the fire and passion from that sport into lacrosse. He's not afraid to speak his mind if he feels guys aren't putting forth their best effort.

"Jared is a special player and he'll be playing for Division III Kenyon (Ohio) next year in college. Jared has started since he was a freshman for us. His skills are phenomenal.

"Devin works hard and he's in great shape. He leads by example. Brian will be one of our first defensemen off the bench."

Filling the large shoes of Sorensen this year will be junior goalie Justin Scott, who has impressed Costello with his skill level so far in practices.

"Justin has been working throughout the off-season with our goal-tending coach, Kevin Riley, and he's really developed great foot speed along with the skills it takes to be a top-notch goalie. He's a very hard-working player."

The Warriors' mid-field will be manned by a trio of sophomores — Connor Martin (Plymouth), Norm Freda (Plymouth) and Mark Barath (Canton) — along with junior Scott Wisniewski. Barath and Wisniewski were battling for the third starting slot as of Thursday night.

"We brought Connor up from the JV team last year for the playoffs and he more than held his own," said Costello. He's a tremendous athlete. Norm is a soccer player who has good quickness."

PCS's starting defense will consist of senior Alex Avramoski (Salem); along with juniors Mac Ganzak and Sam Kokoszka, both Canton students.

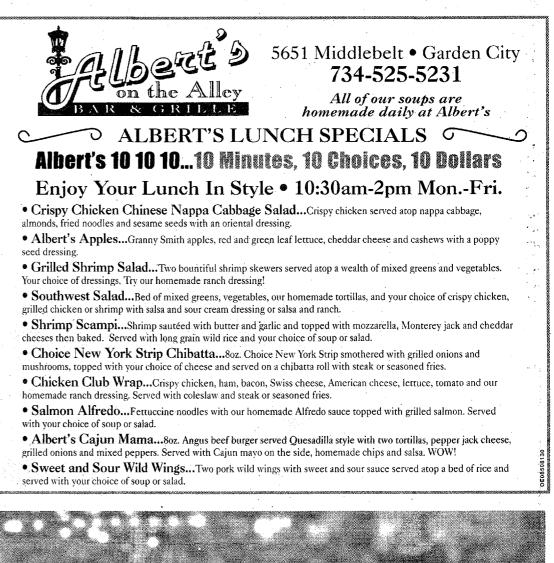
"Mac has really developed his game the past three weeks," said Costello. "He's a big kid. with great footwork, and he's tough. Sam is a lot like Mac. They've both come along way after picking up the game last year."

Key reserves for Costello will include Patrick Downey (Plymouth), Alex Loiselle (Canton) and John Olevnik (Plymouth).

The Warriors will open their 2007 campaign Tuesday at Bloomfield Hills Andover. Their home opener is Tuesday, April 3, when they host Ypsilanti at the P-CEP junior varsity stadium located just south of Plymouth High School.

"Like always, we have a tough schedule," said Costello. "Everybody on our coaching staff enjoys a challenge and our schedule reflects that. We're not afraid to play anyone. The only we you get good is to play good teams."

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



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Chase Free Security Alerts I If your account shows irregular activity, you'll be the first to know. We'll call, text, or email you at once. Whether it's a large transaction or unusual ATM activity, rest easy knowing we don't rest when it comes to security. Choose Chase Free Checking" with direct deposit. It's more than free, it's more secure.

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LOCAL SPORTS



Twins Kristie (left) and Keely Kowalski recently earned post-season honors following their stellar play for the state champion Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team this past season.

METRO GIRLS HOCKEY

Forwards: Maura Gregory, Mercy-Marian;

.J. Chronis, Ann Arbor; Joann Meserve,

Regina; Marissa LaValley, Grosse Pointe

North; Shami Enteman, Grosse Pointe South;

Amanda Marsh, Grosse Pointe South: Molly

Baker, Walled Lake; Lindsey Szutka, Walled

Lake; Nikki Songer, P-C-S; Adrienne Cercone,

P-C-S; Krysten Ruzylo, Northville; Penella

Goalie: Meghan Smerecki, Regina; Tori Bogan, G.P. North; Lauren Hutchinson,

Defense: Carly Mocny, Regina; Lauren Walsh, G.P. North; Pilar Ming, Kingswood;

Mellissa Koztowny, Northville; Angie Iafano,

Forwards: Rachel Vogel, Ann Arbor;

Anneleise Heeringa, Ann Arbor; Lexie

McGillis, Regina; Caitlin Lariscy, Regina;

Semma, Ladywood. HONORABLE MENTION

Walled Lake.

Ladywood

Monique Squires, Liggett.

MICHIGAN METRO GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY LEAGUE - ALL-STATE TEAMS

First-team: Katie Zeminick, Grosse Pointe North; Katie Zimmerman, Plymouth-Canton-Salem: Laura Szwed, Livonia Ladywood (Miss Hockey); Keely Kowalski, Plymouth-Canton-Salem; Brittney Holtz, Ladywood; Clarice Grantham, Ann Arbor.

Second-team: Audrey Stapleton, Bloomfield Hills Kingswood; Ariel Magidson, Kingswood; Elizabeth Palmer, Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett; Angle Chronis, Ann Arbor; Erica Schilkey, Harper Woods Regina; Catherin LaGrasso, Kingswood. ALL-LEAGUE

Goalie: Kristie Kowalski, P-C-S.

UNDERWOOD

FROM PAGE B1

Defense: Jacq Roberg, Mercy-Marian; Alex Sturgeon, Ann Arbor; Lauren Krajewski, Walled Lake; Shauna Siebert, P-C-S; Carolyn Gard, Kingswood; Erin Hietala, Northville;

more confident and I started

taking more chances – maybe

Alexa Quinlan, G.P. North: Lisa Fishbeck. Northville; Danielle Hirka, Northville; Heather Sartorious, Ladywood

Liggett: Elizabeth Palmer (4.5 grade-point average); Monique Squires (4.13); G.P. South: Shami Enteman (4.3); Elizabeth McCaughey (3.56); Amy Hathaway (3.55); Regina: Tara LaMilza (4.13); Lexie McGillis (3.94); Jenna Moore (3.85); Brandy Gartley (3.81); Diana Langlois (3.68); Joann Meserve (3.64); Liz LaRiviere (3.63); Morgan Copp (3.6); Kingswood: Kelsey Goin (3.96); Ariana Shane (3.55); Elizabeth Belen (3.5); G.P. North: Katie Zemenick (3.94); Ladywood: Rachel Killian (3.8); Brittney Holtz (3.57); Angie lafano (3.56); Plymouth-Canton-Salem: Kristin Callahan (3.78); Ann Arbor: Annelise Heeringa (3.5).

ALL-ACADEMIC (by Hockey Weekly)

YMCA SOCCER The Plymouth Family YMCA's spring soccer leagues are forming for children between the age of 4 and 11. Practices begin the week

of April 9 and games start Saturday, April 21. There will be eight practices and seven games. The cost is \$68 for program members or \$85 for community members. All participants will be required to purchase a YMCA youth sports reversible jersey for \$15.

The registration deadline is Wednesday, March 28. If you are interested in participating or coaching your child's team, please call (734) 453-2904 for more details. For more information, visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

The Plymouth Family YMCA is also accepting registrations for its Fall soccer programs, which are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. number.

SPRING BREAK CAMPS

High Velocity Sports in Canton will be offering spring break camps April 9-13 for kids between the ages of 5 and 12 years old. The four camps offered will be: all-sport, soccer, basketball and craft camp. The instructor-to-child ratio is 1-to-10. The all-sport camp is offered in full-day (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) or half-day (9 a.m. to noon or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.) sessions. The full-day fee is \$45 per day while the half-day camp is \$25. Kids will play several sports, including soccer, flag football, basketball, volleyball and dodge ball. The soccer camp will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for kids 5 to 8 years old; and noon to 2 p.m. for 9 to 12 year olds. The camp is five days long and the fee is \$125 per child. The camp will focus on improving soccer fundamentals. The basketball camp is offered from 9 a.m. to noon with a fee of \$125 per participant. The camp is designed for beginner and intermediate players who are between the ages of 5 and 12 and interested in developing basic skills.

Madonna softball team wins 5th in row in sweep

nine innings

claim a 4-2 lead.

with Scero at the plate.

striking out six batters.

were unearned.

three runs.

The Madonna University softball team picked up its fifth consecutive victory after earning a doubleheader sweep over Spring Arbor Tuesday afternoon.

After taking a 4-1 victory in the opener, MU (13-6) defeated Spring Arbor 11-3 in a five-inning nightcap.

Shannon Noder picked up the win in game one after tossing a complete game, while scattering four hits and allowing just one run, a solo homer in the second inning.

Livonia Ladywood product Stephanie Day, Heather Richardson (Canton) and Caitlin Sidor (Churchill) each had two hits each against Spring Arbor (3-13).

Sidor and Richardson each recorded a double and Sidor led the Crusaders with two RBI.

In game two, Liz Ballinger picked up her seventh win of the season after allowing five hits and three runs in a complete game effort. Richardson again led the Crusaders at the plate with a 3-for-4 performance with a double, a home run and four RBI.

Day, Sidor, Tedi Johnston and Hannah Godfrey all racked up two hits to help the MU offensive attack.

Freshman infielder Britney Scero (Canton) continued her assault on opposing pitchers by recording a hit in each game to stretch her hitting streak to 18 games.

Crusaders sweep Urbana

Madonna wrapped up a three-day tour of

SPORTS BRIEFS

For more information on the spring break camps, call (734) HV-SPORT; or visit www.hvsports.com.

Ohio with a doubleheader sweep Sunday at

Urbana, winning 8-3 and 8-6, the latter in

across four runs in the first two innings to

Madonna added their fifth run in the

fourth inning after Sidor scored on an error

with a single and later scored on an RBI sin-

more outfielder Hannah Godfey also scored

the win after tossing a complete game and

two after pitching four innings in relief of Ballinger - who lasted four-and-one-third

innings and allowed four runs, all of which

The Crusaders scored five runs in the

off Ballinger to tie the game 5-5.

fourth inning to take a 5-4 lead, capped off

by Sidor's first collegiate homer, but the Blue Knights (7-7) plated a run in the fifth inning

After heading into extra innings, neither

ninth inning when MU busted through with

Freshman Samantha Bell, Godfrey and

scored to put the Crusaders ahead for good.

junior Heather Richardson (Canton) all

team could muster much offense until the

in the sixth inning to increase the lead to 8-3.

Senior lefthander Shannon Noder earned

Noder (5-4) also picked up the win in game

gle by Christina Finch. Scero and sopho-

Sidor started MU's rally in the sixth inning

In the opening game, the Crusaders pushed

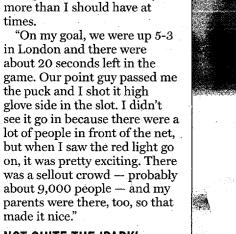
IGNITION CAMPS

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; or call (888)



QUITE THE 'PARK'



B4

Underwood is a junior at Our Lady of Lourdes in Guelph, an 800-student Catholic school that hardly compares to the 6,000-student Plymouth-Canton Educational Park complex that he called home his first two years of high school.

"Size-wise, it's more like a middle school in Canton," said Underwood. "It's a lot smaller than the 'Park,' but it has a nice atmosphere because everybody knows everybody.

"The Storm players don't get any special attention. We take the same classes and wear the same uniforms as everybody else. The only difference is we have our personal counselor."

The different atmosphere hasn't affected Underwood's stellar academic performance. He compiled the team's highest grade-point average during his first semester at Lourdes.

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

WALT DMOCH

Canton native Joe Underwood, a rookie defenseman for the Guelph Storm, had tallied one goal, three assists and 18 penalty minutes heading into Saturday night's OHL playoff game against Plymouth.

\$1,000 MINIMUM

& CIRCLE CHECKING"

The craft camp is for children between the ages of 5 and 12 who would like to show off their creative side. There will be a variety of projects offered each day. The fee is \$30 per day, which includes all materials.

Early drop-off is \$5 per day and it starts at 7:45 a.m. Late pick-up is also \$5 per day and ends at 5:15 p.m.

436-4625. The camps are sponsored by the Hantz Group and the Henry Ford Medical Group.

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.

RUNNING CLUB

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

All levels are welcome.

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

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

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



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Cheap shots focuses on images created with plastic cameras, Page C8



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

Strength training, weight loss, and water, water, water

eeping your weight in perspective will help you develop practical, achievable goals.

Think about how long it took to gain excess weight. It probably took months or even years. Therefore, it's unrealistic to expect to lose all your excess weight in a few weeks.

For example, if you have 50 pounds to lose, a goal of six months to one year is reasonable. Expecting to lose 50 pounds in three months or less is neither practical nor healthy.

Also, try to keep things in perspective in terms of how much progress you've already made. If your goal is to lose 50 pounds, hitting a plateau around a 25pound loss is frustrating. However, looking at things from a different perspective can keep you motivated



to hang in there. Find something that weighs about the same amount as the pounds you've lost. A favorite of mine is bowling balls, but you can also use sugar or free weights.

Aubuchon

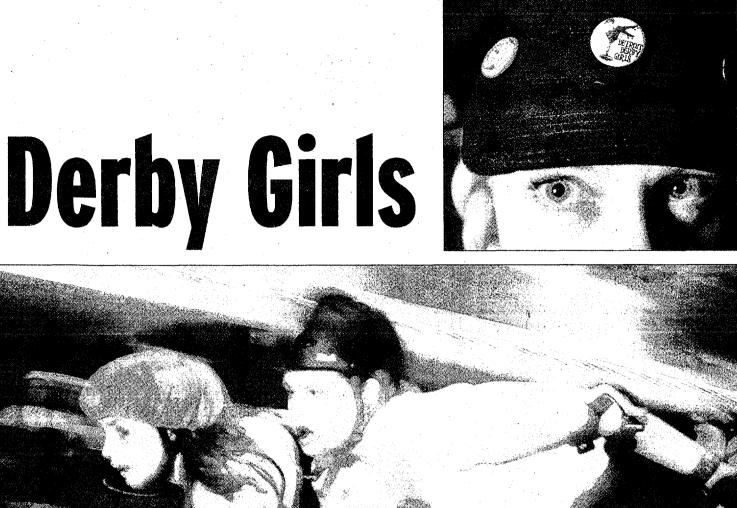
five-pound bags of potatoes, one-pound bags of Pick up enough items to equal the amount of

weight you lost. Think about how heavy it is to carry this weight around. Then think about how you used to carry this weight around on your body. This will help you realize how much you've already achieved. It'll also help you feel how much weight you still want to lose so you can imagine how much better you'll feel when you reach your goal.

Among successful dieters polled by Consumer Reports magazine, physical exercise is the most important aspect. Counseling and guidance come in a distant, but important, second. As you age, you may find your metabolism slows down. This is a result of muscle loss, as we lose muscle and increase body fat with age

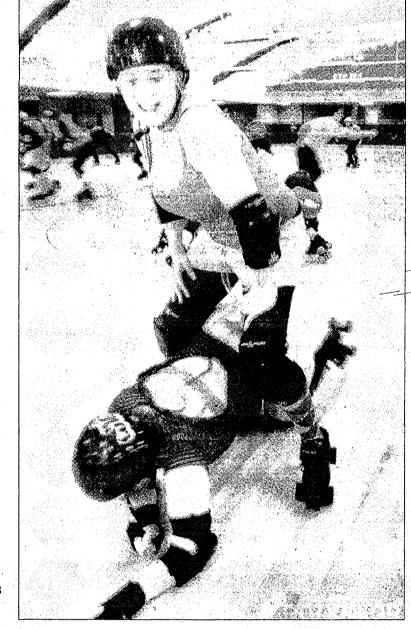
For example, an average 25-year-old woman has 25 percent body fat, which is a healthy percentage. An average 65year-old woman has 43 percent body fat, which is considered obese. A healthy body fat percent for women over 60 is equal to or less than 31 percent.

You can prevent muscle loss and



Cold Fusion (left) aka Emetia Emerson of Redford, mixes it up with Sass Knuckles aka Genevieve Harrison of Roseville.

All-woman league mixes strategy, speed and agile skating on the roller rink



Sunday, March 25, 2007 The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

Roxie Hurt, also known as Dawn Deonellas, of Novi, is ready to rumble.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

increase in body fat with strength training exercises. Strength training two to three times a week can help you burn more calories and fat, even while you are at rest.

In addition to helping with weight control, strength training can help improve cholesterol levels, prevent diabetes, prevent high blood pressure, relieve arthritic symptoms, prevent osteoporosis and reduce the risk of cancer. If you decide to begin a strength training routine, consult your physician prior to starting. It is also best to consult a personal trainer to develop a safe, effective program for you.

Any personal trainer will also impart to you the importance of getting in enough water every day. He may not tell you, however, how water affects your weight on the scale. Your body retains water if you don't drink enough to keep yourself hydrated. This, of course, will make the scale go up.

However, water has a more significant impact on your weight loss than just influencing what you see on a scale. Water is the body's most essential nutrient. It impacts so many of the body's metabolic processes, including burning fat. An increase in water intake can actually help reduce the body's fat stores.

As little as a 2 percent water loss slows down your metabolic rate, resulting in lower energy levels.

Not enough water also particularly affects fat metabolism. Fat is metabolized in the liver for energy. But when the body doesn't get enough water, the kidneys cannot function properly. When the kidneys can't work well, the liver takes on some of its work. This causes the liver to work less metabolizing fat. Of course, this results in more fat remaining in the body, and fewer pounds lost.

Drink a minimum of 64 ounces of water daily, plus an additional eight ounces for every 25 pounds you want to lose. You should also drink more if you are active and live in warmer climates. When you're meeting your body's water needs, you will experience a decrease in appetite, improvement in energy levels, and better weight loss.

Linda Aubuchon is owner of Diet Center of Canton, a provider of personalized weight loss solutions. E-mail comments or questions to Linda@DietCenterofCanton.com or call her at (734) 414-9200.

BY SHARON DARGAY

STAFF WRITER

Roller derby is a physically demanding, rough and tumble sport of strategy, speed and strength. And according to Lesley Krul of Beverly Hills, it's also a bit like driving a car with stick shift.

'Every position multitasks and on top of that, you've got to be steady on your skates. You have to be able to skate'

Lesley Krul **Beverly Hills**

"It's overwhelming at first, but after a while it becomes second nature. You've got to pay attention to so many things. You're playing offense and defense at the same time," said Krul, 32, a single mom and high school science teacher in Southfield schools. "Every position multitasks and on top of that, you've got to be steady on your skates. You have to be able to skate."

Most of the original members who founded Detroit Derby Girls (DDG) league two years ago didn't even roller-skate, let alone knew anything about falling correctly or scrimmaging on wheels.

Krul, known as "Ima Wrecker" when she skates with her DDG team, the D-Funk Allstars, at Masonic Temple in Detroit, had roller-skated as a hobby, but hadn't competed before she and others formed the league.

When Emelia Emerson, 34, of Redford joined nearly two years ago, she was more familiar with dance skating, being "in synch" with a partner and looking graceful on the hardwood floor.

PLEASE SEE DERBY, C3



The Canton High School Destination Imagination team, (standing, from left) Kyle Burdette, Alex Magee, Andrea Burdette and Hannah Bartlett, pose with the Destination Imagination teams from Plymouth-Canton who gualified to move on to the state finals.

Barberica (Erika Propst of Commerce Township) plays team freeze tag during a practice.

Teams try to 'Imagine' a shot at Global Finals

The Plymouth-Canton school district will be well-represented when the state finals of the Destination Imagination competition take place in Mt. Pleasant next month.

Five teams - the Canton High School team, three teams from Workman Elementary School and one from Smith Elementary School - will be among the teams vying for a shot at the Global Finals at the University of Tennessee.

Destination Imagination is a competition that urges teams to solve long-term challenges and complete "instant" challenges using creativity, teamwork and

problem-solving skills. The Plymouth-Canton district has had teams qualify for the state finals nine straight years.

The Canton team earned first-place honors for conquering the "Round About Courage" problem by presenting a theatrical performance of a team-created heroic adventure where the hero had to overcome a personal challenge.

The team presented its performance in a "theater-in-the-round" style integrating technical set pieces into the presentation. Smith Elementary's team earned third-

PLEASE SEE IMAGINATION, C2

IMAGINATION

FROM PAGE C1

place honors in "Switching TraDitions!" during which their challenge was to create an original six-minute improvisational skit during a 30-minute time period at the tournament.

The team - fourth-graders Joslyn Longe, Justine Berry and Marianna Lazich and fifthgraders Rachel O'Neill, Audrey Reding, Jack Chaney and Joshua Dunn — researched six different team-selected nations and randomly choose three to integrate

into their skit.

Workman Elementary had three teams qualify for the state finals, including its "CSI-DI" team, which earned first-place honors after developing and presenting an original story about the investigation of a case, the supporting evidence and a case resolution.

The team - Madhurima Das, Nitin Ram, Brandon Cheung, Annika Nuler, Sowmya Vhasure, Tiberiu Vilcu and Krishna Vermulapalli - also had to design and build a gadget that

used one or more properties of Opecializing in Residential & Commercial Restoration & Custom Brick Work **Dan's Custom Brickwork**

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DOUBLE TROUBLE FOR THE KNEES

osteoarthritis

different approach.

Rheumatoid arthritis alone brings enough problems. The condition causes undue fatigue and as a result of strain brings on aching to the muscles and tendons surrounding rheumatoid joints. In addition the presence of rheumatoid

arthritis in a knee creates a risk for osteoarthritis in the same joint. What happens is that the inflammation of rheumatoid arthritis causes the other elements of the knee to lose their strength and resiliency. The cartilage that covers the bone is then more liable to develop frays and tears. Over time this wear brings on osteoarthritis

If you note pain in your knees, you cannot conclude your rheumatoid arthritis

is out of control, and you need a change in your therapy. The possibility exists that you are experiencing a second condition, osteoarthritis, which calls for a

Your doctor keeps this possibility in mind. He confirms this alternative diagnosis by taking fluid from the knee, when possible, and analyzing the specimen. Osteoarthritis fluid has a different composition from rheumatoid

arthritis fluid. Another way of confirming osteoarthritis is a standing x-ray of the

With this information, the doctor can decide if you need more rheumatoid

medication or a different therapy. If you have superimposed osteoarthritis, the treatment is joint aspiration and a medication such as acetaminophen for pain.

knee. The x-ray picture of osteoarthritis differs sufficiently from a rheumatoid knee, to permit an accurate diagnosis.

color, shadow and/or light.

Workman's "Cardiology" teams earned third- and fourth-place honors. Their task was to design, build and test a structure made completely of playing cards. The team created an architectural drawing of the structure and made a creative story of how the cards impacted the characters in the story.

Third-place team members included Chithrini Sivashankar, Sharanya Javachandran, Nora Ackasu, Varun Krishnamoorthy, Kevin Shi, Nikhil Tase and Zain Ahmed. Fourth-place team members included Ananya Vasudevan, Aditya Bhatt, Jil Shah, Grace Martin, Sagar Rafai and Varun Krishnamoorthy.

@ 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. "Shopaholic & Baby," Sophie Kinsetta

2. "Step on a Crack," James Patterson/Michael Ledwidge

- 3. "Innocent in Death," J.D. Robb 4. "Sisters," Danielle Steel
- 5. "The Watchman," Robert Crais NON-FICTION
- Woodruff

Obama

Beah

PARENT'S CHOICE NEW CHILDREN'S PICTURE

Truck," Katie Clark

- Do Anymore," Jenny Offill
- 3. "Not a Box," Antoinette Portis 4. "That's Love," Sam Williams
- Trumble," Lynn Manuel

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COMPLETELOUDATION of

Michigan State

Lauren Stemberger was commended for academic achievement at Michigan State University for Fall Semester. Lauren made the dean's list for maintaining a 3.6 grade point averagé.

Stemberger, a freshman majoring in Communications and Broadcast Journalism, is a 2006 graduate of Plymouth High School. She is the daughter of Brian and Karen Stemberger of Plymouth.

Madonna Dean's List

Named to the Dean's List in recognition for superior academic achievement during the past term at Madonna University in Livonia were the following Canton residents:

Stacey Alcorn; Sandra Balewski; Jo Ellen Baringer; Ruth Beckman; Scott Benner; Kristina Birch; Nadine Bonnet; Sherry Browning; Marianne Carter; Nicole Chambo; Carrie Cluff; Sarah Cole; Suzanne Cox; Tamica Dean; Gina Dembinski; Andrea Dortch; Amanda Ellul; Kevin Entsminger; Shannon Ferguson; Robin Fraser; Tina Gelardi; Noah Goldberg; Ashley Gray; Lauren Green; Kimberly Guilfoyle; Jennifer Hebel; Janet Hedrick; Karen Henke; Amy Henry; Charles Henry; Joshua Hoover; Jennifer Jablonski; Andrea Johnson; Jonathan Johnson; Christine Keena; Adam Kerfoot; Young-Kyu Kim; Ashleigh Klimek; Christina LaDuke; Bridgette Lansu; Christopher Leach; Elizabeth Lulek; Scott Marinski; Lisa McBridge; Deborah McCoy; Robert McCoy; Carl McDevitt; Sharon Melton; Fadi Nader; Britany Norris; Rebecca Odqvist; Brandon Oyer; Bethany Paul; Janice Payne; Kristin Phillips; Emilie Pickert; Rachel Pinsky-Cail; Ann Marie Plagens; Andria Quigley; Swati Rajpurohit; Nifiah Nurenna Reid-Sanders; Nancy Richards; Heather Richardson; Janice Rodrique; Allison Roy; Seong-Hwan Shin; Lisa Sprankle; Ashley Stoychoff; Elizabeth Taboko; Teresa Tallman; Christina Todaro; Sara Veneziano; Carolýn Verla; Alexandru Vlad; Charles Walker; Yvonne White; Charles Wolfe; Nicole Worthington; Melissa Wroblewski; Christi Yettaw; Kristen Yuschak.

In addition several Canton residents graduated from Madonna after the past term. They were:

Keith Arnold, Nursing; Ruth Beckman, Nursing; Jennifer Jablonski, Psychology-Business Concentration; Christine Keena, Child Development; Christina LaDuke, Nursing; Cheri Opaski, Merchandising

ON CAMPUS

Management; Janice Payne, Psychology; Andria Quigley, Business Administration; Nifiah Nurenna Reid-Sanders, Nursing; and Sara Veneziano, Nursing.

Albion Dean's List

Several local students have been named to the Albion College Dean's List for the fall 2006 semester. Students named to the Dean's List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or above at the completion of the semester. This GPA must be based on at least three units in graded courses and a minimum of four units completed. The students are:

Matthew Baciak is a sophomore with a concentration in the Gerald R. Ford Institute for Public Policy and Service. He is the son of Jan and Ilona Baciak of Canton and a graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School.

William Fitzsimmons is a sophomore majoring in biology and minoring in chemistry. He is the son of Joseph Fitzsimmons, Jr. and Julie Fitzsimmons of Canton and a graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School.

Kimberly Heaney is a freshman at Albion College. She is the daughter of Michael Heaney and Karen Heaney of Canton and a graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School.

Sarah Jose is a sophomore majoring in economics and management, with a concentration in the Gerstacker Liberal Arts Program in Professional Management. She is the daughter of Richard Jose and Deborah Jose of Canton and a graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School.

Andrew Leinart is a junior majoring in philosophy and English. He is the son of Susan Freeman of South Lyon and a graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School.

Amy Lindman is a senior majoring in Spanish education and minoring in secondary physical education, and is completing the secondary education program. She is the daughter of Russell Lindman and Carol Lindman of Canton and a graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School.

Ashleigh Munch is a junior majoring in speech communication and minoring in psychology. She is a graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School.

Phillips Academy honor roll

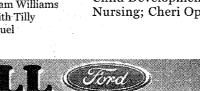
Randy X. Li, who is the son of John Lie and Ana Shu of Canton, made the honor roll for the spring term at Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass. To be named to the honor roll, students must maintain at least a 5point average on a 6-point scale.



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3. "Somebody's Gotta Say It," Neal Boortz 4. "A Long Way Gone," Ishmael

5. "Infidel," Ayaan Hirsi Ali

BOOKS 1. "Grandma Drove the Garbage

2. "17 Things I'm Not Allowed to

5. "The Trouble with Tilly

1. "In an Instant," Lee and Bob 2. "The Audacity of Hope," Barack



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DETROIT DERBY GIRLS

Teams: D-Funk Allstars, Detroit Pistoffs, Devil's Night Dames and Pistol Whippers. Members from each team make up the DDG Travel Team.

Members: About 60, with others in training. Ages: Range is from 18 to

40-plus. **Positions:** Jammers earn points for their team by passing members of the opposite team; blockers try to prevent the opponent's jammer from passing through the pack of skaters; and pivots are blockers one from each team - who skate at the front of the pack, leading its speed. Essentials: \$30 monthly dues; annual \$35 fee to USA Rollersports (for insurance); skates, helmet, elbow and knee pads, wrist guard, mouth guard, practice clothing and bout uniform.

Commitment: Average 12-15 hours weekly with Monday/Wednesday practice at Riverside Arena in Livonia; volunteering and committee work for the nonprofit organization; competing at scheduled times. In training: Women who try out and are accepted into training can expect to spend about 12-14 weeks learning the ropes. They must pass a basic skills skating test before being allowed to scrimmage. Web sites: www.detroitderbygirls.com for more information on the teams, trying out and volunteering for the DDG staff; www.wftda.com for more on the Women's Flat Track Roller Derby Association.

DERBY

FROM PAGE C1 Dexterity, speed and good communication with team-

mates is more important to her now as a derby skater. "I'm a blocker," said Emerson, who's married and has a 13year-old daughter. "I like being a blocker. You need to be really comfortable with knowing what's going on behind you, because the action is always coming up behind you. You need to be able to move at the last minute. And you have to be

able to be good at taking hits and giving hits." Emerson skates with the DDG team, The Pistol Whippers, under the name "Cold Fusion." The moniker is a a tip of the hat to her career as a science teacher and grad student working toward a masters degree in multidisciplinary science at Wavne State University.

If she and other skaters make the game look easy, it's because they spend "a lot of time practicing" and learning how to fall in order to minimize injuries.

"It took us seven or eight months before we even started scrimmaging," recalled Jody O'Neill of Ypsilanti, aka "Crash Baby," and one of the League's founders. "There were 10 or 11 leagues in existence around the country and we e-mailed them and they started giving us advice on how to get started.

"We had no money. Practice space was expensive and we had a hard time getting it.

LEAGUE RESURGENCE

The group has come a long way in two years. Now into its second competitive season, DDG consists of four teams that challenge each other from late February through July at Masonic Temple in downtown Detroit and a travel team that goes head to head with other members of the Women's Flat Track Roller Derby Association throughout the country. Two coaches run the women through demanding skill exercises, endurance skates and practice scrimmages every Monday and Wednesday night at Riverside Arena in Livonia. Referees make sure the games are played according to the rules and volunteers - includ-

FOOT AND ANKLE PAIN?



Team practice builds roller derby skills.

DERBY MATCHES Who's skating:

April 21 - D-Funk Allstars vs **Detroit Pistoffs** May 12 – The Pistolwhippers vs Devil's Night Dames June 2 – Detroit Pistoffs vs **Devil's Night Dames** June 23 - The Pistolwhippers vs D-Funk Allstars July 21 - DDG 2007 **Championship Bout** When: Bouts start at 8 p.m. Where: Masonic Temple, 500 Temple in downtown Detroit Cost: \$15, children under age 12 free Buy tickets: In advance at www.startickets.com

ing the skaters - staff everything from penalty box timekeepers to publicity to merchandise sales.

DDG is part of a new wave of all-women roller derby leagues that have steadily grown in membership and fans over the past few years. Most teams compete on flat tracks, unlike their coed predecessors who skated on banked floors in the 1950s and 60s. Many leagues are grass roots and non-profit. Broken bones, bruises and the occasional fight are real, as opposed to staged confronta-tions of roller derby in the early 1070s.

"We are a sport and all of us treat it as a sport," said Donna Malchie of Farmington, aka "Vicious Vixen," a member of DDG's D-Funk Allstars team. "We practice and train hard for



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Vicious Vixen aka Donna Malchie, of Farmington Hills, laces her skates for the practice.

our bouts. The outcome is never fixed. Everything is very real. But anger and grudges stay "on

the track. Members say the atmosphere is friendly, even though teams compete against each other. Heidi Hillenbrand, 23, of Clawson, says being a Detroit Derby Girl skater "is like having 60 sisters."

"It's like a sisterhood. They accept you in and it's really fun," said Hillenbrand, who graduated from Rochester Adams High School in 2001. Hillenbrand works as a web designer in Southfield and skates under the name, "Addy Mantium" for Devil's Night Dames.

NAMES WITH ATTITUDE

Skaters register their names with the Women's Flat Track Roller Derby Association and must get permission before using a name that's similar to one already in use. Laura Hinojosa, a Ferndale resident who grew up in Livonia, calls herself "Vega Vendetta" when

she skates with the D-Funk Allstars and the DDG Travel Team.

"I love sports," said Hinojosa, who works as an art director at an agency in Bloomfield Hills. "I was in softball before I joined derby. Derby took over because softball became boring.

Hinojosa, who joined the league in April 2005, likes the speed and excitement of roller derby. As a jammer, she weaves in and around the pack of skaters, trying to score points for her team while dodging the opponent's blockers. She's a moving target on the track.

"All the girls are my friends. I love the exercise," she noted. "The outfits are great — part fashion and part sport."

Most teams wear short skirts with shorts underneath, short sleeve shirts or tank tops, fishnets or socks.

O'Neill said an attendance policy and dues requirement tend to screen out potential members who "are most likely to get hurt because they're here just to look cute."

The league requires all potential members to pass a basic skills skating test after 12-14 weeks of practice before they are allowed to scrimmage. Newcomers also learn how to fall correctly so they're less likely to break bones or bruise.

Members stress that joining Detroit Derby Girls requires a big commitment.

"If you're going to play on a team you have to come to practice. And you have to join a committee," Krul noted. "I like it because I like team sports. I've met a lot of great people. It's good exercise and it's fun.

"I think it's a positive thing for women to have their own team sport. We're strong women and we're a good role model for girls."

Big Enough To Be Professional,

COMMUNITY CALENDAR AROUND TOWN

Sciencepalooza

The Sciencepalooza science street fair gears up for FUN-tastic Physics at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum April 7-8. Sciencepalooza is held the first weekend of every month at the Museum and explores a specific topic in a fun and festive environment with in-depth hands-on experiments, activities, special quests and demonstrations. Twenty different hands-on activities developed and presented by the Society of Physics students will be on display in conjunction with the FOCUS labs, a UM research laboratory. The Blake Lilly prize, a national award that recognizes outstanding community outreach and physics education, was awarded to the UM student group after last year's Sciencepalooza. The Museum will host hands-on activities and interactive projects exploring many different aspects of physics. Unveil the mystery of magnets, explore gravity and simply have fun with simple machines. This event is free with regular Museum admission, and will take place Saturday, April 7, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, April 8, noon-5 p.m. For more information visit www.aahom.org or call (734) 995-5439. Southern gospel

There will be a southern-gospel singing 7 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at the Living Water Church, 11663 Arcola Street, one block west of Inkster along Plymouth Road in Livonia. New Pastor Dan Strength welcomes a national group, the Journeymen. Call, (734) 425-6360.

Great Lakes Doll Club

The Great Lakes Doll Club's 18th-annual Grant A Wish Mini Convention, a benefit for the 32 Degrees Detroit Masonic Learning Center for Dyslexic Children, takes place April 13-15 at the Livonia Marriott. The weekend event includes an exclusive Barbie doll, Friday night cocktail party and charity auction, Saturday luncheon with guest speaker Bill Greening from Mattel Collectibles, and a Sunday brunch. Tickets are \$180. The salesroom featuring fashion dolls is open to the public 7:30-10 p.m. Saturday, April 14 and noon-2 p.m. Sunday, April 15. For more information, e-mail

gawfund@aol.com **Genealogical society**

The Livingston County Genealogical Society meets Thursday, May 3, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1041 W. Grand River in Howell. Speaker Cindy Gorstick, corresponding secretary of the Michigan Genealogical Council, will discuss "WWI and WWII Draft Registration Information." The meeting, which starts with a pot-luck dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the business portion at 7:30 p.m., will also serve as the group's annual meeting. The public is invited. Call Margaret Bowland, (810) 227-7745.



Page C4 (*)

Sunday, March 25, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

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

Sweet! Fruit has healthy benefits in its own league

Allison from Lake Orion has been hearing about the benefits of pomegranate juice and e-mails for more information on its emerging popularity.

Allison, pomegranates are not as well-known as their



fruity counterparts, but when it comes to healthy benefits they are in a league of their own! Studies now confirm that the juice reduces LDL, bad cholesterol, and that is just for starters. Just 8 ounces of pomegranate juice per day reduced high blood pressure by 5 percent in some test subjects. In fact, the juice mimicked the effects of some hypertension drugs.

Peter Nielsen

Peter's

Principles

Like tea, pomegranate juice is packed with cancer-fighting antioxidants called polyphenols. It's also low in calories, about 140 in an eight ounce glass. One of the most

widely marketed pomegranate juice products is called POM Wonderful. It has no added sugars and comes in a variety of flavors. It is not cheap, but well worth the price. Whole pomegranate fruit is also a delicious addition to your healthy diet strategy!

Randy from Port Huron is a longtime smoker who wants to know the life span for folks who manage to kick the habit in middle age.

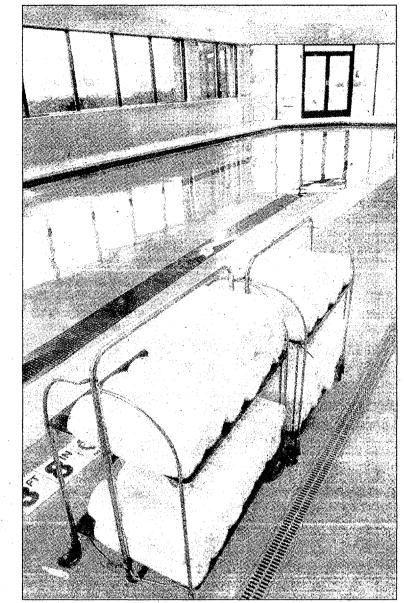
Randy, I did the research and in this case it is never too late to get a nicotine-free new lease on life! Most studies now show that long-term smokers lose up to 10 years off their lives depending on how much they smoke and for how long. An interesting study out of Oxford University highlights the importance of quitting regardless of your age.

The study followed 35,000 doctors over the course of 50 years. As I just mentioned, the long-term smokers died an average of 10 years sooner than their nonsmoking colleagues. But the study also shows that quitting can put years back onto your life expectancy. Quitting between the ages of 30 and 60 can add anywhere from three to 10 years back to expected life span.

Life expectancy has increased dramatically over the last century, but that trend does not hold true for folks who insist on making smoking a part of their lives!

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. Contact him at Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield.

New breed of health club



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The facility contains an aquatics center with a lap pool where AquaFit aerobics is taught and a 92-degree therapy pool for low intensity exercise.

-'I appreciated the health assessment. It gave me a good indication of my upper and lower body strength, blood pressure. I work out on the treadmill, stepper machines and bikes. I have overall better health. It's comfortable and relaxing." Todd Lipa



Specialist Cristina Noble checks Tom Cetnar's blood pressure. Cetnar is a Livonia resident.

Botsford Hospital opens fitness center based on medical model

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

odd Lipa's in the prevention business so it makes sense that he should set an example when it comes to fitness. When the opportunity recently arose to bid on a six-month membership to the Botsford Center for Health Improvement, Lipa was determined to win. He had put on a few pounds since playing football at Farmington High School.

Botsford Hospital's new medically based health club offers . a proactive approach to fitness and wellness. Lipa hopes to be in shape by fall to launch a healthy kids program in conjunction with Botsford Hospital in Farmington. As director of youth and family services for Farmington/Farmington Hills Special Services, Lipa's worked for the last 11 years to help kids make better lifestyle choices.

"I run after school programs in five different buildings for 250 to 300 kids per day," said Lipa, 48. "I coach football at Power Middle School and noticed last fall it was a little more difficult."

ASSESSING HEALTH

Lipa arrives at 6:30 a.m. three mornings a week to work out, alternating between cardiovascular and strength training equipment. Two evenings per week he spends time in the pool. The routine was prescribed especially for Lipa after a fitness assessment which included a health history. A second appointment orients members to the equipment. Afterward, certified health specialists and physiologists are available to answer questions during workouts.

"I appreciated the health assessment," said Lipa. "It gave

PLEASE SEE BOTSFORD, C5

Evervdag

Michigan Eye Doctor Helps

Legally Blind Woman to See Again

Dr. Sheldon Smith helps those with low vision to enjoy daily activities like reading and driving.

By Elena Lombardi

Low vision is defined as vision that cannot be corrected with regular prescription glasses or contact lenses. For most people, low vision means they cannot drive or do daily activities like reading a newspaper. With specialized treatment people with low vision can get back to doing the things they enjoy.

Michigan Optometrist, Dr. Sheldon Smith helps people who have lost vision from macular degeneration and other eye conditions. Just like looking through a pair of field glasses or binoculars, telescopic glasses make things look bigger, closer, and much easier to see.

"Many of my patients consider me the last chance to help their vision," states Dr. Smith.

Macular degeneration is the most common eye disease among the senior population. Twenty five percent of people over 65 years of age have some degree of degeneration. When the macula, a small part of the retina, degenerates it leaves a blind spot right in the center of vision making it hard to recognize faces, read a book, or pass the driver's vision test.

The cause of macular degen-

eration is unknown. How-

ever, it has been shown that



Dr. Smith's Patient with Bioptic Telescopes for Driving.

UV light from the sun, smoking, poor nutrition and aging are contributing factors. In addition, 15% to 20% of macular degeneration cases have been shown to be genetic.

"People don't know that there are experienced doctors who can help them with low vision care," says Dr. Smith. "My job is to figure out anything and everything possible to help a person see at the best level possible."

Valerie Bassett, 79, a music teacher and church organist from Essexville, Michigan was turning down music students because she could not see the music from the teacher's position. Dr. Smith fit Valerie with telescopic glasses with an adaptor to read music. "Now I use my glasses to participate in worship service, sing hymns and read the bible. I can read music. It's wonderful to be able to see again. I have a new lease on life!" says Valerie.

Paid Advertisement

There are as many low vision devices as there are various activities. Bioptic telescopes help some people continue driving, while special prismatic glasses can help for reading and other hobbies. Devices range in price from \$500 to \$2,500.

"Every situation is unique. Each person's level of vision varies and every patient has different desires," states Dr. Smith. "Our ultimate goal is getting patients doing those things they most wish to do. The impact on quality of life and independence is remarkable."

Dr. Smith has offices in Livonia, St. Clair Shores and the Lansing area. To see if low vision care can help you or your loved one call Dr. Smith today at Suburban Low Vision.

1-877-677-2020 For more information go to suburbaneyecare.com or ialvs.com

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Member FDIC. Offer available in MI and Toledo. OH, area only. To qualify for this offer, you must open or have a personal checking account at Charter One and be enrolled in Everydat Member FDIC. Offer available in MI and Toledo, OH, area only. To qualify for this offer, you must open or have a personal checking account at Charter One and be enrolled in Everyday Points by March 31, 2007. Receive 5,000 Everyday Points, valued at \$25, if you establish a monthly Steady Save transaction, with which you must transfer a minimum of \$10 at least once per month from this account to any of your Charter One savings or Money Market Accounts (other than a Passbook Savings Account) by April 30, 2007. Offers may be combined with each other but cannot be combined with any other offers. Each \$25 will be awarded in the form of 5,000 Everyday Points and can be used for your reward selection. Existing customers who do not currently use Steady Save or Online Bill Pay may also qualify - see a banker for details. Points are valid for three years from award date and may be redeemed for a gift card to our merchants or merchandise in our Everyday Points catalog, available in branch or online at www.charterone.com. Point redemption values subject to change. \$25 Everyday Points annual membership fee for Green Checking⁶ customers. For Green Checking customers, an additional 3,000 points will be credited to your account and can be used to pay the annual membership fee for first year. Your checking account must be enrolled in Everyday Points are used to be eligible. Refer to the Everyday Points catalog additional terms and conditions. ATM/Debit Card required for online banking. This limited-time offer is subject to change and may be withdrawn at any time. All accounts and services are subject to individual approval. See a banker for details.



BOTSFORD

FROM PAGE C4

me a good indication of my upper and lower body strength, blood pressure.

"I work out on the treadmill, stepper machines and bikes. I have overall better health. It's comfortable and relaxing."

Monica Pagels leads a tour through BCHI pointing out the more than 70 new pieces of equipment, aerobics center with floating floor to reduce joint strain, sauna, and aquatics center with a lap pool where AquaFit aerobics is taught and a 92-degree therapy pool for low intensity exercise.

The area previously housed Botsford's Total Rehabilitation and Athletic Conditioning Center (TRACC) which has since moved to another building in the complex on Grand River, west of Haggerty in Novi.

After six months of renovation, BCHI's 30,000 square feet boast an indoor walking track and rooms for group exercise classes for yoga, tai chi, pilates, and spinning. Group exercise B room is bare except for the balls used in classes to strengthen the core.

A fitness class for seniors and others unable to participate in standing exercise also takes place here. Classes occur every day but Sunday.

Membership is less than \$60 a month and includes classes. A variety of services are offered at an extra cost including consultation with a registered dietitian, massage therapy, and assistance for those unable to exercise independently.

"There's no reason for them not to be successful. We keep them reaching their goals," said Pagels, manager of BCHI and an exercise physiologist.

"We talk to members daily about lifestyle changes and refer them to a registered dietitian for weight management and sports nutrition."

BCHI was a dream conceived more than 18 years ago, according to Jay Berry, director of the Botsford Wellness Complex which includes BCHI, TRACC, and the Botsford Center for Lifestyle Management for diabetes management.

'SAW A NEED'

"We saw a need with TRACC for people who would finish with rehabilitation and say now what," said Berry. "Hospital administrator Steve Faine was one of the administrators pushing for the center, saying wouldn't it be great if a there was a wellness center, a preventative process.

"Over the years, the environment has changed. The medical community realizes it has to be preventive especially with rising health care costs. The question was how do you teach people to take care of themselves."

Deidra Jarmon knew she "needed to do something" when her physician prescribed medications for high blood pressure and cholesterol levels more than one year ago. On Jan. 6, she started coming to BCHI four to five times a week before heading to work at Blue Care Network in Southfield. In addition to walking on a treadmill, Jarmon takes classes including AquaFit and she's set up an appointment for nutrition counseling with a registered dietitian.

"I like the location, like the fact it was new and sparkling and clean," said Jarmon, 40, of Novi.

"I've lost weight, but I'm still on medication. My hope is to slowly wean myself off, but even if I don't I might be able to lower the doses."

Patricia Karimalis was recently diagnosed with diabetes. Her "internist told her she has to exercise." She has lost seven pounds since early March. She comes to the center four times a week.

"I've been in different exercise programs," said Patricia Karimalis, 60, of Novi. "When I came here I saw how beautiful it was, not restricted, you can do whatever you want.

"I like it so much. The people are nice and if I want my blood pressure taken they will."

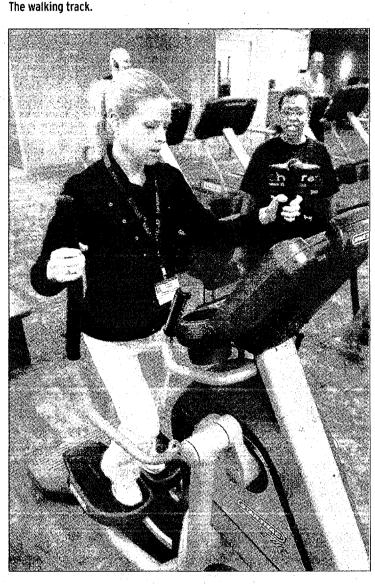
The Botsford Center for Health Improvement is open seven days a week. For more information, call (248) 473-3100 or visit

www.botsford.org/bchi.

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



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Botsford Fitness Specialist Cristina Noble demonstrates the use of an elliptical trainer to client, Darnell Jefferson. Jefferson is a Southfield resident.

FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

Young cancer survivors sought for scholarships

The American Cancer Society Great Lakes Division Foundation's Young Survivor Scholarship Program is currently accepting applications for the 2007-2008 school year. Applications are due 5 p.m., Tuesday, April 17.

Since 1997, the American Cancer Society, Great Lakes Division Foundation has proudly supported young cancer survivors with \$1,000 scholarships as they pursue ambitious career goals. To date, more than 350 first-time scholarships and nearly 300 renewal scholarships have been awarded to students in the Great Lakes area of Indiana and Michigan. Scholarships are available annually, based on academic performance, community service and leadership, among other criteria, and may be renewable up to three additional years.

A limited number of tuition scholarships are available for the upcoming 2007-2008 school year. To qualify for the scholarship program, applicants must be a cancer survivor age 20 or younger (as of April 17, 2007); a U.S. citizen and legal resident of Indiana or Michigan, and attend, or plan to attend, an accredited college or university in Indiana or Michigan in fall 2007 as a full-time student carrying 12 or more credit hours per semester.

The college scholarship program is made possible by generous donations to the American Cancer Society Great Lakes Division Foundation.

Interested students may download an application online by visiting www.cancer.org/scholarships or by calling (800) 723-0360.

Chronic daily headaches ?

The Michigan Head+Pain & Neurological Institute is seeking individuals 18 to 65 years of age to participate in a research trial to evaluate an investigational medication to treat chronic headaches.

You may qualify for this study if you:

- Have a history of chronic headaches for at least 6 months
 Experience 15 or more headaches per month
- Qualified participants will receive study-related examinations and

medication at no cost and may also receive compensation for time and travel. Please contact one of our clinical research coordinators for

additional information at (734) 677-6000 x 4.

Michigan Head • Pain & Neurological Institute 3120 Professional Drive • Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 677-6000 • www.MHNL.com

(*) 65

Are the Senior Law and the senio

WUUUE LIESUYIE

If your business or organization serves seniors you'll want to be part of this exciting event!

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2007 9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus in the VisTaTech Center Haggerty Road between 6 and 7 Mile Roads

Exhibitor Package Includes:

- BOOTH INCLUDES: Covered table and two chairs, identification tent care, with ample space for your giveaways, demonstrations and promotional materials.
- PRINT ADVERTISING: Ad in our special Mature Lifestyle section distributed on Thursday, May 17, 2007
- **EXHIBITOR LISTING** on the center spread of Mature Lifestyle section and newspaper promotion of the event during April and May, 2007.
- FOOD: Continental breakfast plus two boxed lunches for exhibitors.

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

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Schoolcraft College

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	301009, March 23, 2001	

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www.hometownlife.com



ANNOUNCEMENTS

pagne toast and much more.

Reunion 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sep. 29,

Discounted tickets before March 1.

Contact Dave Junquist at (810)667-

leyreunions67. All classmates are

9131, Website www.geocities.com/coo-

encouraged to register for inclusion in

www.classreport.org/usa/mi/detroit/co

A 50th reunion is planned for Sept. 7,

8, and 9, 2007, at the Thomas Edison

Inn, Port Huron. Seeking lost gradu-

not yet on the mailing list, please

email maroonfowl@aol.com or call

Searching for classmates of the class

of 1967 for a 40th reunion this sum-

at (586)446-9011 or Mary Mezzardi

mer/fall. Contact Diane Kangas (Krok)

A 40th reunion will be held 6:30-11:30

Seeking January, June and summer

call Ellen (Neihoff) VanderRoest at

(248)684-7705 or email chuckandel-

A 50-year reunion. Oct. 12, 2007, at

O'Kelley KofC Council, Dearborn. In

interested in attending or know the

whereabouts or former classmates,

oliverlynn@aol.com or phone (734)261-

Looking for graduates to attend a

Call Eleanor at (734)425-8278.

reunion scheduled for Oct. 19, 2007.

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

A 50-year reunion is being planned for September 2007. Looking for January

and June graduates. If interested in

of other classmates, contact Angie

(Conz) Maccani at (313) 532-4379 or

Ken Suski at (313) 291-5450.

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 con-

tact : Treva (Powell)Hamill, 248-667-

1601, bobtrev9@aol.com or, Dick

Ferndale Lincoln High

attending or know of the whereabouts

classes welcome. Contact Helen

Brighton at (734)513-7499.

Detroit Southwestern

Class of 1957

Knights at (734)285-4927 or Ralph

graduates from 1967. For information,

Special Event Center in Livonia.

p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at Laurel Manor

Detroit Girls Catholic Central

mmezzadri@hotmail.com.

ates, January/June classes. If you are

2007, at Laurel Manor, Livonia.

Detroit Cooley

Classes of 1967, 1968

memory book at

oley/1967

Detroit Denby

Class of 1957

(248) 642-0249.

(Winowiecki) at

Detroit Henry Ford

van@comcast.net.

Class of 1957

3346.

Class of 1957

Detroit Western

Class of 1962

Detroit Holy Redeemer

contact John Duff at

Detroit Mackenzie

Class of 1967

Class of 1967

ENGAGEMENTS

Pitt-Salinas

Steve and Diane Pitt of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Abby Lynne Pitt, to Brandon Corey Salinas of Coopersville.

The bride-elect is a 2004 graduate of Michigan Lutheran Seminary and is currently enrolled at Wayne County Community College where she is completing her nursing degree.

Brandon is the son of Steve and Tamara Salinas of Coopersville. He is a 2004 graduate of Coopersville High School and is currently a marine in the United States Marine Corps stationed at Camp Pendleton in San Diego. He will be serving a second tour in Iraq beginning in August. A July 28, 2007 wedding is

Dempkowski-Kloote

Tim and Barb Dempkowski of Garden City announce the engagement of their daughter, Mary Kay Dempkowski, to Christopher Kloote of Livonia.

Mary Kay Dempkowski is a 2000 graduate of Garden City High School. She is employed as a technical partner at Garden City Osteopathic Hospital and is currently working on a registered nursing degree at Schoolcraft College.

Christopher Kloote is the son of Bill and Karen Kloote of Livonia. He is a 2002 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School. His is employed as a IT intern at UHY Advisors in Southfield. He will receive a bachelor's degree in computer

Buffington-Davis

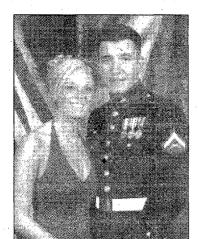
John and Beth Buffington of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Buffington, to Timothy Davis, the son of Jim and Lynne Davis, also of Livonia.

The bride-to-be, an Alexandria, Va., resident, is a graduate of Michigan State University and is a quality specialist with Baxter Healthcare.

The prospective groom, also of Alexandria and graduate of Michigan State University, is an engineer with Hensel Phelps Construction Co.

Both the bride and groom are graduates of Livonia Stevenson High School.

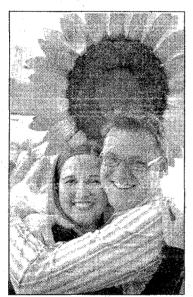
A May 2007 wedding is planned at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville, with the Rev. Doug Thompson officiating.



planned at St. John's **Evangelical Lutheran Church** in Westland followed by a reception at the Summit on the Park.

and electrical engineering in April 2007.

The couple is planning a summer 2009 wedding. Details have not been set.



The couple plans to honeymoon in Australia before set-

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

Class of 1987

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

Bloomfield Hills Lahser

Class of 1976 Golf Scramble and/or casual dinner at

Camp Ticonderoga, Friday, June 29, 2007. Reunion 7 p.m. Saturday, June 30. 2007 at Pine Lake Country Club. For information go to www.Lahser1976.com or contact Jackie (McLernon) Bean at (248)399-9054, Dean Shipman at (313)701-8544, John Wallbillich at (800)707-7170 or Jeffery

Given at (248)594-2401.

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1977

A 30-year reunion, Friday, Aug. 3 to Sunday, Aug. 5, 2007. Contact Val Schulte (Wrenbeck) at msugrad81@cox.net with your current address and phone number. **Dearborn Edsel Ford** Class of 1967

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

efhs67@yahoo.com **Detroit Chadsey**

Class of 1957 A 50th Reunion is being planned for Sept. 29, at Weber's Inn in Ann Arbor. Looking for January, June and Summer '57 graduates. If interested in attending or know of the whereabouts of other classmates, contact Pat Gorski-Zielinski, (989) 366-9288. **Detroit 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 50s' draduates. Deadline is June 25.

loret@wideopenwest for details. Cost

is \$90.00 per person, complete with

dinner, open bar, memory book, cham-

SINGLES

MISC. SINGLES

Ballroom Dancing to a live band every

Saturday 8:30-11 p.m. at the Livonia Civic

Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia.

Call 800-859-9502 or email

CLASS REUNIONS

Reising, 248-623-9060, dreisings@sbcglobal.net Fordson High School

Class of 1969

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

Garden City High School Class of 1987

Searching for all class of '87 Alumni for a 20-year reunion. Need to find current information on alumni (name, address, phone, email, etc.). Contact GCHSClassof87reunion@comcast.net or call Sheryll (Pietryka) Catton at (734) 367-0898. Class of 1997

A 10-year reunion is planned for June 9, 2007, at the Crowne Plaza in Romulus. For more information and to update your address, visit the reunion website at www.gchs97reunion.com. **Grosse Pointe North**

Class of 1991

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

Ladywood High School Class of 1967

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

Livonia Bentley High School Class of 1957

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

Classes of 1971-2007

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

Gayle@ChurchillAlumni.com. Livonia Franklin

Class of 1969

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

Class of 1997

arty97

Novi High School

A 10-year reunion, 6 p.m. Saturday, June 9, 5th Avenue, Novi, private party on second floor. Cost \$30 per person or \$50 per couple due no later than April 16. Make checks payable to Matt Zielinski, 12829 Lanatana Ridge Court, Austin, Tx 78732. For more details join the Google group at

http://groups.google.com/group/nhsp

A combined class reunion, July 28, 2007 at Rock Financial in Novi. For information please contact: Laurie (Maier) Butler (1974) Ibutler@motorcityharley.com; Claire (Salow) Klingelhofer (1975) clairek1@comcast.net; Leigh (Tarczy) Guzowski (1976) laguzow@alumni.nmu.edu; Patty (Pohlman) Mayer (1977) mayer123@comcast.net

Our Lady of Sorrows Class of 1966

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

Redford Thurston High School Classes of 1957, 1958

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

Classes of the '80s

Thurston High School's '80s Reunion Committee will host a 2007 THS Multi-Year Reunion from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Hyatt Regency, in Dearborn, A limited number of first-come/first served tickets at \$59 per person will be available and no tickets will be sold at the door. E-mail Andrea Gambotto (Class of '86); at andshaffer@netscape.net or Dan Phillips (Class of '82) at DanielP422@yahoo.com. Representatives from graduating classes of '80, '82, '88 and '89 are sought.

Roseville High School Class of 1956

A 50th reunion in fall of 2006. The reunion committee is searching for classmates. For information, call Shirley at (586) 677-2709; Alice at (586) 792-7757 or e-mail at alijune1939@scbglobal.net or thehermans2002@comcast.net.

Royal Qak Dondero High School Class of June-Jan. of 1959

Seeking classmates for Aug. 4 reunion. Include name, address and email address to: Jean (Elliotte) Palmer 248-435-7875, TJPalmer73@aol.com, or Mike Soule 248-853-7483.

Southeastern (Detroit) Class of 1987

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

Southfield High School Class of 1977

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

lleneSilvermanAbrinSHS1977@com-

cast.net

St. Anthony Elementary All classes

assages

Reunion on Oct. 6, 2007 for the Detroit school at 25th and Vernor. Email mrkf4yahoo.com or call. (734)995-9243 for further details and to give us your contact information.

C7 (*)

tling into their home in Alexandria, Va.

BIRTHS

Brianna Lynn Bartz

Susan and Brian Bartz of Westland announce the birth of their daughter, Brianna Lynn Bartz, born Feb. 7, 2007 at Providence Hospital in Southfield.

Brianna weighed in at 7 pounds, 3 ounces and measured 19.5 inches at birth.

She was welcomed by big sister Paige and grandparents Sherry and Rick Bartz of Westland and Fran and Bill Poynter of Gladwin (formerly Livonia).

Zoey Lee Patten

Ashley Martindale and Adam Patten of Livonia announce the birth of their daughter, Zoey Lee Patten, on March 8 at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills.

Grandparents are Becky and John Martindale of Livonia and Eve Patten of Taylor. Greatgrandparents are Norma and Edwin Martindale of Cape Coral, Fla., previously of Livonia; Larry Mauney of Central Lake, Mich., and Maureen Patten of Taylor. Great-great grandmother is Clotilda Relle of Taylor.

How to submit announcements

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

There is no charge to submit an announcement.

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

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

For engagement announcements, include:

Names, addresses and cities for the bride, groom and

both sets of parents Where bride and groom attended (or attend) high school

and college and years graduated Where bride and groom are

- employed
- Wedding date

Wedding location Daytime phone number and e-mail address in case we

have any questions.

For wedding announcements,

- Clergy's name
- attendants
 - Reception location

City where couple will

Please send photos in a vertistamped envelope.



MIGUEL A. MENENDEZ

MIGUEL A. MENENDEZ "Mike", age 60, of Southfield, March 20, 2007. Mike is survived by his sis-ter Patricia (John) Tector; uncle of Catherine (Brian) Keith, Christopher (Eliza) Tector and Sarah Tector; he is also survived by several other loving family members. Memorial Mass Saturday, March 24th, 3:00 p.m. at the Jesuit Residence Chapel at University of Detroit Mercy, (NOTE - Enter the Lansing-Reilly Hall from the east side doors facing the parking lot). The famdoors facing the parking lot). The family will receive friends on Saturday from 2:30 p.m. until the time of Mass. Those who wish to further honor Mr. Menendez's memory may do so by making a contribution to the J. V. S. Miguel A. Menendez Endowment Fund, 29699 Southfield Rd., Southfield, MI 48076. Arrangements entrusted to the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington (248-474-5200).

W. DOUGLAS WRIGHT

Age 79, died Tuesday. March 20, 2007 at St. Joseph of the Pines Health Center. A memorial service will be held on Friday, March 30, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. at Community Presbyterian Church, Pinehurst, with Rev. Rod Stone officiating. Born September 27, 1927 in Oakland County, Michigan he was a son of the late Ray and Leatus Douglas Wright and was preceded in death by his brother Robert Wright. Mr. Wright was a US Navy Veteran of WWII, an Executive for National Twist Drill and Tool Company in Rochester, Michigan; Fansteel/V.R. Wesson in Waukegan, Illinois; and owner of Management Recruiters of Pinehurst. He is survived by his wife, Anne Bauer Wright of Pinehurst, and his brother, Ray J. Wright of Sterling Heights, Michigan. Memorials may be made to Community Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 1449, Pinehurst, NC 28270. Beynell Funeral Home and 28370. Powell Funeral Home and Crematory of Southern Pines.



G. MANSON TAYLOR

ge 88, March 22, 2007. Beloved husband of Beatrice. Loving father of Terry (Darlene), Jan (Jim) Baty and Dale (Ellen). Dear grandfather of Jenny, Jeff, Robert, Jackie, Lori, Katie, Kari and the late Sara Jo. Great grandfather of Sadie and Nathan. Manson served as a School Administrator for 40 years in Detroit and retired as the principal of Joyce Elementary School. Visitation at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy Road, Dearborn Heights, Sunday, April 1, 2007 from 2 PM until Funeral Service at 4 PM. Memorial runeral service at 4 PM. Memorial contributions may be directed to the church. R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home (734) 422-6720 in charge of arrangements. Please sign the online

guestbook at: www.rggrharris.com

Tribute

Life of

Loved One

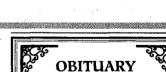
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Paying

Classes of 1974 , 1975, 1976 and 1977

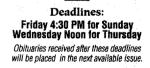
Obituaries. Memorials, Remembrances

e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com





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



e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 For more information call: **Charolette Wilson** 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser

734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

include:

Mile. Cost \$2.

- All of the above, plus
- Names and cities of all
- Honeymoon location

reside cal 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,





Moon-dusters

Anytime 6:30-9:30 p.m. Meets at the Main Lounge at Drakeshire Lanes, 35000 Grand River Ave. just east of Drake Road in Farmington Hills. Cash bar and reasonable priced dinner is also available off the menu. \$5/members, \$6/non-members. Vollevball

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

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Cheap shots focuses on images created with plastic cameras

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 25, 2007

Ralph Krawczyk, Jr. never thought he would shoot photographs with film again until a friend told him about the Holga. The inexpensive toy camera produces images unlike digital. The simple plastic lens creates blurring, light leaks and other distortions to čreate a mood.

Two of the photographs Krawczyk shot with a Holga are part of a group show presented by the Krappy Kamera Club of Ann Arbor. Observer Newspapers photographer Bill Bresler of Livonia also has work in the exhibit titled Cheap Shots: The Silver Dreams of Plastic Cameras. The show continues to Friday April 6, at Gallery 4, 212 Nickels Arcade, on the second floor above Arcade Barbers, Ann Arbor. Gallery hours are 3-7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, noon to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, and by appointment.

According to club member Michael C. Myers, there are 17 photographers in the show which features 28 images created with toy, pinhole, old and Polaroid cameras.

Krawczyk's images include a dramatic black and white of a goat at the Kensington Petting Farm, and Illuminated (from Behind), a photograph capturing the sun coming through



Ralph Krawczyk, Jr. used a Holga camera to shoot Illuminated (from Behind). It is one of the photographs on display in an exhibit titled Cheap Shots: The Silver Dreams of Plastic Cameras.

colorful autumn leaves.

"I started last summer taking photos with a Holga," said Ralph Krawczyk, Jr. of Redford. Krawczyk became a member of the club about six months ago after visiting www.flickr.com, an online photo sharing community.

"It has more soul, more mood, natural vignetting

around the edges, some blurring and distortion, but the central focus point is totally clear."

Since discovering the Holga, Krawczyk says he's been "shooting just about anything with it - abandoned buildings, the zoo. Anywhere I go I take pictures."

"I like things that are older

and show some character."

Krawczyk developed an interest in photography while he studying graphic design at Eastern Michigan University. Today, he works for General **Motors Creative Services** designing exhibits for auto shows and corporate events.

"It really goes back to boy scouts," said Krawczyk. "I was always into photography.

"I plan to experiment with different types of cameras. I recently went to an estate sale and picked up cameras from the 30s and 40s."

For those interested in learning more about the cameras used by club members, a workshop takes place 2-5 p.m. Sunday, March 25. Ross Orr and Matt Callow explain pinhole photography and guide participants through building their own with a few cheap everyday items. No charge. Dust Off Your Old Cameras and Get Busy 1-2 p.m.

Saturday, March 31, when vintage camera expert Mark O'Brien shows examples of "orphaned" cameras found hidden away in attics and basements. He'll also talk about restoring the cameras (Argus, Brownies, old SLRs, etc.).

Both workshops take place at Gallery 4. For more information, visit

www.mattcallow.com/cheapshots.html.

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

Talented young people wanted for commercials

First, there was American Idol, then Grease: You're the One That I Want. Now the Comcast Casting Call is searching for a talented 11 to 15-yearold Michigan resident to be featured in an upcoming advertising campaign.

"This is a fun and different way to find the next face and said Luis Casanova, vice presi-

dent of Communications and Public Affairs for Comcast's Michigan Region.

In addition to being awarded a contract from Comcast, the winner will be awarded an HDTV, home computer system, digital phone system, and a free year of Comcast Cable, Internet and Digital Voice.

teurs are eligible to enter this

talent search as long as they meet age and residency requirements. From auditions submitted online, 10 finalists will be selected by a panel of eight judges, and the finalists will participate in a live audition on Saturday, March 31.

To view the rules, regulations and directions of the submit an application and

audition, visit www.comcastcastingcall.com.

All contestants must be legal residents of Michigan and must have parent or guardian permission to participate in the competition.



DEEE-TROIT BASKETBALL **PLAYOFFS**

NBA PLAYOFFS FIRST ROUND TICKETS ON SALE SATURDAY, MARCH 31 • 12:30 PM

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C8 (*)



BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Let's say you're a woman, or man, who's been out of the workforce awhile or maybe looking to change careers.

The Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College provides the atmosphere and support so you can explore educational, financial, professional and personal plans.

Appointments are not required, and walk-ins are welcome.

"We serve anyone who comes in the door," said Nancy Swanborg, WRC director.

"We see all kinds of individuals, both men and women. Usually, a trigger is something has happened in their life and they are looking for a way to make some changes."

That may include a return to school at the Livonia or Garden City campuses, or a career change. "We see people in all of those categories," said Swanborg. The WRC goes back to 1968, and has been in its current McDowell location since February 1995

"Most of the students that we see at the Women's Resource Center are mature adults," she said. However, they also see some still in high



school as well as individuals who wish to explore career changes.

"So we see students of all age groups," concentrated in the 25-50 age group. There's a Career and Transfer Center at Schoolcraft which can help: "We work very closely with them," she said.

The WRC offers a course, "From Chocolate Chips to Microchips to Blue Chips" to help people transition to the paid workforce, working with the Career and Transfer Center "as well as other parts of

the college."

Swanborg noted the WRC has always provided services for all people, including single parents of both genders. "We also serve nontraditional career seekers," such as a man who wants to be a registered nurse.

"Ours is primarily an education program. We're working with the client who needs skill development," Swanborg said.

During regular hours, peer counselors are available at the center.

They can assist those who wish to: Enter or re-enter college

Research new career possibilities

Find referrals for services or information

Talk through a difficult situation Volunteer peer counselors are trained in listening skills. They serve both walk-in and telephone clients at the McDowell Center on the Livonia campus.

A variety of free pamphlets, brochures and articles are available at the center. These include newsletters and the In Their Own Words video.

For more information, contact:

WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER **OFFICE (LIVONIA CAMPUS)**

McDowell Center, Room MC225 Telephone: (734) 462-4443 E-mail: wrc@schoolcraft.edu Monday, 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.;

Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER **OFFICE (RADCLIFF CENTER)**

Radcliff Center, Room RC120 Telephone: (734) 462-4400, Ext. 6051

Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

re-entering the workforce

Jewish Vocational Services' next Women to Work group will start Tuesday, May 8. There will be an information meeting 9-11 a.m. The sessions will be held starting on Tuesday, May 15, and will meet every Tuesday and Thursday (except for Thursday, May 24) from 9 a.m. to noon for 10 sessions. The last session will be on June 19.

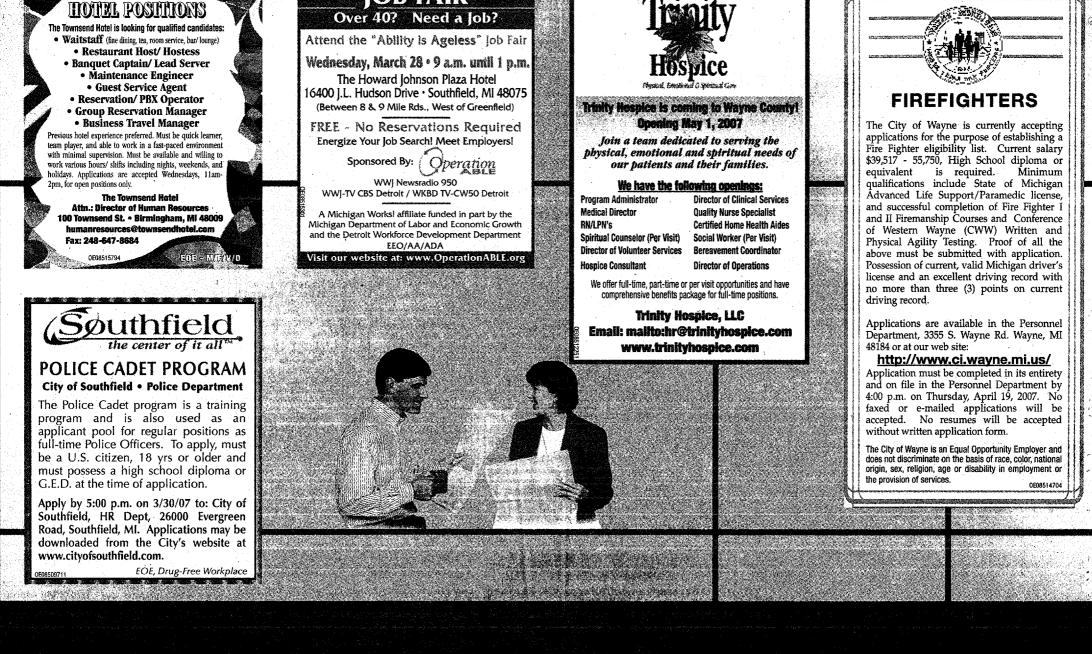
The program offers group and oneon-one counseling to help women who lack recent paid work experience re-enter the workforce. Women learn to become and stay employed, gaining the tools for a successful job search.

Women to Work at the JVS headquarters in Southfield includes help identifying skills and accomplishments, with an assessment that looks at interests and abilities. The program is funded by Oakland County Employment and Training as well as Charter One Foundation, affiliated with that bank. There's no fee to clients for services.

For additional information, contact Judy Richmond, employment specialist, JVS, 29699 Southfield Road, Southfield, MI 48076, (248) 233-4232.

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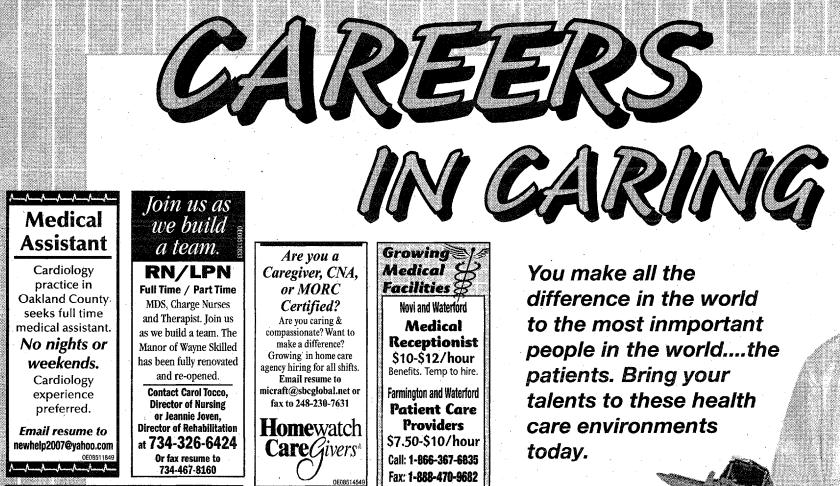


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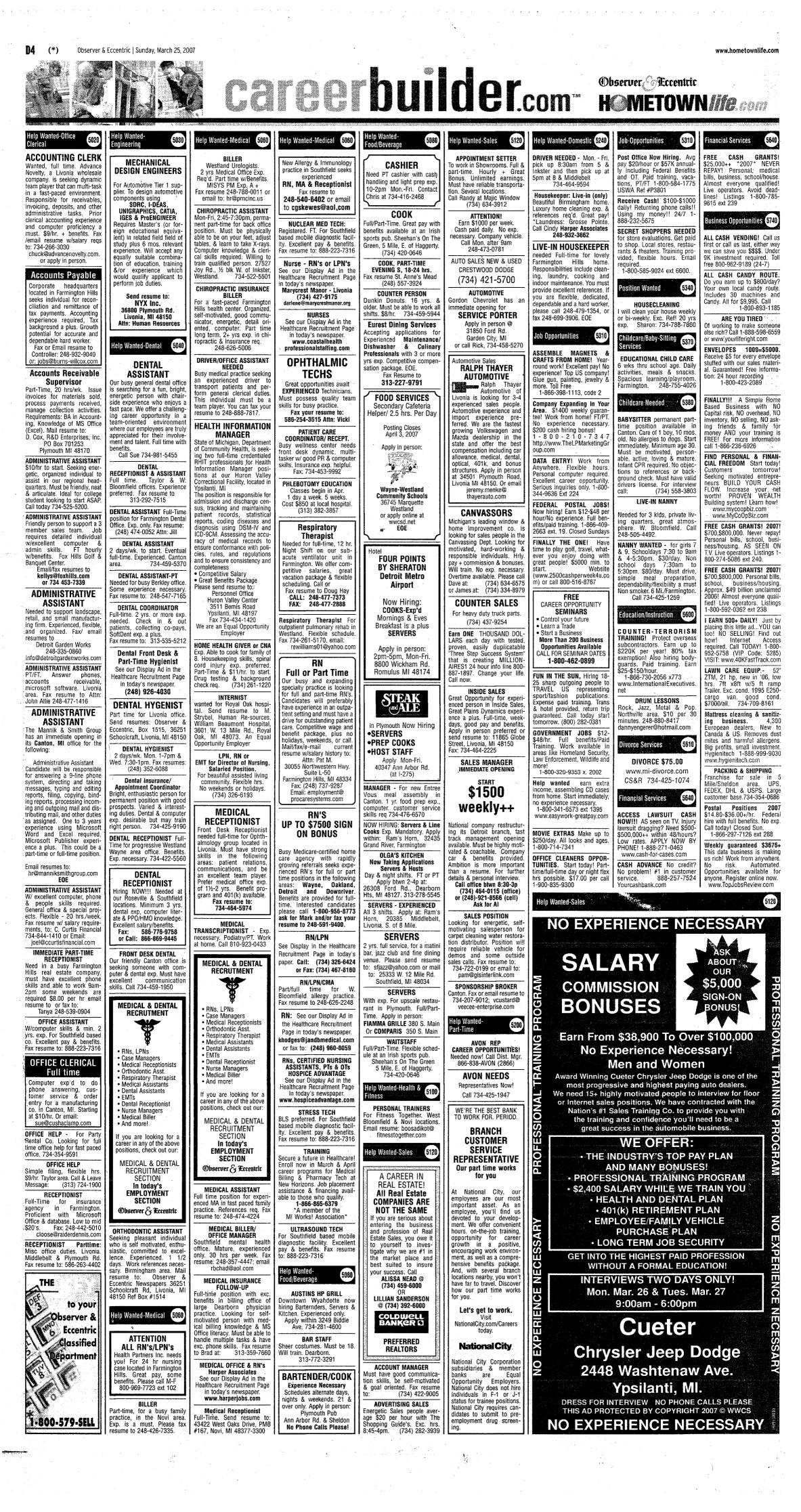
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MANUFACTURING ASSOCIATES Day Shift	Manufacturing LINK TOOL &	Mechanics Swift Transportation Now Hiring	POLICE OFFICER The City of Garden City is.	PURCHASING/ MANAGEMENT MRP For Manufacturing facility. Individual with exp. Offers	SEASONAL LABORER (Facilities & Parks)	SHIPPING CLERK Must have 2 to 3 years UPS	TREE CARE PERSONNEL; Spray Applicators, \$13 + depending on experience. Tree Trimmers & Ground	YOUTH PROGRAMS STAFF The Henry Ford is looking
AW Transmission Engineering (AWTEC), located in PLY- MOUTH, is an award winning, industry leader in remanufac-	MANUFACTURING We Specialize in Carbide/ Steel, Hot & Cold Heading & Extrusion Tools. Looking for dedicated individuals to fill the following positions for day	DIESEL TECHNICIANS 3 years Heavy Tractor Exp. Must have Own Tools & Valid Driver's License. Swift Offers A Competitve Compensation Package.	accepting applications for full-time Police Officers at GCPD until COB, 4-16- 07 Employment App (Police & Fire), the job	benefits & 401K. Please send resume to: Human Resource Manager, PO Box 500 Hartland, MI 48353 E.O.E. or fax: (810) 632-9270	Accepting applications for the position of Seasonal Laborer. \$7.73 per hr. Job description with complete	and/or FED-X software experience. Experience with international ship- ping/customs documenta- tion Requirements pre- terred. Pay rate for this	Personnel, \$9 to \$17++ depending on experience. Must have a valid driver's license with good record. Benefit's available. Call Mountain Top Tree Service,	for part time staff 18 yrs/older with 1-2 yrs' exp/equivalent working with school age children. The 'G.A.M.E.' program, offered during the school year,
turing of automotive transmis- sions, with a commitment to quality and equipment stan- dards that is unsurpassed in the automotive industry.	and night shift: Polishers/ Finishers, ID/OD Grinders, Hone Operator, Ded-Tru Operator, MAZAK CNC Lathe, CNC Mill Set-up/Operate, EDM-Set-Up/Operate & Qual-	Medical, Dental, 401k. Must be able to Pass A Drug Screen & Background Check. High School Diploma/GED Required. (ece-m/1)	description and a detailed announcement available at www.gardencitymi.org or by contacting the HR Office at 6000 Middlebelt Rd.; Garden City, MI.	RECEIVER/STOCK Receiving, electrical jack & Hi-lo exp. Some heavy lifting. Good communication skills. Send resume to	qualifications will be avail- able on the Canton Township website at www.canton-mi.org or may be viewed at the Canton Township Human	position is \$8.75, per hour, with full benefits. Located near 10 Mile & Grand River. Resumes accepted until 5 pm Wednesday, 3/28/07.	Northville 248-349-1870 VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SPECIALIST PT, MonFri., 6-9:30pm & weekend avail. reg. Basic	greets arriving groups and facilitates evening activities. Summer 'Discovery Camp' overnight leaders supervise and facilitate outdoor activ- ities with 6th, 7th & 8th
Due to increased sales and an expansion of the busi- ness, AWTEC seeks team-ori- ented, dependable individu- als who would like to enjoy: • \$10/hr; raise after 90 days	ity/Inspection with ISO 9001: 2000 exp. Excellent Benefits and 401K. EXP. ONLY. PART-TIME DELIVERY DRIVER	Contact Pete Mueller at 800-575-9487 Ext 52361 PAINTER-Custom, Sub Contr- actor. Must have equip. &	Phone 734-793-1640 Applications must be submitted in person to the HR Office.	JOE'S PRODUCE 33152 7 Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48152 Attn: Harvey RESIDENTIAL WORKER Needed at a shelter, Part-Time	Resources Division, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI 48188. Applications may also be picked up at the Canton Administration Building.	FAX - 248-426-5631 E-mail-hr@acecontrols.com Please Indicate "Shipping Clerk" EOE	computer skills req. Apply @ •Lover's Lane, 46750 Port St., Plymouth, MI WAREHOUSE/ AFTERNOON	graders, spending the night in a tent in Greenfield Village in dorm rooms, over six Thursday nights through the summer.
 Quarterly & Year end bonuses 100% company paid health/dental/optical Vacation/holiday/sick pay Tuition reimbursement 	Apply in person btwn. 2-5PM: 9495 Inkster Rd. Taylor, MI 48180 MECHANIC, H/D	transportation. Call btwn 9:30- 3, Mon-Fri. 248-943-1720 PAINTERS-EXPERIENCED Must have 5 yrs. minimum to apply. Commercial & Indust- rial. Must have valid drivers	Purchasing Agent Full-time 40 hrs/wk, purchase raw or semi-finished materials for mfg, purchase machinery, equipment, tools, parts, sup-	position, Midnights Fri-Sat. & Mon 3-11:30PM. Mail resume to: WCFC, Attn: J. Monroe, 30600 Michigan Ave, Westland, MI 48186	Human Resources Division, or on the Canton Township website. A Canton Township applica- tion form must be complet- ed in its entirety and on file	SPA REPAIR TECHNICIAN Experienced & dependable with transportation. Fax resume to:	Carpet Co. needs reliable hard worker for full time afternoon warehouse position. (10am- 8pm approx). Good math skills, valid drivers license,	Please apply in person: Lovett Hall, 20900 Oakwood Blvd, Dearborn Ml www.thehenfryford.org
 401k with company match AWTEC-HR 14920 Keel St. Plymouth, MI 48170 Fax: 734-454-1091 	E. and L. Transport, a Progressive Automobile Transportation Company, is seeking full-time qualified diesel mechanic/welders.	license & vehicle. References checked. 734-266-1500	plies, and services required for operation. Requirements: 2 yrs exp. in mfg environ- ment, Knowledge of MS Office (Excel) Mail resume to: D. Cox. R&D Enterprises. Inc.	RETAIL SALES CONSULTANT Livonia/Westland area. Cingular Wireless agent seeks highly motivated, energetic individuals to join our sales staff. Retail sales experience	in the Human Resources Division prior to 4 p.m., April 3, 2007. Faxed or e- mailed applications will not be accepted. The Charter	OUTDOOR INGENUITIES Attn: Terry 734-455-5049 TEACHERS/ASSISTANTS Childcare, Only exp'd apply. Livonia area. Call 9-2:30	ability to lift 70 lbs, hi-lo exp. with carpet pole necessary. Fax resume: 313-937-1823 Resume to: Code 1516 oeresume@ hometownlife.com	Help Wanted- Computer/Info Systems 501D PROGRAMMER in Novi need-
E-mail: hrresumes@awtec.com EOE MECHANIC For Tow Trucks.	Individual must be qualified in diesel mechanics with experi- ence in diesel truck repair and welding/fabricating; familiar. with hydraulics and heavy duty power trains. Union wages,	BUILDING MECHANIC IV	P0 Box 701253 Plymouth MI 48170 PURCHASING AGENT/ CLERICAL	preferred. Please fax resume: 734-641-7112 SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER Part-Time for property man- agement co. Farmington Hills.	Township of Canton does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nation- al origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of servic-	248-474-0001 After 3pm 248-926-1656 Technician CRITTER CONTROL	YOUTH SPECIALIST Full time, contingent & sum- mer positions in residential program for emotionally	ed with superior VB6 & VB.NET skills. Must be strong in SQL & Crystal. For support & new development. Send resume to: mlawrence@fdigroup.com
Contact Larry or Walter at: (734) 455-1130 MECHANIC - TRUCK HEAVY DUTY	full benefits and great pension. APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED MON FRI, FROM 9 AM-4PM	CITY OF LIVONIA For complete information visit our website at: www.ci.livonia.mi.us	Full time position with bene- fits. Plymouth area. Please send resumes to: Box 1513 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers	Good wages. Fax resume to: (248) 851-7414 SECURITY OFFICERS. Strategic protection group is	es. An Equal Opportunity Employer. We always find the best	Is looking for field service technicians. Applicant must be highly motivated, energetic & reliable. A good driving record required. Must be	impaired adolescent males. Req: High school diploma; 1 yr current exp in residential treat- ment setting; prefer Bachelor degree w/exp. in human serv-	or fax to: 248-348-1697 TRAINING Want to earn 6 computer cer- tifications in less than 1 year?
Full-time, weekdays. (734) 786-3757	or call & ask for Bob 734-420-5310 APPLY IN PERSON AT: E & L TRANSPORT 4290 Hannan Road	or apply in person at Livonia City Hall, 3rd floor, 33000 Civic Center Dr. Livonia, MI 48154	36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150	hiring for qualified security officers for Canton & Wixom areas. All shifts. Please call 248-968-9800, Mon-Fri, 9-4 SERVICE TECHNICIANS	stuff in the Observer & Eccentricl	comfortable on ladders and roofs. Some college and sales experience preferred, but not necessary. Will train. Part time or Full time. Great summer	ices; not more than one ticket in last 3 yrs. Send resume to: Methodist Children's Home, Attn: YS DEPT. 26645 W. Six Mile Rd. Redford, MI 48240 Fox 212 F23 1040 or cmeil	Enroll now in March & April classes with New Horizons. 1-866-307-1436 Job placement assistance & financing to those who guali-
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM	Canton, MI 48188 E.O.E.	E.O.E. M/F/H	WORK! 1-800-579-7355	Swimming Pool Co. Must have exp. Pay & benefits commen- surate w/exp. 248-477-7727	CLASSING CLASSING	job for college students. Call Debby at: 734-454-7171 or Fax to 734-326-2292	Fax 313-531-1040 or email MCHSAdmin@provide.net No phone calls please. EOE	fy. *A member of the MI Works! Association*
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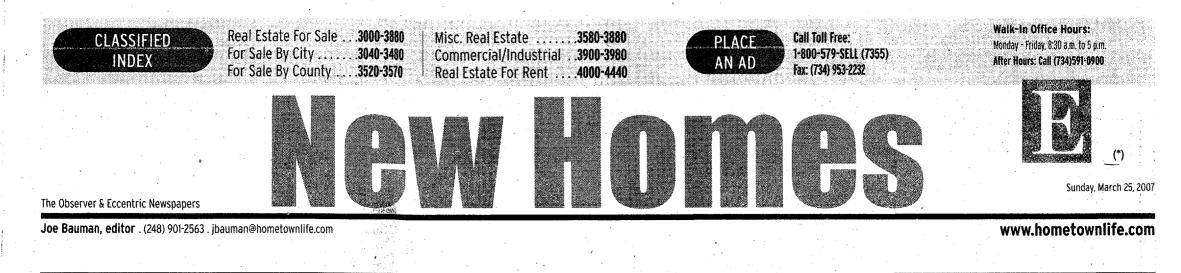


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apps@StaffNowHere.co







Crosswinds Communities Announces Preferred Purchaser Sales Event On April 2nd

Larmington Hills – An unprecedented opportunity awaits discerning home buyers as a limited number of 24 graciously appointed single-family homes within the Legacy Oaks community are being released for sale on April 2, 2007.

Presented by Crosswinds Communities, an award winning builder in Michigan for over 40 years, "Legacy Oaks" offers an exceptional lifestyle highlighted by the ultimate statement of luxury, comfort and convenience.

Crosswinds is currently offering Preferred Purchaser registration opportunities for the upcoming April event. Registration is necessary as space is limited. Only preferred purchasers who have preregistered before April 1st will be invited to pursue their new home in a personal meeting with Eileen Flemming, Legacy Oaks Community Sales Manager. The event, planned to take place at Crosswinds Community headquarters located in Novi, MI, will be scheduled by appointment only. Registration information is available by contacting Crosswinds Communities at www.legacyoakshomes.com or by calling Ms. Flemming at (248) 388-1599.

"It is no surprise that Legacy Oaks has already drawn such an outstanding response. All the elements contribute to it being a unique community, unlike anything else available in the area. We offer homebuyers the highest standards of quality and architecture, design and construction, coupled with the ease, adaptability and flow in the floorplans," said Legacy Oaks Community Sales Manager Eileen Flemming.

Emphasizing the importance of the event, Flemming stressed that "Home seekers who recognize the rare value of Legacy Oaks must register their interest and make an appointment to finalize their decision. This is an incredible opportunity to own one of 24 limited edition showcase homes". Flemming concluded.

A Community As Unique As The Home Designs, Set **Beautifully In Farmington Hills.**

Passing through the Grand Entrance, beyond the gazebo and central pond, visitors will discover an intimate enclave of 24 impressively designed homes. Upscale architectural elements that combine the classic styling of stone grace the exterior of these signature ranch and cape cod styled homes.

Situated on more than 11 wooded acres and nestled in the highly desirable community of Farmington Hills, the homes of Legacy Oaks are priced from the upper \$200,000s. The homes of Legacy Oaks, range from 1,800 to 2,586 square feet and feature the utmost in quality and craftsmanship. Luxury details include hardwood flooring, wooden cabinetry, 3 car garages, main floor owners suites, finely finished interiors, a fantastic setting and a premier location.

Among the many unique and desirable characteristics, Legacy Oaks boasts a strategic location on the east side of Haggerty Road, just north of 12 Mile Road. The community is only minutes from major thoroughfares and freeways. Adjacent to and within the surrounding metropolitan area are shops, cultural events, a vast array of restaurants, theaters, galleries, museums and more.

"Those who want to stay close to the best the area has to offer will find this to be the ideal community," added Flemming.

"The quality and attention to design and detail, combine to create a lovely neighborhood of beautifully appointed, high-end homes," Ms.Flemming said. "The prestige of Farmington Hills has also proved very appealing as well as Legacy Oaks enticing upper \$200's price point."

CROSSWINDS

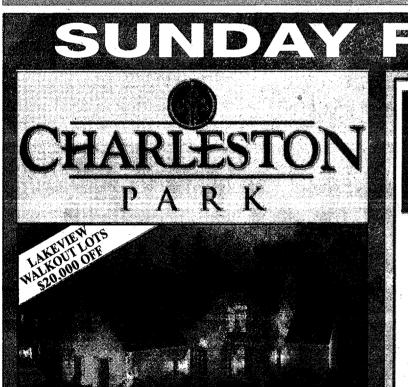
Legacy Oaks, is presented by Crosswinds Communities, a premier award winning Michigan company, founded by Bernard Glieberman, specializing quality residential home and land acquisition and development. Adeptness in land use, economic development, urban redevelopment and historic preservation combined with attention to detail have earned Crosswinds national recognition. Crosswinds is committed to offering a full complement of services while maintaining the fundamental pledge to quality and value. For more information on Crosswinds Communities, visit www.crosswinds.com.



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Classic Stone! Custom Wall, Ceiling and Trim Painting in 2 rooms of your Home From Leon's Painting.

Pulte Homes wants everyone to know about our New Signature Standards^{Tht} that we offer in all of our New Homes built in the area! Simply visit one of the locations listed on this flyer between Now and March 31st. Fill out a guest card so we can call if you win! Each registered guest that visits these Pulte Home communities

will be entered to win! Any prizes won can be used on an existing home or toward a new home if purchased from Pulte Homes

Realtors Welcome www.pulte.com

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Landscape prizes are a \$2,500 maximum limit and may be used for any installation or material services that Meadowbrook acres offers. No refunds will be given for unused portions of landscape credit. Granite prize from Classic Stone is 11/4" solid granite top including up to 2 under mount sinks from pre determined color choices. Homeowner is responsible for disconnecting plumbing and connecting plumbing associated with Installation. Painting prize includes Wall, trim and ceiling labor and paint. Paint must be picked from Sherwin Williams and will be promar 400. Offer valid in metro Detroit area only and only a listed Pulte Homes Communities. Prizes may not be redeemed for cast nal restrictions may apply

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Arcadia Ridge Estates North Estate Homes from the mid 500's. 248-735-0012

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its personal style.

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NEW HOMES

It is fun to live in the carousel-like Nottinghill

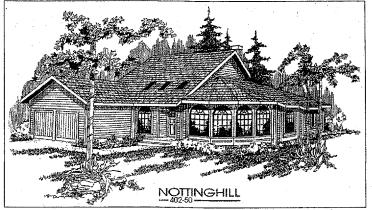
The two richly windowed quarter-circular rooms in the Nottinghill (402-50), puts viewers in mind of a carousel. These rooms - the family room and the living room - are fun to look at, and just as much fun to live in. Both have high vaulted ceilings, and are bathed in natural light streaming in through the wonderfully place windows.

E2

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A large fireplace is tucked into the only square corner the family room. The merging, large country kitchen includes a cozy and bright dining nook. French doors open onto a quarter-circular deck, which invites warm weather outdoor dining amongst large pots of bright flowers. Other amenities in the kitchen include a cooking island, plenty of cupboard space, and a handy and generous walk-in pantry.

The extra large utility room is conveniently located between the kitchen and the three-car garage. The utility tub here will come in handy for clean up after working in the



garage or garden. Soiled laundry dropped down an upstairs' chute ends up here.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 25, 2007

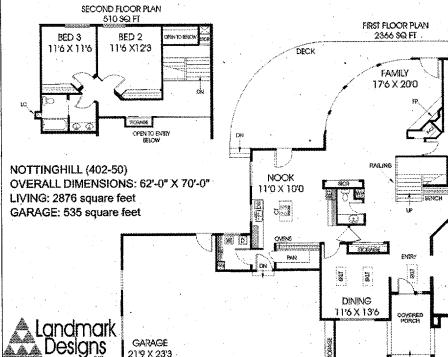
Two skylights brighten the formal dining room, and one illuminates the entryway. A built-in bench in the foyer comes in handy for removing wet footgear. The lower level also includes a study, as well as the luxurious master suite.

The master bath features a large spa and shower. The double vanities are situated under a wall of mirrors, which adds visual space. A huge walk-in

closet provides more than enough storage space to keep the peace.

Two generous sized bedrooms upstairs share a bathroom with twin lavatories.

For a study plan of the NOT-TINGHILL (402-50), send \$15.00, to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call 1-800-562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio



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- Dan Elsea, President, Brokerage Services

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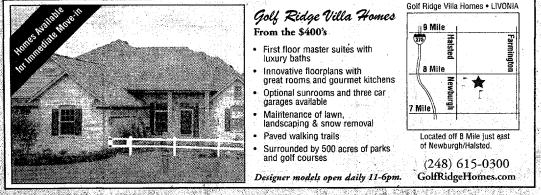
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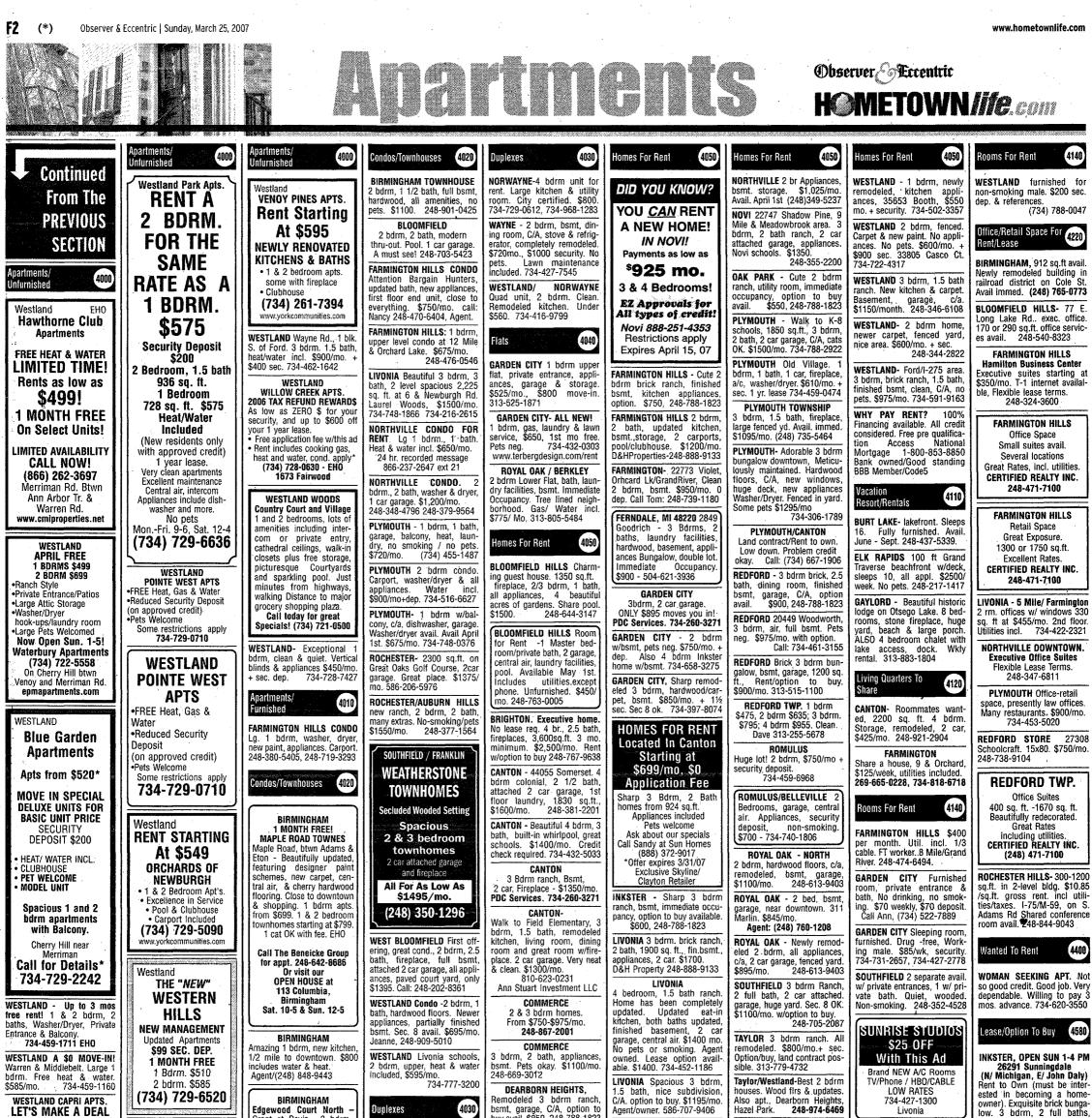
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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 25, 2007

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•



What a great vehicle to encounter on yet another week when gas tops out at prices requiring a mortgage. The 2007 Dodge Caliber SXT brings economy to the forefront, as well as reasonable travel comfort and a few extras.

Advertising Feature

CAReport

At 26 miles to the gallon in the city and 30 on the highway, this is the car to drive, whether you are running a dozen errands or taking to the highway for a quick getaway.

And at \$15,000, the Caliber is affordable, with an impressive list of standard features.

Billed by Dodge as "Anything But Cute," it delivers the goods, but really — it IS cute! Similar to the PT Cruiser in ride quality, the Caliber

Similar to the PT Cruiser in ride quality, the Caliber maintains comparable acceleration, even with its slighter smaller engine. For the average freeway entrance ramp, the Caliber delivers, and city driving offers a sprightly presence, giving zip from lane to lane, and considerable ease in parking.

The doors are a bit clunky when exiting the vehicle, however, as they seem to be intent on swinging shut, despite efforts to keep them open. But, that heaviness may be a blessing as protection in a collision.

The 2.0-liter 4-cylinder provides 158 horsepower, with 141 foot pounds of torque. Look for bang for your buck in the Caliber — and one of the best aspects is the interior.

Snug as a bug in a rug describes your stance in the optional heated front seats, but it's the best extra Caliber has. Heating up comfortably and quickly, they'll give you no complaints even when venturing forth in miserable weather.

Standard features include a theft deterrent system, keyless entry, solar-control glass, rear window defroster, an effective rear window wiper/washer, AM/ FM stereo with CD player, and sliding armrest with a swing-up cell phone/MP3 holder.

The gearshift is built into the dashboard, yet is surprisingly easy to get accustomed to. The location provides less driving clutter, while not taking anything away from the instrument panel.

Attractively arranged with the audio system and climate control, the gearshift, and instrument panel,



Caption: The 2007 Dodge Caliber SXT will get you where you want to go with capable acceleration and parking ease, economic gas mileage at 26 miles to the gallon in the city and 30 on the highway, and a well-designed crossover appearance.

look classy — despite a majority of plastic materials. It's all delightfully close to reach, in an environment reminiscent of a cockpit.

Caliber SXT provides snug ride with fuel savings

Driving visibility is good, especially since the SXT allows a driver more adjustable seating options, such as a higher vantage point.

A notable feature — standard, by the way — is the Chill Zone. Located within the glove compartment, it stores a few drink containers at chilled temperatures, even if the heat is engaged inside the vehicle.

The Chill Zone runs off the standard airconditioning compressor, which might render mileage less efficient, but potentially saves on beverage stops.

Cloth upholstery pervades, but the Chrysler Yes! Essentials material makes that a win-win, with its focus on wear-, stain- and odor-resistance. Premium cloth or leather seats offer other options, if preferred.

Ample leg and head room round out the interior package, and the leather-wrapped steering wheel now standard for many carmakers — is certainly among humanity's greatest inventions, particularly in extreme temperatures.

Two Caliber items might be problems, however. Additional sound system features in other vehicles, like radio performer and song display, make a trip more enjoyable, but the Caliber doesn't have it — even with the optional MusicGate Power Sound System. But that wasn't amid my two top complaints.

As an inveterate compass-user, I really missed that feature when navigating my way about town. I find

compasses so helpful, I would include them within suggested safety features for travelers. Without it, in the Caliber, my travels were delayed and wasted time, gas and patience.

By far, though — and oddly enough — the worst problem is the Caliber's right-turn signal. Touching it while turning causes a hair-trigger response, suddenly activating the bright lights. It's a frustrating evening commute trying to decipher how to prevent this infuriating issue.

The standard safety airbags are present, multistage ones in the front and supplemental side curtain ones in both the front and rear. Steering column audio controls will assist in focusing on the road, and BSW all-season touring tires will keep the wheels there, too.

The Dodge Caliber may be anything but cute, but it has a few other features that may just gauge it as perfectly acceptable.

Wendy Clem covers the automotive beat for Avanti NewsFeatures. Write her at wendyclem@gmail.com. @2007, Fracassa Communications.

2007 Dodge Caliber SXT Vehicle class: Compact car. Power: 2.0-liter 4-cylinder. Mileage: 26 city / 30 highway. Where built: Belvidere, IL. Base price: \$15,425.

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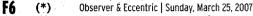
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Plus ... Denise Ilitch Designs Jennifer Gray's guide to weight loss and tips for the 'financially hip'

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PINK changes its make-up!



Here at PINK, we're excited about the changes taking place in our pages. PINK, Metro Detroit's first publication devoted to women, was launched in May, 2004. It has since

established a reputation for being on the cutting edge of local style - covering fashion, beauty, retail and trends.

As we gear up to celebrate our third anniversary, we are expanding PINK's coverage to include a wide variety of women's interest topics.

Keep your eyes on PINK for stories about fitness and wellness, along with advice from financial and travel experts.

The colorful, fun fashion features PINK is known for will still be there. but after all, there's more to life than a great handbag.

Right?

We hope you like the new shades of PINK.

> Wensdy Von Buskirk, Editor

After5Detroit

Design your night with hip Web site

Looking for a fun night on the town with the girls or with your guy? After 5 Detroit is partnering with PINK to help you go out in style:

Dinner @ Small Plates

For an authentic **Detroit dining** experience, visit Small Plates for appetizer-sized dishes, and enjoy





sharing the multiple delectables from their varied menu.

Drinks @ Pulse

If the night is still young, we highly suggest the warm sophisticated ambiance of our favorite martini lounge, Pulse, where you must try the After 5 Martini!

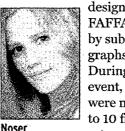
Find Small Plates at 1521 Broadway in Detroit and Pulse at 156 Monroe in Detroit. For more ideas, along with fashion news from PINK, visit After 5 online at: www.after5detroit.com!

Fashion Winners!

Who knew Rochester Hills was so fabulous?

Model Jennifer Noser and designer Kate Abraham, both of Rochester Hills, were named winners of the Fanclub Arts Foundation Fashion Awards, staged during the ARTrageous charity gala at MOCAD on Feb. 6.

About 35 models and 49 fashion



designers entered the FAFFA contest last fall by submitting photographs and sketches. During a preliminary event, the entrants were narrowed down to 10 finalists in both categories. The 10

designers were asked to bring one of their sketches to life, tailoring their garment to fit one of the 10 model finalists. During the final competition at MOCAD, each model finalist walked the runway wearing the gar-

ment created to their measurements. A panel of judges scored each model and garment separately, and winners were announced at the end of the evening.

Noser modeled a mod minidress by Super-Deformed Robot (Jason Humphrey and Amanda Jurban), and came out on top after scores were tallied.

Abraham, who designs a bridal line under the label Kate Bennett, was named fashion design winner for her cocktail-length, empire waist dress. As part of their prize packages,

Noser and Abraham will each receive a \$1,000 grant from the Royal Oakbased Fanclub Arts Foundation.

ON THE COVER

Transition into spring with a lightweight suit you can wear all year. Semantiks Ibiza striped blazer, \$148, and skirt, \$68, with grosgrain detail, and scoop neck tee in white, \$42, are all available at Nordstrom. For more top spring fashions from Nordstrom, see pages 8-9.

> PHOTO COURTESY OF NORDSTROM / SPRING 2007 COVER DESIGNED BY DAN DEAN

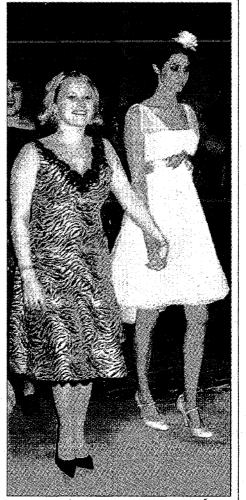
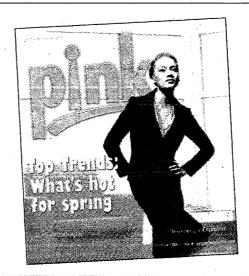


PHOTO BY SALLY GERAK

Fashion Designer Kate Abraham, of Rochester Hills (left) was named winner of the Fanclub Arts Foundation Fashion Awards based on her bridal gown entry, featuring a colored sash and rhinestone pin. Here, model finalist Rachel Kausek of Saline wears the garment at ARTrageous.

which funds arts education programs. Noser also will receive a 5-look portfolio shoot by Photographer Christopher A. Jablonski. Abraham will be whisked away on a trip to one of the nation's top clothing shows by Treas Charow, owner of Shapes Boutique.

Watch for a photo shoot featuring Noser modeling Kate Bennett designs in an upcoming edition of PINK!



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Financially Hip **Financial** advisor Carolina di Cesare shares spending tips for women



Body by Jenn

Fitness expert Jennifer Gray offers advice on weight loss

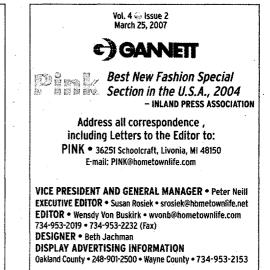
Catch Your Breath There's help for women who want to guit smoking

Spring Style

Nordstrom shares the latest warm weather trends

Crafty Gal Defining the DIY Movement

Travels with Lana Get on board for great trips



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A funny, exuberant look at the lives of women as reflected in music Through the years from "Someone to Watch over He" to "I Will Survive." I's betroit's New "Utimate Girls' Night Out!" Note the years from "Someone to Watch over He" to "I Will Survive." I's betroit's New "Utimate Girls' Night Out!" Note the years from "Someone to Watch over He" to "I Will Survive." I's betroit's New "Utimate Girls' Night Out!" Note the years from "Someone to Watch over He" to "I Will Survive." I's betroit's New "Utimate Girls' Night Out!" Note the years from "Someone to Watch over He" to "I Will Survive." Between "Oprah" and Survive." B

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Almometallity **hip**

64 Hush factor⁹

By Carolina Di Cesare

Ladies, if we spent as much time planning our finances as we do planning our shoe collection, we might have the money for more shoes!

Spending money is easy. The tough part is getting the best value for our money. When it comes to our lifestyle, it's not so much what we earn that counts, but how we spend it. By paying attention to why and how we spend money, it may be possible to boost our standard of living virtually overnight.

Two good reasons to spend money:

Necessity: To provide food, shelter, education, and other fundamentals for ourselves and our loved ones. This always gets our top priority.

Fun: The things we purchase that give us enjoyment. This may include donating money to a favorite charity, jetting off to the islands, or just treating ourselves to an evening out.

Two bad reasons to plunk down your hard-earned cash:

Boredom: As in, "I think I'll go shopping." This reduces spending to a fairly expensive sport or hobby.

Indifference: As in, "I have it, so I guess I'll spend it." This is also known as the "flush factor," because we tend to spend money more freely when we are flush.

Set a Goal

Smart money management: Know why you are purchasing so you can curb spending and learn to obtain maximum value for every cent.

Take Control

Apply this formula to every purchase by deciding which factors are important to you. Keep in mind that they will vary depending on the item and your own personal situation. Depending on your objectives and needs, you can control the quality and price of the goods and services you purchase, and get the best possible value for the money you spend.

The payoff - you will have more money for the things you really want and need.

Carolina Di Cesare is an agent for New York Life Insurance Company and registered representative for NYLife Securities. She specializes in helping women by offering "Financial Tips for the Financially Hip." Reach her at (248) 357-8948.





Designs on Style

Denise Ilitch creates fashion-forward jewelry

By Wensdy Von Buskirk

Denise Ilitch expected just to relax during a 10-day retreat at Canyon Ranch Spa in Arizona. Instead, she stumbled on a new career path.

It all began when she signed up for a class on how to make a bracelet.

"I wanted to learn a new craft," Ilitch said. "I think it is really important, especially for women, to always be on a selfimprovement plan."

Ilitch found the class fun and creative, and discovered a latent talent for designing jewelry.

While still working as an attorney, Ilitch returned to Tucson for the Worldwide Gem & Jewelry Show and was inspired by bins of freshwater pearls and stones of all shapes and sizes. She brought back a treasure trove of supplies and began to craft necklaces, bracelets and earrings in earnest.

"I started making pieces for family and friends," she said. "Every time my sister wore a piece, she sold it, and people started pushing me to do shows."

With someone like Ilitch, whose parents are Little Caesar's founders Mike and Marian Ilitch, nothing can remain 'just a hobby'

"When I really fall in love with something I create a business," said the mother of three. "I don't always think you should do that, but I got so excited."

Ilitch opened an online shop to sell her wares, and partnered with other Metro Detroit jewelry makers who help execute her visions, and provide their own creations to Denise Ilitch Designs.

That's not the only new venture Ilitch is cultivating. She recently opened an office for Ambassador Magazine, a lifestyle publication she launched last year with Dennis Archer, Jr.

Located on Cole Street in



STEVE CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Denise llitch wears a necklace of her own design.

Birmingham, the office features huge windows that let in the light, and a loft-like design complete with contemporary couches and oversized chandeliers.

"I have been in the corporate world so long, it's always been my dream to work in a space like this," Ilitch said. In addition to being Ambassador headquarters, the location will be a showroom for Ilitch's jewelry.

"One of the keys to being a successful business is keeping your overhead low," Ilitch said. "That's why I like the idea of an online store. The only problem is that with jewelry people want to touch it and try it on."

As soon as display cases are installed, customers will be able to browse Ilitch's selection of unique jewelry in person.

Among the 200-plus pieces in the collection are lariat necklaces, natural stone cuffs, and hand-knotted strands of stones in unexpected color combinations.

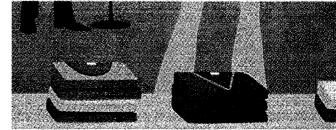
Many feature hearts, an Ilitch signature.

Made from exotic stones like imperial jasper, howlite, ruby and drusy, every piece is guaranteed one-of-a-kind.

"People can make their own personal fashion statement because every piece is different," Ilitch said.

To browse and order jewelry, visit www.deniseilitchdesigns.com.





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Set realistic goals for weight loss

You've heard it a million times: Sticking to a weight-loss program requires discipline and perseverance. But like so many, not too long after you have started, you find your weight loss goal seems to be getting farther away from you each day.

Why? Is it the number of pounds; is it the way you are going about it; or even the reasons you chose to lose weight in the first place? Here are some ways to help you set realistic goals and achieve weight-loss success.

■ Set reasonable goals. One of the biggest problems I encounter as a fitness instructor is that people don't set realistic goals. If you're 50 pounds overweight, rather than setting out to lose the 50, set a smaller goal of 10 pounds. Once you've lost five pounds of that 10, you will be motivated further.

■ Work out with a group. You're more likely to commit to exercise and weight loss if you have a support system. Body Beautiful Boot Camps are a good place to start since they will be something you fit in your schedule. With other campers and instructors around, there will be lots of help.

■ Set time slots. Put exercise and weight loss in your calendar — in pen! Decide it is a priority. Schedule an appointment for your workout like you would a visit to the hair salon or TiVo-ing your favorite television show.

■ Equip a home gym. Get exercise equipment that doesn't cost much, or use items around your house. There are Pilates balls and basic bands that are very effective, yet not expensive.

Think big. Make the commitment to your health, not the scale. Think about how exercise will impact your overall well-being rather than the short term goal of losing weight.

Jennifer Gray, founder of Body Beautiful Boot Camp, is a 15-year fitness expert who has devised a system specifically for women who want to attain their personal fitness goals in a short period of time, utilizing the best of fitness trends and modalities, personal support and instruction, while incorporating a mind-body connection. For more information, visit www.bodybyjenn.com.

Fime for women to put out that sigarette forever

By Linda Ann Chomin STAFF WRITER

There couldn't be a better time to put out that cigarette, especially if you're a woman. The American Heart Association recently came out with a new set of guidelines for physicians to not only suggest patients stop smoking but offer the women nicotine replacement therapy.

Dr. John Ruckdeschel, president and CEO of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, says the heart isn't the only organ damaged by nicotine. A thoracic oncologist, Ruckdeschel sees the cancer resulting from years of smoking. He has been treating lung cancer since the late 1980s. He says, while the catastrophic rise has tapered off, women are about 30 to 40 years behind men.

"Women started smoking later and the pressure to stop came later," said Dr. John Ruckdeschel. "The biggest group we have now are young women. I suggest much of that is related to their concern about weight loss."

Lung cancer is the leading cancer killer of men and women with more than 70,000 women dying from the disease this year, according to the American Lung Association.

"The population as a whole doesn't share the risk," said Ruckdeschel. "There seems to be a familial risk in developing lung cancer. Out of every 100 heavy smokers only 10-15 percent get lung cancer. Everyone gets excited about going into a restaurant with smoke. It isn't harmful but is harmful to employees who work there."

Believe it or not Ruckdeschel has lung cancer patients who still smoke. He tries to encourage them to quit but it depends on the patient.

"If it's a new diagnosis I will point out that stopping smoking is not going to do away with the cancer they have," said Ruckdeschel. "What it is good for is to prevent them from developing another cancer, and they run the risk of increased infection during treatment."

Ruckdeschel is one of the medical experts scheduled to lecture at the Catch Your Breath conference and luncheon hosted by the American Lung Association of Michigan 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18 at the Troy Marriott. The event is open to professionals and lay persons who are concerned about women's lung health.

Tickets are \$75. For more information, visit www.catchyourbreathmi.org or contact conference director Lesley Phillips at (248) 784-2012 or send email to lphillips@alam.org.

Karmanos offers a variety of programs to help women and men quit including. For information, visit www.karmanos.org or call the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute at 1-800-527-6266.

talk

Women sound off about spring

💿 By Wendy Pierman Mitzel

On a day too blustery for even a brisk walk outside, PINK instead chose to stroll around Westland Mall. Oh, the sights of warmer weather were apparent in the short-sleeved kimono shirts and strappy sandals in store windows.

But what PINK really wanted to hear was what some local gals were anticipating about Spring...



"Being able to go outside and enjoy the weather." Pamela Moody, Dearborn Heights



"The flowers, tulips." Krista Nalodka, Canton



"Buying new clothes. Going to beaches." Jenna Kellow, Wayne



"Showing some leg ... and flip-flops." Katie Kellow, Wayne

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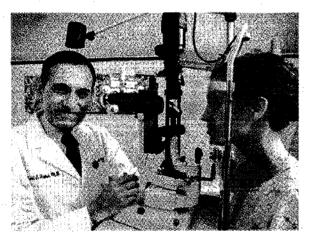
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Commercialization of LASIK LASIK has been highly commercialized with some centers using deceptive advertising, hype and gimmicks to entice patients. That trend is leading patients to be herded into assembly line-like surgery, using obsolete technology. In some instances the surgeon flys in from another state leaving the patients under the care of non-surgeon providers. Some of these centers have taken the doctor out of the procedure where the patient only meets the surgeon at the time of surgery. At the Laser Eye Institute Dr. Haddad believes in honest and fair all inclusive fees which include 2 years of care and free touch ups. We will not use deceptive advertising, after all, why trust your eyes to someone that deceives you?



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According to John Baile based spokesperson for the store, the season will begin sion of color and a trendse silhouettes, graphic prints

This spring, it's all about the ease it brings to your w Whether it's wrapped or d shaped shift or a body-ski there is a dress for every d and size. New shapes and update this season's must-

How to wear it: Add swe the daring mini or a bold of

The City Short

With warmer weather ju corner, the latest take on s tainly update the spring w your hemline - from casu ideal for the weekend, to u bermudas that pair perfec suit jacket for a modern w

How to wear it: For an u rolling the cuffs or adding

Precious metals make for spring skirts, pants, jacket Platinum, gold and copper instant brilliance to this se

g in your style with new looks from Nordstrom

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Seattleepartment 7th an explong nod to new 1d luxurious 1 of the season

he dress and rdrobe. ped, a trapezening sheath, , occasion, style m lengths we item. t ballet flats to ff bracelet to

: around the orts will cerdrobe. Choose l short shorts, lity knee-length y with a crisp ur-to-work look. dated edge, try romantic

luxurious and dresses. details add son's key pieces,



Marc by Marc Jacobs drop-waist eyelet dress in green foam, \$368, at Nordstrom or www.nordstrom.com.

stand-out accessories and cosmetics. **How to wear it:** Update any look with a metallic handbag, ballet flat or even an allover shimmer powder for the face.

Patent Leather Accessories

It's all about shine this spring and what better way to incorporate this 80's-inspired trend than with a sleek patent clutch or oversized tote, shiny ballet flats or peep-toe pumps.

How to wear it: Patent looks fresh in colors other than red or black. Try a patent leather heel in camel or white for the prefect way to accessorize the lady-like dress.

Polka Dots

This season's most popular print popup on dresses, blouses, accessories and shoes. Vibrant red, green, navy and white appear on bold backgrounds for a vivid punch of color and cheer.

How to wear it: Add a polka-dot printed blouse to the new shorts or a spotted clutch to a shirtdress.

The Color Yellow

From pale butter to bold marigold, the color yellow makes a statement this season. Sturdy jacquards, sweet cotton eyelets and modern stripes take their cue from the season's most inspirational hue.

How to wear it: Try a pretty eyelet blouse with a skinny pant, a nautical striped top with short shorts or a lemon jacquard shift dress. Add the color yellow to one of the items in the pair.

Cork Heeled Sandals

The cork heel takes spring footwear to a whole new level. This natural texture is paired with shiny patent and brilliant metallics for a new spin on the tried and true espadrille.

How to wear it: Cork stacked heels instantly update the traditional shirtdress and glam up the city short.

Nordstrom is located at the Somerset Collection, and will be coming to Twelve Oaks Mall in September, 2007.

For more information, visit www.nordstrom.com.

Babydoll dress by Sue Wong, \$258, available at Nordstrom.



EN CONSISTENCE AND



Pink • March 2007 • 11



FEMALE INCONTINENCE You can do something about it!

Attend a FREE seminar sponsored by Coloplast Corp. to learn more about new and minimally invasive solutions.



DATE: Thursday, March 29

TIME:

Presentation begins at 12:00 p.m.

LOCATION: **St. Mary Mercy Hospital** Marian Professional Building, Classroom 11 36475 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154

PRESENTER:

John Fredrick Harb, M.D. A Board Certified Urologist specializing in the treatment of incontinence.

A MEMBER OF 🎲 TRINITY HEALTH

RSVP: Steve Achtman (800) 788-0293 Ext: 8574

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www.backincontrol.coloplast.com

Weer H

M by Madonna at H&M

DON'T Wear Hi

An unbalanced silhouette pair the season's voluminous blouses and dresses with slim pants or leggings; wear wide leg pants with fitted shirts

Tote It!



Kick it:

Ballet flats

Smell Iti

Anna Sui Dolly Girl at Victoria's Secret

Face It! Christian Dior L'Or de Vie skin care

Mane It:

Aveda Damage Remedy Hair and Scalp Renewal

Shop H

Pitaya in Royal Oak

Hear Iti Hello, Dear Wind by Page France

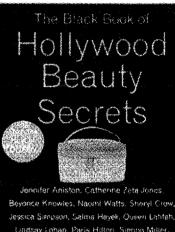
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The Next Pussycat Doll



By Wensdy

Beyonce Knowles, Naomi Watts, Shoryi Crow, Jessica Simpson, Salma Hayek, Oueen Latifah, Unidsay Lohan, Paris Hilton, Siemon Miller, Moriah Carey, Charlize Therion, Kelly Ripa, Scanalt Jolianson, Cameron Diaz, and nore P. ym. Dinigtau, (2013) C. 2014, Floarin do

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The Black Book of Hollywood Beauty Secrets

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Jeweled pepper spray at www.pepperface.com

Eat Iti

A ball park frank on Opening Day at Comerica Park April 10

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Experience

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Ansel Adams exhibit at the

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Nia at Body Connection in Royal Oak

Photo by Steven Klein / Hennes & Maur

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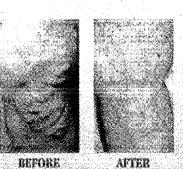


Jeffrey H. Miller, M.D.

Dr. Miller of Advanced Vein Theraies 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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Defini W/AMAAI

By Stephanie Tardy

As I sit down to write this column, I'm prepping to attend the first DIY/Indie Craft Congress in Pittsburgh. Gathering 50 crafty leaders at the end of March, the Congress aims to strengthen the ties between the many alternative crafters all over the country. But as I head to this national conference, I still find that few people in Detroit know the definition of "alternative crafting."

Some of the confusion may come from the name itself. It's been called "alt-craft," "indie craft," "punk craft," or "the DIY movement." Regardless of what it's called, there is no doubt that we are in a New Craft Movement, firmly rooted in a Do It Yourself foundation.

Many New Crafters create goods in response to issues of eco-sustainability

(using what you have, recycled crafts), feminism (finding joy in an empowered reclamation of traditional women's roles) and corporate consumerism (supporting local business, living simply). Many are young and web savvy. In fact, the web savvy part is crucial. Crafty web sites have given the movement a center and sparked its

growth. If you're new to the movement, here are some popular sites to explore.

Melissa Lekkner is a local crafty maven.

prepping a line of fox-themed clothing.

Craftster (www.craftster.org) is the best introduction to making stuff. Post your completed projects, participate in swaps or just browse the forum for the thing you like making the most ... you're sure to find at least one inspiring thing, and more likely, much more. OIY-focused super site

SuperNaturale (www.supernaturale.com) features forums, a group blog and musings and reviews of the DIY nature ... everything from frugal living to making stuff.

@ The best domestic-revival site on the net is Not Martha (www.notmartha.org). On a typical week, blogger Megan will



post anything from a review of Chapstick to a snack cake sushi tutorial.

Crafty business ladies may want to join The Switchboards (www.theswitchboards.com), a forum for opportunity sharing and advice on running a small enterprise.

For crafty mamas, Kiddley (www.kiddley.com) is a must bookmark. Though the site is currently on a little hiatus, click through the archives for a ton of clever

crafts to do together. Locally, the
 Detroit Craft Mafia

(www.detroitcraftmafia.com) is keeping the spirit of the Austin Craft Mafia (you may recognize them from the DIY Network) alive.

To find crafty makers, start with one of the best in the area. Ypsilanti resident Melissa

Lekkner's T-shirt Appearing in books and large indie craft fairs with reconstructions her reconstructed t-shirt designs, she is currently (www.lekkner.com) are widely popular.

Lekkner has appeared in several craft books, guest designed for Herbivore Magazine and participates in many large alternative craft fairs.

Finally, because I can't let a plug opportunity go by, check out Handmade Detroit (www.handmadedetroit.com). We cover everything crafty and local and have a large link section of metro Detroit resources.

Happy exploring!

Stephanie Tardy is the founder of the indie craft collective Handmade Detroit, which hosts Sunday Crafternoon, a monthly craft showcase at the Woodward Avenue Brewers in Ferndale. Submissions, events and ideas for this column may be sent to stardy@hometownlife.com.



Let's roam the planet, with one suitcase, please

caught the travel bug young. Blame my father who immigrated alone all the way from Sicily at age 13. Blame my great-grandfather who escaped Romania in his 30s and never stopped roaming until his death at 97.

Growing up my family constantly drove around the country; on wages my dad earned as a baker. Today I travel by car, air, boat -adingy if that's the only way.

In the 70s, our family of five stayed occupied on long drives without in-car DVD players or computer games (Merlin and Simon when I was a little older). Fun back then were the license-plate A-B-C game and singing songs on the radio from Fleetwood Mac's Rumors.

Little Miss Sunshine had nothing on us.

With three girls all younger than nine years old, my parents drove through America's deserts, in an un-airconditioned Montego MX.

We once packed 14 family members in the same car and drove to Mackinac Island - child safety laws were lax back then. The kids were passed from lap to lap during the long, fun ride. I'm sure you have tales to share too.

The first trip away from my family was Daytona Beach, 20 years ago, high school senior year (we won't discuss that one). I brought two suitcases and one big carry-on. Two outfits, minimum, per day.

Today, it's different. On a recent seven-day trip to Paris I used one carry-on bag: rolled black jersey dresses were tucked in big ziplocks.

I roam every few months, and it's possible even on a budget. Fancy cars and clothes don't make memories. Travel, for me, does. Finding nice rooms in great locations for under \$125 feeds the travel savvy ego. Finding great flight deals does too.

This column is all about travel, especially geared for women. We'll explore it all: traveling solo, with friends, families or lovers. We'll share tips, etiquette, tales and secrets, along with advice on landing good deals.

There's a lot to see out there, come with me.

Lana Mini's new travel column will appear monthly in PINK. Contact her at lmini@hometownlife.com





Or. Baron Invites for To Exportence The Relaxing, Soothing Dontel Spa In Michigan

Waterfalls in every room, a relaxing massage chem, soothing paraffin dips for your hands, aromatherapy. It sounds like a luxurious spa, but it's not. They're just a few of the amenities that greet patients at the new dental office of Dr. Dolores Baran. Dr. Baran and her staff believe a visit to the dentist should be as

relaxing, comfortable and enjoyable as possible. At Dr. Baran's office, even sitting in the dental chair can be entertaining rather DR. DOLORES BARAN than uncomfortable. TV's were added to every operatory so patients University Of Michigan could have the opportunity to watch television or DVD's during the



Dental School Graduate

procedures. In addition to offering patient relaxation and comfort, Dr. Baran also utilizes all of the latest technology that can make a striking difference in your smile.

FAMILY & GENERAL DENTISTRY • STATE-OF-THE-ART GUM LIFT SURGERY • PAINLESS DENTAL PROCEDURES

If your teeth need to be straightened, Dr. Baran offers Invisalign invisible braces. Replacing the traditional bulky metal braces that can irritate your lips or cheeks, you can straighten your smile with Invisalign's clear plastic aligners. This procedure takes six months to a year to complete, about half the time of traditional braces, and most people won't even know you are straightening your teeth unless you tell them. The procedure works for anyone as long as they have all their molars and adult teeth.

If you like the shape of your teeth, but the color has yellowed with age or become stained, Dr. Baran offers an advanced whitening procedure developed in California using the latest technology which produces dramatic results.

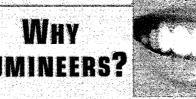
Convenience and patient safety are emphasized by Dr. Baran. Patients who need crowns can have them made in about an hour right in the office by the CEREC, a state-of-the-art computer milling machine, and digital X-rays that use 95% less radiation than traditional X-rays.



OUR STATE OF THE ART

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AFTER

Lumineers, the latest advancement in porcelain veneers technology, uses a thin porcelain coating no thicker than a contact lens that can actually change the color and shape of your teeth without the severe tooth reduction necessary in traditional veneers, and in most cases, without the use of shots. Dr. Baran is one of the top Lumineers dentists in the state. Her expertise in Lumineers can make a striking difference in your smile in just two office visits!

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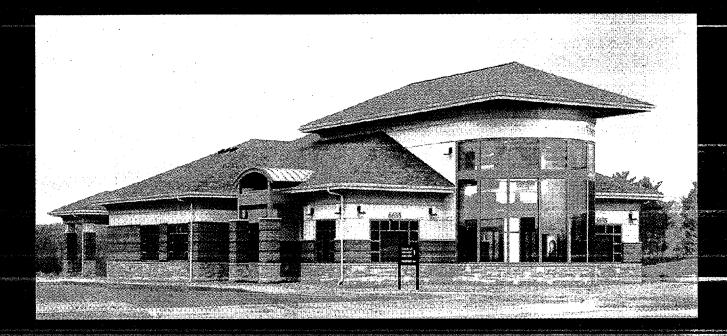
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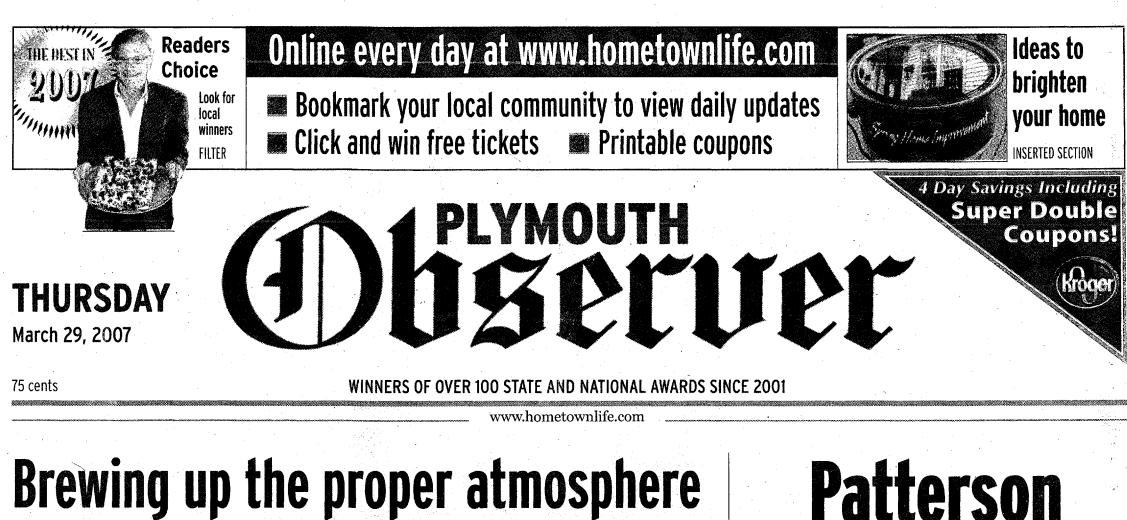
Join us at our Grand Opening celebration on April 14, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Lance Parrish, former Detroit Tiger's great, will be on-site for photos and to sign autographs. In addition, 97.1 Free FM will be there with giveaways and a variety of raffle drawings.



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Box's beer menu gives eatery the right ambience

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

Lisa Blackmer and Kristina Seniuch sat at the bar at downtown Plymouth's Box Bar, sipping their Coronas and enjoying a bright, sunny day.

In front of them sat a row of coolers bearing hundreds of examples of the beer menu the Box features, at times anywhere between 600-700 beers, depending on their availability.

In that regard, Blackmer and Seniuch, both Canton residents, were like many other customers who enter the Box, at least according to a "best of the best" readership survey sponsored by the *Observer*. The Box Bar was voted "Best Beer Menu" in the survey.

"I just think the variety is awesome," Blackmer said. "You can sit here and just look at all the different beers."

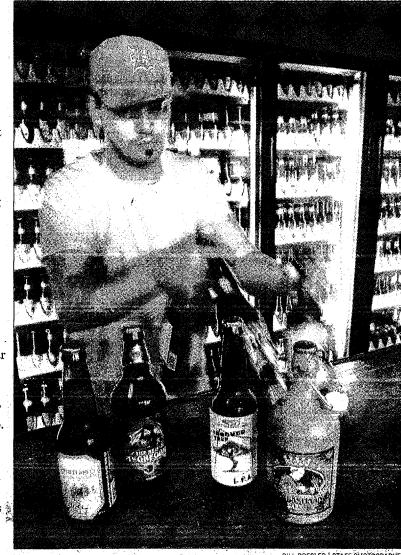
That's what Chip Falcusan had in mind when he expanded the menu some seven years ago. The Box Bar owner said his goal all along was to make the Box a "world class beer emporium."

* "People enjoy trying the different beers, and we wanted to give them a place where they could do that," said Falcusan, who bought the restaurant 29 years ago. "There are very few places in the country that have a better selection. We've filled a niche that people have really enjoyed."

The Box has a variety of domestic and imported beers, including some 40 beers on tap. He said the only thing that limits the Box's ability to serve a beer is the distributor's ability to get their hands on it.

The beers range from imported classics like Chimay and Lindeman's, both Belgian beers, to domestic favorites like Budweiser. In fact, despite the extensive menu, it's a domestic beer that still reigns supreme.

"Bud Light is still the popular choice," Falcusan said. mazing how many of the imported beers we're able to sell, especially the high-end ones. (But) Bud Light is sort of the bread-and-butter everywhere." Speaking of bread and butter, it's also the key to the success of the Box Bar, according to its owner. While the beers are popular, they work in concert with the food to provide the right atmosphere for the Box. "Beer sales are important because it's the unique aspect of the business," Falcusan said. "What brings people back is the food. We haven't tried to get fancy. We do traditional food and we do it well, and we're conscious of the cost points.' The food and the atmosphere, according to Falcusan, combine to provide the perfect ambience for the beer menu. "People come here to socialize," Falcusan said. "That formula, having a place for people from all walks of life to come and feel comfortable, goes hand in hand with all the different beers and the different tastes we have." It's an ambience that can bring the customers in. You'd never think of trying all those beers if you just saw them in a store," Blackmer said. "But here you might."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Applegate lines up a few of the more than 600 bottled brews in stock at the Box Bar and Grill. Forty more beers are available on draft. Lots of bars claim to have a large selection, but the Box has them in the cooler, ready to pour.

Patterson agrees to seek more money

Senator tells district school fund hike would 'be miraculous'

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

State Sen. Bruce Patterson told Plymouth-Canton Schools representatives Tuesday he would carry their case for increased school aid funding to the legislature.

However, Patterson also admitted that getting an additional \$18 million for P-CCS will be more than challenging as the state continues to deal with an increasing budget deficit.

"I will do the best I can to serve the Plymouth-Canton school district," Patterson said after a meeting that lasted more than an hour in his Senate chambers. "Michigan is in crisis, people are losing their jobs we've lost 300,000 jobs in the manufacturing sector wages are going down. How can we expect to get more money?" **P-CCS** Trustee Dianne Gonzalez, Superintendent Jim Ryan and Assistant Superintendent for Business Services Patricia Brand presented their case to Patterson as to why the district - which is facing a \$7.5 million budget shortfall in the 2007-08 school year - wants an additional \$1,000 per student from its current \$7.410 per-pupil allotment from the state.

Among the issues presented by the trio that sparked Patterson to react were the statemandated increases in the retirement fund for teachers and unfunded mandates for special education, which costs Plymouth-Canton nearly \$12 million annually.

"Help us with the state retirement system that allows for some people to get full health compensation when they only work five or 10 years," Ryan told Patterson.

As for the special education spending, Brand said Plymouth-Canton is required by law to provide services, even though they aren't funded.

"On an annual basis, we absorb nearly \$12 million that's not covered by any funding source," Brand said, "The ge education student doesn't get a full foundation allowance behind them because the special needs child demands more, and you legally have to provide more.' It was at that point Patterson believed he had some ammunition to take to his colleagues. 'That has real meat and resonance, it's something that may gain some traction," Patterson said. "It's a legitimate shortfall in

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'BEST OF BEST' RESULTS ANNOUNCED

Each week in the *Observer & Eccentric*'s entertainment section, we "Filter" out the hottest art, theater and entertainment in Metro Detroit. Recently, we asked you, our readers, to help us pick out the best of the best.

Throughout the month of February, readers completed our "Best Of" survey in Filter and on-line. You shared your favorite restaurants, nightspots and places for family friendly fun.

Now, the results are in. Turn to today's Filter (March 29) for the complete list of local reader picks. See if your favorite haunts made the cut, and take note of places to try in the future.

Then, stay tuned to Filter for 'pure entertainment' every week in the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* and online at www.hometownlife.com.

PLEASE SEE PATTERSON, AG

Justice Dept. saga familiar to fired lawyer

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales has come under fire from congressional leaders who want to know if the firing of federal prosecutors was the result of political meddling by the White House in Justice Department affairs.

Democrats want President George W. Bush and his chief political adviser, Karl Rove, to explain their roles in the dismissals.

Plymouth attorney Rick Convertino, who is the subject of a federal criminal investigation after filing a whistleblower lawsuit against the U.S. government, said the latest accusations only lend credence to his case.

Convertino was the lead prosecutor in the first terror trial in the U.S. relating to the 9/11 attacks, and won a June 2003 conviction against two defendants on terrorist charges. The convictions were thrown out in 2004 after the U.S. Justice Department claimed prosecutors suppressed evidence.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth attorney Rick Convertino of Canton, with his wife Valerie, said the Justice Department turned on him, and is now doing the same to the eight U.S. attorneys recently fired.

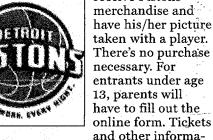


The Observer S Eccentric Newspapers is offering boys and girls ages 12-16 a chance to be a ball girl or ball boy at

an upcoming Detroit Pistons home game at The Palace.

Go to www.hometownlife.com and tell us who's your favorite Piston. The ball girl or ball boy selected by random drawing — will

drawing — will receive four tickets (includes the ballperson) to either the Sunday, April 8, Pistons vs. Cleveland Cavaliers game at 1 p.m. or Tuesday, April 17, Pistons vs. Toronto Raptors game at 7:30 p.m. (last home game of the season). Each ball boy or ball girl will get a chance to rebound with the team before the game, receive Pistons



and other information will be mailed to the winners. There's no purchase necessary. Winners must abide by rules and regulations outlined by the Detroit Pistons organization.

Deadline to enter is midnight April 1.



PLEASE SEE **LAWYER, A6** eigt

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007

PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

www.hometownlife.com

Compost collection

Plymouth Township officials have announced the start of the township's curbside compost collection, which begins Monday, April 2.

Yard waste including leaves, grass clippings, vegetative pruning, garden waste, wood debris and brush can be set out to the curb by 7 a.m. on regular collection days, and no earlier than 6 p.m. the night before. Brush and branches up to six inches in diameter must be tied with string or twine in bundles no longer than three feet long.

Leaves and grass clippings can be put into paper Yard Waste bags available from various retailers, or in a 35-gallon container identified with a compost sticker or marked clearly with two large "Xs" or "Cs." Stickers are available at township offices. Filled containers shouldn't exceed 50 pounds. For more information, call (734) 354-3270, Ext. 4.

Good Friday breakfast

The 32nd Annual Men's Good Friday Breakfast, will be held at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, 8 a.m. Friday, April 6. Christian singer-songwriter Chris Kokenos will be the guest speaker. All men and boys are invited. Tickets are \$5 and \$2 for boys 10 and under and includes an All-U-Can-Eat breakfast.

Call the church office, (734) 459-3333 for details.

Easter Egg hunt

The Plymouth Jaycees host their annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 7, at Plymouth Township Park, located off Ann Arbor/Trail at McClumpha. We will be starting promptly

The hunt starts promptly at 10 a.m., and the Easter Bunny will be available for pictures. Other highlights include a police car and fire engine for youngsters to explore. Participants should bring their baskets, bags and cameras.

In case of inclement weather or for more information, call the Jaycee hotline, (734) 453-8407.

Legion meets

The American Legion, Beasley-Zalesny Post 112 and Ladies Auxiliary Unit 112 meet the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. All war-time veterans are welcome. Ladies must be a mother, wife, sister, daughter, granddaughter or great-granddaughter of a wartime veteran and are also welcome

Hall, 344 Elizabeth (at Ann Arbor Trail) in downtown Plymouth. For information,

Top employee

2007 Employee of the Month at the Plymouth Bennigan's, officials from LaBelle Management, which owns Bennigan's, announced recent-

According to spokesperson Becky Dell, crewmembers are selected for the honor "based on job performance, customer service, attitude, team spirit, dependability and professionalism."

Observer

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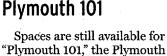
POSTAL PERIODICAL REQUIREMENTS

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36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150

Meetings are held at IOOF call (734) 459-7324.

Jonathon Wolgat is the April



Night of improv

Community Chamber of Commerce's workshop series that replaced the Leadership Plymouth program.

There are still two sessions left on the schedule: "Main Street to Wall Street, Part II," 8-11:30 a.m. Friday, April 20, during which students take an in-depth look at the City of Plymouth government, services, people and programs; and "Law & Order," 8-11:30 a.m. Friday, May 11, during which students follow a crime from beginning to end as someone is moved through the system from arrest to trial to prison. The session starts at 35th ourt and

half-day sessions designed to help participants get involved and learn about their community. Cost is \$45 per session. For more information, con-

tact the chamber, (734) 453-1540.

Showcase concert

The PCCS Showcase Concert featuring the PCEP Festival Singers takes place 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Tickets are \$6 and may be purchased through the Village Theatre Box Office or Web site at www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater.

A portion of ticket proceeds benefit the PCEP Choirs.

Council on Aging

10:45-11:45 a.m., Thursday, April 19, at the Plymouth Cultural Center:

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 to regis-

ter. Free coffee and nutritional snacks.

Sounds of Canton, hosted by the Plymouth Community Council on Aging, will perform 1:30 p.m. April 9 at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer in Plymouth.

Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 ASAP to register for this performance of song and dance.

Child seat clinic

The Plymouth Township Police Department hosts a free Child Safety Seat clinic 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 14, at the Plymouth Township Police Department, located at 9955 N. Haggerty.

The inspections will be by "appointment only," and limited space is available. If you would like to have your child's seat inspected by a national certified Child Passenger Safety Technician, make an appointment by calling Officer Jamie Senkbeil at (734) 354-3243.

Antiquing opportunity

There's a friendly group who travels to different locations once a month to shop and have lunch, and they're looking for more members.

Anyone interested can call Helen at (734) 455-4863.

Spring Break camp

The Plymouth Family YMCA is accepting registrations for it Spring Break Camp, set for April 9-13 at First Baptist Church in Plymouth.

Camp hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and campers camp be dropped off any time between 7:30-9 a.m. and picked up any time between 4-6 p.m. Activities will include swimming, field trips, character development and fun. Camp for YMCA members costs \$37 per day or \$155 for the week. The cost for community members is \$50 per day or \$205 for the week.

For more information, contact the YMCA office, (734) 453-2904 or go to www.ymcadetroit.org

with degreed teachers, low student/teacher ratios of 1-5, prereading, writing and math skills, Spanish and sign language, student evaluations and parent conferences, field trips and a book club.

For more information, call (734) 414-7792.

DAR meets

The Daughters of the American Revolution, Northville/Plymouth chapter, meet noon Monday, April 16, for a sandwich luncheon at the Northville District Library in Northville. It is the chapter's annual meeting.

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

Easter Bunny breakfast

E.G. Nick's hosts "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny" 9-10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 31.

Attendees will enjoy a full buffet breakfast (includes eggs, bacon and sausage), an Easter Egg hunt and an extra special visit from the Easter Bunny. Parents are encouraged to bring cameras for pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Tickets must be purchased in advance from the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce (9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday), located at 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth, or at E.G. Nick's located at 500 Forest.

Ticket prices are \$8 for children and \$12 for adults; children 3 and younger admitted free. Visa and Mastercard are accepted.

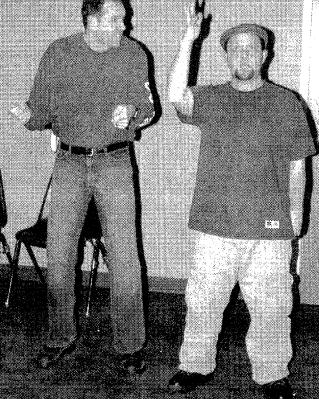
Contact the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce with any questions or for ticket information at (734) 453-1540.

Wrestlemania bowling

Bowldetroit.com has announced a partnership between WrestleMania 23, the Make-A-Wish Foundation and **Community Bowling Centers** to bring the "Bowl with Bobby Lashley WrestleMania 23 Make A Wish Foundation Charity Bowling" event.

The Make a Wish Foundation is a participant in the WWE Circle of Champions program. This first bowling event revolving around WrestleMania 23 will be held Saturday, March 31, at Skore Lanes in Taylor.

The event runs 1-3:30 p.m. Skore Lanes is located at 22255 Ecorse in Taylor. It fea-



Trinity Church drama team members Shadd Whitehead of Livonia and

for a night of comedy at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Although Improv by its very nature isn't precisely rehearsed, those

spur creativity and learn basic structures of the craft. Whitehead,

Caleb Gilbert of Canton hone their improvisational skills in preparation

who perform it can participate in various exercises to sharpen the wit,

Gilbert and other drama team participants will warm up the audience

and fun featuring comedian Phil DiTommaso. The event begins with

offers a new approach to the church's annual coffeehouse program

being held off-site for the first time this year. Tickets are required in

advance. For more information, contact the church, (734) 459-9550.

food and music at 6:30, followed by the comedy at 7:30. The evening

March 30 when Trinity presents "Laughing Matters," an evening of food

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LOCAL NEWS

100

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A3

ELRY CREATIONS

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(P)

Auction adds wine tasting

Proceeds benefit New Morning's programs

New Morning School officials announced a tasty addition to their 31st-annual fund-raising auction, "La Dolce Vita."

The school has added a wine tasting to accompany the auction, which is set for Saturday, March 31. The public is welcome to attend and indulge in tastings of their favorite wines with the some 600 attendees who bid fast and high on such one-of-a-kind items as a "Top Gun" style jet ride, a first-class ski trip to Lake Tahoe, tickets to see Oprah Winfrey, a day at the spa and a weekend of morel mushroom hunting.

"This is the second year we've added a sort of second feature to the auction," New Morning School executive director Elaine Kennedy said. "It gives people another activity for people to engage in during the silent bidding.

The silent auction features something for everyone, from sports memorabilia to children's items, electronics, original artwork, and more.

The New Morning School auction is held annually at Laurel Manor in Livonia. The auction will offer an Italian-inspired strolling meal, silent and live auctions as well as a wine-tasting room provided by Simply Wine of Birmingham and the Southeast Michigan Pioneer Wine Trail.

Anyone interested in attending the auction can purchase tickets by calling (734) 420-3331. Tickets are \$75 per person for the auction, which includes the meal, dessert, open bar and the silent and live auction portions of the evening. The wine-tasting room is \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door.

Judging by the pace of pre-registration, the wine tasting is going to be a big draw.

ing, judging by the number of people who have



Jared Wakefield and Dane Holst work on items for the New Morning School auction, set for Saturday night at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

pre-registered," Kennedy said.

New Morning School is the only preschoolthrough eighth-grade parent cooperative school in Michigan. New Morning School focuses on individualized learning, small class size and parental involvement.

Children learn life skills such as self-initiative, critical thinking, problem-solving, and responsibility for their own learning and behavior.

And much of it starts with money raised at the auction. This year's area of interest is technology and multi-media. Donors who raise their bidding paddles get a chance to donate toward that.

"It creates a lot of interest," Kenney said. "The edge materials, improves our technology."

System has announced plans to add a 51,000-square-foot addition to its Canton Health Center.

expansion at 1600 Canton Center Road comes just days before Oakwood Healthcare Systems takes a second shot at convincing the Canton Planning Commission to recommend its tentative plans for a medical facility at Beck and Geddes.

Oakwood's plans, which include a 650,000-square-foot cism from homeowners adjacent to the proposed site.

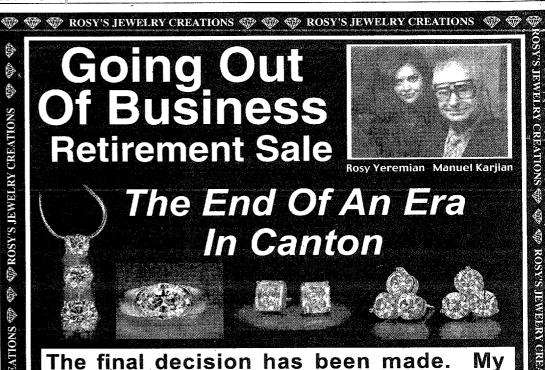
Construction for the \$36

ter, which opened in 1998, offers primary and urgent care building sits on 15 acres.

Howell, has no immediate plans to turn the Canton site into a full-fledged hospital, Kasperek-Korelis said.

Joseph's chief operating officer, timing of the proposed expansion.

ern Wayne region, coupled with to expand the facility," she said. "Our efforts to expand services at the Canton Health Center reflect our recognition of the communi-



father, after 33 years in the Detroit area has decided to retire, so we are conducting a brief Going Out Of Business - Retirement Sale at Rosy's Jewelry Creations. We must liquidate more than one million dollars worth of Diamonds and Fine Jewelry! Everything must be sold. Nothing will be held back during this storewide Going Out of Business - Retirement Sale at Rosy's **Jewelry Creations. Rosy Yeremian**



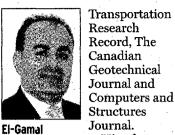
LOCAL NEWS

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Local engineer appointed to board

Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm has appointed Mohammad El-Gamal, PhD, PE, to the Board of Professional Engineers, to represent the professional engineers for a term expiring March 31, 2009.

El-Gamal, who has been with PSI since 1998, holds the positions of Chief Engineer as well as Geotechnical and **Drilling Services Department** Manager. Among the many technical and academic journals he has been published in are ACI Special Publications, Soils and Foundations Journal,



His education includes a Doctorate of Philosophy and a master of science in Geotechnical and Earthquake Engineering from the University of Nevada-Reno, and a bachelor of science in Structural Engineering from Elmansoura

NEWS BRIEFS

University in Egypt. El-Gamal is located in PSI's Plymouth office.

Artists honored

Three Plymouth artists -Dennis Jones, Kathleen Montgomery and Cedric Tai were accepted into the Michigan Fine Arts Competition being held through April 3 at the **Birmingham Bloomfield Art** Center.

Some 83 pieces were chosen

a unique, liberal arts approach

arts college in Richmond, Ind.

Graceland University

Lauren Bevill of Plymouth

at Graceland (Iowa) University

Graceland University oper-

ates campuses in Lamoni, Iowa

Missouri College campus in

Trenton, Missouri

was named to the Dean's List

Students named to the

Dean's List earned a GPA

between 3.25 and 3.64.

for the Fall 2006 term.

Earlham is a selective, liberal

to outdoor education.

ON CAMPUS

Programs, Cranbrook Academy of Art; Rebecca Hart Assistant Curator of Contemporary Art, Detroit Institute of Arts; Janet Teunis, Managing Director, Urban Institute for Contemporary Art, Grand Rapids; and Susan VanArendonk, Director of Collections and Exhibitions, Kalamazoo Institute of Art. For further information, contact the BBAC at 248-644-0866.

from more than 528 submis-

sions. Among the jury panel

were Gerry Craig, Assistant

Director for Academic

For information about attending Graceland University please view our Web site: www.graceland.edu, and follow the links to Admissions and Financial Aid.

Walsh College

Students from Plymouth and Canton were among some 442 students who earned Walsh College diplomas at winter commencement ceremonies.

Canton students included Anton Botosan, Master of Science in Management; Christine Braun, Master of **Business Administration; Holly** Davis, Bachelor of Accountancy; Joseph DiPonio, Bachelor of **Business Administration;** Rayhana Karim, Master of Accountancy; Michael Merkel, Master of Science in Taxation; Roderick Miller, Master of Business Administration; and Michael Simmerer, Master of **Business Administration.**

Plymouth students included Justin Hawkins, Master of **Business Administration;** Daniel McGregor, Master of Science in Business Information Technology; Kevin Meiselbach, Bachelor of **Business Administration; and** Jesse Ray, Master of Science in Finance.



Plymouth Lions Club member Bill Moy manned an intersection collecting donations during last year's White Cane Drive. This year's drive is set for April 27-28.

Lions announce 'White Cane' drive

The Plymouth Lions Club has announced that it will hold its annual White Cane Drive on Friday, April 27 and Saturday, April 28, 2007.

On those two days, Plymouth Lions Club members will be stationed at intersections around the Plymouth community taking donations from passing motorists who wish to support projects that aid the blind and handicapped in the local area.

Volunteers will be easy to identify: All will be wearing bright yellow jackets and aprons with purple Lions logos. **Project Chairman Gary**

Kerstens said that while club members understand the depressed economic situation that envelops the area, he has found that residents are still willing to contribute and help those less fortunate.

www.hometownlife.com

"We were surprised and delighted with the outpouring of support during last year's campaign and hope that we can at least do as well this year," Kerstens said.

In addition to their primary focus on blind and handicapped causes, the Plymouth Lions support community parks, build handicapped ramps, award college scholarships, fund drug awareness

Air Force Academy

Austin McKinney, who was graduated from Plymouth High School in2006, was named to the Superintendent's List of straight "A" students for the Fall Semester at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

He was one of only 32 cadets out of 4,000 total who received such high marks. The USAFA ranks all cadets based on grades, military leadership and athletics. McKinney is currently ranked 10th of 1,300 freshman cadets in his class.

McKinney's element set the fastest time in the obstacle course in Air Force Academy history last summer. He also led his squadron team to the Championship (out of 40 squadrons) in the Military

Business Administration/ Finance at the Academy and will receive soaring instruction in gliders this summer. Earlham College

Knowledge Bowl Competition.

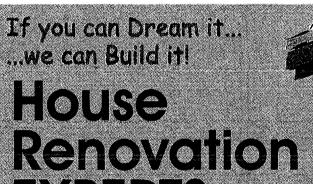
McKinney is majoring in

Jesse Varga, an Earlham College junior and son of Barbara Van Pelt and David Varga of Plymouth, has completed Earlham's Introduction to Caving course.

Varga explored the basics of caving. The course culminated in two trips to the world-class caving area in southern Indiana near Bedford during the weekends of March 3-4 and Feb. 24-25.

The Wilderness Program at Earlham is one of the oldest and most comprehensive of its kind in the country. It features

and Independence, Mo., and offers degree completion programs at three other sites - the American Institute of Business in Des Moines, Iowa; the Indian Hills Community College campus in Centerville, Iowa; and the North Central



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LOCAL NEWS

www.hometownlife.com

Retired Westland police chief is county's new undersheriff

Wayne County Sheriff Warren C. Evans officially announced Monday that he has named newly retired Westland Police Chief Daniel Pfannes as his new undersheriff, making Pfannes the second-highest ranking officer in Michigan's second-largest police department.

Pfannes, 47, replaces Harold Cureton, who retired early this year after serving as undersheriff for two years.

'In the four years that I have been sheriff, my office has had no better partner in the law enforcement community than Dan Pfannes," Evans said. "He is bright, experienced and, above all, an excellent administrator. We are very fortunate to have him join our team."

Pfannes officially began his duties this week. As undersheriff, he will oversee all day-today police operations of the



Former Westland Police Chief Daniel Pfannes, with Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans, is sworn in as undersheriff.

sheriff's office. That includes court and jail operations and the department's field services section, which includes all land and marine patrol activities,

fugitive apprehension, and specialty units such as Internet Crime, Missing & Exploited Children's Task Force, Mounted Unit, Detective

Bureau, Deed Fraud, Auto Theft, Special Response Team and more.

Pfannes, who has spent his entire law enforcement career in Westland, worked his way steadily through the ranks, eventually being named chief in 2003. He joined the department in 1982.

Pfannes has served the Westland community as a police officer, evidence technician, detective, special investigations unit commander, SWAT commander and executive level administrator.

He has also served on a number of multi-agency task forces that have operated in the region. While working as a police officer, Pfannes obtained a master's degree in criminal justice from the University of Detroit.

He is also a graduate of Eastern Michigan and

Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command.

"Mr. Pfannes' prior experience as a suburban police chief will bring an important perspective to my administration as we look toward more regional and collaborative approaches to making Wayne County safer," Evans said. During his 25 years in

Westland, Pfannes received numerous citations and commendations for his role in major crime investigations including homicide, rape and robbery.

Pfannes said he looks forward to playing an important role on Evans' team.

"I always have had a great deal of respect for Sheriff Evans and his staff," Pfannes said. "As a local police chief, I appreciated his commitment to supporting local agencies

and developing data-driven crime reduction strategies. I look forward to being a part of what I believe to be one of the best and brightest law enforcement teams in the nation."

A5

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The sheriff's office has an annual operating budget of approximately \$120 million and employs more than 1,300 officers and civilian employees.

In addition to operating three jails and providing court security, the office operates a broad range of street units, including Secondary Road Patrol, Highland Park Patrol, **Fugitive Apprehension Service** Team, Missing & Exploited Children's Task Force, Narcotics & Morality Enforcement, Detective Bureau, Park Patrol, Marine Patrol, Special Response Team (SRT), Mounted Unit and more.

League book sale offers 4,000 titles

Now in its 25th year, the annual League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County's used book sale has more than 4,000 titles for sale starting this afternoon. The sale runs through Sunday.

There will be a preview of the sale today, March 29, from 5-9 p.m. The sale will continue from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and again from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission to the sale on preview night is \$2, the rest is free.

Sunday is the bag sale. Shoppers can purchase a brown paper grocery bag for \$5 and fill it with as many books as it can hold.

Over the past few days, a team of some 30 League members has been sorting the thousands of donated books into categories - fiction and nonfiction, science fiction and western — and putting them up for display at their sale location in Livonia Mall.

The mall donated a space (parallel to Seven Mile Road, near Sears) which used to be a



Waldenbooks, which is perfect since it still has bookshelves. throughout.

Almost all of the books are \$1 or less, although there might be a few better editions up for sale.

We have Harriet Larson from the Friends of the Livonia Library come out to evaluate rare books," Book Sale Vicepresident Ann Abdoo said. Occasionally she finds one worth more than a dollar."

It's a good thing, too, because the proceeds go to fund the League's most valuable services. The funds pay for the League's Web site and voter education programs like the "They Represent You" guides to elected officials, candidate forums and pre-election voter guides.

All of the League's products are available to residents free of charge.

For more information about the sale, check the League's Web site at

www.nwwavne.mi.lwvnet.org or call the office at (734) 421-4420.





40% off

Exclusively ours! Laura Ashley and Ruff Hewn sportswear. Save on jackets, knit tops, pants and more, Misses' sizes S-XL. 4-16. Orig. \$29-\$108, sale 17.40-64.80.

40% off

Exclusively ours! Relativity separates. Choose from jackets, bermudas, woven shirts and more. Misses' sizes S-XL, 6-16. Similar styles in Petites' sizes. Reg. \$20-\$48, sale \$12-28.80. Similar styles in Women's sizes. Reg. \$28-\$40, sale 16.80-\$24. Om

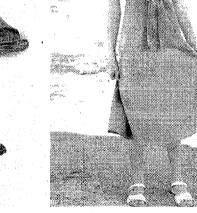
40% off Juniors' knit tops by Eyeshadow and more. Solids, prints and stripes in a variety of silhouettes. Oria: \$24-\$28. sale 14.40-16.80. Also save 40% on Juniors' bermudas and crops. Orig. \$34, sale 20,40.

30% off Bras by Vanity Fair and Bali. Reg. \$24-\$36, sale 16.80-25.20. Excludes specialty bras.



49.99 your choice Great styles by AK Anne Klein and

Bandolino during our Shoe & Handbag Spectacular. Shown: AK Anne Klein "Bartlett" in black. Orig. \$69. Bandolino "Ivan" in dark brown. Orig. \$69. Bandolino "Variety" in dark brown. Orig. \$59. Women's sizes 6-10M. Shoe & Handbag Spectacular ends March 31, 2007.



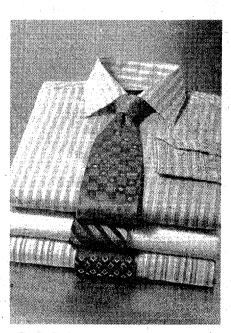
50% off

Easter dresswear for kids. Save on a large selection of styles by Bonnie Jean, My Michelle, Amy Byer, Claiborne and more. Girls' sizes 2-16 and Boys' sizes 4-20. Orig. \$22-\$120, sale \$11-\$60.



save **40-60%**

Men's already-reduced designer suits by Tommy Hilfiger, Lauren and more. 2- and 3-button styles. Sizes 38-44S, 38-50R, 42-50L. Orig. \$495-\$795, now 199.99-399.99.



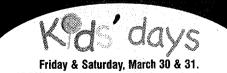
30% off Claiborne wrinkle-free dress shirts. In a variety of colors and patterns. Sizes 15-18, 32/33-34/35. Reg. 39.50-\$45, sale 27.65-31.50. Also save on coordinating neckwear. Reg. \$35, sale 27.99.

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RIGHT

PLACE®

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Save 25-50% on our entire stock of children's apparel and accessories, plus pick up your 20%, 25% or 30% off Reveal & Save coupon! Also, from noon-4pm on Saturday, we'll have great kids' activities. In our Children's Department.

12-Hour Sale prices effective March 31, 2007. No price adjustments for previously purchased clearance merchandise. Entire Stock offers exclude Clearance and Incredible Value merchandise. Regular and original prices reflect offering prices in effect during the 90 days before or after this sale, but not necessarily during the past 30 days. Savings may not be based on actual sales. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken. Merchandise, style and color availability may vary by store. Sorry, no mail, phone or internet orders, 113508AI

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CONTINUED FROM A1

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PATTERSON FROM PAGE A1

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funding that's being born out by other students who suffer." At one point, Patterson

asked, "What number should I be aspiring to get for Plymouth-Canton Schools?"

Brand only took a moment to suggest \$1,000 more per pupil.

"It will allow us to put back programs we've had to reduce

that has significantly impacted kids," Brand said. "That would ^{*} put us in parallel with Livonia (\$8,490), Northville (\$8,435), somewhere near Ann Arbor (\$9,619) and even Wayne-Westland (\$7,781)."

Patterson never committed to seeking a specific increase, and indicated it would be a victory if he just could keep Plymouth-Canton from any further cuts, such as the \$34 per student being proposed by the Senate. That would save the district \$635,000.

OE08515016

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: March 25 & 29, 2007

Publish: March 29, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH CLOSE OF REGISTRATION NOTICE FOR THE TUESDAY, MAY 08, 2007. **REGULAR ELECTION**

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held in the Charter Township of Plymouth, on Tuesday, May 08, 2007, from 7:00 a.m., until 8:00 p.m., at which time the following will be voted on:

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ELECTION; AND

SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT **COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES**

PLEASE NOTE that on April 09, 2007, is the last date to register for the Regular School Election to be held on Tuesday, May 08, 2006. Registration for electors within the Charter Township of Plymouth will be taken at the Office of the Township Clerk, 9955 N. Haggerty Road or at any Secretary of State Office or state designated agency. The office of the Clerk is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. If a resident is unable to register during those hours, a call to the Clerk's Office can set up a convenient time for the resident. Phone 734-354-3224.

> Marilyn Massengill, CMC Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings-March 20, 2007

A regular study meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton held Tuesday, March 20, 2007 at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the pledge of allegiance. Roll Call Members Present: Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Members Absent: Bennett, Caccamo (on Military leave) Staff Present: Director Conklin, Jill Tobin, Jon LaFever, Amy Lockmondy, Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz, Sean Fletcher, Phil Garcia Adoption of Agenda Motion by Kirchgatter, seconded by McLaughlin to approve the agenda. Motion carried by all members present. STUDY SESSION TOPIC Item 1. Leisure Service Update Culture, Arts & Heritage, The Village Theater at Cherry Hill Ground breaking May 2003 and opening in September 2004. As part of Canton Leisure Services the arts and from the Leadership Team Mark receive su PR, Business Supervisor, Central Services, Summit Staff and Front Desk, with additional assistance from Parks to Public Safety, Maintenance to Recreations Staff, IT, Finance and numerous other Canton Township employees - for the operation of the 30,000 square foot facility, all its programs and activities. Partners and Collaborators: Spotlight Players, Ever After Productions, Canton Concert Band and its ensembles, Orchestra Canton and the Celebration Youth Orchestra, Plymouth Canton Community Schools, The Canton Cultural Commission, Ushers -currently there are 238 active volunteers. Canton's Vision for the Arts: Village Theater Fast Facts 2006: 61,497 visitors, Number of days used -357, 1,166 total events Program Development: Community Band, Youth Theater, Community Choir, Orchestra Canton, Plymouth Canton Community Schools, Destination Theater, Spotlight Players, Regional Performances, Emerging Artist Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, 501(c)3, Technical Director - 2007 Position with no increase in funding Public Art: Public Art - permanent Sculpture by Kenneth Thompson -Canton Community Arch at the corner of Ford and Canton Center Roads. The committee wants to let the public know that the main body of the sculpture will turn a lovely chocolate patina in the next year. Dedication to be held in April. Temporary sculpture exhibition Joyful Dancer Celebration - April 22, 1-3 p.m. at the Canton Cinema for area dance schools to perform and enjoy a day of celebrating dance during National Dance week. Registration necessary. Docent tours African American History Through Artist Eyes - a Dr. King committee event funded by The Partnership for the Arts and Humanities brought over 1,700 PCCS students to the theater in January and February 2007. Financial support for the arts and culture provided by: The Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, Inc., State of Michigan arts and culture grants, Michigan Humanities Council grants, City of Detroit Cultural Affairs grants, Target, Uptown Apartments, Huntington Bank, McCabe Funeral Homes, Bittinger - REMAX Classic B.L.O.C.K. - Youth & Teen Center Building Leaders Out of Canton's Kids Services offered through the B.L.O.C.K.: After School Program, offering door to door service from all 5 middle schools, Transportation offered daily to all Outreach Program locations, Continuous shuttles from the BLOCK to the Summit and Library, Special Events held each and every Friday night throughout the school year, On-site tutoring services and homework help Canton Express, transportation program offered for evenings and weekends, Computer Lab, Video game systems, big screen television, pool tables, kitchen, and study area, Attended by average of 50 youths per day. Total B.L.O.C.K. attendance: First month of operation 1,333, Year End, 2005 4,296, Total for 2006 10,380. A Community Effort: Sylvan Learing Centers, Public Safety, High Velocity Sports, Canton Community Foundation, Artic Edge, Growth Works, Inc., National City, Canton Public Library, Mary Kay, Canton Goodfellows, Community Financial Credit Union, Exchange Club of Canton, Starbucks, Boy Scouts of America, IKEA, Youth Investors Club Health & Wellness, Progress Over the Years, Creating a Healthy Community, Estimated Costs for Canton Township: Heart Disease, Obesity, Diabetes, Steps to a Healthier Community, Program Highlight: Canton's 100 days to Health, Senior Health & Wellness, National Senior Health and Fitness Day, Health & Socialization at it's peak, Family Exercise, Family Fun Canton Community Health Coalition Formed in May 2005 Mission: The Canton Community Health Coalition exists to promote physical activity as a way of life in Canton Township Vision: Active lifestyles and increased accessibility to physical activity will be promoted in our community through special events, programs, policy and partnerships. Other Partnerships: Arthritis Foundation, A.F.E.P., Tai Chi, A.F.A.P., Juvenile Arthritis Aquatic Program (one of 3 sites in Michigan), Oakwood Healthcare System, Waltonwood at Cherry Hill & Waltonwood at Carriage Park, Canton Community Foundation Health and Wellness Outreach: Bike Helmet Giveaway, Liberty Fest 2006 The Future of Health & Wellness Adopting State & National Focus <u>Adjourn</u> Motion by McLaughlin, supported by Kirchgatter at 8:45 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried by all members present. - Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor - Terry G. Bennett, Clerk -Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site <u>www.canton-mi.org</u> after Board Approval. Publish: March 29, 2007 OE0851502

"If I was able to hold them harmless, while everyone else took a cut, that would be miraculous," Patterson said. "To the extent I would be able to get them something in addition to what they get now, in light of what is looming on the horizon ...

"In the grand scheme of things, I can't lose sight of the fact that if the revenue estimating conference says we're \$300 million below what's projected, there's no way I will be able to do anything. I have to be prepared for that."

The P-CCS school board earlier met with Rep. Marc Corriveau (D-Northville Township) and Rep. Phil Lajoy (R-Canton Township) about the district's financial plight. Arranging a meeting with Patterson had been more difficult, and was arranged only days before the session in Lansing.

"I'm optimistic," Gonzalez said. "I think we opened lines of communication between the school district and Senator Patterson."

Ryan agreed, but admitted the chances of getting more state aid is a slim proposition.

"I'm not overly confident," Ryan said. "I'm more pleased with his receptivity to listen to us."

Lajoy has been working on a bill to give Plymouth-Canton and a handful of other districts an additional \$750 per student.

"I'm still working on it," Lajoy said. "It's going slow at this point."

Patterson lamented the fact several years ago he introduced legislation to give Plymouth-Canton Schools \$9,000 per student, when the district's foundation grant was about \$6,000.

"I couldn't get a resolution from the board to support it, so it died," Patterson said. "There were certain members of the school board ... who nit-picked it, and said it wasn't enough." Patterson, who has served

four years in the House and is in his fifth year in the Senate, laid out the realities of attempting to pass legislation giving P-CCS more money.

"Logic and reason don't necessarily carry the day here," Patterson said. "Whoever can count to 56 in one chamber (House) and 20 in the other (Senate) gets what they want. That's just political reality. As the old saying goes ... you don't want to watch sausage or legislation being made because it's ugly."

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

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

NOTICÉ OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION

MAY 8, 2007 ELECTION

FOR THE

PLYMOUTH/CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT VAN BUREN SCHOOL DISTRICT WAYNE-WESTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that April 9, 2007, is the last day registrations can be accepted in order to be eligible to vote in the above School Elections to be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2007.

Registrations will be accepted at the office of the Canton Township Clerk,

1150 South Canton Center Road, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Registration can also be made at any Secretary of State Office or State Designated Agency. Persons with special needs who are unable to register in the above mentioned manner are urged to contact the Clerks' Office at 734-394-5120.

Mail-in registrations will be accepted if postmarked by April 9, 2007.

Terry G. Bennett Clerk

Publish: March 29, 2007

FROM PAGE A1

Convertino came under internal investigation by the Department of Justice after telling a Senate committee his concerns about the federal government's war on terrorism. and filed a 2004 whistleblower lawsuit against then-Attorney General John Ashcroft, claiming gross incompetence and mismanagement of the war on terror.

Convertino claims the Justice Department turned on him, and he believes it's doing the same to the fired federal prosecutors.

"You don't fire U.S. attorneys because they're discovering political corruption in your own party," said Convertino. who lives in Canton Township. "The intent of the Justice Department is not to use the executive branch powers to stifle dissent within the citizenry.

"It's clear to me the Justice Department, and the administration in general – individuals who are in the position of authority - deem it more important for their own personal agendas," he said. "This administration has acted with complete impunity, unchecked and with an in-your-face attitude. This is what we're doing, and if you're not on board, you're the enemy."

Convertino said in his case, high school and college records were subpoenaed by the Justice Department, as well as telephone records, computers and e-mails. The federal government's case also includes interviews of more than 100 witnesses, including scores of friends and colleagues.

"If the government isn't in check, it has the ability to reach into your personal and professional life by illegally using things like the Patriot Act, that was passed in a moment of national crisis and emergency," Convertino said. "If they're allowed to do that with impunity, that's not America, that's totalitarianism."

Convertino said unless Congress intervenes, he's concerned about continued political pressures on the Justice Department.

"I'm concerned that Karl Rove has the ability to control a criminal investigation through the Justice Department," Convertino said. "Until there's complete oversight, or a crackdown by Congress, it will continue until there's a new administration.

"When I was a federal prosecutor. I never thought the government would do such things," he said. "But, I've come 180 degrees. I've seen government over-reaching and abuse, and it abhors and disgusts me. We don't have enough public officials who are standing firm against it because they're worried about the political ramifications against them."

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING **FY2007 CDBG ACTION PLAN**

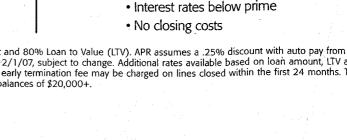
On April 10, 2007, at 2 p.m. in the Administrative Services Conference Room, first floor, Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan, there will be a public hearing on the FY 2007 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project proposals. The purpose of the Action Plan is to identify projects and project funding levels for the FY 2007 CDBG program. The funding requests are: First Step, \$36,000; Growth Works, \$7,040; Neighborhood Legal Services Michigan, 20,500; Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency, \$3,000; Canton Township Leisure Services handicap accessible athletic equipment purchase, \$1,500; Canton Township Volunteer Coordinator, \$6,500; HelpSource Teen Parenting, \$4,000; HelpSource Adult Day Services, \$2,000; Leisure Services Department doors retrofit for handicap access at Summit community center, \$30,000; Canton Township Human Services Center building improvements, \$58,760; Affordable Housing Activities (housing rehabilitation and lot purchase), \$170,000; Construction Contingency, \$20,000. Not all project proposals are necessarily listed, and not all projects will be approved or funded at the requested amounts. The FY 2007 CDBG allocation is \$374,160. Written comments or requests for information should be directed to: Gerald Martin, Community Services Specialist, Finance Department, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188-1699, (734) 394-5194.

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On March 30, National Doctors Day, we'd like to thank our doctors for their unsurpassed dedication and commitment to patient care.





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OUR VIEWS

Wrong idea, but right approach

As good an idea as it potentially may be, the chances of a regionalized fire service operation actually happening are slim and none.

But you still have to admire Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer for his dogged pursuit of something he believes would be in the best interests of his residents.

Dwyer has been pushing the idea and trying to convince officials in the neighboring communities of Westland, Livonia, Canton, Plymouth Township and Northville Township of its positives. Unfortunately, from Dwyer's point of view, the idea is falling largely on deaf ears. Thus far, the only ones who seem genuinely interested are the folks in Livonia.

Canton Township officials believe their residents are satisfied they're getting a good value, and Westland officials seem uninterested in spending money they aren't sure they have. Northville Township officials have backed out of the talks because they're looking for a new fire chief. And Plymouth Township officials are balking because they don't believe financially it's to their benefit.

Still Dwyer plugs along, breathing life into an idea in which he believes. He talked his fellow commissioners into agreeing to spend money on a study (although they probably won't have to because no one else wants to spend it).

It's the kind of leadership he's shown during his mayoral term, which ends when he's term-limited out of office this fall.

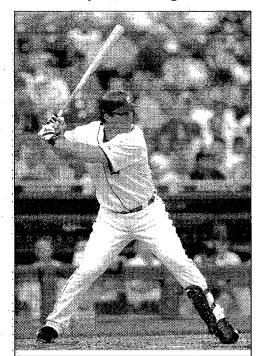
The plan would save Plymouth (assuming everyone else came on board) some of the \$1.2 million it now pays Plymouth Township for fire/emergency services. As Dwyer correctly points out, it's the method the city has used to edge away from the financial precipice they appeared to be approaching a few years ago.

Though this particular plan may not work, it could at least lead to some other ideas that will. Dwyer, and the rest of the commission, should be commended for that.

Opening Day heralds new season of hope

On Monday afternoon, thousands of people from across metro Detroit will play hooky from work and help the Detroit Tigers kick off what has to be one of the most anticipated baseball seasons around here in two decades.

Opening Day is kind of the unofficial start of summer, even though the weather is oftentimes more winter-like. But there is just something about that crack of the bat,



pop of the glove and calls from the ven-

dors selling

their peanuts

and Cracker

Jacks around

the stadium

that makes one

think about

warmer weath-

er. They are

not called the

Summer for

Opening Day

is always anticipated by base-

ball fans, but

this year, there

is a bit of a

bonus. The

Tigers, fresh

off of their

improbable

run to the

World Series,

of

Boys

nothing.



2007 Al-EVER FEEL LIKE YOU'RE BEING WATCHED? OB WATCHED? DO TO OBJECTIVE & ELLENTEL

LETTERS

Nice words won't work

I have so many issues with the editorial by "Canton resident" Terry Ahwal. Let's start with full disclosure. She is a longtime Democrat party activist, McNamara crony and Arab activist. She definitely has her political views, and should not be mistaken for just a regular resident.

OK, I'm a Libertarian with some conservative streaks, I'm white, I'm male. I think Israel has a right to exist. I also have definite political views. So now we know. You see, unlike leftists and most in the press, I will disclose where I stand before hitting you with my thoughts.

Now to the substance of this piece. I will agree that calls to nuke Islamic holy cities are inflammatory. My agreement with Ms. Ahwal ends there. Mr. Friedman is correct, just like Golda Meir was: Much of the violence in the Middle East will end when all the Arabs love their children more than they hate Jews and the West.

I'm sorry, we are not the ones allowing our children to be used as homicide bombers. And our 60-something grandmas don't blow themselves up to kill Jews, either. Glen Beck is correct also that there is great apathy among American Arabs. people like me will get angry enough to write in to rebuke her self-serving comments.

Ms. Ahwal is now claiming that "demeaning Arabs is becoming a national sport" and that "hateful rhetoric" is "dehumanizing an entire Arab-Muslim world." Well, the second part I certainly agree with. My view of the Arab-Muslim world is pretty de-humanized. Let's see ... beheadings, kidnappings, mass murder, persecution of religious groups, kidnapping and killing of neutral reporters, suicide bombers, Chlorine-laced bombs, education of children to hate and become martyrs, refusal to recognize the state of Israel and renounce violence, systematic oppression against

women. The list goes on and on from Belsan, Russia, to Thailand, to Madrid, to London, to the United States, to Mogadishu. But yes, the groups that perform these acts are just a small minority that has hijacked the peaceful religion of Islam.

Well, the enormous outcry of condemnation from the peaceful majority of the 1.4 billion Muslims worldwide has been absolutely deafening! Instead we hear from the Muslim community that we are racists, bigots, colonialists, murderers and liars. That I have certainly heard. Yes, please, let's end this war now and get our U.S. citizens out of that madness and let the radicals kill each other. What started as a noble cause has turned into some kind of sick display of human depravity. Even worse, U.S. citizens are dying over there and those stateside are fighting one another in a war of words. Let's face it, most of the Arab-Muslim world is much different than American society with a long history of violence and religious strife. How foolish of us to think that toppling a brutal dictator would bring order and peace to this region. Let's get out and get out quick! Ah, but then the big, bad U.S. will be criticized as racists for allowing the ethnic cleansing to take place. I can hear Ms. Ahwal's fingers typing now. Americans don't need more lecturing from the likes of Terry Ahwal. I believe her efforts would be better spent on getting her own Arab-Muslim community to stand up and demand change within their own ranks. Up until this point, your silence has been deafening - in southeast Michigan, throughout the U.S. and worldwide!

TONIGHT, and write to your state representatives.

Ask your friends to also write a letter. Our representatives are only going to listen, if they think it means they will lose their position. If we aren't speaking, not to each other, to them, they have no fears.

> Jamie Walker Garden City

Prop 2: People have spoken

Wow, whatever happened to the majority rules concept this country was founded on by our forefathers (the original settlers, not the immigrants, there's a difference between the two). Since the 2002 election (where the then-presidential candidate ran on less big brother slogan), it has been nonexistent.

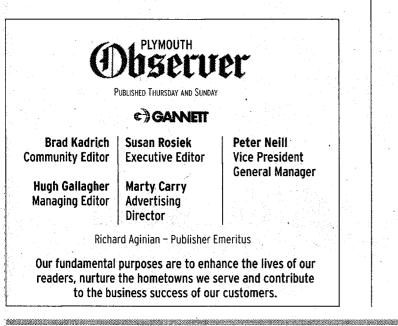
The people spoke in that election, but alas it didn't matter. Some backroom deal called an electoral college decided to give the election not to the person we the people legally voted into office, but to the person they wanted in office. And his brother Jeb did absolutely every thing he could to see that he was appointed into office, with the Florida fiasco and the hanging chad. Anyway, in the present day we are again facing such shady deals, only this time it's on a state level. I'm talking about the Prop 2 fight. We the people stated in a legal vote to do away with a law we found unconstitutional, by way of discrimination. It was put to a public vote, shot down by a 2-1 margin, vet someone is still trying to over turn our vote, like we didn't know what we were voting on and it was all a big mistake. Who are these people anyway, are they people who were too lazy to get out and vote that day? Or are they people who thought that Prop 2 never would have been defeated so they never considered to vote that day. Forgive me but I thought the people had decided already. Sorry it didn't turn out like you planned. Better luck next time. And who is the idiot whose going to go against the wishes of the people. Is Prop 2 destined to bounce around the legal system until someone finds someone or pays someone to say "wait a minute," the people of this great and dying state didn't know they were wrong, but they were. Prop 2 lives. Have we gone so far away from majority rules that now it's commonplace to overrule the people and have us not even care. That's the sad part. We the people quit caring about the loss of our national identity. Majority rules a thing of the past.

Magglio Ordoñez and the rest of the Detroit Tigers will open the 2007 season Monday against the Toronto Blue Jays at Comerica Park.

will surely be one of the favorites to get back there again this year. They will not surprise anybody this year as they did in 2006, but that is the price for fielding a quality team — something the club hadn't done in more than a decade until last year.

There are expectations now, especially from the hometown fans, who were starved for so long. The Tigers proved last year that this is a baseball town. They also showed how a baseball team can bring together a region that is often consumed with petty differences.

So as we get ready to start a new season, let's give three cheers that the Tigers can repeat the magic of last year. We're all pulling for you. Bless you, boys!



Where are the protests against Islamic terrorists? How many Arab-Americans have marched on the Saudi, Iranian or Syrian embassies? Have there been demonstrations where the flags of terrorist nations have been burned? Have effigies of terrorist leaders been hanged and burned in any of our cities? Funny, I have not noticed one. And Ms.

Funny, I have not noticed one. And Ms. Ahwal, why do you have a problem with ANY American president who wants to fight "radical Islam"? Don't we always hear that it is the "radicals" who are hijacking a peaceful religion? I would think you would be right behind the effort to stop radicalism.

As all good leftists and anti-Americans you can find will say, you suggest we just try and get along with those who hate us. I guess nice words and saying you're sorry work with 6-year-olds arguing over the swingset, but it just doesn't seem to work with these rascals who keep blowing people up.

I don't know that I trust the words of a man like Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (one of the infamous 1979 U.S. Embassy kidnappers) or of Assad Jr. I guess you think that maybe they have had their fill of Jewish and Christian blood ... I'm not buying it. I don't know that any responsible government leader can trust these criminals. It frightens me to no end that we have people in America advocating our surrender, and suggesting appeasement. Sure worked in the 1930s, didn't it?

Before you really start foaming, just know that I have a huge problem with our lack of victory in the war in Iraq. I would have adopted a MacArthur approach to this war myself, and think we could have had it taken care of in about eight-10 weeks. But now we will never know. But I do know one thing for sure. Kicking the hell out of our enemies late is better than never at all.

> Jason Vorva Plymouth

Silence is deafening

As is the case every time I read an article by Ms. Ahwal, I find myself angered at her arrogance and wonder why she is even given a voice in this paper. Maybe so that Brian Hill Plymouth

Make Congress hear you

As I looked at the picture of the "group" outside Rep. McCotter's office recently, a sinking feeling came over me: No wonder the voice of the American people is not being listened to, we aren't saying anything. I think I counted six people in the picture, the paper says there were 30. Thirty people? That's the voice of America's citizens? Pathetic.

I didn't know that there was going to be a protest that day, or I may have been able to attend. Then I got to thinking, "How many people knew there was to be a protest that day?" Apparently people are not getting the heads-up, or everyone is just too busy to attend these functions.

Fine, you're too busy to attend. This is important stuff, my countrymen. It does matter. Are you too busy to write a letter to your representative too? No? Good. Might I make a suggestion then? Sit down, Don Pechin Westland

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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QUOTABLE

"We've cut in those areas before and left instruction alone ... That's why you're seeing a higher end of instructional people cut now. If we make cuts in those (administrative) areas, there are things we won't be able to do. "

Dr. James Ryan, Plymouth-Canton Schools superintendent, on proposed cuts to the school district's budget

OTHER OPINIONS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007

A9 (P)

Elected officials continue to dance around problems

ressed in elaborate costumes, faces hidden behind stylized masks, the actors in the famous Japanese theater art form known as kabuki engage in complex and ritualized dramas of conflict.

The term "kabuki dance" has come to mean a set of stylized, posturing maneuvers in which the performers act as if they will be hostile toward each other - even though everybody understands perfectly well that things will have to be

on it.

worked out in the end.

Everybody's benefit depends

We observed last week

two classic kabuki dances

unique form of theater, in

the political arena of the

state capital. In Lansing,

Republicans declared each

both Democrats and

performed, in our own

\Phil Power

other's proposals for resolving the state's \$940 million budget deficit dead on arrival. Gov. Granholm announced she would veto the \$630 million in spending cuts and accounting changes passed the by the Republican-controlled state Senate. The Senate contemptuously rejected the governor's proposed two-cent sales tax on services.

Then they all repeated the play's classic and expected lines. Republicans called the governor's tax plan a further blow to the state's fragile economy and mocked her "sky is falling" portrait of the state's deep financial troubles. The governor said the GOP cuts would hurt kids and local government services and criticized the "cut taxes at any cost" ideology of the Republican base.

One highlight of the GOP plan: The senators would cut state funding for the public schools by \$34 per pupil from the current minimum appropriation of \$7,085. Most, but not all districts, have enough fund balance to survive - barely - the cut. Schools, however, fix their costs early on, commit to spending decisions and would find it terrifically hard to make cuts this far into the school year.

Local governments would also take a \$40 million hit in revenue sharing payments, which already have been slashed by around \$500 million since the state's economy began to soften in 2000.

And so it is back to the drawing board. Meanwhile in Detroit on Friday, the Detroit school board voted 6-5 to reject a plan to close more than two dozen schools, after a chaotic and contentious meeting that left no one happy.

Interim Supt. Lamont Satchel told the board that failing to close schools would

result in 1,800 employees being laid off. Worse, it could put the system in the grips of a state-required deficit-elimination plan that would require shutting up to 50 schools by 2010.

Not only did they did not listen, board members declined to hear a presentation on the district's financial condition.

The cold hard facts are that the state faces an enormous deficit in this fiscal year's budget, which must be solved before Sept. 30. The Detroit district, already facing massive enrollment drops and reductions in state per-pupil aid, has stark but clear choices: Cut costs, lay off staff - or do some of both.

Most political insiders, whether in Lansing or in Detroit, see these kabuki dances for what they are: Posturing for popularity before highly motivated constituency groups, whether rabid anti-taxers or angry parents. But you cannot blame ordinary folks for failing to understand what all this saber-rattling is all about. Looking in from the outside, dimly aware that we have major problems, the average person has to be wondering why our leaders can't find common ground.

All this came home to me last Friday morning when I spoke at a session at the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments, the main local government association for the Detroit area.

Most participants were throwing up their hands in frustration at yet another cut in their already stretched budgets. But most also said they would soldier on, trying to make do with ever-thinning resources, doing their best to be good and responsible public servants.

Certainly, the profound instinct of serious, professional government officials is to try to make do, to carry on in the face of financial difficulties.

It's the responsible, diligent thing to do. But it also enables elected officials to be irresponsible and continue to refuse to come to grips with the financial realities. Budget cuts have consequences. And if they are layoffs, school closures and elimination of public services, so be it.

Doing that just might push the political actors on our stage to take off their costumes and their masks and get down to business in the first act rather than waiting for the final curtain. That's a curtain, by the way, that Michigan very much needs to avoid.

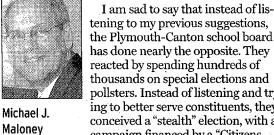
Phil Power is president and founder of The Center for Michigan, a moderate think-and-do tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions expressed are his own and do not represent official policy positions of The Center for Michigan. He welcomes reader comments at ppower@hcnnet.com.

It's time for the school board to lead or get out of the way

had to chuckle at recent comments in the paper from Plymouth-Canton school board members regarding the recent bond defeat. The stream of excuses and "spin" on their failure would be truly funny if the situation didn't involve the welfare of our kids.

Upon reflection, my real emotion is disgust when I recognize how the spending policies of our most senior board members have fallen out of touch with the citizens they serve. When the previous Plymouth-Canton school bond failed in May 2006, I offered suggestions that would have helped the board and administration

save money on consultants and special elections.



tening to my previous suggestions, the Plymouth-Canton school board has done nearly the opposite. They reacted by spending hundreds of thousands on special elections and pollsters. Instead of listening and trying to better serve constituents, they conceived a "stealth" election, with a campaign financed by a "Citizens

marily of corporations that would directly benefit from the construction of a new school.

They even turned down an opportunity to openly discuss facts with the League of Women Voters. During the run-up to the election, this board decided to staunchly avoid one fundamental question: How they plan to fund teachers necessary to staff the new schools they intended to build. This board never articulated their strategy, which, I believe, was to get the school built, and then use money from future tax increases to solve the staffing problem.

This approach, more than any other, underestimated the intelligence of voters. The miscalculation resulted in the biggest turnout for a single-issue school election in at least 15 years, and a margin of defeat about three times larger than the prior bond.

The saddest part of the whole saga is that our board has completely squandered an opportunity to reimburse the general fund for property recently purchased in Canton (which the community likely would have supported). Because of a refusal to develop contingency plans, the board is now faced with untenable choices: Either sell the property or permanently divert \$2.5 million away from the general fund, which results in even larger short-term borrowing, larger class sizes, and fewer books.

I feel empathy for the young first-year teachers who will be laid off this summer as result of this irresponsible "go for broke" strategy. Our teaching employees continue to do a good job of educating, in spite of a board and administration that refuse to take a leadership role.

Now that yet another bond has failed, I again offer the same five suggestions to the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education:

Begin actively listening to the community

Stop treating those with different points of view as enemies of the schools

Adopt a philosophy that "Every child is precious" Recognize that parents of private-school children are stakeholders, too.

Develop a serious financial plan with full transparency

Voters sent the board a strong mandate - budget and spending priorities must change! For the past seven years, the district approach to money problems has been a cycle of laziness: The board complains in public about the lack of state funding and unsympathetic voters - then adopts a budget that spends well beyond what the district takes in.

The same cycle has been repeated for the past five years. (If you don't believe this board is lazy, ask why, when faced with a serious "structural deficit," they chose to meet for less than one hour during the month of July?)

As result, our fund balance is nearly gone, and the state is in no position to help. The only hope is to develop a responsible financial plan that balances revenues and expenses. The community deserves a full accounting, including plans on how the schools will be operated in a worst-case scenario.

If I were board president, I'd immediately schedule three hours per meeting to discuss budget issues, and schedule additional budget workshops at least one Saturday each month. The budget can't possibly be balanced without a major time commitment. Serious public question-and-answer time needs to be restored, too.

If the board is really interested in building public confidence, all questions from the public should be discussed on the spot and in detail. The problem of poor planning and the resulting lack of public confidence took a long time to create, and it will take a long time to fix. This board should stop ignoring the problem and get to work. The first and most important step in solving any serious problem is to admit you have one.

I know what I am suggesting won't be easy. It's far easier to blame the economy or factors outside your control. Our most senior board members learned lazy behavior from former Superintendent Kathy Booher, and have vigorously avoided making tough choices for years. To admit you are part of a problem requires LEADERSHIP. Fixing the problem requires long hours. Implementing solutions will mean tough decisions. Most board members resist long meetings, and they don't like saying "NO" to special-interest groups.

I hope some of our newer board members will begin taking more of a leadership role. All seven members should realize that the majority of the public has spoken - TWICE. This election was no fluke.

Despite the rhetoric sure to be coming out of the district the next couple of weeks, I now am certain a solid majority agree with me - the children of the Plymouth-Canton school district want and need a board that will quit whining and get to work. I hope that those board members who have demonstrated time after time the unwillingness to internalize the problem will either get the message or get out of the way.

Michael J. Maloney is a former president of the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education.

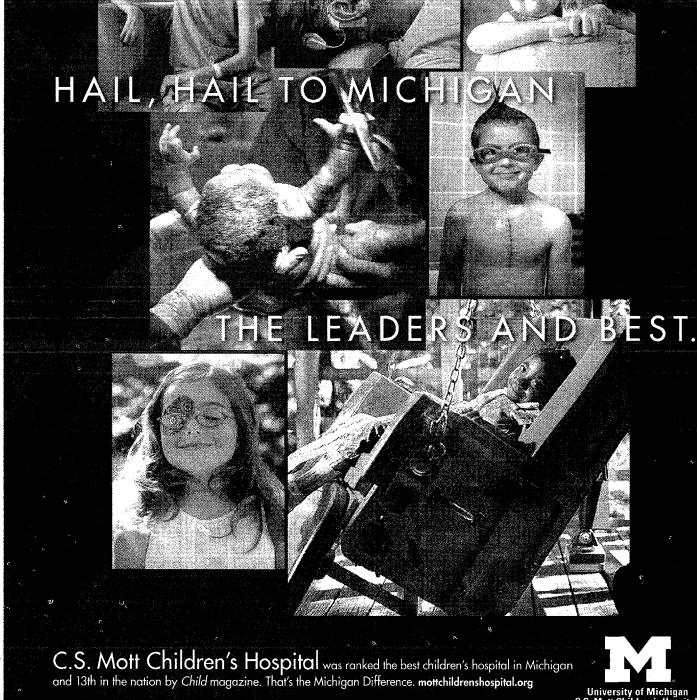
Election Committee" comprised pri-



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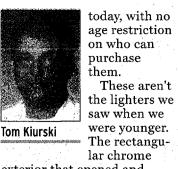
COUNTY NEWS

Playful looking lighters could be deadly

ow many times have your children noticed an item in the checkout line of a store or on the counter of a gas station and asked you to buy it for them?

A10 (*)

If your kids are anything like mine, this has happened plenty of times. But check closely before you agree, because some of the items meant to attract their attention could harm them, as well as other individuals in your home. The items I am speaking about are called novelty lighters, and are being sold



exterior that opened and exposed the mechanism that started a fire are being replaced by a much coolerlooking lighter that entices young children to play with them. And they fool parents by looking like innocent kids toys. One lighter is shaped like a fancy pen, and it even writes! But when the top is flipped back, a flame shoots out. Another looks like a cellular telephone. When you push the button on top that looks like a retracted antenna, the "phone" rings three times and erupts into a twoinch flame. If your child puts it near their face, the results can be devastating.

Other lighters shaped like fun toys include one that looks like a miniature fire extinguisher (ironic, isn't it?), a toy car with wheels that roll, a miniature adjustable wrench, a replica of a motorcycle and one that does a fancy sparkling light show through its clear case before sending fire into the air.

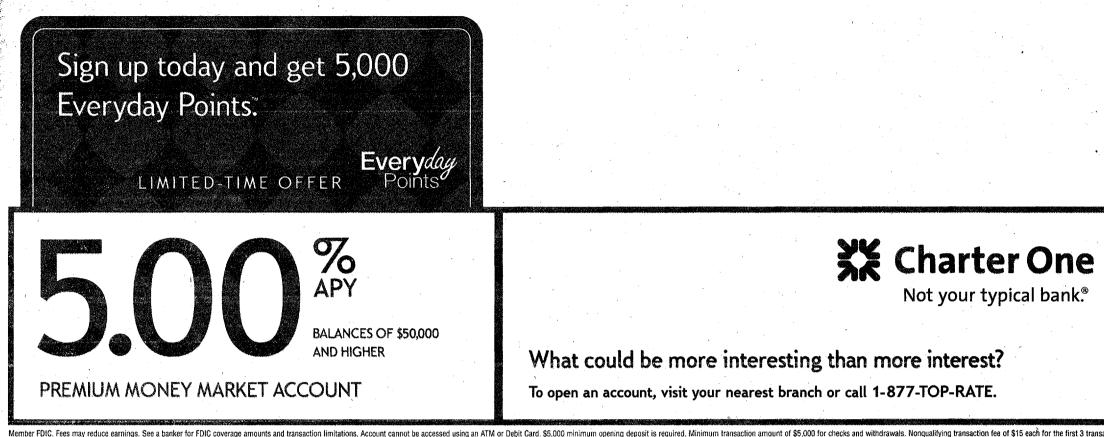
I shudder to think how many parents may have purchased these novelty lighters for their children, thinking they were harmless toys, and didn't know of their inherent dangers. Statistics from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) tell us that fireplay is the leading cause of fire deaths among preschool children. Most of the people killed by childplay fires are under six years of age, although the victims of these fires are not limited to the children who play with fire. In many cases, the fatal victims are often younger siblings or playmates of the children who start the fires.

With approximately 20 million lighters being sold in the U. S. each year, the potential for one of these lighters starting a home fire is high. A study suggests that most novelty lighters have a useful life of less than one year, but it only takes one spark to set off a deadly blaze.

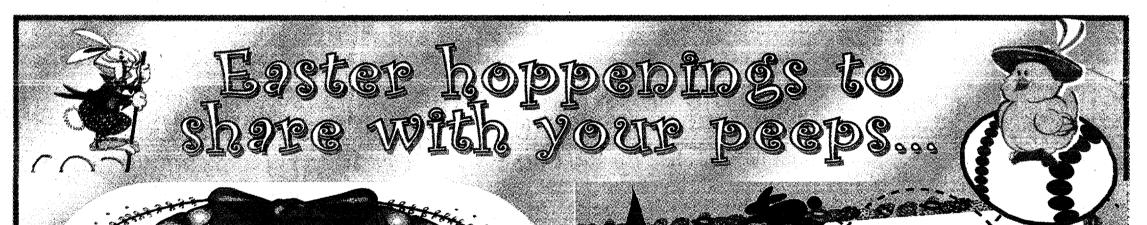
www.hometownlife.com

Thoroughly inspect anything your child asks you to purchase for them. Many of these items are within easy reach of the children near check-outs, and are dangerous. Be safe!

Tom Kiurski is a Livonia firefighter.



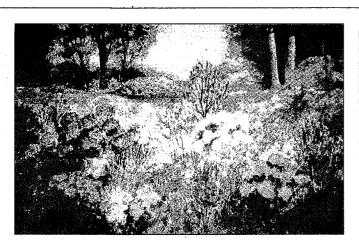
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COUNTY NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007



Marge Masek painted this flower garden. It is one of the works in the Livonia Artists Club Exhibit and Sale Saturday-Sunday, March 31-April 1.

Livonia Artists Club shows work in spring exhibit, sale

The Livonia Artists Club is holding their 46th annual Spring Exhibit and Sale March 31-April 1, in the Atrium of the Livonia Civic Center Library on Five Mile, east of Farmington Road. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

www.hometownlife.com

The club has been in existence since 1960. Many of the artist members have been painting for years, but several new artists will be showing their work as well.

This year's exhibit features watercolors, pastels, acrylics, oils, colored pencil, collage, and photography. There will also be live art demonstrations during the show.

The club meets at the Civic Center Library in Livonia the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. Visitors and aspiring artists are always welcome. For more information.

call Doree Dziobak at (734) 416-1774.

Residents now have until April 30 to file applications

Wayne County Treasurer, Raymond J. Wojtowicz, has extended the previous March 15, 2007, deadline to file an application for a property tax hardship extension until April 30, 2007. Residents should be aware that if their application is approved, this does not give them an exemption from paying property taxes. Instead, anyone receiving a hardship extension will merely be granted up to one extra year to pay his or her delinquent 2004 property taxes. Related fees and penalties will still apply.

In response to the Treasurer's extensive community outreach program, using cable, network television, internet broadcasting, radio and letters to churches and community groups as well as up-dates to county and local

more than 636 applications, exceeding the total received in 2006.

The Treasurer's believes at least 1,578 owner occupied properties remain that would likely qualify for hardship consideration. In addition to the continued outreach, in April the Treasurer will attempt to locate and personally serve the property owners to advise of the hardship program.

Anyone who is facing property tax foreclosure due to unpaid delinquent 2004 taxes needs to know that ignoring the tax bill hoping that it will somehow go away is the worst thing to do. What that person needs to do is get some help, and quick. One thing he/she can do right away is contact the Taxpayer Assistance Section of the Wayne County Treasurer's Office Taxpayer Assistance can be reached at (313) 224-6105.

Live trivia – a pursuit of many in area

BY STACY JENKINS STAFF WRITER

Don't be alarimed to see a haze of steam emitting from a Westland restaurant this Saturday afternoon.

It's only brain power - at full tilt — during the My Trivia Live Championship Round at Marvaso's Italian Grill on Wavne Road at Hunter.

There, 18 teams of four will put their noodles together for the latest craze in trivia to sweep the area's bars and restaurants.

My Trivia Live is an interactive, team trivia game that's played in six rounds. Nothing about it is electronic, so players write their answers and hand them to the Trivia Jockey, or TJ, who reads each question and plays a song while players come up with answers. Teams keep track on a score sheet, which looks like a place mat.

"It's interactive, it's something new and different and you have people behind it who really believe in it," said Amy Wells, a trivia jockey. "It makes people think and talk.

The game ends with a final question, in which teams may wager zero, or up to all of their points. The top three teams win gift certificates to the participating establishment.

Drew Cabot, of Wayne, a member of Team Dynamite, enjoys playing My Trivia Live.

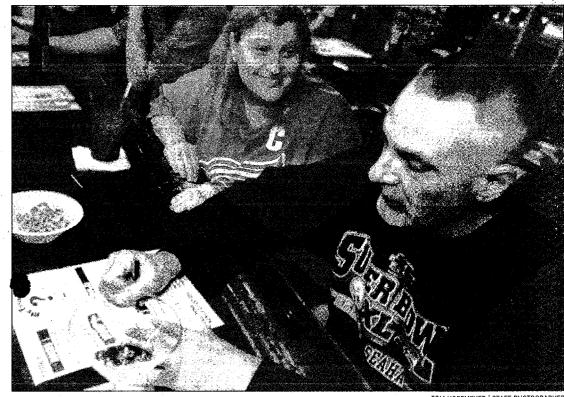
"It's a great time," he said. "You meet great people and you're able to exercise your brain power. It's something different to do."

He likes taking a break from technology during the game, too

"In this day and age of technology and text messages, I think it's great that we have to manually write out our answers and turn them in," he added.

Eighteen teams joined a fiveweek league, in which their points were tallied for each week of play. The final round will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Marvaso's, where the winning team will take home \$200 cash and a \$20 gift certificate to all participating bars and restaurants, a plaque and, of course, bragging rights. A new 10week league starts April 1.

My Trivia Live, enjoyed by undreds each week is the a



Debbie Legleitner of Redford, left, and Jerry DeGrood of Canton figure out their answer as they play My Trivia Live at The Coach's Corner in Livonia.

Fowler. They saw a similar game while living in Atlanta.

"We thought this would be something extraordinary to bring to Michigan," Neracher said. "We tweaked what we saw in Atlanta to make it better in Michigan."

While the game is growing in popularity from week to week, Neracher and Fowler want to take it a step further, by offering the game as a fun way to do fund-raisers in the community, private parties, corporate events, even wedding showers. The questions can be tailored to specific people, topics, charities or businesses.

The game started in October at Marvaso's and is now offered at 31 bars and restaurants in Livonia, Westland, Redford,

and Whitmore Lake. "We're extremely excited,"

said Neracher, who is normally busy practicing law as a criminal defense and personal injury attorney. "It breathes life into these communities."

Fowler continues to run his business, SDI, a security products distribution company, in Atlanta. The couple said they hope to expand My Trivia Live to 300 locations in the Detroit area and even more throughout the state.

Since the game is played Sunday through Thursday, the bar owners enjoy the added business

"The game is designed to bring in business during otherwise slower time slots," Neracher said. "Our show puts butts in seats for bars."

Fowler focuses on offering a



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

them," he said. "We want it to

want to make sure every show

ue to hire TJs, who earn \$60

per 2-hour show. They're

always looking for " 'people'

people," who have a great personality. They're happy with the

staff they've assembled so far.

these people have stepped up,"

Fowler said. "There's a lot that

goes into it to make sure the

bar owners are getting a good

Neracher praises her staff,

"They're second to none," she

said. "They're the most devoted

people I've ever worked with in

To learn more about My

"As this company has grown,

Neracher and Fowler contin-

be mutually beneficial. We

is a good one."

product."

my entire life."

too

government officials, the Treasurer has already received ation of Garden City natives Cathryn Neracher and Scott



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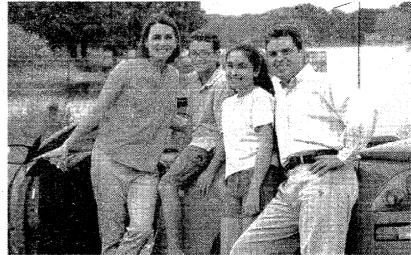
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nd Toledo. OH, area only. To qualify for this offer, you must open or have a personal checking account at Charter Points by March 31, 2007. Receive 5,000 Everyday Points, valued at \$25, if you meet these conditions, enroll in online banking and pay 2007. Receive 5,000 Everyday Points, valued at \$25, if you establish a monthly Steady Save transaction, with which you must transfer ns, enroll in online banking and pay at least three bills from this account by April 30 Points by March 31, 2007, Receive 5,000 Everyday Points, va minimum of \$10 at least once per m this account to any of your Charter One savings or Money Market Accounts (other than a Passbook Savinos Account) by April 30, 2007. Offers may be combined with each other bu cannot be combined with any other offers. Each \$25 will be awarded in the form of 5,000 Everyday Points and can be used for your reward selection. Existing customers who do not ise Steady Save or Online Bill Pay may also qualify - see a banker for details. Points are valid for three years from a vard date and may be redeemed for a gift card to our merchants or merchandise in our Everyday Points catalog, available in branch or online at www.charterone.com. Point redemption values subject to change. \$25 Everyday Points annual membership fee for Green Checkinge customers. For Green Checking customers, an additional 3,000 points will be credited to your account and can be used to pay the annual ip fee for the first year. Your checking account must be enrolled in Everyday Points at the time the points are used to be eligible. Refer to the Everyday Points catalog for rms and conditions. ATM/Debit Card required for online banking. This limited-time offer is subject to change and may be withdrawn at any time. All accounts and service are subject to individual approval. See a banker for details



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A12 (*)

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

MARCH

Lenten concerts

12:35 p.m. Thursday, March 29, follows services of Holy Communion which begin at 12:10 p.m., at Mariner's Church, 170 East Jefferson, at the entrance to the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. Free parking for services in the Ford Underground Garage with entrance on median on Jefferson at Woodward. For information, call (313) 259-2206.

Lenten services

St. Michael the Archangel Parish invites everyone to attend Lenten services including Stations of the Cross and Benediction 7 p.m. Fridays during Lent, at the church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. Services follow the church's Lenten Fish Fry Dinners and are open to all. For information, call (734) 261-1455.

Lenten fish fry

11-a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, March 30, pickups at St. Peter Claver Catholic Community Parish Rectory, 13305 Grove, one block south of McNichols, one block east of Schaefer. Detroit. Lunch orders call in by 11 a.m. at (313) 342-5292. \$8 catfish dinner, \$7 whiting, \$5 catfish sandwich, \$4 whiting,

\$1 for sides of spaghetti, coleslaw and green beans.

Depression recovery

Trapped by depression? Depression Recovery Program began 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 20, at Cherry Hill Church, 33144 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City. You can be happy again! Call (734) 673-5917 for more information.

Sunday services

Dan Strength, who was installed March 4 as church pastor, is leading services at Living Water Church (Pentecostal Church of God), 11663 Arcola, one block west of inkster road on Plymouth road. Sunday School is at 10 a.m. followed by worship at 11 a.m. Bible study takes place 7 p.m. Wednesdays. For more information, call (734) 425-6360.

Alpha sessions

Alpha is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, non-threatening setting over 10 thought-provoking weekly sessions beginning 6-9 p.m. Thursday, March 29, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Includes a free dinner each week. Alpha is a low-key, friendly, fun and pressure free class. Free child care available during class. To register, call (248) 374-5932 or send e-mail to Margy.Burkhart@wardchurch.org. Who is he?

The Aerokhanas are flying into town. This group of teenage athletes love getting high, not on drugs, but on Acrosport, a combination of acrobatics and gymnastics. Why do they do these incredible stunts? To get the

attention of thousands of kids across Michigan each year and let them know it's better than getting high on drugs or alcohol.

They will be performing 9 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at Northville High School gym at 45700 Six Mile, west of Sheldon before Beck, Northville. This very talented team will also be performing a Youth Impact Dramatic Play on the Life of Christ 7:30 p.m. Friday March 30, in the Metropolitan Adventist Church, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile, Plymouth. For information, call (734) 420-4044. There is no charge for performances but a donation will be taken to help defray travel and expenses. Choral cantata

A New Creation by Rene Clausen 6 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. No charge but a free will offering will be taken. A reception follows in the Fellowship Hall. Call (734) 422-0149. Southern gospel singing

7 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at Living Water Church (Pentecostal Church of God), 11663 Arcola, one block west of Inkster road on Plymouth road. New pastor Dan Strength invites everyone to enjoy The Journeymen. The only remaining original member of the group, Big John Bledsose, is lead singer and a native of Livonia. For more information about the church or the concert by the male quartet, call (734) 425-6360. Bethany together dance

8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, March 31, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W.



EARL H. LONG Canton, MI. Age: 82. Services: March 25, 2007, burial Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia. UHT Funeral Home



ALFRED VIDRIO

of Bloomfield Twp. passed away sud-denly on March 22, 2007 at the age of 73. Beloved husband of Patricia; dear father of Rick (Carol), Rendy (Kondrath) and the late Judy Vidrio; survived by beloved grandchildren Rich, Gina (Wasielewski), Alex and Allana (Lesner) and Max (Kondrath); and four great-grandchildren. Cremation has taken place and arrangements and celebration of his life were handled by Pixley Funeral Home Godhardt-Tomlinson Chapel, Keego Harbor, MI.

$\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}$

VIRGINIA M. HEMENWAY

Passed away on March 24, 2007 in Rochester Hills, MI after an extended battle with Alzheimer's Disease. She was born on October 9, 1925, the daughter of Myron and Laura Wagner) Retherford in Royal Oak MI. She married Floyd F. Hemenway April 21, 1960, who preceded her in death. Mrs. Hemenway graduated from Eastern Michigan University in 1948 and earned her Master's degree from the University of Bridgeport, CI in 1967. She first worked in Physical Therapy. She then found her calling as a physical education teacher at the junior high level in Connecticut public schools where she retired in June 1981. Mrs. Hemenway was an enthusiastic gardener, skier, and golfer. She enjoyed attending the theater and traveled extensively. One of the highlights of her life was the year she spent in Scotland teaching. During this time she also traveled on the European continent as well as in England. During her working years she would travel throughout the United States in the summertime with her husband and friends. In her later years, she traveled to the Galapagos Islands, Alaska, and Morocco. She is survived by her nieces and nephews, Joe (Marianne) Juliano, Jan (Chris) Blaha, Jill Juliano, John M. Retherford, Colleen Retherford, Scott (Kimberly) Retherford, and a brotherin-law, J. Gregory Juliano. She was preceded in death by two sisters, Gertrude M. (Joe) Juliano, and Kathleen Retherford, and one brother, John H. (Elizabeth) Retherford. Memorial service has been held. A. J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

Chicago at Inkster road, Redford. Proper attire. \$12 admission. For details, call (586) 264-0284. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Detroit office of youth and family, and provides peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Mom to Mom Sale Tri-City Christian Center in Canton is

having their Spring Mom to Mom Sale 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at Tri-City, 3855 Sheldon Road, North of Michigan Avenue, Canton. Table rentals are sold to capacity with more than 75 moms selling their kids' clothes, toys, baby equipment, etc. There is a \$1 admission. For information, call Pam at (734) 397-0819.

UPCOMING

Holy Week services

8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Palm/Passion Sunday, April 1; 7 p.m. Tuesday service of healing prayer April 3; 7 p.m. Wednesday Prayer around the Cross, April 4; 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Holy Communion, April 5; 7 p.m. Good Friday Tenebrae, April 6; 7 p.m. Holy Saturday Easter Vigil, April 7, and 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 8. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

Holy Week activities

9:30 a.m. Palm Sunday, April 1 children are invited to a festive Sunday school program (the children will lead the parade of palms for 10:30 a.m. worship which begins with a walk through Jerusalem; Maundy Thursday worship 7 p.m. April 5, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia, call (734) 422-6038; two Good Friday services April 6, 12:30 p.m. at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, east of Newburgh road, Livonia, call (734) 422-0149, and 7:30 p.m. at Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly, south of Plymouth road, call (313) 937-3170, and Easter Sunday, April 8, 7 a.m. Sunrise worship at Greenmead Historical Park on Newburgh, south of Eight Mile, Livonia, and 10:30 a.m. Easter Celebration at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia, call (734) 422-6038.

Easter concert

The concert features The Ward Chancel Choir and Orchestra, Teen Choir, Praise Bands, Handbells and various ensembles and consists of musical selections of the Easter Season 7 p.m. Sunday, April 1, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. No charge. Child care provided up to age 4. For information. call (248) 374-7400.

Easter cantata Once Upon a Cross by Randy Vader, Jay Rouse and Camp Kirkland 4 p.m. Sunday, April 1, at Holy Trinity

Jesus Unmasked

A sermon series with the Rev. C. Allen Kannapell 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sunday, April 1 The Crucified God, and April 8 The Unconquered, at Anglican Church of Livonia in the Livonia YMCA, 14255 Stark Road. For more information, visit www.hischurch.us.

Holv week services

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, April 5; 12:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Service of Darkness Good Friday, April 6; 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Children's Easter Fair Holy Saturday, April 7, parents accompany their children through different activity centers such as egg decorating, craft making, cookie decorating, outdoor egg hunt, video of Easter story, and more, and 8:15 a.m., 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. services Easter Sunday, April 8, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia.

Holy week worship 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Liturgy, April 5; noon Good Friday Contemplative service, and Liturgy of Darkness 7:30 p.m., April 6; 7:30 p.m. Holy Saturday Vigil of Easter, April 7, and 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 8, at Faith Lutheran Church. 30000 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734)

421-7249. Holy week services

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, April 5 (Communion); 12:30-2 p.m. Good Friday, April 6 (Service of Words, Music and Meditation, Come when you can, leave when you wish) Tenebrae Service of Darkness at 8 p.m.; Easter Vigil Saturday, April 7, at 8 p.m. (The Service of Light), and 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Festival Services Easter Sunday, April 8, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. Regular church services 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with Nursery. Sunday School during 9:30 a.m. service. Adult Bible Study weekly on Tuesday and Sunday at 11 a.m. Visitors welcome. Visit www.holycrosslivonia.org. Lenten services

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday April 5, noon Good Friday, April 6, and 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday, April 1, and Easter Sunday, April 8, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, east of Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights. Call (313) 278-5755.

Bible study

7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month in the rectory at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. The current study is the Gospel of St. John. For more information, call (734) 261-1455.

us. We look forward to welcoming you. Farmington Women Aglow

www.hometownlife.com

Meets from 7-9:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) on the second Monday of the month in the Visitors Center (old Spicer House) at Heritage Park on Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile roads. For more information, call Linda Boone at (248) 476-1053.

Preschool registration

Ward Preschool now enrolling children for the 2007-2008 school year. Morning and afternoon sessions available for ages 3, 4 and 5 by Dec. 1. Preschool is at 40000 Six Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. Schedule and tuition information can be viewed at www.wardchurch.org. For information, call (248) 374-5911 or send e-mail to carol.nowacki@wardchurch.org.

Church members wanted

The solid Reformed Protestant doctrine and the Authorized (King James) Version of the Bible may finally come together in a new church in your area. If you're interested in this type of preaching and teaching, write to Reformation Revival, P.O. Box 6156, Plymouth, MI 48170-0156 or send email to www.psalm12verse6@yahoo.com for more information.

Peace pilgrimage

On Monday, April 9, a group of religious leaders and people of good will leave metro Detroit headed for the Middle East on an 8-day trip to help bring reconciliation to the children of Abraham. They will be going to support the Middle East Peace Initiative (MEPI), a project of the Universal Peace Federation. The MEPI focuses on bringing peace through the reconciliation of religious leaders. Participants will visit rabbis and imams with the spirit of love, service and dialogue. This is the 20th MEPI pilgrimages to the Middle East in the last four years. If you are a religious leader or person of good will who would like to join the pilgrimage, call Edward Taub at (313) 822-5553 or send e-mail to etaub@provide.net for an information packet.

Wine tasting

Friday, April 13, at the St. Linus Activity Center, 6466 Evangeline, Dearborn Heights. Admission is a dish of food to pass and \$5 at the door. For details, call (313) 996-8644.

Blood drive

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 15, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860. No appointment neces-
- sary.

Retreat for widowed

- Deadline is April 20 for Opening New Doors, a retreat for widowed only
- which takes place April 27-29, at St. John's Retreat Center, Plymouth.
- Speakers and group discussions. Fee is \$140 per person for double, \$160 for single. Call (586) 939-5219, (248) 478-1084, or (586) 566-2557 to register.
- Monthly meeting

Christ on trial

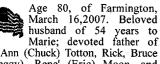
Drama to uncover Biblical evidence that will be analyzed, eve witnesses. share accounts of their encounters. with Jesus, continues 7 p.m. every Wednesday evening during Lent, except for Maundy Thursday, April 5, when Simon Peter testified concerning Jesus' disruption of social mores, at Salem United Church of Christ, 33424 Oakland Avenue, Farmington. Call (248) 474-6880. Christ on Trial examines evidence that demands a verdict: Who is this Jesus...for you? Easter at NorthRidge Services scheduled 1:15 p.m., 3:15 p.m., 5:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. Friday, April 6; 5:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. Saturday, April `7, and 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Sunday, April 8, at NorthRidge Church, 49555 North Territorial, Plymouth. Call (734) 414-7777.

PAMELA KAY **GALOR** (nee BUTSKY)

Passed away on Friday, March 16, 2007. Pamela grew up in Redford Twp, and found love right next door. She leaves behind her husband of 40 years, Chester Galor, and her four children Adam, Paul, Lisa and Sandy; as well as eight grandchildren: Haily, Miranda, Terra, Ryan, Nathan, Mackenzie, Alex and Christopher. She is also survived by four siblings: Loretta, Carolyn, Ronald and Gary, and her mother-in-law, Beatrice Foster. Pamela's contagious laugh and outlook on life will be forever missed. With all the love there is, the family is holding a memorial service in honor of Pamela on March 30th at Hosanna Tabor Lutheran Church in Redford Twp. at 5:00 p.m at 9600 Leverne, Redford, MI 48239.



MILTON P. LILLEY



husband of 54 years to Marie; devoted father of LuAnn (Chuck) Totton, Rick, Bruce (Peggy), Rene' (Eric) Moon, and Michele (Jeff) Manhire; cherished grandfather of 12. Mr. Lilley is a 1944 graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School, and was employed by JL Hudson's in their display dept. and then as a design stylist for Ford Motor Co. for 35 years. A Funeral Mass to celebrate Mr. Lilley's life was held Tuesday, March 20, at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Farmington. Burial, with Marine Corps honors, took place at Oakwood Cemetery, Farmington. Those who wish to further honor Milt's life may contribute to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154 or the St. Vincent DePaul Society of O.L.S. Parish, 23815 Power Road, Farmington, MI 48336. Arrangements entrusted to the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, d Farmington (248-474-5200). downtown



LINDA ELLEN BURRELL

Age 67 of Traverse City, died on March 18, 2007, at the Munson Medical Center Hospice House. Linda dedicated her life to enriching the experience of children during her career as a teacher and through her numerous philanthropic activities. Linda was born in Detroit on Sept. 3, 1939, the daughter of John and Genevieve (Merritt) Chambers. In 1963, she married Donald Burrell, with whom she raised two sons. She earned a bachelor's degree in education from Michigan State University and embarked on a career teaching in the Birmingham and Grand Rapids school districts. After time off for the birth of her sons, Linda taught at the Livonia Co-Op Nursery school for 23 years while earning a master's degree in early childhood education. At the Livonia Nursery, Linda's inspiration and encouragement laid the foundation for many successful academic careers. Upon retiring with her hus-band to Traverse City, she became active in a number of charitable organizations, including Love for Children, Pi Beta Phi sorority and PEO. In addition to these activities, she belonged to the Presbyterian Church of Traverse City and enjoyed her family and granddaughters, entertaining friends and sunsets on Silver Lake. She is survived by her husband, Donald Burrell of Traverse City; sons Scott (Pamela) Burrell of Washington, D.C., and Greg (Susan) Burrell of Novi; granddaughters Avery, Zoe and Samantha Burrell of Novi, and siblings Joan Davis of Tucson, AZ., Wendy Worley of Chandler, AZ., and John Chambers of Glendale, AZ. Visitation will be held on Friday, April 13, from 4 to 7 p.m., at Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home in Traverse City. A memorial service will be held at the Presbyterian Church of Traverse City on Saturday, April 14, at 11 a.m., with visitation one hour prior. Dr. Homer Nye and the Rev. Becky Chamberlain will officiate. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Love for Children, c/o The Presbyterian Church of Traverse City, 701 Westminster Road, Traverse City, MI *49686 or PEO Chapter EH (Scholarships for Women) c/o Kathy Nolan, 605 N. 11th St., Traverse City, 49684. Kindly share your memories with the family on their online guest book at: www.legacy.com/record-eagle/

Arrangements were made with the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home, 305 Sixth Street-Traverse City, MI 49684; www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com.

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BILL LLOYD JR.

Age 53. Died Saturday, March 24, 2007 in 2007 in White Lake, Michigan. Loving husband of Sheila (Gay) Llovd. Beloved father of Jenna and Bill. Dear son of Bill and Mollie loyd. Brother of Doug Lloyd and Susan (Lloyd) Bauldry.



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

Deadlines: Friday 4:30 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadlines

will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 For more information call: **Charolette Wilson** 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653

ask for Char or Liz

DE0842837

Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211. Lent and Easter services

In His Steps, a six-part sermon series during Lent on Sunday's at 10 a.m.to April 1; Holy Thursday 7:30 p.m. April 5, communion is around a great table in the shape of a cross to remember the last meal of Jesus with his disciples; Community Good Friday Service noon, April 6; 7:30 p.m. Good Friday April, 6, an evening service focusing on the Passion Narrative and Jesus' final moments, and Easter Sunday Son-Rise Service at 8 a.m., Worship Services at 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m., Sunday school at 9:15 a.m. for children (childcare for four-year-olds and under at both services) April 8. at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860, or visit www.nardinpark.org. Concerts

4 p.m. Palm Sunday, April 1, organ and solo vocal music by Glenn Miller and Judith Zorn, tickets \$18, \$15 seniors, \$12 students, and 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 6, music and readings for Good Friday by Kirk Chancel Choir (no charge), at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 West Long Lake, Bloomfield Hills. Call (248) 626-2515, ext. 109.

Holy Week services

The Downtown Lutheran German Language Holy Week Worship Service will be held 4 p.m. Palm Sunday, April 1, at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, 1345 Gratiot, Detroit, Procession of the Palms during each of the three worship services 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. The Sunday School children, each carrying palms, will lead the Procession into the church at 9:30 a.m. and will sing at the beginning of the worship service. Everyone present will receive a blessed palm to take home. Noon Maundy Thursday, April 5, Holy Communion service, and 7:30 p.m. (Communion); Good Friday, April 6, Three Consecutive Good Friday Services beginning at noon with The Rev. Dr. David Eberhard, 2:15 p.m. The Symbolic Sealing of the Tomb of Christ, and Tenebrae service at 7 p.m. with inspirational candlelight worship

service built upon the Seven Words of the Cross. The church was organized in 1850 and has remained in the City of Detroit, over the past 153 years. Three Worship Services are held each Sunday 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11 a.m. Sunday School, for all ages, is held at 9:15

3100.

a.m. For information, call (313) 567-

Holy week services

7 p.m. Good Friday, April 6, a candlelight service, and 9:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. Resurrection Sunday, April 8, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. Good Friday drama

1-2 p.m. April 6, during Good Friday services from noon to 3 p.m. in the sanctuary at Wayne-Westland First United Methodist Church, 3 Townsquare (Newberry Street across from the Wayne Post Office). The public is invited. Refreshments follow in the Fellowship Hall. Women of the Cross is about 12 women whose lives were changed by Jesus before his crucifixion.

Women's retreat

Deadline for registration is April 7. Retreat takes place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 960 Hubbard, Livonia. Cost is \$25, includes continental breakfast and lunch. For information, call (734) 422-0494. Keynote speaker is Rev. Carol Bechtel, professor of Old Testament at Western Theological Seminary in Holland. Retreat features workshops, fellowship, Cokesbury Bookstore.

Monthly dance

8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, April 7. at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster road, Redford. Cost is \$10, refreshments included. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. For details, call (734) 261-5716. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Detroit office of youth and family, and provides peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Easter cantata

Riverside Park Church of God invites you to our special Easter Cantata, He Touched Me, 10 a.m. Sunday, April 8, at the church, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth road, Livonia. For information, call (734) 464-0990. Please join us for this special drama event and celebrate Easter with

For Bethany Suburban West Saturday April 21, at Leon's Family Dining, 30149 Ford Road on the north side of the street, Garden City, All separated, divorce and singles welcomes. For details, call (734) 513-9479. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Detroit office of youth and family, and provides peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Herbs of the Bible

Presented by Jane Riddle, Lodi Farms 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 25, at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, Livonia. No charge, but call for reservations (734) 421-7259.

Religious leaders breakfast

The Freedom Institute for Economics, Social Justice and Political Empowerment is pleased to announce Dr. Martin Luther King's Executive Staffer and civil rights activist, Rev. C.T. Vivian as keynote speaker for 2007 Religious Leaders Breakfast 8:15 a.m. Thursday, April 26, at Cobo Center during Freedom Weekend VI. Vivian, along with local panelists, discuss The Political Influence of the Church. Tickets available online at www.freedomweekend.info, at the registration desk at Cobo Center, or at the Freedom Institute office by calling (313) 533-3035.

Benefit concert

Vocalist Mark Tisdel and pianist Phylis Bengary perform 8 p.m. Friday, April 27, at St. Andrew Catholic Church, 1400 Inglewood, Rochester. The cost is a free will donation. The annual benefit concert raises funds for Angels'Place, a nonprofit providing residential and community-based services for adults and children with developmental disabilities in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Special quest is Barbara Oga, a flutist and instructor at Oakland University. For more information, call Barbara Urbiel at (248) 350-2203 or send e-mail to burbiel@angelsplace.com.

Hidden Secrets film

Debuts 7 p.m. Monday, April 30, a new feature-length movie that explores just how explosive it can be when your past becomes your present, Livonia 20, 19500 Haggerty, Livonia, and Commerce Township Stadium 14, 3033 Springvale Drive, Walled Lake. Tickets now available at www.FathomEvents.com or at presenting theater box offices for \$9. For a complete list of theaters, visit the Web site.

BELIEFS & VALUES

Birmingham church holds peace, justice conference

The First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham will host a three-day interfaith conference on issues of peace, mission and justice in the Middle East, March 30-31 and April 1, at the church, 1669 West Maple, in Birmingham.

www.hometownlife.com

The conference will feature workshops on Middle East history, current events and future prospects for peace and development.

The Rev. Fahed Abu-Akel, former moderator of the 3 million-member Presbyterian Church (USA), will talk about "A New Vision: Hope for Peace in the Middle East," on March 31.

The conference will open 6:30 p.m., Friday, March 30, with an interfaith dinner and panel discussion. Saturday's session includes Rev. Abu-Akel's keynote address at 9:15 a.m., workshops and discussion on Iraq. Rev. Abu-Akel will lead Palm Sunday

morning worship at 8:30 and 10 a.m. Sharona Shapiro, Michigan Area Director of the American Jewish Committee, will lead an adult education class on the Jewish/Israeli Viewpoint on Peace in the Middle

Register through the church Web site at www.fpcbirmingham.org or by calling the

\$25 for Saturday, including lunch and continental breakfast; or \$40 for both days'

church office at (248) 644-2040. Fees include: \$20 for the Friday dinner and discussion;

programs. The Saturday program with no meals is \$15. The student fee is \$10 per day.

31. Register through the church Web site at www.fpcbirmingham.org or by calling the church office at (248) 644-2040.

East, at 11:15 a.m., on Sunday, March

Fees include: \$20 for the Friday dinner and discussion; \$25 for Saturday, including lunch and continental breakfast: or \$40 for both days' programs. The Saturday program with no meals is \$15. The student fee is \$10 per day.

Participants may attend three workshops on Saturday. Topics include:

Life as a Palestinian — Faris Alami, Palestinian émigré, with Rana Khatib of Gaza.

The Conflict with Hezbollah/Lebanon: History and Current Events - with Rev. Bill Gepford, retired Presbyterian missionary to Lebanon.

Divestiture of investments in the Middle East - Carol Hylkema, chair, Presbyterian Church (USA) Mission **Responsibility through Investment** (MRTI)/ Environmental Justice.

🖬 Iran — Its Role in Middle East Unrest/Plans for Peace — Ali Moiin, MD, Wayne State University School of Medicine.

Presbyterian Initiatives to Support Development and Housing in Palestine - Don Mead, Presbyterian Church (USA) Self Development Of People, Palestine, and retired professor from Michigan State University's Department of Agricultural Economics.

Presbyterian Witness for Peace in the Middle East - Mark Koenig, associate, Peacemaking Resources and Program Development, Presbyterian Peacemaking Program. War and Peace and

Fundamentalism in World Religions - Rev. Hank Borchardt, retired Presbyterian minister.

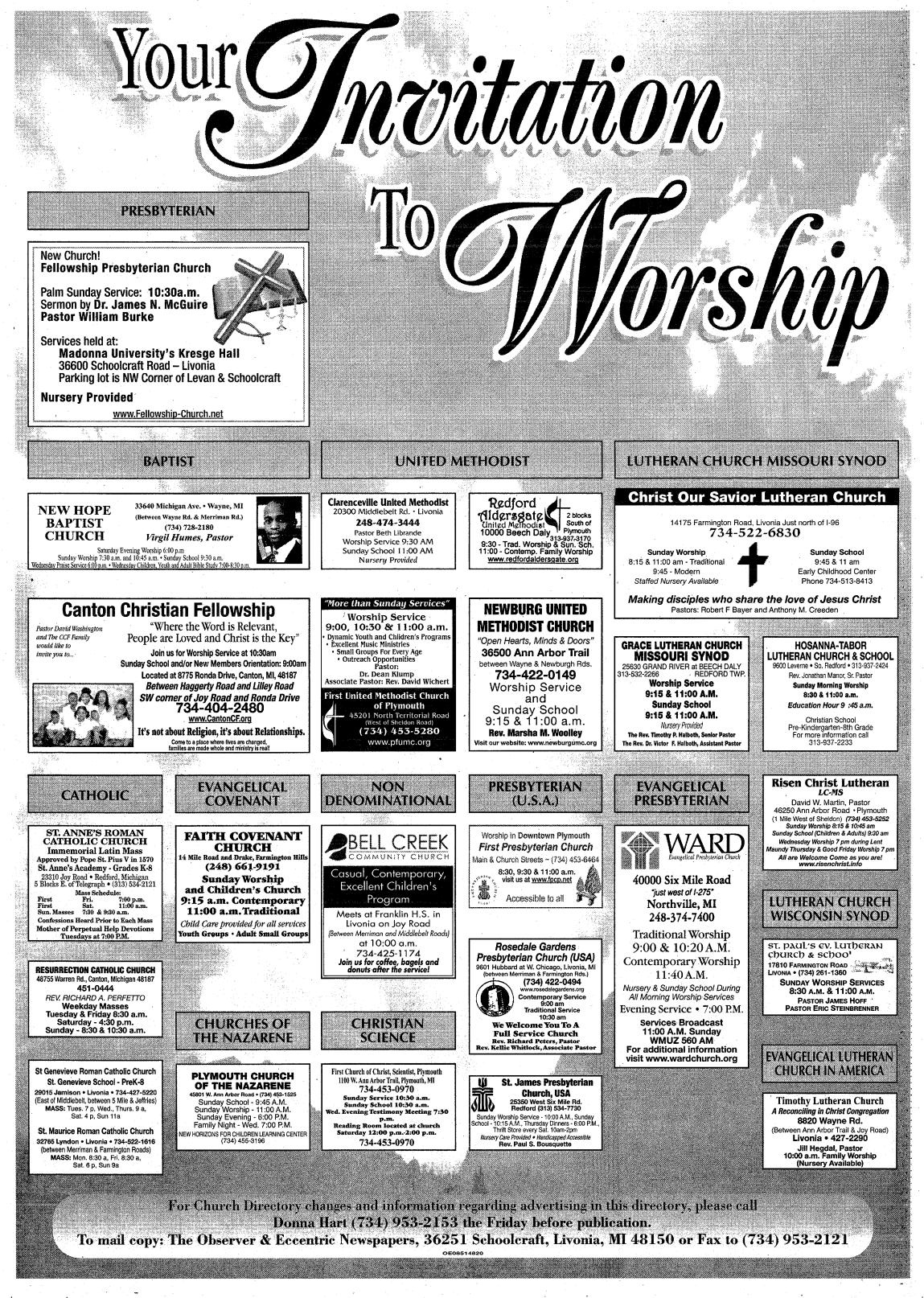
Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007

Jewish Voice for Peace: An Alternate View - David Finkel, editor of Against the Current, and others from the national office of Jewish Voice for Peace.

Peace and Respect: The History of the Baha'i Faith - John Suggs, Chrysler engineer and board member of University Ministry in Higher Education at Oakland University.

Interfaith Dialogue in Action: A Trip to the Holy Land — Rev. Fran Hayes, moderator of the Detroit Presbytery and pastor of Littlefield Church, Dearborn; with Donna Gray, Christian Educator of Canton Geneva Presbyterian Church.

Oil and the History of Foreign Involvement in the Middle East Saeed Khan, Wayne State University



COUNTY NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007

Spring's arrival has different face based on your locale

"Even the stork in the heavens knows its times; and the turtledove, swallow and crane observe the time of their coming." (Jeremiah 8:7)

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ach day sunlight dawdles just a bit longer, maple sap [®] drips less, and the county's dirt roads get muddier and hungrier for car swallowing: sure signs spring has completed the cyclic journey of life from the south into the Northern Hemisphere. Springs transition will be beautiful and perhaps furious, red sky dawns remind severe weather season looms.



For the past week I had been backpacking, trail-building, pick-swinging, cacti spinedodging among the mesas and canyons of Penal County, Arizona, in a fiery taste of a desert summer without spring. I was busy being awed by nature's way in a rugged unfor-

giving land that missed a gentle spring transition.

Before the official dawn of spring reached Michigan on the 21st of March our team - constructing a new section of the Arizona Trail - experienced a record-breaking 101 degrees near Superior, Ariz. That was shade. No wonder a malevolently handsome western diamond back rattlesnake - unable to control internal body temperatures in searing heat - slithered into the shade of our U.S. Forest Service cook tent for a midafternoon siesta. We coexisted till he slithered off, rodent dreaming perhaps. We dreamed ice water. Those superbly adapted, venom-packed pit vipers, which can be six feet long and thick as your wrist, went from hibernation to full activity in

just a matter of days. Here in Michigan, we'll need a bit more warmth to stir finger-thick garter into their hunt mode. Spring peepers are prey for garter snakes when they emerge from under logs. And as mercury stabilizes in the low 60s our reclusive pit vipers, the area's only venomous snake, the massasauga rattler, will



Robins must deal with remnant snow cover in their spring worm hunts.

emerge from moist crayfish holes where they hibernated. You don't want to hear about snakes as gifts of spring? I understand.

That ancient phobic feeling that has dwelled in the human psyche since our cave dwelling days still stirs. I felt it too, as I watched that coiled rattler tongue-flick in the desert.

For a change of pace, try visiting my old stomping grounds, the West Bloomfield rookery and witness frog-gulping great blue herons, in all their primordial early spring glory.

The mating melodies of spring peepers, chorus and wood frogs are tuning up in roadside ditches, marshes and wet meadows. But in many communities, where parking lots dominate landscape and small ponds are filled for more parking lots and chemicals and road salts leach into water, expect only silence. Seek elsewhere, while elsewhere still exists.

Nature's best spring moments are everywhere and anywhere. Back in Arizona, a journalist accompanied me on a cliff scramble a bit east of Tortilla Flats: human population six. With a green light from the National Park Service, we entered a Salado cliff dwelling at Tonto National Monument, aware of the Africanized honey bee comb far above us. Turkey vultures soared even higher and (regurgitated) pellet of indigestible parts lay at our feet. Today I smiled as vultures soared over Great Lakes Crossing, riding parking lot-induced thermals. Different habitats, different adaptive behavior, same species.

Canada geese are winging home at night, honking in darkness. And one day soon, graceful sandhill cranes arrive, for all birds know the time of their coming. That is nature's way, even if lawn-loving robins will hunt worms in patches of snow one final time, before winter remnants make a final bow and native spring wildflowers appear in our woodlands.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. You can reach him at Oaknature@aol.com.

VMR96

Divorce and Family Troubles!

NEWBURG UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH

Chancel Choir presents

"A New Creation" by Rene Clausen

. A choral cantata with an orchestra and soloists.

A free will offering will be taken

with a reception following.

You are welcome!

Saturday, March 31st at 6pm

36500 Ann Arbor Trail • Livonia

734-422-0149

Call us today for a FREE consultation.

Divorce is a stressful and emotional time for any family. When you are dealing with the dissolution of your marriage, you need a levelheaded attorney who is familiar with the family court system. At Fausone Bohn, LLP, our lawyers have helped many people through their divorces. We can help you, too.



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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007

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National Doctors Day March 30, 2007

THANK YOU DOCTORS Garden City Hospital appreciates its medical staff for the quality care they provide to our community.

Addiction Medicine Eric Coffman, D.O. Michael Fox, D.O.

Allergy, Immunology Jack Pearl, D.O. Dale Stone, D.O.

Anesthesia Yasser Al-Baghdadi, M.D. Robert Blumberg, D.O. Janice Dorsten, D.O. Nabil Kadi, M.D. Joe Liu, M.D. Avijit Mookerjee, M.D. Jay Moon, M.D. Konstantin Rusin, M.D., Ph.D Vitaly Soskin, M.D., Ph.D Gregory Teraikian, D.O. Hong Wang, M.D.

> Bariatric Surgery Kerry Kole, D.O. Andre Nunn, M.D.

Cardiothoracic **Vascular Surgery** Salwan Anton D.O. James Armstrong, D.O. Abedelrahim Asfour M.D. William Back D.O. David Bell D.O. Samir Dabbous M.D. Hanna El-Khouri, M.D. David Fertel, D.O. Raymond Gadowski, D.O. Gary Goodman, M.D. David Gowman, D.O. Robert Grodman, D.O. Sham Gupta, M.D. Nizam Habhab, D.O. Daniel Harber, D.O. Sohail Hassan, M.D. John Hilu, M.D. Jonathan Hoffberger, D.O. Mohammed Kabbani, M.D. Elias Kassab, M.D. Ilana Kutinsky, D.O. Eugene Laveroni, Jr, D.O. Barry Lewis, D.O. Chris Liakonis, D.O. Kalil Masri, D.O. Marshall Medley, D.O. Virendra Mehta, M.D. George Nahhas, M.D. Satya Nelluri, M.D. Maria Theresa Pacis-Biederman, D.O. Emmanuel Papasifakis, D.O. Majid Qazi, D.O. Mark Rasak, D.O. Saad Sabbagh, M.D. Robert Stomel, D.O. Brian Williamson, M.D.

Brian Kim, M.D. Roger Lewis, M.D. Gary March, D.O. George Nicoloff, M.D. Tushar Patel, M.D. Gary Pilchak, D.O. Steven Rivera, D.O. Mark Smith, M.D. Damanjit Sooch, M.D.

Emergency (continued)

Michael Yangouyian, D.O. Endocrinology Opada Alzohaili, M.D. George Leach D.O.

Family Practice

Anton Bahu, D.O. Jerome Bekker, D.O. Randall Bickle, D.O. Robert Brock, D.O. Lester Burkow, D.O. Michael Burry, D.O. John Cavell, D.O. Andrew Colman, D.O. Kenneth Colton, D.O. David Cooley, D.O. Gail DeNuccio, D.O. George Elias, D.O. Mohammed Elmenini, M.D. Ali Fadel, M.D. Pat Freeman, D.O. Pamela Geppert, D.O. Robert Gordon, D.O. Merwin Jenkins, D.O. Deborah Kay, D.O. Randy Kay, D.O. Sirisha Koneru, M.D. Andrew Kosta, D.O. David Lang, D.O. George Lawley, D.O. Douglas Marsh, D.O. Deanna Master, M.D. Gregory Monroe, D.O. Farah Mullah, D.O. Richard Ozog, D.O. Sumanchandra Patel, M.D. Joseph Paupore, D.O. Scott Paxton, D.O. William Penn, D.O. Eric Phillips, D.O. Patricia Pierce, D.O. Jean Marie Pierre, M.D. William Prechel, D.O. Milton Raskin, D.O. William Rollins, D.O. George Saad, M.D. David Schwartzenfeld, D.O. Thomas Scott, D.O. Robert Sikorski, D.O. William Silverstone, D.O. Regina Simone, D.O. Troy Smith, D.O. Martin Solomon, D.O. F. Robert Suchyta, D.O. Paul Thomas, D.O. Keith Tobin, D.O. Mark Wein, D.O. Susan Williams, D.O. Jennifer Winegarden, D.O. Frank Winters, D.O. Kong Wong, D.O. Howard Wright, D.O. Gastroenterology Michael Biederman, D.O Joseph D'Avanzo, D.O. Steven Klein, D.O. Kenneth Kurjan, D.O.

Hematology/Oncology Stephen Goldfarb, D.O. Susan Harold, M.D. Cheryl Kovalski, D.O. Michael McKenzie, D.O. Mohammed Ogaily, M.D. Jesus Ortega, M.D. Lynette Sutkowi-Toomajian, M.D.

Infectious Diseases Donald Cox, D.O. Jareer Hmoud, M.D. Tom Madhavan, M.D. Dunstan Mascarenhas, M.D. Yasmin Pirzada, M.D. Hazem Samir-Moez, M.D.

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COUNTY NEWS

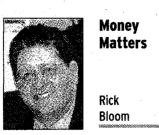
Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007

Check your quarterly reports carefully

pring is here and another winter is behind us. Many investors will soon receive the first statement of 2007. When you receive the quarterly statement (or any financial statement), the first thing you should do is check it for accuracy.

A16 (*)

You need to make sure that the ending balance of your last statement is equal to the beginning balance of the new statement. In addition, if the statement is from a salary deferral program, such as a 401(k) plan, you need to make sure your ongoing contributions have been properly credited to your account. Never assume that the statement is right and you are wrong. Banks and other financial institutions make honest mistakes and it is up



to us to correct them where necessary.

If you find a mistake, take immediate action to correct it. If the mistake is pursuant to a company retirement plan, contact the plan administrator. If it is a mistake on a brokerage statement or a bank statement, contact the company issuing the statement. If you are not satisfied with the resolution after your initial contact, document your issue by putting it in writing. Be persistent in attempting to resolve your issue.

This quarter, we did see a pullback in the markets because of what happened in China and the difficulties in the sub-prime mortgage market.

Many may find that an account is lower at the end of the quarter than it was at the beginning of the year.

One of the mistakes investors make is they will adjust their portfolio and rush into things that made money over the first quarter and sell investments that lost money during the first quarter. As far as I am concerned, this is a huge mistake. What happens on a quarterly basis is relatively immaterial. If you attempt to chase returns by constantly going into what's hot, you almost always will make the wrong decision.

Investing is more than looking into the rearview mirror, it is looking forward. What's hot last quarter may not be hot this quarter. We see this all the time when investors attempt to rotate their portfolio to what they perceive as a hot sector of the economy. Ultimately they end up getting into that sector when the market already had its rise. The key to success is to be patient. Don't be concerned quarter-to-quarter or even year-to-year.

I don't mean you should ignore the performance of your funds or investments because, ultimately, the only reason you invest money is to make money. What you really need to do is look at your funds over a two- to threeyear cycle and judge those investments versus other investments in the same category. In other words, evaluate small cap international funds versus other small cap international funds not versus small cap domestic funds.

If you've been in a fund or an investment for a few years that fund is underperforming other funds in the same category, then a change is needed. It doesn't necessarily mean that you should leave that sector of the economy but rather go into a better-performing investment within that sector. We should judge investments on their performance relative to other. similar investments.

Loyalty is a good trait. However, when it comes to investing, we should be loyal to accomplishing our financial goal. When an investor lets emotion dictate their decision, they almost always will make the wrong decision. Our investments don't love us and we shouldn't love them. The only thing we should love about an investment is the financial goals and objectives they help achieve.

www.hometownlife.com

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

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In addition to tax services Don provides financial consulting services. He is licensed in mortgages, life insurance, annuities, and is a securities representative. He is qualified to start IRAs and 401K plans for any size business, and rollover investments for individuals leaving a company for advancement, buyouts or retirement. Every visitor has the opportunity to meet privately with Don and take advantage of his financial knowledge, free of charge. It is not necessary to be a tax client to take advantage of a consultation. Don understands some people have experienced financial set backs in this economy and he would like to help them understand how they might improve their financial situation. All financial analysis consultations are customized to the individual or families needs and circumstances. Consultations are complimentary, completely confidential and met with the utmost sincerity. Reaching a financial goal is easier with a plan in place. Whether you are in your twenties or only a few years from retirement, now is the time to review your financial position.

As you collect your W-2's and 1099's, grab that old cell phone in the junk drawer. Each recycled cell phone from Liberty Tax provides a soldier stationed overseas 100 minutes to talk to their loved ones in the United States. Liberty Tax Service participates in a countrywide endeavor called "Cell Phones for Soldiers". Bring your old cell phone in and let soldiers know we care about them in Livonia, Michigan.

If you haven't filed your 2006 taxes yet, enjoy the pleasurable experience at Liberty Tax Service located at 31098 Five Mile Road on the north east corner of Five Mile and Merriman. Call 734-427-1099 to make an appointment, or just drop in Monday thru Friday 9AM—9PM; Saturday 9AM—5PM; and Sunday 12Noon—5PM. Visit the web site www.yourmoneymattersllc.com.

While visiting Party USA, Frames Unlimited, M&M Wireless, The Smoke Expo, Livonia Florist, Miami Bakery, The Aquarium, J&B Vacuum, Kurl N Kut Hut, Pearl of the Orient, Urban Interiors, Radio Shack, U-Sew, Sorrella's Cakes, Diamond Needle Alterations, The Dollar Tree, Glamour Cleaners, or Merriman Drugs, or enjoying the foods of Korcas, Quiznos, Dale Yees Chow Mein, or Valentino's Pizza, stop in and say hello.





BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Following Tuesday night's 7-1 dismantling of Guelph, the Plymouth Whalers are clearly in the driver's seat in their first-round Ontario Hockey League playoffs series with the Storm.

And Tom Sestito is clearly the driver. Two nights after signing a professional contract with the Columbus Blue Jackets, Sestito sealed the Storm's fate by delivering a hat trick in a onesided contest played before 3,276 at the Compuware Sports Arena.

Plymouth is now up 3-0 in the bestof-seven series heading into tonight's Game 4 in Guelph. Games 5 and 6, if necessary, will be played Saturday and

ning and thunder in the opening two games, which were competitive from the opening face-off to the final horn. However, on Tuesday, Guelph put up about as much resistance as a passing shower as the Whalers were never threatened after bolting to a 3-0 firstperiod lead.

"I think the key tonight was that we came out strong right away," said Sestito, who led the Whalers in goals scored during the regular season. "We started slowly in the first two games. Scoring three goals like we did in the first period really got us going."

Sestito's middle goal was worthy of an ESPN Sportscenter highlight. With the Whalers enjoying a 5-1 lead and a 5-on-3 power play, the rangy 6-foot-5 forward secured a rebound seven feet

Sunday nights in Plymouth and Guelph, respectively. The Storm offered plenty of light-

PLEASE SEE WHALERS, B4

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Two days after signing a professional contract with the NHL's Columbus Blue Jackets, Plymouth's Tom Sestito registered a hat trick in the Whalers' 7-1 triumph over Guelph Tuesday night.

In pursuit of healthiness

Taping ankles just one part of trainers' workload

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Student-athletes at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park would be hurtin' for certain without Tony Bowers, Glenn Edgerton and Lindsay Kokoczka.

The trio - who serve as the all-important athletic trainers at Salem, Canton and Plymouth high schools, respectively - have a seemingly never-ending to-do list that ranges from wrapping ankles to treating serious on-the-field injuries.

One spring minute they may be stabilizing a soccer player's sprained ankle. Ten minutes later they're liable to be jumping into their green Gator transport vehicles to treat a baseball player who's been beaned on the elbow by a wild fastball

During the winter months, they shuttle between the Park's indoor athletic venues, often arriving at their respective schools at around 1 p.m. and not leaving until the final basketball buzzer sounds around 9 p.m.

And in the fall, they treat everything from cross-country runners' shin splints to football players' broken bones.

"All three athletic trainers at the 'Park' play a vital role in serving the students athletes, from pre-game preparation to post-game treatment," said Plymouth Athletic Director Terry Sawchuk. "It's a tough, demanding job with all the teams and athletes they treat, but they all do an outstanding job."

TALENTED TRIO

Bowers, the elder statesman of the three with eight years at Salem, is the only trainer employed by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. The other two are employees of Plymouth Physical Therapy Specialists (PPTS), which contracts Edgerton and Kokoczka out to the district.

PLEASE SEE TRAINERS, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's staff of three athletic trainers is well-equipped to handle a wide range of injuries as well as the knowledge that can prevent injuries from happening in the first place. Pictured (from left) are Tony Bowers (Salem), Lindsay Kokoczka (Plymouth) and Glenn Edgerton (Canton).

SALUTING ATHLETIC TRAINERS

March is "National Athletic Trainers Month," four weeks that are set aside each year by high schools throughout the United States to recognize the professionals who help keep their student athletes healthy.

The observance is orchestrated by the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA), a professional membership association for certified athletic trainers and others who support the athletic training profession.

Founded in 1950, NATA has grown to almost 30,000 members worldwide.

Canton runners take 9th

Canton's boys track team opened its season on Saturday with a ninth-place showing at the 16-team Pioneer Invitational Track Meet at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti.

Northville won the event with 59 points followed by Saline (54), Ann Arbor Pioneer (51), Southfield (47) and White Lake Lakeland (45). The top 10 were rounded out by Pinckney (34), Grand Blanc and Novi Catholic Central (31 each), Canton (20) and Birch Run (17).

The highlight of the day for the Chiefs was senior Eric Thornton's school record-breaking performance of 6 feet, 8 inches in the high jump.

Canton also received a fourthplace effort in the shot put from Nick Moores (48-5) and a fifthplace showing from senior Eric Zech in the 1,600-meter run (4:41.2).

A pair of Canton's senior pole vaulters – Ryan Langdon and Brian Rakovitis – both cleared 12 feet even to tie for fifth place in that event.

Closing out the scoring for Canton was its 1,600-meter relay team's sixth-place finish in 3:41.7. Plymouth placed 11th in the

competition with 15 points. The Chiefs return to action

Saturday when they compete in the talent-rich Eastern Michigan University Relays in Ypsilanti. Their first dual meet of the season is set for Tuesday, April 3, when they host Northville at 3:30 p.m.

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entitled to a video analysis

If it is raining, the camp

gymnasium. Campers will

need to bring a baseball

hat. Bats are optional.

be offered by 2007

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glove and wear a baseball

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Wrestling

of their swing.

will be held in the Plymouth High School

The Canton High School wrestling program will be hosting its 4th Annual Canton Chiefs Wrestling Money Auction on Saturday, April 21, at the Woodlands of Van Buren. The event will run from 6 p.m. to midnight.

The \$100 tickets include dinner, an open bar and a chance to win \$1,000, \$2,000 or \$3,000. There will be a live auction, money boards, a 50/50 drawing, raffles and giveaways.

For more information, call (734) 582-6885.

MU cagers hailed

Madonna University's players D.J. Bridges (Canton) and Martina Franklin (Redford Union) were recently recognized on the 2007 NAIA Division II All-America men's and women's basketball teams, respectively, earning honorable mention honors.

Bridges, a 6-foot-3 junior forward, made first-team All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference after averaging 19.8 points and 7.0 rebounds for the 12-19 Crusaders. He is just five points shy of the 1,000 career-point mark.

Franklin, also a junior forward, averaged 17.9 points and 9.3 rebounds for the 15-18 Crusaders, who reached the WHAC tournament championship game. The first-team All-WHAC selection is the school's alltime leader in blocks and already has surpassed the 1,000 career-point mark.

NAIA All-Academic

Madonna University basketball players Adam Kerfoot (Gaylord St. Mary) and Caryn Inman (Oxford) were named to the **Daktronics NAIA All-American Scholar-Athlete** teams in men's and women's basketball, respectively.

LOCAL SPORTS

(CP) Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007

www.hometownlife.com

YMCA SOCCER

BZ

The Plymouth Family YMCA's spring soccer leagues are forming for children between the age of 4 and 11. Practices begin the week of April 9 and games start Saturday, April 21.

There will be eight practices and seven games. The cost is \$68 for program members or \$85 for community members. All participants will be required to purchase a YMCA youth sports reversible jersey for \$15.

The registration deadline is Wednesday, March 28. If you are interested in participating or coaching your child's team, please call (734) 453-2904 for more details. For more information, visit www.ymcadetroit.org,

The Plymouth Family YMCA is also accepting registrations for its Fall soccer programs, which are filled on a first-come, firstserved basis. number.

SPRING BREAK CAMPS

High Velocity Sports in Canton will be offering spring break camps April 9-13 for kids between the ages of 5 and 12 years old. The four camps offered will be: all-sport, soccer, basketball and craft camp. The instructor-to-child ratio is 1-to-10.

The all-sport camp is offered in full-day (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) or half-day (9 a.m. to noon or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.) sessions. The full-day fee is \$45 per day while the halfday camp is \$25. Kids will play several sports, including soccer, flag football, basketball, volleyball and dodge ball.

The soccer camp will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for kids 5 to 8 years old; and noon to 2 p.m. for 9 to 12 year olds. The camp is five days long and the fee is \$125 per child. The camp will focus on improving soccer fundamentals.

The basketball camp is offered from 9 a.m. to noon with a fee of \$125 per participant. The camp is designed for beginner and intermediate players who are between the ages of 5 and 12 and interested in developing basic skills.

The craft camp is for children between the ages of 5 and 12 who would like to show off their creative side. There will be a variety of projects offered each day. The fee is \$30 per day,

SPORTS BRIEFS

which includes all materials. Early drop-off is \$5 per day and it starts at 7:45 a.m. Late pick-up is also \$5 per day and ends at 5:15 p.m.

For more information on the spring break camps, call (734) HV-SPORT; or visit www.hvsports.com.

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; or call (888) 436-4625. The camps are sponsored by the Hantz Group and the Henry Ford Medical Group.

RUNNING CLUB

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

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

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

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

DETROIT LIONS

FOOTBALL CAMP

The third annual Detroit

Lions Summer Youth Football Camp will be held July 5-8 at Central Middle School in downtown Plymouth. The camp will be held from 8:30 a.m. to noon each day and is open to boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 14 years old.

The \$159 camp fee includes: ■ Four days of non-contact, fundamental football instruction;

■ A Lions camp T-shirt; ■ Guest appearances from current or former Lion players;

Chalk talk and video sessions; and
 Skills contests and scrim-

mages. For more information, call

(313) 262-2248.

COACHES: PLEASE CALL IN RESULTS

The local high school spring sports coaches are encouraged to report all of their team's results to the Observer so that their players' achievements can be deservedly publicized.

Coaches are encouraged to report the scores whether their team wins or loses; or whether their team is home or on the road.

To report results, either call Observer Sports Editor Ed Wright at (734) 953-2108; email results to ewright@hometownlife.com; or fax results to (734) 591-7279.

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 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; or (734) 414-8275; or visit www.olgcfootball.net.

Canton grad hurls MU to win

BY TIM SMITH STAFF WRITER

So far this spring, it's been raining down on Ilitch Ballpark, enough to force Madonna University's baseball team to twice postpone homeopening games.

On Tuesday, with late-afternoon thunderstorms looming, plenty of Crusader runs were all that rained down — at least, until after the 23-2 victory over Rochester (Mich.) was in the books.

Madonna (11-7) came out swinging, scoring runs in each of the first four innings to build a commanding 9-2 advantage over the Warriors. Just for good measure, the Crusaders then put a 12-spot on the scoreboard in the sixth to take a 21-2 margin into the final stages.

The Crusaders belted four homers, two each by sophomore right-fielder Scott Boyer (3-3, five RBI) and junior first baseman John McCracken (2-6, four runs, five RBI). Lacing a pair of doubles was sophomore shortstop Ryan Morrow. The beneficiary of all the hitting was junior right-hander Carl McDevitt (Canton), who started on the mound and pitched the first five innings. He gave up just two runs and

five hits while fanning five.

Succeeding him on the

mound were sophomore Joe Kennedy (Belleville), sophomore Ryan Brodowsky (Farmington), senior Mike Hand (Farmington Hills), freshman Pedro Guerrero and freshman Keith Lelli.

For Rochester (4-7), Birmingham Brother Rice alum Jeff Pickens went 2-for-4 and scored a run.

Taking the loss for the Warriors was Joey Watros, who gave up the first nine runs.

All in all, 13 Madonna players contributed to the 19-hit attack. Also with two hits were senior third baseman Gary VanAllen and senior centerfielder Dan Miller.

Other local products with a hit included senior second baseman Matt Humenay (Westland/Livonia Churchill), junior catcher Ryan Powell (Canton), senior right-fielder Tony Luttman (Farmington) and junior left-fielder Mike Cauzillo (West Bloomfield).

Winning weekend

Madonna took two out of three from Spalding (Ky.) University over the weekend at Derby City Field in Louisville.

After splitting a Saturday doubleheader, the Crusaders scored three runs in the top of

the ninth to come away with a 6-3 triumph on Sunday. Junior catcher Garrett Ignasiak (Waterford) delivered a bases-loaded two-run single to left to break a 3-3 tie and then Luttman followed with an RBI single to center.

Hand pitched two scoreless innings of relief for the victory, but Madonna received a sterling performance from junior right-hander and Westland John Glenn alum Will Kennedy to even be in position to win late.

Kennedy pitched seven innings and allowed three runs on seven hits, walking just one and striking out seven. He blanked Spalding from the second through the seventh innings before tiring in the eighth.

Collecting two hits each for the Crusaders were Ignasiak, Luttman and McCracken.

On Saturday, homers by freshman catcher Zach Flavin (2-4) and McCracken helped MU to the first-game 7-0 triumph. Combining for the twohit shutout were junior lefty Eric Wendling (five innings, two hits) and Brodowsky.

Junior right-hander Ryan Bardoni was the tough-luck loser in the 3-1 nightcap. He allowed one run and three hits in 5 1/3 innings, but walked six batters.

Madonna took an early 1-0 lead on an RBI double to leftcenter by Ignasiak, but the Crusaders could only muster four safeties the rest of the way.

MU softball team swept by Bethel

Madonna University's softball team couldn't quite crank up the offense Sunday, dropping a doubleheader to host Bethel (Ind.).

The Crusaders (13-8) lost the opener 1-0, managing just a single in the second inning by sophomore leftfielder Mary Kate Setta. Madonna senior pitcher Shannon Noder deserved a better fate, allowing just one run on four hits in six innings.

Bethel (8-6) then scored four runs in the bottom of the fifth — with the help of two MU errors — to eke out a 6-4 win in the nightcap.

The Pilots entered the frame down 4-2 but scored an unearned run and then went ahead on a two-run double by designated hitter Brittney Fisher.

Madonna looked good early on, going ahead 3-0 in the fourth on run-scoring singles by sophomore catcher Danielle Richardson (2-for-3), freshman first baseman Caitlyn Sidor (Livonia Churchill) and freshman third baseman Brittney Scero (Canton).

After Bethel answered with two runs to cut MU's lead to 3-2, the Crusaders scored in the top of the fifth on a sacrifice fly by sophomore shortstop Tedi Johnston (2-for-2).

Also tallying two hits each in the game for the Crusaders was junior right-fielder Heather Richardson (Plymouth/Canton).

Madonna is slated to play a doubleheader Saturday (1 p.m.) against visiting Cornerstone.

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007

TRAINERS

"Most of the kids I work with here at Salem really take the time to listen and learn about their injuries so that they can get better faster," emphasized Bowers, whose illustrious career has included stints with the Toledo Mud Hens minor league baseball team, the University of Toledo Athletic Department and at Ferris State University.

"During some of the longer rehabs I work on, I really get to know a lot of the kids pretty well. What's nice is that even when they've gone away to college or gone on to their . careers, they come back and see me. Some of them will say, 'You know, Tony, I really didn't believe what you were saying back when I was injured, but now that I look back, I'm glad I listened to you."

"Tony has a great rapport with the kids," said Salem Athletic Director Tom Willette. "The knowledge and experience he brings to our athletic programs are invaluable."

SATISFYING JOB

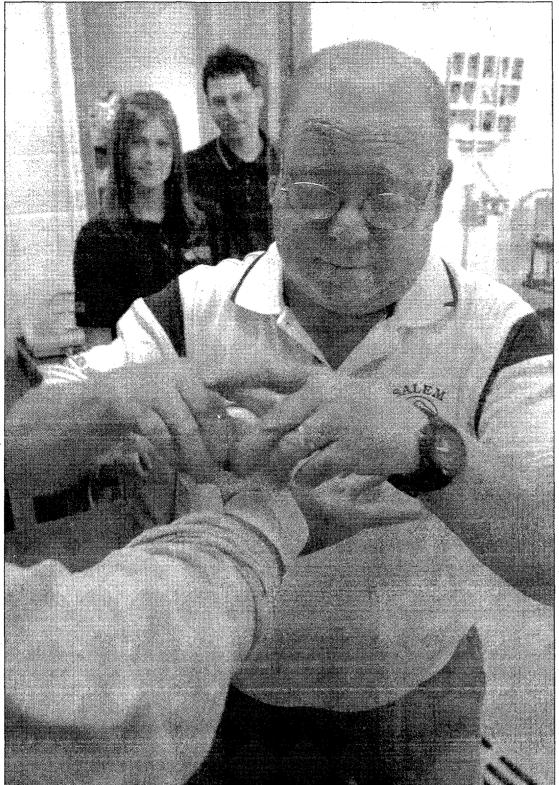
Edgerton, who has taught and practiced athletic training, said his job is both fulfilling and challenging at the same time.

"I like being the first person on the scene of an injury," he said. "I like being able to offer first-hand advice to the athletes and their parents and coaches.

"The hard part, though, is that I'm only one person and I'm dealing with hundreds of athletes and several sports each season. We have to micromanage in order to give the athletes the attention they need. When there are four or five events going on at the same time — or four or five practices — I have to set up in a centralized location and respond to each one as the need arises."

"Glenn has fit in extremely well here," said Canton Athletic Director Sue Heinzman. "He's done a great job and all of our coaches and athletes respect him. He's a very good communicator and he knows what he's talking about."

After graduating from the University of Michigan in 2005, Kokoczka headed south



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem athletic trainer Tony Bowers tapes an athlete's wrist as Plymouth's Lindsay Kokoczka and Canton's Glenn Edgerton look on.

A LOOK AT THE TRAINERS

Name: Tony Bowers; School: Salem;

University.

Family: Wife - Cindy; daughters - Brittany, 16, and McKenzie, 12; Education: Undergraduate and master's degree from the University of Toledo; Career: Has over 20 years of experience in the sports medicine/athletic training profession, including stints with the Toledo Mud Hens and University of Toledo Athletics Department.

Name: Glenn Edgerton; School: Canton; Family: Wife - Stephanie; children - Andrew, 7, and Gabe, 5; Education: Undergraduate degree from Springfield (Mass.) University; master's degree from Northern Michigan University; Career: Served as athletic trainer at Wayne Memorial before coming to Canton; has also taught athletic training classes at Eastern Michigan University and Northern Michigan

U.S. Girls Wrestling tourney set for the weekend in Livonia

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

On the heels of the NCAA Division I Men's Wrestling Championships hosted recently at the Palace of Auburn Hills, it's time for another tournament to take center stage for the opposite gender.

We're not talking Wrestlemania at Ford Field, it's the 10th annual U.S. Girls Wrestling Association National Tournament scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at Livonia Churchill High School's main gymnasium.

A field of nearly 700 female wrestlers, elementary through college-age, will compete for national titles in four different divisions.

Competitors will descend upon Livonia from all 50 states, including Hawaii and Alaska.

"It's an incredible atmosphere, it's different in that the competitors are so supportive of each other," said Charlotte Tripp, who is secretary for the Motown Ladies Wrestling Club.

Wrestling is a family affair for the Tripps, who also belong to the Trojan Wrestling Club at Clarenceville H.S. where son Matthew, 11, and Amanda, 12, are involved.

Tripp's 9-year-old daughter Jennifer, who attends Grandview Elementary School in Livonia, will compete in the K-5 division at the Nationals. Following a weigh-in Friday night, competition begins at 9 a.m. Saturday and will continue all-day before resuming on Sunday. Admission, which entitles fans with a two-day pass, is \$25. Churchill, which hosts the high school Observerland Invitational each year, takes over the USGWA Tournament from Lake Orion H.S.

B3

(CP)

In addition for the Collegiate Open division, one of the most competitive divisions will be High School (grades 9-12). Titles will also be at stake for Middle School (grades 6-8) and Elementary (K-5).

Two Michiganders, Paige Rife of Fowlerville and Samantha Gorman of Allendale, are ranked No. 1 in their respective weight classes of 152 pounds and 144, respectively, in the High School divi-

Also expected to compete at the Nationals is Nicole Woody of Arundel High in Gambrills, Md., the top-ranked 100pounder who was featured recently in a *Sports Illustrated* article.

At U.S. High Schools, Sports ⁻¹ Illustrated noted that the number of female wrestlers tripled ⁻¹ from 1,629 to 4,975 during the^{3,2} last decade.

Women's wrestling has increased in popularity internationally. It was added an Olympic sport at the 20004 Summer Games in Athens, Greece.

To register for the USGWA Nationals, visit www.usgwa.com; or e-mail tournament director Kent Bailo at kbailo@tier.com.

The pre-registration fee is \$40 (or \$50 at the door).

For more information, call Bailo at (248) 627–8066.

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to Auburn University, where she served as the trainer for the varsity volleyball team, among other responsibilities.

"I like this job because it gives me the chance to help people get better and feel better," said Kokoczka, 24. "I had never worked with high school-aged student-athletes before, but I really enjoy this job its responsibilities."

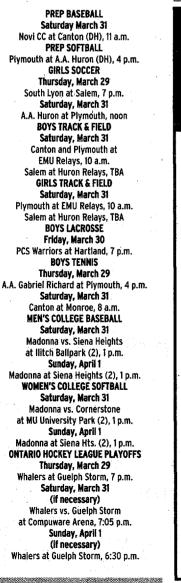
"We've had quite a bit of turnover with athletic trainers here at Plymouth, so it's nice to have Lindsay here because she gives us some stability," said Sawchuk. "She's done a great job here."

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

Name: Lindsay Kokoczka; School: Plymouth; Hometown: Jackson; Education: Undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan;

Career: Served as the head trainer for the Auburn (Ala.) University varsity volleyball team before moving back to Michigan last year.

THE WEEK AHEAD



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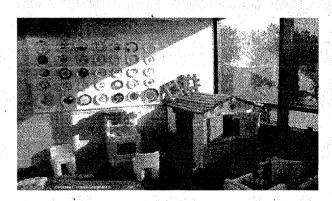
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WHALERS

Jackets sign Sestito

On Tuesday, Columbus announced the signing of Plymouth Whalers' left wing Tom Sestito to a three-year entry-level contract.

Sestito was Columbus' third pick (85th overall) in the 2006 Entry Draft.

"It's exciting, but I really haven't thought about it much because I'm trying to focus on helping the Whalers win," said Sestito, moments after Tuesday night's 7-1 victory over Guelph in which he contributed his seventh hat trick of the season. "Columbus still had a year to sign me, so there wasn't a lot of pressure to get things done right away."

Sestito, 19, tallied 42 goals and 22 assists with 135 penalty minutes and a plus-six plus/minus rating in 60 games with Plymouth during the 2006-07 regular season. He led the club and ranked

13th in the OHL in goals; and was tops on the team and eighth in the OHL with 21 power-play goals. He also led the Whalers with four shorthanded goals and was sixth on the club in points.

He helped lead Plymouth to a 49-14-2-3 regular-season record, which was tops in the West Division and second in the league.

The 6-5, 212-pound Rome, New York native has appeared in 152 career OHL games with the Whalers, registering 53-35-88, 399 penalty minutes and a +3 plus/minus rating.

He notched 10-10-20 and 176 penalty minutes in 57 games in 2005-06 and added 5-2-7 and 29 penalty minutes in 13 playoff games. Plymouth's roster also includes 2005 Blue Jackets' draft pick Jared Boll.

Sean O'Connor's power play goal at 14:24 of the second period snapped a 3-3 tie and the Plymouth Whalers came all the way back from a 3-0 deficit to defeat the Guelph Storm, 5-3, in Game 2 of the best-fourof-seven Ontario Hockey League Western Conference Quarterfinal game played Sunday night before 3,811 at

the Guelph Sports and Entertainment Centre. The victory extended the Whalers' lead in the series to 2-0.

Dan Collins led the Plymouth attack with two goals, while James Neal, Tom Sestito and O'Connor scored singles. Ryan Pottruff, Jamie Arniel and Drew Doughty replied for Guelph.

After being outshot, 14-4, in the first period, the Whalers rallied to take the game over, outshooting Guelph, 44-14, over the final forty minutes.

Plymouth outshot Guelph, 48-28, in the game.

Whalers calm Storm in first 2 playoff games

Guelph built their 3-0 lead on power plays - Pottruff, roofing a shot from the slot at 10:26 of the first period, Arniel, in tight at the left doorstep at 17:26 of the first period and Doughty, hard shot from the slot at 2:55 of the second period.

Collins started the Plymouth comeback in the second period by scoring twice in the span of 38 seconds — slamming home a rebound from the left wing at 9:05 of the second period and then deflecting Wes Cunningham's point shot from the hashmarks at 9:43.

Neal scored his first of the playoffs to tie the game at 10:57, taking Brett Bellemore's pass from the right point in the Guelph zone and one-timing a shot from the lower rim of the left circle. O'Connor capped good Plymouth pressure on a

power play at 14:24 when he rammed home a rebound from a hard Jared Boll shot from the slot.

Sestito scored the only goal of the third period to close the scoring at 10:42

PLYMOUTH 3, GUELPH 2 (OT): Evan Brophey's goal at 2:14 of overtime snapped a 2-2 tie and the Plymouth Whalers came from behind to defeat the Guelph Storm in Game 1 of the OHL first-round playoff series played Saturday night before 2,832 at the Compuware Sports Arena.

Brophey took Chris Terry's pass from center ice and skated over the Guelph blue line.

He took a shot from the top of the left circle that Guelph goaltender Thomas McCollum got a glove on, but the puck trickled over the line.

Daniel Ryder and Sean O'Connor scored the other Plymouth goals. Jamie Arniel and Matt Kennedy scored for Guelph.

Guelph outshot Plymouth, 34-26, with Whalers goaltender Michal Neuvirth recording his first OHL playoff victory in stopping 32-of-34 shots.

Plymouth (49-14-2-3, 103 points) finished 25 points ahead of Guelph (33-23-3-9, 78 points) in the regular season standings, but the Storm built a 2-1 lead in the first period on goals by Arniel (0:50) and Kennedy (17:05) sandwiched around O'Conner's marker at 10:08.

After a scoreless second period, the Whalers tied the game at 13:21 of the third period when Ryder batted home a rebound out in front of the Guelph goal after McCollum made stops on Dan Collins and James Neal.

That set the stage for Brophey's game-winning goal.

Plymouth's Evan Brophey cruises down a patch of open ice with a pair of Guelph Storm players in hot pursuit during Tuesday night's OHL playoff game at the Compuware Sports Arena. The Whalers won, 7-1, to forge a 3-0 lead in the best-of-seven first-round series.

WHALERS

FROM PAGE B1

is a great goalie and we have two of them." Getting the nod

Vellucci. "The most important thing you need to kill penalties



B4 (CP)

front of the net and flipped a no-look back-hander past Storm goalie Thomas McCollum, much to the delight of the home crowd.

"Tom actually works on shots like that in practice," said Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci. "He's been great for us all year. Whenever he gets the puck in front of the net like he did tonight, he's very dangeròus."

The Whalers' penalty-killing unit ranked right up there with Sestito in terms of effectiveness as it snuffed out 11-of-12 short-handed situations. Following a calm and uneventful opening 20 minutes, the overhead scoreboard at Compuware was lit up like a Christmas tree for most of the second and third stanzas during which flashing neon "No vacancy" signs would have been appropriate for the penaltv boxes.

"We've worked all year on our penalty-killing and it has shown in the games," said

pipes on Tuesday for Plymouth was Michal Neuvirth, who also started the opener before giving way to Jeremy Smith for Game 2 on Sunday. The Czech Republic native was brilliant, stopping 34-of-35 shots.

Neuvirth's most impressive save came with 2:55 left to play when he stoned a two-on-none Guelph breakaway. Seven seconds later. Sestito scored his third power-play goal of the night to close the scoring.

Desperate times required desperate measures for the Storm 23 seconds into the third period. With a 4-1 deficit looming over their heads, the Guelph coaching staff asked the referees to measure James Neal's stick immediately after he was whistled for a twominute penalty. If the men in stripes ruled that the stick's curvature was beyond legal limits, the Whalers would have been assessed a second twominute penalty, giving the Storm a 5-on-3 advantage.

Plymouth's Joe McCann (23) skates past Guelph's Jamie Arniel during Tuesday night's OHL playoff game at the Compuware Sports Arena. The Whalers won, 7-1. Initially, the referees said the stick was OK. However, after Guelph coach Dave Barr insisted on a re-check, the refs remeasured and ruled that it was an illegal piece of equipment.

Unfazed, the Whalers killed off the Storm's two-man advantage.

"I think that fired us up a little bit, especially after we killed the penalties," said Vellucci, referring to stick-gate. "It kind of set the tone for (Guelph), too, because I think

their players realized it was a desperate act and it kind of demoralized them when they didn't get anything out of it." Plymouth struck first on

Jared Boll's off-the-post goal 7:19 into the opening period. He was assisted by Evan Brophey

Neal doubled the lead to 2-0 when he maneuvered through three Guelph defenseman before back-handing a floater past McCollum with 6:11 left in the opening period.

The Whalers' first-period onslaught continued when Rvan McGinnis scored from Wes Cunningham and Sean O'Connor with just 15.9 seconds left before the intermission.

Guelph sliced its deficit to 3-1 on Rafael Rotter's power-play lamp-lighter with 17:07 to play in the second. However, Sestito subdued any momentum the visitors may have envisioned with a goal off a rebound at the 8:12 mark of the second.

O'Connor (from McGinnis and Dan Collins) and Sestito (two) found the back of the net in the third period.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth outshot Guelph, 58-35, after getting outshot 12-10 in the opening period.

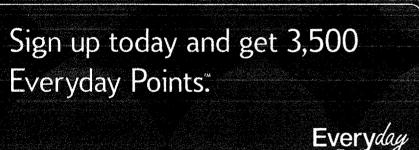
In celebration of signing his first pro contract, Sestito pledged to take his teammates out to dinner.

"But only after I get my first check," he said, smiling.

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LOCAL SPORTS

How Szwed it is: Ladywood **Eberhardt perks up at Coffeyville** icer named 'Miss Hockey' **BY BRAD EMONS** STAFF WRITER

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

www.hometownlife.com

When it comes to the water. Livonia Ladywood High's Laura Szwed has both sides of the rink covered.

On frozen pond, the senior was honored recently in a banquet held at Livonia's Laurel Manor as Miss Hockey, recognizing the top girls high school hockey player in the state.

And when it warms up, she spends her summers on Brendel Lake near her home in White Lake perfecting routines as a barefoot water skier where she competes both nationally and in world competitions.

Last September, in 2006 Barefoot Water Ski World Championships held in Adna, Wash. (Lake Silverado), Szwed earned a bronze medal in tricks and fourth in the slalom for a sixth-place finish overall. She was also a member of the firstplace U.S. Elite Barefoot Water Ski Team.

"I like both sports equally," said Szwed. "My brother (Kyle) and my dad (Chris) competed (in water skiing). My mother (Pat) roots us on."

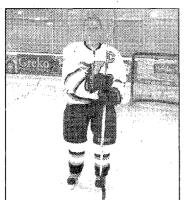
The family also had plenty to cheer about this winter as Laura led the Blazers to a 17-3-1 record and a berth in the semifinals of the Michigan High School Girls Hockey League playoffs.

Szwed ended her career (March 8) at Livonia's Edgar Arena with a pair of goals in a 5-2 loss to Bloomfield Hills Kingswood, giving her 42 for the season to go along with 17 assists.

Needless to say, Szwed earned first-team All-State honors. along with teammate Brittney Holtz, a senior defenseman, and was one of six considered in the final voting for Miss Hockey.

"I figured I was in the running, but I was really shocked when they announced it," Szwed said.

Szwed, who carries a 3.4 grade-point average, plans to continue her hockey career in college. She would like to study



Livonia Ladywood's Laura Szwed was named "Miss Hockey" earlier this month.

International Business and is leaning toward Utica (N.Y.) College, an NCAA Division III school which offers hockey for women.

Despite standing only 5 feet, 2 inches, Szwed was adept at making big plays when the Blazers needed them the most. In 67 games at Ladywood, Szwed finished her career with 139 goals and 62 assists.

"I just try to use my speed out there." the new Miss Hockey said.

Szwed began playing at age seven and competed on boys. teams until a Pee Wee division (age 12) was offered for girls. She decided to attend

Ladywood because it had a high school girls hockey program.

"It's sad to be leaving, I really enjoyed playing," she said. "A lot of us have been playing together for three and four years."

There's a huge void that needs to be filled now that Szwed's prep career is over.

"We'll miss her leadership and her two-way style of play," Ladywood coach Bruce Peck said. "She's not tall, but she really knows how to position herself on the ice. She has strong legs. It no doubt comes from the water.

"And she's the nicest person you'll ever meet. She's very humble and team-oriented. She's good in the classroom, very positive, and fun to be around."

When Barry Eberhardt arrived at Coffeyville Community College (Kan.) in the fall of 2005, men's basketball coach Jay Herkelman believed he had recruited a diamond in the rough.

The only thing he needed to do was to polish up the 6-foot-6 forward from Westland John Glenn High School.

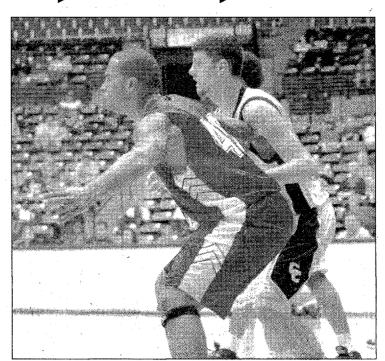
Two years later, Eberhardt has become a gem, leading Coffevville to a 30-4 record and its fifth berth in six years to the NJCAA Division I National Tournament.

Eberhardt scored 16 points in a 69-61 Region 6 championship game triumph over Barton County CC (Kan.) after tallying 25 in a semifinal victory over Cloud County CC (Kan.). He was named Region 6 tournament MVP and also was selected East Player of the Year in the Kansas Jayhawk CC Conference. The chisled 252pound sophomore power forward is averaging a team-best 18.6 points, while shooting 59 percent from the field, including 40 percent from threepoint range. He also pulls down 6.3 rebounds per game.

"I had him in an individual workout, and right away I could see he had the touch and could take people off the dribble with his size," said Herkelman, who coached University of Virginia All-America Devin Smith. "The body was the first thing. He's 6-6, 252, a guy who can catch the ball, and he was mobile. It's kind of like you had in Karl Malone, a guy who faces up and also finish around the basket.'

Eberhardt now finds himself as an NJCAA All-America candidate who is being recruited by a slew of NCAA Division I mid-major schools including Dayton, UNLV, Wichita State, Central Michigan, St. Louis, Bradley and Illinois State to name a few.

Coming out of Glenn, Eberhardt earned All-Observer honors, but he was considered



COFFEYVILLE CC INFORMATION

Westland John Glenn grad Barry Eberhardt has become one of the midwest's top junior college players at Coffeyville (Kan.).

a highly-skilled player with a questionable work ethic bordering on lazy.

"Nate Oats, the coach at Romulus, said Barry had played against them and he called me and believed he had a chance to be a good college player," Herkelman said. "Barry had really good offensive skills and a great feel for the game on the offensive end.

"There's a lot of guys like Barry that can shoot the 'three' or go inside, but don't have the mid-range shot. He can do all three. Those guys are hard to guard. He's a throwback in that regard."

Coffeyville sits in the southwestern corner of the state of Kansas, just down the road from Independence on the border of Oklahoma.

It's rural landscape came almost as a shock for the Inkster native. It proved to be quite an adjustment.

"There's acres of farmland, the environment was totally different," Eberhardt said. "There's no traffic, just a slower way of life, a slower pace. I was bored. No movies, no mall close by. I felt confined. The

only thing you could focus on was basketball and going to school."

Midway through his freshman year, Eberhardt began to buy into Herkelman's program.

And by the end of the season, he was averaging 25 minutes per game, was a pivotal player off the bench, and helped the 33-7 Red Ravens to a Region 6 crown where he was named All-Tourney. Coffeyville wound up with a seventh-place finish in the national tournament.

"Early in the year he struggled even though you could see he had a load of talent," Herkelman said. "I couldn't get it out of him and he was not as` productive as he could have been.

'Then about halfway through our conference play, he started to contribute. We had a nice group of sophomores last year that really worked hard and provided great leadership. We had a 5-7 point-guard whose work ethic was unbelievable. Barry saw that. He saw those tendencies and he learned you're not going to be a success because

He finally figured if he played as hard as they did, he could be as good."

B5

(CP)

Eberhardt's dad, Barry, Sr., played at Orchard Lake St. Mary's College. He has never seen his son play a game live. He's watched tapes.

"He's got to take care of business at home, he's got to work," Barry said. "His game was similar, but he's a left-hander."

Eberhardt's future appears bright. He'll take his five recruiting visits after the nationals and would like to find his way back to a four-year school in the midwest. But he also remains open-minded. "It doesn't matter,"

Eberhardt said. "I'd like to be closer to home, but if it's not, that's the way it goes. All I know is this is what I want to do with my career. This is what I love to do and I want to do something at the next level."

Despite his early struggles, things have worked out for the best.

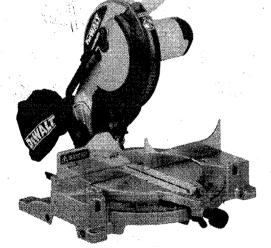
"His mom just sent me an e mail and thanked me for all the things which I did to help him grow," Herkelman said. "I rode him pretty hard starting out, that's probably why he thought about leaving, but his mom said there was no way he was coming back home. She knew he had a bunch of growing up to do and I thought he had a chance in the right program. He started to figure it out.

"The other thing that helped a bunch is that Barry is a great kid. He doesn't have an ego and he's not arrogant to where he didn't want to get better. He's very coachable, just a great kid to coach.

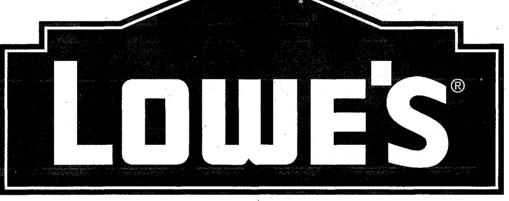
Eberhardt also appreciates what his coach did for him.

"He's made me comfortable in this situation," the Glenn grad said. "He gives you to freedom. He has trust in me and I trust him. I also learned you've got to play defense to contribute. He's showed me a lot and helped my game so much."

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TAKING OBESITY SERIOUSLY ON BOTH SIDES OF THE DESK

WORKWISE by Mildred L. Culp An employee's weight is a very personal matter, but the drive to reduce the

cost of health

benefits is

fueling wellness programs, which seek measurable results. Boston's Virgin Life Care, in a pilot program, found that 84 percent of employees at one of its two pilot sites were obese or overweight. The company's activity-based HealthMiles, which rewards employees with merchandise, motivated up to 40 percent of its 939 total employees to establish a habit of walking up stairs rather than pressing the elevator button. A full 63 percent reduced body fat, some as much as 20 percent. Virgin Life Care anticipates cost savings in reduced absenteeism and decreased medical claims. HealthMiles launched nationally in December.

Is all of this dead serious? The \$3 billion diversified metal processor Worthington Industries, headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, instituted its Healthy Choices Wellness Program. Employees could choose not to enroll and instead pay a modest premium to offset the increasing cost of health benefits. The program's "Tour de Plants" motivated 886 employees to get off their duffs. "10K Steps" inspired 511 to walk progressively up to 10,000 steps per day. The company estimates an ROI of 2.15 to 1 over a two-year period. LOSING

Denise Cannon, systems engineer at Capital District Physician's Health Plan Inc. (CDPHP), in Albany, N.Y., testifies to the importance of co-worker support in her Slimdown program drop of 35 pounds and subsequent 15-pound drop from the Fall into Fitness program. She plans to lose 43 more pounds. Her 10-member Slimdown team, inspired by an undefined amount of money and a \$20 registration fee per employee, won first place (\$6,696 for the team). It contributed to a loss of 2.134 tons by a total of 189 employees. However, money wasn't the main motivator. "Our biggest inspiration," she says, "is that one person sent his current weight and his weight goals to the team -we were shocked -- and 70 percent of the team followed. We graphed our progress, gaining or losing, on a chart and sent it to our team every week. That's where we would talk about what they did and try to change it. Something that worked for me didn't necessarily work for them. We gave each other low-calorie, good-tasting food." One of her favorites, T. Marzetti, found in Price Chopper's fruit aisle, curbs chocolate cravings. Total team loss exceeded a ton. Cannon captained the two winning teams.

Rod Sparks, operations manager at the 77,000-sq. ft. Louisville, Ky., facility of Worthington Industries, started with the company more than 26 years ago, when, at 23, he weighed around 205 pounds. His sedentary workstyle began while driving a semi. He doesn't recall any discussion of health and well-being at the company in the 1980s. He ballooned. "I had no idea that the company would move us to a healthier lifestyle," he comments.

Inspired by Healthy Choices and four active young sons, Sparks dropped 80 pounds, lowered his blood pressure and his bad cholesterol from 235 to 180. "Worthington constantly provides programs that challenge you and keep you in structure," he says. "It generates communication and conversation among employees. We challenge each other and look out for each other. Some of the guvs are competitive." The medical center at headquarters conducts an annual, multishift on-site health fair that spouses may attend. While his waistline shrank, his clothing budget expanded. The biggest challenge has been determining when to shop again.

"Family and co-workers supported me," he notes. "I've run a couple of minimarathons with a friend. That type of support is the foundation Seeing the guys helps keep me in the right frame of mind." Numerous compliments on the job keep him going, too. He's kept the weight off for about three years.

Bonding continued with the half of Cannon's Slimdown team that helped form the Fall into Fitness team, and



Denise Gannon, systems engineer, with her daughter Alena and Walter, her husband, she comes up a winner.

weight loss continued when co-workers communicated with each other. "We're a large IT department and we've gotten to know people outside of our own team," she remarks. It's a good team-building thing for work-related things; we already have a rapport. It makes things go better."

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an awardwinning journalist. Copyright 2007 Passage Media.)

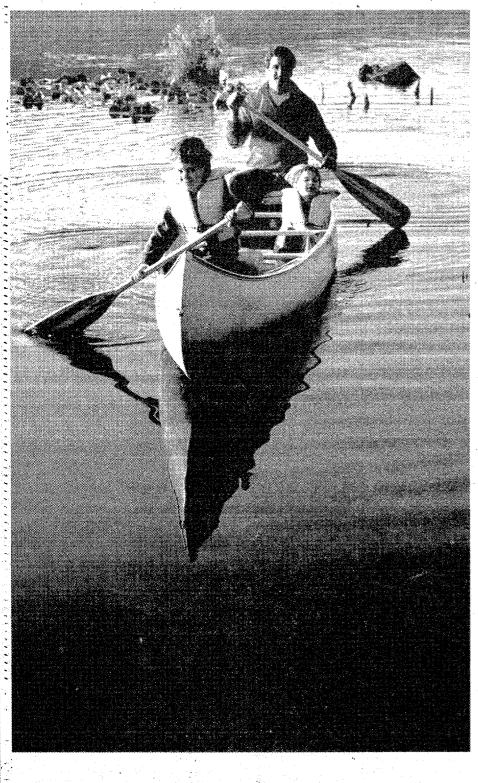
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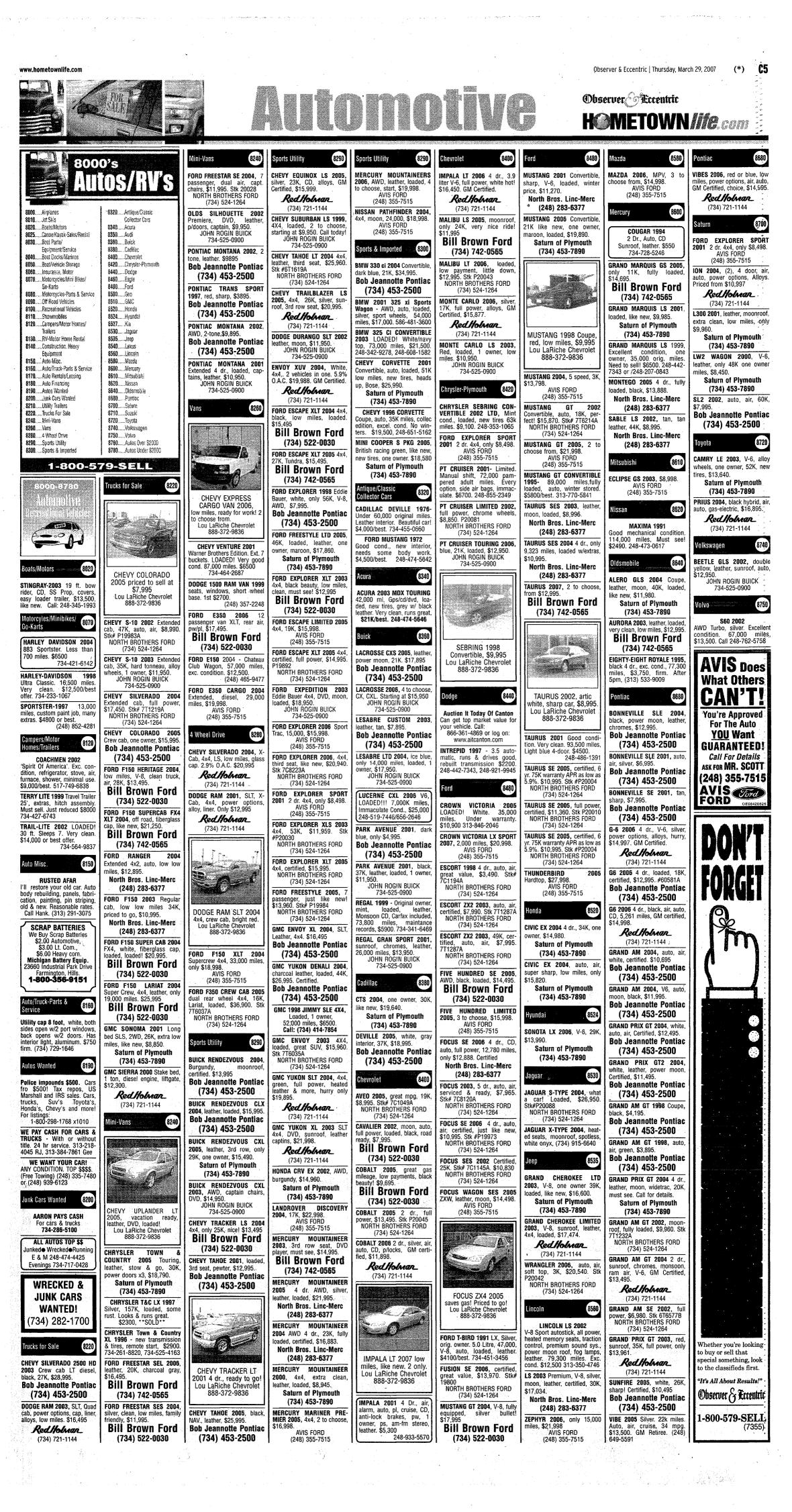
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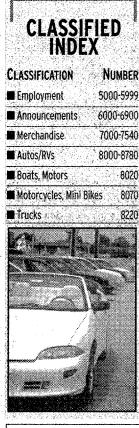
C6

Classifieds inside

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Lexus Rx400h Sets A High Bar For Luxury Hybrids.

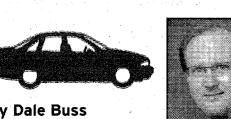


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Advertising Feature

CAReport

Automotive

By Dale Buss

Leave it to Lexus to redefine a category even before competitors have entered it. With its RX400h hybrid, Lexus last year introduced the first hybrid SUV that was available from a true luxury make. But even more interestingly, the RX400h is such a robust vehicle that it immediately began to restate what having a hybrid powertrain was all about. Instead of only providing a way to significantly boost fuel efficiency compared with their traditionally powered counterparts, Lexus made RX400h a better vehicle all the way around than its counterpart RX350. Among other things, the Toyota luxury brand equipped its new mid-size SUV with a big enough internal-combustion engine that drivers benefit from having ample power and experiencing improved performance in a conventional sense - and also get great gas mileage. It just costs them about \$4,000 more for a 2007 RX400h than for an RX350. There are lots of good things about the RX400h, but let's start with the reason the vehicle exists in the first place: the powertrain. Toyota has demonstrated its innovativeness with hybrid power from the beginning of the trend, starting with its Prius compact. The success of the Prius and rising gasoline prices -- set off a game of leapfrogging among other auto makers, who suddenly rushed to produce hybrid versions of their existing models.

With the RX400h powertrain, Toyota changed the rules yet again on its competition. The vehicle uses an advanced system that combines a 3.3-liter V6 gasoline engine - powerful enough all alone to do the trick with this size vehicle -with a 288-volt nickel-metal battery pack and electric motor generators. The engine and motor generators



Lexus introduced the first hybrid-powered luxury utility vehicle in RX 400h, and the 2007 model builds on its appeal.

combine seamlessly, so the RX400h performs easily up to the standard that has been set by every Lexus SUV before it: plenty of power whenever you need it, delivered smoothly, resulting in another example of the brand's trademark fine ride.

In other words, rather than exacting a penalty from the vehicle's performance for the fact that the RX400h isn't fully internal combustion - and rather than expecting drivers simply to be grateful for the mileage boost -this vehicle actually packs so much punch that you're glad it's a hybrid. The powertrain provides an immediacy in acceleration that is a match for most gas-hogging sports coupes.

At 286 horsepower (38 more than the RX350), RX400h posts an impressive 0-60mph time of just 7.3 seconds (or 7.5 seconds for the all-wheeldrive model I drove). That is despite the fact that the hybrid model carries around an extra 300 pounds under the hood because of the extra powertrain equipment. And through it all, RX400h posts an EPA mileage rating of 32 miles a gallon on the highway and 27 in the city. The latter rating is as much as double the city-driving ratings for most V8-powered luxury SUVs. So if you can afford the \$42,580 sticker price for the RX400h, Lexus makes it worth your while. Of course, as with all Lexus vehicles, there's a lot more to the RX400h than the powertrain. The RX series is styled more distinctively than any other Lexus vehicle, with a severely streamlined

rear end. The 400h actually sports a different front fascia than the RX350, with an additional air intake and round foglamps, as well as LED tail lamps.

But the taut styling doesn't diminish what the RX400h delivers inside. There's 38 cubic feet of rear cargo capacity that expands to nearly 85 cubic feet with the rear seatbacks folded down, and a gate that is plenty large. I was able to easily slide a new wide-screen TV and a bunch of other goodies from Best Buy into the cargo hold. Of course, there's no third row of seating. Lexus touches in this vehicle include nice touches of burled-wood-style trim throughout the front, including the gear-shift knob. A sensible platform on the floor in front of the center console had a lip so that it could easily hold a purse, say, or maybe even a laptop in place around corners, but the border was shallow so that it didn't get in the way, In the rear compartment, the RX400h sports nearly all the amenities available to the front seats, including a compartment in a center folddown console, drink holders, and controls for the optional rear-seat DVD player that were sensibly placed on the ceiling along with the screen instead of in the glove compartment, the frontseat center console, or some other equally inconvenient place that DVD controls so often end up.

With RX400h, Lexus has thrown down an important gauntlet in the growing hybrid trade.

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Make the most of your iPod with these tips

have no problem paying iTunes \$1.99 for an hourlong episode of, say, Heroes. But \$14.99 for Pixar's Cars, a movie I already own on DVD? That hardly seems fair.

Indeed, I think Apple should make it possible to copy DVDs straight to an iPod. After

all, I did buy the movie; why can't I watch it where I want?

I can, and so can you. You'll need a Windows PC with a DVD drive and a couple of freeware software programs. (Mac users should check out HandBrake:

http://handbrake.mOk.org.) The first is DVD Decrypter, which will extract the movie from the DVD to your hard drive.

Next up: Videora iPod Converter which, incidentally, is also available for Sony PSPs. This program converts the movie to a format playable on your iPod.

Links to both programs can be found in an online tutorial that also explains the rest of the DVD-toiPod procedure: http://tinyurl.com/yvoe4u.



iTunes' free "Learn Along With Sesame" shows aim to teach children important life lessons.

STOCK UP ON SESAME STREET

Apple's iTunes Store is offering six free Sesame Street videos, each designed to teach children an important life lesson.

For instance, Talk, Listen, Connect depicts Elmo feeling sad when his dad has to go away - a segment intended to help military families cope with separa tion. In A is for Asthma, Elmo and Rosalita learn what to do if a friend has trouble breathing.

PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

For that spring brunch or Easter meal, try a studded roasted pork tenderloin with pecan sugar glaze. For breakfast or brunch, a pear puff pancake with cherry orange sauce (left) sweetens any morning.



BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER

"Here comes the sun. And I say, 'It's all right," sang George Harrison and the Beatles in Here Comes the Sun. The song featured Harrison's warm vocals that made ou "feel like ice is slowly melting. And with that warmth and break in the winter chill, spring also brings the traditional holidays and a look to break from the winter fare toward spring holidays and warmer temperatures in April, May and beyond. For Jews, there's Passover (starting at sundown

STUDDED ROASTED CITRUS PORK LOIN WITH PECAN SUGAR GLAZE

1 whole cleaned pork loin Brine: ½ cup kosher salt

½ cup brown sugar 6 peppercorns

1 bay leaf 2 quarts warm water

Method for brine: Mix all ingredients. Brine pork overnight or up to 48 hours in stainless steel, plastic or glass contain-

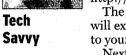
Aromatics for studding pork loin

2 stalks of celery, cut into 4-5 inch planks 1 large white onion cut in half and then cut into% inch strips

8-10 whole figs, quartered

Method to stud brined pork with aromatic vegetable and dried figs: Place pork loin on cutting board, then randomly pierce slits through the pork loin 2 inches apart with long, thin, sharp "slicer style" knife. Randomly stuff celery, onion and figs into alternating slits.

Sauce/Glaze



Rick

Broida





This pear pancake is topped with cherry orange sauce.

Monday, April 2). For Christians, there's Easter (April 8). Spring is also a time just to gather with friends and

PLEASE SEE BRUNCHES, D3

z cup prown sugar 1 cup orange juice or apple cider 3 ounces butter ¹/₄ cup molasses ½ cup corn syrup ¼ cup honey

How to make glaze: Heat all ingredients

PLEASE SEE RECIPES. D3

Orchids thrive in any environment

MICHIGAN ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW

What: A display featuring more than 20 exhibits and 500 plants; an information table; free orchid growing classes in the afternoon; and an orchid raffle Sunday afternoon. More than 15 vendors will sell orchids. Plants will be judged on their merit of quality.

When: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, March 31; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 1. Where: Laurel Park Place, 37700 Six Mile at Newburgh in Livonia, just east of the I-275-Six Mile interchange. Admission: Free.

Information: Call (586) 416-1496 between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.

BY MARY KLEMIC STAFF WRITER

Orchids may have an elegant and exotic reputation, but they can be at home in any home. Orchids can be found for any spot in any environment, as they have different humidity,

light and heat requirements. "Anything that you would like would be in

an orchid," said Macomb Township resident Betty Clindinning.

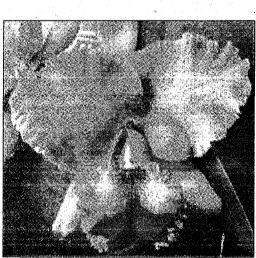
They are probably the most intelligent of plants," she said, referring to the ways they attract the insects they need for pollination giving off a scent or resembling a butterfly, for example.

Clindinning's home is filled with hundreds of orchids of various types that she grows in her basement under lights.

When they are in bloom, she places them around the house - on tables and kitchen counters.

Some of her orchids, which like it a little

PLEASE SEE ORCHIDS, D2



COURTESY OF BETTY CLINDINNING

Orchids come in many different shapes, some of which will be displayed at the Michigan Orchid Society Palm Sunday Orchid Show this weekend in Livonia. This is the cattleya Spring Dawn, which has a corsage-like bloom.

Other segments address subjects like bullying, music and getting ready for school (they're not all downers).

The videos range from 13 to 42 minutes; they're free to download and can be viewed on your PC or iPod. If you're a parent of young children, you'll definitely want to stock up on all six.

To find the shows, launch iTunes and search for "Learn Along With Sesame."

WATCH YOUTUBE VIDEOS

There's some brilliant stuff on YouTube. I'm thinking in particular of OK Go's nifty "treadmill dance" music video, the comedy serials Mr. Diety and Chad Vader, and the video for Lily Allen's Smile.

A handy little program called Ares Tube (http://tinyurl.com/yjop3c) turns any YouTube video into an iPod video.

Just copy and paste the video's Web address (the program also supports videos from Google Video, Metacafe and other popular sites) and Ares Tube downloads the file, converts it to the proper format, and queues it in iTunes for immediate syncing to your iPod.

Like all the Web's best stuff, Ares Tube is free.

PLAY MUSIC FROM OTHER STORES

If you bought music from another online store (like Napster, Rhapsody or Yahoo), you've no doubt discovered that those tunes won't play on your iPod.

That's because of pesky digital rights management (DRM) protections that limit what you can do with songs you bought.

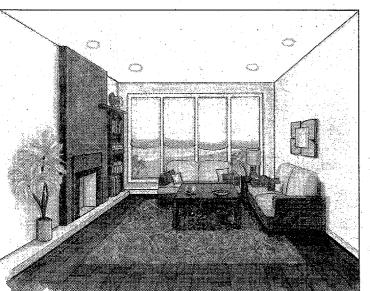
PLEASE SEE BROIDA, D3

DICK PURTAN ON VACATION

Dick Purtan is on vacation this week.



HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



In her entry in The Ghiordes Knot-ASID Student Creative Space Competition, Charlotte Ray used simple furniture to accentuate a rug in a room setting. Ray, a student at Eastern Michigan University, was awarded first place.

Students use carpets in creative designs

BY MARY KLEMIC STAFF WRITER

Style magic with carpets was worked again in this year's The Ghiordes Knot-American Society of Interior **Designers Student Creative** Space Competition.

In their entries, design students use furniture, accessories and even the outdoors to accentuate the features of rugs in imaginative ways.

"I was pleased with the response and the enthusiasm of the students," said Ann Parker, The Ghiordes Knot showroom manager at Michigan Design Center in Troy.

This is the 18th year of the competition, which design instructors use as part of their curriculum, Parker said. The contest is an opportunity for students to become educated about rugs, she said.

Students in the competition illustrate the use of a carpet in a room setting, making the rug the focal point of the space. The room design is to be set around an actual carpet that is provided by The Ghiordes Knot.

The Ghiordes Knot supplies photographs of the rugs. Students may also visit

Baker College, the College for Creative Studies, Eastern Michigan University, the International Academy of Design and Technology and Western Michigan University.

Charlotte Ray of EMU was awarded first place. Agnishikha Choudhuri of EMU and Casey Peavey of

WMU were awarded honorable mention.

This year, contestants could choose Flowing Coral by Asmara, a handmade carpet in needlepoint stitching with tones of orange; or Floral Spray by Lapchi, an 18th century continental European silk with Asian floral traditions.

Ray chose Floral Spray. In her entry, she said she selected "simple and clean" furniture to accentuate the rug, and used a neutral color scheme with red and green accents to balance color in the room and draw more focus to the rug.

Choudhuri selected Floral Spray, designing a living space as a "study in contrasts.

"A monochrome color scheme with clean geometric lines and modern furniture draw the eye to the intricate patterns of the rug,"

Specialists help with cancer treatment

ost appointments I see go in a light-hearted fashion. A dog licks my face repeatedly while getting vaccines and an annual exam, with the worst problems being bad teeth and obesity. I tell the owners to watch the diet, brush the teeth and get the dog more exercise, and they agree

with every word I say.

I know the promise to improve is the same as my guarantee at every visit to my dentist that the next six months will

Animals see me become a hall of fame flosser. I have every positive intention, but

in my head there's that little voice saying, 'Yeah, right."

About

Dr. Brad

Davis

Other times the words I speak slam hard into an owner's consciousness, and they become so focused they miss everything I say afterwards.

If I tell someone I hear a new heart murmur, they often won't hear another word I say, as the word "murmur" has stunned and scared them to numbness.

The ultimate word that does this is "cancer."

People fear cancer so much that historically the word wouldn't be spoken. For most people it remains a mystery, a nebulous ogre waiting to steal life from us or from those we love.

In pets, the thought of cancer crushes people for another reason. We think (incorrectly) of cancer as a disease only of the elderly, sparing the youth. More people than ever think of their pets as their children, no matter the pet's age. I have more people calling themselves Mommy or Daddy than ever before.

This change in society's view of animals certainly could give some anthropologist a great

research paper, but more importantly here is that more and more people feel like pets are part of the family.

When a member of the family gets cancer everyone close to that individual becomes emotionally devastated, even if that family member happens to be an animal.

Few things are worse than delivering the news that an aspirate or biopsy has come back as cancerous, and hearing an owner cry. All you can do is try to be strong, try to be understanding, listen and try to help get things moving in the right direction. Some people immediately

give up hope, mentioning euthanasia the moment they hear the word. They don't want to pursue the fight.

Others become warriors, and will make a promise to never ever lose to this dread disease, or at least to pursue every avenue to make sure it doesn't win easily.

OPTIONS

There are a number of options out there. One of them is Dr. Debi A. O'Keefe, staff oncologist at Michigan Veterinary Specialists in Southfield (www.michvet.com).

She is a Diplomate of the **College of Veterinary Internal** Medicine (ACVIM), in both Internal Medicine and Oncology (the specialty of cancer). At MVS, veterinary patients can receive cancer care similar to that of human medicine, with chemotherapy, radiation, surgery and even immunotherapy.

"The type of treatment recommended is dependent on the type of tumor," O'Keefe said. "Some only need surgery, some need surgery followed by chemotherapy. Some need surgery and radiation therapy, (and) some need only chemotherapy.

"For some patients, there is no successful treatment for their type of tumor so treatment is more directed at quality of life and comfort."

Of course, in veterinary medicine, we often have to look at making things more comfortable a lot sooner than in human medicine. When there's no insurance to help pay for treatments, we have to be practical.

"There are some types of cancer treated with oral chemotherapy drugs that are relatively inexpensive and require minimal follow-up," O'Keefe said. "This type of treatment may only be a few hundred dollars.

"Other chemotherapy treatments are \$500-600 per treatment. Surgery can range from \$1,500 to several thousand dollars depending on what needs to be done.

Even though the financial demands might turn out to be less than what was feared, the greater concern I have found people have about going to a cancer specialist would be the side effects of the treatment itself.

Years ago I believed that cancer was like being tied to a car that's going over a cliff, pulling you rapidly behind, and that chemo was merely like putting on cleats. It wouldn't stop your fall, but it would break your legs as you get dragged along.

That's just not true anymore. "There are potential systemic side effects from chemotherapy - vomiting, decreased appetite (and) diarrhea, but these are much milder than in people and can usually be managed quite easily," O'Keefe said.

"Many dogs have no side effects.

"Radiation therapy doesn't cause systemic side effects. The effects are only in the treatment field and include hair loss and moist dermatitis (skin irritation)."

HELP

For many pet owners, treating their pet for cancer with an oncologist isn't an option, for financial or emotional reasons.

But having the service available can help many other peo-

redwood tree bark, crumbled

An orchid blossom can be

charcoal, or pebbles, or on

as tiny as a mosquito or as

large as a plate, with broad

or spindly petals. Orchids

bloom once a year, several

ing orchids in the early

dowsills.

said.

them.

corsage.

times a year or continuously.

1970s, raising them on win-

"I probably saw one and thought 'I like that,' " she

Clindinning concentrated

on growing roses and other

flowers for a while. A few

years ago, she saw a notice

paper and went to it. This

orchids and learning about

Clindinning's favorites

include the cattleya, which

Going to the show and

has a bloom that looks like a

attending MOS meetings are

got her back into raising

about the orchid show in the

Clindinning started grow-

tree-fern or cork plaque.

ple keep their furriest family member around, and happy, for a longer time.

www.hometownlife.com

The specialists can also help an owner to decide what treatment options are right for their particular case.

"People do cancer treatments because they love their pets and want to give them additional good quality of life," O'Keefe said. "The ability of the treatment to do that is dependent on the type of cancer.

"Sometimes the treatment is curative, sometimes it improves their quality of life for one-two years but isn't curative, sometimes it only helps for a few months, (and) sometimes not at all.

"Since the side effects are usually minimal, treatment doesn't usually make the pets worse.

"I would always encourage an owner whose pet has cancer to go for a consult with an oncologist to discuss treatment options. That way any decision they make is based on the most accurate information."

We're very lucky in our area to have so many specialists in so many fields of veterinary medicine, including oncology.

Taking the time to talk to an oncologist can give your dog a chance, and can give you some peace of mind, knowing that you've tried to find out about all of your options before making your decision.

It is hoped your pet will never face a bad disease like cancer, but if it does, you can find the help you need, and that help will, hopefully, buy a lot of happy time.

Which will keep those visits to my clinic happy, and keep my face wet from lots of doggie kisses, which in this case is a very good thing.

Dr. Brad Davis is medical director for the VCA Garden City, 2085 Inkster Road, Garden City 48135. Mail questions or comments there. He also hosts the nationally syndicated radio show Animal Talk. Visit www.animaltalkradio.com, and write to Brad@animaltalkradio.com.

the showroom to see them. "A lot of the students came in to see the actual rugs,"

Parker said. A panel of professional designers, all ASID mem-

bers, judge the entries. Sixty percent of the judging is on presentation (the student's ability to convey

the design within the environment), and 40 percent is on feasibility (the capability of carrying out the design).

The Ghiordes Knot furnishes \$1,000 in prize money: \$500 for first place and \$250 for each of two honorable mentions.

The winning designs will be displayed at the design center on Student Career Day on March 30.

Forty entries were received this year. They came from

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Choudhuri wrote. "Its rich colors have center stage within the visual quietness of the room."

Peavey chose Flowing Coral, using natural colors to bring in the outdoors and harmonize with the hues of the rug, and large windows

to let in natural light. As the winding coral motif makes flowing movement in the rug, "soft curves in the furniture add movement to the room and straight lines create a sense of stability," Peavey wrote.

"The interplay of light, color and texture in the rug is replicated through the use of rich colors of greens, yellow-golds, and deep reds."

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ACCESSORIES

FROM PAGE D

ORCHIDS

cooler and aren't bothered by direct sun, are grown in front of the door wall in the winter time.

Clindinning is program and publicity chairman for the Michigan Orchid Society, which meets in Birmingham. The organization has an annual Palm Sunday show that is one of the largest shows in the Midwest, she said.

This year's event, chaired by Diane Burton, will take place this weekend at Laurel Park Place in Livonia, which has hosted it since 1990 (see related item).

Approximately 35,000 species and more than 60,000 hybrids of orchids grow around the world. They are found on every continent except Antarctica, in every country and in every state. Orchids are divided into four types, based on their growing conditions: epiphytes (air plants), which

grow mainly on trees; litho-



This is Sunset Glory.

phytes, which cling to rock surfaces; saprophytes, which grow in decaying vegetation on forest floors; and terrestrials, which fix themselves in soil or sand.

Orchids can be raised on windowsills, hanging in the air, in a greenhouse or outdoors.

Those that grow in the air can be mounted on wires, including wire coat hangers. Special orchid pots allow more air to get to the roots.

FEMALE INCONTINENCE You can do something about it!

Attend a FREE seminar sponsored by Coloplast Corp. to learn more about new and minimally invasive solutions.

DATE:



Thursday, March 29 TIME: Presentation begins at 12:00 p.m. LOCATION: St. Mary Mercy Hospital Marian Professional Building, Classroom 11

> 36475 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 PRESENTER: John Fredrick Harb, M.D.

A Board Certified Urologist specializing in the treatment of incontinence. **RSVP:**

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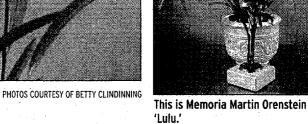
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Orchids that don't need good ways to learn about soil can be grown in fir or

orchids, Clindinning said. Club members like to share advice and experiences, and questions are encouraged.

"We're an educational society. That is how we get to introduce new people to the orchids," Clindinning said.

For your first orchid, choose a plant that is blooming so you'll know what the flowers look like, members suggest.

Phalaenopsis (called the moth orchid because of its appearance), which is easy to grow, is recommended for beginners.

The Michigan Orchid Society meets 2:30 p.m. the third Sunday of the month, September through May, at First Baptist Church, 300 Willits at Bates, north of Maple between Southfield Road and Woodward. Park free behind the church. Web sites for the MOS and the American Orchid Society are www.miorchids.com and www.orchidweb.org/.

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"A Jamily in Christ" St. Augustine Evangelical Lutheran Church LOMS Sunday, April 1st, Palm Sunday Worship Service Times • 8:30 am and 11:00 am Good Friday, April 5th • 7:30 pm **REGULAR SERVICE TIMES** SUNDAYS 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY & BIBLE STUDY 9:45 AM 5475 Livernois Rd. • Troy • North of Long Lake 248-879-6400 saltchurch.net OE08515380

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007

La Tunella in Italy is a charming wine hamlet

ike many wineries in Italy, and in particular Colli Orientali del Friuli in Italy's far northeast, La Tunella experienced transition from tenant farming into the exploding world of high-tech grape growing and winemaking.

A brilliant family owner's decision in 1993 to hire a young, energetic and talented winemaker Luigino Zamparo established a long-term program for the wines that expressed the distinct personality of the vineyard, which took on the name of the hamlet where it's located.

TERROIR IN THE EOCENE HILLS

The term terroir may be French but it has assimilated into the language of wine everywhere on the planet.

Call it site personality. Each vineyard is different. Owners of La Tunella, the Zorzettig family, wished to discover the site personality of their estate and have it expressed in the wines. Their winemaker Luigino Zamparo has done this.

La Tunella covers approximately 175 acres and all the wines carry the Colli Orientali del Friuli appellation, or as Italians refer to it, D.O.C.

Location in the Eocene Hills of the Colli Orientali is the first mark of terroir. Soil is predominantly clay, limestone and sandstone. Red varieties like cabernet franc and refosco like clay. White grape varieties take to limestone.

Vines are between four and 25 years old which indicates a balanced age going forward to maintain wine consistency.

All these elements speak to smart grape farming and an appreciation for the land that generally results in well above average wines. And that's the case for La Tunella - not your household name in Italian wine producers, but poised to become one. Try them.

WHAT TO BUY FROM LA TUNELLA

2005 Pinot Grigio (\$17) pleas-



es with a pleasant floral bouquet and ripe tropical fruit scents, accented by grilled French bread aromas. Flavors mirror the aromas in a wine perfect for antipasti, especially prosciutto. 2005 Tocai Friulano

"Selèneze" (\$20) is marked by aromas of wild flowers, pear and almond. Dry and moderately acidic, it's an ideal pairing for pasta dishes and fish. Following an international agreement on proper use of place names, beginning with the 2006 vintage, tocai in the grape name will be dropped for the now recognized friulano. Tocai is now restricted to use with Hungarian wines.

2005 BiancoSesto (\$22) has floral, vanilla and stone fruit aromas leading to similar flavors and a persistent almond note from the friulano grape that constituted half the blend with ribolla gialla. Perfect with white fish.

2004 Refosco dal Peduncolo Rosso (\$24) may be hard to get your tongue around but your palate is soothed with aromas and flavors of blackberry, raspberry, fine tobacco and cocoa/chocolate. Expansive with loads of intensity, pair it with a rich beef stew.

2004 Verduzzo Friulano (\$18/500mL) is a superb dessert wine value and delicious as an accompaniment to crème caramel.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are contributing editors for the internationally respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

WINE PICKS

Popularity of **Pinot Noir** is driving up prices but the following list holds some bargains. The priciest are, however, the most delicious.

Pick of the Pack: 2004 MacRostie Wildcat Mountain Vinevard \$42 **Excellent:**

2005 Rodney Strong

Russian River Valley \$20 2004 MacRostie Carneros \$28

2005 DeLoach Russian **River Valley \$45** 2005 Paul Hobbs Russian **River Valley \$45** Very good:

2004 Estancia Stonewall **Vineyard Santa Lucia**

Highlands \$25 2004 Estancia Pinnacles Monterey \$25 2004 King Estate Oregon \$26 2005 Whitehaven Marlborough, NZ \$30 2004 MacMurray Sta. Rita Hills \$35 2005 Villa Maria Marlborough, NZ Reserve \$36 2004 Felton Road Central Otago, NZ \$44 2004 Dutton Goldfield **Dutton Ranch-Sanchietti** Vineyard Russian River Valley \$55 Good deal:

2005 DeLoach California \$12

If a retailer does not stock a specific wine we recommend, ask that it be ordered from the distributor or order it directly from the winery.

BRUNCHES

FROM PAGE D1

family for brunch - a time for bridal and baby showers, wedding rehearsals and Mother's Day. Kelli Lewton, executive chef and owner of 2 Unique Caterers & Event Planners, enjoys the spring, and for her, this spring marks a new beginning as her catering company moved from a church in Bloomfield Hills to a new storefront in Roval Oak.

"I like to take something I like to make and make it a little more groovy," Lewton said.

Take the Easter holiday. Many Christians who celebrate enjoy ham and usually serve it. Why not serve a pork loin instead? Lewton asks. Brine it, then score it and stud it with celery, onions or any favorite fruit.

"When you brine it, it acts like a ham," Lewton said. "It's a way to cure the meat. The brine helps the cut retain moisture and infuse flavor in the meat." Score the meat randomly (or

create a diagonal pattern of several cuts) and add celery, onions,

RECIPES

FROM PAGE D1

in heavy bottom sauce pan and simmer on low for 3-4 minutes until all flavors are combined. How to cook pork loin: Preheat oven to 400º F. Brush pork loin with glaze and sear in 400° F oven for 10 minutes. Reduce heat to 350º F, and continue to roast an additional 25-35 minutes. (Baste pork loin with brown sugar glaze every 8-10 minutes until pork reads 155-160º F.)

fresh herbs and toasted pecans

3 ounces butter thin 6 eggs 1/2 cups milk 1 cup all purpose flour

- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 4 tablespoons brown sugar Slice butter into baking dish;

add pear slices and place in the oven at 425º F until bubbly and figs or apples, and you're on your way to a winning meal.

Like latkes for a Passover gathering? Add a little dill to the potato pancake mix - dill's licorice flavor a natural herb for potatoes - fry them, and top with

gravlax and sour cream. Salmon hash works for both holidays. Salmon's rich and full flavor adds depth to the hash. Top with eggs for a great brunch dish.

"You like to have them quick and simple, and you like to give it a little extra thought," Lewton said. "You like to think out of the box when you're cooking for a spring brunch."

Once the spring holidays pass, seasonal produce will soon be in stock at stores and farmers markets, once the latter open at many venues in April and May.

"People get so excited when the temperature hits 50 degrees, Lewton said. "You have to think produce. With spring, you're looking for lighter flavors. You're moving away from heavier, denser flavors."

Herbs can include rosemary and thyme, and both are appro-

butter is melted.

Mix remaining ingredients in separate bowl except brown sugar. Pour batter into pan over pears and sprinkle brown sugar on top. Bake for 20-25 minutes until lightly brown and puffy. Ladle cherry orange sauce (see next recipe) over top and sprinkle with toasted almonds or serve sauce on the side.

CHERRY ORANGE SAUCE

- 1/2 cup orange juice 1 cup frozen bing cherries
- 3 tablespoons Grand Marnier
- (optional) Zest from ½ orange
- 2 heaping tablespoons cornstarch dissolved in a smidge of water

or orange juice Bring first four ingredients to a simmer over medium-low heat in heavy bottom saucepan. Once ingredients are simmering, reduce heat to low and add cornstarch mixture, whisk continually over low heat for 3-5 minutes. Ladle over pear puff or serve on the side. (Chef Kelli Lewton suggests sprinkling toasted almond over the top of sauce for garnish. Dish also can be served with maple syrup, dusted with powdered sugar or honey.)

POTATO PANCAKES WITH GRAVLAX AND DILL

1 small yellow onion, peeled and

priate all year round, Lewton said. Cilantro and parsley can be used in salads as both are available year round.

D3

(*)

"Soon you'll start getting the farmers markets opening up, and you'll see the variety coming in, like the lemon verbena and the lemon thyme," Lewton said.

This is the perfect time of year to dig out the waffle iron, dust off some old recipes or try some new ones, and spend a leisurely Sunday afternoon enjoying family and friends with a celebratory homemade brunch," Lewton said.

"With just a little prep and planning brunch can prove to be one of your more leisurely enjoyable holiday gatherings. Kelli Lewton owns 2 Unique Caterers & Event Planners, 4303 Delemere Court, Royal Oak, (248) 549-5242, www.twounique.com. Lewton now teaches classes with Julie Kowalski, principal and Healthy Lifestyle coach from Forget Perfect NOW, about healthful whole foods. Classes are scheduled as follows: Healthy Soups and Casseroles, 3-6 p.m. April 15; Making Healthy Fast Food, 6-9 p.m. April 29, and Scrumptious Healthy Desserts, 3-6 p.m. May 6. Classes are \$49.

grated on box grater 3 Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and grated 1 tablespoon fresh dill, chopped and grated, plus sprigs for gar nish 1/2 teaspoon sea salt Pinch of freshly ground pepper 1 egg white ¼ cup sour cream Olive oil cooking spray Heat oven to 450° F. Place grated onion in a fine sieve, and press out as much moisture/water as possible. Combine

onion and potatoes, chopped dill, salt, pepper, and egg white in a medium bowl, and stir to combine.

Melt butter in heavy bottom sauté pan and form pancakes to desired disk size, drop into hot pan and cook about 1 minute until down side is golden and crispy, then flip and repeat. Bake until golden brown on bottom, about 10 minutes, rotating trays once during cooking. Remove from oven and place on paper towel to blot away extra oil.

Serve pancakes topped with gravlax and a dab of sour cream. Garnish with dill sprigs. Yields 24-36 petit pancakes.

Recipes courtesy of Kelli Lewton, executive chef and owner of 2 Unique Caterers & Events Planning in Royal Oak.

12





Let rest for 10 minutes, then PEAR PUFF PANCAKE

slice and serve with sauce on the side. Garnish with a bouquet of

WITH CHERRY ORANGE SAUCE

4 pears peeled, pitted and sliced 4 tablespoons sugar

Fortunately, there's a fairly easy way around DRM: Just burn the songs to a CD using the store's music-management software (or Windows Media Player), then "rip" the songs with iTunes like you would any audio CD.

Sync your iPod and you're ready to rock and roll. Literally.

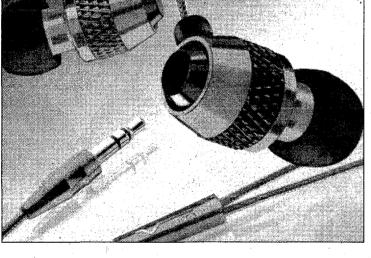
UPGRADE YOUR EARPHONES

OK, this isn't so much a trick as a recommendation: Ditch those uncomfortable Apple earbuds and replace them with V-Moda's ultra-stylish Vibe (vmoda.com).

If you've never tried in-ear earphones, you're missing out. Vibe slips snugly into your ear canal, blocking outside noise and delivering truly outstanding audio.

In fact, the bass response from these earphones greatly exceeds that of pricier sets I've tried, including the Etymotic 6i Isolator and Shure E3c.

They're also way cooler-looking, with a choice of four metallic colors and a sleek, almost industrial design.



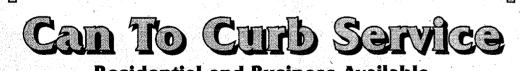
V-Moda's stylish Vibe earphones fit snugly in your ear canal, blocking outside noises and rocking your brain.

Vibe comes with silicon fittings in three different sizes; a slick little carrying case; and a rubber cord-management clip that keeps the earphones from getting tangled.

With a list price of \$101, this isn't exactly an impulse buy. However, many online stores carry Vibe for around \$90, and the noise reduction alone is

worth the price of admission. Trust me, you'll love these. Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including How to Do Everything with Your Palm Powered Device, Sixth Edition. He welcomes questions sent to rick broida@gmail.com.

11



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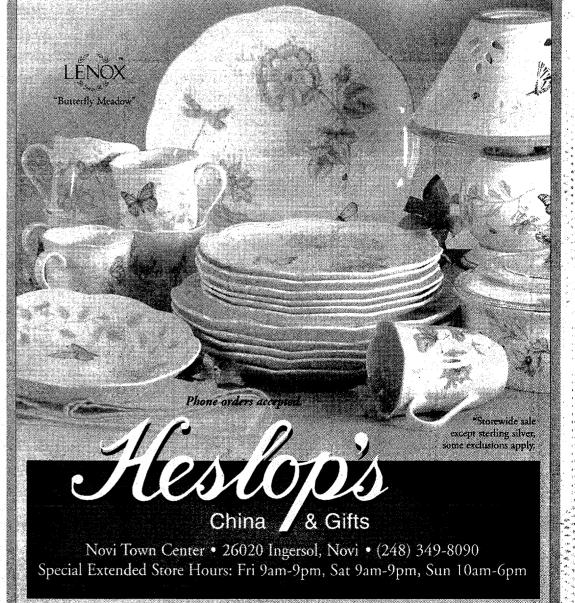
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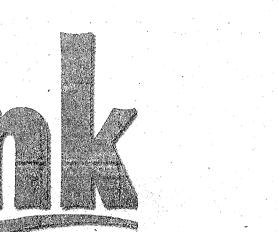
Friday, March 30th thru Sunday, April 1st



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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007





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Wear It! Preppy Nautical

DON'T Wear It! All black -- add a dash of color

Kick It! Steve Madden ballet flats at Macy's

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Dr. LeWinn's Private Formula order free samples @ www.drlewinns.com

Eat It!

Thai Pie at Crust, Birmingham

Tote It! Michael Kors Pop-Art shopper in white at Nordstrom

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DVD It! The Departed



Nature Girl

hot dogs, Better Made potato chips, Faygo, and Vernor's. Tickets, \$75, benefit women's lung health. Call See head-to-toe creations by three Metro Detroit artists during "Materialistic," 5-8 p.m. Friday, March

See It!

Reign Over Me

Hear It! Carly Simon Into White

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Experience

Java Jungle in Plymouth with your kids

Annica Cuppetelli and shoes by Tom Carbone. The creations will be exhibited and modeled during the event. Call (248) 414-6500. **Contemporary Week @ Saks**

Proud mom attends her sons' movie premiere

By Wensdy Von Buskirk

what's it like to be a Hollywood mom? Ask Judith Binder-Trumbull.

The Beverly Hills, Mich. resident is the proud mother to four grown boys. Gary is a builder, Lee is pilot.

Mike and Jack make movies. Mike Binder most recently wrote and directed 'Reign Over Me,' which opened to critical acclaim on Friday. Jack Binder,

the youngest of the siblings, produced the film. When 'Reign Over Me' premiered at the Uptown Palladium in Birmingham on Sunday, March 18, Binder-

Trumbull arrived with her son Mike and Adam Sandler, the star of 'Reign Over Me.'

"It was just stupendous. I have never seen anything like it my life, ever," she said. "We went from the Townsend Hotel to the theater and when we pulled up, there were thousands of people waiting in line. The lines were double and triple thick, I couldn't believe it

The Binder brothers also made 'The Upside of Anger' in

Reign of stars

2005, starring Kevin Costner, among other projects. Binder-Trumbull isn't sur-

prised by her sons' success in Tinseltown. She said Mike always had a love for comedy and drive to succeed.

"I always knew he was a genius," she said. "As a very, very little boy Mike learned how to get laughs.

Binder-Trumbull encouraged Mike to explore his love of comedy. While her sons were growing up, she was a top fund raiser for the Children's Orthogenic School in Detroit. Celebrities would come to town and perform to raise money for the school, and Binder-Trumbull brought Mike with her to the airport as she picked up comics like Myron Cohen and Richard Pryor.

'We had lunch with Sonny and Cher and Mike just loved meeting them," she said.

Later, Binder attended Camp Tamakaw, where Chevy Chase was a counselor.

"In his early years, he was thrown into comedy constantly and the more he loved it, the more he sought it out," Binder-Trumbull explained.

It wasn't always easy for Binder-Trumbull, especially

when it came time for Mike to go to college. Instead, upon graduation from Seaholm High School, Mike announced he was leaving to become a comedian

"When he was 18 he said 'mom, I'm going to Hollywood' and off he went with Dave Coulier, who also became successful," Binder-Trumbull said.

Binder-Trumbull, who now deals antiques and vintage jewelry, said she saw some of herself in the mother in 'Upside of Anger,' played by Joan Allen, who discourages her daughter from being a ballerina.

"It's a little bit about me and what I went through only she has four girls," she said. "I went through divorce and I had the four boys and Mike kept saying he was going to Hollywood and I said he had to go to school. He thought I didn't have faith in him."

In Los Angeles, Mike scored parts in several television shows and films, including 'Minority Report,' 'Curb Your Enthusiasm' and 'Commander in Chief.' He found greater success writing and directing movies.

"He's very deep and he writes very heartfelt stories," she said. "I know his worth and I know

story when you want to do something and you put your heart and soul into it you'll do it. Mike eventually brought his

he's going to go far. It's the old

youngest brother Jack to Los Angeles to work as his producer. Now that he has won hardearned success and a high profile, he continues to support talent from Metro Detroit. He has used Bob Seger's music in soundtracks, and cast DOC owner Richard Golden's daughter Jessica in a bit part in 'Reign Over Me.'

"Mike tries his hardest to use good people and people who are trying to get a start in the business," she said. "He used to work at Birmingham Drugs and at Hunter House as a kid. I got him T-shirts from there and he put them in a movie."

could bring his mother to the star-studded event.

Will we be seeing Binder-Trumbull on the silver screen anytime soon?

"No, you won't," she said..." "Everybody asks me that, but it's not my thing." @





(248) 784-2000. **Materialistic Fashion**

Celebrate Spring with Contemporary Week at Saks Fifth Avenue March 29-April 1. With any contemporary



Mike also made sure 'Reign Over Me' premiered in Birmingham, as well as New York and Los Angeles, so he

Read It!

Birmingham rolled out the red carpet for the premiere of 'Reign Over Me' at The Uptown Palladium on March 18. The movie was written and directed by **Birmingham native Mike** Binder, and produced by his brother. Jack Binder. Below, Photojournalist Linda Solomon of Birmingham joins singer Bob Seger and his wife Nita during the premiere.

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Above, Judith Binder-Trumbull and Adam Sandler, the star of 'Reign Over Me,' at the movie's premiere.



performs a an indoor soccer game. The dancers will hold upcoming dance clinics for youth and teenagers.

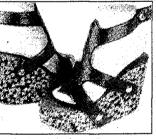
Ignition Dance Clinic

Detroit Ignition's dance team The Spark will host a dance clinic on Saturday, March 31 at High Velocity Sports, 46255 Michigan Ave., Canton. Participants will learn dance techniques from members of The Spark, then perform live during an Ignition home game April 1 at Compuware Sports Arena. Cost is \$55 for dancers ages 13-18 (8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.); \$40 for dancers ages 7-12 (11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.). Fee includes lunch, admission to the April I game, and discounted tickets for friends and family. Call 1.888.436.GOAL or visit www.detroitignition.com.

fashion

Don't Hold Your Breath The American Lung Association of Michigan will host "Don't Hold Your Breath," 6 p.m. Friday, March 30 at the **Radisson Bloomfield Hills Grand** Ballroom. The evening will feature fashion from Prodigy, Royal Oak, and Hersh's, West Bloomfield, along with local celebrities and Motown sounds by Inside Out. Indulge in celebrated snacks from Detroit like Coney Island

30 at The Community Arts Gallery, 22635 Woodward Ave. Individual and collaborative works include jewelry by Sarah Kate Burgess, dresses by



Shoes by local designer Tom Carbone will be featured at "Materialistic."

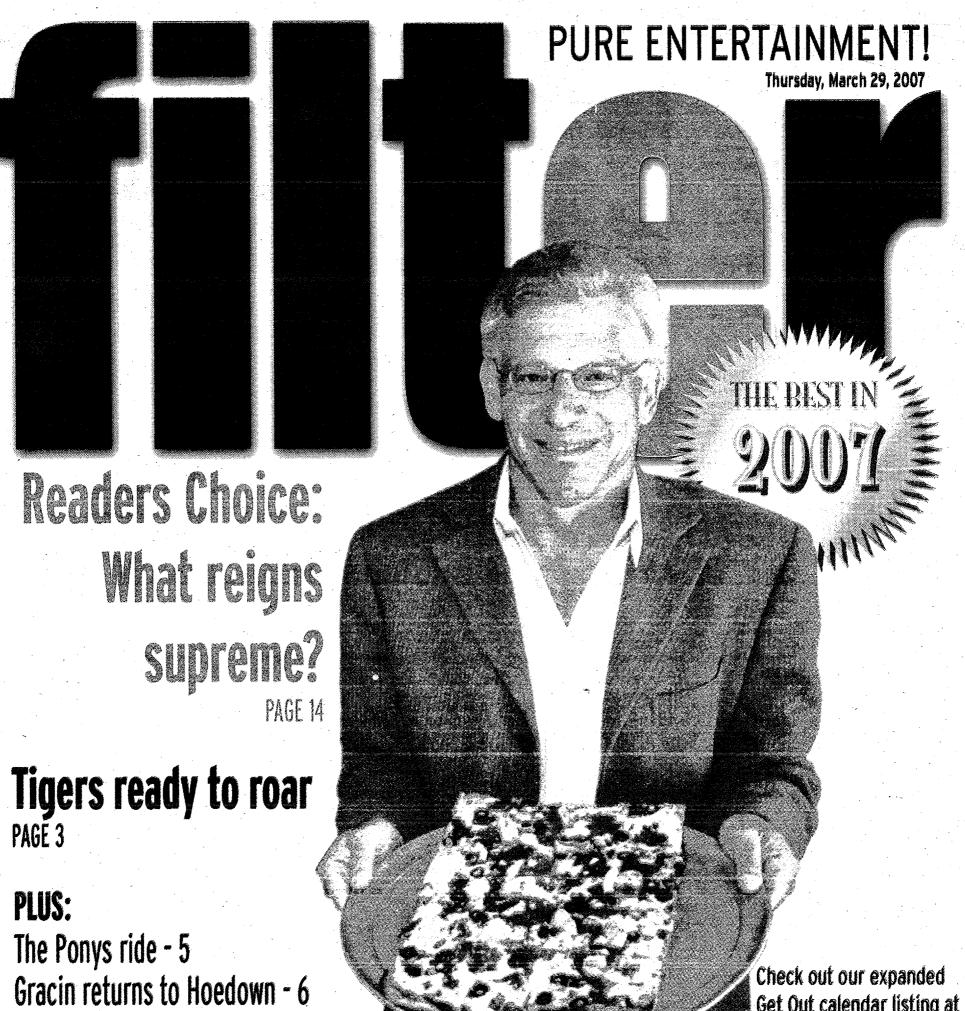
collections purchase of \$350, receive a cool Juicy Couture tote filled with fun items from Diane vonFurstenberg, Nanette Lepore, Theory, Vince, Marc by Marc Jacobs, Twisted Hearts, D&G, Laundry, BCBG, Rock & Republic, Primp and Walter and more. Call (248) 614-3349. Foland's Liquidates

Say farewell to a Royal Oak gem and get 20-50 percent off as Foland's hosts a liquidation sale. Save on watches, wedding and engagement rings, gemstones and gifts by Scott Kay, Maurice Lacroix, Fendi, Hidalgo, Louis Hill, Hot Diamonds, Judith Ripka and more. Foland's is at 630 E. 11 Mile Rd. Call (248) 336-6666 or visit www.folands.com.









Whitefish and chips - 12

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Get Out calendar listing at www.hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007• (**) E1

128th UMS SEASON 2006 2007

Pablo Ziegler Quintet for New Tango Claudia Acuña vocalist FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 8 PM

Rackham Auditorium

The marriage between jazz and tango was virtually unheard of 30 years ago - until Pablo Ziegler burst onto the music scene. Joined by Chilean vocalist Claudia Acuña, Ziegler and his Quintet present an evening of music that blends Latin rhythms with jazz sensibilities.

Funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. Media Partners WEMU 89.1 FM, WDET 101.9 FM, and Metro Times.

David Krakauer's Klezmer Madness SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 8 PM **Rackham Auditorium**

This isn't your grandmother's klezmer! Clarinetist David Krakauer and his band blend Eastern European klezmer with rock beats and guitar riffs to produce a truly unique sound that keeps the music out of the museum and in the 21st century.

Media Partner Detroit Jewish News

Measha Brueggergosman soprano J.J. Penna and William Bolcom piano THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 8 PM Hill Auditorium

Style and substance unite for memorable performances whenever Measha Brueggergosman takes the stage. This Hill Auditorium recital features songs of Revnaldo Hahn, Ernest Chausson, Hugo Wolf, and assorted cabaret songs of William Bolcom.

ored by GEIGroup

Media Partners WGTE 91.3 FM, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, and Michigan Chronicle/Front Page

A Prelude Dinner precedes this performance For reservations, call 734-764-8489.

This is a CLASSICAL KIDS CLUB concert and a NETWORK event

Together and Solo John Williams and John Etheridge guitars FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 8 PM Rackham Auditorium

Two of the world's most accomplished guitarists join forces to explore more than four centuries of music with a groundbreaking duo project, a unique a sublime meeting of classical and steel-string guitars featuring a program of both solos and duets.

Call or Click for Tickets! ums 734.764.2538 | www.ums.org outside the 734 area code, call toll-free 800.221.1229 Hours: M - F 9 am - 5 pm, S 10 am - 1 pm





Detroit podcast contest offers \$10,000 prize

Detroit: Where cool comes from. If you think you can prove that position in a short online video, you just might be able to count yourself a whole lot richer.

In a unique promotion designed to attract travelers to "The D." the Detroit Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau is staging the Detroit Video Podcast Contest.

Contests The contest seeks Web-ready videos two to four minutes long that demonstrate Detroit's top draws - cars, culture, gáming, music and sports. The videos should be edgy, smart, vibrant, original and creative.

The contest winner will receive a cash prize of \$10,000. Additional top entries will be featured on visitdetroit.com and in Visit Detroit magazine.

To enter, aspiring videographers must download rules and registration forms from the DMCVB Web site, then upload completed video to YouTube.com by 9 p.m. April 20.

If the emphasis of the contest seems to be on tech-savvy youth, it is. The DMCVB

is targeting 21- to 34-year-old singles and childless couples with the message that Detroit is the

place "to get caught up on the latest, and feel like you're leaving in the know."

Today's travelers rely on the Web and iPods, so by creating podcasts about Detroit, we can better reach the 21-34year-old audience that our new branding campaign targets," said Larry Alexander, DMCVB president

and CEO. Videos should reflect Detroit and its

surrounding suburbs in a positive, intriguing light, and demonstrate that the area is a destination for hip, urban travelers.

For more information or to download entry forms, visit www.visitdetroit.com or e-mail contest@visitdetroit.com.

Comcast searches for 'stars'

First, there was American Idol, then Grease: You're the One That I Want.

Now the Comcast Casting Call, a talent search for 11- to 15-year-old Michigan residents, presents an opportunity for young aspiring actors and actresses to make their debut.

Comcast is the latest group to look to the general public to find a new "star." The Comcast Casting Call winner will be featured in an upcoming advertising campaign

"This is a fun and different way to find the next face and voice of Comcast in Michigan," said Luis Casanova, vice president of communications and public affairs for Comcast's Michigan Region. "We're excited to involve the community and looking forward to finding the next local Comcast spokesperson."

In addition to being awarded a contract

from Comcast, the winner will be awarded the ultimate media package: An HDTV, home computer system, digital phone system and a free year of Comcast cable, Internet and digital voice.

Both professionals and amateurs are eligible to enter this talent search, as long as they meet the age and residency requirements. From the auditions submitted online, 10 finalists will be selected by a panel of eight judges and the finalists will participate in a live audition Saturday, March 31.

To view the rules, regulations and directions of the Comcast Casting Call and to submit an application and audition, visit www.comcastcastingcall.com. All contestants must be legal residents of Michigan and must have parent or guardian's permission to participate in the competition.



www.hometownlife.con



GANNETT

HOT TICKET – 3

Your American League champion Detroit Tigers (man, that sounds good, doesn't it?) take the field Monday.

MUSIC — **5** The Ponys visit the Magic Stick March 30.

COUNTRY – 6 Tracy Lawrence and Josh Gracin will be two of the 35 acts at the WYCD Downtown Hoedown May 18-20.

FAMILY - 8

Monsters, mischief and magic take the stage at *Where the Wild Things Are* at Detroit Opera House March 31.

LIVE — 11

Modern/goth rock hits Cobo on Saturday at the Taste of Chaos festival.

TABLE HOPPING - 12

Scalawags in Rochester Hills serves a classic dish (fish and chips) with whitefish instead of the traditional cod. COVER -14



Take a look at our Readers Choice selections in restaurants, nightlife and family activities.

GET OUT! - 18

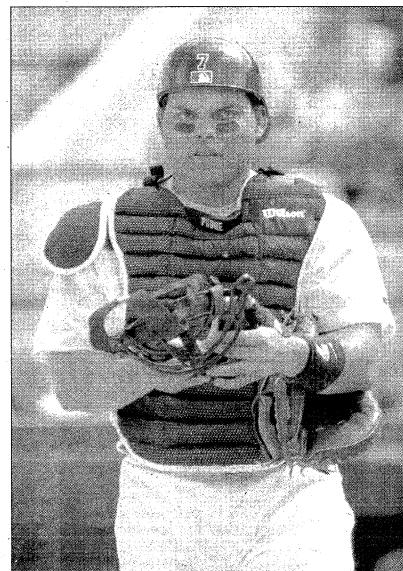
www.homefownlife.com

recht der beiten eine

Got no plans? Make some after you check out our expanded entertainment calendar of events.

Visit the Filter Web site at www.hometownlife.com for additional stories, updates and an expanded Get Out! calender.





Catcher Ivan 'Pudge' Rodriguez batted .300 during the 2006 campaign.

The Boys are Back

Your guide to viewing the Detroit Tigers this spring

The Detroit Tigers gave us all plenty of thrills last fall when they defeated the New York Yankees and then the Oakland A's to win the American League pennant for the first time since 1984.

Even though the team lost to the St. Louis Cardinals in the

World Series, the Tigers were the "feel-good" sports story in Michigan and rekindled the love of baseball fans throughout the state.

Now the winter of anticipation is over and it's time for the team to take the field for the 2007 campaign.

The game on Monday, April 2, is sold out against Toronto, but there are still plenty of seats available for games throughout the week. Save this guide for all of April to help your Tiger game experience. And go Tigers!

APRIL HOME GAME SCHEDULE:

1:05 p.m. Wednesdaý, April 4, Tigers vs. Toronto Blue Jays

1:05 p.m. Thursday, April 5, Tigers vs. Toronto Blue Jayes

7:05 p.m. Monday, April 16, vs. Kansas City Royals 7:05 p.m. Tuesday, April 17, vs.

Kansas City Royals 7:05 p.m. Wednesday, April 18,

vs. Kansas City Royals 7:05 p.m. Friday, April 20, vs.

Chicago White Sox 1:05 p.m. Saturday, April 21, vs.

1:05 p.m. Saturday, April 21, vs. Chicago White Sox 1:05 p.m. Sunday, April 22, vs. Chicago White Sox

7:05 p.m. Friday, April 27, vs.. Minnesota Twins

1:05 p.m. Saturday, April 28, vs. Minnesota Twins

1:05 p.m. Sunday, April 29, vs. Minnesota Twins

7:05 p.m. Monday, April 30, vs. Baltimore Orioles

Tickets are \$10-\$65 for home games. Visit www.detroittigers.com to purchase.

COMERICA PARK GROUND RULES

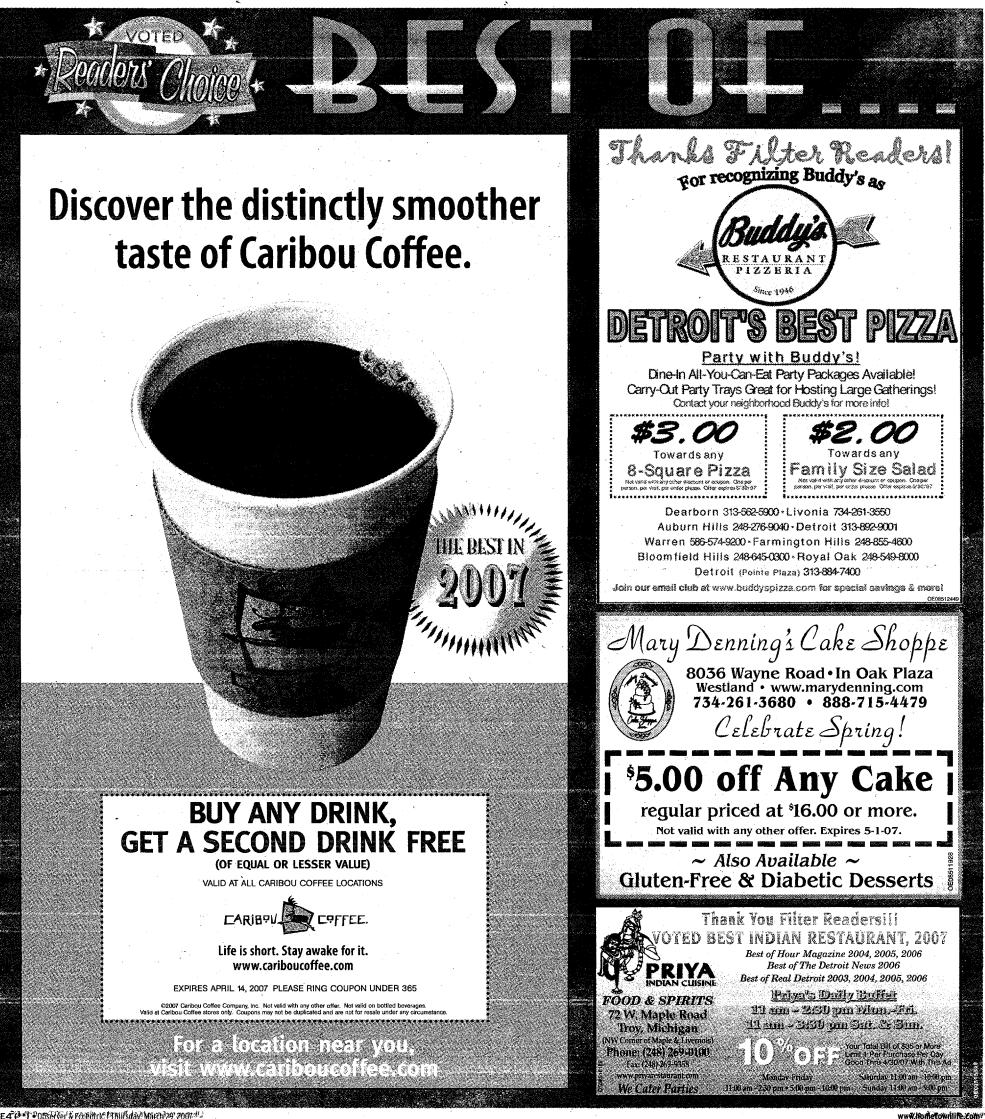
Not a baseball aficionado? That's OK.

Here are a few "rules" to help you play along, courtesy of the Detroit Tigers:

Batted ball hitting foul pole or

PLEASE SEE TIGERS, E16

Observer'& Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007 • (**) E3



E47(+*)**0556Wer& Eccelinic (*Thursday, March 29, 2007/12



The Ponys

Catch The Ponys at Detroit's Magic Stick

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA STAFF WRITER

The Ponys can't quite pinpoint a current location. The Chicago-based band is traveling somewhere between Georgia and North Carolina.

While drummer Nathan Jerde has been told they're just an hour away from their destination, he's certain it will take more than three hours to get there. And guitarist Brian Case said things are getting "squishy."

But Matador Records' road-weary warriors are not complaining.

"We just autographed a shopping bag at Panera for Rebecca," said Jerde, calling from the road on March 22. "That's a highlight for me at this point."

Following the release of *Turn the Lights Out*, and several successful shows during the South By Southwest Music Festival earlier this month, The Ponys might as well celebrate. The band is attracting crowds of

THE PONYS

 Who: Co-headline with The Black Lips.
 Special guests Terrible Twos open.
 When: 9 p.m. Friday, March 30.
 Where: Magic Stick, Majestic Theatre Complex, 4120 Woodward Ave.,

> Detroit. **Tickets:** \$10, call (248) 645-6666.

> > shouting, reveling fans from one venue to the next. And audiences just keep getting better. "It seems like people

are progressively more and more excited as we move away from Austin," said Jerde. By the time the band reaches Detroit on March 30, that response could well reach a fever pitch.

"We're super-excited," he said. "We have tons of really good friends in Detroit. We're looking forward to getting back."

Ŏne such friend is Detroit rock

veteran Tom Potter (Detroit City Council, Bantam Rooster). Another is Jim Diamond of Detroit's own Ghetto Recorders.

When it came time to record their first album, The Ponys chose Diamond, a well-known cultivator of garage rock, and released *Laced with Romance* in 2004.

"We all enjoyed the records he was putting out at the time," said Jerde. "It was a snowball effect."

The following year, for *Celebration Castle*, The Ponys chose Chicago's famed go-to-producer Steve Albini (Nirvana, The Stooges). Jerde called the experience "completely different" and the environment "a bit more sterile."

Following the release of The Ponys' second record, keyboardist Ian Adams left the band, and guitarist Brian Case joined. Soon after, a contract with Matador Records ensued.

When it came time once again to record, the band turned to John Agnello of Brooklyn's Headgear Studios. Jerde said they "instantly connected." "He got it. He understood the songs. It happened pretty naturally."

Treading the line from garage rock to post punk and back again, The Ponys conjure up songs reminiscent of The Cure or The Mooney Suzuki – performing under water. A double guitar and bass combo drips with intensity on songs like *Shine* or *Kingdom of Hearts*, while other tracks, like 1209 Seminary, come off as unexpectedly danceable.

Singer/guitarist Jered Gummere's haughty, half-bored vocals on *Small Talk* fade out to accent Jerde's rat-tattat drum beats. Bassist Melissa Elias lends waves of depth to songs like *Poser Psychotic*, and stands out on stage thanks to her signature sway and flying ponytail.

From the sing-along that emerges on the record's title track, to vocalheavy *Maybe I'll Try*, The Ponys seem to have mastered the memorable twominute rock song. *Turn the Lights Out* marks a new era for the quartet's densely layered sonic ventures.

scasola@hometownlife.com (248) 901-2567





Lawrence, Gracin to perform at Downtown Hoedown

BY WENSDY VON BUSKIRK STAFF WRITER

The world's largest free country music concert will celebrate its 25th anniversary this spring with a star-studded lineup.

Little Big Town, Michelle Branch and the Wreckers, Tracy Lawrence and Westland's own Josh Gracin will take the stage during the WYCD Downtown Hoedown May 18-20.

They are among an unprecedented 35 acts who will appear during the free festival's milestone anniversary.

The performance schedule was announced live during WYCD's Dr. Don Morning Show on March 22.

"This 25th WYCD Downtown Hoedown is an historic event in the city of Detroit," said Tim Roberts, program director for WYCD. "We once again will provide a world class show and continue our long tradition of bringing the latest in country music to over one million fans in the heart of the Motor City."

International stars Joe Nichols, Aaron Tippin, Darryl Worley and Emerson Drive, as well as cutting edge performers like Nashville Star winner Chris Young and *American Idol's* Bucky Covington also are scheduled to perform.

Local acts include Derringer, Redhill, Jill Jack, Trigger Darlow, WDIV's Devin Scillian, Tracie Kennedy, Dannie Marine, Willie Nash and the trio J3.

Plymouth native Sarah Lenore, a rising star in the country music scene, performed live in the WYCD studio during the Downtown Hoedown press conference, as did Cole Deggs and the Lonesome. Both are on the roster for the Downtown Hoedown.

Country music fans from around the world visit Hart Plaza each year to enjoy the three-day festival, which is free thanks to sponsors.

The Title Sponsor for this year's WYCD Downtown Hoedown is Chrysler Jeep Superstores.

"We want to do anything we can to promote the city, and support the city," said Jim Schebil, president of the Chrysler Jeep Superstores Advertising Association.

Other sponsors include Cingular, Budweiser, Comcast, Pure Romance and WDIV Local 4. Concert proceeds will

DOWNTOWN HOEDOWN LINEUP

Friday, May 18: Tracy Lawrence Darryl Worley Bomshel Danielle Pack Dusty Drake Derringer Sarah Lenore Hunter Brucks Justine Blazer Willie Nash

Saturday, May 19: Josh Gracin The Wreckers Aaron Tippin Carolina Rain Kelly Sheppard Chris Young Forbes Bros. Luke Bryan Bucky Covington Memarie Devin Scillian Red Hill Arte Dean Harris Trigger Darlow

Sunday, May 20: Little Big Town Joe Nichols Emerson Drive Ty Herndon Jason Michael Carrol Heartland Cole Deggs Donovan Chapman Jill Jack Dannie Marine J3 Traci Kennedy

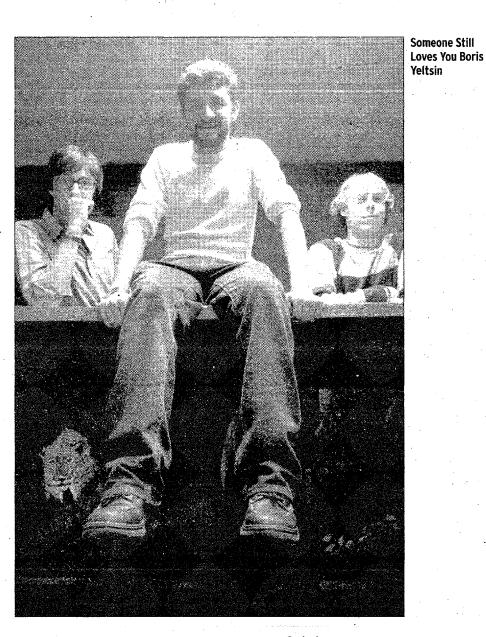
benefit the Detroit Parks and Recreation Department.

The Downtown Hoedown began in 1983 with Hank Williams Jr., Tanya Tucker, The Kendalls, Brenda Lee and Mel Tillis. Since then, Hart Plaza has drawn Garth Brooks, Reba McEntire, the Dixie Chicks, Montgomery Gentry, Rascal Flatts, Gretchen Wilson, Big & Rich and many more.

For more information, visit www.wycdhoedown.com or stay tuned to Filter, at www.hometownlife.com.

Subscribe by calling 1-866-88-PAPER (866-887-2737)

E6 (**) • Observer & Eccentrie | Thursday, March 29, 2007



Love goes pop with Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin

Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin could win an award for choosing one of the longest, tongue-twist-inducing band names. But, given a listen, the young Springfield, Mo., band is so much more than that.

For the past two years, the band has been crafting and releasing pure, perfect pop songs as MP3 files — and earning a fan base all along the way. Singer John Cardwell, drummer and primary songwriter Philip Dickey and guitarist Will Knauer met while still in high school through a mutual ex-girlfriend in fact.

In true DIY-style, the trio wrote and recorded in the attic, the basement, wherever they could spark that clean, clever sound.

The band's debut, *Broom*, has been picked up and remastered by Polyvinyl Records. But by then the blogosphere had already spoken, and savvy listeners declared their love for Someone Still Loves You.

It's easy to hear why, listen to the

www.hometownlife.com

ba-ba-bouncing vocals of album opener Pangea to catchy hand claps on I am

Warm & Powerful, or oh-so-sensitive sentiments of Travel Song. Broom proves as comforting as sweaterweather and as sweet as sugar kisses.

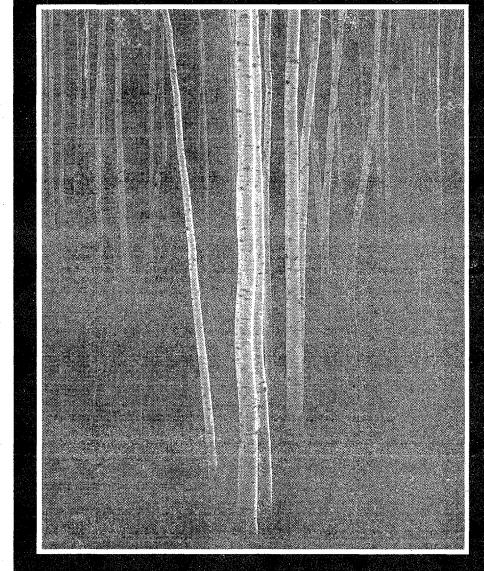
The band also garnered fans with two shows last week at South By Southwest Music Festival in

Austin, Texas. Earning high-praise comparisons to The Shins and Wilco won't hurt that momentum either. I'd venture to add an ode to the late Elliot Smith, particularly on gems like *Oregon Girl*. Bottom line — see them now, when tickets are merely \$12 and you'll have something to brag about later.

Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin opens for The Cinematics, and headliners Mute Math, at 5:30 p.m. March 30 at St. Andrew's Hall, Detroit. Call (248) 645-6666.

Stephanie A. Casola

THE DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS



ANSEL ADAMS

MARCH 4-MAY 27, 2007

American images captured by an American master.

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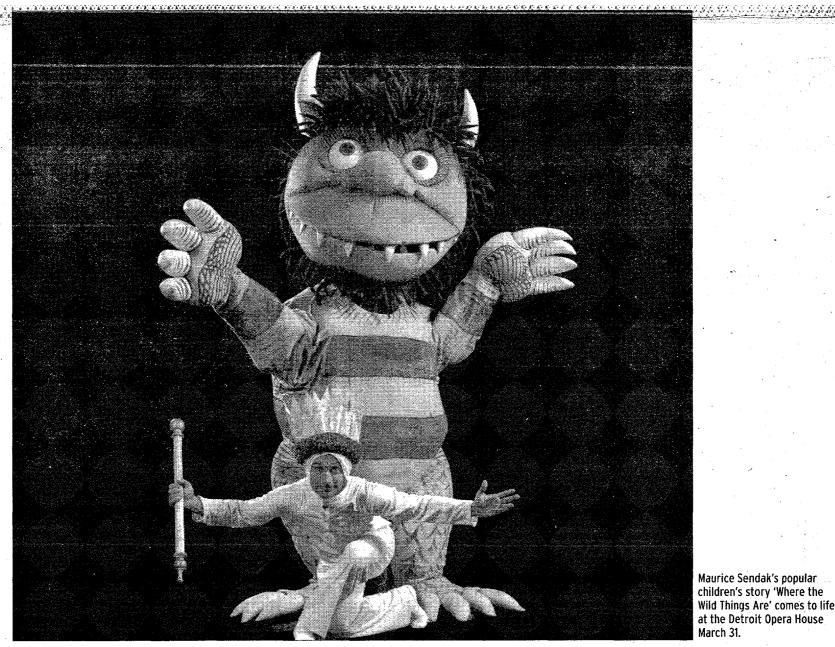


dia.org

This exhibition was organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. In Detroit, the exhibition is sponsored by DTE Energy Foundation. Additional support has been provided by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the City of Detroit.

Ansel Adams, American; Aspens, Northern New Mexico, 1958; gelatin silver print. The Lane Collection. © 2007 The Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust.

5200 Woodward Ave. Detroit



Maurice Sendak's popular children's story 'Where the Wild Things Are' comes to life at the Detroit Opera House March 31.

'Wild Things' abound at Opera House

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA STAFF WRITER

The Grand Rapids Ballet Company will breathe new life into a classic children's story containing monsters, mischief and magic.

Award-winning Author Maurice Sendak's Where the Wild Things Are will be performed by Michigan's only professional ballet company for two shows on March 31. "There is a lot of interest in it," said

Laura Berman, associate artistic director. "It's very popular. It's a great way to introduce young children to the art form."

PLEASE SEE BALLET, E23

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

Who: The Grand Rapids Ballet Company performs this famous children's story. When: Shows at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday, March 31

Where: Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit.

Tickets: \$20, at the Detroit Opera House ticket office, by phone at (313) 237-SING or (248) 645-6666, or online at

www.MichiganOpera.org or

www.TicketMaster.com. Ballet Classes: The Grand Rapids Ballet Company is conducting a parent and child movement class for ages 3-5 and a ballet technique master class for dancers, ages

8-10. Classes cost \$12 each and take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 31, at the Detroit Opera House.



The Grand Rapids Ballet Company will perform 'Where the Wild Things Are' March 31 at the **Detroit Opera House.**

E8 (**) • Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007



Ann Arbor opens first **Arthur Miller Theatre**

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA STAFF WRITER

The wait is over. On March 29, the University of Michigan will open a new theater named for famed American playwright Arthur Miller.

The only venue that bears his name, the Arthur Miller Theatre is located on the university's North Campus, inside the Walgreen Drama Center.

"He's an alumni of the university and an award-winning playwright who had a very good relationship with the Department of Theatre over the years," said Kerianne Tupac, marketing and communications director at the University of Michigan.

Former U-M President Lee C. Bollinger was the first person to express an interest in creating the theater. During his 1997 inauguration, he said: "This is a community that loves the word, that loves performance. This is vital to what we are as a community and as an institution."

That vision is now a reality.

"There is lots of excitement in the air, certainly up around North Campus where the building is," Tupac said. She said curious visitors have been wandering

the lobby, and tickets for the inaugural show - that went on sale in January - sold out in less than four weeks. To celebrate the opening, the

Department of Theatre and Drama will present Miller's

acclaimed Playing for Time. The story offers a biographical account of a part-Jewish French cabaret singer who is forced to perform in the women's orchestra of an

sion in 1980, the play earned a Peabody Award, four Emmys and was nominated for a Golden Globe. The cast for this production includes 37 members.

"The play is rarely performed, given its scope and the large scale of its production," said Greggory Poggi, chair of the Theatre and Drama Department. "So it's fitting to open the Arthur Miller Theatre with a work with which audiences are not too familiar, and one that expresses, in Miller's words, 'raising the truth-consciousness of mankind to a level of such intensity as to transform those who observe it."

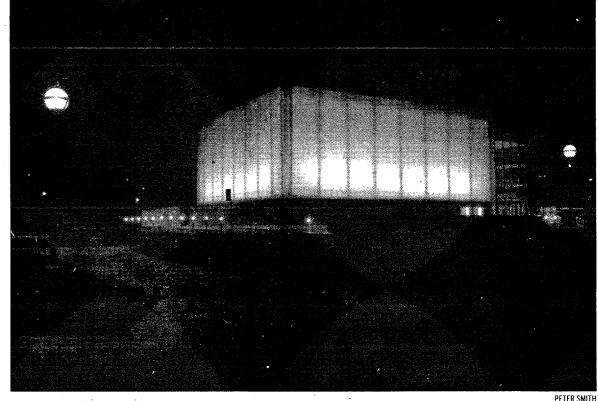
Robert Chapel. Vince Mountain serves as scenic designer. Jessica Hahn is the costume designer.

ed permission allowing the uni-

Auschwitz death camp. Adapted for televi-

The production is directed by

In 2000, Arthur Miller grant-



Like a translucent glass cube above a multi-hued masonry base, the new Arthur Miller Theatre transforms into a luminous beacon at night in Ann Arbor.

versity to name a theater after him.

He reviewed designs for the theater before his death in February 2005. The theater can be configured two ways. A traditional end-stage theater set up will hold 280 seats, while a three-quarter trust design, where the audience surrounds 3/4 of the stage, leaves space for 215 seats.

"It's very intimate," Tupac said. "There is no seat farther than 25 feet from the stage."

The space is accented by a three-story glass atrium and a central staircase that connects the theater to academic classrooms.

"It has a light-box quality," Tupac said. "It lights up in the evening and can be seen for miles away, here in Ann Arbor."

The theater was constructed within the new drama center, made possible by a \$10 million gift from Charles R. Walgreen Jr., a 1938 graduate of the College of Pharmacy. Construction began in 2005 and the center itself opened last year. At least five productions are

planned for the next season, though Tupac said titles have not been determined at this time.

Also in time for the theater's opening, from March 29 to April 1, The Global Miller Symposium will examine the late American playwright's influence and legacy on theater. Organizer and English Professor Enoch Brater plans to simultaneously launch his latest book, titled Global Miller.

To learn more about the symposium or attend other events surrounding the grand opening celebration, visit www.music.umich.edu.

scasola@hometownlife.com (248) 901-2567

Big band sounds blare at Seldom Blues



Seldom Blues, the fine dining restaurant and jazz supper club in Detroit, hosts big band nights on Thursdays in April - featuring renowned trumpet player and band director Johnny Trudell and his 18-piece band.

"The band has such a unique and lively sound - it's truly an experience for our guests to enjoy," said Charlene Gulliford, Seldom Blues general manager, about Johnny Trudell and his

band

As a lead trumpet player for Motown Records, Trudell has performed with The Temptations, The Supremes, Diana Ross, Stevie Wonder and Marvin Gave. He's also been the music director at Detroit's Fox Theater, the Detroit Lions Orchestra, The Gem Theatre and the Meadow Brook Music Festival.

On the other end of the musi-

cal spectrum, pop and R&B songwriter Bobby Caldwell performs Sunday, April 15.

Caldwell has a successful career with numerous solo releases and his songwriting skills have earned hits for himself, as well as for well-known artists like Chicago, Boz Scaggs, Peter Cetera, Amy Grant, and Neil Diamond.

Caldwell's classic, What You Won't Do For Love, has been

recorded and sampled by more than 100 artists.

His show is at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$100 including dinner, or \$40 with appetizers.

Big Band Thursdays will be held every Thursday in April without a cover charge.

View the menu at www.seldomblues.com. Call (313) 567-7301.

Lana Mini

www.hometownlife.com

Subscribe by calling 1-866-88-PAPER (866-887-2737)

E10 (**) • Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007



30 Seconds to Mars (featuring Jared Leto) is currently one of modern rock's buzz bands.

Taste of Chaos features 30 Seconds to Mars

The Taste of Chaos festival visits Cobo Hall on Saturday, March 31, featuring actor Jared Leto's band 30 Seconds to Mars. Also performing are The Used

ing are The Used, Senses Fail, Saosin, Aiden and Evaline

Chiodos, Aiden and Evaline. It's an evening of modern/gothic-influenced rock.

The Used, one of the most successful current bands of its rock genre, and 30 Seconds to Mars are the headliners. Mars isn't just popular because of lead vocalist Leto (*Requiem For A Dream, Panic Room*, *Girl Interrupted*). The CD *A Beautiful Life* went gold recently and the band's latest single From Yesterday is quickly climbing the charts.

The band members of Chiodos created the band when they were in high school in Flint. They've toured with bands such as Atreyu and were one of the breakout acts on last summer's Vans Warped Tour. Senses Fail's second CD *Still Searching* debuted at No. 15 on *Billboard* while Saosin has been on a nonstop tour on three continents.

Aiden calls its music "horror rock." Evaline will release its first CD in 2007.

Tickets are \$30. Visit Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com or call (248) 645-6666.

Lana Mini

The Used is one of the festival's headliners.



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Reservations Recommended

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007• (**) Ett



CENERARE

Scalawags in Rochester Hills serves up a two-piece fish dinner with whitefish, fries, hush puppies and cole slaw.

Scalawags savors the flavor of Up North

BY GREG KOWALSKI STAFF WRITER

From the minnow buckets turned into ceiling lamps to the whitefish in the fryers, Scalawags Whitefish & Chips has brought a real taste of Up North to Oakland County.

Scalawags recently opened on Rochester Road, just north of M-59 in Rochester Hills. Somewhere between fast food and fine dining, Scalawags offers whitefish. shrimp, perch and walleye, all served fish-and-chips style with hushpuppies, french fries and coleslaw. A variety of sandwiches and salads round out the menu. But the fish is the lure to bring

customers in.

We're the only place in southeast Michigan that's selling real whitefish," said Philip Sherman, who co-owns the restaurant with



his wife, Suzy. "Most places sell pressed cod that's been frozen for who knows how long."

Scalawags specializes in top quality fresh fish cooked in premium trans fat-free oil. The emphasis is on quality, and that extends past the menu.

"Our staff is trained to be very good to our customers," Philip Sherman said. "Customer service is really big here."

Guests place their order at a front counter, and their food is brought to them at the tables or booths that fill the dining room, usually within six minutes.

The restaurant decor is pure Up North. Scalawags was founded in 1993 by Suzy Sherman's brother, Brian Parker, who expanded the operation into eight restaurants mainly in the Mackinaw and Traverse City areas.

Parker handpicked and handmade much of the fishing-related decor that adorns the ceiling and walls. There are fishing poles, lures (minus hooks), oars and even two antique outboard motors hanging on the walls along with nets, floats and a host of other items that might have washed up on the beach.

PLEASE SEE SCALAWAGS, E13

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ww.hometownlife.co



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SCALAWAGS

FROM PAGE E12

In fact, some of them did. Parker regularly walks the beaches Up North, scouting for flotsam and jetsam that can be transformed into decorations.

SCALAWAGS WHITEFISH & CHIPS 3290 S. Rochester Road, (248) 290-3355 Hours: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday; 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday. Web site: www.scalawagswhitefish.com Smoking: No

Of special meaning is the mural photo on the back wall of Suzy's dad, Kay, taken during a fishing trip in 1963. "He's the original scalawag," Suzy said.

The dining room is a new venue for the Shermans. They spent most of their professional lives in newsrooms. Both were longtime journalists; Suzy once was editor of the *West Bloomfield Eccentric* and Philip was managing editor for the *Eccentric* Newspapers. "We both decided we had to find

something else to do," Philip said.

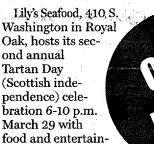
"And we always wanted our own business." Making the transition wasn't easy, Philip admits, but the restaurant and newspaper business share one trait: "Things have to be done correctly and on time," Philip said.

It seems they are.

"We've already been here three or four times," said Zoran Toplovic, who was having lunch with friend Tony Djordjevski one afternoon two weeks after Scalawags opened.

They work in the area and spotted the restaurant while driving on Rochester Road. They were lured by the whitefish. "It's great," said Djordjevski.

Speaking of great, "I'm having a great time," Suzy said. Along with cooking, ordering stock and doing paperwork, Suzy mingles with the customers. "Being out meeting with the people is the best part," she said.



ment. Guys in Kilts Playing the Great Highland Bagpipe – that's the name of the group – will be performing. Items to be served are scotch eggs, haggis, black pudding with barley and peas, cock-a-leekie soup, seafood shepherd's pie, poached salmon, blue mussels with scotch cheddar and special scotch tastings, and ale.

Dinner is served at 5 p.m., then pipers arrive at 6 p.m. Colin Page will entertain with Scottish and Celtic tunes, then more piping.

Call for reservation availability at (248) 591-5459.

Opus One in Detroit, is participating in a new fund-raising program for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and nine other nonprofit organizations. Opus One, located at 565 E.

Larned, will donate 25 percent

of all funds generated from guest checks until early June, Monday through Thursday, to local charities, over a 10-week period. To ensure the dining proceeds benefit the DSO, patrons must check off the

Orchestra's name on the insert they will receive at the end of their meal.

The campaign will conclude with a special celebratory winetasting reception June 7 at the Ford Conference and Event Center in Dearborn.

Guests will be treated to several premium wines and a strolling supper specially prepared by Opus One, and can bid on prize packages during a live auction.

For information or to purchase tickets for the June 7 wine tasting reception, call the DSO Volunteer Council at (313) 576-5154. For information on Cuisine for a Cause, visit the Opus One Web site at www.opus-one.com.

Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar is scheduled to open in downtown Birmingham on the northwest corner of Old Woodward Avenue and Willits (323 North Old Woodward Avenue) on Friday, March 30.

The restaurant offers steakhouse dining — aged beef, chops, fresh seafood and vegetables, and salads—with a wine list with more than 100 world class wines served by the glass.

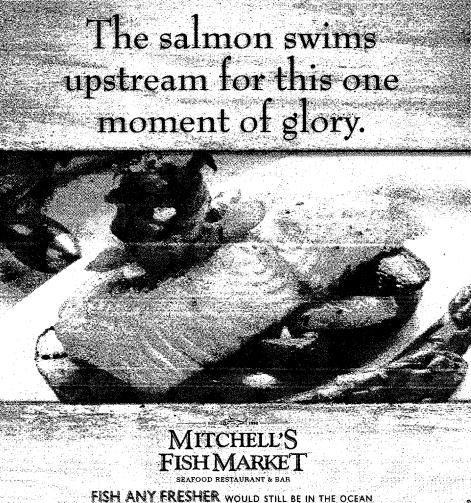
Much of Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar success centers around its progressive wine program, which has received accolades from both Food & Wine and Wine Spectator magazines (37 Awards of Excellence in 2006).

The team behind the Birmingham restaurant is operating partner Curtis Nordeen and chef partner Andrew Craig.

Together, they will oversee operations for the 8,400 square foot space, which has seating capacity for 280 patrons. The Birmingham restaurant will feature three private dining rooms that can accommodate from 30 to 60 guests. The average price per person for dinner is \$55.

Dinner is served seven days a week and reservations are welcomed at (248) 723-0134.





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Readers' Choice Here are your favorite restaurants, clubs and family destinations

We asked and you answered.

We requested from you what your choices were for where you like to eat, socialize and enjoy time with your families – from your favorite lunch spot with Mom and Dad to the best nightclubs for those under 30. We found you like Buddy's pizzas and Red Coat Tavern's burgers.

You love the Detroit Institute of Arts, and the Henry Ford, and in the winter, The Fridge.

We also asked editorial staffers at the *Observer* \mathcal{C} *Eccentric Newspapers* what are some of their favorites places to go and included those selections as well.

While you may not agree with the list (these lists are always debatable and rarely cutand-dried in the final selection), it's always fun to check out what others choose in the poll and maybe even give you ideas of where you may want to eat, drink or hang out with your family.

Enjoy.

FOOD AND DINING

BEST PASTRY OR SWEET SHOP

Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, 8036 Wayne Road, Westland, (734) 261-3680, www.marydenning.com. Besides cakes, Denning bakes brownies, pies, wedding cakes, pasties and pot pies.

BEST SOUL FOOD

Sweet Georgia Brown's, Detroit fine food and all that jazz, 1045 Brush, Detroit, (313) 965-1245. Looking for fried lobster? You'll find it here, along with Veal Loin Scallopini and Herb Roasted Chicken on sweet potato hash.

BEST RESTAURANT FOR A FIRST DATE

East Side Mario's, 31630 Plymouth, Livonia, (734) 513-8803; 2273 Crooks Road, Rochester Hills, (248) 853-9622. Various Italian dishes that taste great in a casual, fun atmosphere.

BEST 24-HOUR RESTAURANT

White Castle, several metro Detroit locations, www.whitecastle.com. You haven't really lived here until you've tried a slider. Buy 'em by the sack, and they'll feed an army at your next gathering. Great for bachelor parties.

BEST INDIAN

Priya Indian Cuisine, 36600 Grand River, Farmington Hills, (248) 615-7700, www.priyancuisine.com and 72 W. Maple, Troy, (248) 269-0100, www.priyanrestaurant.com. Features several varieties of Curries, Dals, Tandoor kabobs and Biryanis.

BEST THAI

Thai Bistro-Canton, 45620 Ford Road,

Canton, (734) 416-2122. Robustly flavored dishes and a local favorite for several years.

BEST CHINESE

Golden Dragon, 32 S. Washington, Oxford, (248) 628-9800. North Oakland readers love this place, especially the buffets.

BEST ITALIAN

(tie) **Olive Garden**, pizza, filled pastas,

salads, www.olivegarden.com; Paparazzi

Grill, 185 S. Broadway in Lake Orion, (248) 814-1100. OK, Olive Garden is a chain, but the menu has variety for whatever your mood is in Italian fare.

BEST GREEK

Pegasus Taverna, 558 Monroe, Detroit, (313) 964-6800. Great blends of herbs and spices in food in fun, casual atmosphere.

BEST VEGETARIAN/VEGAN

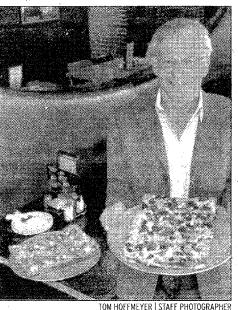
Inn Season Café, 500 Fourth St., Royal Oak, (248) 547-7916. A great variety of ethnic flavors with emphasis on organic foods.

BEST FINE DINING

The Whitney, 4421 Woodward, Detroit, www.thewhitney.com, (313) 832-5700. The new owner is Bud Liebler. Readers love this restaurant, an overwhelming favorite for a special occasion.

BEST BURGER

Red Coat Tavern, 31542 Woodward, Royal Oak, (248) 549-0300. A favorite spot since the 1970s, serving delicious 1/2-pound burgers, including



Readers chose Buddy's pizza as their favorite.

Piedmontese beef.

BEST PIZZA

Buddy's Pizza, has several metro area locations, including one at 33605 Plymouth Road, Livonia, (734) 261-3550. Or find one near you at www.buddyspizza.com/findabuddys.htm.

A Detroit original since 1936, Buddy's Pizza is best known for its deep-dish square pies in varieties from Greek to BBQ Chicken.

BEST PLACE FOR COFFEE

Caribou Coffee. This chain has several locations, including one at 1333 North Coolidge Highway, Troy, (248) 643-4483.

Or find one near you at www.cariboucoffee.com/locations.

From kid-friendly cocoas to specialty coffee drinks like a Turtle Mocha, to the daily roast, choices abound.

BEST SUSHI BAR

'Izakaya Sanpei, 43327 Joy Road, Canton,

(734) 416-9605. Fans of Izakaya Sanpei enjoy an authentic Japanese menu and a large variety of dishes for lunch or dinner.

NIGHTLIFE AND ENTERTAINMENT

BEST MICROBREWERY

Woodward Avenue Brewers, 22646 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 546-3696. WAB offers a solid selection of popular microbrews — from a dark Vanilla Porter to the Custom Blonde to complement a menu of salads and sandwiches that might even satisfy health-conscious patrons.

FAVORITE PLACE TO SEE-AND-BE-SEEN

UNDER 30

The Bosco, 22930 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 541-8818, www.thebosco.com. Opened in 2001 and gave Ferndale nightlife a chic new spin. From the lounge's minimalist design to inventive cocktails, it has a loyal following.

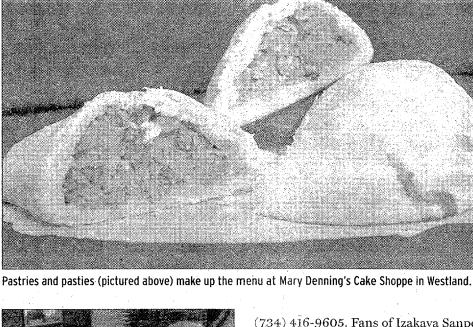
FAVORITE PLACE TO SEE-AND-BE-SEEN OVER 40

220 Merrill, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham, (248) 645-2150. This swanky restaurant and bar named for its address remains an enduring favorite for the over-40 crowd, thanks to a contemporary menu and the lively jazz and spirits found downstairs at Edison's.

BEST IRISH PUB

Old Shillelagh, 349 Monroe, Detroit, (313) 964-0007, www.oldshillelagh.com. This watering hole, open since 1975, is the place to guzzle a Guinness and start a sing-along.

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FAVORITE PLACE TO AVOID THE MEAT MARKET YET STILL BE HIP

Via Nove, 344 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale, (248) 336-9936, www.vianoverestaurant.com. Via Nove redefined elegance with a Southern Italian flare, extensive wine list, and outdoor grotto dining in the summertime.

BEST BEER MENU

Box Bar, 777 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, (734) 459-7390. With hundreds of beers to choose from, this downtown Plymouth favorite can't be beat. The wide selection is matched by a simple burger menu and quaint surroundings.

BEST SIGNATURE COCKTAIL

Bahama Mama at Bahama Breeze. Locations include 19600 Haggerty Road, in Livonia and 539 E. Big Beaver Road, in Troy. Call (248) 528-1674 in Troy or (734) 542-0891 in Livonia, or visit www.bahamabreeze.com. This must-try cocktail is made with fresh squeezed orange juice, pineapple juice, Banana Liqueur, and a combination of Malibu and Myers' Original Dark Rum.

BEST BAR TO DISCOVER NEW BANDS

Fifth Avenue Ballroom, 25750 Novi Road, Novi, (248) 735-4011, www.fifthavenuebilliards.com for details. With locations at Comerica Park, in downtown Royal Oak and Novi, it's a matter of personal taste. The bars are known for showcasing everything from electronica, rock and hip hop to blues from Wednesday-Saturday.

BEST HAPPY HOUR

Hamlin Pub, 1988 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills, (248) 656-7700. Traditional bar fare in a fun atmosphere.

BEST LIVE ROCK CLUB

Harpos, 14238 Harper Ave., Detroit, (313) 824-1700, www.harposconcerttheatre.com. Opened in 1939 as the Harper Theatre, today it is the premiere venues for metal bands and industrial rock.

BEST GALLERY TO FIND NEW ARTISTS

Lawrence Street Gallery, 22620 Woodward Ave., Suite A, Ferndale, (248) 544-0394,

www.lawrencestreetgallery.com. Makes concerted effort to showcase vast field of talent in Detroit area.

BEST HIGH-ENERGY DANCE CLUB

Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron St., Pontiac, (248) 333-2362, www.clutchcargos.com. Church converted into a nightclub.

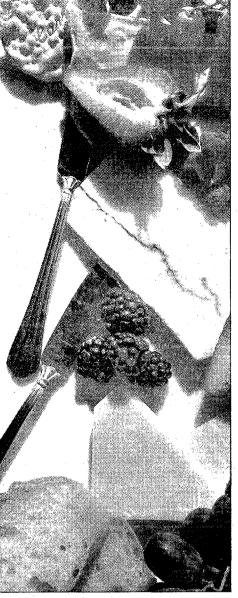
BEST BAR JUKEBOX

New Way Bar, 23130 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. (248) 541-9870, myspace.com/newwaybar. Also hosts live rock, blues, jazz, country acts.

BEST ACOUSTIC VENUE

ww.hometownlife.com

The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, (734) 761-1451, www.theark.org. Great acts, great venue.



Vinotecca is a favorite wine bar with its fruits and cheese.

BEST PLACE TO SHARE A BOTTLE OF

WINE Kruse & Muer, www.kruseandmuerrestaurants

com, three locations in Troy, Rochester and Lake Orion. Nice intimate setting with a great variety of seafood selections.

FAVORITE WINE BAR

Vinotecca, 417 S. Main St., Royal Oak, (248) 544-6256, www.vinotecca.com. Experience and savor wine and food, and enjoy great conversation with friends.

FAVORITE PLACE TO SING KARAOKE

CK Diggs, 2010 Auburn Road, Rochester Hills, (248) 853-6600, www.ckdiggs.com. Oh, and the beer list is pretty good, too, with food a step up from typical bar fare.

BEST LATE NIGHT DANCE CLUB (TILL 4:30 A.M.)

Leland City Club, at the Leland Hotel, 400 Bagley St., downtown Detroit, (313) 962-2300, wwwlelandcityclub.net. If you love industrial music and are seeking an energetic nightclub, Leland is a great place to hang with friends.

BEST LIVE JAZZ JOINT

Baker's Keyboard Lounge, 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit, (313) 345-6300, www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com. Baker's still has that great acoustic sound that makes it a favorite for jazz fans.

BEST PLACE TO DANCE SALSA OR TANGO OR TO SEE FLAMENCO DANCING

The Sky Club, 401 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, (248) 543-1964. Located above Sangria, Sky Club offers an upscale, urban lounge atmosphere. "Latin Nights" Wednesdays and Thursdays feature award-winning dance lessons followed by Latin grooves.

BEST PLACE TO WATCH BELLY DANCE

The Sheik, 13944 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, (248) 945-0590. This Middle Eastern restaurant serves up great fare, from the food to the beautiful dancers who entertain diners.

BEST PLACE FOR COUNTRY LINE DANCE

Diamondback Saloon, 49345 S. I-94 Service Drive, Belleville, (734) 699-7899, www.diamondbacksaloon.com. The Diamondback Saloon holds free line dance classes on Sunday nights, and always offers a down-home good time.

FAMILY STUFF

FAVORITE PLACE TO TAKE KIDS IN THE WINTER (INDOOR)

(tie) Cranbrook Institute of Science, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, (877) GOCRANBROOK, www.cranbrook.edu and Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor, (734) 995-5439,

www.aahom.org. Family fun can be educational too. Cranbrook features a towering T.Rex, planetarium and 11 permanent galleries with exhibits ranging from Earth sciences to anthropology to matter in motion. The Ann Arbor Hands-On museum boasts a light and optics gallery, a LASER maze, birthday parties and a hands-on store.

FAVORITE PLACE TO TAKE KIDS IN THE WINTER (OUTDOOR)

The Fridge at Waterford Oaks County Park, 2800 Watkins Lake Road, Waterford, (248) 858-0906, www.oaklandfridge.com. Bundle up for Michigan's only "winter roller coaster," where sledders zip along at speeds in excess of 30 mph. Open mid-December through mid-March.

FAVORITE PLACE TO TAKE KIDS IN THE SUMMER

Cedar Point Amusement Park, One Cedar Point Drive, Sandusky, Ohio, (419) 627-2350, www.cedarpoint.com. This famous amusement park adds a new stomach-dropping ride each year for brave big kids, and has great entertainment for wee ones too.

FAVORITE MUSEUM TO WANDER ON A WEEKEND

Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org. For more than a century, the DIA has housed some of the world's greatest works of art. The museum prepares to unveil its renovation and expansion later this year, but in the meantime, see a remix of the permanent collection organized in new ways, and Ansel Adams photographs through May 27.

BEST MOVIE THEATRE

Emagine Novi, 44425 W. 12 Mile Road, Novi and 39535 Ford Road, Canton, (888) 319-3456, www.emagine-entertainment.com. Emagine delivers "The Magic of Movies & More." The theatres were first in the world to install digital capability into all of its screens. See the latest movies or popular sports and TV programs (including American Idol finals in May) while sipping cocktails in your seat.

BEST FAMILY RESTAURANT

Red Robin, several locations throughout Metro Detroit, www.redrobin.com. Red Robin's environment and food go over great with kids and tweens, while mom and dad love the gourmet burgers and spirits.

BEST CHEAP EATS

Bate's Burgers, 33406 Five Mile Road, Livonia, (734) 427-3464. Whether they belly up to the bar or hit the takeout window, readers love the sliders and chili cheese fries at this classic burger joint.

FAVORITE LUNCH PLACE WITH MOM OR DAD

Recipes, 2919 Crooks Road, Troy, (248) 614-5390. Recipes' bright, airy atmosphere is great for a lunch date with the 'rents, but you just might want to order a gourmet breakfast and make it brunch.

FAVORITE PLACE TO HAVE A BEER WITH DAD

Library Sports Pub and Grill, 42100 Grand River, Novi, (248) 349-1833. Tell ma you're going to the Library, then enjoy solid beers, reliable burgers and virtually any game you care to watch on the big screens at this laidback bar.

More Filter staff favorites are on page E17.

TIGERS

FROM: PAGE E3

the attached screen is a fair ball.

The batter and/or runners get two bases on a thrown or fairly batted ball that goes behind field tarp and remains there.

A ball rebounding into the playing field is *in play*.

Two bases also are allowed for thrown balls that enter the dugouts, adjacent camera pits, or seating area.

For any ball passing through or under the bullpen fence, the batter and/or runners are allowed *two bases*.

Batted fly balls caught in any area of the dugout are ruled *out of play*.

Any batted ball striking padding on flagpole, striking padding and falling into stands or striking above the padding are all home runs.

WHERE IS IT?

■ Comerica Park is located at 2100 Woodward Ave., south of I-75 (Fisher Freeway) across from the Fox Theatre. There are parking lots everywhere along Woodward Avenue and side streets and fees vary. It can cost up to \$20. (Last year, we found many charging \$40.)

■ For physically challenged guests, there are drop-off areas at Gate B, at the corner of Adams and Witherall. A second location is Gate D, on Montcalm between Brush Street and Woodward Avenue. Allow plenty of time before the game for traffic jams. ■ The Guest Services office is

■ The Guest Services office is located behind section 130 on the main concourse.

FUN AT COMERICA

Inside the park itself are bars, rides, and restaurants such as:

■ Cigar Bar – The elegant bar mixes a 1940s atmosphere with modern elements and features a piano player. It's an upscale location and is the park's only indoor smoking area.

■ The Beer Hall – A low-key party place that sits about 350. Popular for hosting private parties.

■ Brushfire Grill – An outdoor picnic area with food and drink that includes the Fly Ball Ferris Wheel, and the baseball fountain where water dances to the beat of music.

■ The Witherall Bar – A small space for cocktail parties or private events with a view of Foxtown.

WATCH & LISTEN

■ Watch the game on Fox Sports Network, or at www.tigers.com, listen to it on WXYT 1270 AM or WKRK 97.1 FM

GROOVE

■ On opening day, Michigan natives The Verve Pipe (who sing the hit song *The Freshman*) will perform.

"What a great opportunity, especially with the Tigers coming off of a banner year," said lead vocalist Brian Vander Ark.

Three days later, on Thursday, April 5, Vander Ark and the Airsteam – his solo project – performs at the Magic Bag in Ferndale.

FIREWORKS AT COMERICA

Begin in May on Friday and Saturday evenings during home games

PROMOTION

■ Free orange towels, Tiger calendars, game schedules, running of the bases for kids and more are part of the fun at home games. Visit www.detroittigers.com for the full schedule.





pitcher Jeremy Bonderman agreed to a four-year, \$38 million contract with Detroit Tigers after he went 14-8 in 2006 and struck out 202 batters.

In December,

Recommended

O&E staffers pick their favorites

Here are some favorite places suggested by editorial staffers at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers:

FOOD AND DINING

Best Pastry or Sweet Shop — Astoria Pastry Shop, 541 Monroe, Greektown, (313) 963-9603, also has a location in Royal Oak. Great baklava and wonderful pastries.

Best Soul Food — Beans & Cornbread, 29508 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, (248) 208-1680. A blend of Southern soul and cosmopolitan ambience.

Best Restaurant for a First Date — Cafe Cortina, 30715 10 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, (248) 474-3033. Reserve a fireplace table for an impressive evening.

Best 24-hour restaurant — Ram's Horn, several locations, including Farmington, Livonia, Rochester Hills, Southfield, Troy and Westland. After a late evening, drop in for quick bite.

Best Indian — Priya Indian Cuisine, with locations in Farmington Hills and Troy, www.priyanrestaurant.com. Don't miss the naan.

Best Chinese — Szechuan Empire, several locations in Livonia and Commerce Township. Lunch specials are plentiful and economical.

Best Italian — Bravo Cucina, locations in Livonia and Rochester Hills. Tasty pasta, salads and sandwiches.

Best Thai — Thai City, 6534 N. Wayne Road, Westland, (734) 729-4470. It's cozy, and the delectable dishes have a steady heat to them.

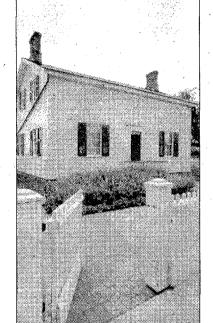
Best Vegetarian --- Seva, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 662-1111. Of course, there are soups, salads, sandwiches and Mexican entrees.

Best Pizza — Buddy's, several locations. A local favorite for gourmet pies.

Best Greek — New Hellas, 583 Monroe, Detroit, (313) 961-5544. Enjoy favorites like saganaki and moussaka.

Best Place for Coffee — Java Hutt, 165 W. Nine Mile,

www.hometowolife.com



THE HENRY FO

The Henry Ford boasts of wonderful historical sites, including Henry Ford's birthplace.

Ferndale, (248) 542-2438. Inexpensive sandwiches and excellent coffee drinks.

Best Sushi — Sushi Cafe, 1933 W. Maple, Troy, (248) 280-1831. A little pricey, but delicious sushi.

Best Late Night — Leland City Club, 400 Bagley, Detroit, (313) 962-2300. Longtime goth/industrial hot spot.

Best Jazz Club — Cliff Bells, 2030 Park Ave., Detroit, (313) 961-2543. Beautifully restored 1920s bar.

Best Bar/Restaurant for Salsa Dance — Monkey Bar, 141 W. Nine Mile, Ferndale, (248) 582-7227. Cozy atmosphere, elevated lounge area, salsa class, hot dance nights on Fridays.

Best Bar/Restaurant for Tango ---Tu-Can Tango, 6041 Haggerty, West Bloomfield, (248) 669-6160. Tapas, martini bar and wine menu. Featuring Rio Wednesdays.

Best Bar/Restaurant for Bellydance — Uncle Sam's Village Cafe, 3337 Greenfield, Dearborn, (313) 271-8040. Belly dancing Fridays and Saturday nights. Also serves Middle Eastern cuisine. Best Bar/Restaurant for Flamenco

shows — Sangria Tapas Cafe, 401 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, (248) 543-1964. Spain's dance, music and song highlighted on Thursday nights.

Best Local Record Label — Le Grand Magistery, visit www.legrandmagistery.com.

NIGHTLIFE AND ENTERTAINMENT

Best microbrewery — Woodward Avenue Brewers, 22646 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 546-3696. The Custom Blonde brew is outstanding. Trust us.

Favorite place to see and be seen under 30 — Bosco, 930 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 541-8818. A chic Euro-style night spot.

Favorite place to see and be seen over 40 — Small Plates, 1521 Broadway, Detroit, (313) 963-0497. Appropriately named, there's a great selection of small plates of garlic shrimp, empanadas, hand-cut fries and more.

Best Irish Pub — Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple, Birmingham (248) 642-1135. A true Irish pub experience.

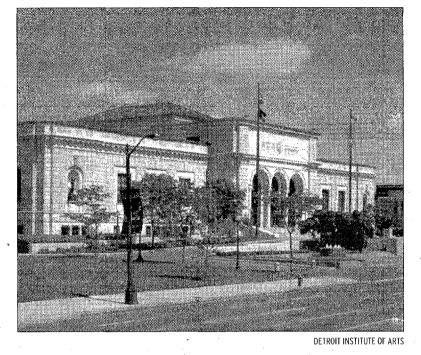
Favorite place to avoid the meat market, yet still be hip — Beverly Hills Grill, 31471 Southfield, Beverly Hills, (248) 642-2355. A happening place, casual but upscale with excellent food.

Best beer menu — Box Bar, 777 W. Ann Arbor Trail, (734) 459-7390. Tasty bar fare, good burgers, excellent beer selection. Best signature cocktail — The

Bosco's Mojito.

Best place for new bands — (Tie) Small's, 10339 Conant in Hamtramck, (313) 873-1117, recently revamped with great sound, and The Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 833-9700 Ext. 203. Great acts, local and national.

Best Live Rock — St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (313) 961-8137. Still brings upand-coming bands to town. Best High Energy Dance Club —



The Detroit Institute of Arts is one of our favorites.

Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac, (248) 645-6666. This church-turned-nightclub

endures for nightclubbers. Best Jukebox — Gusoline Alley, 308 S. Center, Royal Oak, (248)

545-2235, great mix of genres. Favorite Karaoke Bar — Royal

Kubo, formerly at 25234 Greenfield, Oak Park, (248) 968-7550, currently relocating to Clawson.

FAMILY STUFF

Best place to take kids in the winter — Detroit Science Center, 5020 John R (between Detroit Institute of Arts and Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History), (313) 577-8400, www.detroitsciencecenter.org. Featuring Michigan's only IMAX® Dome Theatre, the Dassault Systèmes Planetarium, demonstrations and hands-on exhibit laboratories.

Best place to take kids in the summer — The Henry Ford, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, (313) 982-6100. Wander Greenfield Village, take in an IMAX movie or see exhibits at the museum.

Best museum to wander on a weekend — (tie) The Henry Ford, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, (313) 982-6100, or Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (313) 833-7900.

Best movie theater — AMC Star Theatres at Great Lakes Crossing 25, 4300 Baldwin, Auburn Hills, (248) 454-0314. Variety on 25 screens.

Best family restaurant — Outback Steakhouse, several locations, www.outback.com, also serves shrimp and salads.

Best cheap eats — Senate Coney Island, 34359 Plymouth, Livonia, (734) 422-5075. Great coneys, sandwiches and soups.

Best lunch place with mom or dad — Bastone, 419 S. Main, Royal Oak, (248) 544-6250. Great Belgian beers, too.

Best bar for beer with dad — Mason's, 13490 Farmington, Livonia, (734) 427-0650. Tasty burgers.

Best day trip for the entire family — Frankenmuth, visit michigan.org. More than just chicken dinners, now with new family attractions.

Best place to take kids under 10 — Chuck E. Cheese's, several locations, visit

www.chuckecheese.com. Pizza and fun for kids' birthdays.

Favorite place for teenagers to go — Somerset Collection, 2800 W. Big Beaver (at Coolidge), Troy, (248) 643-6360, www.thesomersetcollection.com. Shop at exclusive stores. Send, fax or e-mail items for consideration in Get Out! at least two weeks in advance to Ken Abramczyk, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, fax (248) 644-1314 or e-mail kabramcz@hometownlife.com. Please include a short summary with details of the event, address of the event location, date and time, a phone number and/or Web site that members of the public can contact for more information.

For an expanded calendar list, visit the Get Out! calendar online at the Filter Entertainment section at www.hometownlife.com.

ART EXHIBITS Detroit Institute of Arts

Friday Nights at the DIA, music in museum's Rivera Court 6:30 and 8 n.m. guided tours of Highlights of Europe and America, 6 and 7:30 p.m. Fridays, and 1 and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays; 5200 Woodward Ave., (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org.

Detroit Public Library

70th annual Detroit Public Schools Student Exhibition, opening reception 1 p.m. March 31, exhibit runs through May 5, 5201 Woodward, across the street from the Detroit Institute of Arts, www.dia.org.

Flint Institute of Arts

After Lewis and Clark, The Forces of Change 1806-1871, paintings, drawings and prints by artists who accompanied explorers, including Meriweather Lewis and William Clark, as they encountered the unexpected and unique sub jects of the American West, through April 29, 1120 Kearsley, Flint, (810) 234-1695, flintarts.org.

The Henry Ford

The Eames Lounge Chair: An Icon of Modern Design will run through April 29 at the muse um in Dearborn. The exhibit will feature more than 30 objects from the creative design nartnership of Charles and Ray Eames, the duo who revolutionized the world of furniture design in form and function. Lecture at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 31, in the Museum Gallery. Call (313) 982-6001, www.thehenryford.org.

Shrinking Cities

Runs through April 1 at two locations: Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills and The Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit: Where: 4454 Woodward Ave. at Garfield, Detroit. Upcoming programs include: 7 p.m. Thursday, March 29, at MOCAD hear the lecture: Imagination, Process, Reality: Three Projects for Develop.m.ent in Detroit; 9 p.m Friday, March 30, at MOCAD hear music by Jeff Karolski & Afhumae Black (of Hexane): 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at Cranbrook is a Gallery Talk featuring Cranbrook Academy of Art graduate students; then at 2 p.m. MOCAD hosts a lecture on Sunflowers and Switchgrass: Urban Phytoremediation, at 7 p.m. MOCAD hosts films: I am Farming Humanity (2001) by Ingo Vetter and Annette Weisser and Garden Stories (2004) by Boris Gerrets. For more information, (248) 645-3300, www.cranbrookart.edu

ART GALLERIES

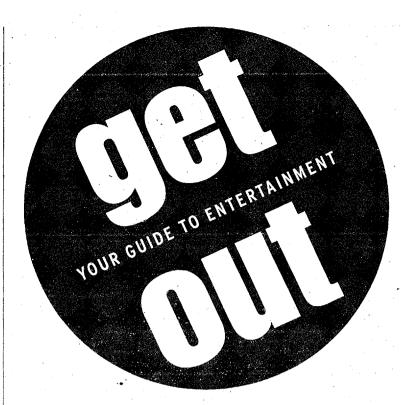
Artcraft Gallery

Texture Reflections Alan Casadei through April 28, 32410 Woodward, Royal Oak, (248) 549-9000.

Awakening ... The Artist Inside

Golden Acrylic Paints & Mediums, artist pre view night with Valerie Allen (mixed media), 6-9 p.m. Friday, April 6, part of Northville's First Friday Art Walk, 111 N. Center, Northville, (248) 347-0807 or visit www.AwakeningtheArtistInside.com.

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Beauty (Salon)

Paintings by Mark Sengbusch, runs through April 27, B. Gallery, 235 Willits Alley, Birmingham, (248) 540-0046.

Cass Cafe

Disposable Heroes, paintings by Ron Zakrin, exhibit runs through June 16, 4620 Cass, Detroit (313) 831-1400.

Cranbrook Art Museum

Shrinking Cities exhibit runs through April 1: Gord Peteran: Furniture Meets its Maker, runs through April 1, all at 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 645-3300, www.cran brookart.edu. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the fourth Friday of each month. The museum is closed Monday-Tuesday and select holidays.

Gallery 4

Cheap Shots, exhibition of photographic art. with cheap, plastic cameras, a low-tech view of the world by 17 artists in the Krappy Kamera Club, through April 6, 212 Nickels Arcade (on second floor above Arcade Barbers), Ann Arbor, www.mattcallow.com/cheapshots.html.

Lawrence Street Gallery

- Alice Frank's multimedia solo exhibition runs from April 4-28, a wine and cheese opening is 6-9 p.m. Friday April 6, at 22620 Woodward,
- Suite A. Ferndale. www.lawrencestreetgalley.com, (248) 544-0394

Lemberg Gallery

- Susan Goethe Campbell, Book, Not Book exhibit, through April 28, 23241 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 591-6623, www.lemberggallerv.com
- Lotus Art Gallerv
- Thomas Arvid, painter of American Realism, 995 W. Ann Arbor Trail (at Harvey), in Plymouth, (888) 889-4ART or (734) 453-5400.
- Michigan State University Department of Art & Art History's celebration
- of its 75th anniversary, exhibition includes 21 studio artists who teach and create art, the first floor of the Kresge Art Museum; Kresge Art Museum, at Auditorium and Physics roads East Lansing, (517) 355-7631, www.artmuseum.msu.edu.

Oakland University Art Gallery

Tergloba, exploring globalization's different aspects, exhibit runs through April 15, 208 Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, (248) 370-3005 or www.oakland.edu/ouag.

Paint Creek Center for the Arts

First Floor Gallery features Travelogue by Mike Mackens, black and white photographs of artists' travels to Europe, Japan and elsewhere, exhibit runs through April 14; Main Gallery features Luzhen Qiu: Installation, onewoman installation which transforms the gallery into a unique theatrical space; 407 Pine St., Rochester, (248) 651-4110, www.pccart.org.

paulkotulaprojects

Ann Mikolowski, Works on paper, through April 21, 23255 Woodward, Ferndale, www.paulkotula.com. (248) 544-3020.

Pewabic Pottery

Vessels produced from 1901-1967, through May 18, all at 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, (313) 822-0954, www.pewabic.org.

Rochester

Spring Gallery Stroll, 6-9 p.m. April 27, participating galleries are Designhaus, 111 W. Second; Eugenia's Hair/Gallery, 212 S. Third; Hermitage Gallery, 235 Main; Haig's of Rochester, 311 Main; The Silk Worm, 400 Main; The Private Bank, 440 Main; Paint Creek Center for the Arts, 407 Pine; Catching Fireflies, 203 E. University, (248) 651-4110.

Sherrus Gallery Meditations - In Black & White, photos by Jeff Milton, through March 31, 109 N. Center, Northville, (248) 380-0470, www.sherrusgallery.com

Sherry Washington Gallery

Moments and Movements II: New Drawings and Paintings from Chun Hui Pak, exhibition runs through April 14, 1274 Library (at Grand River), Detroit, RSVP at (313) 961-4500. www.sherrywashingtongallery.com

Susanne Hilberry Gallery

Outpost, photographs by Tim Davis, John Lehr and Michael Vahrenwald, opening reception 6-8 p.m. Friday, exhibit runs through April 28, 700 Livernois, Ferndale (248) 541-4700. **University Art Gallery**

Michigan Collects Ruth Weisberg, a 40-year retrospective of the Southern California painter and printmaker, runs through April 27, all at 210 Student Center, 900 Oakwood. Ypsilanti, (734) 487-0465,

University of Michigan-Dearborn Collecting Glass: The Early Years at UM Dearborn, studio art glass collection, through May 11, public reception 5-7:30 p.m. April 20, Alfred Berkowitz Gallery, (313) 593-3592.

West Bloomfield Township Library Michigan Water Color Society Slide Show, entries in the 2007 MWCS Exhibition, 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, April 14, 4600 Walnut Lake Road (west of Orchard Lake Road), West Bloomfield (248) 682-2120

ART. ETC.

Eastern Michigan University Graduate Student Art Show, through March

30, 114 Ford Hall, Ypsilanti, (734) 487-0465. Southfield Public Library Jane Alkon, mixed media exhibit, through

March 31, 26300 Evergreen Road, www.sfldlib.org, (248) 796-4224.

Oakland Community College

11th annual Student Art Exhibition, artists' reception, 5-7 p.m. April 19. exhibition runs April 19-May 23, free, OCC's Highland Lakes Campus, 7350 Cooley Lake Road, Waterford, (248) 942-3355.

Oakland Community College

Traveling exhibit of Gandhi, King, Ikeda: A Legacy of Building Peace, photographs and historical materials, April 2-6, video on the three historic personalities, 5:30-7 p.m. April 5. OCC Roval Oak campus, 739 S. Washington at Lincoln, east of Woodward, and one milenorth of the Walter P. Reuther Freeway, (248) 233-2736

AUDITIONS

Detroit Metropolitan Youth Ensemble Detroit Boys Choir, boys between 8 and 12 (regardless of religious affiliation, 6:30-8:30 p.m. April 12, \$15, must apply by April 9, Jacob Bernard Pincus Music Education Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, www.dmve.org, (313) 850 2316

BALLET

Detroit Opera House

Where The Wild Things Are, children's hallet by the Grand Rapids Ballet Company, 2 and 5 p.m. March 31, \$20; Puccini's Turandot, April 21-29, \$28-\$120, all at Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, (313) 237-SING, www.MichiganOpera.org or www.ticketmaster.com

CLASSICAL

Birmingham Temple

Vivace series presents Scott Holden, planist, 8 p.m. Saturday, March 31, \$18-\$21, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, (248) 788-9338, (248) 661-1348, www.vivaceseries.org.

Cameron-Scott International Gallery Spring concert series, Fabulous Sundays at 4, 167 Townsend, Birmingham, reserve seat at (248) 626-4625

Measha Brueggergosman

The Canadian soprano, supported by William Bolcom on piano performs 8 p.m. April 12, Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor, (734) 764-2538 for tickets, \$10-\$50, www.ums.org

Chamber Music at the Scarab Club Bellows in the Afternoon, The Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 4 p.m. April 15, 17159 Maumee, \$10-\$20, (248) 474-8930, www.scarabclub.org/chambermusic

Dearborn Symphony Orchestra Musical Magic, May 11, all at Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, \$5-\$30, (313) 943-2354 or www.dearbornfordcenter.com.

Detroit Symphony Orchestra John Adams conducts DSO in performance of Adams' Violin Concerto, March 29, 31 and April 1, Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, (313) 576-5111, www.detroitsymphony.com.

Oakland University Saxophone and Percussion Ensembles con-

cert, 7 p.m. April 1, Varner Recital Hall, free, (248) 370-2030, oakland.edu/mtd for information

Oakland University

Chamber Ensembles, 7 p.m. April 15, Varner Recital Hall, free, (248) 370-2030, oakland.edu/mtd for information. **Oakland University**

Applied music instructor Lori Newman presents faculty recital, 8 p.m. April 18, Varner Recital Hall, (248) 370-2030, oakland.edu/mtd for information

Orchestra Canton

Season finale of Classical Canton series, Sunday Serenade, 4 p.m. April 1, Village Theater at Cherry Hill, \$20 adults, \$18 seniors, \$10 children, tickets at Summit on the Park, 4600 Summit Parkway, (734) 394-5460 Ext. 0, www.orcbestracanton.org

Stella Trio

8 p.m. March 31, Royal Oak Woman's Club for the Creative Arts Collective 404 S Pleasant (corner of 4th), Royal Oak, \$10-\$20, spencerbarefield.com (through PayPal or (313) 891-

University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Chopin's Complete Solo Works, 7:30 p.m. March 31, April 7, 10, 14, symposium with Jeffery Kallberg, 1:30 p.m. April 14, Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Drive, Ann Arbor, performances are free,

www.personal.umich.edu/~greene/chopin.htm

University Musical Society

John Williams and John Etheridge, 8 n.m. Friday, April 13; Jerusalem String Quartet, 4 p.m. April 15; Los Folkioristas, 4 p.m. April 22, all at Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington call (734) 764-2538 for tickets, www.ums.org

CLUBS Bosco

Enjoy noWax nights at 7 p.m. every Wednesday, download music into your MP3 Player, take a number and wait your turn to be DJ and spin three songs, no cover, 21 and over only, 22930 Woodward in Ferndale, www.thebosco.com, (248) 541-8818.

Eden Nightclub & Ultralounge

Friday night dance party with DJ Ryan Richards, 10 p.m. guest celebrity hosts and DJs; 10 p.m. Saturday, DJ Urban Chris in the Garden Room, DJ Pannos in the Ultralounge accompanied by percussionist Jared Sykes 22061 Woodward Ave, Ferndale (248) 541-7674, Edison's

Aaron Vaughn Band, March 29: The Blue Kings,

March 30 and 31; 220 Merrill, Birmingham, (248) 645-2150.

La Dolce Vita

Cliff Bells

Peabody's

644-5222.

Sky Club

Seldom Blues

Vocalist Meri Slaven, pianist Scott Gwinnell, bassist Dennis Horvath, March 31, April 7, 14, 21, 17546 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 865-0331. **O-Zen Lounge**

Formerly the Buddha Lounge; Hot 'N Ready

Insomnia Music, hip hop, soul, old school,

Friday; Super Sonic Smooth Music with DJ

and Energetic House with DJ Tony Bell,

Eight Mile, Detroit, (313) 535-4664.

Shug, Saturday; karaoke with Chez, Sunday;

Wednesday; www.ozentounge.com, 21633 W.

80s and Rock N Roll; bring your CDs, Tuesday;

Scott Gwinnell and his 16-niece jazz orchestra

9:30 p.m. every Wednesday, 2030 Park (near

Don Swindell and Shuffle Play, with Swindell,

Reichhart, 7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday,

27851 Middlebelt at 12 Mile in Farmington Hills,

Barbara Ware with Cliff Monear, 8:30 p.m.

March 31; vocalist Meri Slaven, pianist Vince

Shandor bassist Deppis Horvath Saturday

April 28, 34965 Woodward, Birmingham, (248)

Big Band Wednesdays with Johnny Trudell and

jazz favorites, located in Tower 400, Level 1 of

Wednesday beginning at 8 p.m., located above

www.hometownlife.com

Sangria's Restaurant, 401 S. Lafayette, Royal

his 18-piece band, 7-11 p.m., playing a mix of

the GM Renaissance Center next to the

Tango, salsa, and Latin dancing every

Marriott, call (313) 567-7301.

Oak, (248) 543-1964.

Comerica Park), Detroit, (313) 961-2543.

Sheila Brown, Mike Lorenz and Jake

Ginopolis on the Grill

no cover, (248) 851-8222.

with DJ U.N.I. hip hop soul, Thursday;

COMEDY

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase Jackie Kashian, March 29-31; D.C. Malone, April 5-7; Ricky Gutierrez, April 12-14; Jackie Flynn, April 19-21; Norm Stulz, April 26-28; 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 996-9080.

JD's House of Comedy Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m.

and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday; 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield, (248) 348-2420, www.ticketmaster.com.

Joey's Comedy Club at Kickers JB Smoove, March 29-31; http://www.kicker-

scomplex.com/joeys-calendar.html, (734) 261-0555. Historic Holly Hotel Comedy Club Shows at 8 and 10:30 p.m., 110 Battle Alley,

Holly, (248) 634-5208. Kathy Griffin

Performs 8 p.m. Saturday, March 31, Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, \$37-\$45, (313) 943-2354, www.dearbornfordcenter.com.

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Christopher Titus, March 29-31; Danny Bevins, April 5-7; Jim David, April 12-14; Peter Berman, April 19-21; Henry Cho, April 26-28, at 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak, (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com.

The Comedy Room at Portofino

Mark Saldana, April 6-7; Norm Stultz, April 13-14; Kevin Naughton, April 20-21; Rob Sherwood, April 27-28; 3455 Biddle, Wyandotte (734) 624-554

The Second City

Michigan Impossible: All Laid Off & No Place to Go, 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi, (248) 348-4448, www.secondcity.com.

DANCE

DANGE Music Hall

Stars of Ballet and Broadway, April 20-21, tickets \$19.50-\$75; Detroit Windsor Dance, June 2, tickets \$11-\$50, all at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit, (313) 887-8501. www.musichall.org.

Detroit Dance Collective

Michigan Trilogy II Concert, 8 p.m. April 20, Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, Main Theater, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, \$22 general, \$18 students and seniors, (313) 943-2354, www.dearbornfordcenter.com.

Eisenhower Dance Ensemble

New Dance Fest V, 7 p.m. Friday, April 20, Troy High School Auditorium, 4777 Northfield Pkwy, Troy, \$6-\$12, (248) 823-2700.

Nadanta

The Oakland Community College Global Education Committee presents the dances of India by Nadanta, 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 13 at the Orchard Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. Admission is \$10-\$15, (248) 246-2649.

FAMILY

Big Wooden Horse Theatre

Jamie Adkins Circus Incognitus, April 22, all at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit, \$7.50-\$19.50, (313) 887-8501, www.musichall.org.

Clifford the Big Red Dog

2 p.m. Sunday, April 1, Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, \$15-\$40, (313) 943-2354, www.dearbornfordcenter.com.

Disney's High School Musical: The Ice Tour

Inspired by movie, Feb. 29-March 2, 2008, tickets \$17-\$28, on sale April 2, (248) 645-6666, www.ticketmaster.com.

Go, Diego, Go Live!

www.hometownlife.com

The Great Jaguar Rescue, April 18-22, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, \$18.50-\$40.50, (248) 433-1515, OlympiaEntertainment.com. <image><image>

Catch the comedy of Zach Galifianakis, 7 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Tickets are \$20, call (248) 645-6666 or visit www.ticketmaster.com.

FILM

Corrupted Minds

Gala Detroit Premiere set for 7 p.m. Thursday, March 29, Landmark Main Art Theatre, 11 Mile and Main Street, Royal Oak. Afterglow at D'Amato's Restaurant. Hidden Secrets

Hidden Secret

7 p.m. April 30, Livonia 20, 19500 Haggerty, Livonia, and Commerce Township Stadium 14, 3033 Springvale Drive, Walled Lake, \$9 at www.FathomEvents.com, or box offices.

The New Premier Dinner and Theater

Murder: The Next Generation, through March 31, three-course dinner and theater, including tax, \$39.95 per person, 33151 23 Mile Road, two miles east of I-94, in Chesterfield Township, reservations strongly recommended, www.starbriteprod.com, (586) 725-2228.

FUND-RAISERS

MS Walk Sit Drink Talk

- Food, drink, talk, silent auction, raffle, entertainment, 6 p.m. to midnight, April 28, Knights of Columbus Hall, 2299 W. 12 Mile, Berkley, sitdrinktalk.com, (248) 895-7989. Retrofest
- Short plays from Play-By-Play marathons and two short films from past workshops, fundraiser for Heartlande Theatre Company, 7 p.m. March 31, Detroit Country Day Seligman Auditorium, 22305 W. 13 Mile (at Lahser), Beverly Hills, \$20, www.heartlande.com.

Making Music for Mott

A benefit for the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital featuring the U-M Life Sciences Orchestra and violin prodigy Jourdan Urbach, 7:30 p.m. April 20, Hill Auditorium, \$25 adults, \$10 college students and seniors, afterglow tickets \$25, www.med.umich.edu/mott/events, samh@umich.edu or (734) 936-9134. Historic Fort Wavne 24th annual Detroit Historical Society Guild Flea Market, 10 a.m. April 21-22, 6325 E. Jefferson (at the foot of Livernois), admission free to flea market, \$2 for tours, \$5 for secured parking, proceeds benefit guild, (586) 498-9298

Pontiac Oakland Symphony

All That Glitters, gala fund-raiser with silent auction, dinner, music and entertainment, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 28, \$75, (248) 975-6474.

MS Walk Sit Drink Talk PENNdemonium 2007

Items needed for second fund-raising gala to benefit historic Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth, 6 p.m. May II at Meeting House Grand Ballroom, 499 S. Main, Plymouth, to donate contact Julie Johnston at (734) 354-6069 or e-mail auction@friendsofthepenn.org, for informa-

tion on PENNdemonium, www.PennTheatre.com.

JAZZ

Chick Corea and Gary Burton

April 6, Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$28.50-\$62, (313) 887-8501, www.musichall.org.

Detroit Opera House Pieces of a Dream, 6 p.m. April 8, \$48-\$78, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, (248) 645-6666, motopera.org, ticketmaster.com.

Jazz and dinner "Kind of Blue Tuesdays," at Lola's, Harmonie Park. Led by the Gerard Evans Quartet, the shows help musicians play with the core group at 9 p.m. every Tuesday, 1427 Randolph St., Detroit, (313) 962-0483.

Jazz at the First

Jazz Vespers Concert, vocalist Meri Slaven, pianist Scott Gwinnell, bassist Dennis Horvath, drummer Scott Kretzer, 6-8 p.m.

April I, First Baptist Church of Dearborn, 1865 Nowlin, Dearborn, (313) 277-7711. Jazz Cafe Series

- Joey DeFrancesco, March 30-31, Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison
- Ave., Detroit, \$25, (313) 887-8501, www.musichall.org.

Jazz Symposium with Branford Marsalis

- The Detroit Symphony Orchestra hosts a free symposium, 7 p.m. April 11, The Music Box, Max M. Fisher Music Center, Detroit. Open to the
- public, reserve a seat at (313) 576-5599. Music Hall Center for the Performing

Arts

George Duke and Roy Ayers, April 27, all at 350 Madison, 6th Floor, in Detroit, \$39.50-\$62, ticketmaster.com, (313) 887-8501.

Orchestra Hall

- Pat Methany and Brad Mehidau, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 7, \$19-\$99, Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313)
 - 576-5111, www.detroitsymphony.com.
- Seldom Blues
- Bobby Caldwell, 5:30 p.m. April 15, \$100 for dinner performance, second performance at 9 p.m. with appetizers available, \$35 advance, \$40 at door, (313) 567-7301 Ext. 112 for dinner performance,
- www.ticketmaster.com for second perform ance tickets, Tower 400, Level 1, of the Renaissance Center, (313) 567-7301.
- Vanguard Jazz Orchestra Performs 8 p.m. Friday, April 20, The Music Box, Max M. Fisher Music Center, Detroit, tickets \$19-\$99, (313) 576-5111.

Windsor/Detroit Jazz Club Ongoing gigs, 1-4 p.m. first and third

Saturday of every month, Keller-Kocher Quartet with Dave Bennett on April 7, Ray Heitger on April 21, James Dapogny on May 5, Paul Klinger on May 19, Kerry Price on June 2, all at Shield's Pizza, 25101 Telegraph (northwest corner of 10 Mile and Telegraph), Southfield, \$8 cover, (248) 478-0172.

MORE MUSIC

The Ark

Susan Werner, April 1; Riders in the Sky, April 2; The Alternate Routes, April 3, open stage, April 4; The University of Michigan Jazz Showcase, April 5; 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor, (734) 761-1451.

Ferndale First United Methodist Church

Don Ross, 7:30 p.m. April 21, \$15, \$10 (students and seniors); 22331 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 545-4467.

Music at the Village

Music in the Air concert series at 2 p.m. featuring Jim Bizer on April 22, Kitty Donohoe May 20, \$5. Troy Museum and Historic Village, 60 W. Wattles (corner of Wattles and Livernois). Troy. (248) 524-3570.

Station 885

Tony Ruda and Pat Smith play jazz from 7-10 p.m. every Thursday (bass and piano), 885 Starkweather, Plymouth, (734) 459-0885.

MUSEUMS

Cranbrook Science Museum Featured exhibit is It's a Nano World. Permanent exhibits include planetarium, nature center and Bat Zone Conservatory, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, general admission \$5-\$7, planetarium, \$1-\$3, (248) 645-3200. www.cranbrook.edu.

Detroit Institute of Arts

See Ansel Adams exhibit 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fridays, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, through May 27, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (313) 833-7971.

Detroit Science Center Our Body, The Universe Within, features real, preserved human bodies; 5020 John R, Detroit, \$19.95-\$24.95, (313) 577-8400, www.detroitsciencecenter.org.

Exhibit Museum of Natural History Wild Weather, Changing Climate, through May, University of Michigan, 1109 Geddes Ave., Ann Arbor, (734) 764-0478.

Henry Ford Museum The Eames Lounge Chair: An Icon of Modern Design, through April 29, with a lecture March 31, at 20900 Oakwood Blvd., west of the Southfield Freeway and south of Michigan Avenue, Dearborn. Additional charges and varying hours for entry to Greenfield Village, Ford Rouge Factory Tour and IMAX Theatre, (313) 982-6001, www.hfmgv.org.

Museum of Contemporary Art-Detroit Meditations on an Emergency runs through April 29; Shrinking Cities runs through April 1, all at 4454 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 832-6622.

Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm

Display on Mothers, Daughters and Leaders of Oakland County, Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm, through June 16, 1-4 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays; 1005 Van Hoosen Road, off Tienken Road, one mile⁻¹ east of Rochester Road, (248) 656-4663, rhmuseum@rochesterhills.org.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Birmingham Historical Museum & Park Allen House kitchen, restored to reflect 1920s decor, complete with vintage stove, work table, porcelain sink and monitor top refrigerator, also exhibits on artifacts and history of schools in Birmingham, S2 admission, museum open 1-4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, 556 W. Maple, (248) 642-2817.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007 • (**) E19'

PLEASE SEE MORE GET OUT, E20

MORE GET OUT

FROM PAGE E19

Cranbrook Institute of Science

Mike Kimball, assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Maine-Machias, discusses new research and findings on Ireland's prehistoric hunter-gatherers, 10 a.m. Saturday, March 31, presented by Irish Cultural Forum and Cranbrook, (248) 540-6687.

David Krakauer's Klezmer Madness

8 p.m. March 31, Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington, call (734) 764-2538 for tickets, \$22-\$42, or visit www.ums.org.

Detroit Historical Society

Offers tours of historic spots, \$20-\$25 per tour, (313) 833-1405, www.detroithistorical.org/thingstodo.

Detroit Derby Girls

D-Funk All-Stars vs. Detroit Pistoffs, April 21; Pistolwhippers vs. Devil's Night Dames, May 12, Detroit Pistoffs vs. Devil's Night Dames, June 2; Pistolwhippers vs. D-Funk All-Stars, June 23: Detroit Derby Girls Championship Bout, July 21, all at Masonic Temple Drill Hall, 550 Temple, Detroit, \$15, www.detroitderbyairls.com.

Night for Notables

Former Michigan Gov, William G. Milliken, former Detroit News political columnist George Weeks and Dave Dempsey, author of William G. Milliken: Michigan's Passionate Moderate, will serve as the featured speakers for the Night

for Notables event, 7 p.m. Saturday, April 14, at the Library of Michigan, inside the Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. Weekend parking is free, (517) 373-4692.

Detroit Fringe Festival

April 13-14, Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit, \$35, (313) 887-8501, www.musichall.org.

Jackson Storyfest

May 4-5, free public performances, 7:30 p.m. Jackson High

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PG-13 | PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED @ ONE MATERIAL NAV BE IMAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILOREN UNDER 19 HUDE AND SEXUAL HUMOR, LANGUAGE, A COMIC NOLENT IMAGE, AND SOME DRUG REFERENCES.

DREAMWORKS PICTURES

BladesOfGloryMovie.com



E20 (**) • Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 29, 2007-

School, 544 Wildwood Ave., family matinee 2 p.m. May 5, Jackson Symphony Orchestra Hall, 215 W. Michigan Ave., downtown Jackson, free, donations appreciated, wwwjacksonstorvfest.org.

Oakland Community College

Poets conducting workshops for National Poetry Month (April), workshops 5 p.m. Room 216 in K Building, readings 7-9 p.m. Room 180 in J Building, April 2, 10, 18 and 26. Orchard Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, just south of I-696, Farmington Hills, (248) 731-6123.

Psychic Fair

Spring Astrology Psychic Fair with Rich Milostan, psychic readers to give readings, also astrologers, card readers, palmistry, numerologists, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 31, Clawson-Troy Elks, 1451 E. Big Beaver Road, admission \$5, readings \$20, (248) 528-2610.

Macomb Cultural Center

Gliders, 1 p.m. March 29: collector of historical memorabilia on World War II artifacts, 10 a.m. March 31; one-man drama on life of Ernie Pyle, March 30 and 31, \$10, call (586) 286-2222; pre-registration required for other events at (586) 445-7348, Hall and Garfield roads, Macomb Community College's Center Campus, Clinton Townshin

Metropolitan Adventist Church

Youth Impact Dramatic Play with the Aerokhanas on the life of Christ, 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 30; gymnastics-acrobatics team also performs at 9 p.m. March 31 at Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile Road, church is at 15585 Haggerty Road, Plymouth, (734) 420-4044.

The Secret

The Secret is Out! Learn How to Apply the Law of Attraction, a three-hour seminar by Nancy M. Wegierski at 9 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Thursday, May 10, at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road Troy, \$99, www.become-more.net.

The Sounds of Middle Eastern Tradition

Flautist Nadim Dlaikan leads a five-piece ensemble in play ing traditional melodies of the Middle East and North Africa, 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, March 30, at The Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Free to members, or suggested donation \$3-\$5.

University of Michigan

Line of Return: Cultivating the Borderland in Dialogue with Czersław Milosz, Krzysztof Czyzewski, annuał Copernicus lecture, 7:30 p.m. March 30, Rackham Amphitheatre, 915 E. Washington, Ann Arbor.

Car Swap Craft Show-O-Rama

Car clubs, swappers, crafters, games, raffles, door prizes, food, cars will be judged, deadline for show is April 27, show is 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 19, Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia, car and swap inquiries, (248) 777-0242

THEATER - COLLEGE

Eastern Michigan University

The Good Person of Setzuan, through March 31, at Quirk Theatre, 103 Quirk, Ypsilanti, Tickets \$6-\$15, (734) 487-1221.

University of Detroit Mercy and Marygrove College Urinetown! The Musical, through April 1, Marygrove College Theatre, 8425 W. McNichols Road, (313) 993-3270.

Oakland Community College

Connections, one-act plays written by instructor David James, 8 p.m. March 29-31, \$5-\$8, Smith Theatre, Orchard Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, (248) 341-2270.

Henry Ford Community College

Theatre for Young Audiences presents The Jungle Book, April 13-29, performances 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, performance targeted for K-7 grades with audience participation, song and dance, \$7 adults, \$5 for children high school age or below, \$4 a seat for groups of 10 or more, (313) 845-9817, Adray Auditorium, MacKenzie Fine Arts Center, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn.

THEATER – COMMUNITY

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center Jigu! Thunder of Drums China, 8 p.m. April 28, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. \$37-\$45, (313) 943-2354, www.dearbornfordcenter.com.

Lakeland Players

Lakeland Players presents the Mary Chase comedy, Harvey, shows are April 20, 22, 27-28, at Central United Methodist Church at 3882 Highland Road in Waterford. All shows start at 8 p.m. except the Sunday matinee at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$10, (248) 334-6977. Marquis Theatre

Raggedy Ann and Andy, through April 29, \$8, 135 N. Main,

Northville, (248) 349-8110, www.northvillemarquistheatre.com.

Oakland Theatre Guild

Thoroughly Modern Millie, through April 1, 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays, 4 p.m. March 31, \$11-\$15; also Lion in Winter, April 20-29, Starlight Theater, between Claire's and Kohl's stores, Summit Place Mall, Waterford, (248) 335-1788, www.starlighttheater.nét

St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild

Two by Two, a musical about Noah and the Ark, runs March 29-31, all at 400 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 737-3587 to reserve tickets.

Village Players of Birmingham

Wait Until Dark, May 11-13, 18-20, 34660 Woodward, Birmingham (two blocks south of Maple), (248) 644-2075, www.birminghamvillageplayers.com.

THEATER - PROFESSIONAL

Meadow Brook Theatre The Sisters of Swing: The Story of the Andrews Sisters by Gilleland and Beverage, 8 p.m. April 25 through May 20, tickets \$22-\$38, (248) 377-3300, www.mbtheatre.com.

Performance Network Theater

Candida, through April 15, 120 E. Huron, Ann Arbor, www.performancenetwork.org, (734) 663-0681.

TICKETS ON SALE

DTE Energy Music Theatre

Barenaked Ladies, on sale Saturday for June 15 show, (248) 645-6666.

The Palace of Auburn Hills Lord of the Dance, 7:30 p.m. April 19 and 20, \$29.50-\$49.50,

tickets available at Palacenet.com. The Palace box office and all Ticketmaster locations, (248) 645-6666. Fisher Theatre

3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, (248) 645-6666. www.BroadwayInDetroit.com or at www.ticketmaster.com. Call the Fisher Theatre at (313) 872-1000, Ext. 0, www.NederlanderDetroit.com.

Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival

14th annual series, June 9-24, featuring music of Ludwig von Beethoven and Leon Kirchner, available April 16, subscriptions for five concerts is \$125, seven is \$160, single tickets are \$35 (Saturday concerts) \$30 (others) \$10 for those 25 and under, (248) 559-2097, www.greatlakescham bermusic.com

Fox Theatre

Legends of Hip Hop, featuring Whodini, MC Lyte, Doug E Fresh, Big Daddy Kane and Kool Moe Dee, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 15, tickets cost \$48, \$58, \$78, at 2211 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 471-6611 (248) 433-1515.

www.ticketmaster.com. www.olvmpiaentertainment.com. Gem Theatre

Respect: A Musical Journey, through April 1, (313) 963-9800. Ticketmaster charge by phone (248) 645-6666, www.ticketmaster.com, and in person at the Gem Theatre box office and all Ticketmaster locations.

WINE EVENTS

Solanus Center Wine Tasting The third annual Solanus Center Wine Tasting, featuring 100 wines from around the world, 6:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, May 18. at St. John's Armenian Cultural Center, 22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, Cost is \$75 per person, call the Solanus Center, (313) 579-2100, Ext. 197.

Taste of the Vines

Enroll in five mini-courses in wine series offered by Madonna University, 7-9 p.m. Conducted in collaboration with Hiller's Markets, instructed by wine buyer Eric Novak

and Rick Halberg, Hiller's director of culinary services, classes include Throwing Wine Parties, April 4. Students will sample finger foods and taste wines, each course is \$36. Register at www.madonna.edu/pages/continuingedregistration.cfm or call (734) 432-5804.

Vinology Wine Classes

Vinology, 110 S. Main in Ann Arbor, is a wine bar and restaurant owned by the Jonna Family, price is \$45 each for all six classes, \$50 per class for a four-class package or \$55 per class individually. Classes are Take the Road Less Traveled: Discover New Varieties and Regions, April 18: Wines of Spain and Portugal, May 16; Wines of Italy, June 20; Wines of France, July 18; (734) 222-9841.

'Pride' strikes a blow for race relations

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Capsule reviews of films that opened last week:

Pride

This swimming drama has enough buoyancy to remain afloat, though without the vigor of Terrence Howard and the charm of Bernie Mac, it likely would sink in its own sea of sports cliches. It's an underdog story we keep seeing over and over again, this time about a group of inner-city black teens in the 1970s who are molded by

a selfless mentor into a winning swim team that strikes a blow for race relations and equal opportunity. Howard plays the coach and mentor who founded the swim team, with Mac as a rec center janitor who joins the effort and Kimberly Elise as a city councilwoman who goes from skeptic to believer. Tom Arnold co-stars as coach of an upscale

white team that becomes the black kids'

archrival. PG for thematic material, language including some racial epithets, and violence. 108 min.

Two and a half stars out of four. - David Germain, AP Movie Writer

Shooter

The name of the movie is *Shooter*, and for a while director Antoine Fuqua is right on target with this claustrophobic tale of conspiracies, lies and double-crosses. Ultimately, though, it collapses – as so many action films of lesser intelligence do – into a seemingly eternal series of explosions and false endings.

Mark Wahlberg stars as Bob Lee Swagger (yes, seriously), the hero of Washington Post film critic Stephen Hunter's novel *Point of Impact*, which provides the inspiration here. Swagger is a reclusive former Marine sniper who's asked to take part in that tried-andtrue one last job.

When the U.S. government learns of a planned assassination attempt on the president, Swagger must figure out how the shooter would do it – and then he gets framed for the shooting. With the help of an inexperienced FBI agent (Michael Pena) and the widow of his former partner (Kate Mara), Swagger outwits, outplays and outlasts dozens of heavily armed adversaries from a variety of agencies, both official and unofficial.

Yes, he's a highly trained military stud, but after a while his ability to survive grows ridiculous. Danny Glover and Ned Beatty costar. R for strong graphic violence and some language. 125 min. Two stars out of four.

- Christy Lemire, AP Movie Critic

3

Cult sci-fi series will transform into feature film

No sooner did Thought Collide Productions wrap the first 12 episodes of its local cult science fiction series *InZerO* last month, when production began for the feature-length film based

on the series. What began in 2006 as an experiment in the making of a television series, managed to draw together members of Detroit's creative community. Completing one

episode a month for 12 months, the project will continue in the film *InZerO: Fragile Wings*.

"The last 12 months were really intense and we have really pushed ourselves to the limit on the edge of exactly where we can go," said Jamie Sonderman, who created the story.

"It's an experience that we know we can always fall back on as we move into the future."

InZerO follows the story of an ambitious courier with a hidden past who must weave his way through a dangerous city populated by aliens and warring aristocrats, all of whom want what he has to deliver — hope.

Auditions for the feature film will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 11. Those interested in a role, or in performing as an extra should send e-mail to Jeannine Simpson at jeannine.simpson@

netownlife.com



Jamie Sonderman is creator of InZerO, a local scifi series that will soon be turned into a feature film.

comcast.net for more information. "It's an exciting time for *InZerO* and Thought Collide," producer Connie Mangilin said.

"We have a very tight crew that knows how to get the job done and done well. I'm very proud of our cast and crew and look forward to filming the feature and creating something really special."

In the meantime, catch episodes 9, 10, and 11 of *InZerO* at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 3, during the Mitten Movie Project at the Main Art Theatre, 118 N. Main Street, Royal Oak. Tickets, \$10, are available at the door or online at www.myspace.com/inzero.

A director's reception begins at 6:30 p.m. at the theater, and an afterglow party follows in Cinq, below Bastone, 419 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Both are open to the public.

×.,

Stephanie A. Casola

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NEW LINE CINEMA PRESENTS A MICHAEL PHILLIPS PRODUCTION A BOB SHAYE FILM "THE LAST MIMZY" JOELY BICHARDSON TIMOTHY HUTTON MICHAEL CLARKE DUNCAN RAINN WILSON KATHRYN HAHN CHRIS D'NEIL BHIANNON LEIGH WRYN CAST I'R MARGERY SINKIN MWE HOWARD SHOR "HELLO II LOVE YOU!" FEROMED ROGER WATERS SEGULAE JONNA SMITH ENTOR ALAN HEM ACC PRODUCES BOB SHAYE JUSTIS GREENE SARA RISHER PRODUCES MICHAEL PHILLIPS SARE MATERIA MAN WE HE THE BORDGOVES" MITHY LEWIS PADGET SOME MATERIAL MAY NOT BE SURGESTED SERVE SOME THEMATIC ELEMENTS, MILD PERIL AND LANDIAGE SOME THEMATIC ELEMENTS, MILD PERIL AND LANDIAGE

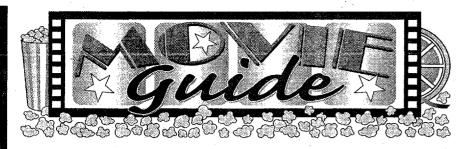
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Where available by deadline, features and times are listed.

Observer & Eccentric

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BALLET

The company first performed this ballet in 2005, and the show broke attendance records, according to Misty Kolk, marketing and box office manager.

It came as no surprise when a second show was added, due to popular demand, for the Detroit production.

"Everyone loved seeing the story literally come to life on stage," said

Kolk.

"Sets and costumes were designed by Maurice Sendak, the book's author and illustrator, so it looks just like the drawings in the book – very fun, and a great chance for children to see literature, live."

The story follows Max, a mischievous boy who encounters a magical world full of those "Wild Things." This marks the production's first visit to the Detroit Opera House.

With a cast of about 25 dancers, Where the Wild Things Are is already earning praise from giggly young audiences. One popular scene shows Max's reaction to his overly-affectionate aunts, uncles and cousins who have come to visit.

During an in-studio rehearsal before 100 school children on Thursday, Berman said, the audience was "hysterical."

Based on a familiar and beloved story, the ballet takes on a magical quality each time it is performed, she said, adding "I still get excited about it."

In addition to sets and costumes designed by Sendak, the show features music composed by Detroit-native Randall Woolf and choreography by

M

Septime Webre, artistic director of the Washington Ballet.

Currently in its 35th season, the Grand Rapids Ballet Company remains committed to its mission, "to lift the human spirit through the art of dance."

In addition to the production, the company is offering two masters classes. Berman said the classes "help (young dancers) get ready for what they're going to see and (it) maximizes the experience."

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WSU development a boon to Detroit's economic future

Wayne State's South University Village, hailed as the first major market-rate residential project of its kind in Detroit in more than 30 years, is about to become a reality. Grand Rapids-based developer, Prime Development, and the university are scheduled to break ground this month on the \$36 million residential and retail establishment and parking structure.

Located on the former site of the old Vernor's ginger ale factory, South University Village will be a major commercial corridor marked by exciting shops and restaurants, state-of-the-art residential facilities and a thriving gateway to the Wayne State University campus.

Studio One Apartments, LLC will build and finance the new 155,000square-foot five-story mixed-use building — of which 26,217 square feet is first-floor commercial plus four levels of market-rate residential rental units — projected to cost \$20 million. The university will build and finance a four-level parking garage — projected to cost \$15.9 million — to serve the needs of the general public, the residential/retail complex and the university. The planned completion dates and open-



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Studio One apartments is part of a residential, retail and parking development along Woodward near Wayne State University.

ings are set for spring/summer of 2008. The project, including the residential/retail building and public parking structure, will be located on four acres on the west side of Woodward and the south side of Forest, between Canfield and Forest, immediately north of The Whitney restaurant. The parking deck and apartment building will be connected, enabling residents to park and walk to their building.

Phase 2 will add another \$20 million of new construction in 2010-12 with a second five-story apartment or condominium project along Canfield just west of The Whitney restaurant. Thus, South University Village represents more than a \$50 million investment in the city of Detroit over the next five years.

According to Wayne State University President Irvin D. Reid, South University Village highlights Wayne State's role as a lead partner in the development of Midtown and the revitalization of Detroit.

"South University Village will create 195 temporary constructionrelated jobs and approximately 65 new jobs associated with the bank, retail operations and parking structure," Reid said. "This is a significant achievement in the history of our city and a model for the economic benefits of public-private partnerships in our state."

Gov. Jennifer Granholm believes Wayne State serves as a model for how research institutions are helping shape Michigan's economy.

"Wayne State is helping to drive our state's 21st economy forward by educating students and conducting cutting edge research," Granholm said. "Now the university is, once again, demonstrating just how valuable it can be in shaping a vibrant community with economic development projects that are building on the successful Tech Town project." Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick concurred, citing the infusion of investment that South University Village attracted from the western side of the state.

"The fact that a Grand Rapidsbased developer chose to invest major dollars and resources into this project demonstrates that business opportunities abound for companies across the state that have yet to do business here," he said.

Marcel Burgler, principal of Prime Development, noted that, in addition to recognizing economic opportunity, he and his partners were welcomed by the city.

"Wayne State, the mayor's office and the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation (DEGC) went to great lengths to make developing Studio One Apartments a painless endeavor," he said. "Moreover, extensive market research proved to us that there is a great demand in the city of Detroit for high-quality rental apartments. We expect to be very successful."

"There is great potential for South University Village," said David Egner, president of the Hudson-Webber Foundation, which funded the initial feasibility study for the project. "South University Village made sense as a property that filled a void for much-needed housing, public parking and retail," he noted. "Moreover, it represents a sound economic investment for all parties involved.

The Michigan Economic Development Corp. (MEDC), the DEGC, TAKTIX, a Detroit-based real estate consulting company, and Prime Development, as well as private and public corporations and foundations, shared the vision that led to the efforts to make South University Village happen. "TAKTIX worked with Wayne

"TAKTIX worked with Wayne State on the plans for the old Vernor's site to accelerate the university's master plan to provide marketrate residential housing on campus for faculty, staff and the community at large," TAKTIX principal Larry Marantette said. "In this way, we and the other South University Village partners are contributing to a vibrant Midtown."

The MEDC granted approval for brownfield tax credits to support the South University Village project last December. Since that time, Prime Development has confirmed Fifth Third Bank as an anchor tenant and is working diligently to secure other retailers to service the \$20 million residential apartment and retail establishment on Woodward and the supporting WSU public parking structure on Forest (Phase One). "We believe in Wayne State's abili-

"We believe in Wayne State's ability to transform Midtown into a thriving residential and retail center," said Gregory Kosch, president and CEO of Fifth Third Bank Eastern Michigan. "Fifth Third is growing and we're here to stay. Upon learning of South University Village, we jumped on the chance to solidify our roots in this growing community with a substantial financial investment and a bank branch and lending office right in the complex." According to the Michigan

Department of Transportation, traffic on Woodward at the site is 23,500 vehicles per day. Midtown Detroit, in particular, has experienced more than \$1.6 billion in new residential and commercial construction over the past 10 years, according to the University Cultural Center Association.

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These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 27 to Dec. 1, 2006, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County, Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

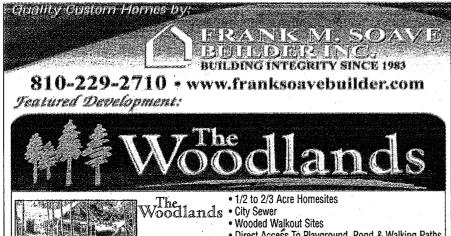
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cities, addresses and sales prices.	· · ·	20940 Lujon Dr	\$189,000	44155 Deep Hollow Cir	\$900,000	9208 Nathaline
Canton		20964 Lujon Dr	\$345,000	795 Grace St	\$330,000	18420 Negaunee
	\$291,000	29606 Middlebelt Rd	\$116,000	912 Millpond Ct –	\$525,000	18501 Olympia
50436 Amberley Blvd	\$152,000	20911 Rockwell St	\$215,000	19022 Oak Leaf Ln	\$1,150,000	11710 Riverdale
40545 Blythefield Ln		30133 Southampton Ln	\$270,000	48828 Running Trout Ln	\$134,000	16291 Ryland
3952 Bruton Ave	\$250,000	29090 Summerwood Rd	\$319,000	48902 Running Trout Ln	\$269,000	10027 San Jose
8505 Chatham Dr	\$110,000	22071 W Brandon St	\$149,000	912 Millpond Ct	\$525,000	S
268 Cherry Stone Dr	\$146,000	21714 Wheeler St	\$220,000	Novi		1040 Birchway Ct
43596 Cherrywood Ln	\$262,000	Garden City		47579 Aberdeen Dr	\$635,000	1138 Corral Ln
1663 Christopher Dr	\$152,000	30802 Hennepin St	\$190,000	1655 Harbor Cv	\$255,000	26523 Daria Cir W
43581 Emrick Dr	\$146,000	28655 Maplewood St	\$125,000	25587 Portico Ln	\$212,000	1004 Fountain Vie
45583 Fountain View Dr	\$358,000	29740 Maplewood St	\$119,000	30742 Tanglewood Dr	\$268,000	873 Hearthside St
49530 Garfield Ln	\$110,000	30083 Maplewood St	\$150,000	30233 Viewcrest	\$363,000	25829 Hunters Ln
1461 Kensington Dr	\$290,000	33221 Sheridan St	\$151,000	41142 Village Lake St	\$280,000	836 Knollwood Cir
46517 Killarney Cir	\$220,000	Livonia		Plymouth		245 Winchester St
1927 Knollwood Dr	\$185,000	31530 Bennett St	\$212,000	725 Auburn St	\$220,000	
45139 N Spring Dr	\$200,000	9950 Doris St	\$137,000	13443 Danbury Ct	\$265,000	30948 Avondale S
138 N Village Way	\$40,000	17498 Doris St	\$161,000	11075 Fellows Hill Dr	\$475,000	30631 Geraldine S
4430 Napier Rd	\$288,000	18642 Levan Rd	\$253,000	765 McKinley St	\$328,000	7506 Gilman St
2006 Otter Pond Ln	\$171,000	33161 Lyndon St	\$180,000	12118 Medford Ct	\$425,000	29702 Hanover Bl
Farmington		28980 Morlock St	\$164.000	11850 N Haggerty Rd	\$160,000	35241 Melton St
23096 Hawthorne St	\$144,000	18429 University Park Dr	\$85,000	374 Roe St	\$245,000	37672 N Butler Ci
22843 Manning St	\$70,000	33466 Vargo Dr	\$255,000	47023 Stonecrest Dr	\$309,000	886 Summerfield
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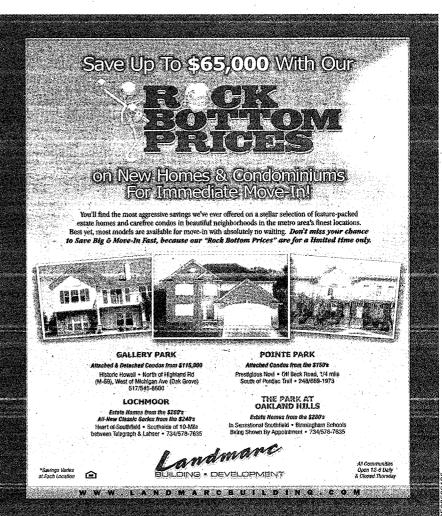
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Closed circuit cameras have liability concerns

2. Our board is in the process of reviewing and updating our community association's security measures. One proposal we are considering is installing closed circuit television cameras in our common areas and parking lot. What are the benefits of installing closed circuit cameras in parking lots? Are there any down sides to doing so?

A. A closed circuit camera system is becoming a common site in community associations across the country. While it may help to reduce crime, it also requires that the association monitor the cameras and may pose additional liability on the association in regard to what is reasonably foreseeable and/or expected in connection with crime prevention. If in fact the camera does not need to be monitored that, of course, would be beneficial as small communities may not have the money or the man power to monitor the cameras. Whether the cameras should be monitored or not depends upon the willingness of the association to provide 24hour security. You are best advised to consult with your attorney in that regard.

Q. Many of our co-owners wish to propose an amendment to our condominium bylaws but the



Meisner

board seems to be refusing to do so. What do you suggest?

A. Check your bylaws because most condominium association bylaws provide for a process whereby the members upon a certain percentage of the membership can petition the board to call a special meeting to vote on a proposed bylaw amend-

ment. The board should at least consider the request of the co-owners and if they are obligated to do so, call a special meeting. You should, however, check with your community association attorney to insure that your petition is properly worded and drafted and signed by persons who are legally authorized to sign petitions in connection with the holding of a special meeting.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staving on the Right Track second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.



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Mainstreet Morfgage	(600) 900-1313	6	0	5.625	Ø	J/A/V/F
Manufacturers	(586) 777-1000	5.625	1	5.375	1	J/A [·]
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BRIEFS

Builder helps customers

Howard Satovsky, a 35-year veteran

Master Builder in the Western Oakland

and Wayne County markets has decided

to switch hats in 2007 to a style better

suited to the current economic climate

Satovsky says his new company, Help

To Build It, LLC is a way to orchestrate

that know little about the building busi-

Through extensive reference materi-

Visit www.HelpToBuildIt.com or see

als, software and one-on-one counseling, Satovsky shows how to make the

dream a reality from start to finish.

the consultants at the Livingston

County Builder's Show, March 30-31

Garden Show at the Rock Financial

Showplace, April 13-15.

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Building Industry Association of

Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and the

Construction Association of Michigan

Green Products: What You Need

Tuesday, April 10, at BIA headquarters,

will present the following programs:

to Know – What You Need to Have" – from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on

30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite

Jacob Corvidae, Green Programs Manager, WARM Training Center will

instruct attendees on the basics of green building products, and will provide

many pass-around samples, from bam-

boo flooring to low-VOC paints, recy-

tal breakfast, are \$20 for BIA or

Apartment Association of Michigan

members and \$40 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-

A comprehensive builder's license

preparation course on Thursdays, April

12, April 19, April 26 and May 3, 2007

from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at BIA headquar-

Prepared by NCI Associates, Madison

Heights, the course is designed to pre-

pare students for the Michigan Builder's

License Examination. Material covered

will include topics on the exam, laws and rules, building practices and proce-

ters, 30375 Northwestern Highway,

Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

cled glass terrazo to all-natural carpet-

Registration fees, including continen-

100, in Farmington Hills

ing, and much more.

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ness.

dures, sample test questions and testtaking strategies.

The registration fee is \$200 per person. For registration information, call (248) 548-2090.

■ A "Design/Build" seminar from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, April 13, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. The seminar is part of the Certified Graduate Builder (CGB) series.

Chuck Breidenstein of Builders Professional Services Group Inc. will instruct attendees on how to create a well-managed, full-service building or remodeling business that can pocket more profits while maximizing customer satisfaction.

Registration fees are \$155 for Remodelors Council members, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ "A 10-Point Game Plan for Success" seminar from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 18, at the Troy Marriott, 200 West Big Beaver Road, in Troy. The seminar is sponsored by First Horizons Home Loans.

Tom Richey of Richey Resources will instruct attendees on "Heeding the Ten Commandments of Today's Challenging Economy," "marketing to address the new market," "bringing sales management up to an A-performance level," and "learning how to neutralize the negotiators."

Registration fees are \$35 for Sales and Marketing Council and Remodelors Council members, \$55 for BIA members and \$75 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ "Codes and Quality Control" – from 8 a.m. to noon on Friday; April 20, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

Chuck Breidenstein of Builders Professional Services Group, Inc. will instruct attendees on defining quality within one's company by identifying five essential quality components. The course outlines a superintendent's responsibilities regarding codes and provides tips on code enforcement and compliance on the job site.

Registration fees are \$155 for BIA members and \$185 for guests. For regis tration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ A "Negotiating Skills" course from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. The course is part of the Certified Graduate Remodelor (CGR) series and counts toward Certified Graduate Associate and Graduate Master Builder designation, as well.

Chuck Breidenstein of Builder

PLEASE SEE BRIEFS, 9

Area builder spearheads 120unit development in Oak Park

The initial phase of a new condo community, The Oaks on Lincoln, is now open for sale. Kaftan

Communities, an innovative developer with current condominium projects in Royal Oak, Southfield and Shelby, made 40 homes available for purchase at The Oaks and plan to finish renovations on at least 80 more units this spring.

Despite a slumping local economy, Kaftan is optimistic that a recovery is imminent; therefore, the developer is continuing to open new condo projects. At a time when many businesses are laying off employees, Kaftan has hired additional personnel and engaged numerous local outside contractors for this new development.

"We have faith that the economy will turn around in the near future," said Jeffrey Kaftan, president of Kaftan Communities. "Rather than waiting for things to improve, Kaftan wants to be an active part of the recovery. We are very excited to offer these stylish and affordable homes in the north Oak Park community."

The Oaks on Lincoln is conveniently located near downtown Royal Oak, Huntington Woods and Ferndale, and is

Professional Services Group will

instruct attendees on strategies for spe-

cific negotiating situations through a

combination of lectures, exercise and

Remodelors Council members, \$175 for

BIA members and \$200 for guests. For

Registration fees are \$155 for

registration information, call (248)

A "Business Management for

Building Professionals" course from 8

a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, May 7, at BIA

BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 8

role-playing.

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within easy walking distance of grocery stores, restaurants and the Jewish Center.

Situated on eight acres, the development is on Lincoln Drive, just east of Greenfield and minutes from I-696, I-75 and M-10 expressways. Exterior features include a swimming pool, professionally landscaped grounds and immediate access to the paved pathways of Rothstein Park.

Both townhouse and garden-style floor plans are available ranging from 1,010 to 1,460 square feet. The units include basements, new appliances, cabinets, countertops and flooring and are projected to start at under \$100,000. Available upgrades include granite countertops, maple cabinets, stainless steel appliances and hardwood floors.

"Buying your first home is part of the American Dream," Kaftan said. "Firsttime home owners are too often overlooked by builders. Kaftan's mission is to create communities designed with first-time buyers in mind."

For more information regarding The Oaks on Lincoln, visit www.kaftancondos.com or call (248) 968-2900.

headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. Brindley R.W. Byrd, CAPS, CGR of Qx2 Inc. will provide participants with the essential "tools" for the ideal business management toolbox. The course will discuss the components of a business plan; defining and staffing your business; performance tools for managing and monitoring administration, sales, and production; and strategies for managing common challenges experienced in startup businesses.

Registration fees are \$185 for Remodelors Council members, \$235 for BIA members and \$275 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION & PICTURES ON THESE HOMES, LOG ONTO THE WEBSITE ADDRESS AFTER EACH LISTING. **

MILFORD - Spectacular Sunset Lake front home! 13x16 grand foyer, wonderful updates inc: 2 furnaces, 3 A/C's, quality updated ktchn, heated slate tile mud rm, garage w/ loft & 1/2 bath, fin'd walkout w/ frplc, etc. \$650,000 (195Moo)

www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27026134

NORTHVILLE - Lovely Northville Colony 3 bedrm ranch! Great location - close to schools, shops & restaurants! Updated ktchn w/ cabs & counters, wonderful fmly rm w/ brick frplc, great family sub w/ commons areal \$249,900 (L95Sun) www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27045373

LIVONIA - Sharp 2 yr old 3 bedrm, 2.5 bath ranch w/ many upgrades. Open floor plan, gorgeous hardwood & ceramic flooring, Ig great rm w/ frpic & high ceilings, maple ktchn, freshly painted interior + more. \$239,900 (410ak) www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27044616

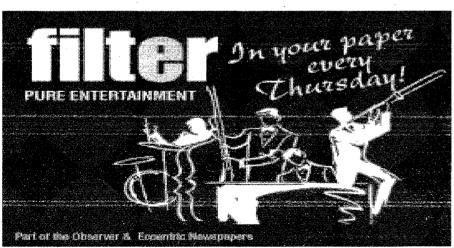
FARMINGTON HILLS - Great 3 bedrm, 2 bath ranch offering fantastic new ktchn w/ granite tops & tile backsplash, new oak firs in entry, fmly rm, ktchn & oversized liv rm, remodeled baths, newer furn & C/A + more! \$214,500 (L24Fla) www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27021616 W. BLOOMFIELD - Great location for this 4 bedrm, 3.5 bath family home w/ over 3100 sq ft! Offers Ig fmly rm, frplc, bar, built-in entertainment center, computer area, huge master ste, 2nd fir laundry, fin'd basement w/ full bath sauna, wooded yard, hot tub, etc. \$329,900 (L75Wim) www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27045480 +

LIVONIA - Lovely 2 bedrm, 2.5 bath condo overlooking treed commons offers bright ktchn w/ Ig nook, 1st fir laundry, gas frplc in spacious liv rm, master ste w/ 2 walk-in-closets, jet tub & Ig shower, + guest ste w/ full bath. \$203,900 (L74Wes)

www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27048139

REDFORD - Built in 2005! 3 bedrm, 2.5 bath colonial w/ great location, large ktchn & dining area w/ door wall to brick paver patio, Ig mstr suite w/ bath, 1st fir laundry, maintenance-free exterior & nicely landscaped! \$169,900 (L60Del) www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27030814

NORTHVILLE - You'll love this 3 bedrm, 1.5 bath condo w/ updated wndws, doorwall, furnace, A/C, storm door, brick paver patio & ceramic tile in ktchn. Largest unit in complex, close to clubhouse & pool! \$134,000 (L21Sil) www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27044600

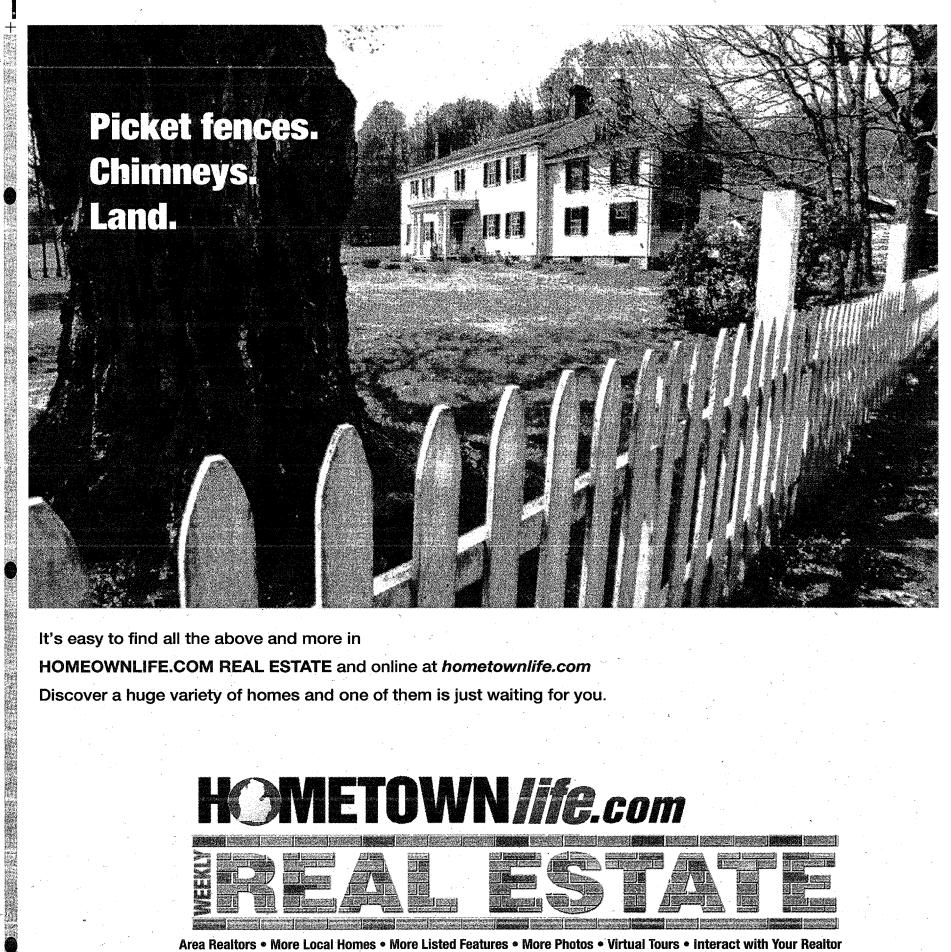


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Detroit to be featured at CREW Midwest conference

Downtown Detroit's riverfront will play a key role in a May conference of several hundred commercial real estate professionals from 11 Midwestern states and Ontario.

Scheduled for May 3-5 at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, the annual Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Midwest Regional Conference (MWRC) will feature Detroit River development efforts in several conference sessions, including a narrated river cruise, an expert panel discussion of Midwestern waterfront revitalization projects and a keynote address by Matt Cullen, General Motors Corp. general manager/economic development & enterprise services and an active proponent of Detroit River redevelopment.

The Thursday, May 3, afternoon riverboat cruise will highlight recent and planned developments on the Detroit and Windsor sides of the Detroit River.

On May 4, the conference's signature panel, "On the Waterfront: Revitalizing Riverfronts and Leveraging Lakefronts," will examine successful waterfront development projects in the Midwest and Ontario. The Friday morning event will feature speakers from participating regional CREW chapters — including host chapter CREW Detroit — presenting case histories, best practices and biggest challenges.

Cullen, an instrumental figure in Detroit's riverfront revitalization since GM's 1996 purchase of the Renaissance Center, will deliver the conference's keynote address during Friday's afternoon luncheon.

GM has signed on as a \$10,000 "Superior" level conference sponsor, says Joan Cleland, conference chair and president of Acquest Development Inc. in Bloomfield Hills. Other sponsors include the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and Oakwood Healthcare System Foundation as a sponsor of the conference "NetWalks" — morning walking and running tours of Detroit led by local CREW members.

Multiple sponsorship opportunities from \$1,800 to \$10,000 — which also include exposure at CREW Detroit events and on its publications and Web site throughout 2007 — are available. For more information, contact Debra Osuch at (586) 731-3100.

CREW Detroit, one of the largest local chapters of the international CREW Network, worked for two years to win the event, Cleland says.

For general information about the conference and CREW Detroit membership, contact Norma Beuter, CREW Detroit administrator, at beuter@comcast.net or visit www.crewdetroit.org/07mwrc.htm for regular updates.

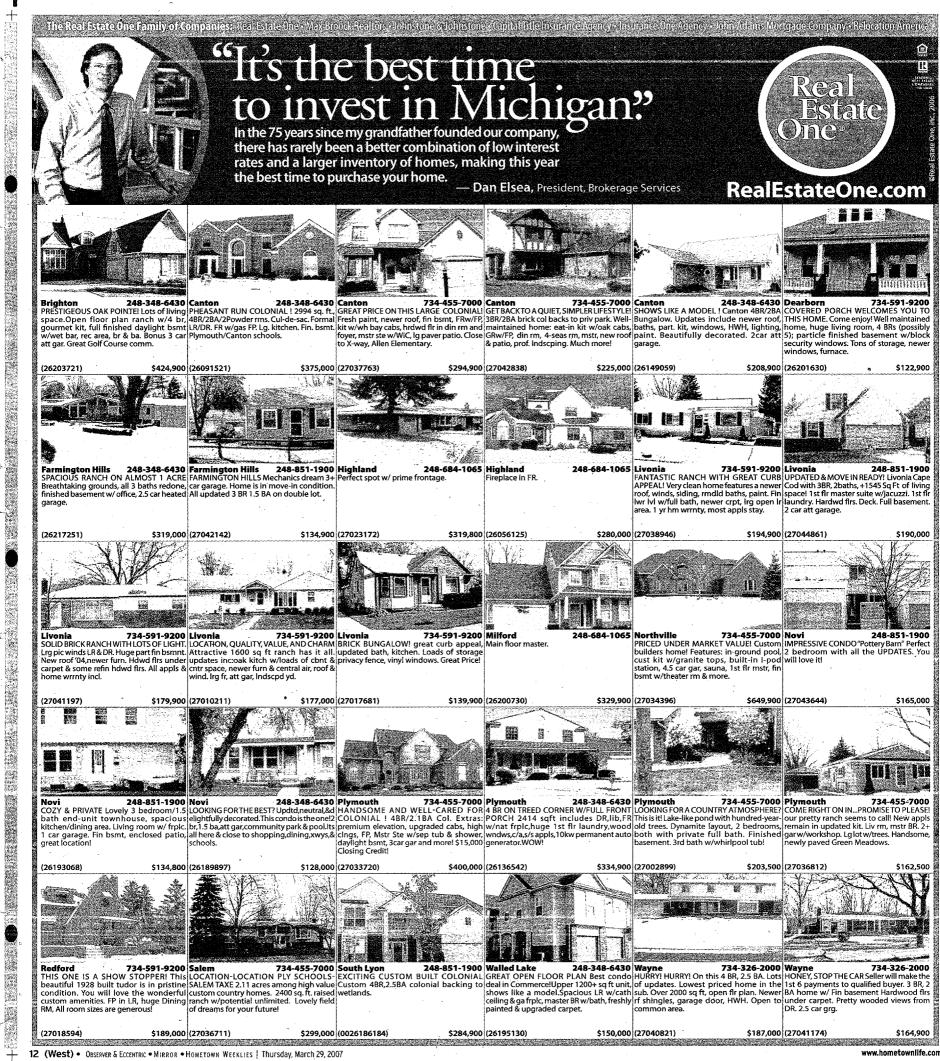
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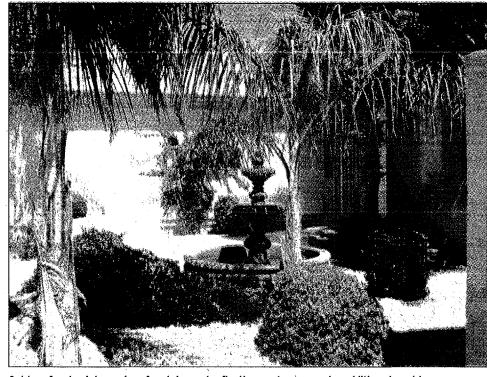
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Wayne Spring Home Improvement • March 2007 • 1





Outdoor focal points, such as fountains and reflecting pools are popular additions to outdoor spaces.

Spring trends for outdoor living spaces

(MS) - Spicing up your home's outdoor living space takes more than just a few flowerpots on the patio - especially with today's outdoor trends. More homeowners are choosing to transform their outdoor space with everything from entertainment centers to elaborate kitchens.

Nearly two-thirds of architects reported an increase in demand for outdoor kitchens, decks and patios compared to one year ago, according to the 2006 American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey. They also reported spikes in homeowners opting for upscale landscaping, more outdoor amenities such as pools, tennis courts, courtyards and gazebos - and setting boundaries for their yards with fencing, walls and bush-

"The outdoor living boom has clearly moved from being 'just a trend' to a lifestyle," said Susan McCoy, an outdoor living expert and president of the Garden Media Group, in a public statement. The Garden Media Group recently released its 2007 picks for spring outdoor trends.

With the increasing popularity of waterresistant furniture and appliances, practically anything goes for the great outdoors and is now built to withstand rain and temperature changes. In fact, some homeowners are even opting to place flat-panel LCD or plasma televisions outside. Some TVs even have a wireless connection and are able to communicate to indoor cable boxes or DVD players.

The most popular items homeowners say they plan to add to their outdoor spaces this year include lighting units, gas grills, mosquito eliminators, outdoor fireplaces or pits, and patio heaters, according to a national survey by the Propane Education and Research Council.

Here are some other popular outdoor trends:

Fireplaces: Make them the centerpiece to your outdoor living space. They also can provide some heat, if necessary.

Fountains and reflecting pools: They provide tranquility to a backyard. Add small fountains in your garden or even a small stream running throughout the vard - viewable from inside your home, too. To get a spa feel, some homeowners are even installing outdoor showers near their pool areas.

Kitchens: Upscale gas grills or even brick pizza ovens are on the rise for fancy outdoor cooking. Some outdoor kitchens are even complete with sinks, ranges and refrigerators.

Gardens: The Garden Media Group predicts 2007 trends will include gardens with colorful foliage plants, such as elephant ears, ornamental grasses and iresine. Small gardens are also "in," according to GMG. Squeeze a small garden on your patio or rooftop, wherever there's plenty of sunlight. Also, consider a trellis with vines to create a natural canopy for your backyard.

Whatever outdoor makeover you choose, create a seamless transition from indoor to outdoor by using architecture details, flooring, color schemes and window treatments similar to the inside of your home, suggests the American Society of Interior Designers. Then, when you head outdoors, you'll still feel right at home.

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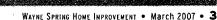






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Clean up before you hit the deck

(MS) — With spring quickly approaching, chances are you're already envisioning putting away the winter clothes and dusting off the grill and spatula in anticipation of the season's first party. As enticing as such an image can be, you're likely well aware of the work that goes into readying your home for the shift in seasons.

For backyard barbecue afficionados, one of the coming seasons' biggest chores is to restore and protect your deck for the seasons that lie ahead. Whether your winter was mild or harsh, Mother Nature more than likely did a number on your deck over the last several months. So before you can throw your first bash, consider the following tips for cleaning your deck.

■ Be thorough: Winter throws all sorts of elements at your deck, so be prepared to put in some elbow grease when cleaning. Algae, mildew and moss can turn a beautiful deck into a black-and-green-stained eyesore. Scrubbing will only do so much, so you'll likely need a deck cleaner that removes such stains while simultaneously brightening your deck.

Also, there are invisible factors that can affect a deck as well. For example, pressure-treated wood often falls victim to excess wax. While this is not necessarily detrimental to a deck, it can prevent adhesion should you attempt to apply a sealer to your deck before the season begins anew. A good cleaner will remove any excessive materials. ■ Strip the deck: Many people prefer a colored sealant on their deck to make it more aesthetically appealing. However, stained decks often fade, creating a weathered look as opposed to a desired one. Once your deck starts to fade, simply applying a new stain won't do the trick. First, you must strip the deck of its old stain. A number of stain and finish removers are on the market today, removing latex or oil finishes equally as well. A good stain or finish remover will also prepare the wood for reapplication. And though this might sound like quite an endeavor, it should not take very long to strip a deck once you've applied the remover. Oftentimes, a good product will work in less than 30 minutes.

Protect it for the upcoming seasons: Because spring rolls right into summer, once you've cleaned your deck you'll want to protect it from the pounding it's liable to take over the next several months. Whether or not you decide to stain (or re-stain) your deck, make sure you protect it with a water-repellent finish. This protects your deck from those spring showers and also allows you to freely water any plants or flowers you may have planted around the deck without fear of damaging the wood. This is also essential if your deck surrounds a pool where water puddles are unavoidable. A good waterrepellent feature will also have anti-mildew properties. That's important, as the warm months ahead are prime periods for mildew growth.



Before you and your loved ones can enjoy your deck this season, your first need to restore and clean it.



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A little spring cleaning for your trees and shrubs

(MS) — Spring is a time when we traditionally do some thorough cleaning around the house — washing windows, scrubbing floors, and cleaning out cluttered closets. But did you know that spring can be a great time to give your trees and shrubs a little cleaning too?

When arborists — professionals in the care of trees — talk about "cleaning," it means to prune out dead, dying, diseased, and broken branches from a tree or shrub. Although cleaning can be done throughout the year, spring is the ideal time, just before the plant puts out a new flush of growth.

To maximize flowering on springblooming trees, prune just after your tree or shrub has finished flowering. Pruning at this time avoids cutting off the flower buds for next year. The general rule of thumb to prune just after flowering can also be applied to plants that flower later in the season.

Most routine pruning to remove weak, diseased or dead limbs can be accomplished at any time during the year with little effect on the tree. Some trees, such as maples and birches, tend to "bleed" if pruned early in the spring. This may be unsightly, but is of little consequence to the tree.

A few tree diseases, such as oak wilt, can be spread when pruning wounds

SIMPLE STRATEGIES FOR PRUNING

Blossom basics – timing is everything. To maximize flowering on spring-blooming trees, prune just after your tree or shrub has finished flowering. Pruning at this time avoids cutting off the flower buds for next year.

Less is more when pruning a newly planted tree. Limit pruning at the time of planting to removal of damaged branches. The tree will develop a stronger, more extensive root system if it has a fuller crown.

Flushing is for toilets. Cutting branches flush with the trunk removes the important "branch collar," which helps the tree to close the wound. Cut just outside the branch collar at the base of the branch.

■ Put away the paints. There is no need to apply wound dressings. Research has shown that the common wound dressings do not inhibit decay, do not prevent insect entry, and do not bring about faster wound closure. In fact, many of the commonly used dressings slow wound closure.

■ Topless trees are indecent. Don't top trees! Topping trees can make them prone to failure down the road. Topping leads to decay and weakly attached branches. Besides, topping makes trees ugly.

■ No tourniquets required. While some trees such as maples and birches will "bleed" or lose sap from pruning cuts made early in the spring, this bleeding does not hurt the tree. Because bleeding is unsightly, you might want to prune these species during the dormant season.

allow spores access into the tree. Susceptible trees should not be pruned during active transmission periods.

Heavy pruning just after the spring growth flush should be avoided. This is when trees have just expended a great deal of energy to produce foliage and early shoot growth. Removal of a large percentage of foliage at this time can stress the tree.

NEWLY PLANTED TREES

Pruning of newly planted trees should be limited to corrective pruning. Remove torn or broken branches. Save other pruning measures for the second or third year. The belief that trees should be pruned when planted to compensate for root loss is misguided. Trees need their leaves and shoot tips to provide food and the substances which stimulate new root production. Unpruned trees establish faster, with a stronger root system than trees pruned at the time of planting.

BE AN INFORMED CONSUMER

One of the best ways to be assured you are making wise decisions regarding your trees is to educate yourself on some of the basic principles of tree care. The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) offers a number of brochures designed to inform consumers about trees. These can be downloaded at no cost from www.treesaregood.com.

GET ADVICE FROM AN ARBORIST

A qualified arborist can give you sound advice and can provide the services your trees may need. Good arborists will perform only accepted practices. When choosing an arborist, look for ISA Certification, membership in professional associations, and ask for proof of insurance. Be weary of individuals who go door-to-door offering bargains for doing tree work. Don't be afraid to check references.



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Drive time – don't ignore driveway repairs

(MS) — With the home-improvement craze more popular than ever, a commonly overlooked area is one homeowners use each and every day: driveways. While patios or decks are more seasonal features of most homes, driveways are put to use 365 days a year. Still, many homeowners don't list driveways high on their home improvement priority list, which isn't good.

A driveway that's not maintained properly can eventually force homeowners to dig deep into their wallets for repair costs. For residents of colder climates, water that gets through the cracks in an asphalt driveway can freeze. The resulting expansion and contraction will form heaves (essentially upward swells in the asphalt) in the driveway's surface, leading to bigger cracks and eventually ruining the driveway altogether. While the consequences aren't quite as severe in warmer climates, water that seeps through a cracked driveway in such climates will eventually cause even bigger cracks. Homeowners also need to consider the potential damage to their vehicles, as well as the likelihood of their children possibly getting hurt by playing in a poorly maintained driveway.

With all of those compelling reasons, resealing a damaged driveway should move higher up your list of fix-ups. Such a job can be performed without professional assistance by simply adhering to the following tips.

■ Beware the weather: Resealing a driveway can't be done in a single day. Rather, it's a process that takes a few days to complete properly. Also, it's a job that can't be done in the rain, so make sure you check the weather and go ahead with your project when you've been assured there's no rain in the forecast.

■ Clean up first: The first step of the resealing process is to clean your driveway. This can be done with a thorough sweeping or with a light sweep followed by a power-washing. Most homeimprovement chains and even some grocery stores rent out power washers. Buying one would be foolish, as you won't use it nearly enough to make it worth the cost.

Once you've thoroughly swept or washed your driveway, apply an asphalt cleaner. This will remove unsightly oil spills and stains, which in addition to being an eyesore actually contribute to cracks as well. As asphalt is a petroleumbased product, oil will soften its surface, making it easier for water to seep through.

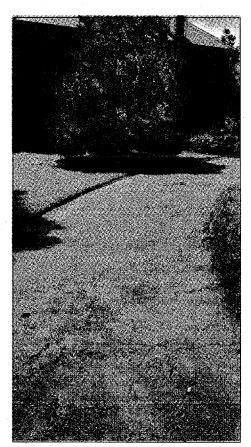
■ Fill the cracks: Once the driveway's been cleaned, it's time to fill the cracks. Before you apply any filler, however, it's best to undercut any cracks so you can

widen the base. That way, when you apply the filler a wider crack at the base will allow the filler to be anchored, making it stronger at the surface. Once that's been done, make sure you overfill the crack, and then smooth out whatever's left on the surface. (Note: For especially deep cracks, fill them nearly to the surface with sand before applying any filler.) This is akin to caulking a shower, and in fact some fillers actually come with an applicator very similar to a caulking gun.

■ Fix holes: Holes in the driveway, which are more of an eyesore than an actual problem, can be fixed with cold patch, a substance sold at most homeimprovement stores. Made up of asphalt that's been premixed with aggregate, cold patch should be packed tightly into each hole and then allowed to settle overnight.

■ Start resealing: Once you're ready to reseal, it's especially important that the weather forecast isn't calling for rain. To be effective, sealer needs to dry thoroughly. Different sealers require different tools, so whichever type you choose, make sure you have the right tools to apply the sealer.

Once you've finished and the sealer has dried, your driveway will be as good as new. And more importantly, you'll have significantly improved your property at very little cost.



Though often overlooked, repairing a driveway is an important home improvement.



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 Let Your House pay You Back!

 Image: Constant of the part of

Customized doors offer entry to style

Homeowners can now create their own distinctive entrances with exotic, customized entry doors from Marvin Entry Doors. Available at Dillman & Upton in Downtown Rochester, Marvin Entry Doors offers exquisitely handcrafted solid, hardwood entry systems from the nation's premier manufacturer of made-to-order wood and clad wood windows and doors.

"We are very excited by this latest offering from Marvin Windows and Doors. It allows our customers to uniquely customize their entryways, bringing together old world craftsmanship and modern millwork manufacturing," says Anita Vaughn-Cook, Window & Door Department Manager at Dillman & Upton.

Intricately handcrafted by skilled craftsmen in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, Marvin Entry Doors come in a variety of wood species and door designs to complement an array of architectural styles.

"Marvin Entry Doors offer homeowners significant flexibility when customizing their entryway," said John Simpson of Marvin Windows and Doors. "In addition to the seven architectural styles listed in our catalog, Marvin Entry Doors have virtually unlimited custom capabilities for wood carving, unique architectural designs, and decorative and patterned glass. We can also accommodate unique configurations of side lites and transom windows, such as round tops, to complete your entry system."

Available wood species include Honduran Mahogany and Honduran Cedar, White Oak, Walnut, and Cherry. The doors can be ordered factory finished in five stain finishes in addition to prime.

To view displays and learn more, call or visit the Dillman & Upton Home Center at 607 Woodward Street in Downtown Rochester, 248-651-9411. Visit online at www.dillmanupton.com.



Marvin Entry Doors, available at Dillman & Upton in downtown Rochester, offers exquisitely handcrafted entry systems.



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New ideas for an old chore – cleaning

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Doing battle against the clutter and germs that have sprouted in your home this winter is largely a matter of common sense: Dust, sweep, wash, throw out

- and move on.

Most specific cleaning tips don't require much of a leap of imagination either: Mix vinegar and water for a natural glass cleaner; don't forget to wipe down doorknobs and light switches; disinfect wet sponges by microwaving them.

But some new books and current magazines are offering a handful of less obvious ideas as well. They might just take your home from clean to sparkling, and even save you some time:

LIVING ROOM

■ Tackle dusty furniture quickly and easily by putting a clean athletic sock on each hand and wiping, says Jeff Bredenberg, author of the new book "How to Cheat at Cleaning" (Taunton, 2007). Bredenberg also suggests dusting several fabric lampshades at the same time by rinsing them in the shower and letting them air dry. (Just don't try this with silk lampshades, which will get damaged.)

■ Minimize scuffs on your wooden furniture by rubbing the damaged spot with the meat of a walnut or pecan. The oil in the nut will make marks less visible, according to the February/March issue of Ready Made magazine. The magazine also advise eliminating scuffs on leather furniture by rubbing gently with a pencil eraser.

■ When dusting a flaking or cracking surface, don't use a cloth, which could snag, points out "Martha Stewart's Homekeeping Handbook" (Clarkson Potter, 2006). A soft paintbrush will do the trick.

KITCHEN

Stir the ice that comes out of your freezer's ice maker every few days to keep it fresh and clump-free, Stewart says. Discard your ice every month or so if you don't use ice often.

Try placing sheets of wax paper on countertops while cooking dinner, Bredenberg suggests. That way crumbs and sticky spills can simply be thrown away, rather than cleaned up.

■ Bredenberg even has a tip for outdoor cooks: Spritz the grates of your grill with non-stick cooking spray before heating. After cooking, scrub for a moment with a wire brush, then close the grill. Leave it heating for an extra 15 minutes to burn off any residue.

BEDROOM

■ In the "What to Expect Guide to a Healthy Home" booklet Heidi Murkoff (author of the hugely popular "What to Expect..."

series of parenting books) suggests eliminating the dust mites that live among your child's stuffed animals by placing the toys in the freezer overnight. Icy

temperature will do the cleaning for you. (The booklet, published in association with Clorox, is available for free at http://whattoexpect.com.)

 Most pillows can be machine washed, Stewart says; launder every three to six months according to label instructions. Exceptions include pillows filled with silk, buckwheat and wool. Those can be gently spot-cleaned with dishwashing liquid. Take care not to saturate the stuffing, and dry in sunshine.

■ If your favorite blouse gets stained with ballpoint ink at the office, Martha Stewart says you'll need petroleum jelly to help clean it.

Here's how: Use the petroleum jelly to build a dam around the stain. Fill an eyedropper with isopropyl alcohol and treat the stain, staying within the borders of the dam. Use a dry solvent such as mineral spirits or acetone to remove any color remaining (do not use acetone on acetate).

Rinse with a diluted dishwashing soap solution made of 1 tablespoon colorless, fragrance-free dishwashing soap and 10 oz. water, then launder.

BATHROOM

Do you normally store the family's toothbrushes all nestled together in one place? Murkoff advises keeping them at least one inch apart to avoid sharing germs.

■ She also recommends closing the toilet lid before you flush. Otherwise, she says, you'll be causing a "mini bacteria volcano every time you flush."

■ Most vinyl, synthetic, cotton and hemp shower curtain liners can be washed in your washing machine, using hot water and a mild detergent, according to the Martha Stewart book. Hang to dry.

Keep critters from creating havoc

(MS) — As property values rise and price tags on homes continue to soar, an ever-expanding number of homeowners are beginning to take every aspect of home ownership more seriously. Perhaps nowhere is this more evident than in yards across the country. Whereas lawn care used to mean a push mower and the occasional sprinkling during summertime droughts, nowadays many homeowners hire professionals to tend to their property. Knowing the cost will be well worth it when it comes time to put the property up for sale down the road and for now they'll have the "best lawn on the block."

As valuable as such professionals are, once they leave and the sun goes down, it's often open season on your yard for neighborhood critters and creatures. Raccoons, specifically, are the Bugs Bunny to many homeowners' Elmer Fudd, causing numerous problems on a nightly basis while remaining largely elusive thanks to their nocturnal nature. Thankfully, homeowners have a handful of options when it comes to keeping their yards and flowers safe once the landscaper leaves and the sun calls it a day.

Return to the days of yore with metal trash cans. The metal trash can has gone the way of the cassette deck and become largely extinct. But that doesn't mean they can't still be found and aren't still useful. Raccoons typically recall where they've had success in hunting for food and where they've failed. It's rare for raccoons to return to places where they didn't get food on their initial trip. Unlike plastic garbage cans, metal garbage cans will be noisy when a raccoon tries to get into them looking for food. If you secure the top of the can with a rubber band or bungee chord, you should be able to make it outside in time to catch the raccoon struggling to get into your can. While raccoons aren't afraid of people, the raccoon will more than likely give up once you come outside, and is then less likely to return.

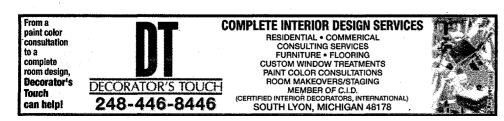
■ Install motion detectors around the property. More people install motion sensitive lights and sprinklers to deter critters than they do to deter criminals. Put these around gardens and trash cans and chances are the critters will scamper off before doing any damage. ■ Secure the chimney. Raccoons,

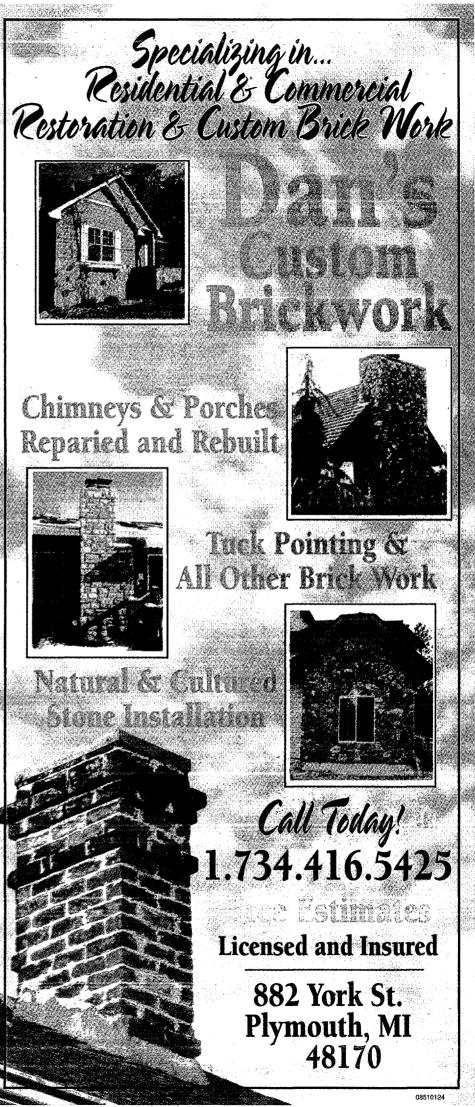
especially, enjoy nesting in chimneys, as it's typically a warm place to nurse their young. If a raccoon has already made a home out of your chimney's flue, this can be a difficult situation. If you move them while the newborn raccoons are too young, it will likely be a death sentence for those young raccoons. Should they die in your chimney, you'll now have a new problem.

Give the mother raccoon a few days to clear out once she has begun the relocation process. This is important because raccoons actually have several den sites within a given area. If you close out the mother raccoon prematurely, she will damage your house in an attempt to find her young. Once they've moved out, secure whatever entrance way was used.

Check existing barriers. As previously mentioned, raccoons are not afraid or intimidated by humans, but humans should be wary of contact with raccoons, which will set up shop in basements, crawl spaces and just about anywhere they can get in and out of easily. That heightens the importance of checking barriers for signs of intrusion. If a barrier has been broken or it appears as though a raccoon is now settling in, wait until nightfall when the raccoon leaves and then secure the area. Never reach into a crawlspace or area you suspect a raccoon might be to see if the animal is there or not. You'll almost definitely become a bite victim if the animal is home. To determine if the animal is around, lay flour on the ground outside the crawlspace. If you see footsteps leading away, then the animal has likely gone out for the night and it should be safe to secure the area.

■ Install fencing. If your problems are due to skunks and opossums, perhaps fencing will do the trick. Skunks generally aren't climbers, so a good fence should deter skunks from restricted areas. Along those same lines, opossums are not diggers, so they won't be able to dig under a fence if they smell food. Opossums are also somewhat easier to deal with thanks to their wandering nature, which makes them less likely to seek out food that's not readily available to them.





Don't let gadgets take over your home

(MS) — This is a gadget-crazed society where many households are filled with more MP3 players, PDAs, hand-held video games, and mobile phones than people. With these electronics come a barrage of accessories and of course, power cords, which can quickly turn an organized space into one overrun with clutter.

This season, a good home-improvement project to undertake is one in which you gain control over the home electronics that just may be taking over your household. From recharging centers to concealment tips, here are some ways to get organized.

1. Catalog your inventory: A little organizational work up front could do wonders for helping you to avoid aggravation later on. A simple labeling gun or tags printed off of your home computer can help keep tabs on your gadgets. Come up with a cataloging system for your stuff. Label each gadget, power cord, recharging dock, remote control, etc., with a coordinating name, color or other code. For example, "Jim's MP3." Do not think that you'll be able to match up the charger to the device later on - those plugs all start looking deceptively similar as your collection grows. Having them clearly labeled will definitely eliminate confusion.

2. Create a central charging station: The majority of the devices in your life likely run on rechargeable batteries. Unless you desire a kitchen counter overflowing with gadgets, it is wise to find an out-of-the way place where you can handle charging up. A garage, workshop or basement area can be a good place to set up a central charging station. A countertop, deck or shelf can be equipped with a multi-outlet power strip designated specifically for gadget charg-ing. Encourage family members to keep the charging docks and power cords in the same spot to contain the clutter and make it easy to locate plugs when needed.

3. Rein in remotes: From ceiling fans to plasma televisions, many of today's electronics come with remote controls. Just like power cords, it can be difficult to remember which remote powers which device, so labeling is key. Also, enlist the help of remote caddies or create your own cubbies or storage systems for housing remotes in particular rooms. While universal remote controls can help reduce the number of remotes you'll need, not all of them will work for the dozens of functions the actual device remote control will. If the idea of a multitude of remotes seriously irks you, you can hire a home-electronics specialist to come in and master wire your home to a programming center that will run many of the devices from one control panel.

4. Go wireless: If cords have taken over, consider upgrading home computers and other electronics to wireless systems. From wireless routers to wireless keyboards and mice to a plethora of other technology, you can considerably cut down on the amount of cords you'll need. Where wireless is not possible, think about running cords inside of walls or under carpeting to create a clean look. Thin speaker wires from surround-sound systems can be easily concealed under carpeting by cutting a thin groove into the foam padding to house the wire. If you don't like the idea of doing the work yourself, there are professionals who specialize in setting up home-theater systems.



Find ways to organize all the electronics and remotes in your home.





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Some tips for window replacement

"Will birds fly in my house when you take my windows out?" "Should I turn up the air conditioning so you won't get hot while replacing the windows?" These are just two of the concerns homeowners generally express to their installers when having windows replaced in a home.

"Since many homeowners have lived in their homes for only a decade or less, most people have not faced a full window replacement project before," says Don Zeman, host of the nationally syndicated home improvement radio show, Homefront with Don Zeman. "A professional installer can ease concerns and answer questions well in advance of a replacement project. Good communications is the key to homeowners feeling comfortable and ready for an upcoming window replacement project."

Zeman, who was a contractor for more than 25 years, offers some easy tips and pieces of information to put the minds of homeowners at ease before a window replacement project:

Tip #1 — Window replacement is a progressive remodeling project. Only one or two windows are taken out at a time and then those windows are immediately replaced. The entire home will not resemble a piece of Swiss cheese with holes in it for birds, weather or animals to enter



No-stress window replacement jobs can be achieved when homeowners communicate in advance with their window installer.

through during the replacement process. Tip #2 — Remove window treatments (including shades and blinds) before the installers arrive to give them easy access to the windows. Glass ornaments or decorations should also be removed from the windows, ledges and sills.

Tip #3 — Pre-determine with your installer how much space will be needed to operate inside and outside the home for each window. Some furnishings may need to be moved away from windows and breakables taken off wall shelves. On the outside, ladders may need to be used in gardens or bushes to reach windows for replacement.

Tip #4 — Decide and communicate with the installation team which doors will be used to gain access to the home, which restrooms are available for crew use and what procedures you feel most comfortable with for home access.

Tip #5 — Kids, pets and contractors they're like oil and water. For safety sake, make arrangements to keep young children and family pets secured and away from workers at all times.

Tip #6 — When selecting a window installer, make sure to request paperwork that assures you that the entire installation team is bonded and insured.

Tip #7 — Double check the paperwork that comes with new windows ... and the windows themselves. If you requested ENERGY STAR qualified windows, make sure the stickers are on the window. If you asked for low-maintenance vinyl frames from Simonton Windows, double check to make sure you receive them. And, if you see any broken glass or damaged frames, bring it to the attention of your installer before the windows are placed in your home. Also make certain to save your window warranty information in a secure location.

Tip #8 — Discuss removal of your old windows with your installer. Sometimes either the new or used windows may need to be stored at your residence for several days. Direct the team where to store the windows, how to protect them and a timeframe for removal.

Tip #9 — Find out your installer's weather policy. While they may be fine working in the rain or snow, you may not want the interior of your home to get muddy or wet. Decide together what are acceptable weather conditions for your project.

Tip #10 — Ask about cleanup. There's a fair amount of dust and mess that comes with a window replacement project. Discuss beforehand if furnishings should be covered during the installation process and what the company's policy is for clean-up after installation both inside and outside the home.

For more information on window replacement, visit www.simonton.com.





Radiant floor heating – the ultimate in hydronic heating comfort

(MS) – Every morning, people across America wince as they step out of their nice, hot showers onto a shockingly cold bathroom floor. But an increasing number of people are no longer enduring the discomfort of a chilly floor. In fact, they are smiling as they step out of their showers onto a soothing, warm bathroom floor. These smart homeowners have radiant floor heating.

The concept of providing warmth from floors is not new; the ancient Romans used it. and homeowners throughout the Far East and Europe have been using it for decades. And now, thousands of American homeowners are enjoying the comfort and high efficiency of radiant heating.

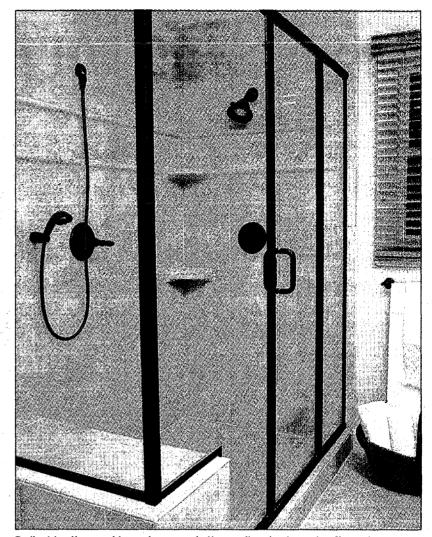
Radiant heating is a form of hydronic (hot water) heating that is provided by a centrally located boiler. With radiant heating, warm waterfrom the boiler is circulated through extremely durable plastic tubing that is installed in floors, walls, or ceilings. Bathroom and kitchen floors that are radiant-heated are a pleasure to walk on, even on the coldest days and nights. Radiant heating provides the ultimate in heating comfort and efficiency because it warms the objects in the room, not the room air. A hydronic heating system delivers gentle, silent heat, with no hot or cold spots in the home. Because environmentally clean radiant heat does not circulate air, it does not scatter dust, mites, or other allergenic materials throughout the house.

In addition, radiant heating, like all hydronic heating systems, is extremely efficient. Radiant heating is delivered through a sealed system, so heat loss is minimal. It also enables each room to have its own energy efficient heating zone with its custom heating controls. This allows the homeowner to save money by not heating the rooms that are not usually occupied.

Hydronic heating applications are not limited to room heating. Other hydronic applications include domestic hot water heating, swimming pool and whirlpool heating, snow and ice melting for sidewalks and driveways, and bathroom towel rack warming. Hydronic heating is ideal for a newly constructed home or for an addition to an existing home. Air conditioning may also be added to hydronically heated homes as a separate system.

Homeowners who are interested in having a warm floor to step onto after a shower can ask their home-heating contractor for all the facts about radiant heating — one of the country's fastest-growing opportunities for home comfort in any home.

For more information on radiant heating or other forms of hydronic heating systems and equipment, visit www.myhomeheating.com, write to the Hydronics Industry Alliance, 2107 Wilson Blvd., Suite 600, Arlington, VA 22201, or e-mail to myhomeheating@gamanet.org.



Radiant heating provides a nice, warm bathroom floor to step onto after a shower.



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Fire up redesign ideas for the fireplace

(MS) — Perhaps you have been thinking about giving your fireplace a makeover, but it just wasn't practical during the peak cold-weather season. Now that the weather is warming, it is a good time to reassess plans for revamping a fireplace to improve its function or appearance.

Fireplaces can be assets and add to the value of a home, but only if they're in good working order and are functional and attractive in a space.

To begin on a fireplace project, it's first important to understand the decorative features that make up a fireplace.

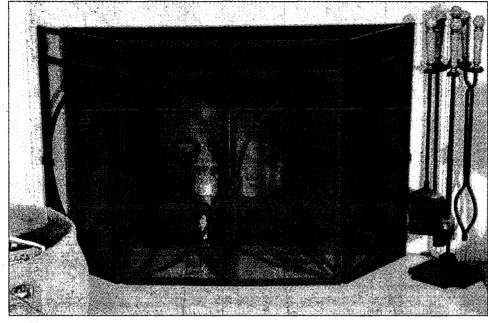
1. Face material: This is is the material, either stone, brick or marble, that surrounds the fireplace opening. On dramatic or full-wall fireplaces, the face material may extend from floor to ceiling.

2. Surround: A full surround outlines the opening of a fireplace. It is a decorative feature that often ties into the overall design scheme of the fireplace.

3. Mantle: A mantle is traditionally a wood shelf or beam that rests above the opening of the fireplace. It is a decorative element and one that lends drama to the fireplace design.

4. Screen: Screens can coordinate with room design and appeal to enliven a boring fireplace. Some also serve as protection against errant embers.

When changing the look of a fireplace,



Consider updating the look of your fireplace by refacing or adding decorative accessories.

modifying the above elements can offer the most dramatic impact. Think about how the fireplace fits into the room and your overall design. Brick can be warm and cozy, but may not coordinate with your modern theme. Changing the face material can quickly update the look of a fireplace. If the budget allows, reface with stone, marble or another surface material that appeals to you. Or, if you seek a quick, but dramatic fix, consider painting existing brick the same color as your walls so that the fireplace becomes less of a focal point and more cohesive in the room.

Redoing a mantle is another way to transform the look of a fireplace.

Sometimes mantles are not proportionally sized in relation to the scale of a fireplace and can overpower or be lost. If you are painting face brick to coordinate with wall color, consider a bolder mantle color so it pops and defines the opening.

One of the easiest facelifts you can give to a fireplace is a good cleaning and a new screen. Removing old residue and stains from the face of the fireplace can refresh the look. There are a variety of screens available that can be custom-fit or freestanding for your fireplace. Accessorize with irons and tools to add even more design appeal.



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- Kim and Clark Smith, Northville: "Thank you, Mark and Mike, for a fabulous job. Our friends and
- neighbors can't believe
- the transformation!
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Add texture to walls and ceilings

(MS) — It used to be that if you had an imperfection or damage to a wall or ceiling, options were limited: either you'd replaster it or cut out the damage and put in a new piece of drywall. That's because other ideas, such as paneling and wallpaper, weren't always so pleasing to the eye.

Lately, homeowners are catching on to the convenience and camouflaging properties of texture products. Everything from raised-print wallpapers to embossed tin or copper panels is available to transform rooms.

Apart from the visual appeal these items offer, they're very effective at hiding imperfections in walls. This is particularly advantageous for owners of older homes who have plaster walls that require the skills of a specialist to repair. Minor cracks or chips can be easily covered with some of these versatile materials:

Beadboard or wainscoting: Depending upon the pattern and style of this product, wainscoting can be used to elicit a formal or country feel in a room. In many cases, wainscoting is installed on the lower part of a wall and capped with molding. This wood paneling is often sold in prepackaged kits that make installation that much easier for the do-ityourselfer.

Textured wallpapers: These papers come in many varieties, from grass papers to flocked paper to textured vinyls. There are also patterned papers that are extra thick and designed to be installed over dated paneling or damaged walls. Some papers are beautiful on their own or can be painted or enhanced to allow the pattern to show through even more.

Easy-application products: While the popcorn ceilings of the past are no longer in vogue, spray- or roll-on texture products along the same vein are cropping up in many homes. Some paint manufacturers sell products with sand or texture already built into the mix so that walls and ceilings are given a granular effect during application. Other products are professionally sprayed on or hand-applied by plasterers. Some fiber texture products combine texture and pigments in one mix. Water is added and the product is applied according to the directions. It dries to an appealing and sound-conditioning finish. Should repairs be needed, a homeowner simply wets the fibrous material and smooths out the imperfection.

Embossed or acoustical ceiling panels: Metal ceiling panels have become au courant as of late. They can help define a space, such as a dining room, by partitioning off entertaining areas from other rooms. They're also very common in older homes where they enhance architectural accents already found in the home. Acoustical panels can be used on walls or ceilings to reduce the echo associated with cavernous spaces. Sometimes they're installed in place of old drop-ceiling panels in finished basements or garages. Sold in a wide variety of patterns, these panels can be painted or used effectively as stand-alone elements.

Faux painting: The look of texture can often be created without actually creating raised surfaces on walls or ceilings. By using sponges, brushes and other media while painting, patterns can be created that add depth and interest.

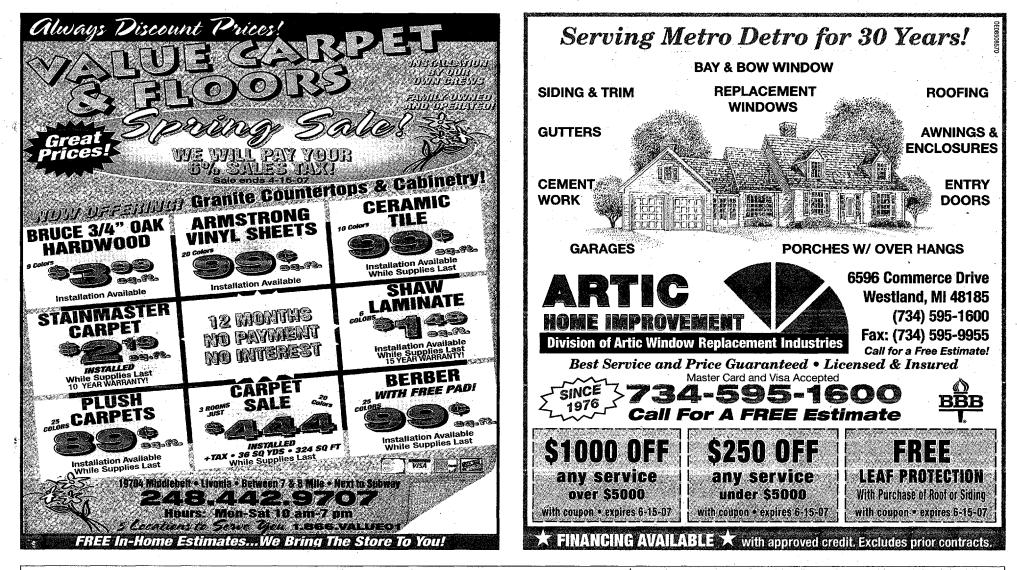
Update insurance after upgrades

Home improvements can mean added value to your home, a more pleasurable living space and possibly the need to change your homeowners insurance policy.

According to the Insurance Information Institute, around 40 percent of homeowners who say they have significantly remodeled their homes have not updated their homeowners insurance to reflect the added value.

You shouldn't wait to add additional coverage after the improvements are completed. Talk to your insurance agent about what your renovations will entail before you begin, and he or she can help determine if your current policy will cover the added value and the potential extra liability you'll need from having workers in your home.

You'll also want protection if the remodel is damaged or destroyed before it's completed. Otherwise, you'll probably have to pay for the loss out of your own pocket, which could be a very expensive venture.



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Survey: Kitchens get bigger and greener

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Homeowners continue to want larger kitchens, and now they also increasingly want eco-friendly materials for their floors and space for recycling centers, according to a new survey.

These are among conclusions in the latest Home Design Trends Survey of members of the American Institute of Architects, based on kitchen and bath trends during the fourth quarter of 2006.

In bathrooms, upscale features also are making big gains in popularity they range from radiant-heated floors to multiple-head showers, the survey says. Whirlpools, it seems, are losing favor.

There may be a national slowdown in the housing market, but not in home remodeling and renovation projects, according to the survey, which interviews a panel of 500 architecture firms working mostly in the residential sector. Of those firms, 38.5 percent of respondents report kitchen and bath remodel-

ing. Kitchens have evolved into just about the most popular room in the home and there's a strong desire to open them up for entertainment and living space.

AIA spokesman Scott Frank explained that the upper-end appliances mentioned by 65.2 percent of respondents are defined as having one or more of these characteristics: being energy-efficient, compact or custom built-in, or using stainless steel.

The category of renewable floor materials includes bamboo, natural fiber carpet, cork and stone, he said. He added that people are very interested in ecofriendly features because they're not only in tune with current green trends but they're practical assets to add to a home — being both functional and economical to run.

For bathrooms, accessibility and uni-

versal design helpful for an aging population are on the rise, noted by 47.5 percent of respondents. Heated floors, multiple showers and towel warming racks are among the popular features.

Lisa Stacholy, who runs an architecture practice in Atlanta, and is past chair of the AIA's small-projects committee, was one of the residential experts on the survey panel. She had noted the drop in popularity of whirlpools, and the use of multi-head showers.

"I've had a lot of clients wanting a master bathroom with no tubs," she said, interpreting that as a response to today's lifestyles, often with both married partners working and having less time to fill a bath tub and soak in it.

"I've had more people asking for steam showers ... and for showers that are twice as big that you can use as a mini-spa — in a couple of cases they've had built-in benches of ceramic tile with teak mats to sit on."

Pare down costs for new cabinets

BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Are you planning a kitchen remodel and want to keep costs to a minimum?

Start by becoming an informed kitchen-cabinet buyer, because that's where much of your budget goes. A simple thing like knowing the price difference between cabinet doors and drawers will help.

Cabinets with plenty of doors are the cheapest way to go, because with each drawer you add, the price increases. A door is cut from one piece of material, while even the simplest drawer has five pieces: four sides and a bottom, plus drawer slides — which are far more expensive than hinges.

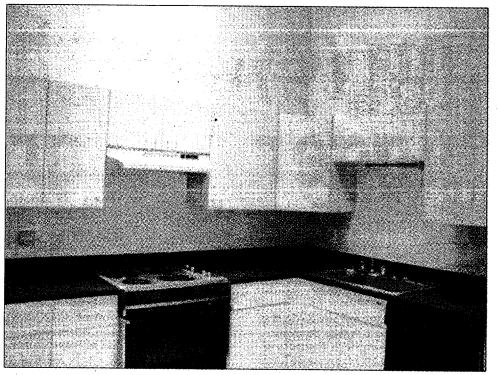
So to control costs, keep drawers to a minimum. A cabinet with a door and a drawer costs more than one with a door alone; a pullout drawer hidden behind a door is even more expensive.

When a contractor or dealer suggests adding drawers, expect the price to increase accordingly. If they make a low bid, you can be sure drawers and pullouts will be kept to a minimum.

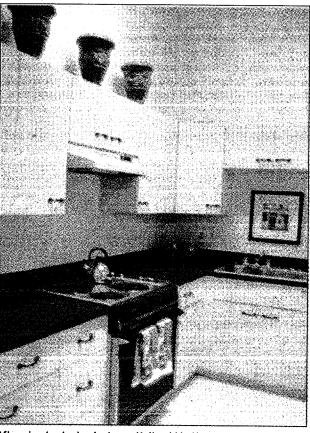


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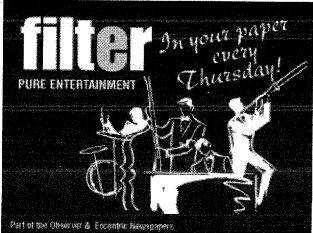




This vacant condo lingered on the market for 18 months.



After simple staging by Impact!, it sold in three weeks.



Local staging company expands Web site

As the housing market stalls, homeowners must work extra hard to sell their homes.

Many homeowners and real estate agents turn to staging companies to prepare their properties for quick turnaround.

Impact! Interior Design Services is one local company that's expanding even as the real estate market shrinks. Now entering its third year in business, the company has hired two new employees, Holly Baird and Shelly Kesh, and has launched a new Website.

Jeff Jacobs of Marketing Success created the site, www.impactids.com. It contains an extensive portfolio of before and after pictures, along with a section where realtors and potential home buyers can view staged properties currently on the market, as well as those that have recently sold. Home sellers can find a list of recommended Realtors and service providers to help with moving and relocation-related services. Special staging discounts for Realtors and home sellers are also available on the site. For more information, visit www.impactids or call (248) 761-3320.



Suite Retreat bathrooms by Champion Homes bring the spa experience home.

Escape to 'Suite Retreat' in comfort of your own home

(NAPSI) The latest lifestyle design trend is a spa bath, officially identified by the American Institute of Architects in a recent survey. Champion Homes recently recreated its "Suite Retreat" spa bath at the Home and Garden Show at Ford Field.

As spacious as many bedrooms, it combines a large ceramic shower, complete with a soothing rainmaker-style showerhead, full-width ceramic seat, and modern glass enclosure with an oversized soaking tub, built-in electric fireplace and an electronics niche, ideal for a TV and DVD player.

"We wanted the bath to have the warm, relaxing atmosphere of a spa," said Roberto Kritzer, award-winning-architect and vice president of corporate design for Champion Homes. "The design gives homeowners a place to relax, unwind and refresh without the added expense and time of a spa visit. With its adjustable lighting scheme, variable flame fireplace and plantation shutters for privacy, the homeowner can create the ideal environment for total relaxation."

Luxurious and spacious, a spa bath is the next evolution in home design being dictated by today's busy lifestyles. And for many people, escaping to the soothing tranquility of a spa may be as simple as retreating to a room in their own home.

Champion Homes is rewarding the first 1,000 families that purchase a Suite Retreat bath system with a 17" flat panel TV and DVD player — the perfect addition to the dream bathroom. All purchasers receive a gift basket filled with Suite Retreat bath accessories and luxuries, such as cozy spa towels, scented soaps and massage oils and a welcoming rubber duckie.

For more information, visit www.championhomes.com.







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Deck out your patio this summer

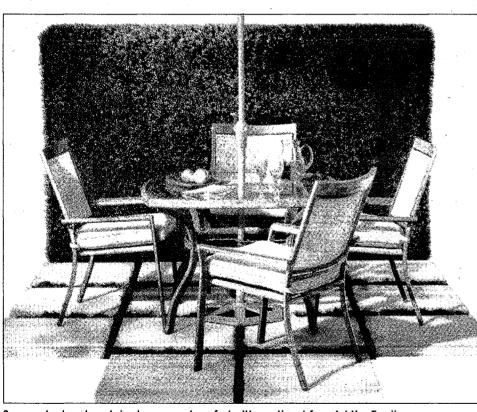
Spring is right around the corner and it's time to start thinking of getting the patio or deck ready for the season's activities. Art Van is showcasing eight patio collections for outdoor relaxing and entertaining.

The collections offer a variety of designs to fit different lifestyles and spaces, along with a full line of accessories, including outdoor rugs, poolside serving pieces, copper finish torches and bell lanterns.

Outdoor furnishings will be available at all 29 Art Van locations. Patio sets are value priced \$89-\$899 and accessories begin at \$7. Large umbrellas are sold separately from \$39 to \$179.



Art Van Furniture is stocking several patio furniture options, including this model by Bellagio.

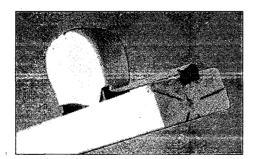


Serve up backyard meals in elegance and comfort with a patio set from Art Van Furniture.

D.I.Y. tip

(MS) — A tape measure can be one of your most useful tools. If you are constructing something outdoors or in a workshop, make sure you measure the entryways to all the rooms the piece will be pass through to ensure the doorways will accommodate the finished item. Otherwise, you may end up with a desk, dresser, shelving unit or some other large fixture that won't fit through a door or up the staircase.





A tape measure can be one of your most useful tools.



Incorporate Zen into your yardscape with this bistro patio furniture set from Art Van Furniture.



Visit artvan.com for store locations.

Keep a good roof over your head

(MS) — Next to the walls, perhaps nothing's more important to a house than the roof. While that's a very basic way of looking at things, a house is really not a house unless it has strong walls and a durable roof. Without strong walls there would be nothing to hold up the roof. And without a durable roof, braving the elements gets a lot more difficult.

To withstand those elements, which can include heavy rains, lots of snowfall or a host of other natural components, you'll need to recognize certain signs that your roof might be on its last leg. To safeguard against potential disaster, ask yourself the following questions next time you decide to check on your roof.

• Is outside light being seen through my attic? Contrary to popular belief, light you can see through the attic is not necessarily a sign that you need a new roof. For instance, it's perfectly natural for light to get through if you have a shake roof, which is made out of wooden shingles made from split logs. That's because the individual shakes will swell and seal during wet months. However, if you don't have a shake roof, there's no reason you should be seeing through your roof.

• Are there signs of leaking? This can be in the attic or in the upstairs rooms if you don't have an attic. Signs can include stained ceiling tiles or drywall (in finished attics or upstairs rooms) or dark spots in the wood. Dark spots are often around vents or chimneys.

• Is this a current or past problem? Not all signs are indicative of a current problem. For example, if a dark spot on your ceiling is dry and hard, then it's an old problem that's already been fixed. However, if a spot is wet and soft, then it's a current problem. If you can't reach the spot to see if it's wet, try and reach it with a screwdriver or broomstick. If it feels soft to the touch, then you know it's a problem that needs addressing.

• Did an artist sneak into my home and paint shapes on my roof? Many times, stains from leaking roofs will look like an artist's rendition of an odd shape. If you start seeing dark spots in odd shapes on your roof, then it's probably not because Michelangelo snuck in to paint your ceiling. More likely, it's the sign of a leaky roof.



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Snow is one of a variety of seasonal factors that can negatively affect a roof over time.

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