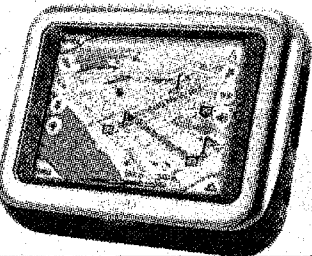


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City grills fire chief on closings

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth City commissioners, upset over published reports that at least one fire station had on several occasions been left unmanned by Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters, invited Fire Chief Randy Maycock to a special meeting Tuesday to answer questions.

After 90 minutes, they still weren't very happy.

Commissioners called the meeting because they were concerned about at least three incidents, in late 2005 and 2006, in which manpower shortages forced Maycock to close Fire Station 2 on Wilcox.

According to Maycock, the closures didn't affect response times, because no runs were logged in the station's service area during the closures.

Maycock said the closures happened because of a combination of department manning and contractual obligations. The department, he said, was down to 23 firefighters (from a maximum of 27) because of layoffs and terminations.

Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said Wednesday the township has asked the Civil Service Commission for a list of new hires to try to bring the department back up to its full complement of firefighters.

At the time of the closures, however, there were also three firefighters out on workman's compensation and two on vacation. On the days in question, a firefighter also called in sick, leaving the department short of the required two-person staffing at all three stations, Maycock said.

Normally, off-duty firefighters are offered overtime pay to fill the opening. However, Maycock said no firefighters were willing to work the shift.

"For some reason, the work ethic of the younger generation isn't money-driven, it's time off-driven," Maycock said. "The lure of overtime pay doesn't work with them."

Maycock made the decision to close Station 2 and move the remaining firefighter there to the headquarters station at Plymouth Township Hall.

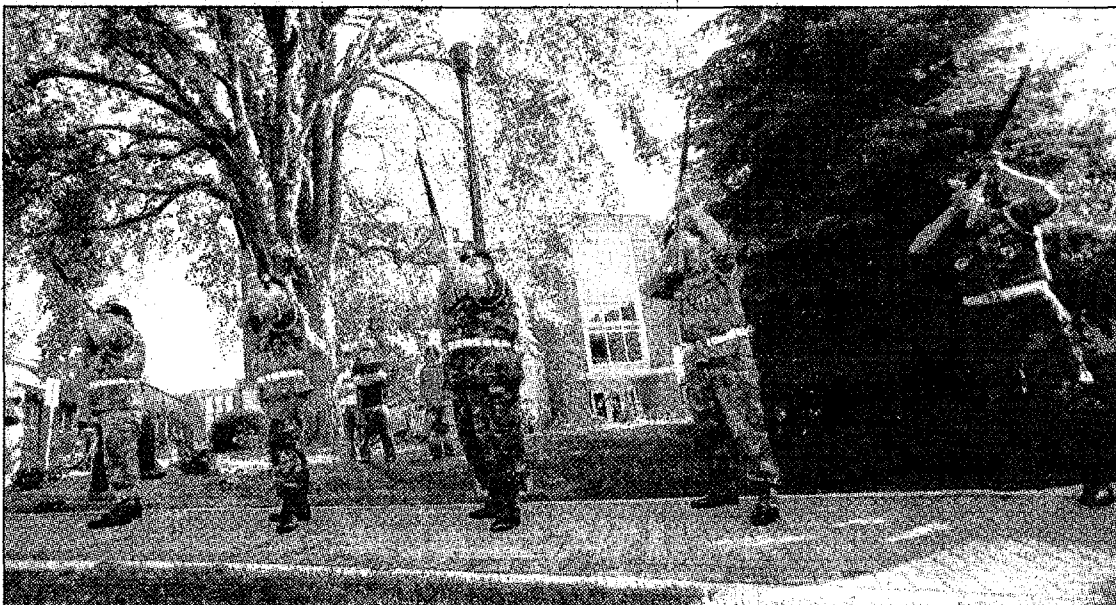
Though he said these three incidents were the first of their kind in Maycock's 36-year history with the department, the chief said he couldn't assure commissioners it wouldn't happen again.

"We run a tight ship as far as (numbers of) personnel goes," Maycock said. "But sometimes it's so tight, one firefighter calling in sick really can throw us into a tailspin."

Commissioner Michele Potter asked Maycock about reports stations close for things like holiday parties, and Maycock didn't deny it. He also said stations routinely close for training, which is conducted at Station 3 at North Territorial and Beck.

All of which left commissioners unsatisfied and pondering their next move.

"Now we're learning two stations are routinely closed," Potter said. "I think we need to sit down and talk about what our options are. I'm not happy with any of it."



PHOTOS BY DON ALLEY

Members of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528 fired off a 21-gun salute to close out Plymouth's Memorial Day ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park downtown Monday.

Honoring the fallen Annual rite pays tribute for ultimate sacrifice

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Edna Somers of Plymouth laughed when she said it.

"Isn't it nice they had this parade just for me?" she asked with a giggle Monday while celebrating her 87th birthday at the annual Memorial Day parade in downtown Plymouth.

Of course Somers, a Plymouth resident and a World War II veteran who served in the Allied Translator and Interpretation section of a Military Intelligence unit, was kidding, as she turned out with hundreds of others to pay homage to military members who have given the ultimate sacrifice in defense of their nation.

The parade ended, and the ceremony was conducted, in the new Plymouth Veterans Memorial Park in front of Central Middle School. It was the first Memorial Day for the park, dedicated in July 2006.

Somers said the ceremony was necessary, especially in these times of war, to rekindle the country's sense of patriotism, especially among young people.

"We've gone through a period where it seems our country is meaningless to a lot of young people," Somers said.

PLEASE SEE MEMORIAL DAY, A6



Frank Pawelak of American Legion Post 391 was master of ceremonies for Monday's Memorial Day ceremony in Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Plymouth.

Permit problems dogging underpass

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Delays in the Sheldon Road underpass project could force Wayne County to work day and night to ensure its completion by the announced deadline of November 2008.

Wayne County Assistant County Executive Alan Helmkamp said there have been problems in securing permits from CSX Railroad — including some by Wayne County — to begin installation of a new water main, which could cause work scheduled to be completed in April and through the summer to be delayed significantly.

However, Helmkamp said there is no room for error, the underpass needs to be completed by the deadline.

"There are some constraints on the property interest (rights-of-way) we hold, plus it then gets into the winter where less work can be done," Helmkamp said. "There are a number of things that drive the deadline."

In conversations with Helmkamp, Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer was told work on the project will have extended hours — if need be — to adhere to the deadlines.

"He told me they would extend the hours, to whatever extent they would have to, to get it completed, even if they had to work late into the night," Dwyer said. "They could pick up steam and not have to do it at all. But (Helmkamp) assured me they would meet the deadline, no matter what."

All long-term construction projects have bumps along the road. However, in this case, there are permits that aren't even pulled yet to keep construction moving.

A case in point: DTE Energy didn't have its utilities near the new water main under Sheldon Road

PLEASE SEE UNDERPASS, A6

Pioneer, Arts Council go 'Behind the Lens'

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Eric Olech hadn't ever really used a camera for much more than a few family photos before he went on a late-March class trip to New York.

But while the 14-year-old Pioneer middle schooler was in the Big Apple for the school's second annual sojourn designed to teach students the impact of the arts on their lives, he saw life in a different light through the camera lens.

The idea behind the trip, according to teachers and students, was to teach the kids about differences between life in their hometown and life in other parts of the country. Since it's a visual arts/drama trip, New York seems like the perfect target.

"We gave the kids a series of elements they need to capture (in pictures), both in Plymouth-

Canton and in New York," said Carmen Johnson, Pioneer's art teacher. "We wanted them to make the connection between the two."

Beginning Friday, the results of Eric's efforts, along with those of some 120 schoolmates, will be on display during an exhibit at the Plymouth Community Arts Council made possible through a collaborative effort between the school and the PCAC.

The "Behind the Lens" exhibit, which runs June 1-10, will show off, in word and picture form, what the students learned about the topic, "The Good Life."

"There are so many things to take pictures of in New York," said Eric, a Canton resident. "When I found out we were doing this project, I was very excited."

The trip was designed in part to get students

PLEASE SEE ARTS, A4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tommy Halewicz, Katia Davis, Dominica Convertino, Emily Hahn, Katie Shelton, Eric Olech, Marina Zabowski, Marguerite Wooley and Morgan Randle (sitting) have their project work hung at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

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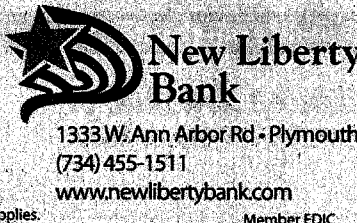
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INDEX

- APARTMENTS B9
- AUTOMOTIVE C3
- CLASSIFIED B8-C4
- CROSSWORD B9
- HOMETOWNLIFE.COM D1
- JOB B11
- MOVIES E14
- OBITUARIES A14
- OPINION A10-11
- REAL ESTATE B8
- SERVICE GUIDE B11
- SPORTS B1

Coming Sunday in Health



Keeping kids healthy at camp

Kiwanis speakers

The Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth has lined up an impressive slate of speakers for its June meetings.

Mark Gaffney of the Michigan AFL-CIO starts it off Thursday when he reflects on the role of unions in a global economy. He will be speaking fresh off the Mackinac policy conference, where union leaders Ron Gettelfinger and James Hoffa spoke.

Upcoming weeks will see Dan Mulhern, Michigan's First Gentleman, husband of Gov. Jennifer Granholm, June 14; Freiman Hendrix, vice president at Eastern Michigan University and former candidate for Detroit mayor, June 21; and 20th District State Rep. Marc Corriveau, (D-Northville), June 28.

Kiwanis meetings run noon-1:30 at Ernesto's Restaurant, 41661 Plymouth Road.

Village Voices

Village Voices, an ensemble chosen from the BeckRidge Chorale, presents their final concert of the season, *All That Jazz*.

From jazz standards to patriotic favorites, the program has something for everyone.

Combining the work of some great vocal jazz arrangers with the incredible sound of Village Voices will make for a memorable afternoon of song.

The concert takes place June

10 at 4 p.m. at The Village Theater, located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. Tickets are \$12. For more information or to order tickets please call (866) 924-4276 or check out the group's Web site at www.plycommunitychorus.org

Youth benefit

Emmanuel Coffee House inside St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton presents Shana Dunlap and Apollo in a benefit performance 8 p.m. June 8.

All proceeds benefit the St. Michael Youth Mission trip. St. Michael Lutheran Church is located at 7000 N. Sheldon in Canton.

Rouge rescue

Plymouth Township officials will celebrate the Rouge River with its fourth-annual Rouge Rescue day 9 a.m. Saturday, June 2, at Plymouth Township Park.

Participants are invited to bring their work gloves to help plant native shrubs and wildflowers along the Tonquish Creek and near the pond. Later in the day, officials host their first Rouge Rescue Fishing Derby, the second-annual Rouge River Treasure Hunt and other children's activities.

Registration starts at 8:30 a.m.; children 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. The planting starts at 9 a.m., the Fishing Derby at 10 a.m. and the other activities



Highest honors

The PCEP Festival Singers earned the highest honors at the Music in the Parks Festival held at Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio on May 18 and 19. Under the direction of Jennifer L. Kopp, the group was awarded a Superior rating of 98.5 out of a possible 100 points by the festival adjudication panel. The Festival Singers were presented with the 1st place trophy for a High School Mixed Choir and won the Overall Trophy for Best High School Choral Ensemble, competing against choirs from across the region. In addition, the PCEP Festival Singers were awarded the highly esteemed "Esprit de Corps Award." The PCEP Festival Singers include: Carolyn Benages, Laura Besh, Keith Brown, Maggie Burr, Nick Boyd, Kyle Burdette, Josh Carlson, Laura Caruso, David Catalan, Mollie Chownen, Diana Deangelis, Francesco DiNicola, Mario DiNicola, Chris Dwan, Caitlyn Eckel, Steve Elliott, Ian Gillespie, Molly Gobeski, Katherine Hagar, Emily Hoermschemeyer, Alex Magee, Andrew Manuel, Kevin McCulloch, Breanna Miller, Emily Movsesian, Sandy Nahra, Kendall Persons, Kylee Phillips, Mike Royer, Jennifer Schinker, Chelsea Selden, Hannah Treppa, Brandon Verdi, Ted Waker, Tricia Wilkiewicz, and Alex Wood.

run 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, visit www.plymouthtp.org or call the Plymouth Township Division of Public Services, (734) 354-3270, Ext. 4.

Hike for Hope

New Hope Center for Grief Support sponsors the "Hike for Hope" 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at Maybury

State Park (Eight Mile entrance, one mile west of Beck Road, car fee of \$6), 20145 Beck Road in Northville, for a fun-filled family time walking or running and remembering our loved ones.

A registration fee of \$15 per person or \$25 per family will be charged; donations can be solicited by entrants from sponsors. Registration is from 9-9:45 a.m. The hike will be followed by a "Time of Remembrance" and a complimentary hot dog lunch.

New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach center located in Northville. The non-profit agency provides grief support services for adults, children, and teens through groups, seminars and other resources. All groups offered by New Hope Center are provided free of charge and the agency relies on individual and community support for its funding.

For more information about Hike for Hope or to participate, volunteer, or be a business sponsor, call the New Hope office at (248) 348-0115.

Crafters Wanted

The Plymouth Fall Festival is accepting applications for its Craft Show that takes place during the Fall Festival Sept. 7-9, 2007.

Ten-by-ten foot spots will cost \$75 per day or \$200 for the three-day weekend. Jewelry vendors will be juried this year and have an earlier deadline of June 30.

Applications are available to download at www.plymouth-fallfestival.com or for more information call Colleen Brown at (734) 455-1614.

Businesses at Fall Festival

Businesses interested in participating in the Plymouth Fall Festival on Sept. 7-9, may sponsor the entertainment venues, or have a booth downtown during the Festival. Sponsorships can include ads in the Fall Festival Guide, banners on the stage, and many other ways to get exposure for your business.

Visit www.plymouthfallfestival.com for application forms or call Colleen Brown, (734) 455-1614.

Brick paver class

The Rock Shoppe on Gottfredson Road in Plymouth offers a free class on brick paver installation 10 a.m.

Saturday, June 2.

Participants can listen to the experts from Santsar explain the step-by-step process of installing a brick paver patio, sidewalk or driveway. Free design help will also be available.

Register on-line at rssiessales@tds.net or call (734) 455-5560. The Rock Shoppe is located at 6275 Gottfredson Road in Plymouth at the corner of North Territorial and Gottfredson Roads.

Train ride

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging sponsors a two-hour dinner/train ride aboard the Michigan Star Clipper Dinner Train on Sunday, July 22, 2007.

Cost is \$49 per person and includes a two-hour train ride, three-course meal and live jazz entertainment. The senior bus will be available for those who need transportation.

Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 for reservations and information.

Garden Walk

No-No's Garden Walk Adventure II features six home gardens, lectures, artists, all designed to provide a memorable Garden Walk experience.

The event takes place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 23. A free plant goes with the first 250 tickets sold.

Tickets are \$10 and are available in Plymouth at Backyard Birds, in Northville at Gardenviews, in Novi at Anglin Nursery and in Brighton at Bordine Nursery.

More information is available on-line at www.gardener-northville-novi.org

Art in the Sun

An annual Father's Day tradition, Northville's juried fine arts festival, Art in the Sun, returns June 16-17.

In its 19th year, the event features over 100 artists in all mediums of fine art, lively music throughout the festival, and concessions. Over 20,000 people will take in the sights and sounds at one of Michigan's best-attended shows. Festival attendees will again be able to paint on a mural - a fun addition for young and old alike. Patrons will also revel in the unique boutiques, galleries, and patio dining in downtown Northville.

For more information, contact the Northville Chamber of Commerce on the Web at www.northville.org or call (248) 349-7640.

FROM THE WEB

Story: Gas prices driving factor in plans
Comments by: iroc
Posted to the Web page (www.hometownlife.com): 1:24 a.m., Tuesday, May 29
"As an American living in Germany, I certainly have a different perspective on the price of gas. After a quick calculation, I realized that the Germans pay about double the amount for one gallon of gas. That's right, about \$7 a gallon. I think it is time that American's become more aware of the bigger picture. It is time that we think about our fuel consumption and our great BIG cars. I realize that there is a serious lack of public transportation in most areas of the US. Perhaps we can push the government to help us out here. Let's face it, SUV's, Hummers and the like just aren't necessary. It is time to be practical."

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Executive Editor
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Hugh Gallagher
Managing Editor
(734) 953-2149
hgallagher@hometownlife.com

Brad Kadrich
Community Editor
(734) 459-2700
bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Jeannie Parent
Retail Sales Manager
(734) 953-2177
jparent@hometownlife.com

Lisa Walker-Kadrich
Retail Advertising Rep.
(734) 953-2168
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Board settles on school cuts

ARTS

FROM PAGE A1

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education settled on \$4.2 million in budget cuts Tuesday, while hoping increasing enrollment and a boost in the state's foundation allowance will keep them from using another \$3.6 million in its bank account to balance the 2007-08 budget.

Trustees voted to raise class size by one student in all grades, except kindergarten through second, for a total savings of \$1.87 million. Their decision was made easier when Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Barbara Rodenberg, said the cut wouldn't impact elementary classrooms.

"It's not as if we have a whole

lot of classrooms that are hovering at the edge," Rodenberg said. "I don't think it's going to be harmful to children because in most cases their class sizes won't go up."

The board also decided to cut the LEAP elementary reading program aides' hours by 33 percent to save \$130,000, which was deemed better than cutting all the aides for \$460,000. The elementary math support for split classrooms (\$90,000) and two school nurses (\$171,000) survived the cut.

The board cut the development director position held by Tom Sklut and his secretary (\$175,000), but kept \$50,000 of the savings for future grant writing. Other major cuts included Plymouth High School Athletic Director Terry

Sawchuk (\$116,000); increasing the elementary school walking distance from one mile to 1.5 miles (\$206,000); no district buses for field trips (\$50,000); and the elimination of high-school media professionals (\$83,000).

The Board of Education has set a June 12 public hearing on the proposed budget.

Trustees also decided not to move the school board election from May to November, to save about 20 percent of the current \$90,000 or more it currently costs to conduct the annual board election. Several board members were concerned November elections could lead to partisan politicking.

"The cost to get into an election and the kind of fund-raising needed would go up quite a few notches," said Trustee Judy Mardigan. "I just don't think we're going to get the kind of people who have come up through the system and have served on district committees."

Trustee Dianne Gonzalez noted, "We're pushing the potential candidates to take on a lot more responsibility, and we're concerned about what type of candidates will be taking this on."

Trustee Steven Sneideman, who pushed hard to keep class sizes from increasing in K-2, said it's time for state legislators to do their part in funding education.

"I felt it needed to be said that we will do our part of the job, but we expect Lansing to

do its part," Sneideman said. "If we had raised class size across the board, it would set a precedent that's what we do in this district, we raise class size."

Superintendent Jim Ryan said he feels the board is in a good position, at this point. "The \$4.2 million in cuts, combined with a projected zero foundation allowance, leaves us with about a \$3.6 million deficit," Ryan said. "I think it's a good spot for the board to land until they see what enrollment is next year and what the foundation grant is."

"Cuts of \$8 million over the past five years have stopped our ability to better perform, and now we're in some tough cuts," he said. "We're hoping the positive settlement of a single business tax will be a plus, and we hope the state legislature comes up with some revenue producer they feel is fair for the state."

Ryan said the board's decision not to increase K-2 class size will mean seven full-time teaching positions will be saved.

"Not increasing the K-2, coupled with those who are retiring and those coming back from leave, gives us a better chance of recalling all our teachers," Ryan said. "I don't know if we'll get to 40, but my reputation has been pretty good so far. We've recalled everybody the last four years."

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to "reflect on how the arts impact their lives," according to Ben McMurray, Pioneer's assistant principal.

"We thought the partnership with the PCAC was a good fit," McMurray said. "It'll make (students) aware of the arts community and, hopefully, encourage them to become an active part in it."

Photographs taken by students will be on display, along with text panels that will help put the photos in context for exhibit viewers. When McMurray approached PCAC executive director Paula Gangopodhyay with the request to use exhibit space, Gangopodhyay took it one step further, urging her board of directors to allow her to make it an interpretive exhibit that incorporates the photos and students' writings.

"The topic has universal appeal," Gangopodhyay said. "Even if I'm not part of the project, I can relate to it. And I like empowering the youth. Our mission is to enhance what's being done in the schools, and to be an integral part of it."

It was the school's second trip to New York. Last year, some 80 students who made the trip were asked to sketch their favorite moments. This year, students were asked to look at elements of "The Good Life," including people, schools, parks, etc.

"We're always trying to get the kids to make this self-to-world connection," said Claire Swisher, Pioneer's language

arts teacher.

Morgan Randle, a 14-year-old eighth-grader from Plymouth, made the connection on this trip moreso than on previous trips to New York, where she'd focused mostly on shopping.

"We were taking pictures, so I actually looked more than I had before," Morgan said. "I had been a tourist before; this time, I looked at more of what there was other than shopping."

The exhibit will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Two open houses (10 a.m. to noon June 2 and 1-3 p.m. June 3) are also scheduled. For more information, call the PCAC at (734) 416-4278.

The Behind the Lens exhibition is being showcased right after the Emerging Artist exhibition which was on display May 14-30 at the Joanne Winkleman Hulce Center for the Arts.

The Emerging Artist exhibition displayed the artistic work of elementary through high school students who participated in various competitions facilitated by PCAC during the 2006-07 school year.

More than 70 students participated in the Isbister-Rotary, Damaris, Congressional and Mentorship Art contests. The Emerging Artist exhibition and recognition ceremony is coordinated by PCAC each year. The Damaris Scholar, Heather Steffani from Starkweather High School won a \$1000 scholarship this year from PCAC and the Schulte family.

More than 100 community members attended the Emerging Artist reception May 30.

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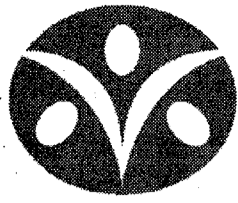
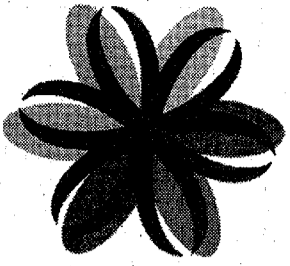
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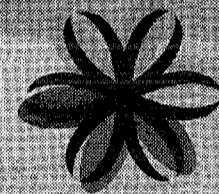
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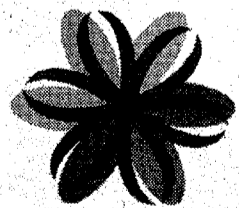
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Tell us why you'd like to dine with Glenda, Diana Lewis

Enjoy the best pizza in metro Detroit and meet your favorite stars — all for fun and charity. Buddy's Pizza and the *Observer & Eccentric/Mirror Newspapers* present "Dining With the Stars," a monthly contest designed to give local fans a chance to meet their favorite local celebrities and help a metro area children's charity.

In 100 words or less, tell us why you're a fan and would like to have lunch or dinner at Buddy's Pizza in June with Diana Lewis and Glenda Lewis of WXYZ-TV (Channel 7).



Glenda and Diana Lewis of WXYZ-TV (Channel 7).

Send your fan letter to BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com and be sure to include your name, address, daytime phone number and e-mail address. Deadline to enter the June contest is 5 p.m. Monday, June 11. The winner will be treated to:

- A limo ride for the winner and stars to and from Buddy's Farmington Hills or the original Buddy's Six Mile Road locations only for lunch or dinner with Diana Lewis and Glenda Lewis courtesy of Protran Transportation.
- A special table reserved for you and the stars.
- A ballroom dancing exhibi-

tion courtesy of Arthur Murray Dance Studio in Royal Oak.

- A fabulous meal from Buddy's great menu!
- A special makeover (including styling by Sebastian), courtesy of Ruby Blu Salon & Spa of Farmington Hills.
- A photograph of you and your favorite stars published in the *Observer & Eccentric* and *Mirror Newspapers* and online at www.hometownlife.com.

And to top it off, Buddy's Pizza will donate \$500 to each star's special children's charity. "We want our winners to dine with their favorite stars and feel

like a star, too," says Marcy Brontman of Buddy's Pizza.

Look for upcoming dining with these local stars — July: Jay Towers of WKRR-FM (97.1); August: CoCo of WJLB-FM (97.9); September: Chuck Gadica of WDIV-TV (Channel 4) — in all *Observer & Eccentric* and *Mirror* editions and online at www.hometownlife.com.

No purchase necessary to enter. Buddy's Pizza will review all entries and select the top four "fan" letters. The star(s) featured for the month will make the final selection. Lunch and/or dinner date to be determined with winner and star by Buddy's representatives.

UNDERPASS

FROM PAGE A1

removed before the June 1 deadline.

"That's fairly significant," Helmkamp said. "That's right in the path where we're doing the work for the new water main. We can't get the water main in until they have the utilities out."

DTE Energy spokesman Scott Simons said the utility company just recently asked for a permit from CSX Railroad, which owns the property.

"We had to revise the rights-of-way, so now we've recently released to CSX Railroad the permits we need," Simons said. "We need a 90-day timetable, under ordinary circumstances. We hope to expedite that."

"We're just trying to keep up with the revisions of the project," he added. "It changed course, and is still changing."

The new water main was to have been installed in the spring, before peak usage during the summer. However, it now appears the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department won't allow that to happen until the fall because it doesn't want to give up the revenues associated with water peak usage.

"The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department won't allow us to do it in the middle of the summer," Helmkamp said.

Even the county, Helmkamp admitted, doesn't have all its permits from CSX to continue the project.

"We're in active communication with the railroad to get the permits we need," Helmkamp said. "We spent four months negotiating all our agreements with them last year, and we thought all was resolved. But CSX has new people who weren't in the protracted negotiations, and they took it as an



BILL BRÉSLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Work on the Sheldon Road underpass project continues, but could find trouble if Wayne County officials can't get permits from CSX Railroad officials.

opportunity to revisit a number of issues."

CSX did not return messages from the *Observer*, however an e-mail to City Manager Paul Sincock, local CSX representative Tom Drake said he was hopeful the permits could be expedited.

"I can report that Wayne County has filed for the water main permit, unlike the last time they accused us of failing to provide the permit when they hadn't applied for it yet, and discussions are moving forward," wrote Drake. "I just had conversation with our 'permit folks' and asked that they expedite the handling. That

may not help with the timing of the DWSD tie-in or the electrical problem."

Despite the significant delays, Helmkamp said work continues at the Sheldon Road construction site.

"A lot has been done, and we're making modifications in mid-stream to get more done," Helmkamp said. "We don't anticipate everything coming to a halt."

"We're going to get all the work done," he added. "I don't have the luxury of a scenario that would allow for the end of the project to be delayed."

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MEMORIAL DAY

FROM PAGE A1

"We get complacent at times. You can't do that."

The Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 528 led off the parade, followed by other military organizations, Scouting groups and the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band. For the first time, the parade — which had always ended up near the Wilcox

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Time to videotape your assets, get home insurance in order

The Memorial Day holiday is over and we can look forward to a beautiful Michigan summer. However, before we get into our summer frame of mind, there are some issues to be considered in order to keep our financial house in order.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

This is a great time of year to make sure that you have an up-to-date videotape of your home and assets. Whether you have done this in the past or this is the first time, it makes sense to go through your home and produce a video inventory.

It is important to document your assets so in case of a disaster, you have something not only to remind yourself of what you have but also documentation for your insurance company. It's a good idea to videotape

your assets and your receipts. Then store the videotape in a safe deposit box outside the home. If you keep it at home, store it in a fireproof box.

Next step is to update your homeowner's insurance policy. And, it's also not a bad idea to shop around and receive competitive bids.

Most people obtain their homeowner's policy when they buy their house and they never make changes. We live in a time of unprecedented change

and when it comes to homeowner's insurance, it should be up to date. For most, a home is the single largest asset.

REVIEW DEDUCTIBLES

At the same time you're looking at your homeowner's policy, why not review your automobile insurance? Think about raising the deductible. In the past, the standard deductible was \$100 and then it eventually moved up to \$250. In today's world, many consider the minimum deductible at \$500 or \$1,000. Remember, the larger the deductible, the lower the premium.

Find out what discounts are available on your homeowner's and auto insurance. For example, if you have a teenager who

drives your car, there is a discount for good grades.

There are more alternatives than ever when shopping for insurance. In addition to your current carrier, credit unions offer a variety of discount programs. You can also search the Internet. Even if you don't feel comfortable purchasing a policy through the Internet, it can be a great tool to check out prices and discounts available.

One mistake many people make is they assume the lowest bid is the best bid. That's not always the case. Although, I do believe that the money you save looks better in your pocket, it is important to compare apples to apples. Sometimes a policy with lower premiums offers inferior coverage.

Don't assume all homeowner's

and auto policies are the same. Do the research before beginning your search.

Many people will say the time they spend learning about homeowner's and automobile insurance and shopping around will not save them a substantial amount of money. However, you may be surprised. You can save money and get a better policy.

As you shop around, consider whether you need an umbrella policy. Umbrella liability policies provide additional coverage above and beyond your homeowner and automobile policy. Umbrella coverage is usually sold in increments of \$1 million and in the big picture is relatively affordable.

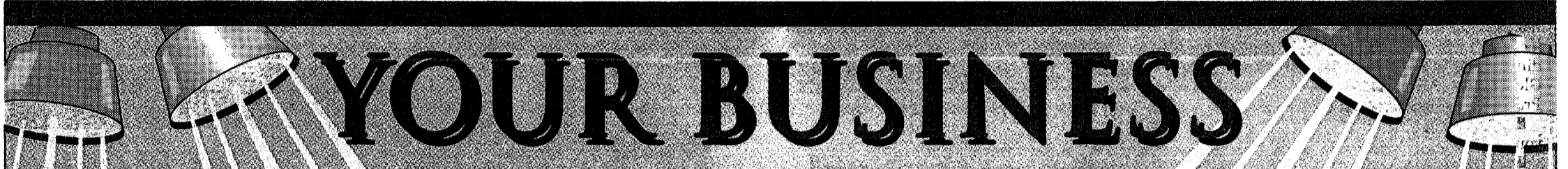
Although I don't recommend being overinsured, if I

have to be overinsured in one area, it is homeowner's insurance. And for professionals and business owners, or high net individuals, umbrella liability coverage does provide an extra amount of protection.

Purchasing an umbrella policy for auto and home with the same company, usually results in discounts and is easy to coordinate coverage.

The time you spend now will provide you peace of mind down the road.

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



YOUR BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

An opportunity to know more about the businesses in your area.

Classic Tile & Remodeling, Inc.

Isn't it time you had a kitchen that you absolutely loved? After all, the kitchen has been described as the "soul of the home". Or maybe you've wanted to update your bath. Regardless of your plans, there's no better way to invest in the equity of your current or future home than with an up-to-date kitchen and/or bath.

Classic Tile & Remodeling, Inc. of White Lake, Michigan, can make your dreams a reality. Established in May, 2002 by Bill & Barb Rutkowski, Classic Tile & Remodeling, Inc. demonstrates bath and kitchen remodeling design, sales and installation of all aspects of remodeling.

Bill Rutkowski, owner, has been in the business for over 30 years. He is hard working and committed in all that he does. He says his career objective is "to create success and fulfillment to my customers with quality products and workmanship, and demonstrate trustworthiness in all my efforts. Client satisfaction is Number One".

"Classic Tile and Remodeling did an excellent job with the ceramic tile in our master bath. Bill Rutkowski was prompt, professional and cleaned up the job site when he was done. He did an excellent job. We liked his work so well that when it was time to remodel our kitchen, we called Bill. Again, we were not disappointed. Thanks Classic Tile and Remodeling". - Tom & Carolyn, Commerce., Michigan

"Doing a bathroom remodel can turn your bathroom from dull and drab to a haven of relaxation. That's what Classic Tile & Remodeling, Inc., did for us," said Barb & Ray of White Lake, Michigan. "Now there's even more technology and designs available to help create the bathroom of your dreams. Even if your budget is limited, you'll be amazed at how much you can accomplish with your bathroom remodel. Bill from Classic Tile & Remodeling, Inc. did an exceptional job and we definitely will recommend his company to anybody".

Our goal is complete satisfaction. We go above and beyond because we understand how important your home is to you.

A complete kitchen makeover can give you that dream space you've always wanted, while adding considerable value to your home. A luxurious master bath is more than a selling point for today's homeowners, it is a necessity. Give Classic Tile & Remodeling, Inc. a call to further discuss details on your remodeling needs and dreams. Contact Bill at 248-360-0258 or cell: 248-202-5506.



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AROUND TOWN

St. John the Baptist 100th Anniversary

St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Detroit celebrates its 100th anniversary with a jubilee banquet 1 p.m. Sunday, June 24, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 26601 Ryan in Warren. Cost is \$50. For more information, e-mail Joseph Szafrański at joseph.szafrański@msn.com or call (248) 661-0099.

Grade School Reunion

In conjunction with its 100th anniversary, St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Detroit hosts a reunion of all former students of the parish grade school (1940s to 1980s). The event takes place 6:30 p.m. Friday, June 22, at the St. Joseph Banquet Center, 26440 Ryan (one block south of I-696) in Warren. Cost is \$45. For more information e-mail Eugenia Tkacz at genia46@juno.com or call (734) 284-2159. Deadline for tickets is Friday, June 1.

Tarzan Day

Individuals with disabilities are invited to join Tarzan in searching for hidden treasures, while having climbing the Treasure Tree, making a craft and enjoying a snack from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 9, at the Livonia Community Recreation Center. Fee is \$5 for Wayne County residents; \$6 for others. Pre-registration with payment is required by June 6. Participants are

invited to dress in the theme - monkeys, birds, Jane, safari hunter, etc. Contact Margaret Martin at (734) 722-7620 or mmartin@ci.westland.mi.us.

Gallery exhibit

The Lawrence Street Gallery will be exhibiting the works of Donna J. Engstrom and Mary Macey, from May 29-June 30. The public is invited to the opening artists' reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, June 1. "Intimate Views" is a joint mother-daughter exhibit featuring mixed media pieces by Donna J. Engstrom and photography by her daughter, Mary Macey. Lawrence Street Gallery is located at 22620 Woodward in Ferndale, in the second block south of 9 Mile on Woodward's east side. Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. For more information, visit the gallery's Web site at www.lawrencestreetgallery.com

VNA Volunteers

For a unique and truly rewarding life experience, we invite you to become a Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan hospice volunteer. We are in search of kind, compassionate individuals to help support our patients and families in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. The next training session is June 9, 16 and 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. In as little as 2-4 hours per week, volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family members or provide office support. A free



Girl Scout honors

Treva Fisher of Plymouth was honored by the Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council for her "outstanding volunteer efforts." Treva, pictured with mom Peggy, received an Adult Appreciation Pin in recognition of her support of Girl Scout programming. Peggy was also honored, receiving the Silver Trefoil Award for 25 years of service to Girl Scouts.

18-hour comprehensive training program over a three-day period is provided. All training takes place at the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan headquarters at 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required. Call toll free (800) 882-5720, ext 8361/direct (248) 967-8361 or visit www.vna.org <http://www.vna.org/>

Golf league

The Livonia Women's Golf League is hoping to expand with 18-hole women golfers. The league plays at Whispering Willows Golf Course on Newburgh just south of 8 Mile Thursday mornings teeing off at 8 a.m. beginning May 3. Cost is \$25 per week, which includes golf and a cart. Non-residents are encouraged to join. For

more information, call Kathy, (248) 476-3991.

Heartland Hospice

Heartland Hospice, located in Southfield and serving the tri-county area, is looking for caring and compassionate individuals to register for volunteer training. Evening and day-time classes are available for anyone interested in being a support person for clients and their families during their end-of-life journey. Office support is also needed. To register, call Mary, (800) 770-9859.

St. Mary classes

■ St. Mary Mercy Hospital hosts a presentation, "Urinary Bladder Problems and Erectile Dysfunction," 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 13, in the hospital's auditorium. Speaker is St. Mary Mercy Hospital physician Dr. John Harb. It's a presentation of the hospital Diabetes Support Group, but all are welcome. There is no charge, and pre-registration is not required. ■ St. Mary Mercy offers Reiki I & II classes 2-6 p.m. Saturday, June 23, and Sunday, June 24 at the hospital. In these classes, students will learn to administer this ancient art of healing that creates a powerful experience. Reiki is a Japanese technique for stress relief. To register, call (734) 655-1162. St. Mary Mercy Hospital is located at 36475 Five Mile, at Levan, in Livonia. **Register for St. Genevieve School** St. Genevieve Catholic School is accepting applications for the 2007-08

school year. The school, preschool through eighth grade, is accredited by the Michigan Association of Nonpublic Schools. It's at 28933 Jamison in Livonia, east of Middlebelt, south of Five Mile, and offers full academic curriculum, full- and half-day preschool and kindergarten, extended-day program before and after school, CYO program and more. (734) 425-4420.

Waste to Watts

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

Card party/luncheon

Victoria Chapter #290, OES, Livonia Masonic Temple hosts a card party/luncheon noon-3 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. Admission is \$6; event features table prizes and door prizes. The temple is located at 27705 W. Seven Mile in Livonia. For more information, call (734) 459-6063.

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New RESA head must balance tighter budget, greater needs

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER



Wigent

tendent at the Olivet and Dryden school districts and held positions as principal, assistant principal and teacher in a 27-year career in education, which included a student teaching position at Redford Union High School. "I've had a very successful career and each of those moves was for something better and a blessing of the people I worked with," he said. "People have really mentored me very well and I desired to move to the next level and people have been good at helping me with that."

RESA serves a larger area than the Calhoun County agency, where Battle Creek is the largest school district. But in some ways, it is a smaller operation. "In Calhoun County, it's a little different than in Wayne. We provide a few more direct services," he said. "We have a development center; starting in July, we'll be operating a technology center; we supply all of the school social workers and psychologists for the local districts. In fact in July, we'll have 400 employees, while Wayne RESA has less, about 280. The idea is the same, education service and leadership. The delivery system is a little different."

DIFFERENT NEEDS

In Calhoun County, Wigent dealt with 13 school districts,

many of them rural. In Wayne County, he will be working with 34 districts in the state's most urban environment, including the large Detroit school district. Wigent said he and his staff were able to build close personal relations with the superintendents of the Calhoun districts. "Obviously with 34, that's a little more difficult in providing services," he said. "But I still think it's about those relationships and helping districts understand that it might not always be equal. There might be projects where just half the districts wish to take advantage of that, but at the same time be responsive to the other half of those districts and what they need as well."

One of Wigent's top priorities will be meeting with the 34 superintendents individually in July and early August about what RESA is doing right and what the superintendents think can be improved.

Wigent will be dealing with the troubled Detroit School District, which will also have a new superintendent.

"The first thing I'll do is build on the relationships that are already there between RESA and Detroit," he said. "There has been a lot of work that has gone on over the last several years, specifically with Detroit Public Schools — going into high-priority buildings, providing coaching. I think it's important to put their minds at rest that we are

going to continue that and I am committed to that."

In addition, he said changes at the Department of Education will move funds from Detroit to RESA for the high-priority schools.

"It will be more important than ever that we communicate and work closely with Detroit to make sure those monies are put to as good a use as possible," he said.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

Wigent said another key area for RESA is working with school districts to meet challenges of the federal No Child Left Behind legislation and the state's new high school graduation requirements.

"Our role is to help provide leadership to the districts to get through the myriad of laws and requirements," he said.

Wigent said there will continue to be political obstacles to the merging of smaller school districts, as proposed by many political leaders to save costs.

"I'd rather concentrate on consolidation of services," he said. "Achieve a smarter use of dollars."

Wigent, his wife and two sons, 10 and 7, will be moving to Wayne County from Marshall as soon as they sell their home. He said the timing is right as his wife is just completing a doctorate at Michigan State University.

hgallagher@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2149



Last year's Tails & Trails walk attracted owners and dogs of all types including a large Irish Wolfhound.

Tails & Trails dog walk to benefit Paws With a Cause

The Plymouth/Canton Kiwanis Breakfast Club are going to the dogs. Their 5th Annual Tails & Trails Charity Dog Walk takes place Saturday, June 2, in Heritage Park in Canton.

Registration is \$15 per dog in advance or \$20 on the day of the event. Walk-ups are welcome, but pre-registration is encouraged. The first 80 registered dogs will receive a free goody bag.

Current dog vaccination record must be presented at time of check-in. For more information or to register, visit www.pckiwaniis.org or call (734) 451-3500.

Sponsored by Pet Supplies "Plus," all proceeds from the annual event will benefit PAWS With a Cause and the Plymouth Canton Kiwanis Breakfast Club. This is one of the Plymouth/Canton Kiwanis Breakfast Club's major fund-raisers and allows them to sponsor community programs throughout the year

including the donation of personal dictionaries to each and every third grader in the Plymouth/Canton school district.

The day begins with a pet first aid seminar following by the dog walk through some of the most beautiful areas of Heritage Park. A packed program of fun events for all the family includes games for dogs and kids, contests, kids' activities tent, face painting, balloon animals, and pet-related vendor booths with information and samples to give away.

Though organizers hope there'll be no growling dogs, any growling stomachs can be quieted at the event's food concession stands to the sound of doggy-themed music courtesy of Silver Sounds DJs.

Heritage Park is located behind the Canton Public Library, at 1200 S. Canton Center Road.

Pet Supplies "Plus" is a Michigan based company and part of the Canton community since 1991.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital holds its annual Community Open House featuring health information, screenings,

games, prizes, music and more 1-5 p.m. Sunday, June 3, on the hospital north grounds, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Call (734) 655-1592 or visit www.stmarymercy.org. All events are free.

Kids will love the game tent and inflatable activities, and everyone can learn valuable information from the hospital's health professionals on topics

such as orthopedics, surgery, cancer, and the heart. Always a favorite are visits from the community's medical rescue vehicles including ambulances, fire trucks, Livonia Police and K-9 Units, and the MedFlight helicopter. Enjoy food and refreshments and prizes.

Visitors can receive a health screening, or take a tour of the hospital including the new

Heart & Vascular Center and Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit.

The open house follows the Cancer Survivors Celebration beginning at 11:30 a.m. with a reception in the hospital's south lobby. For more information, call (734) 655-8950.

For more information, call St. Mary Mercy Hospital Community Outreach at (734) 655-8950.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital to host open house

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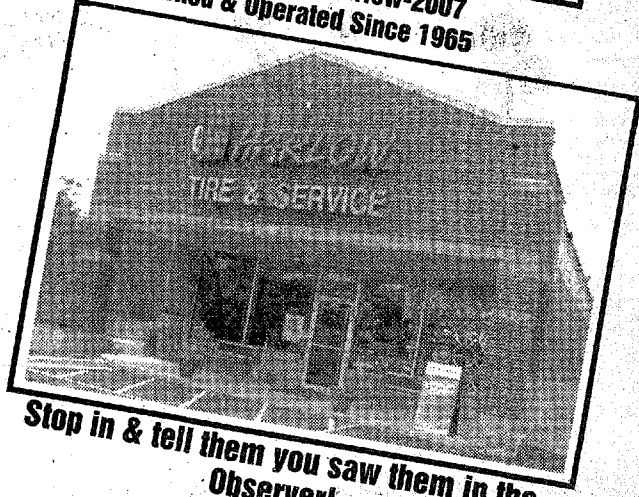
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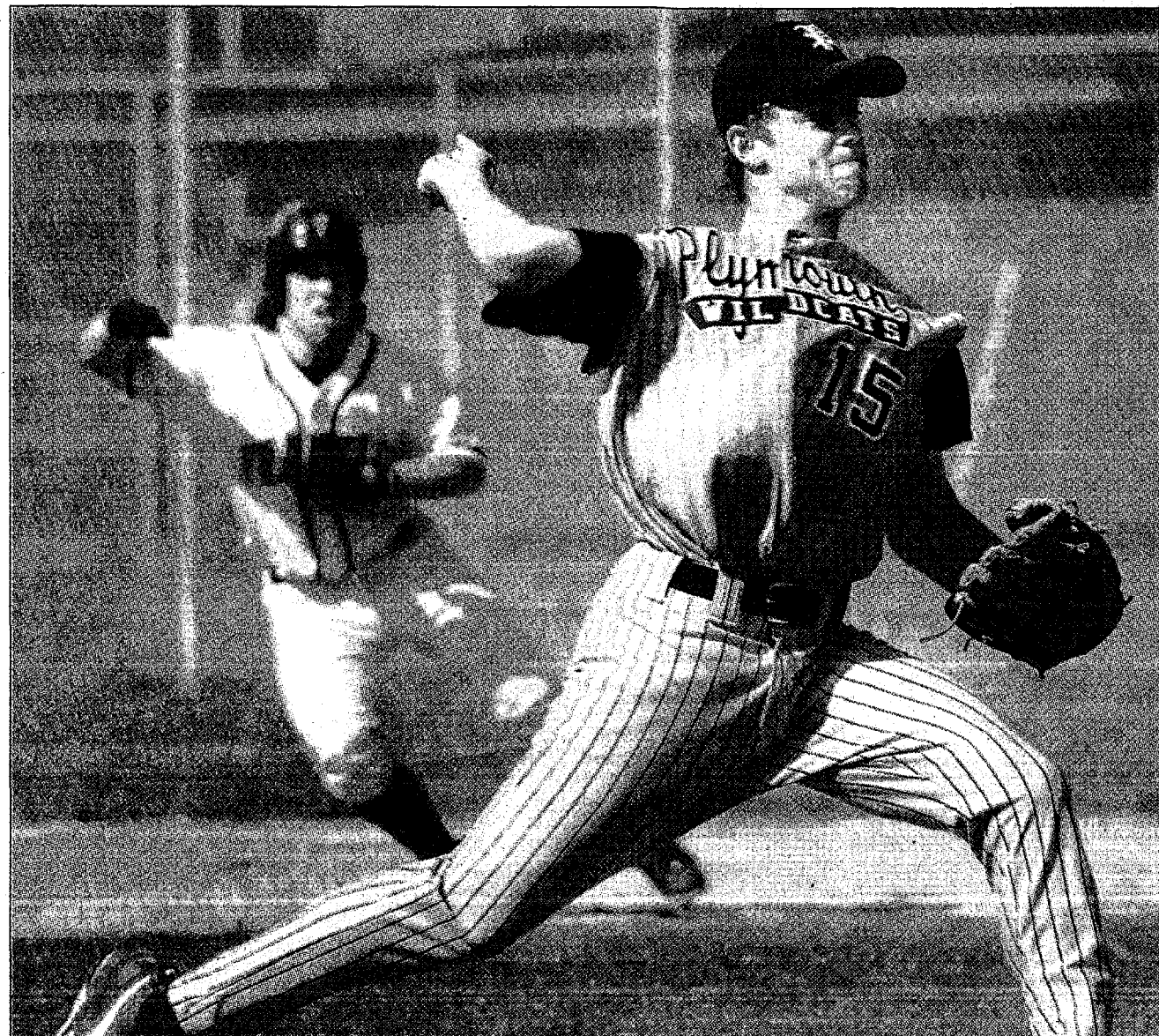
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Thursday, May 31, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth pitcher Brad Lineberry, pictured in a game earlier this year, earned the victory in the Wildcats' 11-7 win over Livonia Stevenson Tuesday afternoon in a Division 1 pre-District contest at Stevenson.

Onward and upward Wildcats advance to District semifinals

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Someday soon, Plymouth's baseball team may present head coach Chuck Adams with a no-sweat, easy-does-it victory - but he's not holding his breath.

The suddenly peaking Wildcats took their high-wire act to Livonia Stevenson Tuesday afternoon and upended the host Spartans, 11-7, in a Division 1 pre-District contest that wasn't decided until All-WLAA Stevenson outfielder Luke Knochel struck out with the bases loaded in the top of the seventh inning.

The Wildcats' first-ever Division 1 District tournament victory propelled them into Saturday's noon semifinal showdown against cross-campus rival Salem at Stevenson.

The other semi at 10 a.m. will pit Canton against Livonia Churchill. The championship showdown is slated to begin at 3 p.m.

"We don't ever make it easy on ourselves," said Adams, with a hearty laugh, just moments after his team's historic win. "Like I always say, 'Nothing ever comes easy for the 'Cats.'"

"It's our first District win at the varsity level, so obviously it's a big win. But we also look at it as just a first step toward trying to win this District. We feel like we're as

3 OUT OF 4 AIN'T BAD

Plymouth-Canton Educational Parks schools represent three of the four remaining teams in the Division 1 District baseball tournament Saturday at Livonia Stevenson High School. Following are the remaining match-ups:

- 10 a.m. - Canton will take on Livonia Churchill in one semifinal game;
- 12:30 p.m. - Plymouth will take on Salem in another semifinal game;
- 3 p.m. - The two semifinal winners will face off in the title contest. The championship will move on to next Saturday's Regional at Novi High School.

good as anybody else in the District and that we can compete with all the other teams. It's not like we're a Cinderella story here.

PLEASE SEE WILDCATS, B2

Canton girls top Pioneer in team effort

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

The No. 6-ranked Ann Arbor Pioneer girls soccer team's hopes of a 2007 state title were deep-sixed by Canton Tuesday night in a Division 1 pre-District contest played on the P-CEP soccer field.

The Pioneers had dominated the up-and-coming Chiefs 4-0 earlier in the season. "We did a great job of adjusting to Pioneer's strengths," said Canton coach George Tomasso, whose team's record improved to 11-4-3. "It was a great effort by the entire team."

Canton senior goal-tender Bree Bellovary was outstanding between the pipes for the winners as she made at least seven saves, Tomasso estimated. "It's the best game she's played in a while."

Offensively, senior captain Becci Houdek to the Chiefs on the board in the first half while Jessica Trost got the game-winner in the second half.

"Offensively, we scored off a penalty kick and a rebound shot," said Tomasso. "Defensively, we played with a lot of heart."

The Chiefs will now play Garden City in a District semifinal game today at 6 p.m. at home. A victory will propel the Chiefs into Friday's title contest against Ann Arbor Huron.

Canton, which improved to 11-4-3, has now upended two top-10 teams. Two weeks ago, the Chiefs surprised No. 7-ranked Northville to earn a second-place showing in the WLAA's Western Division.

PCA betters record

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth Christian Academy baseball team seems to be getting hot at the right time.

The Eagles improved their record to 8-10 Tuesday with a convincing 9-2 victory over Ann Arbor Greenhills. The winners plated three runs in the first inning and never looked back. Junior Trevor Zinn contributed a two-run double and run scored in the pivotal inning.

See photo, B2. PCA scored five runs in the fourth and sent 10 batters to the plate. Among the big hitters in that inning were Kevin Bottorff, Chuck Cain and Devyn Govan.

Reid Barber, Devyn Govan and Justin Govan also enjoyed productive offense games for the Eagles, who will open their Division 4 District tournament this weekend at home when they host Ypsilanti Calvary Christian.

AGAPE 17, YPSI CC: On Tuesday, the Wolverines scored six runs in the third, five in the fourth, four in the sixth and two in the seventh to rout Calvary Christian. The win improved Agape to 10-4. Daniel Walker carried a big stick for the winners as he went 4-for-4 with four runs scored and two RBI. Brandon Pierson went 3-for-5 with three runs scored and two RBI.

Jared Miller also had a big game at the plate, going 3-for-5 with two runs scored. Tyler Majeski hurled a complete game on the mound for the Wolverines.

Sidelines

MU adds golfers

Madonna University head men's golf coach Steve Mato has announced the signing of focal standouts including Austin Stillman (Livonia Franklin) and Josh Brist (Livonia Churchill) for the 2007-08 season.

Stillman, a Division I state qualifier and All-Observer first-team selection, joins the Crusaders next season with a great deal of tournament experience. He was the Patriots' first state qualifier in over 20 years.

"Austin has a positive attitude in everything he does and this is reflected in his golf game," Mato said. "He has an excellent short game and a very good putter and has recently added some distance to his game."

Brist, who hails from Westland, is described as a hard-working individual. He earned third-team All-Observer.

"Josh has a very good golf swing with a great amount of potential," Mato said. "I feel he will be a valuable contributor to the Madonna golf team in the near future."

MU links scholars

A pair of Madonna University women's golfers were named to the 2007 Daktronics Scholar-Athlete team in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

Seniors Kassi Jacob and Lisa Rodriguez were both honored for their achievements on and off the course.

Jacob, a marketing major from Gaylor St. Mary's, and Rodriguez, an English and speech communication major with a minor in television and video communication from Farmington Hills, were named to the squad after carrying a 3.5 cumulative grade point average or higher this season.

Injury prevention presentation

High school cross country runners and their parents are invited to attend an injury prevention presentation, "Common Overuse Injuries with Runners," 7-8 p.m. on Thursday, June 7, in Canton High School's Dubois Little Theater.

The program will be presented by Glenn Edgerton, head athletic trainer at Canton High. For information, contact Cindy Hoerman at (734) 454-5746 or crh3d@aol.com.

Football testing

The Michigan High School Football Coaches Association will sponsor a session of the National Athletic Testing System program Sunday, June 3, at South Lyon High School. Information is provided on NATS Web site (www.nats.us) covering NCAA eligibility guidelines, recruiting rules and financial aid. An online video is available.

Rain doesn't dampen Canton Cup tourney

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Raindrops kept falling on their heads, but that didn't stop the thousands of youth soccer players from having a ball at the 25th Annual Canton Cup Soccer Tournament Memorial Day weekend in Canton.

"It probably rained about 60 percent of the time and we had one lightning delay, but all of the games were played and - considering the weather - everything went very smoothly," said Tournament Director John Vaughn.

A record 510 teams from as far away as Toronto and Erie, Penn. converged on Canton Township for the annual three-day soccer extravaganza that injects thousands upon thousands of dollars into the local economy.

"I went into Tim Horton's Saturday morning and they thanked me for all of the business the tournament was bringing into their store," said Greg Sanders, of the tournament's directors.

"Considering the rain, we stayed pretty much right on schedule and all the final games were played at Independence Park."

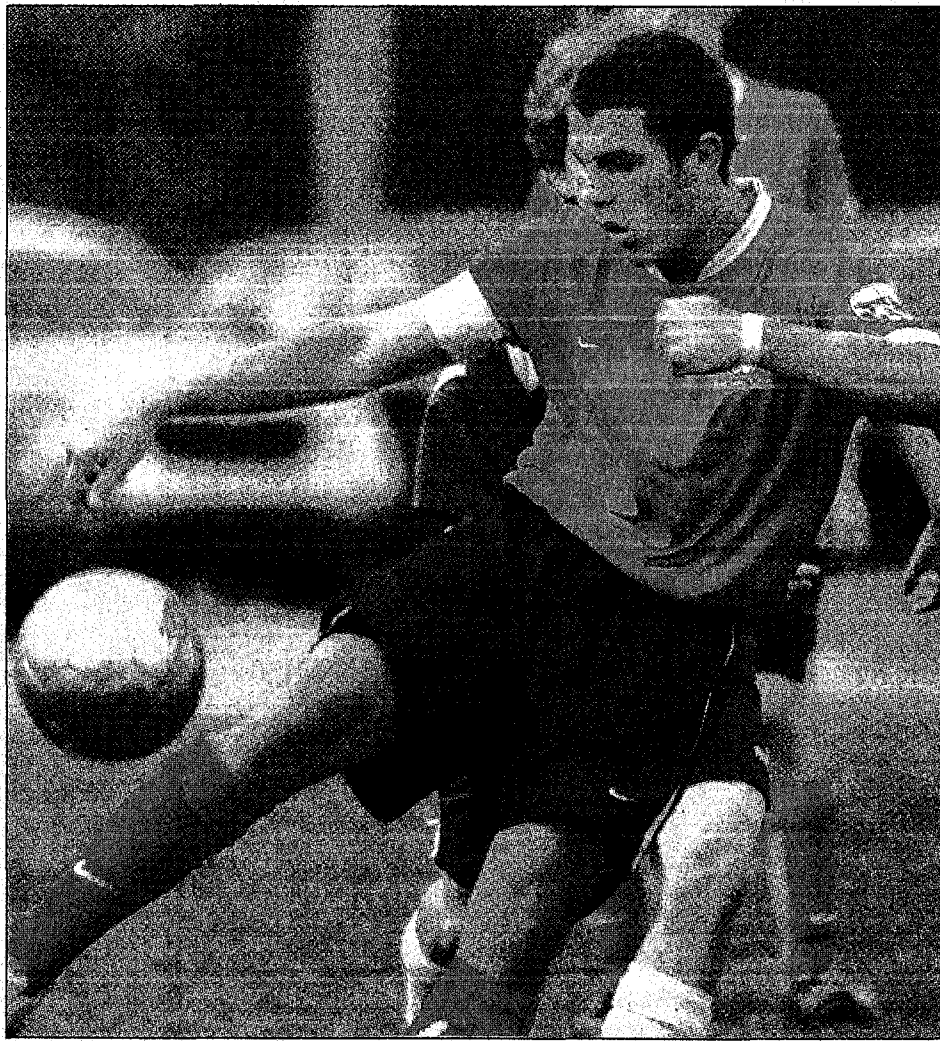
The first-of-its-kind Professional



Development League game between the Michigan Bucks and the Chicago Fire Premier was a huge success, according to the tournament's directors.

"The crowd for that game was probably about 1,500, which was outstanding," said Sanders.

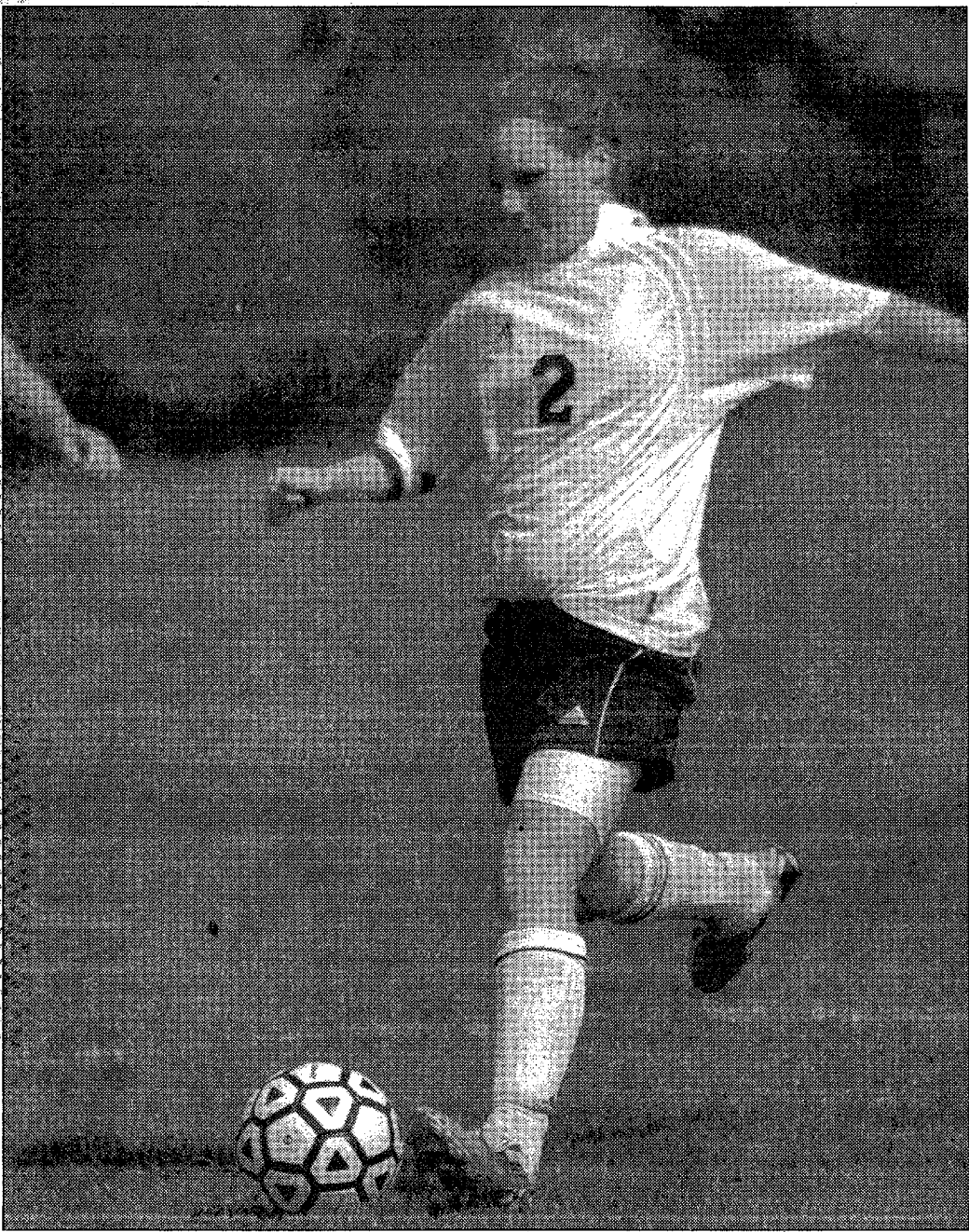
"What was neat about that game was that there was a U14 girls game going on right next to the Bucks' game and there was a U10 game on the other field next to it, so it was like it was part of the tournament," said Vaughn. "We definitely looking into making the Bucks' game an annual event at the tournament."



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton Celtic Brandon Burt displays his ball-handling skills Friday night during a game at Independence Park.

PLEASE SEE TOURNEY, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

She can see Cleary now...

Karen Cleary scored Plymouth Christian Academy's third goal of the first half Tuesday in the Eagle's 10-0 trouncing of Ypsilanti Calvary Christian. PCA is currently ranked third in Division 4.

'Cats outslug Spartans in D1 opener

On Tuesday in a pre-District game played at Livonia Stevenson, Kim Klonowski went 2-for-3 with a solo homer in the fourth inning to propel the Wildcats (23-5) to a 9-2 Division 1 pre-district triumph Tuesday over host Stevenson (19-11).

Erijn Rodas contributed two hits, including a key two-run single in the bottom of the sixth inning to spark a six-run Plymouth rally.

The Wildcats, who led 3-1

through five innings, also took advantage two of Stevenson's four errors on the afternoon during the six-run sixth.

"We kind of fell apart defensively and let the pressure get to us," Stevenson coach Rob Witherspoon said. "They had runners on first and second when we made an error and the wheels came off."

"Plymouth is not the type of team where you can make too many mistakes against."

Winning pitcher Meghan

Patterson limited the WLAA champions to just four hits. She struck out four and walked two.

Losing pitcher Jamie Johnson gave up six hits, walked two and struck out four. Six of the nine runs were earned.

Amanda Paison had an RBI double for the Spartans in the seventh.

"We waited until the sixth and seventh (innings) to hit the ball," Witherspoon said. "It was a big game and it was pretty tense to start off with."

WILDCATS

FROM PAGE B1

"If we play our game and catch the ball, we can play with anybody in this District, at least that's the way I look at it."

The odds - and history - were stacked against the Wildcats heading into Tuesday's pre-district battle. Their 14-14-1 record paled in comparison to the Spartans' 20-11 mark and they had lost two previous match-ups against Stevenson starting pitcher Matt Tuttle, a 6-foot-7 flame-thrower who will be pitching at Adrian College beginning in the fall.

Plus, there was that 0-for-Districts dry spell staring them in the face.

But Plymouth played confidently from the opening pitch and build a 4-0 advantage in the second inning thanks to a pair of walks, a hit batsman an error and a clutch two-run single from Ben Kosmalski.

"We felt the third time against (Tuttle) would be the charm," said Adams. "He beat us two weeks ago and then last week in the cross-over, but we committed a lot of big physical errors."

"In our last game, we was high on a lot of his pitches and

he threw 146 pitches, so we took a lot of first-pitch strikes. In our big second inning, I think he threw about 60 pitches and he was having a hard time finding the zone."

The Spartans countered with two runs in the top of the third on Nick Plank's two-run single - his second of three hits for the game.

The Wildcats regained their four-run cushion in the bottom of the third when Garret Regain walked, Stephen Ostrowski walked, Matt Skubick advanced them to second and third with a sacrifice bunt and Valle drilled a deep sacrifice fly to center field. Junior lead-off batter David Harvey made it 6-2 when he singled in Ostrowski with his second of four hits for the game.

Tuttle departed the game after hitting Ostrowski with a pitch.

The resilient Spartans put a three-spot on the board in the fourth on a two-run double by Knochel and an RBI ground-out from Sam Vomastek.

Plymouth upped its lead to 8-5 in the fifth thanks to an RBI double by Harvey. They added three more in the sixth on a hit from winning pitcher Brad Lineberry, a walk to

Rebain, a walk to Matt Skubick, a Valle RBI ground-out and an RBI single from Harvey.

Stevenson inched to within 11-7 on Dan Rozek's two-run double and they eventually loaded the bases with two outs before Lineberry struck out Knochel, whose one-strike shot down the right field line on the previous pitch was just foul.

Lineberry tossed a complete-game nine-hitter, striking out four. The Spartans went down in order in just the first inning.

"Plymouth played well and we didn't - my hat is off to them," said Stevenson coach Rick Berryman. "They did the ball hard and did what they needed to do, and we didn't. Our starting pitcher was 8-0 coming into the game, but they scored their first four runs without a hit thanks to a hit-by-pitch, an error and a couple free passes. When you do that in a game like this, it's not going to work out too well."

"We kept battling, though. My compliments go out to my kids because they never gave up to the end. I'm just sorry my seniors' high school careers had to end like this."

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WLAA BASEBALL

2007 ALL-WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION BASEBALL TEAMS ALL-CONFERENCE

Pitchers: Bret Spencer, Sr., Northville; Bryce Jenney, Sr., Northville.

Catcher: Drew Adameic, Sr., W.L. Central; Infielders: Bryon Niemczak, Sr., Churchill; Dominic Benavides, Sr., Northville, Ryan Warwick, Sr., W.L. Western, Matt Johnson, Jr., W.L. Central.

Outfielders: Kyle Gring, Sr., Canton; Brent Reichle, Sr., W.L. Central; Luke Knochel, Sr., Stevenson.

At-Large: Torrey Stimson, Sr., Walled Lakes Central.

ALL-WESTERN DIVISION

Pitchers: Erik Wright, Jr., Canton; Mike DeLuca, Sr., Northville.

Catcher: Tim Siegfried, Jr., Wayne.

Infielders: Garrett Gumm, Soph., Franklin; Dave Leins, Sr., Franklin; Matt Priebe, Fr., Plymouth; Matt Barrera, Sr., Plymouth.

Outfielders: Gerard Powell, Sr., Northville; Dan Stoney, Soph., Canton, Brett Lubanski, Soph., W.L. Western.

At-Large: Andy Buchanan, Jr., W.L. Western.

ALL-LAKES DIVISION

Pitcher: Matt Tuttle, Sr., Stevenson; Derek Mitchell, Jr., W.L. Central.

Catcher: Nick Plinka, Sr., Stevenson; Bryan Patterson, Sr., W.L. Central; Alan Siepierski, Sr., John Glenn; Matt Loney, Sr., Stevenson.

Outfielders: Robert Johnson, Sr., W.L. Northern; Jerry Smith, Sr., Westland John Glenn; Kirk Ciarrocchi, Sr., Churchill.

At-Large: James MacLellan, Sr., W.L. Central.

HONORABLE MENTION

W.L. NORTHERN: Chris Boggs, Brendon Clarke, Alex Petrik, Brian Prtichett, Craig Waldie, James Tinkey, Andy Tinkey; CHURCHILL: Mike O'Keefe, Vinny Carossa, Eric Mitchell, Tyler Cotter, Brian Runge, Steve Jones; W.L. CENTRAL: Garrette Reichle, Eric Ganz, T.J. Thewes;

STEVENSON: Sam Vomastek, Jeff Sorenson; JOHN GLENN: Chris Kangas, Jake Murawski, Andrew DeLuca, Nate Lopez; SALEM: Matt Woster, Justin Horger, Sam Ott, Mike Myers, Brad Way, Steve Pydy; Wayne: Clint Cavanaugh,

Trey Raynes, Jon Bryant, Mike Green, Brent Patterson; FRANKLIN: Tyler Canyock, Jesse Carpenter, Michael Basher; W.L. WESTERN: Steve Astrein; CANTON: Dan Milus, Brad Barath, Will Tidwell, Blaine Paden; NORTHVILLE: Steve Anderson Damarri Saudnerson, Nick Balow, Joe Mitchell; PLYMOUTH: Ben Kosmalski, Garrett Rebain, Brad Lineberry, Ronnie Goble, Ryan Valle, Tyler Locklear.

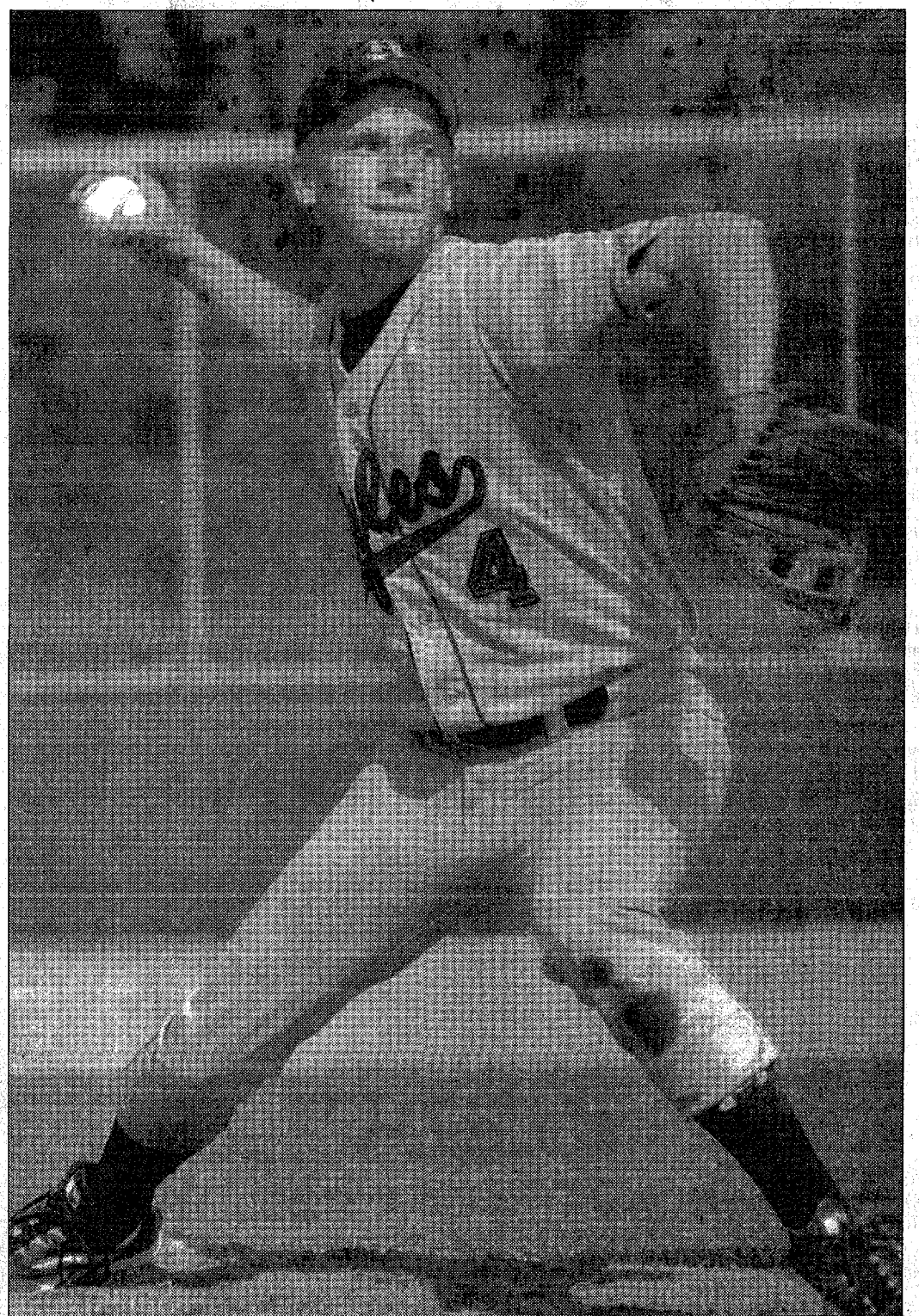
FINAL DIVISION STANDINGS

Lakes: 1. Central, 9-1; 2. Stevenson, 6-4; 3. John Glenn, 5-5; 4. Salem, 4-6; 5. Churchill, 3-7; 6. Northern, 3-7.

Western: 1. Northville, 10-0; 2. Plymouth, 6-4; 3. Western, 5-5; 4. Canton, 4-6; 5. Franklin, 3-7; 6. Wayne, 2-8.

WLAA CHAMPIONSHIP

Northville 11, W.L. Central 1



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Game victory

Plymouth Christian Academy junior pitcher Trevor Zinn threw a complete-game victory over Ann Arbor Greenhills for PCA Tuesday afternoon.

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TOURNEY

FROM PAGE B1
Vaughn praised the hard work and dedication of his volunteer staff, which was headed by Sanders, Rick Caron and Greg Jahn. Vaughn also wanted to give a pat on the back to field coordinator Art Gausewitz.

"I do a lot of the organizational stuff, but it's the volunteers that make the show run."

Vaughn said the event wouldn't run as smoothly as it does with the assistance of its marquee sponsor, Meijer.

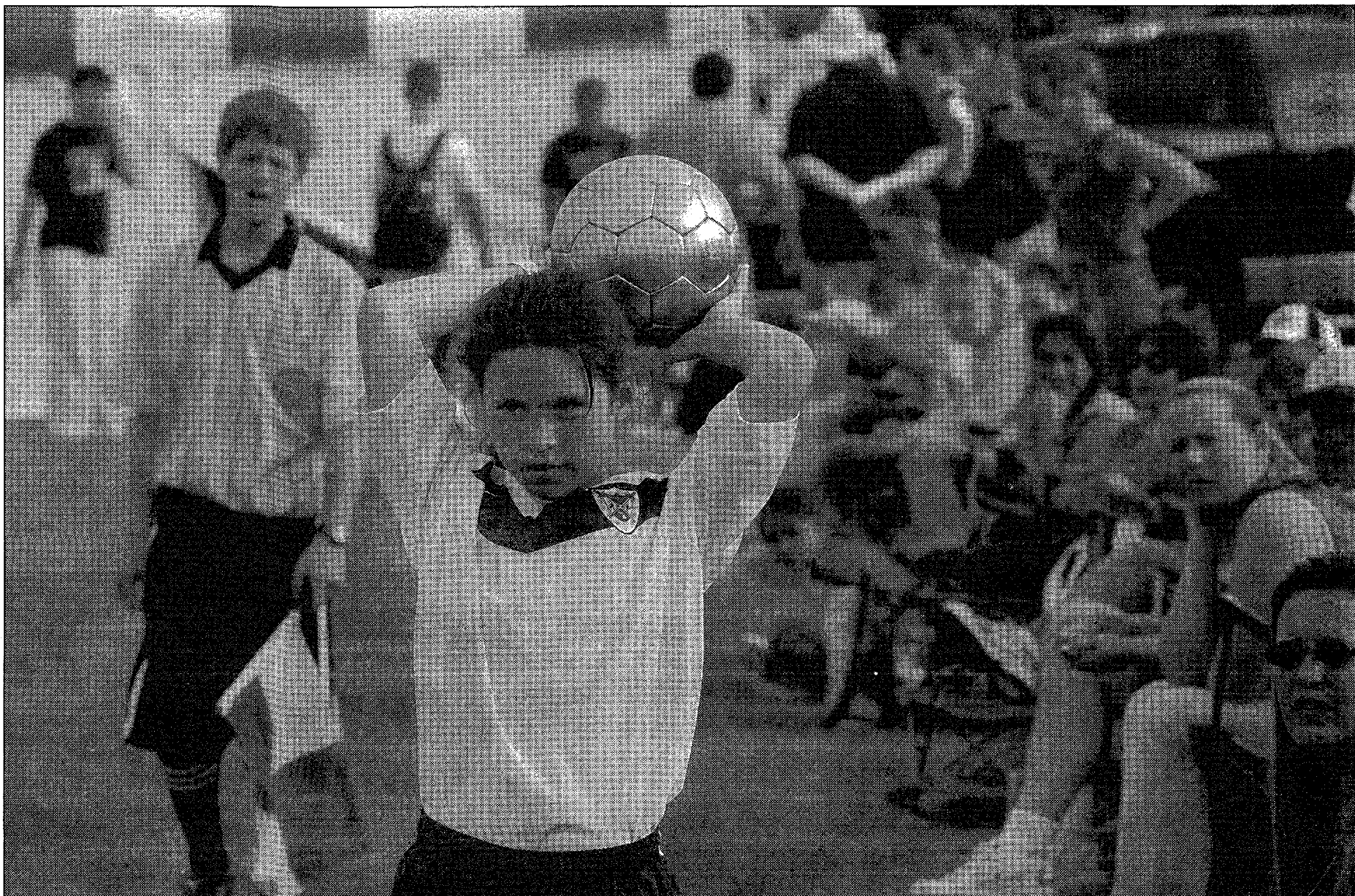
"They donate so much stuff that make this one of the premier tournaments in the Midwest," he said.

If you think this year's tournament was large, wait until 2008 when the Canton Cup planning committee is looking to expand the tournament to 600 teams.

"We had about 10,000 players and 850 games, but there's room for more," said Vaughn.

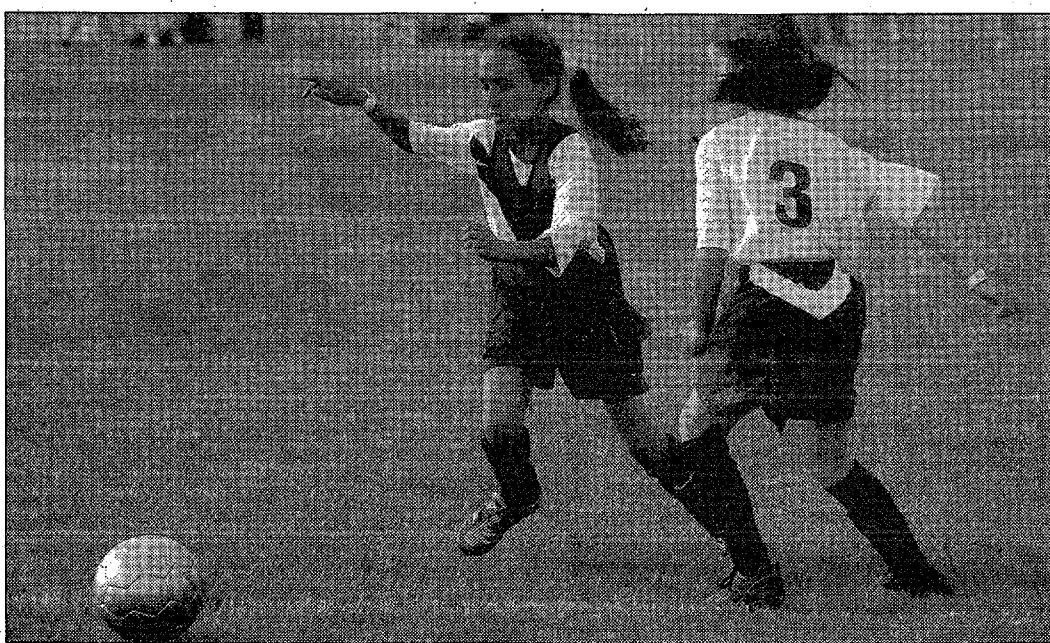
Vaughn said this year's tournament ended on a unique note that could become a tradition.

"We were transporting a player back who had a broken collar bone and there was one final game left," said Vaughn. "So we call for all the carts to come over to the final game and line up until it was over. We may start doing that at every tournament in the future."

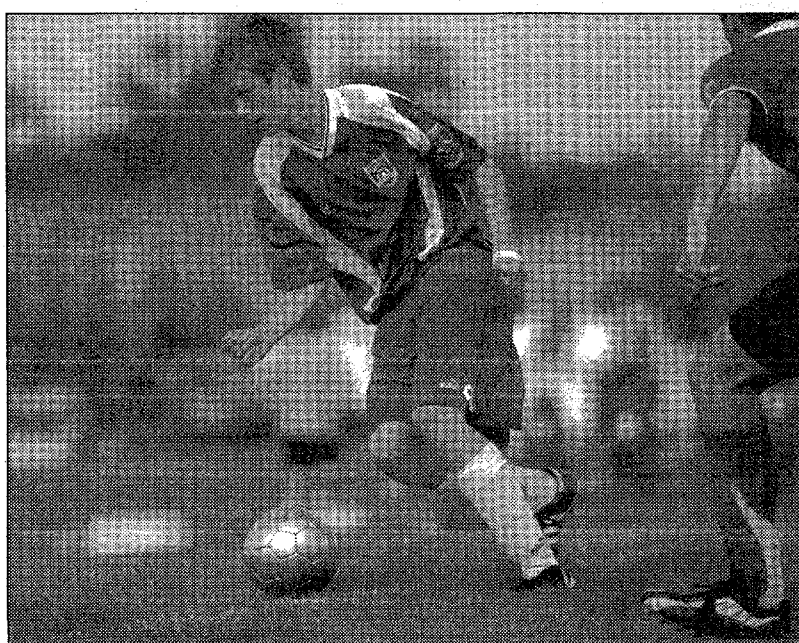


Canton SC Keenmon's Savannah Byrd converts a throw-in.

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Canton SC Volcanoes player Raya Patel (2) and Canton SC Keenmon's Maggie Yin, battle for a ball in Friday's game at Independence Park in Canton Township.



Plymouth Kick player Joe Backstanz advances the ball upfield during a game Friday evening in the 25th Canton Cup.

CANTON CUP STATISTICS

2007 Canton Cup Final Game Results

BOYS RESULTS

- U9 Blue: Saline Sting Black 2, PASS Impact 1
- U9 Red: SCOR Red 3, MI Ruch Swoosh 1
- U9 Green: Canton Celtic 99 Red 8, SCOR White 1
- U9 Orange: PASS Impact 3, MAgic Black 99 2
- U10 RED: BASC Turbos Red 4, Ann Arbor Arsenal White 2
- U10 Green: ROYSA Renegades 97 White 3, Carpathia Kickers 97 Gold 2
- U10 Orange: Canton Celtic 98 Red 1, Tri-Country Sting 0
- U10 Yellow: BUFC Mavericks 4, BYSA Force 97 White 2
- U10 Purple: Lincoln Dragons 11, Taylor Warriors Elite Fc 5
- U9/10 White: Canton SC Wings 2, Canton SC Thunderbirds 1
- U11 BLUE: CW3 Xtreme 96 Red 4, Canton Celtic 96 Red
- U11 RED: Michigan Athletic 96 6, BUFC Mavericks 3
- U11 GREEN: Farmington Flash Black 3, NMSC Dynamite 2
- U11 ORANGE: PASS Impact 5, Howell Revolution Red 4
- U11 YELLOW: SCOR U-11 Bloch 2, Canton SC Tornados 0
- U11 WHITE: Firestone Park SC Stingrays 1, Monroe United 0
- U12 BLUE: Pass Impact 3, Michigan Wolves 95 Gold, 1
- U12 RED: Portage Lightning 8, Berkley Force 0
- U12 Green: PASS Impact 3, Cleveland Blues SC 1
- U12 ORANGE: Hartland Storm 2, Cougars 1
- U12 WHITE: HVSC Typhoons 3, Plymouth Blue Barrons 2
- U13 BLUE: Canton Celtic 94 Red 2, MBSA 94 Gold 0
- U13 RED: Canton Celtic 95 Red 3,

GIRL RESULTS

- SCOR U-13 2
- U13 GREEN: HVSC Storm 94 Green 6, Lapeer Renegades 3
- U13 ORANGE: TSC Arsenal 4, Waza FC Green 0
- U13 WHITE: Livonia Cyclones 4, Farmington SC Force 0
- U14 BLUE: Canton Celtic 93 White 2, Carpathia Kickers 1
- U14 RED: NMSC T-Birds 1, Windsor Caboto Strikers 0
- U14 GREEN: Saline Strike Force 2, GPSA Salvo 1
- U14 YELLOW: GRASA Magic White 2, MAdison Meteors 1
- U14 WHITE: Livonia Rockets 1, Canton SC Crew 0
- U15 RED: Flint Steelers Arsenal 5, MI Rush South Nike 0
- U16 BLUE: Ann Arbor United Huskies 5, Plymouth Kicks 91 Green 1
- U16 RED: Carpathia Kickers 2, Kingdon Motie Crue 0
- U16 GREEN: SCOR 4, South Lyon Stin 0
- U16 ORANGE: BUFC Mavs 1, BASC Sting 0
- U17 RED: NMSC R3bels 3, MI Rush South U17 Nike 2
- U17/18BLUE: Canton Celtic 89 Red 2, MI Rush South U18 Nike 0
- U18 RED: PASS Impact 5, Tecumseh United 4
- U9 BLUE: Canton Celtic 98 Red 3, CW3 Xtreme 98 Red 0
- U9 RED: Hudson United U9 Red 2, Canton Celtic 99 Red 1
- U9 GREEN: NW Screaming Eagles U7/8/9 2, Hartland Exgles Blue 1
- U9 WHITE: Cantos SC Klavon 2, Lincoln SC Lightning 1
- U10 BLUE: Canton Celtic Red 2, Plymouth Lightning 97 Green
- U10 RED: BYSZ Storm 97 White 2, Caboto SC 1
- U10 GREEN: Avondale Sting 1, Saline Swarm 0

- U10 ORANGE: Springboks - Bel 2, Springboks -Wis 0
- U10 YELLOW: TNT Dynamite 2, Lapeer Galaxy 1
- U10 WHITE: TNT Dynamite 2, Lapeer Galaxy 1
- U11 BLUE: NMSC Storm 96 4, Plymouth Lightning 96 1
- U11 RED: TNT Dynamite 5, NMSC Storm 96b 4
- U11 GREEN: CW3 Xtreme 96 Red 2, PASS Impact 1
- U11 ORANGE: NW Screaming Eagles 1, Erie FC II's 0
- U11 YELLOW: Lincoln SC Lightnin 3, Canton SC Bombers 0
- U11 WHITE: Northville United 2, Canton SC High Fivers 1
- U12 BLUE: Cleveland Blues SC 4, CW3 Xtreme 95 Red 2
- U12 RED: Howell Revolution 2, NW Screaming Eagles 1
- U12 GREEN: NMSC Xtreme 95B 3, Canton Celtic 95 White, 2
- U12 ORANGE: HVSC Lightning 95, 5, CW3 Xtreme 95 White 3
- U12 WHITE: NMESA Lightning 4, Plainwell Alliance F5 3
- U13 BLUE: Canton Celtic 94 Red 2, Carpathia Kickers 0
- U13 RED: Canton Celtic 94 White 3, Force SC Pepper's Force 1
- U13 GREEN: SCOR 3, NMSC Lightning, 1
- U13 ORANGE: Canton Celtic 95 Rd 3, Hartland Flames 0
- U13 WHITE: Canton SC Stars: 2, Caboto Voyagers 1
- U14/15 BLUE: Canton Celtic 93 Red 3, Hartland Eagles 93 1
- U14/15 RED: Perrysburg Gold, 2, Brighton Eclipse Black 93 1
- U14 GREEN: SCOR U14 2, LASSO 1
- U14 ORANGE: Phoenix Soccer 3, Portage Lightning 1
- U14 WHITE: Canton SC Tornados 3, Lincoln SC Leopards.

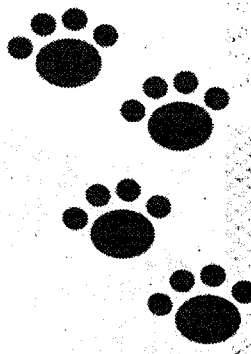
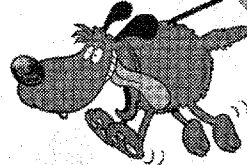


Kai Walther (4) and Alex Tramel (14) celebrate Tramel's goal during a Friday game at the 25th Annual Canton Cup soccer tournament that was held over Memorial Day weekend.

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Offensive fireworks spark Churchill-Franklin slugfest

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

A slow-pitch softball score broke out at Tuesday's Livonia Churchill-Livonia Franklin pre-district baseball game at Livonia Stevenson.

When the dust had cleared and the scoreboard's lightbulbs were restored, the Chargers had prevailed, 16-15, in a game that resembled one you'd see at Hines Park on a Sunday afternoon.

Churchill's record is 16-15 overall, while Franklin bows out at 7-22.

The exciting - although at times sloppy - triumph earned coach Ron Targosz's squad a berth in Saturday's Division 1 District 1 semifinal showdown against Canton, which drew a first-round bye. The first pitch is slated to be thrown at 10 a.m. sharp.

"That was one of the ugliest games I've ever seen," said

Targosz, flashing a broad grin following is team's come-from-behind triumph in the bottom of the seventh. "We were ahead 12-5 then they started hitting the ball and we started booting it. I think we had five errors today. It was an ugly game. It times it seemed like we were playing slow-pitch softball."

Sophomore southpaw James Tyler earned the win for the Chargers after working the final 1.2 innings. He yielded just one hit and struck out two in his clutch performance.

Tyler Cotter paced the winners' hitting attack with three hits, two runs scored and a pair of RBI. Tyler Bledsoe (4-for-4, three runs) and Mike O'Keefe (3-for-5, two runs) powered the winners' 16-run attack.

The Patriots trailed 14-12 in the bottom of the sixth - when with one out and the bases loaded - Anthony Andrus drilled a two-run single to knot the game at 14-all. Franklin

grabbed its final lead when Tyler Canyock singled in Andrus, who had advanced to third on a wild pitch.

James Tyler then entered the game and got the next two batters to strike out and fly out.

Churchill regained the lead in the top of the seventh when lead-off batter Kirk Ciarrocchi was hit by a pitch, advance to second on Tyler Bledsoe's single and third on a passed ball. He then scored on Eric Mitchell's single. The eventual game-winner was plated when Steve Jones' groundout scored Bledsoe.

James Tyler was stellar in the bottom of the seventh, retiring all three batters he faced, the last on a strikeout.

"We don't really have a No. 1 pitcher and we don't have stopper, but we have a lot of kids who can do the job when they need to," Targosz said.

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ALL WLAA SOCCER

2007 ALL-WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION GIRLS SOCCER TEAMS ALL-CONFERENCE

Goalkeeper: Taylor Comiskey, Jr., Walled Lake Central.
Defenders: Chelsea Smith, Sr., Walled Lake Northern; Kristin Slack, Sr., Northville.
Midfielders: Bailey Brandon, Soph., Livonia Churchill; Brittany Hengesh, Sr., Plymouth.
Forwards: Danielle Toney, Sr., Northville; Victoria Slavin, Jr., Livonia Stevenson; Becci Houdek, Sr., Canton; Kelly Adsit, Sr., Salem; Alisha Lussiez, Jr., Churchill; Jamie Chandler, Sr., Stevenson; Sam Echols, Jr., Walled Lake Central; Chelsea Hunter, Soph., W.L. Northern.

ALL-DIVISION
Goalkeepers: Stefanie Turner, Soph., Churchill; Liz Watza, Sr., Northville; Brittany Warner, Sr., Plymouth.
Defenders: Lindsey Marlow, Jr., Churchill; Kelsey Baskins, Soph., Northville; Liz Tokarsky, Sr., Stevenson; Leslie Weisz, Soph., Canton; Lindsay Lowe, Jr., Walled Lake Western; Sara Davis, Sr., Westland John Glenn.
Midfielders: Sarah Stern, Jr., Northville; Annie Tasse, Jr., Northville; Kayla Johnston, Soph., Churchill; Alyssa Mira, Soph.; Rachel Kain, Lisa Pierce, Jr., Canton; Stephanie Gutkowski, Jr., Stevenson; Lauren Kelly, Jr., W.L. Central; Katie Shull, Jr., Salem; Meghan Horgan, Sr., Livonia Franklin.
Forwards: Kaitlin O'Hara, Sr., Stevenson; Alyssa Haney, Fr., W.L. Central; Christy Naife, Jr., W.L. Northern; Clare Baptist, Sr., Plymouth.

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: Jessica Stroud, Andrea Lopez, Julianne Puroll, Hannah Otto, Tessa Allen; Northville: Julie Bawden, Sarah Aquino, Julie Blaszcak; W.L. Central: Nikki Rousseau, Cassidy Rederstorff, Danielle Martinak, Taylor Pond; Rachel Kay; Stevenson: Amber Sharp, Kathleen Griffith, Kayla Kimble, Molly McConnell, Taleen Mergian; Canton: Tracy Rymph, Megan Staub, Jessica Trost, Hannah Mills, Laura Daniels; Plymouth: Chelsey Quinlan, Val Klemmer, Kasey Webb, Kelly Dobbs, Katie Krajewski; Salem: Miranda Evers, Lauren Booth, Lindsey Newton, Sara O'Leary, Sara Stanislawski; Franklin: Kelly Powers, Kelly Roulier, Molly Perkins, Kristine Ostrosky; W.L. Western: Shaena Sparrow, Paige Partenio, Jodi Stratton, Liz Kramer, Nicole Trivax; W.L. Northern: Riley Wood, Jacqui O'Shea, Kelsey Breaugh, Giordana Koutavas, Sarah Starrs; Wayne: Whitney Jacobs, Kellie Newsted, Samantha Dye, Danielle Borg, Elizabeth Harb; John Glenn: Marge Shupe, Justine Easter, Joslyn DeGroot, Lauren Whit.

FINAL DIVISION STANDINGS
Lakes: 1. Churchill, 8-0-2; 2. Stevenson, 6-3-1; 3. W.L. Central, 5-2-3; 4. W.L. Northern, 5-4-1; 5. Salem, 2-7-1; 6. John Glenn, 0-10.
Western: 1. Northville, 8-1-1; 2. Canton, 7-1-2; 3. Plymouth, 6-1-3; 4. Franklin, 3-6-1; 5. W.L. Western, 1-8-1; 6. Wayne, 1-9.

WLAA CHAMPIONSHIP
Churchill 1, Northville 0

Kangas silences Zebras' bats

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

It was an old-fashioned pitchers duel Tuesday between a pair of juniors in the opening round of the Division 1 state baseball tournament.

And when the dust cleared, Westland John Glenn emerged the victor thanks to the two-hit performance of lefty Chris Kangas, who also delivered the game-winning RBI in the top of the fifth inning to beat host Wayne Memorial, 2-1.

Glenn improved to 13-17 overall with the victory and advances to Friday's district semifinal to play Belleville. Game time is 10 a.m. at Wayne.

Kangas had pin-point control to keep the Zebra batters off-balance. He struck out 10 and walked only one. He also picked off a Wayne runner at first in the sixth inning.

"Chris hit his spots, he had command of all his pitches and only walked one - he did a great job," Glenn coach Matt Howton said. "It was probably his best outing (this season). He had a similar game against Walled Lake Central (a 2-1 victory)."

Losing pitcher Ryan Collop also pitched a gem. The right-hander allowed just three hits, walked two, hit a batter and struck out five.

"Collop also pitched well," Howton said. "He's going to be something. He had good speed on his fastball. He located it

The Zebras answered with their only run in the bottom of the fourth when Brent Patterson reached base on Glenn's only error of the game before eventually coming home on Jon Bryant's RBI groundout.

well and battled through adversity the whole game."

Glenn took a 1-0 lead in the top of the third when sophomore Andrew DeLuca doubled, went to third on a wild pitch, and scored on a Wayne infield error off the bat of Jerry Smith.

The Zebras answered with their only run in the bottom of the fourth when Brent Patterson reached base on Glenn's only error of the game before eventually coming home on Jon Bryant's RBI groundout.

In the bottom of the fifth, Jake Murawski drew a walk and took second on Jeff Girgen's sacrifice bunt. DeLuca was hit by a pitch and Smith blooped a single to center field loading the bases.

Kangas then came through with a sacrifice fly to break the 1-1 deadlock.

"We're hot and cold with the bat," Howton said. "It was nice

we played good defense and got some timely hitting like Kangas's (RBI) sacrifice fly. When you're not hitting, you need other other things in your game to come through, and they did."

Wayne's season ended at 9-21 overall, but there is hope for the future.

"His (Collop's) pitching was outstanding," Wayne coach Frank Garcia said. "If he gets a little stronger, he'll play college because he knows how to pitch."

The Wayne coach, however, tipped his cap to the Glenn left-hander.

"We knew what he was going to throw - strikes away," Garcia said of Kangas. "He did what he had to do to get us out. We wanted to go to the opposite field. He hit the outside corner so well and he got a little extra on it. He threw strikes, but I thought overall we went with the pitch pretty well."

"I can't be too disappointed, though. I thought overall we played a good game."

Glenn, meanwhile, stays alive in the state tournament and Howton was unsure whether Kangas would get the start again with only two days rest.

"We can throw him if he's ready," the fifth-year coach said. "We'll throw him if he's ready. If it's on Saturday like it should have been, we'd have him out there for sure."

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LESSON ON GOLF

By Jeff Lesson

Whatever happened to walking 18 holes? Unfortunately that experience has mostly gone by the wayside. Sure, the option is sometimes there, especially at private clubs. But courses often do everything they can to steer you and your group to taking

The Essence of the Game

power carts. The reason is money. Power cart rental are a huge part of revenue for most courses. They are even more important now in these challenging times when courses try to squeeze every last dollar they can out of revenue sources. And when golfer choose to walk, with or without a caddy, the course loses revenue from cart rental. Many upscale public courses don't allow walking at anytime. This is especially true in Northern Michigan, where greens and tees are so far apart one can only navigate the course with a cart. Of course, the many steep hills up there would make it too difficult to walk any ways. One private club that still encourages walking is the Detroit Golf Club. There you will find arguably the best and strongest caddy program in Michigan. The problem is when golfers take a caddy, the course loses revenue from cart rental. That is just one reason why caddy programs are often not what they used to be either. One reason often given for

power cart usage is the pace of play. Most think that a power cart is faster than walking. No! Over in Scotland and Ireland where "buggys" are usually not allowed, they finish their rounds in three to three and a half hours or they run you off the course. In the U.S. the average round with cart is at least an hour longer than that.

Jeff Lesson is a WWJ Sports Anchor/Reporter and host of the award winning feature "Lesson on Golf" on WWJ Newsradio 950 weekend mornings at 5:45, 6:45, 7:45 and 8:45 AND every Saturday morning 7-8 am on 1270 XRT The Sports Station. Don't forget to check out lessonongolf.com for half off golf at great public courses!

<p>Hawthorne Valley 1800 Merriman • Westland (Between Warren & Ann Arbor Trail)</p> <p>2 PLAYERS, 9 HOLES of GOLF EACH, 1 CART PLUS LUNCH *Limit up to \$8.00 per person</p> <p>\$35 regular \$33 seniors</p> <p>Valid Mon.-Fri. 8am-3pm Reservations suggested. With this coupon • Exp. 9-30-07</p> <p>2 PLAYERS, 9 HOLES & CART SPECIAL \$23 Only</p> <p>Valid Mon.-Fri. 10am-Noon Reservations suggested. With this coupon • Exp. 9-30-07</p> <p>Call Now for Team Reservations • Ask for Cathy 734-422-1970</p>	<p>As Seen On The Golf Channel</p> <h2 style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">MASON GOLF GOLF LESSON PROGRAM</h2> <p>Instructor: Lindsey Mason, III Head Golf Professional 3-Time Pro-Am Winner</p> <p>At the New: Rogell Golf Club 18601 Berg Road Detroit, MI 48219</p> <p>Register Now! 313-633-5904 (cell) 313-249-8959 (voice mail)</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">Named Dean of Golf by Detroit Free Press 2006</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Limited offer: First 50 Golfers, Series of 5 lessons (reg. \$175)...now \$99</p>	<p>Hickory Creek Golf Course 3625 Napier • Canton (Napier & Ford Rds.) 734.454.1850 www.hickorycreekgolf.com</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FISH FRY EVERY FRIDAY! PATIO NIGHT EVERY THURSDAY!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">WEEKEND GOLF 18 & CART \$35 (AFTER 12)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">WEEKDAY SENIORS 18 & CART \$22</p>
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Spring has arrived, and outdoor opportunities abound

It's been a while since my last column way back in January. Hope you all enjoyed the winter and the beautiful spring we've been experiencing the last few weeks, finally!

There couldn't be much better time than the present to get outdoors and enjoy the bountiful natural resources this state has to offer.

Walleye fishing has been spectacular on the Detroit River and reports continue to roll in of limit catches being taken up and down the river.

The hot spot, as usual, has been the Trenton Channel where anglers jigging lead-headed jigs tipped with a minnow or a natural-colored rubber worm have been catching tons of fish. The run of fish coming into the river from Lake Erie won't last forever, so if you're planning to make a trip over to Detroit for a day of catching one of the best tasting fish in the state, you'd better not delay.

The early catch-and-immediate-release bass season has been a hit with anglers.

This season was approved by the DNR last year and allows anglers to fish for bass on inland waters of the state from the last Saturday in April through the regular season opener. The only catch is that all bass must immediately be returned to the water. That means no holding them in the live well so you can show your buddies or weigh them back at the dock.

Unhook the fish, snap a quick picture if you're so inclined, and immediately return it to the water.

The biggest reason to get the fish back into the water is because bass are spawning right now and you don't want to disrupt spawning fish and subject their nests and eggs to predation. Remember, this is the stock for the future.

Trout season got off to a somewhat slow start on opening weekend with cool temperatures limiting insect hatches. Anglers fishing with live bait and spinners enjoyed decent success.

The latest reports from the Au Sable and the Pere Marquette rivers indicate that Hendricksons and some stone flies are hatching in pretty good numbers. Fly fishing should improve as the weather warms.

If you're looking for some trout fishing close to home, the DNR annually stocks brown trout in several spots in southeastern Michigan, including Paint Creek between Lake Orion and Rochester, the Clinton River and the Huron River. Check the DNR's Michigan Inland Trout and Salmon Guide for specific regulations on these fisheries.

Mushroom hunting has really kicked into high gear the last week.

Morels are popping all over the state. The best time to go hunting is the day after a warm rain. Dead elm and ash trees seem to produce morels so be sure to check these areas thoroughly.

If you're not sure what a morel looks like your best bet is to head out with someone who does. If that's not an option, check out a mushrooming book or do a Google

MU spikers sign local players

Madonna University head volleyball coach Jerry Abraham announced the signings of Livonia Franklin outside hitter Liz Dempsey (Westland) and Anna-Marie Gatt, a member of Livonia Churchill's state Class A championship team.

A 5-foot-8 Dempsey is a four-year letter winner in volleyball at Franklin. In her senior season, she was named team captain, first team All-Observer and first team All-Western Lakes Activities Association.

Dempsey, who was a Scholar-Athlete during her prep years, was the team captain during her junior season. She is a three-time All-Observer pick and two-time All-Western Lakes selection.

Dempsey will enroll at MU in the fall to pursue a career in nursing.

Gatt is another defensive specialist to join the Crusaders in 2007.

The 5-6 Livonia native is the younger sister of current Madonna volleyball player Jacqui Gatt.



Outdoor Insights

Bill Parker

Two things to remember on determining the difference between edible morels and false morels: The cap of an edible morel is attached to the top of the stem while the cap of a false morel fits over the stem; if you cut open an edible morel it's hollow, while a false morel is solid.

Don't mistake one for the other.

Speaking of hunting, the late turkey season is shifting into

high gear and many hunters around the state feel this late season will be the best of them all this year.

Why? Toms were henned up at the end of April and very difficult to call in.

But many of those hens have now been bred and are going to their nests in the afternoon. That leaves the love-sick gobblers vulnerable to calling in the afternoon. If you can't get

anything going off the roost in the mornings, take a break (or a nap) and get back out there in the early afternoon.

Often at this time of year, especially during an afternoon hunt, gobblers will come to a call, but won't gobble on the way in. Set yourself up in a spot you know turkeys frequent and cast out some enticing clucks and yelps. Keep your eyes peeled and your movement to a minimum and you

just might be enjoying wild turkey with cranberry sauce and fresh morels on Mother's Day.

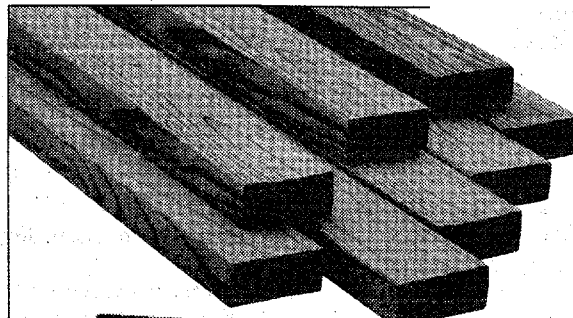
(Bill Parker covers the outdoors for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Anglers and hunters are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to: Bill Parker, c/o Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009.)



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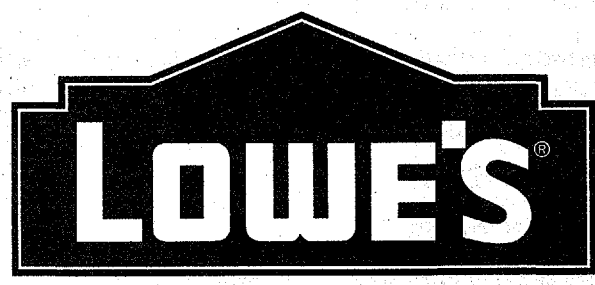
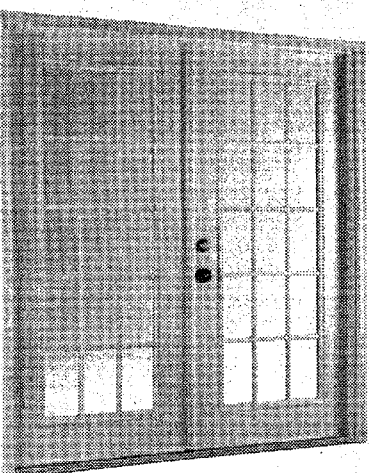
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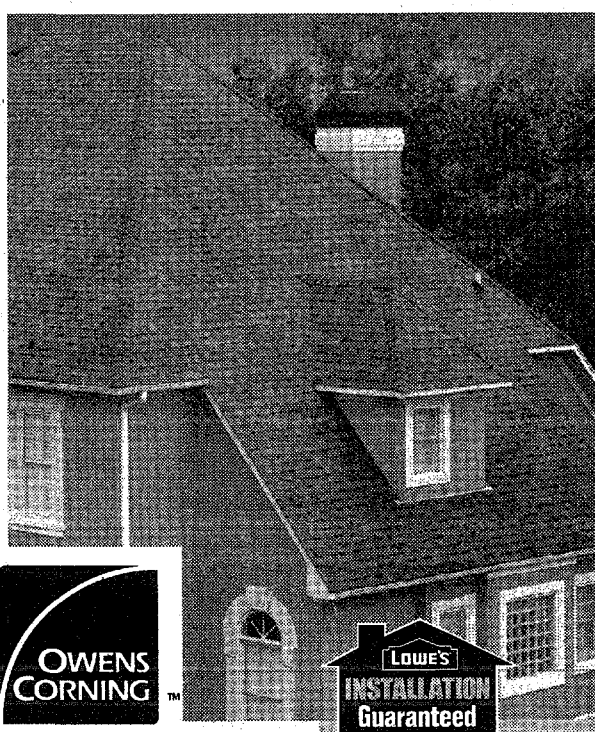
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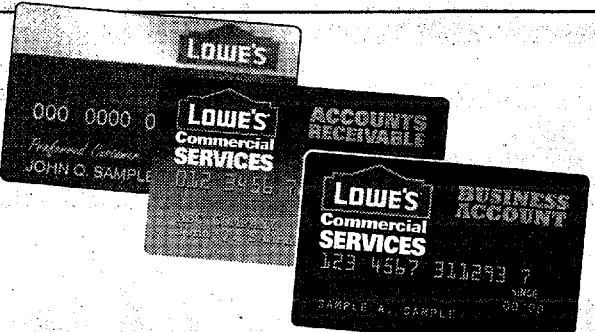
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PLYMOUTH HIGH FOOTBALL NEWS

There will be an informational meeting for parents of student-athletes who are planning on playing football at Plymouth High School in the fall of 2007.

The meeting will be held June 5 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Plymouth High School cafeteria. All paperwork, calendars and important information will be provided for the upcoming 2007 season.

A question-and-answer session will be offered as well. Those who will not be able to attend should contact head coach Mike Sawchuk at (734) 582-5696 to receive the paperwork.

For more information, visit www.plymouthwildcats.com.

CANTON CHIEFS

FOOTBALL EVENTS

The annual Canton Football Skills Camp for kids in sixth through ninth grades

will be held 5-7:30 p.m. June 11-14 at Canton High School. All incoming freshmen players should plan to attend the camp, which will improve football fundamentals and skills.

To register, contact freshman coach Richard Mui at (248) 229-2738 or rmu@hotmail.com. The fee is \$50 before May 26 and \$60 after that date. All campers will receive a Chiefs football T-shirt and shorts.

Registration forms and more information on the camps can be found at www.cantonchiefs-football.com. The annual Canton Football Team Golf Outing will be held June 23 at Fox Hills near Plymouth. The shotgun start is set for 1:30 p.m. For the \$100 entry fee, participants will get 18 holes of golf, a cart, lunch, dinner, beverages and an opportunity to win prizes.

PLYMOUTH FOOTBALL GOLF OUTING

The seventh annual Plymouth Wildcat Football Golf Outing will be held 2 p.m. Sunday, June 3, at Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3605 Napier in Canton.

Included in the \$100 entry fee for the best-ball scramble (shotgun start) are 18 holes of golf and a dinner afterward. Individuals are invited to attend the dinner only for \$40. There will be prizes for the first-place team; longest drive for men and women; and closest to the pin. There will also be a silent auction and 50/50 raffle.

To register, mail a check to and the names of the individual in your foursome to: Lisa Goble, 5160 Gotfredson, Plymouth, MI 48170.

For more information, call (734) 207-8889 or send an e-mail to: Rgoble64@aol.com.

The registration deadline is Tuesday, May 22.

FIELD HOCKEY CAMP

The annual Livonia Ladywood Blazer Field Hockey Day Camp will be held Saturday, June 23, at Ladywood High School, which is located on Newburgh between Schoolcraft and Five Mile in Livonia.

The camp, which runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and costs \$50 per participant, will introduce future high school players to the sport of field hockey as well as promote enthusiasm for the game. An emphasis will be placed on learning the basic fundamentals of the game and teaching proper techniques of the skill sets used to play, including dribbling, driving, shooting, passing and stopping.

The first half of the day will focus on skills with the second half set for team play and small-sided scrimmages.

All campers will need to bring shin guards, a mouthpiece, a water bottle, a field hockey stick (some will be available to sign out at the

camp) and a sack lunch. Rubber cleats are also recommended.

Registration forms can be picked up at Ladywood High School. For more information, call (734) 751-9790.

PLYMOUTH VOLLEYBALL CAMP

The annual Plymouth High School Volleyball Team Camps will be held July 23-25 (Monday through Wednesday) in the Plymouth gymnasium. A camp for current Wildcat volleyball players will be held 8:30 a.m. to noon while a separate one for fifth- through ninth-graders is set for 1-4 p.m. each day.

The cost of the morning camp is \$95; the afternoon camp is \$65.

For more information, contact Plymouth coach Kelly McCausland at (734) 223-1737 or at mccausk@taylor.k12.mi.us.

SUMMER GIRLS HOOP CAMPS

The annual Canton/Salem girls basketball camps will be held in June in the Canton and Salem high school gymnasiums.

A camp for girls who will be starting seventh, eighth and ninth grades in the fall of 2007 will be held June 18-22 from 1-3 p.m. The seventh graders will be at Salem while the eighth and ninth graders will utilize the Canton gym. The cost of the camp is \$70.

A camp for girls who will be starting fourth, fifth and sixth grades in the fall of 2007 will be held June 25-29 from 1-3 p.m. The fourth graders will be at Salem while the fifth and sixth graders will utilize the Canton gym.

Campers will receive instruction from members of the coaching staffs of Canton and Salem high schools as well as from high school players.

Players can register through Plymouth-Canton Community Education, which is located at 40260 Five Mile Rd. in Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 416-2940.

SALEM ROCKS WOMEN'S FOOTBALL ACADEMY

The Salem High School football staff, players and Linebackers Club will be hosting a "Women Only Football Academy" on Saturday, June 2, at Salem High School. Registration will begin at

7:59 a.m. in the Salem gym. The academy, which will run from 8:59 a.m. to 2:59 p.m., will include on-the-field instruction, classroom instruction, lunch and an intra-academy scrimmage all in an effort to teach women the finer techniques, rules and strategies of American tackle football.

All of the proceeds from the event will be donated to "First Step" and the "Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute."

The cost of the academy is \$50 per adult and \$40 for girls under the age of 13. Only the first 200 registrants will be accepted.

Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and tennis shoes.

Registration forms can be found at salemfootball.net. Forms should be mailed to: Salem High School, Attention: Parker Salowich II, 46181 Joy Rd., Canton, MI 48170.

For more information, send an e-mail to: salemrocksfootball@yahoo.com.

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 scrimmages.

For more information, call (313) 262-2248.

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings - May 22, 2007

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, May 22, 2007, at 1150 Canton Center S. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to appoint Treasurer Kirchgatter chairperson in Supervisor Yack's absence. Motion carried by all members present. Treasurer Kirchgatter called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Roll Call Members Present: Bennett, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin Members Absent: Caccamo (on Military leave), Yack, Zarbo Staff Present: Director Eva, Executive Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, Tom Casari, Karen Fox Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by all members present. Approval of Minutes Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the Board Minutes of April 24, 2007. Motion carried by all members present. Payment of Bills Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve payment of the bills for May 8, 2007 and May 22, 2007 as presented. Motion carried by all members present. RECOGNITION: Item 1. CANTON POLICE EXPLORERS - FIRST PLACE IN GOVERNOR'S CUP COMPETITION. CONSENT CALENDAR: Item 1. APPROVE OFF-SITE TREE REPLACEMENT AGREEMENT (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to authorize the Clerk to sign the Off-Site Tree Replacement Agreement with Equity Alliance of Canton, LLC, 28470 Thirteen Mile Road, Suite 220, Farmington Hills, MI 48332. Motion carried by all members present. Item 2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT STATUS FOR HOME EDUCATION MUSIC ASSOCIATION'S RUMMAGE SALE AND BAKE SALE. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve special event status and placement of signs for Home Education Music Association's rummage sale and bake sale held in the parking lot of Geneva Presbyterian Church, 5835 Sheldon Road on June 21, 2007 (Rain date is June 28th). Motion carried by all members present. Item 3. CONSIDER PAYMENT TO CMP DISTRIBUTORS, INC. FOR GLOCKS. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to authorize payment of CMP Distributors, Inc. invoice #s 1780 & 1671 in the amount of \$2757 and to approve the following budget transfer to create a line item for this payment: Contributions to the Fund Balance 207 301 999 0000 (\$2757) Capital Outlay - 207 301 977 0000 \$2757 This budget transfer will neither increase nor decrease FY 2007 police fund. Motion carried by all members present. GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. 2006 AUDIT PRESENTATION (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to receive and place on file the 2006 Township's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Motion carried by all members present. Item 2. SALE OF 2007 LIMITED TAX GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the Bond Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Limited Tax Obligation Capital Improvement Bonds, and to authorize the Township Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer, the Director of Finance and other appropriate Township Officials to do all things necessary to effectuate the sale, issuance, delivery, transfer and exchange of the bonds in accordance with the provisions of the Bond Resolutions. Motion carried by all members present. Item 3. CONSIDER FAIRWAYS WEST NEIGHBORS/MCLENAN PROPERTY SPLIT AND COMBINATION. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the property split and combination for parcels 077-99-0002-702, 077-02-0278-000, 077-02-0279-000, 077-02-0280-000, 077-02-0288-000, through to 077-02-0294-000 and 077-02-0296-000 as shown on the survey dated March 20, 2007 and to waive the \$75.00 per parcel land record fee for the project based upon the justification that the combination accomplishes preservation of open space in the community. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to amend the motion to approve the property split and combination for parcels 077-99-0002-702, 077-02-0278-000, 077-02-0279-000, 077-02-0280-000, 077-02-0288-000, through to 077-02-0294-000 and 077-02-0296-000 as shown on the survey dated March 20, 2007 and to waive the \$75.00 per parcel land record fee and the \$1,200 lot split/combination fees for the project based upon the justification that the combination accomplishes preservation of open space in the community. Motion carried by all members present. Item 4. CONSIDER LAIRD REZONING. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution for a rezoning request of Robert Laird Motion carried by all members present. "A zoning ordinance regulating the development and use of land has been adopted by the legislative body of the Charter Township of Canton, Canton, Michigan, Wayne County". A complete copy of the amendment may be inspected or purchased at the Administration Building, Planning Services, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan, 48188 (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. M-F). Item 5. CONSIDER FRANKEL/CANTON TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to adopt the resolution for the Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments (007-TXT-003). Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to amend the resolution for the Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments (007-TXT-003) to add hospitals to Section 21A.02B, as follows: Amend Section 21A.02B, to add medical, dental clinics and hospitals, as a special land use in the LI-R Light Industrial Research as follows: 21A.02 Permitted uses and structures. B. Special Land Uses 6. Medical and dental clinics, hospitals, offices or laboratories. Motion carried by all members present. "A zoning ordinance regulating the development and use of land has been adopted by the legislative body of the Charter Township of Canton, Canton, Michigan, Wayne County". A complete copy of the amendment may be inspected or purchased at the Administration Building, Planning Services, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan, 48188 (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. M-F). Item 6. CONSIDER AWARDED ENGINEERING SERVICES TO NORTHWEST CONSULTANTS, INC. FOR THE RIDGE ROAD (FORD TO WARREN) GRADE ESTABLISHMENT PROJECT. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to accept the proposal submitted by Northwest Consultants, Inc. to provide professional engineering services for the Ridge Road (Ford to Warren) Grade Establishment project for \$116,519.46 with a 10% contingency in the amount of \$11,652 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$128,171.46 (account No. 403-506-803-0000) and further authorize the Township Supervisor and Clerk to execute the contract. Motion carried by all members present. Item 7. CONSIDER TRANSFERING OWNERSHIP OF 10 SANITARY SEWER FLOW METERS TO WESTERN TOWNSHIPS UTILITIES AUTHORITY (WTUA). (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to authorize the transfer of ownership for the ten flow meters and associated hardware to the Western Townships Utilities Authority (WTUA). Motion carried by all members present. Item 8. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO CREATE AND FILL PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR - ASSET MANAGEMENT POSITION. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to authorize the creation of and approval to fill the position of Public Works Supervisor - Asset Management. I further move to approve the following budget amendment for the

addition of the Public Works Supervisor-Asset Management position and the elimination of the Assistant Public Works Superintendent and GIS Mapping Specialist positions: Water & Sewer Fund: Increase (Decrease) Revenues: Appropriation from Fund Balance #592-000-699-0000 (\$ 102,430), Increase (Decrease) Appropriations: Salaries-Water & Sewer Division #592-441-705-0000 (\$ (74,657), Fringe Benefits-Water & Sewer Division 592-441-720-0000 (27,773), Total \$(102,430). This budget amendment decreases the Water & Sewer Division budget from \$30,175,773 to \$30,007,343, and the Water & Sewer Fund budget from \$31,260,966 to \$31,158,536. Motion carried by all members present. Item 9. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR NEW PATROL VEHICLE. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the purchase of a patrol laptop through the State of Michigan Bid Program from ComSource, 2130 Austin Dr, Rochester Hills, MI in the amount of \$7227.50. Funds to come from police capital outlay account 207 301 977 0000, item #10. Further, I move to approve the purchase of the in-car camera system through the sole source supplier, L3 Communications, 90 Fanny Rd., Bonton, NJ in the amount of \$5,365. Funds to come from 911-services capital outlay police account 261 346 977 2070, item #1. Motion carried by all members present. Item 10. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF DB VEHICLE. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the purchase of a 2008 Ford Taurus through the Macomb County Bid Program from Signature Ford, 3942 West Lansing Rd, Perry, MI in the amount of \$19,292. Funds to come from police capital outlay account # 207 301 977 0000. Motion carried by all members present. Item 11. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF HIGH SPEED COPIER SCANNER - RECORDS - FORFEITURES. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the purchase of a Ricoh Aficio MP4500 SPF in the amount of \$8275 from US Communities, RICOH Business Systems, 2119 Austin, Rochester Hills, MI 48309. Further, I move to approve the following budget amendment for this purchase: Increase Revenue Forfeitures - Drug Enforcement 207 000 655 0000 \$8275, Increase Appropriations Drug Forfeiture Program 207 301 744 0000 \$8275. This budget amendment increases the FY 2007 Police Budget from \$14,757,402 to \$ 14,765,677. Motion carried by all members present. Item 12. APPROVAL OF MCACA GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to authorize the application to the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs for a grant for \$8,000 towards the expense of the FY 2008 "African-American History Through Artists Eyes" performance and arts exhibition series at the Village Theater and other Leisure Services venues, and further authorize a cash match of \$3,000 from Leisure Services, and in-kind services of \$10,728 for staff and space rental. Motion carried by all members present. Item 13. APPROVE PURCHASE OF RECYCLING BINS. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the purchase of 1835 eighteen gallon recycling bins from SCL A-1 Plastics Ltd. in the amount of \$9,798.90 (account #246-500-800-0000, Prof & Contractual Services). Motion carried by all members present. Item 14. EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF RANGE BALL PICKER FOR PHEASANT RUN GOLF CLUB. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the emergency purchase of a Wittek Senior Tire Commercial Picker in the amount of \$2,274 from account #584-756-977-0000 (Pheasant Run Golf Club/Capital Outlay-Equipment). Motion carried by all members present. Item 15. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF SOFTBALLS FOR CANTON SPORTS CENTER. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the purchase of 285 dozen 12" softballs from Worth Sports, 1915 Wendell, Lima, OH 45805 in the amount of \$7,965.75 to be paid from Canton Sports Center Budget - Operating Supplies Account # 101-755-740-0000. Motion carried by all members present. Item 16. AUTHORIZE REPROGRAMMING OF CAPITAL FUNDS FOR RECREATION DIVISION. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to authorize the reprogramming of \$2,100 in the Recreation Budget capital improvement line item account #101-691-977-0000. Motion carried by all members present. Item 17. AWARD BID FOR THE 2007 CANTON LEISURE SERVICES INFLATABLE ATTRACTIONS. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the Liberty Fest portion of inflatable attractions to Kelly Inflatables, 5749 S. Occidental Highway, Tecumseh, MI 49286, in an amount not to exceed \$8,100 to be paid from the Recreation Budget Contracted Services account #101-691-818-4000. I further move to award the bid for inflatable attractions for the remaining events, (Boys World Series, Movie Camp-Out, Wet-N-Wild, Family Drive-In, Fall Festival, and Teen Lock-Ins), to Chris Nordman Associates, Inc., 4632 Elizabeth Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48328, in an amount not to exceed \$7,550 to be paid from the Recreation Budget Contracted Services: account #101-691-818-4000 Special Events - \$4,050, account #101-691-818-3000, Youth Development - \$2,400 and Canton Sports Center-Program and Activities account #101-755-742-0000 - \$1,100. Motion carried by all members present. Item 18. CONSIDER EXTENDING THE 2006 SIDEWALK REPAIR CONTRACT WITH GAGLIO P & R CEMENT FOR THE 2007 SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to extend the 2006 Sidewalk Repair Program Contract with Gaglio P & R Cement to the 2007 Sidewalk Repair Program for the amount of \$400,000 plus Add Alternates 1 (Metro Act) in the amount of \$25,000 and Add Alternate 2 (Emergency Sidewalk & Drive Approach Repairs) in the amount of \$20,000, for a total not to exceed of \$445,000 and further to authorize the Township Supervisor to execute the contract. Funds are budgeted in the water and sewer fund for known sidewalk repairs due to utility settlement which has \$221,752 budgeted (account number 592-441-930-1000). Funds for Add Alternate 1, Metro Act will come from account number 101-441-930-4802, Metro ROW Restoration, which has \$50,000 budgeted. Funds for Emergency Sidewalk and Drive Approach repairs due to utility settlement or repairs will come from account number 592-441-930-1000, Maintenance & Repair of Sidewalks/Structures, which has \$221,752 budgeted. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve an amount of \$20,250 for Canton Township Staff to provide construction inspection services and that this amount shall be subtracted from the contract with Gaglio P & R Cement and authorize finance and budget to subtract any additional costs based on the per day rate of \$450 for an inspector day if the contractor exceeds the number of specified inspector days in the contract. Motion carried by all members present. OTHER: Treasurer Kirchgatter stated the next Board Study Session will take place on Tuesday, May 29, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Administration Building, First Floor, Board Room, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan, 48188. ADJOURN: Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adjourn at 9:07 p.m. Motion carried by all members present. - Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor - Terry G. Bennett, Clerk -

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

Publish: May 31, 2007

020525046 - 4r16

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at 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: May 31, 2007

020525044

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a Bid for the Partial Re-Roofing of Salem High School. Bid documents are available by phoning the District's Construction Management firm of McCarthy & Smith, Inc. at (248) 427-8400 or are available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI, 48335; FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit; Builders Exchange, Grand Rapids; Construction News Service, Grandville; and Reed Construction Data, Novi, MI.

The bid division description for this project is: 109:Roofing. A pre-bid meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 25, 2007 in the McCarthy & Smith, Inc. site trailer located at Salem High School, 46181 Joy Road, Canton, Michigan 48187. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith Inc. with the bid division being bid identified on the outside of the envelope. All bids should include 2 copies (1 original, 1 copy) and are due to the PCCS E.J. McClendon Educational Center on or before 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 5, 2007 where they will be opened and read publicly. For additional information, phone Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

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

Publish: May 24th & May 31st, 2007

020525057

Haeger tips hat to Crusaders Up in the air: Flight problems can throw bowlers for a loop

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Even though Madonna University's baseball team was eliminated by Spring Arbor in the recent NAIA Region VIII championship round, Crusaders head coach Greg Haeger tipped the bill of his cap to his guys.

"Obviously, it's not the way we wanted the season to end," said Haeger, following the rain-soaked 6-4 loss to the Cougars on May 11. "(But) I'm proud of the way our players battled through the tournament.

"It's easy to give up once you get knocked down to the loser's bracket, but they were able to pull together and make it to the championship game."

The praise from Haeger wasn't the only reward for a determined effort at the regional. Sophomore second baseman Ryan Morrow earned selection to the All-Region team.

Madonna - which finished 34-20, the fourth consecutive year the team reached the 30-victory plateau - was bumped down to the loser's bracket on the opening day of the regional, getting crushed 14-2 by No. 2-seeded Indiana Tech in a quarterfinal matchup.

But facing elimination the next day, May 10, the Crusaders came back strong with 8-3 and 7-2 victories over No. 4-seeded Bethel and No. 3-seeded Indiana Tech, respectively.

Against Bethel, seniors Tony Luttmann (Farmington) and Gary VanAllen and freshman Zach Flavin (Novi) each homered to back the nine-inning pitching of Josh Regits.

In the win over Indiana Tech, Madonna scored four runs in the fifth to break a scoreless tie and provide more than enough offense for winning pitcher Will Kennedy (Westland John Glenn), who



MU SPORTS INFORMATION

Madonna University senior Gary VanAllen wrapped up the regular season on a hitting tear that earned him conference honors.

won his fifth game in six decisions.

The big blow in the fifth-inning surge was a two-run single to left by senior shortstop Kyle Fedorka, which plated senior outfielder Manny Alvarado (Southfield) and freshman outfielder Rikco Rhoades (Orchard Lake St. Mary's).

Madonna won the first game Friday against the Cougars, 7-6, to force a second and deciding game.

The Crusaders trailed 6-0 after two innings before staging a gritty comeback. Four innings of scoreless relief by

junior Ryan Bardoni gave MU a glimmer of hope and a six-run rally in the top of the seventh put the Crusaders ahead to stay.

Luttman's two-run double to left-center capped the frame and enabled senior relief pitcher Mike Hand (North Farmington) to earn the victory, with a save going to junior Eric Wendling.

Unfortunately, in the finale - delayed by 3:15 after the seventh inning due to heavy rain - Spring Arbor returned from the lengthy interruption and scored three runs to nip the Crusaders, who led 6-0 early.

Airline travel can be unpredictable at times.

The Ansara Restaurant Group 1 bowling team found that out last week when they flew to Reno, Nev. for the U.S. Bowling Congress Open Championship tournament at the National Bowling Stadium.

The group was scheduled to bowl in the team event on Thursday afternoon, but only Harry Sullins from Chesterfield Township was there on time, while the rest of the team had its flight canceled and was stuck in Michigan when they were scheduled to bowl. Subsequently they were forced to take a later plane.

Although they missed the scheduled team event, Ansara made it in time for their allotted doubles and singles squad.

They bowled as planned and were surprisingly able to find an open spot to bowl in the team event on Saturday, a shuffle that only happens under special circumstances.

It worked out for the best, as they put together a solid effort which put them into third place in regular team with a total score of 3,352, only 16 pins behind the leader and four pins out of second place.

Low Ansara of Farmington Hills is the long-time sponsor of the team and has traditionally assembled a group of highly competitive bowlers for the all-star leagues and tournaments.

Eddie Grace III from Howell led the way with 729, followed by Ken Wyatt of Sterling Heights (685), Sullins (664), Nunzio Marino of Livonia (683) and Ryan



Ten Pin Alley

Al Harrison

Wilson of Garden City (612).

"We all kind of found each other in the hotel lobby Friday morning and although the guys looked a little tired, everyone had a good outlook for doubles and singles," said Sullins, who owns 12 PBA regional titles and is a member of three halls of fame in Michigan.

Despite a 156 start in the team, Sullins was able to use more than 20 years of professional experience and knowledge to remain calm and bounce back with 270 and 238 games, while sticking to the team's original strategy to all play the same part of the

lane to help dictate the breakdown and transition during the three games.

The USBC Open was formerly the American Bowling Congress Tournament, the longest running and largest bowling event of all and full of great tradition and stories, and this is one for the books.

The Ansara team joins another local team among the leaders, S&B Pro Shop of Troy, which currently holds down fourth place in the team all-events with a combined score of 9,762. S&B consists of Jay Lang of Sterling Heights, Bill Orlikowski from Grand Rapids, Dave Ewald of Macomb, Nick Wissinger of Utica and Kerry Kreft from Warren.

Al Harrison is a resident of Livonia and a member of the Bowling Writers Association of America. He can be reached at (248) 477-1839 or email: tenpinalley@sbcglobal.net

Tower Automotive, Plymouth Business Unit Public Notice Notice of Intent to File a Clean Corporate Citizen Application

Tower Automotive, Plymouth Business Unit, located at 43955 Plymouth Oaks Blvd., Plymouth, MI, 48170, proposes to file an application with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for a Clean Corporate Citizen Certification (C-3). All of the documentation required for the C-3 application is available for public review from May 31, 2007 until June 28, 2007 at the Reference Desk of the Plymouth District Library. Written Comments will be accepted until June 28, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. and should be sent to the address listed above, Attention: Chris Kwiatkowski.

Publish: May 31, 2007

060859011 - 2x2.5

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH AMENDMENT TO WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM ORDINANCE SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. C-07-03

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE II OF ORDINANCE NO. C-2002-01 OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS; PROVIDING FOR USE FACTOR SCHEDULES, TRANSITION RULES, INDUSTRIAL WASTE CONTROL CHARGES, INDUSTRIAL WASTE SURCHARGE AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE PRETREATMENT; PROVIDING FOR DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS AND WASTEWATER DISCHARGE PERMITS; PROVIDING FOR MONITORING FACILITIES, INSPECTION, SAMPLING, AND RECORD KEEPING, ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR COMPLIANCE WITH NPDES PERMITS; PROVIDING FOR RATE APPEALS, WATER AND SEWER APPLICATIONS, BILLINGS, ENFORCEMENT, INTERIOR METERS, EXTERIOR METERS, CONNECTIONS TO THE SYSTEM, A SUMP PUMP COLLECTION SYSTEM, AND WATER CONSERVATION DEVICES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF UNENFORCEABLE PROVISIONS, PROVIDING FOR PRESERVATION OF EXISTING CHARGES, RATES AND ENFORCEMENT ACTION(S); PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE C-2002-01.

Article II of the Water and Sewer Ordinance, Ordinance No. C-2002-02, Chapter 73, is amended as follows:

ARTICLE II

73.080 - 73.080-12 and Appendices A, B and C. Industrial Waste Surcharge and Industrial Waste Pretreatment - Discharge to Detroit Water and Sewer Department.

This Article provides for an industrial waste pretreatment program for discharges to the Detroit Water and Sewer Department, a delegation of authority to the DWSD, definitions, discharge prohibitions, fees, waste discharge permits, monitoring facilities, inspection, sampling, record-keeping, confidentiality of certain information, statutes, laws, regulations, enforcement and appeal procedure.

SECTION 2. VIOLATION AND PENALTY.

This section provides that any person or entity that violates any provision of this Ordinance may, upon conviction, be fined not more than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars or imprisoned not more than Ninety (90) days, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SECTION 3. REPEAL.

This section provides that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.

This Section provides that any unenforceable section can be severed from the rest of the Ordinance.

SECTION 5. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

This Section provides that adoption of this Ordinance does not affect proceedings, prosecutions for violation of law, penalties and matured rights and duties in effect before the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. PUBLICATION.

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

The above is a summary of proposed Ordinance No. C-07-03 considered for first reading at the May 15, 2007, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth. It will be submitted for second reading at the regularly scheduled Board meeting on Tuesday, June 12, 2007. The Ordinance, in full, is available in the Clerk's Office for public perusal at 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, during regular business hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Marilyn Massengill, CMC
Clerk, Plymouth Charter Township

Publish: May 31, 2007

060859047 - 2x12.5

Major League Soccer comes to town in Berkley

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Major League Soccer makes another area appearance Wednesday night when the Columbus Crew takes on their minor league affiliate, the 2006 North American Premier Development League champion Michigan Bucks, at Berkley's Hurley Field.

Kickoff is at 7:30 p.m. The Crew, coached by Sigi Schmid, is currently 1-2-5 in the MLS following a 2-2 deadlock Saturday night against Toronto FC.

Forward Andy Herron scored twice in that game for the Crew, which also features defender Frankie Hejduk, who was recently named to coach Bob Bradley's 23-member U.S. National Team.

Other standouts for the Crew include defenders Rusty Pierce, Ezra Hendrickson and Marcos Gonzalez, along with midfielders Danny O'Rourke and Ned Grabavoy. Goalkeeper Andy

Grunebaum has three shutouts to his credit.

Tickets are \$15 at the gate, but only \$10 presale when you buy tickets on the Bucks Web Site (online through Pay Pal);

www.bucksoccer.com.

Tickets are also on sale at George's Soccer in Troy (248-528-2958) and Lathrup Village (248-557-1166); Trading Post in Plymouth (734-453-0022);

Soccer Plus in Livonia (734-432-0222) and Bloomfield Hills (248-758-0222); or Tool Sport & Sign in Oxford (248-969-5850).



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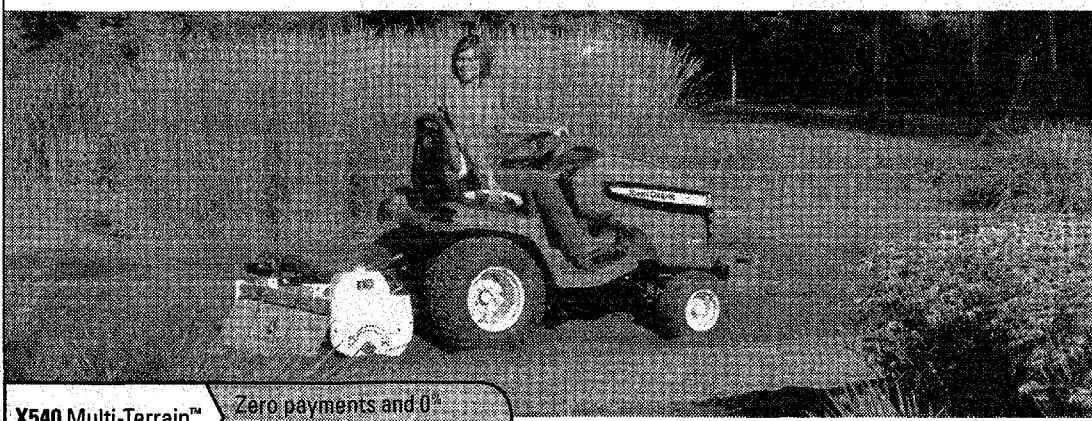
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1999 and 7/20/2007. Some restrictions apply; other special rates and terms may be available. See your dealer for details and other financing options. Subject to approved credit on John Deere Credit Revolving Plan, a service of FFC Financial L.L.C. Upon default, the interest rate may increase to 19.9% APR. A \$3.99 per month minimum finance charge may be required. For consumer use only. Payments of 2% of the amount financed will be required during the 12-month interest-free period. After promotional period, repayment will be 2% of the amount financed with a 12.9% APR. Offer available for EZtrak™ and LA150 Series only. After promotional period, finance charges will begin to accrue at 12.9% APR. Offer available for Select Series™ only. John Deere's green and yellow color scheme, the leaping deer symbol, JOHN DEERE and all other trademarks advanced are trademarks of Deere & Company.

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GRACIE (PG-13)

12:45, 2:55, 5:05, 7:15, 9:25

FRI/SAT LS 11:35

KNOCKED UP (R)

11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT

WORLD'S END (PG-13)

11:00, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:00, 5:00, 6:05,

8:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:00

SHREK THE THIRD (PG)

11:50, 2:00, 4:10, 6:50, 9:00

FRI/SAT LS 11:10

SPIDER-MAN 3 (PG-13)

11:45, 3:15, 6:45, 9:45

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3000...Homes | 3370...Royal Oak |
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| 3040...Ann Arbor | 3390...Southfield/Lathrup |
| 3045...Auburn Hills | 3400...South Lyon |
| 3046...Belleville & Van Buren | 3405...Stockbridge-Uxbridge-Gregory |
| 3047...Berkeley | 3410...Troy |
| 3048...Beverly Hills | 3415...Union Lake |
| 3050...Birmingham | 3420...Walled Lake |
| 3055...Bloomfield | 3423...Waterford |
| 3060...Brighton | 3424...Wayne |
| 3070...Byron | 3430...Webster |
| 3080...Canton | 3440...West Bloomfield |
| 3090...Clarkston | 3445...Westland |
| 3095...Clevon | 3450...White Lake |
| 3100...Cochran | 3460...Winnetka Lake |
| 3110...Dearborn | 3470...Williamston |
| 3115...Dearborn Hgts | 3480...Warren-Conner |
| 3120...Detroit | 3490...Ypsilanti |
| 3130...Chelsea | 3500...Genesee County |
| 3135...Dexter | 3510...Ingham County |
| 3140...Farmington | 3515...Lapeer County |
| 3145...Farmington Hills | 3520...Livingston County |
| 3150...Ferndale | 3530...Macomb County |
| 3155...Fenton | 3540...Oakland County |
| 3160...Fowlerville | 3550...Shawnee County |
| 3165...Franklin | 3560...Washtenaw County |
| 3170...Garden City | 3570...Wayne County |
| 3180...Grosse Pointe | 3580...Lakeland/Waterfront Homes |
| 3190...Hamburg | 3590...Other Suburban Homes |
| 3200...Hartland | 3600...Out of State Homes/Property |
| 3205...Razen Park & Madison Hgts | 3610...Country Homes |
| 3210...Highland | 3620...Real Estate Auction |
| 3220...Holly | 3630...Resort & Vacation Property |
| 3230...Howell | 3640...Real Estate Services |
| 3240...Huntington Woods | 3650...New Home Builders |
| 3250...Keego Harbor | 3660...Apartments For Sale |
| 3260...Lake Orion | 3670...Condos |
| 3265...Lathrup Village | 3680...Duplexes & Townhouses |
| 3270...Livonia | 3690...Manufactured Homes |
| 3280...Livonia | 3700...McCall Homes |
| 3290...Livonia | 3750...Commercial/Retail For Sale |
| 3300...Livonia | 3760...Homes Under Construction |
| 3310...Livonia | 3770...Lakeland Property |
| 3320...Livonia | 3780...Lakes & River Resort Property |
| 3330...Livonia | 3790...Northern Property |
| 3340...Livonia | 3800...Resort & Vacation Property |
| 3350...Livonia | 3805...Florida Homes & Property |
| 3360...Livonia | 3810...Southern Property |
| 3370...Livonia | 3820...Lots & Acreage/Vacant |
| 3380...Livonia | 3830...Time Shares |
| 3390...Livonia | 3840...Lease/Option To Buy |
| 3400...Livonia | 3850...Mortgage/Land Contracts |
| 3410...Livonia | 3860...Money To Loan |
| 3420...Livonia | 3870...Real Estate Wanted |
| 3430...Livonia | 3880...Cemetery Lots |
| 3440...Livonia | 3890...Commercial/Industrial For Sale |

Commercial/Industrial 3900 through 3980

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 3900...Business Opportunities | 3940...Industrial & Warehouse |
| 3910...Business/Professional | 3950...Office Space For Lease |
| 3920...Commercial/Retail | 3955...Office Space For Sale |
| 3930...Income Property For Sale | 3960...Commercial & Industrial |
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- Master BR Suite
- Custom Kitchen
- 2 Jacuzzis
- 3 Fireplaces
- Washer & Dryer
- Dining Room
- Marble Flooring
- Hardwood Flooring
- Built-in TV Screen
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Livonia "COUNTRY STYLE LIVING"
2500 sq.ft., 4 bdrm ranch, 2.2 acres rural urban farm surrounded by 200 acre wooded park. Horses welcome w/barn, electric, water, 30' L kitchen w/stone floor, granite counter, new cabinets. New carpet. Jacuzzi, 50x30 inground pool w/ fiberoptics, water slide, heat, diving board & tiki bar. Private Rd. Beautiful view of rivers & streams from rear of ponderosa. Move, must sell. Open June 3 only 12-5pm, 31694 Curtis, W/Off Merriman, bwn 6 & 7 Mile. Originally \$439,000. Now \$349,000. 734-658-8399

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A word to the wise, when looking for a great deal check the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

LIVONIA - OPEN SUN 1-4
9323 Eastwind, 2 bdrm, 2.5 bath condot 2-story end unit 1st floor master w/ walk in jet tub, separate shower. 1st floor laundry, 2-car garage. \$203,900 (EC23EA)
Weir Manuel Realtors
734-455-6000

LIVONIA - OPEN SUN 12-3
9085 Sunbury, Updated ranch, 2 baths, Living & dining area off updated kitchen w/appliances. Replaced: roof, windows, furnace. Finished bsmt. \$164,775. (EC85SU)
Weir Manuel Realtors
734-455-6000

LIVONIA - Open Sun 12-5
30675 Minton, Sharp 3 bdrm ranch, 2 bath, 2+ garage, bsmt. \$176,000. 734-425-6186

LIVONIA - OPEN SUN 2-4
11792 Farmington Rd. Newer construction cond. 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 2-car attached garage. Open floor plan, higher ceilings & view of pond. \$170,000 (EC92FA)
Weir Manuel Realtors
734-455-6000

Livonia - Real Estate & Personal Property Auction
See our ad in Section 7060 in today's paper. Braun & Helmer Auction Service, Inc. Jerry Helmer 734.368.1734

REDFORD New construction, \$139,900. Open Sun 1-3, 20504 Wakenden, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, full bsmt. 248-231-1125

WEST BLOOMFIELD - OPEN SAT 2-5PM & SUN 12-3
7781 Detroit Blvd., N of Richardson, E of Union Lk Rd. Immaculate home steps from beach & boating. Bsmt & garage. Only \$169,900!
View Photos:
www.SCOREHOME.info
Keller Williams, 248-360-2900

WEST BLOOMFIELD OPEN SUN 6/3 1-4PM.
651 Maple Lakes Ct. (S of Maple/W of Drake) 1400 sq ft 2 bdrm, 2 bath ranch condo in great location. Basement and garage. Pool. Only \$169,900! View Photos:
www.SCOREHOME.info
Keller Williams, 248-360-2900

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Four bdrm, 1 bath home only \$230/mo! Buy 1-4 bdrm foreclosed homes from \$199/mo! 5% down, 20 yrs @8%APR! For listings & info 800-366-0142 ext. T251

Beverly Hills 3049
LOVELY UPDATED
5 bdrm colonial. Large living & adjoining dining room. Wonderful home w/newer wood floors, natural fireplace-cathedral ceiling. \$510,000 (EC03VA)
Weir Manuel Realtors
248-644-6300

RECENTLY RENOVATED, charming colonial, move right in. Wonderful eat-in granite kitchen, stainless appliances. Refinished hardwoods. Updated baths. \$329,900 (EC92AU)
Weir Manuel Realtors
248-644-6300

Bloomfield 3055
BLOOMFIELD HILLS Schools 3 bdrm ranch on Wing Lake Rd. w/private beach access. approx 1/2 acre. \$724,900. 248-705-2343

Bloomfield Twp. Beauty
Birmingham schools. \$419,000. Wooded, private pool. Incredible kitchen, the ultimate entertainer/family home, 4-5 bdrm. By owner. Real Comp #27074231 - or go to www.5755raven.com 248-705-6081

Clawson 3095
EXCEPTIONAL UPDATES
thru-out all living areas in home - so much space in newer light oak kitchen, open huge vaulted ceiling family room w/brick fireplace. \$198,000 (EC25SE)
Weir Manuel Realtors
248-644-6300

Dearborn 3110
LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE, cute brick bungalow near historic district in Westside of city, updated kitchen, baths, roof, windows, finished rec room, huge deck. \$152,900 (EC31ME)
Weir Manuel Realtors
734-455-6000

Grosse Pointe 3180
BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED
3 bdrm ranch, \$279,900. Visit: www.1280soxford.com. Call: (586) 530-3718

Hazel Park/Madison Hgts 3205
By Owner
SUPER BARGAIN
Vinyl siding, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1475 sq. ft. A steal at \$22,000 cash! 2 bedroom, for \$14,000 cash!
616-836-1661

Livonia 3250
A STARTER HOME move in ready, new updates. MLS# 27094043. Call agent at 866-340-9010 or 734-558-4320

Novi 3290
BY OWNER, 27412 CHRISTINA
4 BR, 2.5 Baths, 2 car garage, family room, \$235,000. (313) 320-5810

Orion Township 3310
ORION
Classic colonial on private 1.3 acre's w/small pond backs to Paint Creek Trail. Finished walk-out-wet bar, family room, full bath, sliding door to patio. \$360,000 (EC25RI)
Weir Manuel Realtors
248-651-3500

West Bloomfield 3440
By Owner
Sacrifice to Settle Estate!
5436 Old Pond Way, 4 Bdrm, 4 Bath Brick Colonial on 130' x 165' corner lot in W. Bloomfield Lake Estates Sub. 3158 sq. ft. plus 1000+ sq. ft. in walkout lower level. Brand new roof & furnace. Priced \$80,000 under state equalized value. \$259,900. (248) 310-1993

Westland 3445
LIVONIA SCHOOLS
3 bdrm, 1.5 Bath brick ranch, remodeled kitchen, bsmt, 2.5 car garage. \$144,900.
UPDATES GALORE
3 Bedroom, 2 bath brick ranch, basement & garage, \$135,900. Century 21 Castelli
734-625-7900

Country Homes 3610
PRESCOTT AREA-
Completely remodeled 4 bdrm, natural gas. \$69,000. 989-879-4574 989-245-3247

Plymouth 3347

'MUST SEE'
Fab home. Hardwoods, crown moldings. Bright, airy kitchen. Family room w/built-in bookcases. Master w/luxurious bath. Finished bsmt. \$429,000 (EC75W0)
Weir Manuel Realtors
734-455-6000

By Owner
DOWNTOWN PLYMOUTH
Walk to Kellogg or Heinz Park from this quiet little sub nestled btwn Heinz Drive & Mill Street. This 3 bdrm, 2 bath brick bungalow has been almost completely redone inside & out. \$169,000. Call Joe: 734-891-6872

PERFECTLY LOCATED
for easy commute Ann Arbor/Detroit. Colonial on large private lot, upscale kitchen w/premium amenities. \$497,000 (EC15BE)
Weir Manuel Realtors
734-455-6000

Rochester 3360
ROCHESTER HILLS
Absolutely stunning one-579 of-a-kind home! Gourmet kitchen; custom cabinetry, granite counters, stainless appliances. 1st floor master suite. \$579,900 (EC50OR)
Weir Manuel Realtors
248-651-3500

Royal Oak 3370
REAL CHARM,
great neighborhood. Designer's home! Marble floors, crown molding, vaulted ceilings, hardwoods, recessed lighting. Natural fireplace-marble. \$329,900 (EC18BA)
Weir Manuel Realtors
248-644-6300

ROYAL OAK 3 Bdrm. brick bungalow, hardwood floors, updated kitchen, appliances, skylite, partially finished bsmt, furnace 2 yrs. old. \$155,000. D&H Properties. 248-888-9133

Southfield/Lathrup 3390
By Owner
BIRMINGHAM SCHOOLS
Cranbrook Sub. 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, completely updated kitchen & baths. New roof in 2006. 2556 sq. ft., 2 car attached garage. Reasonably priced. Best offer. 248-644-5005 646-752-4500

Wayne County 3570
ROMULUS OPEN SUN 2-4
16957 Brandt St. 5 Bdrm, 3.5 baths, first floor laundry room, 2500 sq. ft. Finished bsmt, with bath. \$275,000. Roberta Wilson 313-971-5324 Real Estate One 23756 Michigan Ave. Dearborn

Lakefront/Waterfront Homes 3580
OTSEGO Lakefront Chalet \$299,900, (with 4 cabins & 5 acres \$449,800). The "Otsego Lake Cabins" Perch Lake home w/400' frontage \$329,900. Navajo Lakefront Building site \$42,500. East Twin Lakefront Home in Lewiston, \$279,900. OTSEGO COUNTY REALTY 989-350-7997 www.GaylordMich.com

PLEASANT LAKE- Waterfront home. Beautiful custom vacation or year round. 3-4 bdrm, 3.5 baths, gourmet kitchen, upgrades galore, prof. landscape. wrap around deck, patio w/pergola at lake front, boat dock. For info call Wayne: 520-307-0817 or Jan: 520-307-1196 photos on www.houselocator.com click on featured homes, Pleasant Lake or property id# 015002

By Owner
Spectacular VIEWS of the Rouge River Basin. • 3,100 square feet on 1.1 acres • 4 bdrm • LARGE JACUZZI • Two kitchens • Natural stone • Hardwood • 26300 West Nine Mile Rd. \$350,000.00. Call for details: (248) 470-3043

Westland 3445
By Owner
SYLVAN LAKE All-Sports Lakefront West Bloomfield Schools. Immaculate Contemporary Large lot, 2300 sq. ft. home Spectacular views! \$895,000 View: lakehouse.com For appt. 248-682-7201

Country Homes 3610
PRESCOTT AREA-
Completely remodeled 4 bdrm, natural gas. \$69,000. 989-879-4574 989-245-3247

Westland 3445

By Owner
VERY NICE
mostly furnished, 4 bdrm, 1.5 bath tri-level, 2 car garage w/work room, quiet/safe cul-de-sac. Livonia Schools. Well maintained, many updates: kitchen, furnace, C/A, roof, appliances, plumbing, patio, driveway, new roads in sub, near Hines Drive/Park. Must see! \$179,000. 313-539-9818

White Lake 3450
By Owner
MANDON LAKE
All Sports Lake 9574 Garforth Beautiful flower gardens & landscaping. 2 bdrm w/lots of closet space. Kitchen (Pergo floor) & living rm. facing lake. Newer enlarged deck. 2.5 car, shed w/loft, Michigan bsmt, newer well, septic, all appliances. Huge double lot! Great neighborhood. MUST SEE! Price reduced to \$215,000 248-360-0258, 248-202-5506

Macomb County 3530
SHELBY
Great price on new construction Ritz model. Super quality construction by Delta in Creekside Village. Fantastic location. Minutes to Stony Creek Park. \$474,900 (EC34OA)
Weir Manuel Realtors
248-651-3500

Wayne County 3570
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Farms/Horse Farms 3630

CHRISTMAS TREE FARM HOME & LIFESTYLE
10 acres, energy efficient home, barn, tractor and thousands of perfect Christmas Trees. \$495,000
Call Mark, 810-694-6080

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8615 109830

Mary Klemic, editor . (248) 901.2569 . mklemic@hometownlife.com

Bargain GPS gets you to your destination - eventually

If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Like, say, a \$199 GPS navigation system for your car.



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

When I first fired it up, everything went smoothly. It locked onto a GPS signal in less than a minute (and in mere seconds during subsequent tests) - a big improvement over last year's models.

The super-bright screen managed to hold its own on the sunniest of days, and I was pleased by the interface: a button-free,

Sure, the Mio DigiWalker C220 (miogps.com) looks great on paper (and even in person), offering an ultra-compact design, a touchscreen interface, pre-loaded U.S. maps, and a sturdy windshield mount.

Having tested countless GPS models priced at \$500 and above (the minimum you could expect to pay as recently as a year ago), I was thoroughly intrigued by the sub-\$200 C220.

touchscreen-driven menu system that proved a lot friendlier than Mio's previous efforts.

Indeed, when I reviewed the much pricier Mio C710 last November, I knocked its awkward, occasionally complex interface.

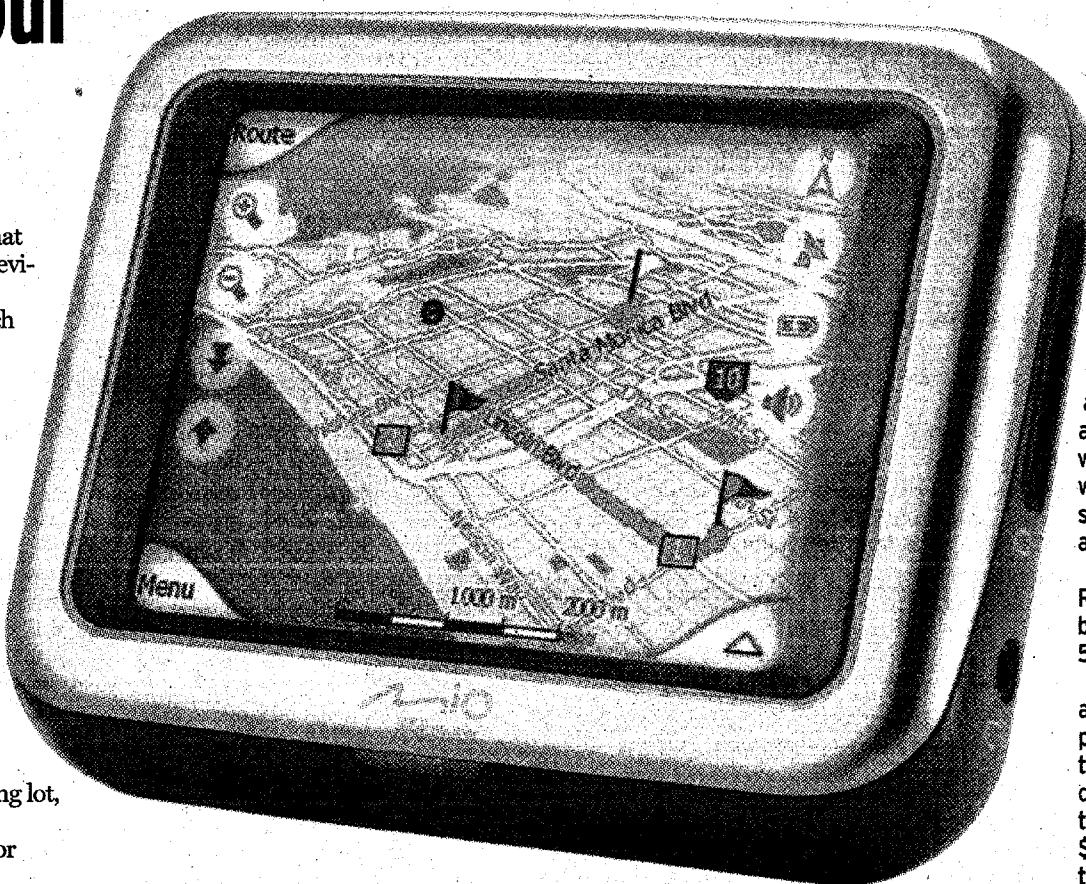
But when I took to the road with the C220, starting with a simple route from my house to my in-laws', things fell apart.

At the first intersection, the C220 displayed what looked like a diamond-shaped traffic circle - and wanted me to turn right instead of left (left being the correct direction).

The same thing happened at the next intersection - but not before the C220 tried to route me off the main road, into a high-school parking lot, and back onto the road.

OK, who programmed my GPS for drunken sailor mode?

To be fair, I encountered the mysterious diamond-shaped intersections only a few



Priced at just \$199, the Mio DigiWalker C220 offers GPS navigation on the cheap - but it gets a little confused at times.

PLEASE SEE BROIDA, D2

ACCENTS

Garden walk and tea

A docent-led tour of the Henry Ford Estate gardens in Dearborn will take place at noon and 1, 2 and 3 p.m. Thursday, June 7.

See the estate's newly restored Early Rose Garden, Blue Garden, iron gates, teahouse, river walk and Rock Garden/boathouse area, and the greenhouse with unusual perennials, wildflowers, hanging baskets, stepping stones and garden art for sale.

Admission is \$8. Reservations are appreciated but not required. Call (313) 593-5580.

On the same day, enjoy an afternoon of gourmet tea, petite sandwiches and pastries, with views of the gardens and wildlife, in Tea on the Terrace, 1-3 p.m. Cost is \$29.95. Advance reservations are required. Seating is limited. Call (313) 593-5590.

The Pool Restaurant on the estate will be open 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Reservations are appreciated for parties of six or more.

The estate is on the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus at 4901 Evergreen.

Program proceeds benefit the Henry Ford Estate garden restoration.

Landscaper tips

Stacy Feldman, landscape designer at Four Seasons Garden Center & Custom Landscape Services in Oak Park, recommends that you do these 10 things in choosing a landscaping company: Identify licensed and insured teams with certified nursery and landscape professionals.

Look for designers and agencies affiliated with professional associations, such as the Michigan Nurseryman and Landscape Association, American Professional Landscape Designers and American Association of Nurserymen.

Check references, and ask for recent projects you can visit and a professional portfolio to review.

Conduct a complete, in-depth interview at your home to determine your family facts, personal lifestyle and interests as well as design and color preferences.

Complete a thorough site analysis, evaluating such things as site location, topography and drainage, soil conditions, existing plant material and utility considerations, while taking photographs and measurements of your property.

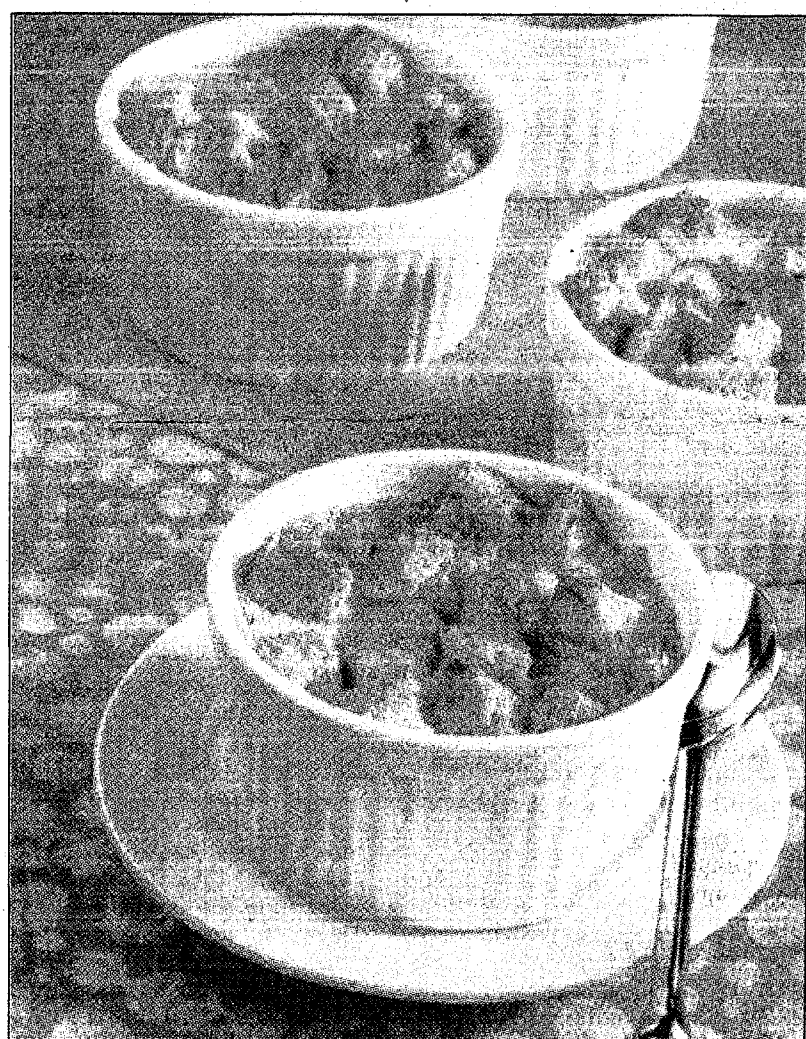
Request a design program outlining your interview, site analysis and established summary of design solutions.

Ask for a presentation explaining the proposed design and including a responsible bid that will take into account the entire project, installed and completed. Establish timelines and commitments.

Keep apprised of the project progress throughout the entire installation process.

Ask for a thorough review of the installation and provide any necessary care instructions.

Healthy soul food



PHOTOS COURTESY AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

Recipes help prevent heart disease, stroke

See more recipes inside

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

Heart disease and stroke kill about 17 million people a year - almost one-third of all deaths globally.

By 2020, heart disease and stroke will become the leading cause of death and disability worldwide, with the number of fatalities projected at more than 20 million a year. That number will be more than 24 million a year by 2030.

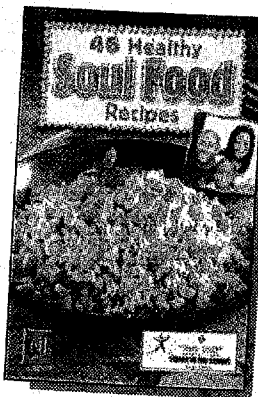
"Hypertension is the silent killer because it is generally associated with no pain but is the leading modifiable risk factor for stroke," said Brian Silver, M.D., senior staff neurologist at Henry Ford Hospital and assistant professor of neurology at Wayne State University School of Medicine.

"Only 50 percent of people are aware that they have it, and of those who are aware only 50 percent have it controlled ... Left untreated, the risk of stroke substantially increases over a 10-year period."

African-Americans are almost twice as likely to have a first stroke as whites, according to the American Heart Association.

But you can take steps to reduce your risk for heart disease and stroke. One way is by eating a healthy diet, and a new cookbook can help.

The 100-page publication, *Healthy Soul Food Recipes*,



Healthy Soul Food Recipes, a new cookbook, offers tasty and healthy versions of soul food favorites.

Maple syrup and peaches or apples are among the ingredients in Warm Peach Bread Pudding.

WARM PEACH BREAD PUDDING

Serves 4; 1 ramekin per serving
Vegetable oil spray
4 slices day-old reduced-calorie bread (whole-wheat or multigrain preferred), crust discarded, bread diced into 1/2-inch cubes (about 2 cups)
1/2 cup fresh or frozen peaches, partially thawed, or fresh apple, such as McIntosh, Jonagold or Golden Delicious, peeled, cut into bite-size pieces
Whites of 2 large eggs, or 1 large egg
2 to 3 tablespoons firmly packed light brown sugar
12 ounces fat-free evaporated milk
1/2 ounce maple syrup
1/2 ounce dark rum, light rum or bourbon
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

PLEASE SEE BREAD PUDDING, D3



TONI GRINNAN

The Franklin Garden Walk includes The Artful Garden, featuring artists working in the gardens. This photo was taken last year.

Local garden walks welcome summer

One of the most pleasant signs of summer is the scheduling of garden walks in area communities.

The walks are great ways to get gardening inspiration, perhaps pick up some accessories for the outdoors, and help good causes as well.

Here's a roundup to help you plan your visits:

FRANKLIN

The Franklin Branch of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association will present its 22nd annual Garden Walk 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, June 13.

Features: Magnificent private gardens, The Artful Garden (artists working in the gardens), a salad luncheon buffet with seatings at 11:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. at the Franklin Community Church, a gazebo boutique of garden-related goods.

Tour tickets: \$10 pre-sale, \$12 the day of the event. On tour day, tickets will be sold at the Franklin Village Gazebo, on the west side of Franklin Road between 13 and 14 Mile, behind the police station.

Luncheon tickets: \$10.

To pre-order tickets, visit the Franklin Village Boutique, 32716 Franklin Road, or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with a check payable to W.N.F. & G.A. Franklin Branch to P.O. Box 250194, Franklin 48025-0194. Include your phone number and specify your preferred luncheon seating.

Information: Call (248) 851-1814, e-mail franklingardenclub@yahoo.com or visit www.franklingardenclub.org.

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Fashion Conscience

Students revitalize denim
in Earth-friendly way

By Wendy Von Buskirk

The average woman owns five pairs of jeans she never wears. That pile of unloved denim not only cramps closet space, it impacts the environment as well.

Two local college students recently came up with an eco-chic way to breathe new life into old jeans.

Lori R. Maday and Katie Cauzillo, who graduated this spring from Detroit's College for Creative Studies, conceived a senior project to make blue jeans more sustainable.

Their 'Vital Jeans' experiment was such a success, they've been invited to present the project during the Green Bauhaus International Design Conference in Germany this weekend.

From Field to Fashion

Maday, 21, and Cauzillo, 24, both graduated from Waterford Kettering High School and attended CCS, where they met. When they found themselves in the same Advanced Visual Communications class, they teamed up for an assignment on sustainability.

"We were supposed to come up with a project where we re-use a product and don't create more waste with the final solution, while bringing awareness to people about how wasteful this product can be if it is not recycled," Maday explained. "We did a self-audit on what we use during the week, and found we wore jeans the most."

The pair began to research denim, and discovered women purchase more jeans than men, and affluent women consume more jeans than their less-wealthy counterparts. Yet changing trends often lead women to abandon their denim too soon.

"For a product to be considered sustainable it needs to be used at least as long as it takes to produce," Maday said. "It takes a year to grow cotton, so jeans must be worn at least a year to be considered sustainable."

Maday and Cauzillo decided to focus on getting jeans out of storage in suburbia, and into the hands of inner-city women who would put them to use.

Strictly through word-of-mouth, they collected denim from friends, family and co-workers. Within two weeks, they had more than 80 pairs. Then came the question of how to make the used jeans appeal to a brand new demographic.

Revitalization Project

The girls decided to re-brand the jeans with a unified label and signature color.

"We came up with the name 'Vital' because clothes are necessary and jeans seem to be the most worn," Maday said.

The girls added two hot pink stitches to the right thigh of each pair, and tagged them with cute fabric scraps stamped with pink lettering.

"The pink thread was to mean connecting the community, connecting the suburbs and females with a restricted budget downtown," she said. "We created the tags that would display our name and give the pants more of an off-the-shelf look."

To reach their audience and reinforce their mission, they set up a Vital Jeans table during "Recycle Detroit" at Cass Park on April 21.



Vital Jeans' Katie Cauzillo and Lori R. Maday, joined by Amie Maday, during "Recycle Detroit" on April 21.



The Vital Jeans project revitalized used denim with pink stitching and handmade tags (left).



The Vital Jeans project revitalized used denim with pink stitching and handmade tags (left).

The annual Earth Day event included a parade and park clean-up, and Vital Jeans joined the Cass Tech High School Fashion Club to present a runway show of clothing made from recycled materials.

"After the fashion show our table was just swarmed for two hours," Maday said. "Girls were looking through the jeans for that specific pair that was right for them."

At \$2 each, Vital Jeans were a hit. Maday and Cauzillo were able to raise \$200, which they donated to the Barrat House, along with the few pairs of jeans that remained.

Jean Mapping

The Vital Jeans project was such a grade-A success, the girls are thinking about ways to sustain it, perhaps by setting up tables at future street fairs like Dally in the Alley this fall.

In the meantime, Maday will travel to Loccum Protestant Academy in Germany for the Green Bauhaus Design Conference,

joined by CCS Instructor Callie Johnson. Part of European Sustainability Berlin 2007, the Green Bauhaus conference will draw designers from around the world who are striving to implement Earth-friendly practices.

A presentation on the Ford River Rouge Plant's green rooftop also is on the agenda. Although Cauzillo will not be able to attend, Maday will show a Vital Jeans video and share information at the conference.

Overall, the project aims to highlight the environmental impact of an everyday item. "Because of the changes in the fashion industry causing a large demand for jeans, we are bringing awareness to how they are made," Maday said. "It is a long, drawn-out process that uses a lot of water and chemicals that can be harmful to the environment."

For more information on Vital Jeans, e-mail Lori R. Maday and Katie Cauzillo at vitaljeans@gmail.com.

pink picks

By Wendy

Wear It!

Isaac Mizrahi for Target

Isaac Mizrahi for Target orange v-back dress (\$39.99), white baby cable cardigan (\$26.99), canvas wristlet (\$14.99) and bow slides in fuchsia (\$24.99).

DON'T Wear It!

Novelty socks

Kick It!

Steve Madden scarf sandals at Macy's

Click It!

www.like.com

Accessorize It!

Straw cowboy hats

Mane It!

Bangs

Smell It!

Burberry Summer

Do It!

SpaWhite teeth whitening at Bellanina Day Spa in Ann Arbor

Read It!

Ladies Who Launch: Embracing Entrepreneurship & Creativity as a Lifestyle

Face It!

MAC Viva Glam VI lipstick, benefitting the MAC AIDS Fund

Eat It!

Bowl-Ritos at Zumba Mexican Grille, Royal Oak

Drink It!

House-brewed rootbeer floats at Woodward Avenue Brewers

Experience It!

RESPECT: A Musical Journey of Women at Gem Theatre before it closes July 1

pink carpet

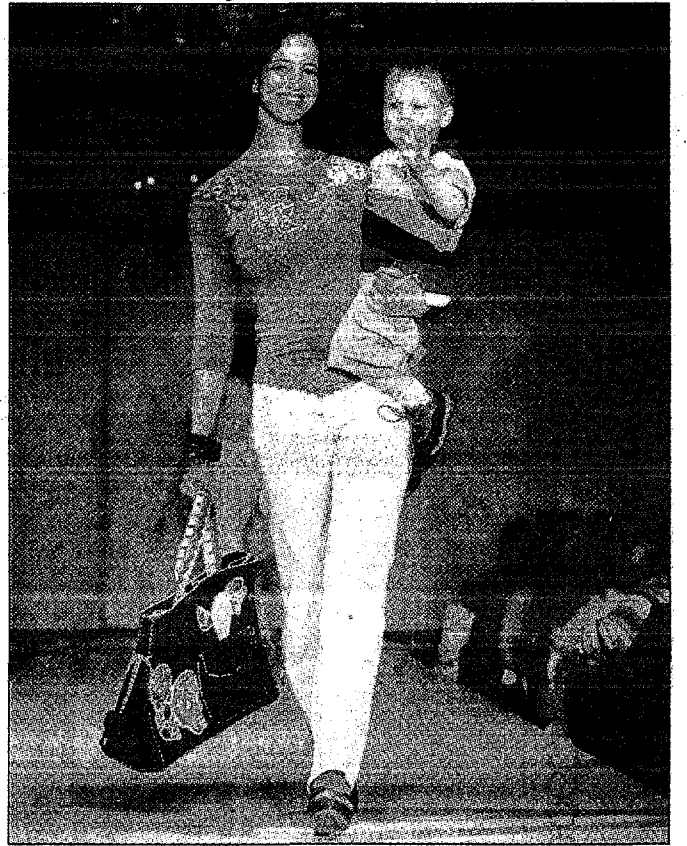


PHOTO BY LEN KATZ

Weekend Wear

Look casually pulled together no matter what you've got to carry in this ensemble from Ollily. Here, white jeans and an embroidered tee are dolled up with accessories, including a suede tote, colorful bangles and woven leather belt. This was one of many looks presented during the 'Women Helping Women' fashion show luncheon on April 28 at the Royal Park Hotel in Rochester. The runway show, which benefitted Grace Centers of Hope, featured clothing from the Somerset Collection modeled by professionals, along with women and children who've been helped by GCOH, including Alex, shown here wearing an adorable boy's ensemble from Lord & Taylor. For more weekend wear ideas from the show, click on PINK at www.hometownlife.com.

pink list

Michigan Healthy Living Expo
Spring clean yourself, your home and your environment with help from the third annual Michigan Healthy Living Expo, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, June 2 at the Oakland Schools Professional Development Center, 2111 Pontiac Lake Rd. in Waterford. Sponsored by Whole Foods and Michigan Healthy Living Enterprises, Inc., the expo includes more than 70 vendors, along with workshops on topics ranging from weight loss and toxin removal to reducing stress and feng shui. For tickets, (\$5 or less) call (248) 628-0125 or visit www.MichiganHealthyLiving.com.

Hot Topics in Women's Health
Henry Ford will present "Breathing Easier: Lung Health & Women" 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 5 as part of its free series of workshops for women. Henry Ford pulmonologist Michael Simoff, M.D., will discuss new treatments and advanced testing that is changing the way physicians manage their patients' lung disease. Light refreshments will be served. Call (800) HENRYFORD or visit www.henryford.com/hottopics for information and directions.

The Sneaky Chef
Author Missy Chase Lapine will appear at Borders Birmingham 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 5 to sign copies and discuss her book "The Sneaky Chef: Simple Strategies for Hiding Healthy Foods in Kids Favorite Meals" (Running Press Book Publishers; 2007). Chase Lapine is the former publisher of Eating Well magazine, and now teaches at the New School Culinary Institute in New York City. Her book presents over 75 recipes that disguise important superfoods inside kids' favorite meals, such as Power Pizza, Guerilla Grilled Cheese and Brainy Brownies. Borders is located at 34300 Woodward Ave. Call (248) 203-0005.

Macy's Stylista Search
Macy's Somerset is seeking to hire a full-time "Wardrobe Stylist" who will help customers with shopping decisions big and small, play a key role during in-store events, and serve as a trend spokesperson. Those in the know are encouraged to attend the Macy's Stylista Search, 4-7 p.m. Thursday, June 7 at Macy's Somerset, 2750 Big Beaver Rd., Troy. Applicants must love fashion and keep up with what's hot and what's not. Retail experience preferred. Call (248) 816-4000 for information.

Fashion Design Challenge
Have a 'Passion for Fashion'? Enter The American Sewing Expo's Project Runway-inspired challenge. Participants will be given a design challenge to complete Friday, Sept. 28 during the sewing expo as attendees follow their progress. Designers will return the following day for last-minute fittings on their professional models before a fashion show and

photo shoot in the afternoon. Chloe Dao, the winner of Bravo's Project Runway, Season 2, will head a panel of industry fashion experts to choose the challenge winner based on creativity, construction, fit and composition. The winner will receive a multiple prize package including a trip to New York City during Fashion Week. Enter by June 30 at www.americansewingexpo.com

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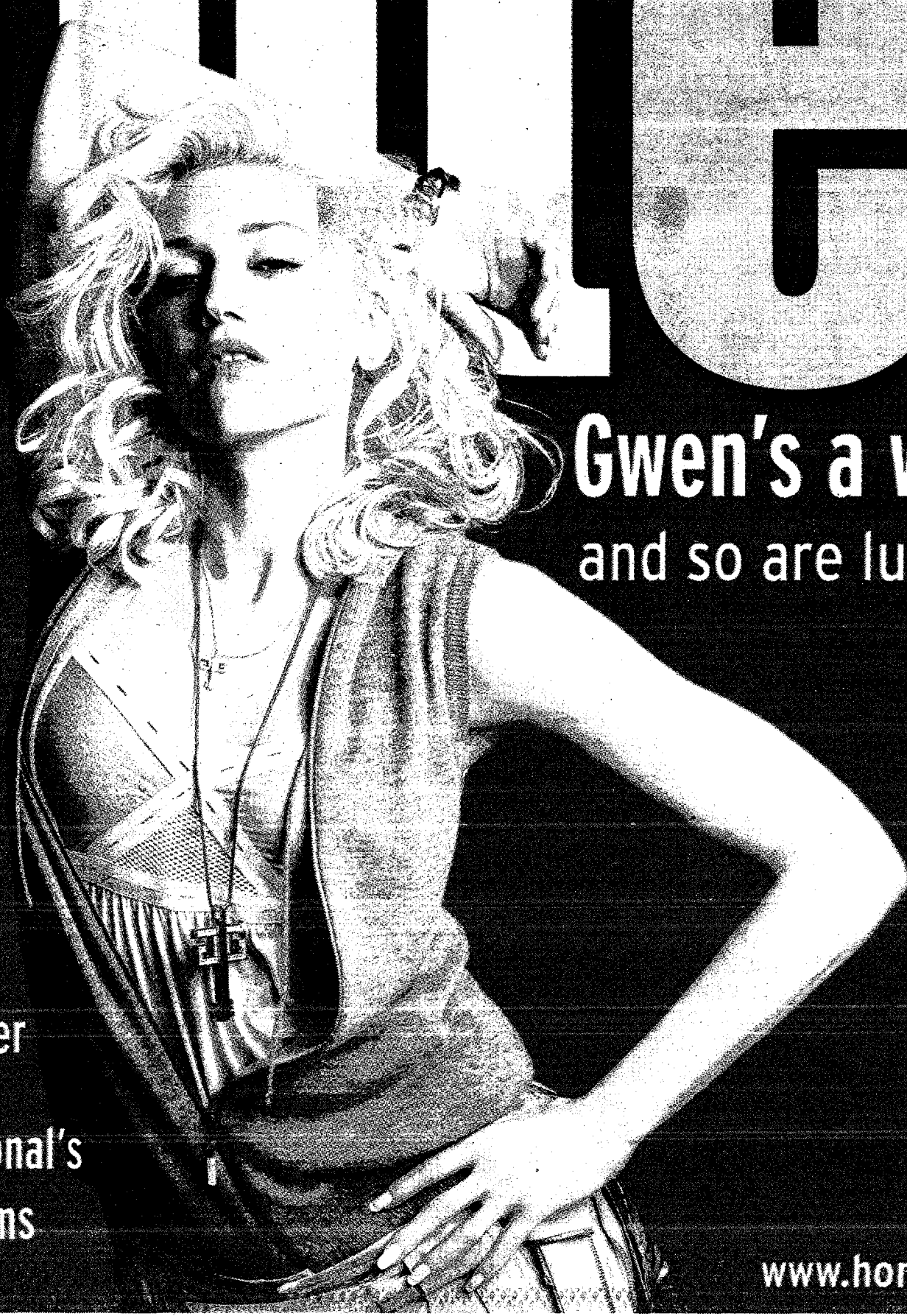
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PURE ENTERTAINMENT!

Thursday, May 31, 2007

THEater



Gwen's a winner ...
and so are lucky readers

- Do you want to know 'The Secret'?
- Get Out! this summer
- The National's new anthems

- Elisabeth and Andrew Shue's personal movie
- Shakespearean rhapsody
- Animation guru

www.hometownlife.com

Readers share favorite thoughts on 'The Secret'

Recently I wrote about the popularity of the book *The Secret* by Rhonda Byrne and the powers behind the law of attraction.

Byrne writes about getting what you want or need in life and believes that whatever you think is what you manifest and, thus, that is what the results will be.

The idea behind *The Secret* is that we're all made up of energy and our bodies, like giant magnets, attract the energy that we manifest into the universe.

For example, let's say, you're a stage actor preparing for a play. You don't want to say, "I hope I don't fail." Instead what you want to say is, "I will perform wonderfully."

If you say, "I hope I don't fail," the universe hears f-a-i-l and so does your subconscious. If it hears "perform wonderfully" so does your subconscious and success is more likely.

I've applied it. And things seem to be happening.

Recently I attended a seminar on the subject at the Michigan State University Management Education facility in Troy.



Lana Mini

There, corporate trainer Nancy M. Wegierski spoke to about 50 of us, mostly business types, about the idea.

I asked you, the readers, to share your thoughts or experiences.

Filter reader Dave Jaseck, of Livonia, said he, like myself, is fascinated with the teachings and messages of the laws of attraction.

With that he suggests the popular book *The Law of Attraction* by Jerry and Esther Hicks whose message is similar to *The Secret*.

"Wisdom not from this world," Jaseck said.

He submitted one of his favorite quotes about attraction from Hicks' book:

"It is not possible to create within the life experience of another. You cannot create in their experience — and they cannot create in yours. Therefore everything that you are experiencing is by

PLEASE SEE SECRET, E5



The Howling Diablos come to Dino's in Ferndale every Sunday for their high-energy, fun shows.

See Howling Diablos at Dino's

If you're a socialite in metro Detroit, you know that Wednesday is the new Thursday, so weekend partying actually begins mid-week.

Sunday is usually the day we "re-coup" but it's summer, and the resting can wait until Monday, right?

The point we're making is that 10 p.m.

Sunday is a good time to be out on the town. That's because Dino's Lounge, the friendly, trendy restaurant-bar in Ferndale, has a new Sunday house band: Detroit's legendary Howling Diablos.

The rockabilly/punk/blues/rock/funk band featuring fun frontman Tino Gross is preparing a new CD in follow-up to its successful *Carwash* on Alive Records and will perform at Dino's throughout the summer.

What should you expect at a Diablos show?

"It's kind of like a throwback to the days of hard working live bands like James Brown and the Famous Flames Like J.B. We even wear capes," Gross said.

"We're trying to bring some fun back to the Motor City and we know how to throw down a Detroit-style party."

Dino's is a hipster bar that owner Dean Bach describes as "upscale but not uptight."

The restaurant is intimate with cherry wood floors, a long curved bar, vaulted ceilings and large windows. It has karaoke on Wednesdays and live music Thursdays through Sundays. Sunday morning, it's open for brunch. See the full menu at www.dinoslounge.com

Dino's is located at 22740 Woodward Ave. (248) 591-3466.

Lana Mini



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Sun.	June 3,	2:30 pm
Wed.	June 6,	7:30 pm
Fri.	June 8,	7:30 pm
Sat.	June 9,	7:30 pm

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Inside this week's

PURE ENTERTAINMENT!
filter

GANNETT

HOT TICKET – 3

Romeo & Juliet lends itself well to a grand French opera.

COVER – 4

See who won Gwen Stefani tickets.

MOVIES – 4

Andrew and Elisabeth Shue get personal about their family in *Gracie*.

NOISE PATROL – 6

The National appears Wednesday at the Magic Stick, fresh on the heels of the band's latest release, *Boxer*.

FILM – 7

Birmingham native Jim Auker relates his own personal tale about a doomed romance in *i love you ... for awhile*.

**TABLE HOP-
PING – 8**

Mon Jin Lau in Troy soon will be passing the restaurant's torch from one generation to the next.

GET OUT! –

10

Got no plans? Make some after you check out our expanded entertainment calendar of events.

ON THE WEB – 12

Aaron Simpson helps link animators from around the world at his Web site.

Visit the Filter Web site at www.hometownlife.com for additional stories, updates and an expanded Get Out! calendar of events.

Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

Ken Abramczyk Editor	Marty Carry Advertising Director
Lana Mini Staff Writer	Dan Dean Design Editor
Stephanie Angelyn Casola Staff Writer	Susan Rosiek Executive Editor
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ON THE COVER



Gwen Stefani performs Friday at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

Editorial office: (248) 901-2587 / Advertising: (734) 953-2153.

Romeo & Juliet

MOT interprets classic as a grand French opera

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

In a world dominated by reality television, New York's Kyle Pfortmiller has only become more convinced there's a need for the arts – namely opera.

"One of the things reality TV fans can appreciate, we are in a live setting," said the American baritone.

"Anything could happen. The tenor could forget his words."

Pfortmiller will return this weekend to the Detroit Opera Theater as Mercutio in Charles Gounod's *Romeo & Juliet*. From

his perspective, the classic Shakespearean tragedy of two star-crossed lovers lends itself well to a grand French opera.

"It has all the major elements of opera," said Pfortmiller. From the powerful fight scenes to the lavish parties and romantic moments, Gounod's *Romeo & Juliet* features a French libretto by Jules Barbier and Michel Carré.

The timeless story is accented by lush musical arrangements from its opening prologue through its final tragic scene.

Gounod's *Romeo & Juliet* premiered April 27, 1867, in Paris. The Michigan Opera Theater presented this show only once before, in 1990.

The three-act opera was originally five, though Pfortmiller said very little has been cut from it. The opera has been restructured, but not distilled.

Musical highlights include Romeo's aria to his new love, *Ah! Lève-toi, soleil* and the lovers' final plea, *Seigneur, pardonnez-nous*.

"Gounod knew what he was doing,"



Star-crossed lovers meet in Charles Gounod's *Romeo & Juliet*, the final show of the Michigan Opera Theater's current season.

said Pfortmiller. "He really got the opera."

Pfortmiller recalled a time when he related more closely to the young lovers in this classic tale. Now, as a new father, he identifies more with the central character of Frere Laurent – the only person who can see true love, and look beyond the battle

between the houses of Montague and Capulet.

Pfortmiller calls his character, Mercutio, "an interesting character."

"He's a cousin of Romeo, but not actually a Montague by blood," he said. "He

has loose ties. And he's not incredibly serious at the beginning.

"They're party crashers, there to have a good time. But he's the first one to defend the honor of his friend Romeo. There's a broad spectrum you can pull from. You see his true colors."

Romeo & Juliet boasts a large cast of nine performers. It also marks Pfortmiller's return to the area. He performed with the Michigan Opera Theater twice before, his debut in *La Boheme* and in last season's *Cinderella*.

He commended MOT Director David DiChiera on the carefully chosen casts and the quality of productions.

"This is a great place to work," said Pfortmiller. "It's an extremely professional experience, and not all opera experiences are like that. You come here and you are treated as an artist."

To prepare for the role, Pfortmiller re-read the original Shakespearean play, then worked to translate the opera from French to English and

CHARLES GOUNOD'S

ROMEO & JULIET

What: A three-act opera based on William Shakespeare's famous tragedy.

When: 7:30 p.m. June 2, 6-9 and 2:30 p.m. June 3

Where: Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit.

Tickets: \$28-\$120, call (313) 237-7464.

More information: Visit www.michigan-opera.org.

CAST

The Michigan Opera Theater's production of *Romeo & Juliet* includes the following:

Director - Bernard Uzan
Conductor - Maestro Mark D. Flint
Romeo - Tenors Arturo Chacón-Cruz and Jonathan Boyd will alternate.
Juliet - Sopranos Dina Kuznetsova and Evelyn Pollock will alternate.
Mercutio - Baritone Kyle Pfortmiller
Frère Laurent - Bass Peter Volpe
Le Duc - Bass Peter Volpe
Capulet - Stephen Lusmann
Benvolio - Brandon Snook

back to master Mercutio.

"Bernard Uzan is our director," he said. "He's done this opera numerous times. He can be utterly specific. But if you have an idea of your own that fits into the framework, he's willing to let go a little bit."

Romeo and Juliet will be presented in French, with English subtitle translations projected above the stage.

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'Gracie'

Film tells story of Shue family's love of brother, soccer

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

Most fans of pop culture know about the celebrity Shue family.

They know Elisabeth Shue as an Oscar-nominated actress from the film *Leaving Las Vegas* and her brother, Andrew Shue, for his role as nice guy Billy on *Melrose Place*.

The lives of the brother and sister, along with the whole Shue family, will be further ingrained into pop culture as their film *Gracie* opens this Friday, June 1.

Gracie stars the brother and sister and is directed by Elisabeth Shue's husband Davis Guggenheim (*An Inconvenient Truth*).

The story honors the life of their brother, Will, a star soccer player who was killed in a car accident when he was a teenager. It also tells the story of how Elisabeth Shue paved the way for girls sports in the U.S.

Gracie, set in 1978, is a film about a teenage girl who overcomes the loss of her brother and fights the establishment to



Actor Andrew Shue and director Davis Guggenheim combined their talents in 'Gracie.'

realize her dream: To play competitive soccer during a time when girls soccer didn't even exist.

Up-and-coming actress Carly Schroeder plays 15-year-old Gracie. Recently she and Andrew Shue visited Detroit to talk about the film.

"In the beginning, I wanted to tell a story that paid tribute to our older brother Will," Andrew Shue said. "I wanted to honor the time we spent together and use our family sport — which is soccer — as a backdrop."

Soccer is huge in the Shue family. Andrew was also a star soccer player (and

'GRACIE'

What: An inspirational drama/sports film. Set in 1978, a teenage girl paves the way for girls to play competitive soccer as a way to honor her deceased brother. Based on the story of the Shue family. (Picturehouse)

Opens: Friday, June 1

Running time: 92 minutes

Rated: PG-13

Starring: Dermot Mulroney, Carly Schroeder, Elisabeth and Andrew Shue, Trevor Heins

Directed by: Davis Guggenheim

Screenplay: Lisa Marie Petersen and Karen Janszen; story by Andrew Shue, Davis Guggenheim and Ken Himmelman



Elisabeth Shue, Carly Schroeder and Dermot Mulroney prepare for the film.

it, practicing in the back yard's makeshift field every day from morning 'til night. Tragedy strikes when Gracie's older brother Johnny (Jesse Lee Soffer), star of the high school varsity soccer team and Gracie's only protector, is killed in a car accident.

Gracie decides to fill the void left on her brother's team by petitioning the school board to allow her to play on the boys high school varsity soccer team in his place. Her father, a former soccer star himself, tries to prove to Gracie that she is not tough enough or talented enough to play with boys. Her mother, Lindsey Bowen (Elisabeth Shue) already an outsider in the sports-obsessed family, is no help either.

Schroeder is perfect in the role. While

interestingly he's a founder of the popular Web site www.cafemom.com — a MySpace-type social networking page for mothers).

"The story came into focus, when I asked Davis and my sister Elisabeth to help. Davis saw that it could also be a way to celebrate my sister — and the experience she had playing soccer with boys and growing up in our male-dominated family."

Living in South Orange, N.J., Gracie is the only girl in a family of three brothers. Their family life revolves almost entirely around soccer: Her father (Dermot Mulroney) and brothers are obsessed with

PLEASE SEE GRACIE, E5

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Readers win Gwen Stefani tickets

The winners of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers'* Gwen Stefani contest are Ryan Weisfeld, of Canton, and Lisa McCoy, of Redford.

Both won a pair of tickets to see Stefani's *Sweet Escape Tour 2007* at The Palace this Friday, June 1.

"I was jumping up and down at work when I heard I won," McCoy said.

Tickets for the show are still on sale (\$40-\$70) and can be purchased by calling (248) 645-6666 or visiting www.palacenet.com.

Special guest performers are Akon (*Bonanza*, *Shake Your Body Like A Bellydancer*) and Lady Sovereign (*Hoodie*). The tour is Stefani's second solo tour in which she's still promoting her 2006 CD *The Sweet Escape* that includes the hit *Wind It Up* that made Billboard's Top 10 Hot Singles Chart.

Her first solo album, in 2004, *Love. Angel. Music. Baby.*, netted the singer six Grammy nominations.

Stefani is the pop singer who seems to have it all — a successful music career as

a solo artist and equal success with her band No Doubt; a respected fashion line L.A.M.B.; rock star husband, Gavin Rossdale, and a baby boy. And here's some other interesting tidbits you may have not known about the pop queen.

■ She's 37 and a Libra. Rossdale, 39, is a Scorpio. According to astrological signs, that's not a great match, but the couple is proving otherwise.

■ She was an hour late for her own wedding — the one in London. She and Rossdale also married in California.

■ She is dyslexic (so were Albert Einstein and Thomas Edison).

■ Although she's a pop star, her musical roots are strong. Stefani began as an underground artist with her ska/punk band No Doubt in southern California.

■ Comedian Margaret Cho criticized Stefani's Harajuku Girls backup dancers for "reinforcing ethnic stereotypes of Asian women," but Stefani said that was never her intent.

Lana Mini

Motor City Pride celebrates diversity

The Illusion of Sex and Flowers, an exhibit of art pieces by artist Charles Alexander, will be exhibited at the 35th annual Motor City Pride Festival.

The festival takes place Sunday, June 3, on the streets of downtown Ferndale on Nine Mile Road, west of Woodward. Every year it attracts thousands of people.

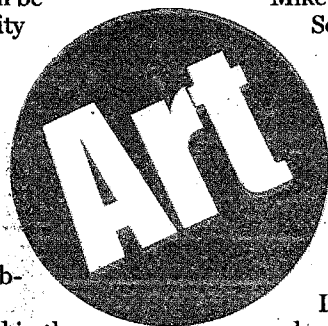
The Motor City Pride Festival is a project of the Triangle Foundation to celebrate diversity and support civil liberties and rights for everyone.

Alexander's exhibit will be displayed in the gallery of Affirmations Community Center, 290 W. Nine Mile Road in Ferndale.

It features Alexander's watercolors, prints and 3D constructs. It's the first exhibit at center's new gallery, The Pittmann-Puckett Art Gallery, a performance space intended for the presentation of work by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender artists.

At the festival, this year's theme is "community."

The third annual Motor City Pride Family Picnic is scheduled from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Martin Road Park. At the festival, activities include vendors, food kiosks, art and more.



Entertainment includes:

Mike Neubecker, comedian, noon
 Seth Grass, singer-songwriter, 1 p.m.
 Affirmations grand opening ceremony, 1:45 p.m.
 Barbara Payton, rock and soul, 2:15 p.m.
 Fallsway Down, guitar/drum duo, 3:15 p.m.
 Josh Zuckerman, a blend of rock, country and pop, 3:45 p.m.
 Just Jill, acoustic rock, 4:30 p.m.
 Lazy Sunday, vocal harmonies over exchanging layers of guitar, piano, mandolin, harmonica, banjo, violin, cello and drums, 5 p.m.
 Nickki and Company, female impersonators, 5:30 p.m.
 Motor City Pride Idol, 6:15 p.m.
 Ultra Nate, singer/songwriter/diva, 6:30 p.m.
 Joan Stevenson, singer/songwriter, 7 p.m.
 Street Festival, West Nine Mile Road off Woodward Avenue
 For more information, visit www.motorcitypride.com.



Charles Alexander's *The Illusion of Sex And Flowers* is an exhibit that runs through Sunday, June 3, during Motor City Pridefest in Ferndale.

Lana Mini

SECRET

FROM PAGE E2

your own creative hand, or more appropriately said, by your own creative thought."

As one contemplates the above, its ramifications are enormous, not only personally, but for the rest of the world, Jaseck said.

Sharon Chilson, of Farmington Hills, has different, and equally interesting thoughts. She recommends visiting the Web site www.humankindness.org.

"The piece I want you to read is the newest article in *A Little Good News*, the spring 2007 issue," Chilson said.

"Bo Lozoff, the gentleman who wrote the piece, says what I think about this secret far more eloquently than I ever could," she said.

Lozoff writes: "The Real Secret is a dark one ..."

"The Secret itself is a childish exaggeration

of a minor energetic principle - 'The Law of Attraction' - which simply means what most of our grandmothers have said to us at one time or another: 'If you think negative things, your life will be negative. Keep your mind on positive things, and you'll attract more positive things and people into your life.' That's pretty basic stuff, (and) who could argue with that?"

He makes a good point "Both teams in the Super Bowl should "think positive" and visualize winning, but only one is going to win, because being positive is not everything! ... The way we think factors into our lives along with many other realities such as our past karma, genetic and acquired strengths and weaknesses, the needs of our family or society, the politics of the age we live in, our willingness to work hard, and of course, God's plan for us," he writes.

What do you think? I'm still listening.

Write me at imini@hometownlife.com



Mask, 19th century, Kewakut, Native American

Programs are made possible with support from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the City of Detroit.



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And, don't forget the DIA's grand opening coming in November! Visit dia.org for more information.

5200 Woodward Ave. Detroit, MI 48202 dia.org

GRACIE

FROM PAGE E4

she is feminine and blonde (resembling Paris Hilton - minus the "that's hot" attitude), Schroeder's personality is all business.

"I decided that if I was going to take this part, that I had to really play soccer," Schroeder said. "I had to train hard and I didn't want anyone to go easy on me. I ran three miles a day, spent six hours a day on the field, learned how to control the ball."

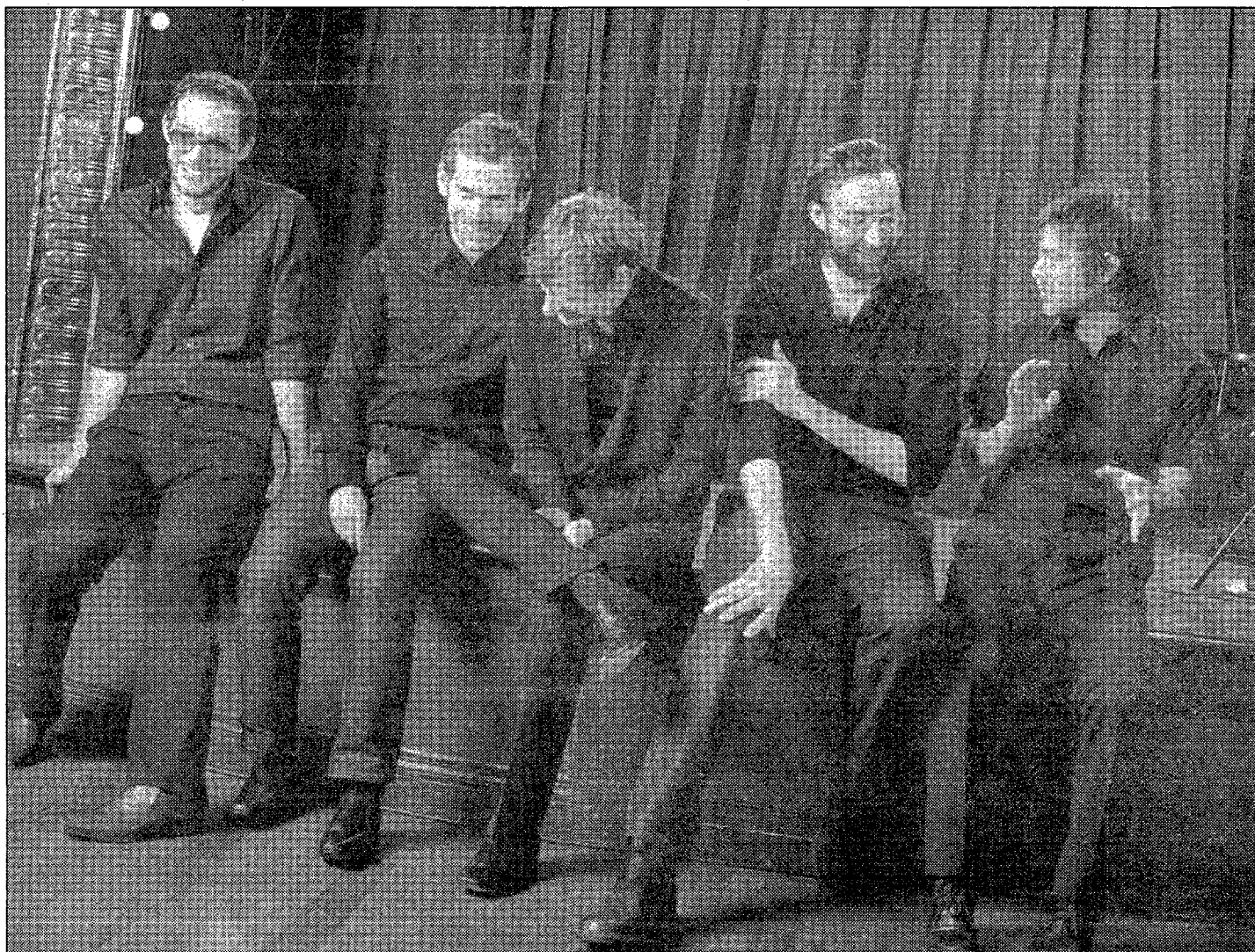
"She's tough," Andrew Shue said proudly - with a fatherlike tone. "She's tough, she

won't let anyone coddle her. We knew instantly that she was perfect for this role - we chose her out of 2,000 other girls."

She, like Elisabeth, has confidence - not letting anyone or anything hold her back. Schroeder said she also wanted to play well to honor the life of Will Shue.

"It's been nearly 20 years since he died, so it's almost just enough time where you can actually start to talk about it without getting overwhelmed," Andrew Shue said. "He was just this incredible person who taught all of us about what's most important in life; your relationships, how you treat each other and how you never give up no matter what the odds are."





The National

The National fights it way to the masses with 'Boxer'

A fan of MTV-as-sonic wallpaper, I recently happened upon a 24-hour marathon dedicated to the new sketch comedy show *Human Giant*. It's founders – Aziz Ansari, Rob Huebel and Paul Scheer – stayed on the air the whole time peddling their funny show, playing Guitar Hero, and showcasing their favorite bands.



Noise Patrol

Stephanie Angelyn Casola

I wasn't surprised to hear the unmistakable baritone of Matt Berninger set to the slow-building sounds that could only be New York's The National.

"It was very bizarre," said Berninger, of the 1:30 a.m. performance. "It was right before we left for London. We didn't know what we were walking into."

The National has been everywhere lately – particularly since the May 22 release of *Boxer* on Beggars Banquet. The musicians – Aaron Dessner (guitars, bass), Bryce Dessner (guitar), Scott Devendorf (guitar; bass), Bryan Devendorf (drums) and Berninger – have come a long way

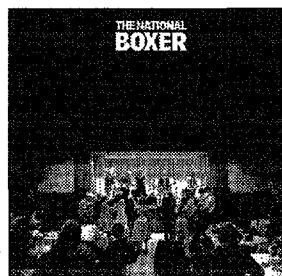
from their collective hometown, Cincinnati.

In 1999, after relocating to New York City, they began "noodling around just for fun" on weekends, Berninger recalled.

"Everyone started to really think we had something."

By 2001, The National released its self-titled debut on Brassland. A few years in, the band broadened the scope of its music, experimenting and expanding the realm of instrumentation. Bryce Dessner and Australian composer Padma Newsome – both members of the orchestral indie band Clogs –

brought the idea of adding brass, strings and woodwind instruments into the fold. Berninger said he didn't consider it an unusual idea – "it's been happening since



Woodward Ave., Detroit
Tickets: \$10 in advance, call (248) 645-6666 or visit www.majesticdetroit.com.
Hear it: Listen to Fake Empire, from *Boxer*, at: http://www.beggarsgroupusa.com/mp3/thenational_fakeempire.mp3
Learn more: Visit www.thenational-boxer.com or www.americanmary.com

The Beatles."

By 2005 rock fans across the globe stood up and took notice. The National signed to Beggars Banquet and released their fourth album, *Alligator*, to critical acclaim. Songs like *Abel* and *Mr. November* induced audience sing-alongs.

THE NATIONAL

When: 8 p.m.
 Wednesday, June 6
Where: Magic Stick, 4120

When it came time to follow it up, the project took much longer than expected – more than 13 months of piecing together scraps of ideas. "We didn't want to make another version of *Alligator*," Berninger said. "We needed time, after touring for *Alligator*, to collect our brains."

Boxer was produced by the band and Peter Katis (Interpol, Spoon). Songs like the intriguing opener *Fake Empire* and *Racing Like Pro*

call listeners to come in closer.

"It started slowly," said Berninger. "It was a gradual process. The songs eventually went through many mutations."

In the end, *Boxer* retained The National's signature sound, conjuring up brilliant imagery in lyrics and lush instrumentation. *Apartment Story* claims its characters will "do whatever the TV tells us," while *Ada* details the hardships of being in a relationship.

"It's a different personality than some of our other records," said Berninger. "There is less anger, less sort of extreme levels of anxiety. But it turned out much more peaceful and beautiful. We didn't know what we had on our hands until it was finished."

"I'm happy and satisfied it had this perspective. When I listen to it, I feel good. We've found something."

Much of the mood and careful attention given to *Boxer* grew as a result of the band's relentless touring schedule. "*Boxer* sounds the way it sounds because of how much touring we did before it," said Berninger. "We were beaten down and wiped out."

Over the years The National has been on the road constantly. "It changes the band. You lose perspective. You lose connections with everyone else."

PLEASE SEE THE NATIONAL, E13

Filmmaker finally makes his feature

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Jim Auker always wanted to make a feature film.

During the past four years, Auker created his own feature film (and it truly is his own) about an adventurous, yet troubled, relationship he had several years ago.

I LOVE YOU ... FOR AWHILE

When: 7:30 p.m. June 3-7
Where: Maple Art Theater, 4135 W. Maple (southwest corner of Telegraph behind the Bloomfield Plaza) in Bloomfield Hills. Call (248) 263-2111 for information.
Rating: Film is not rated. DVD can be ordered by e-mailing Auker at jimauker@yahoo.com.

was to provide the audience with scene after scene of real life incidents, evidence and testimony of what goes into a relationship."

i love you ... for awhile features Jake (played by Richard Rose) in the lead role and Morgin (Claire Kupchak, wife of Mitch Kupchak, general manager of the Los Angeles Lakers). The movie was filmed in Detroit, Birmingham, eastern Europe, Los Angeles and south-east Asia.

Auker took notes and actually recorded conversations with his girlfriend, including the intimate moments (love-making) and arguments. (Auker told her about the taping.) Some of the sound footage in the movie is from those tapes.

In the movie Morgin is a Canadian, much younger than Jake, and five inches taller than him. "You get a sense of what is to happen," Auker said. "Of course, the guy doesn't see it that way. The guy is

"I was in a relationship that made me think about making it a film," Auker said. "And I thought I could make it into a film, as it was dramatic and had a lot of ups and downs in it.

Birmingham native Jim Auker's film, "i love you ... for awhile," features the story of the romance between Morgin (Claire Kupchak) and Jake (Richard Rose).

working and trying to make it more than what it really is."

Of course, the romance spirals into chaos. (At this point in the interview Auker doesn't refer to the actor, he refers to himself.)

"From the beginning her plan was to move to Europe," Auker said. "Then things just moved along, and then she'd say one day, 'I'm moving to Europe,' and I, of course, was very upset."

She decided to stay for a time, but then she left for Europe, Auker remembers.

She then called him from Europe, and Auker, of course, went to Europe to be with her. In a bar in Prague, she said she didn't want to continue the relationship.

"She told me she was going to Munich, and so I picked up a beer and threw it at her. She'd say 'I don't want it to end like this,' and I said, 'Why not, it's going to anyway.'" This scene in the movie was filmed at the Dakota Inn in

Detroit.

Then there's the day they're boarding a train bound for Munich where she exclaims that she may go to Italy. That comment upset Auker. "So I grabbed the door, jumped out and landed on the platform and was surrounded by police," Auker said.

Recording, then relaying, a personal story isn't that unusual, Auker said. It happens quite often in conversations between friends, he says.

'I've worked in the business for so long, I wanted to do something. I wanted to do my film, and even though it was by the seat of my pants, doing it was very rewarding.'

Jim Auker
Filmmaker

"A writer I knew in Hollywood got a call that his son was seriously injured in a car accident. He related this news to a friend (another writer), who suddenly stopped him in the conversation and asked him if he could slow down. He responded 'You're writing this down, aren't you?'"

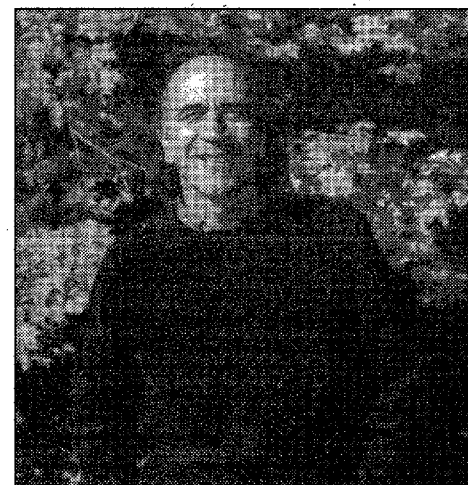
"In films, you take notes on everything."

Auker left Los Angeles when he believed he was no longer progressing in his career and moved back to Detroit in 1982. "I remember liking it (the Detroit area) a lot," Auker said. "I spent 14 years in Hollywood and L.A., I was a runner and it was smoggy."

Auker produced commercials at BBDO, and wrote and produced documentaries for WTVS in Detroit, winning two Emmies.

"I just wanted to get a steady job," Auker said of his move back. "I thought Detroit offered steady employment, and it's true, it did."

PLEASE SEE FILM, E13



THE AUKER FILE

Name: Jim Auker

Age: 66

Background: Grew up in Birmingham, the son of former Detroit Tiger pitcher Elden Auker, who pitched in the 1935 World Series. Jim currently lives in Bingham Farms.

Work: Auker cut his teeth (and film) under the tutelage of legendary indie filmmaker John Cassavetes (Auker helped script *Faces*, *Husbands* and *A Woman Under the Influence*), admired Woody Allen's *Manhattan* and that style of romantic-comedy genre and storytelling, for 14 years.

Working with Cassavetes "was terrific, a great experience," Auker said. "My association with him was amazing, as he was a dedicated, fanatical actor/director."

Mon Jin Lau

Nu-Asian concept inspires third generation

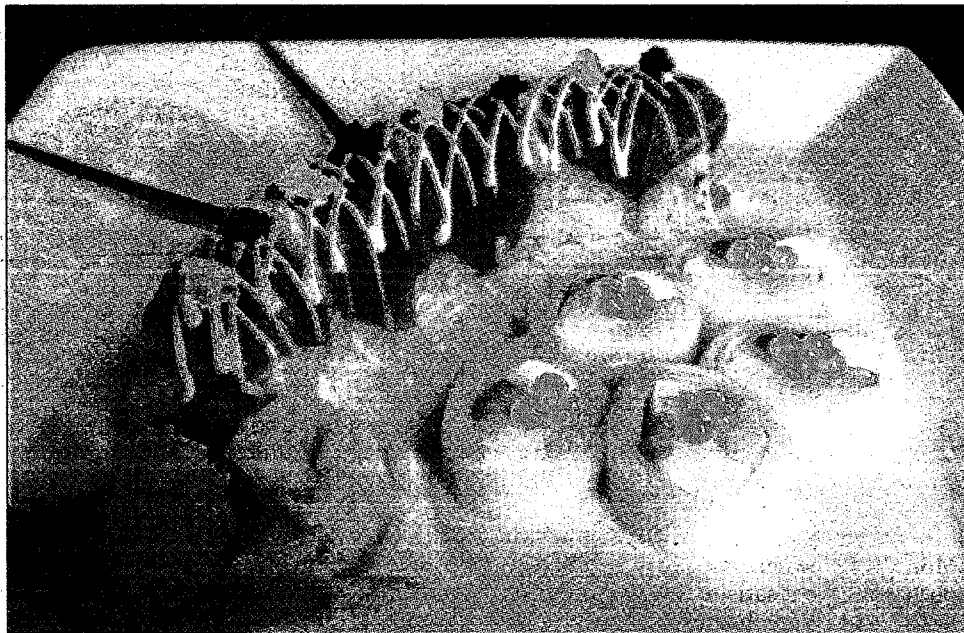
BY ELEANOR HEALD
CORRESPONDENT

Thirty-eight years ago, Joe and Mon Chin opened the 160-seat Mon Jin Lau in Troy. Three years later in 1972, their son Marshall Chin joined the family restaurant where, today, he is guiding his sons, 31-year-old Brian and 25-year-old Brandon, as they continue family traditions in this popular Asian-inspired restaurant.

Mon Jin Lau translates as "house of 10,000 jewels" or it can also mean "house of Mon and Jin" (what Joe, the co-founder, was called).

TRADITIONS CONTINUE

Brian, a University of Michigan graduate with a degree in business and psychology, moved to Chicago after graduation and worked in real estate, Internet tech, and banking, while at the same time



LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mon Jin Lau's California Roll is topped with fatty tuna, avocado and two types of tobiko.

becoming familiar with the restaurant scene.

Two years ago this coming August, Brian came home to work with his father at Mon Jin Lau in promotions and front-of-the-house management. "When we

were young, we traveled to many places with my parents," Brian said. "My mom told us not to be afraid to try things. We did, and developed our tastes. Yet, I think the restaurant business is in our blood."

Upon graduation from Michigan State

University with a degree in general business, Brandon returned home to work in the family restaurant. He defines his role as food and wine. "I like the thought of continuing a tradition that began in 1969," Brandon said. "On travels, my parents took us to high-end restaurants where we developed a love for all kinds of food. Sometimes, we were the only kids in the restaurant."

INNOVATIONS

"Based on his Chicago living experience, Brian immediately began thinking outside the box," Marshall said.

"I developed the patio to be more than a place to eat but one to also hang out," Brian added. "Beginning at 10 p.m. on what we call Shanghai Wednesdays, we now have a DJ playing lounge-style music and have attracted a lot of young people who like to eat late. We also have Wine & Wok evenings with special wine and food themes."

New Brandon innovations on the sushi

PLEASE SEE MON JIN LAU, E9

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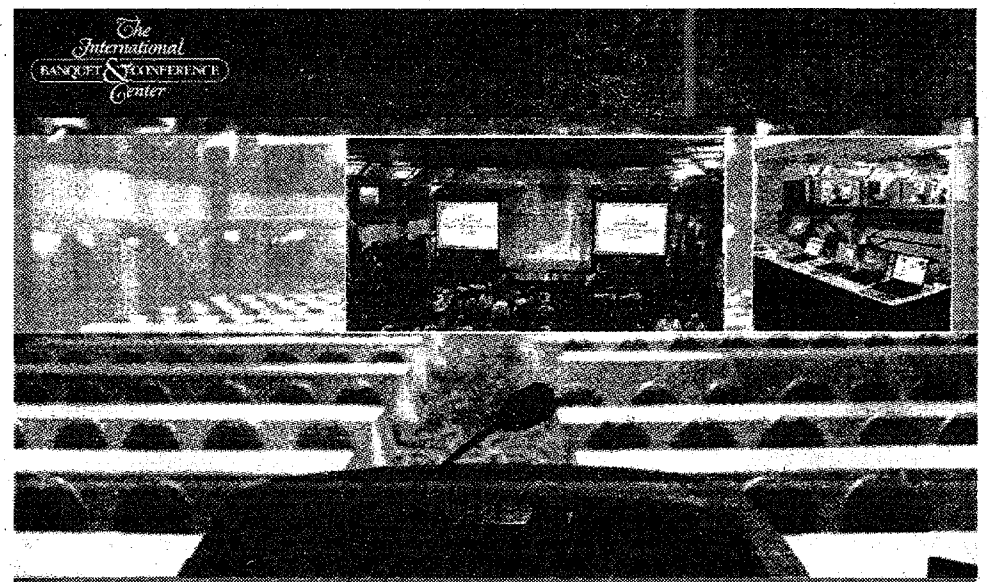
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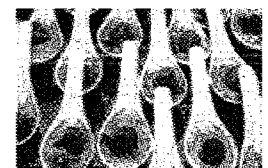
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MON JIN LAU

FROM PAGE E8

menu is Nu-Style Sashimi featuring Yellowtail and Tuna Carpaccio.

SIMPLY DIFFERENT

Metro Detroit has many eateries with Asian inspirations. Essentially, they stick to a single Asian theme. Many have added sushi, because of its ever escalating popularity.

Mon Jin Lau is different. First, let's start with sophisticated yet casual feel in an attractive setting with three slightly different seating areas. The sushi bar in the lounge allows smoking. One dining area acquires an Asian feel from jewel-toned Chinese screens. The timeless look of the bright garden room with French doors that open wide in warm weather is decorated with contemporary wall art and tropical greens.

Secondly, it's the menu spanning offerings from traditional Cantonese dishes to global inspirations from the Chins' travels around the world. Brandon pointed to restaurants that serve Chilean Sea Bass, but not steamed in a banana leaf; angel hair pasta served in nearly every Italian restaurant but not with shrimp, red peppers, curry and Chinese chili peppers. Duck is now popular on many menus but not as Asian Crispy Duck. Mongolian rack of lamb takes this cut to new fusion

MON JIN LAU

Where: 1515 E. Maple Road at Stephenson Highway, Troy (248) 689-2332
 Open: 11 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 12:45 a.m. Friday, 4 p.m. to 12:45 a.m. Saturday, 3-11:45 p.m. Sunday.
 Food style: Combined Nu-Asian, eclectic Asian cuisines with a western spin are inspired by the Asian background of chefs.
 Cost: Lunch \$8-\$15 and dinner \$12-\$25.
 Reservations: Recommended.

taste levels.

For vegetarians he recommends Ginger-Garlic Eggplant, Scallion Pancake and Vegetable Pad Thai.

In third spot is the wine list where wines have been chosen because Marshall and Brandon like them and would have a second glass. "The wine must have a 'wow' factor," Marshall added. They are among the most reasonably priced around.

Most Asian restaurants dismiss desserts. Not Mon Jin Lau where anyone with a sweet tooth can have it satisfied with the Ginger Crème Brûlée, cheesecake or a number of classic chocolate selections. Mon Jin Lau is in creative hands well into the future.

Eleanor Heald is a nationally published writer and Troy resident who writes about restaurants, food, wine and spirits for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Contact her by e-mail at focuson-wine@aol.com.

Tapawingo, Tribute host events

It's time for a "Taste of Tribute."

Patrons can sample world class cuisine created by Tribute's executive chef Don Yamauchi 5:30-8:30 p.m. June 25.

Yamauchi will create passed hors d'oeuvres, including duck wonton with Chile mayonnaise, olive oil poached tuna with mustard, grilled cheese, shrimp toast, mushroom tarts, bruschetta with tomato puree and black truffles, a shot of cold tomato soup and Kobe burgers. Appetizers on a table will be assorted sushi rolls, foie gras mousse, and artisan cheese and breads. In addition, choice wines will also be served and alcoholic drinks will be available for purchase. The dessert station will feature Tribute's famous egg, citrus opera cake, mini crème brûlée, panna cotta with macerated fruit, and chocolate fudge cake, along with passed desserts including cashew-chocolate tarts, cold cherry soup and beignets.

Tickets are \$75.

To order tickets, call Tribute at (248) 848-9393. Tribute is located at 31425 12 Mile Road, west of Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. The event will be

limited to 225 people.

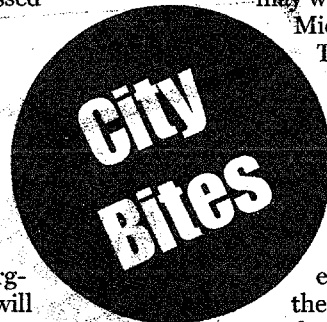
If you happen to be in the Traverse City or Petoskey areas on June 10, you may want to check out the Annual Michigan Chefs Dinner at Tapawingo in Ellsworth.

The event boasts something new this year - most of the chefs are from northern Michigan. And also for the first time, guests will be able to meet all of the chefs as they present hors d'oeuvres, outside on the patio on St. Clair Lake in northern Michigan at the dinner at

5 p.m.

Chefs participating are Jeremy Kittelson, Tapawingo's executive chef; Ali Barker, Bistro on the Boulevard, St. Joseph; chef Rick Halberg, director of culinary services for Hiller's Markets; Dan Flynn, chef at Bay Harbor Yacht Club; Miles Anton, chef at Stella in Traverse City; Guillaume Hazael-Massieux, chef and owner of La Becasse in Burdickville, and Carrie Root, pastry chef at Tapawingo.

Tickets are \$175. Call Tapawingo toll-free at (866) 588-7881 for reservations or information.



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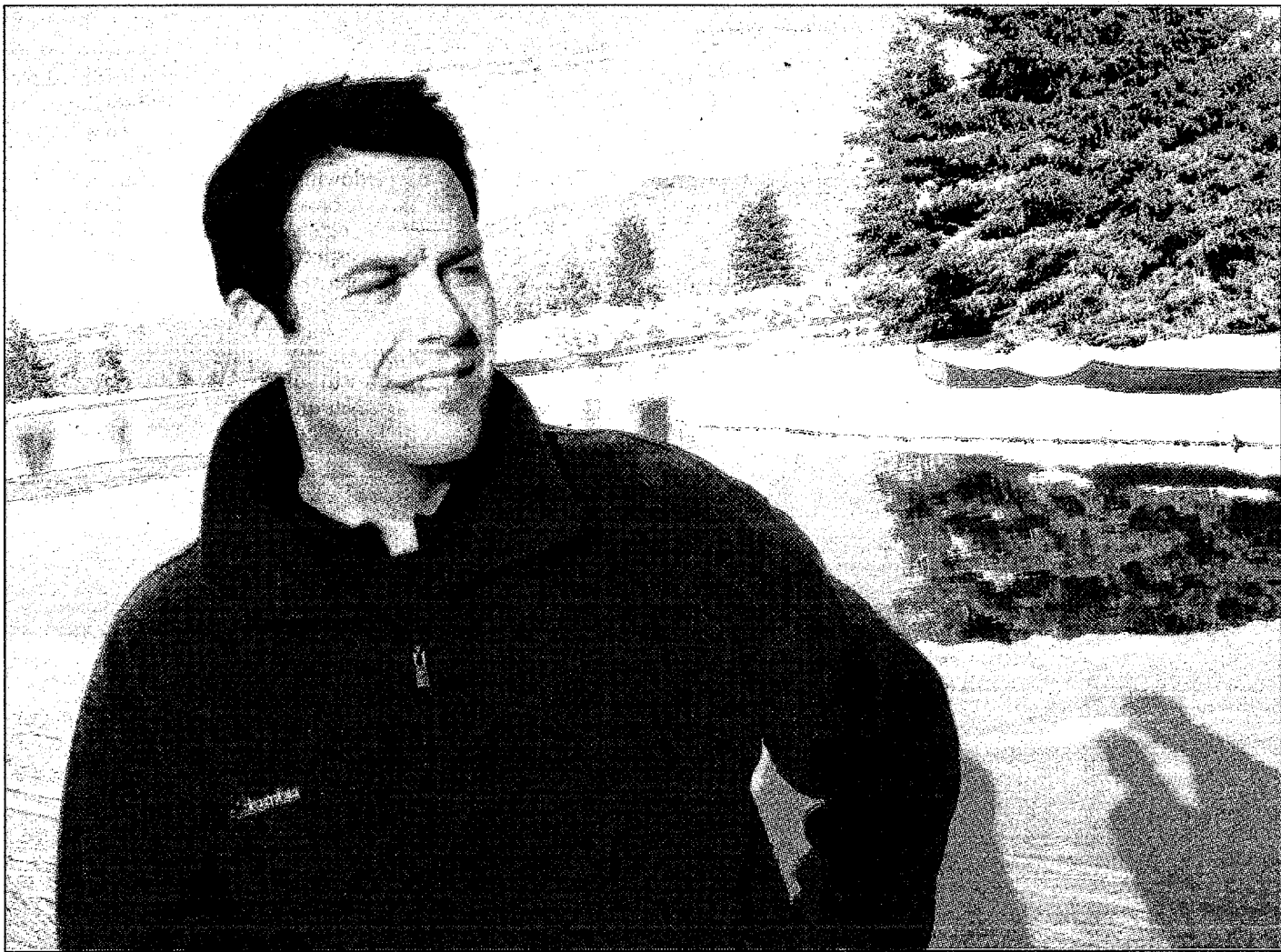
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Birmingham native Aaron Simpson is at the forefront of the Flash animation world in Los Angeles. He runs the blog ColdHardFlash.com.

Animation Nation

Birmingham native's Web site earns loyal national fan base

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to navigating the Blogosphere, Birmingham native Aaron Simpson seems to have cornered the market in the ever-expanding world of Macromedia Flash animation. His site, Coldhardflash.com has become the go-to guide, linking animators from across the globe. There, they find daily entertainment news, new shorts, a comprehensive list of animators, studios and more.

The son of Jim and Kathy Simpson of Bloomfield Hills, he is a graduate of Seaholm High School and of the

IN A FLASH

Here are a few of Aaron Simpson's favorite Flash sites and shorts:

■ Get e-mail advice from Strong Bad at Homestarrunner.com.

■ Watch bunnies re-make film classics like *Jaws* thanks to 30-Second Bunnies, an online series by Jennifer Shiman found at www.angryalien.com.

■ Catch this take on the Democratic candidate's debate at SuperNews on Current.tv.

Compiled by Stephanie A. Casola

University of Colorado in Boulder.

Simpson kicked off his professional career creating short form television commercials. But his knack for animation led him in a different direction.

As early as age 12 he was creating stop-motion animation. Longtime friend Zach Shipp, a current member of the Detroit dance metal pioneers the Electric Six, recalled that "even back then, he was an intensely creative guy."

"We actually worked on some 8 mm claymation stuff, and were both pretty heavily into drawing and cartooning. He was then, and continues to be, a great artist and arbiter of all things wacky and cool. The dude that he's become is a perfect and logical extension of the kid I knew when we were 12 - totally full circle."

Simpson was raised on Disney features, Saturday morning cartoons like *He Man* and shorts like *Hardware Wars*, an early spoof of *Star Wars*.

Perhaps the most influential exposure came courtesy of his father. "My dad used to project three-minute animated reels in our basement," he said. "That had a real impact on me."

Simpson recalled watching three-minute versions of stories like *The Jungle Book* at birthday parties in the family basement.

Around 1997 his older brother, Roderick Simpson, introduced him to Flash as a design tool. He instantly began "tinkering" with animation.

"It's a great solitary pursuit," he said. "You can do it all yourself."

As the software began to catch on, Flash became synonymous with a certain style, a clean, flat look. In the late '90s, Simpson's *Snail Detective* was among the first shorts ever purchased and placed online, thanks to a Web site run by *Wired* magazine.

When he discovered he could make money doing something he loved, Simpson said, he was "hooked."

In 2000, he was hired by Sony as a senior producer and online animator for Screenblast.com. By 2002, he

PLEASE SEE WEB, E13

WEB

FROM PAGE E12

moved on to Warner Brothers where he built up his career, and three years later earned an Emmy nomination for the Flash animated Kids' WB series *Coconut Fred's Fruit Salad Island*.

All the while, Simpson remained embedded in the creative process. From directing to animating to voicing and promoting the work, he sees it through to completion.

"He's been working hard for a lot of years, making connections and has a vision and a passion for this," said Shippis.

Until last month, Simpson served as vice president of animation for JibJab Media, the industry leader credited for the concept of viral shorts.

Simpson made a decision to devote his time completely to his own site, Coldhardflash.com.

He founded the site in 2004 and has seen it flourish.

"Coldhardflash.com started out as a public research project," Simpson said. "I wanted to find out how many TV shows or professional Web series were using Adobe's Flash software in their production pipeline."

The initial idea, he said, "was to catalog the TV series using the software, and then track new projects that had made the same decision."

What happened next came as somewhat of a surprise. *Cold Hard Flash* earned an avid following. Visitors came to see the best new clips from shorts and TV shows.

"By late 2005, it had become a regular watering hole for character animators around the world," said Simpson. "Cold Hard Flash now sees nearly 100,000 unique visitors a month, and it's only growing."

Those visitors include everyone from professional and novice animators, to development executives and studio executives looking for new talent.

In the future, Simpson plans to expand the site to include a job board, tutorials and animation contests.

When he's not online, he's consulting as an expert in his field. Last September, Simpson was featured in the Flash Tenth Anniversary online video presentation at adobe.com. And next month he'll judge the Platform International Animation Festival in Portland.

With sites like YouTube gaining an enormous following – thanks to shorts like the now-legendary *Saturday Night Live* segment *Lazy Sunday: The Chronicles of Narnia* or ever-popular *Ask A Ninja* – the Web has become a viable outlet to present and distribute work.

Simpson said: Animators have realized "if I make a short, I can put it out there and get the whole world to watch it."

Learn more at www.coldhardflash.com.

scasola@hometownlife.com | (248) 901-2567

THE NATIONAL

FROM PAGE E6

The band earned its following that way – fan by fan. Much like the boxer of the album's title, it's been a struggle.

"Touring is really hard, especially when you're unpopular," Berninger said. "It's hard to go from city to city, month after month, playing in front of a handful of people. It thickened our skin. We learned how to work together, how to survive."

Fans would argue The National has done much more than that. The band is

currently in the midst of a five-night sold-out stint at New York's Bowery Ballroom. Only Sufjan Stevens has done the same.

They've recently toured with Arcade Fire and are about to begin circling North America once again.

"It's validating," said Berninger.

"It made me feel that it's all paying off in a way."

Stephanie Angelyn Casola got her first glimpse of The National last summer at Chicago's Pitchfork Music Festival, in no less than 100 degree heat. She writes about pop culture for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* and can be reached at scasola@hometownlife.com or (248) 901-2567.

FILM

FROM PAGE E7

Detroit figures prominently in the film. The city is shown at the beginning and end with the city's fireworks to conclude the movie. "There are some scenes of Detroit that show the seedy side of it," Auker said. Morgin is a drug counselor at a drug rehabilitation facility, while she is attending the University of Windsor.

Auker is thrilled that he has completed the project, and hopes more theaters, like the Landmark, pick up the film, then distribute it online.

"I've worked in the business for so long, I wanted to do something. I wanted to do

my film, and even though it was by the seat of my pants, doing it was very rewarding."

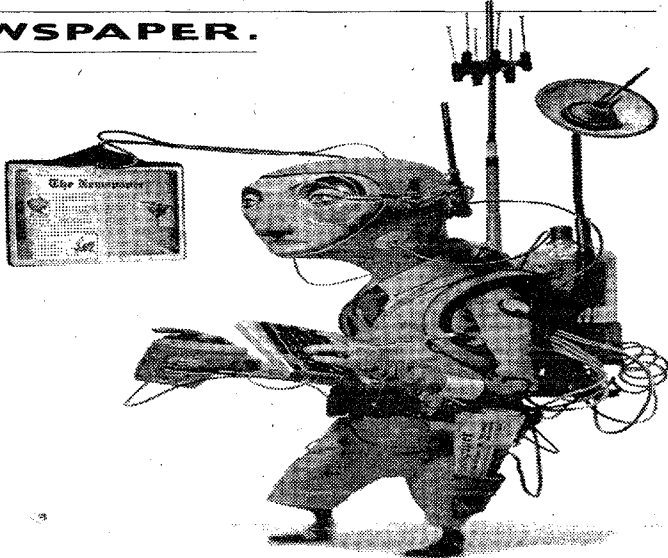
Only the two lead actors and cameraman were paid, and everyone else volunteered, Auker said. The crews shot 210 scenes in five weeks. "We just put ads in the paper and people just showed up," Auker said.

"I like a movie that lays a lot of evidence of something going on, then at the end, pulls it all together, so you understand as to why the things were going on.

"It's a love story that has comic elements and dramatic elements."

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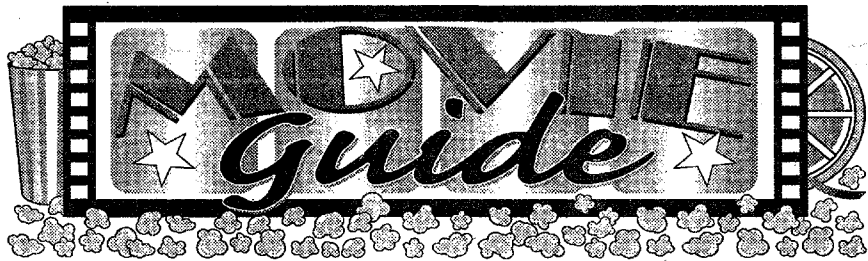
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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, May 31, 2007 • (***) E13



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'Bug' wastes Judd's talents



BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The following movies opened last week:

Bug

This is a different kind of woman-in-peril movie starring Ashley Judd, which has long been its own specific genre. Judd is indeed in peril once again, but she gets to prove she can actually act with some depth, and not just look pretty under strain. Whatever unexpected ability she shows in the early scenes of this paranoid thriller go utterly to waste, however, as the film spirals ridiculously, laughably out of control by the end. Amazingly, the film comes from veteran William Friedkin (*The Exorcist*, *The French Connection*), a

director who has seen better days, decades ago. Judd stars as Agnes, a lonely waitress at a run-down bar who lives in an even rattier motel, subsisting on a diet of cigarettes, vodka and pot. Her life gets shaken up by a drifter (Michael Shannon, whose presence and delivery are riveting) who moves in with her and sucks her into his delusional conspiracy theories involving the government, the military, scientific testing and ... bugs! Hence the title. The movie is based on the play by Tracy Letts (who also wrote the script), and it feels like it. Much of the action takes place in Agnes' room, which slowly evolves as the couple's fear and co-dependency grow. R for some strong violence, sexuality, nudity, language and drug use. 102 min. Two stars out of four.

- Christy Lemire, AP movie critic

Golden Door

This strikingly shot tale of Sicilian villagers seeking a better life in America is so minimalist, it's practically a silent film. There's little dialogue beyond what's needed, but then again, writer-director Emanuele Crialese is such a strong storyteller - with the help of gorgeous, imaginative work from cinematographer Agnes Godard - the experience remains entirely engrossing. Having said that, Crialese didn't need to inject magical-realism fantasy sequences to convey his lead character's dreams about the bountiful riches the New World has to offer. Compared to the stripped-down tone that dominates the rest of the film, they feel distractingly out of place. Vincenzo Amato stars as the expressive, earnest Salvatore

Mancuso, a widower who sacrifices everything he owns to pile his sons (Francesco Casisa and Filippo Pucillo) and his elderly mother (the cranky, scene-stealing Aurora Quatrocchi) onto a ship headed for Ellis Island. Along the way, a mysterious, well-dressed Englishwoman (Charlotte Gainsbourg) gloms onto them, inciting the curiosity of several men on board, including Salvatore. PG-13 for brief graphic nudity. 118 min. Three stars out of four.

- Christy Lemire, AP movie critic

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- Jan Wahl, KRON/KCBS, San Francisco

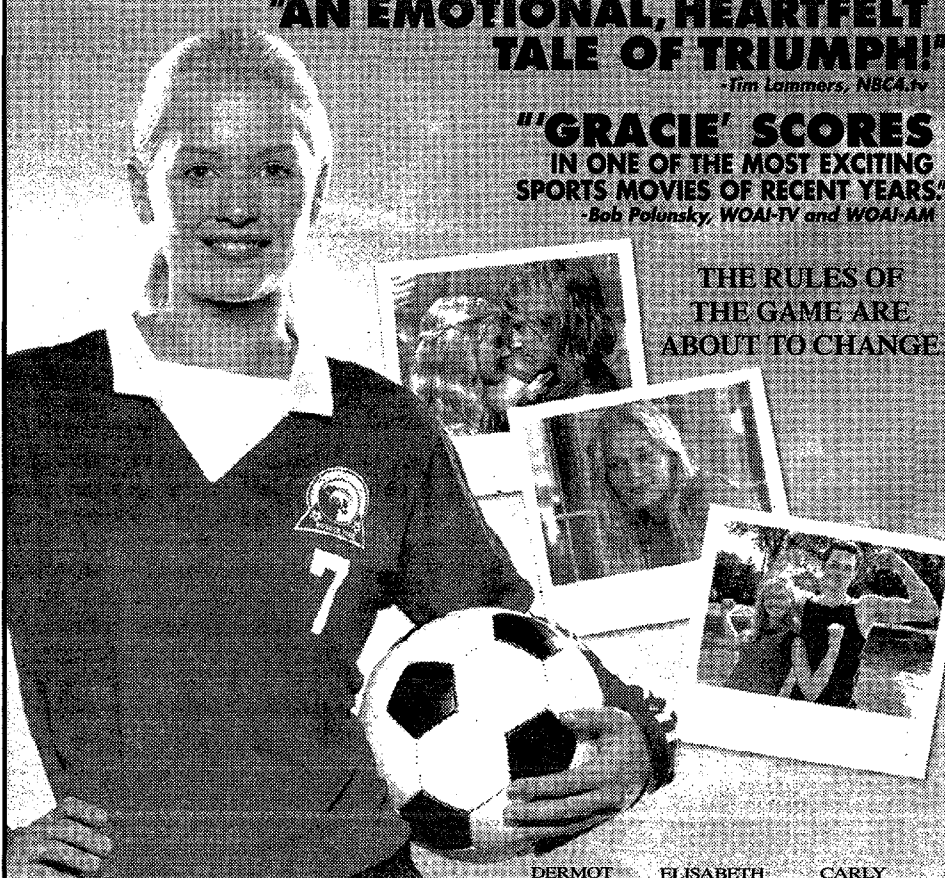
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- Tim Lammers, NBC4.tv

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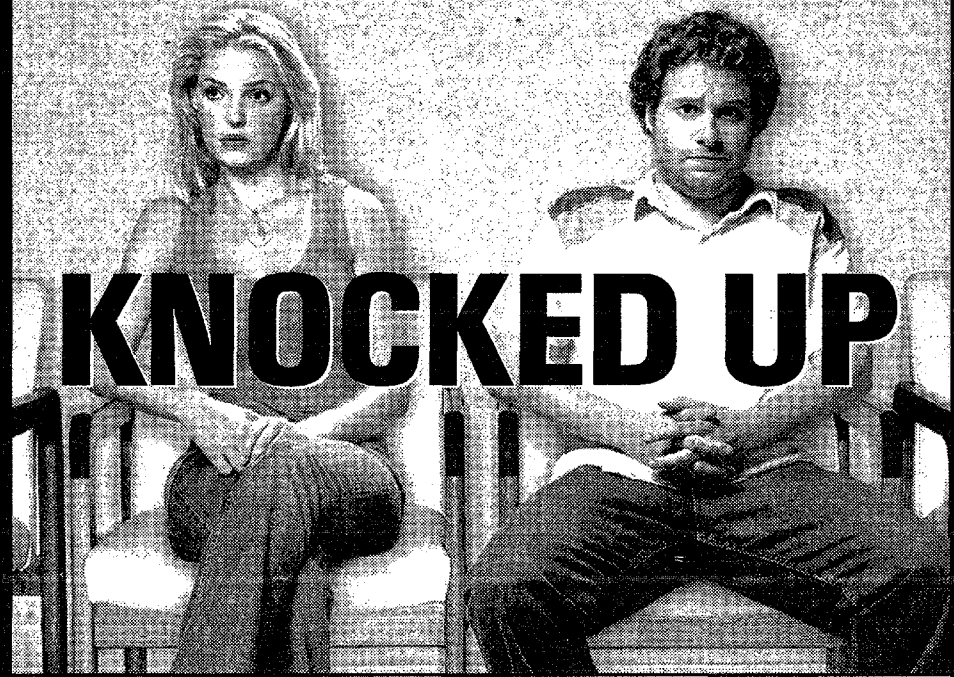
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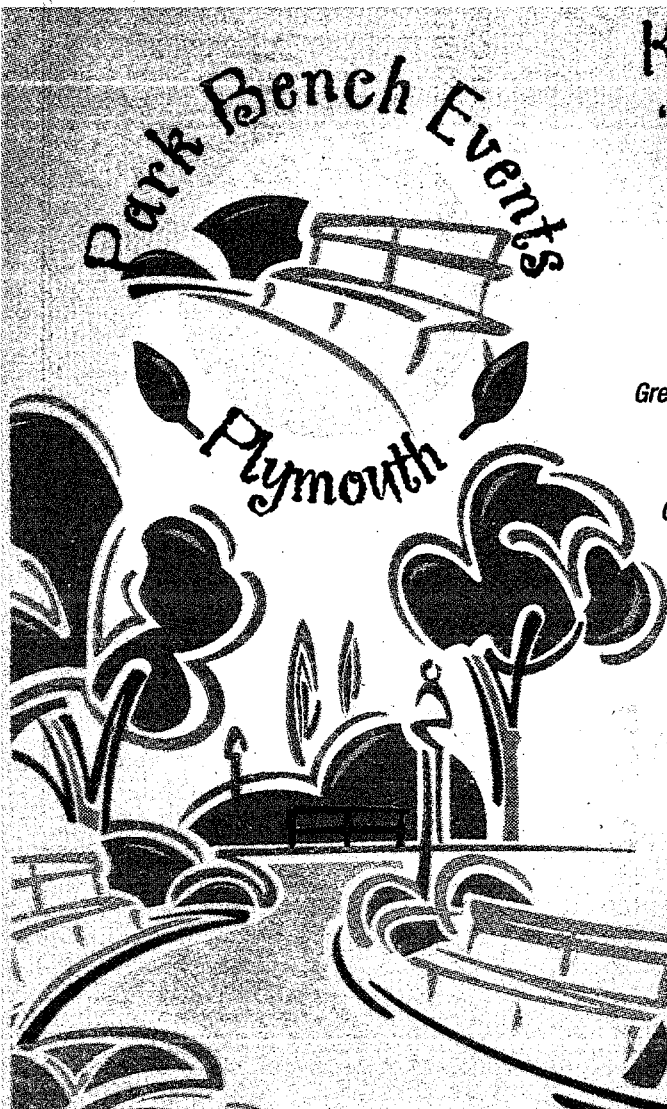
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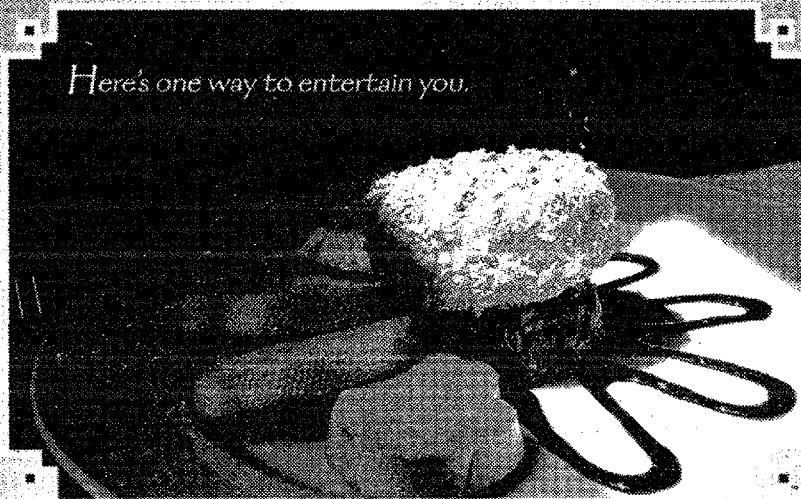
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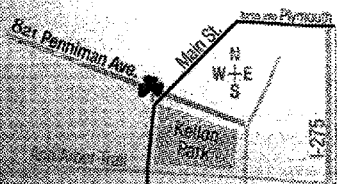
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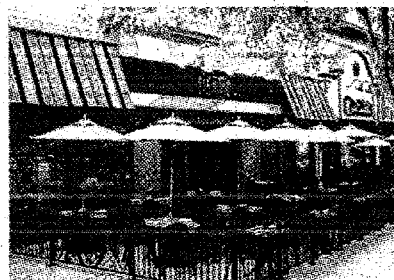
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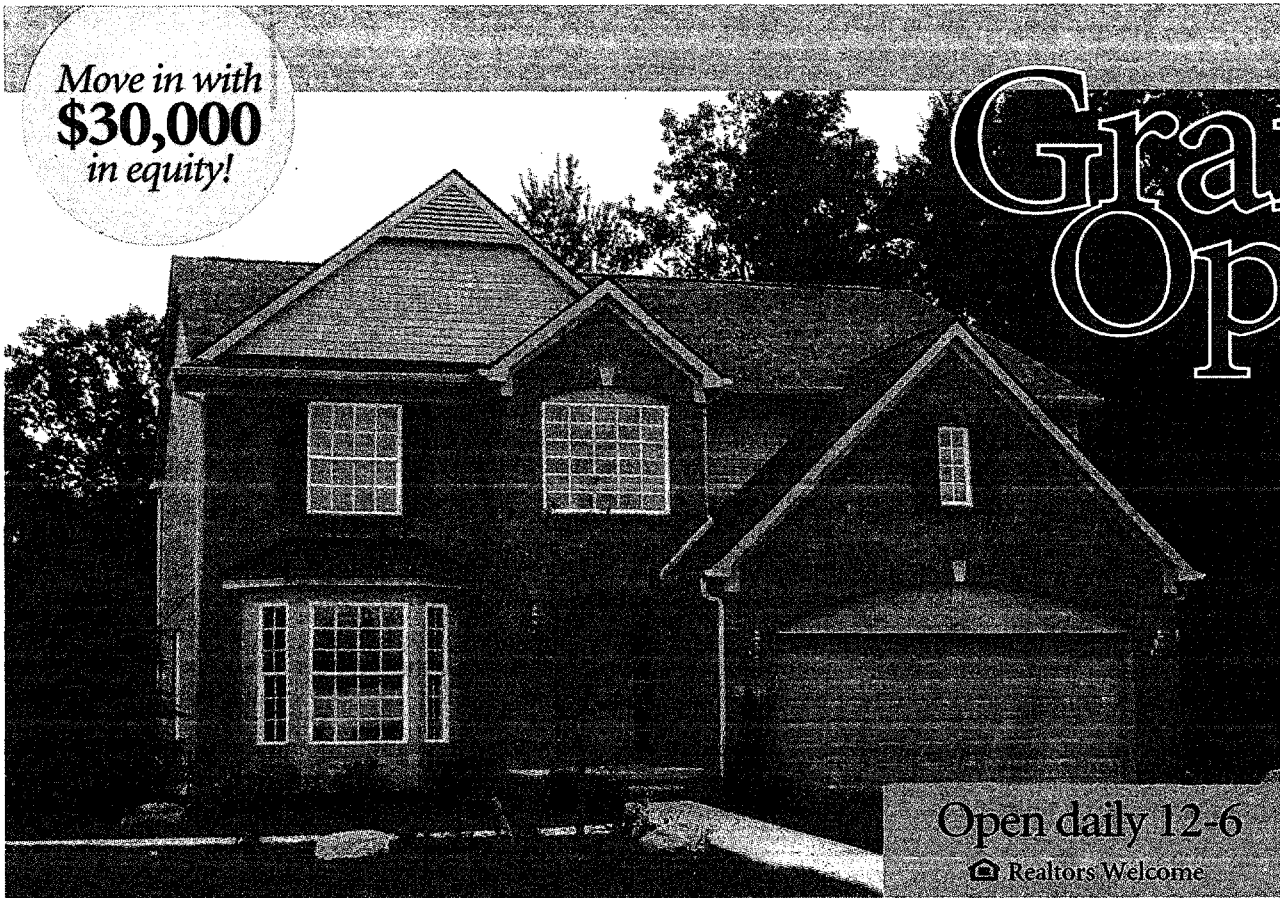
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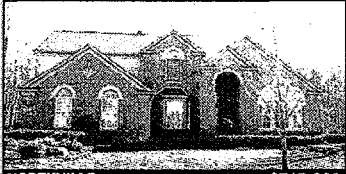
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CANTON \$595,500
1 acre nature setting w/trees & brook in heart of Canton. 5 BR 5.1 BA, 3300+ sq ft, att 2 car gar. New kit, windows, roof & much more. Call today!
MLS# 27041013 734-453-6800



NORTHVILLE \$549,900
Fin LI W/den & Bth. Located Deep Insib. 2stry Grand Ent Open Fir Plan W/custom Fir, FP & Mantel. Built-in's In Library/office, Granite Counters & Ss Appl
MLS# 27066553 248-347-3050



NOVI \$524,900
Lake Front Home Open House 6-3. 1pm-4pm All sports Walled Lk Updated home complete with granite counter tops HI efficiency on demand hot water .
MLS# 27071830 248-360-1425



NOVI \$485,000
Gorgeous 2 Story Great Rm w/Frpl, Gourmet Kitchen, Library, Sunroom, 1st fl Mstr w/Trey Ceiling, Jack & Jill Bath & Fin LL w/Frpl, Kitchen, BR & Bath
MLS# 27068017 248-347-3050




NOVI \$409,500
Exceptional Colonial in Desirable Addington Park. Great Location in Sub. Pro fin LL w/Media Rm, wet bar & bth. 3 car side entry gar. move in condition
MLS# 27073264 248-347-3050



NOVI \$400,000
2-stry Fam Rm w/Bridge, Frpl, Liv Rm w/French Drs, Gourmet Kitchen w/Granite, Dining Rm w/Butler's Pantry, Vaulted Mstr Ste w/Glam Bth & Princess Ste!
MLS# 27081091 248-347-3050



SOUTH LYON \$385,000
Grmt kitchen w/granite, hdwd floors, all appls stay, 2st GR w/gas FP, master ste w/cathedral ceiling, glam BA w/jetted tub, trex deck & brick patio.
MLS# 27083275 734-453-6800



PLYMOUTH \$368,000
Entertain in style! Dining rm w/french doors, family room w/frpl, all appliances inc, master ste w/private bth, florida rm w/hot tub & finished bsmt.
MLS# 27050877 248-347-3050




NOVI \$350,000
New Roof Tear-off, Int & Ext Freshly Pnt'd, New Driveway,Sidewalk& Porch, Kit W/bay Window To Overlook Backyard. Multi-tier Deckw/mature Landscaping
MLS# 27070321 248-347-3050




FARMINGTON HILLS \$325,000
Designer Perfect Detached Ranch Condo w/ Impressive upgrades thru-out! Great Rm w/ Frpl, Library, 1st fir Mstr, Finished Lower Level & Att 2 Car Garage.
MLS# 27084134 248-347-3050




NORTHVILLE \$325,000
Walking Distance To Downtown.Paver Patio W/ gazebo & 2-tier Deck. Gourmet Kit. Great Rm W/FP. Lg Mstr Ste W/priv Bth. Fin W/o Bsmt W/ kit,Fam Rm, BR&Bth.
MLS# 27079154 248-347-3050



PLYMOUTH \$319,900
Plymouth! 1st offering! 2,600 s.f. Colonial close to Bird and West schools! Private rear yard. Hardwood flooring, new kitchen, furnace, windows, etc.
MLS# 27069018 734-453-6800



PLYMOUTH \$318,000
4 BR 2.1BA Colonial, updates: oak kit w/ss appl, all baths, wndws, newer furn & a/c. Freshly painted, newer flooring, private lot backing to trees.
MLS# 27083217 734-453-6800




CANTON \$315,000
Immaculate 4BR, 2.1BA Colonial w/neutral decor. LR, DR, FR w/gas FP. Isl kit w/maple cbnts, hdwd flrs. Mstr w/glam BA w/tub & shower. Move in ready!
MLS# 27079547 734-453-6800



VAN BUREN \$305,000
4 BRs, 2.5 Bth GreatRm W/Gas FP,Kit W/Tons Of Storage, Island, HW Fir & Appls, Fam Rm W/ Lndry Rm, Mstr W/Lrg Bth Sep Shower&Tub, Bsmt, 2 Car Gar
MLS# 27066930 248-347-3050




CANTON \$300,000
2 Stry Fr W/Fp, Dual Staircases, 9ft Ceilings on 1st Fir, Upgraded Cpt T/o, Pfin Bsmt W/rec Rm, Deck, Vaulted Ceiling In Mstr BR,1st Fir Lndry& More!
MLS# 27078074 248-347-3050



LYONS \$294,900
Gorgeous 3BR, 2.1BA w/spacious kitchen & granite counters. Great Room w/gas FP. Mstr w/ WIC & BA. Fabulous deck w/built in lighting. Must see!
MLS# 27081632 734-453-6800



NOVI \$255,000
Updated Kit W/corlan Counters, New Vinyl Windows T/o, Newer Furn & Ac, Fenced Backyard, Newer Trex Deck, 2nd Gr Or Possible 5th Bdrm Up & 1st Fir Mstr
MLS# 27071412 248-347-3050



CANTON \$249,900
Gorgeous 4BR, 2.1BA Col in "Sunflower" on quiet court setting. Beautiful kit w/maple cbnts. FR w/FP & cath clg. Formal LR & DR. Mstr w/ WIC & bath.
MLS# 27079320 734-453-6800



LIVONIA \$249,900
Move right in! Exceptional 4BR colonial, meticulously maintained. Updates incl: new kit & baths in 2006. hdwd flrs upstairs. 1 yr warranty included.
MLS# 27078660 734-453-6800



WESTLAND \$249,900
Dream home & a bit of rock and roll heaven! Newer cape Cod is beautifully decorated! Fin finishes bsmt. 1st fir laundry. Must see! Tour at kimbeltz.com.
MLS# 27084349 734-453-6800



CANTON \$245,000
"Free Standing" Condo W/over 2400 SqFt. Grt Rm W/FP, Eat-in Kit w/All Appls. Mstr Ste W/Priv Bth & Wic, Lrg BRs. Full Bsmt. 2 Car Att Gar,Comm w/Pool.
MLS# 27076257 248-347-3050



LIVONIA \$239,900
Great home in the heart of Livonia. 5 beds, 3 full bath Quad. Remodeled kit, 1st fl laun, large FR w/FP. Perfect for entertaining or large family.
MLS# 27042813 734-453-6800



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PLYMOUTH \$239,000
3BR, 2BA located near schools, Xways & shop. Recent updates: carpet, HWH, furn, C/A, roof, elect, siding & windows. D/S 2.5 car, 200 Amp service.
MLS# 27048587 734-453-6800



LIVONIA \$225,000
Home backs to woods! newer roof shingles, deck, 1st flr Indry, hw flrs, hwh, central a/c, fam rm off kit w/nat fp, front porch, mstr ste w/ updated bath
MLS# 27086299 248-347-3050



CANTON \$224,900
2-3 BR end unit Ranch. Grmt kit w/upgraded maple cbnts, granite c-tops & new appls. 1st flr mstr. 2-story GR. Over \$24,000 in interior upgrades.
MLS# 27063766 734-453-6800



TAYLOR \$224,900
3BR colonial on 2.89 acres w/3 car gar, private setting. Over 2300 sf w/above gr pool. Big country kit. Well maintained 1 yr warranty. Priced to sell.
MLS# 27080091 734-453-6800



WIXOM \$224,900
Near Loon Lake! 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, Anderson windows, gas FP, master w/WIC, DR, FR, 1st flr laundry. All appliances stay. Full Basement. Great yard
MLS# 27079503 734-453-6800



LIVONIA \$215,000
Rare 4BR 2.5BA Rosedale Gardens home! New Kit w/oak cab, corian cntrs, cer tile, appl, wndws t/o, roof, beautiful hdwd. LL new crpt. Neutral dcor.
MLS# 27084330 734-453-6800



CANTON \$214,900
4 BR, 2-1/2 BA col. Kit w/cer tile & drwl leading to huge deck & yard. FR w/FP & newer carpet. MS w/sitting area, WIC & bath. 2nd flr laundry.
MLS# 27083492 734-453-6800



NORTHFIELD \$210,000
Home is nestled at end of the court is backing to woods! GR w/FP & drwl to deck, 1st flr mstr ste, glamour bath, prof fin LL w/daylight windows.
MLS# 27083318 734-453-6800



NOVI \$210,000
Wooded Lot Deep in Sub! Ext Pnt'd, Int Pnt'd, New Hwh, New Roof-tearoff, Hw flr t/o. Newer Windows. Updated Main Bth w/let Tub, 2.5 Car Gar, Gr w/tp.
MLS# 27076151 248-347-3050



NORTHVILLE \$209,900
Stunning Northville ranch. Gorgeous hdwd, new kitchen, bath, fixtures, doors, roof, wtr ltr, midgs. Over 1/2 acre yard-tractor included. Move right in!
MLS# 27082323 734-453-6800



WATERFORD \$205,000
2000 SF Wall Sports Lake Access. Updates Incl:Kit w/hickory Cabs& Ceramic Cntrs.Furn, A/c& Windows.Brs W/hw Flrs.Mbr w/His/Her Closets&Bth. Lrg Bsmt
MLS# 27070330 248-347-3050



CANTON \$197,900
Sharp, clean & updated 3BR, 2BA Brick ranch. Updated kit w/new hdwd fir, custom cbnts & B/ I appls. Fam Rm w/nat FP. Updated baths. Newer wndws.
MLS# 27051460 734-453-6800



FARMINGTON \$190,000
Within walking distance to elementary school. Kit w/hdwd flrs & new cabs. Cozy FR w/gas FP, fin LL, fenced backyard & security alarm.
MLS# 27081351 734-453-6800



PLYMOUTH \$190,000
Fantastic 3BR 1.1BA Ranch w/finished bsmt, new kit fir, bath & mstr lav, H20 in .04, fresh paint. Florida rm w/new crpt. Finished bsmt, great lot!
MLS# 27084826 734-453-6800



LIVONIA \$189,900
1459 sq ft Ranch, 3BR 2BA 2 car attached garage. Well maintained updated Florida arm, hardwood flrs, work shop, many custom touches 1 yr home warranty.
MLS# 27081406 734-453-6800



NORTHVILLE \$185,000
Luxury Plus! Great Rm w/2 wat Gas Frpl, Kitchen w/eat-in-nook, Doorwall to deck, Hrdwd Flrs, Appliances Included, Dual Mstr Suites & Att 2 Car Garage
MLS# 27084116 248-347-3050



SALEM \$179,900
10 Lots for sale. Paved roads. Quality subdivision. South Lyon Schools. Salem Twp. Taxes. Ranging from 2.5 to 8.39 acres Priced \$169,900 to \$225,000
MLS# 26117086 248-347-3050



BELLEVILLE \$175,000
1927 Colonial w/covered ceiling & orig HDWD flrs. 1st floor master. Newer DR bay wndw offers view of spectacular yrd. Att gar, many recent improvements.
MLS# 27079308 734-453-6800



DEARBORN HEIGHTS \$175,000
Meticulously maintained ranch. All updates have been done. Fin BM. Hardwood floors throughout. Super clean! Great curb appeal! Fenced yard.
MLS# 27084914 734-453-6800



REDFORD \$159,900
2.5 Car Heated Gar w/workshop. Fenced Yard w/patio& Inground Pool. Fin Bsmt w/FP, 1/2Bth& Kit. Hw Flr in BR & Under Crpt. Updates Inc; Newer Roof & Furn
MLS# 27070994 248-347-3050



NORTHVILLE \$149,900
2 Stry Condo w/gas Fp in LR, 1st Flr Indry, PFin Bsmt. Mstr BR w/Wic& Mstr Bth. Updates Incl: H2O Heater, Stove&Dishwasher&New Roof. Comm w/Pool Clb.
MLS# 27076653 248-347-3050



WIXOM \$139,900
Summertime fun at your fingertips! Cozy ranch located 1 house from priv Loon Lk(all sports)w/ beach, park & boat launch. New kit & BA in '04. HDWD t/o.
MLS# 27081268 734-453-6800



WAYNE \$134,900
1024 Sqft Wayne Brick Ranch. 3 Br/ 1.1 Ba, New Kit, Hdwd Flrs. Plenty Of Storage Space. Fin Basement, Landscaped. No Garage.
MLS# 27032503 248-879-3400



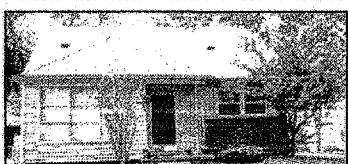
YPSILANTI \$132,000
Updt Ranch w/lrg LR, hdwd flrs, maple cbnts, ceramic flrs. Lg bsmt w/FR, bar. Huge deck off the back of the home! Two outbldgs. Move right in.
MLS# 27074600 734-453-6800



REDFORD \$129,900
Located On The Edge Of Glenhurst Golf Club. Mstr W/Cathedral Ceiling & Mstr Bth. New Fir in Kit. Fla Rm Leads To Cedar Deck. Home Is Very Neutral.
MLS# 27082336 248-347-3050



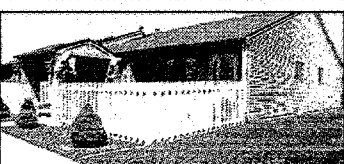
WESTLAND \$129,500
Remodeled w/Fresh Paint, New Crpt T/O, Newer Windows.New Kit w/new Oak Cabs, New cntrs & Pergo Like Wd Flrs Bth w/New Ceramic Tile, P. Fin Bsmt& Gar.
MLS# 27087137 248-347-3050



REDFORD \$122,900
3 Bedroom brick bungalow w/S. Redford Schools! Open flr plan. Finished basement. 2 car garage w/fenced yard. All appliances incl. Newer roof & carpet.
MLS# 27083670 734-453-6800



NORTHVILLE \$121,900
Pvt Entry 2 Br, 2 Bth Upper Unit. New Maple Kit, Cntrs,fring, Ref, Stove, Dish, Disposal, W&D. Mbr w/pvt Bth w/new Shower, Wic. Newer Crpt T/o
MLS# 27072254 248-347-3050



SOUTH LYON \$109,900
Beautiful end unit, tastefully decorated. 2Bd, 2baths w/ finished LL. Offers lg FR w/ gas FP & Lib/guest room. Private patio. All appls C/A Adult 55+
MLS# 27072234 734-453-6800



DETROIT \$69,900
Bring all reasonable offers! Neat & clean bungalow w/carpeting in LR. Hdwd fir in DR. Lge BR upstairs is beautiful! Newer wndws & roof. Ply fin bsmt.
MLS# 27084217 734-453-6800



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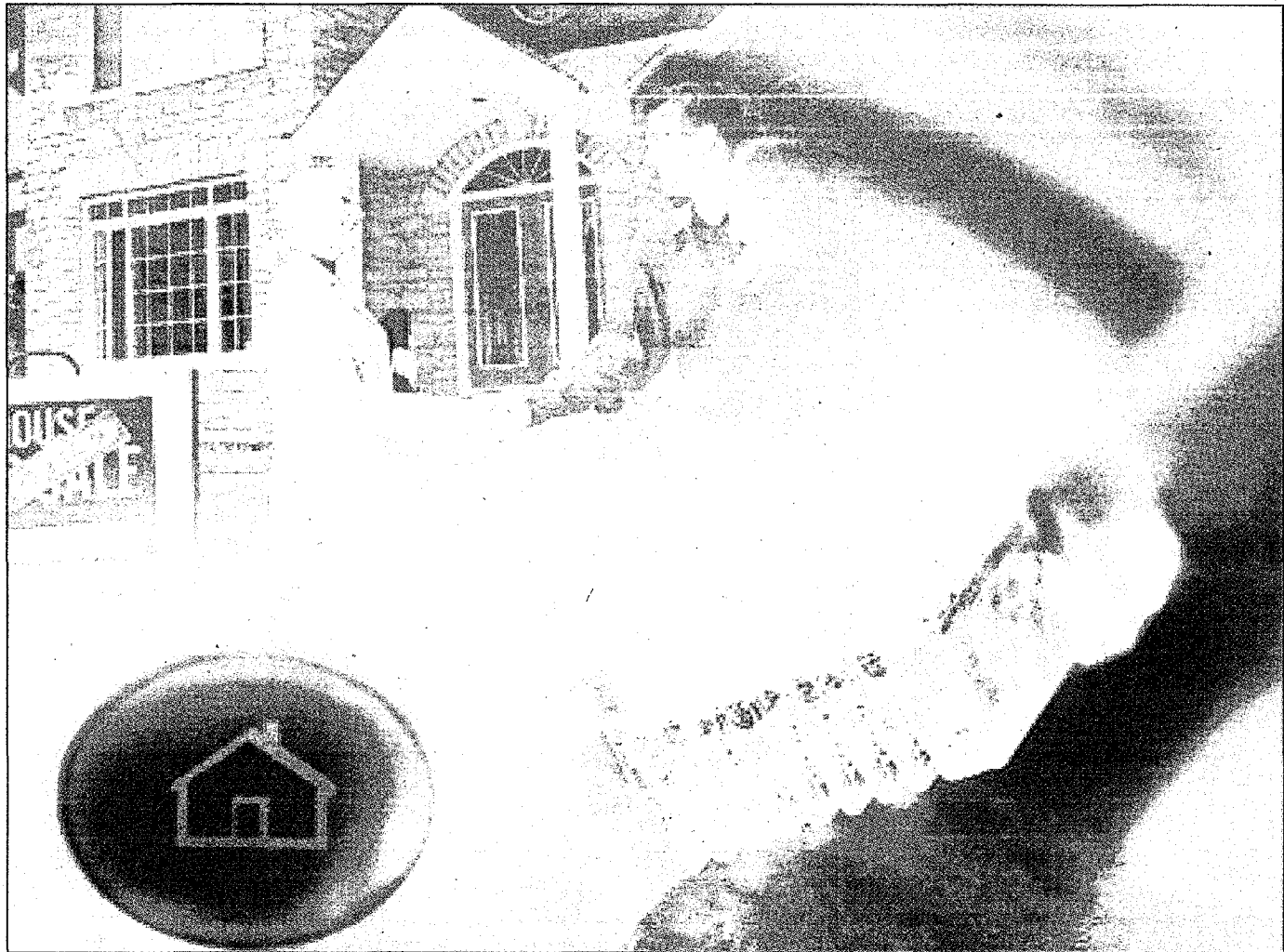
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Editor
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Young homebuyers rely heavily on the Internet

Younger home buyers are a bigger portion of the total homebuying population than ever before, and they aren't putting homeownership on hold for marriage or other life events.

That's what speakers at May 18's Marketing Forum told Realtors attending the National Association of Realtors Midyear Legislative & Trade Meetings in Washington, D.C.

U.S. Census Bureau data shows that homeownership among the under-30 crowd has been rising. In 1993, less than 15 percent of people younger than 25 owned their own home, but by 2006, one in every four people in this age group were homeowners. About a third of people ages 25 to 29 owned a home in 1993; by 2006, 42 percent were homeowners.

"Housing is a good long-term investment, and the younger generation seems to understand that," said NAR Senior Economist Lawrence Yun. "In addition to their interest in homeownership, many of today's 20- and 30-somethings will have the means to invest in real estate, as well. Most of the record \$56 billion of net worth in the United States is held by people 55 and over, and much of the record wealth accumulation among baby boomers is

likely to be bequeathed to their sons and daughters."

Younger buyers' proclivity for homeownership is influencing a number of real estate trends, Yun explained. They have contributed to the recent resurgence of many downtown areas, and are part of the reason that condo sales have increased as a percentage of all homes sold, from 6 percent of the total market a decade ago to 13 percent in 2006.

Internet Crusade President Saul Klein described many of these up-and-coming home buyers as "Net Gen," the first generation born and raised in the era of the Internet. Net Gen members, as Klein defines them, were born between 1977 and 1996. To reach and serve these Net Gen home buyers, Realtors must be on the cutting edge of technology and stay on top of Internet developments.

This generation's reliance on the Web can already be seen as Internet resources become more important in the home search process – four out of five recent home buyers used the Internet last year to search for a home, according to the 2006 NAR Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers, compared with only 2 percent in 1995. For most young people, the Internet is a part of

daily life, and as younger generations come of age, social networking sites like Second Life and MySpace may offer unique opportunities to establish and nurture client relationships.

Realtors can also learn from predictive marketing sites like Amazon.com, according to Klein. This popular online shopping site commonly sends users merchandise suggestions based on previous purchases. Following this model, Realtors can send their online visitors listings of houses for sale that are similar to homes those potential customers had viewed on their Web site.

"In the age of what some call Web 2.0, collaboration, communication and community will mean success for real estate professionals who embrace the change and failure for those who believe it is business as usual," said Klein. "Realtors must incorporate technology and the Internet into their marketing and client services to meet the needs of this increasingly influential rising generation."

The National Association of Realtors, "The Voice for Real Estate," is America's largest trade association, representing more than 1.3 million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

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EXECUTIVE RETREAT
Acreage, privacy, walkout bsmt, wine cellar, maple & granite Kitchen, custom tile work, vaulted bonus room, pool room, home theater, & situated on 4+ acres.
\$549,900 (C-0155A)



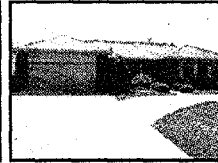
CONVENIENTLY LOCATED
This open 2 bd, 2 bath Livonia bsm, formal Dining, large Kitchen w/ nook, finished bsmt w/daylight windows, & good location.
\$297,000 (P-661NE)



GREAT OPPORTUNITY
Canton condo featuring a large Family Room w/frpl, Kitchen w/ hwd, finished lower level, large Master w/WIC, & convenient location.
\$124,700 (P-101VI)



OPPORTUNITY AWAITS!
Unique custom/contemporary home w/3 stories & Clarkston schools. Huge island Kitchen, over 3000 sq ft, Master w/ soaring ceiling & WIC's. All this & located on the waterway leading to 2 all sports lakes!
\$449,500 (P-940MA)



BRICK RANCH W/WALKOUT
Huge 4 bd brick ranch w/3.5 baths, finished walkout bsmt, Great Room w/frpl, 2.5 car att Garage, backs to commons & great location.
\$289,999 (C-281PA)



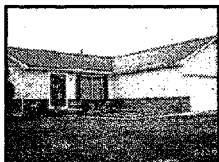
SPARKLING COLONIAL
Beautifully updated kitchen w/ oak cabinetry, bright living room w/pergo style floor, vaulted family room w/fireplace & doorwall to patio overlooking a manicured yard. Really nice.
\$200,000 (C-371BE)



MOVE RIGHT IN!
Home warranty provided! 4 bd, 2.5 bath home w/large upstairs bedroom that could be used as an apartment w/appliances, 2 car Garage, fenced yard, & more.
\$69,900 (C-009CL)



A RARE FIND
Unique find in Pheasant Run. Brick ranch featuring 3 bd, 2.5 baths, 3 car Garage, Kitchen w/hickory cabinets, Family Room w/frpl, Master w/his & her WIC's, & paver Patio w/ mature evergreens.
\$328,000 (C-431CY)



IMMACULATE
You'll love this neutral home w/ 3 bd, 2 baths, spacious floor plan, Master w/bath, Great Room, brick paver Patio, fenced yard, & Livonia Schools.
\$175,900 (P-465LO)



CHARMING STONE HOME
4.65 Acres embraces this charming 4 bd home. loads of updates. Kitchen w/ fireplace, hwd & ceramic tile floors, 48X30 pole barn, & swimming pool. Great craftsmanship. Built in 1930 w/ numerous updates.
\$324,900 (P-291NO)



LIVONIA COLONIAL
Awesome 3 bd colonial w/ white cab's & ceramic tile floors, updated, beautiful ceramic surround frpl, & finished bsmt w/rec room. Come take a look!
\$254,900 (C-997ST)



LOCATION, LOCATION
Great interior location for this end unit condo w/new windows on main floor, furnace, hwh, neutral décor, 6 panel doors, private Deck, pool, clubhouse, full bsmt, & Garage.
\$175,000 (P-430WO)



LUXURY CONDO
Gorgeous executive ranch w/3 large bd, 2 custom baths w/ jetted tub, open floor plan, gourmet Kitchen, Great Room w/frpl & large windows, great Deck overlooking wooded area, & 2 car garage.
\$274,900 (C-880BE)



ELEGANT COLONIAL
Premium brick home in desired Stonewater. Bright open floor plan. 4 bd, 3.5 ba, kitchen w/ granite, 2 story Great Room w/ fp, WIC in each bedroom, & premium walkout lot just a stroll from Stonebridge Lake.
\$649,900 (C-392BI)



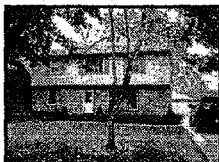
A RARE FIND!
3 bd Westland colonial w/4th bd in walkout bsmt. Updated Kitchen, hwd floors, beautiful Deck, large yard, & more.
\$216,000 (C-221LA)



LARGE LOT IN PLYMOUTH
Great price on this home that offers 3 bd, 2 baths, Family Room w/frpl, Florida Room, extra storage space, ceramic baths, tear off roof, & attached Garage. Great lot on a dead end street.
\$169,900 (C-151MI)



GREAT BUY!
Fantastic Plymouth location on 4 bd, 2.5 bath condo almost acre lot. Updates in featuring premium carpet, 2001 include roof, windows, A/ awesome Kitchen w/corian, C, furnace, hwh, Kitchen, updated soaring ceilings, custom baths, carpet, oversized surround frpl, dual entry Den, & Garage, & balcony off Master. daylight bsmt.
\$349,900 (C-265NO)



PICTURE PERFECT
Nice & open 3 bd, 1.5 bath ranch in Westland, freshly painted & new carpet t/o, updated Kitchen, finished bsmt, large Great Room w/frpl, fantastic backyard, & more.
\$154,900 (C-274DO)



READY TO MOVE INTO!
This home offers 4 bd, 2.5 baths, Great Room w/soaring ceiling, skylights, & too many updates to list. Great location, an absolute must see!
\$225,900 (C-260LA)



EXECUTIVE HIDE-A-WAY
Privacy surrounds this 4 bd home on 2.18 acres of tree lined drive. Panoramic views of Belleville Lake, dock & boat fac, all sports lake, open floor plan, 1st floor laundry, & 4 car Garage.
\$675,000 (C-445194)



FANTASTIC HOME
This home offers 4 bd, 2.5 baths, Great Room w/soaring ceiling, skylights, & too many updates to list. Great location, an absolute must see!
\$225,900 (C-260LA)



INVESTORS SPECIAL
Roomy ranch in Westland featuring thermal windows & doors, Family Room, country Kitchen, appliances stay, generous Garage, fenced yard w/tall maple trees, & home warranty.
\$112,900 (C-621PA)



PLYMOUTH'S BEST KEPT SECRET
Walk to town & take in all Plymouth has to offer from this delightful complex. 2 bd, 2.5 ba, Great Room w/gorgeous view, Marble frpl, 2nd floor laundry, & 2 balconies.
\$147,500 (C-906YO)



HISTORIC ROSEDALE GARDENS
This outstanding Livonia, 4 bd Tudor brings together the past & the present! Plastered walls, coved ceilings, brick frpl, hwd from the past, newer roof, windows, gutters, & updated Kitchen from the present.
\$224,900 (C-900CR)



CAN'T BE BEAT
Traditional floor plan w/formal Living & Dining Rooms. Family Room w/laminate flooring, Master Suite w/large WIC & Din Rm, Family Room w/frpl, private bath, & finished lower level.
\$259,900 (P-388CO)



GORGEOUS COLONIAL
West Dearborn colonial boasts 4 bd, brand new cherry Kitchen w/granite, Formal Liv & Dining, Master Suite w/frpl, finished bsmt, hwd floors, & too much more to list.
\$264,900 (P-533ED)



STRIKING CAPE COD
This 5 bd cape features granite & marble flooring, Kitchen w/ granite c-tops & soaring ceiling, 3 bay windows, luxurious Master w/Jacuzzi tub, walkout bsmt, large Deck overlooking commons, & maintenance free exterior.
\$488,000 (P-800FA)



STOP PAYING RENT
Everything you need is here! Family Room, finished bsmt, over 1200 sq ft, 3 bd, Garage, appliances included, & too much more to list.
\$136,900 (P-078FO)



PLYMOUTH COLONIAL
Well maintained 4 bd, 2.5 bath home within walking distance to downtown. Updates include roof, gutters, furnace, C/A, windows, paver Patio, & partially finished bsmt.
\$285,000 (P-656GL)



PLYMOUTH BEAUTY
Cozy brick ranch on large private landscaped lot. Finished bsmt, Fam Rm w/cath ceiling, updated roof, master bath, furnace, C/A, hwh, concrete, windows & doorwall & large covered Patio.
\$239,900 (P-050JO)



SUPER CANTON COLONIAL
Popular Brookside Village offers this home w/spacious floor plan, Fam Rm w/frpl, updated Kitchen w/nook, Master w/WIC, updated furnace, C/A, windows, & some carpet. Ply-Canton schools. Great value!
\$179,000 (P-228ME)



MAINTENANCE FREE BUNGALOW
Check out this 3 bd, 2 bath home featuring large bedroom w/2 WIC's, finished bsmt w/ bar, 2 car Garage, private backyard, updated furnace, shingles, & vinyl windows. A must see!
\$127,900 (P-665NO)



STUNNING CAPE COD
Very desirable floor plan w/ many features: 1st fl Master w/ bath & 2 WIC's, island Kitchen, finished bsmt, bonus storage room above Garage, & more.
\$259,900 (P-758NO)



A RARE FIND!
2' story colonial w/updated windows, roof, & brand new furnace. Formal Living & Dining Rooms, separate Fam Rm w/ frpl, large Master Suite & partially finished lower level.
\$217,900 (P-119RV)



TRANQUIL LOCATION
Enjoy the peaceful setting on this large lot in Royal Pointe Sub. Inviting 2 story Foyer, formal Liv & Din Rm, 2 story Fam Rm w/dual frpl, island Kitchen, Master w/frpl & bath, & Deck w/retractable awning.
\$425,000 (P-409TR)



DRESSED IN ITS SUNDAY BEST
Fabulous home featuring formal Living & Dining Rms, private Den, separate Family Rm, spacious maple Kitchen w/granite, Master w/his & her WIC's, & professionally finished lower level.
\$449,900 (P-308WE)

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Grants help Realtor groups boost diversity efforts

Ten local and state Realtor associations received Diversity Initiative Grants at the National Association of Realtors Midyear Legislative Meetings & Trade Expo recently. The grants, totaling \$40,450, are awarded to help fund outreach efforts to minority consumers and bring more cultural diversity into association membership and leadership.

NAR established the Diversity Initiative Grant program in 2004 to provide financial support for Realtor association programs and activities that position them as leaders in their increasingly diverse communities. Grants of up to \$5,000 are awarded twice a year to local and state Realtor associations. Since 2004, 63 grants totaling more than \$195,000 have been awarded through the program.

"Realtors build communities, and through the Diversity Initiative Grants program, state and local Realtor associations are better able to prepare their members to connect with and understand America's diverse population, and ultimately earn the confidence of the home buyers and sellers they serve," said NAR President Pat V. Combs of Grand Rapids, Mich., vice president of Coldwell Banker-AJS-Schmidt.

The 2007 Diversity Initiative Grant

Grants of up to \$5,000 are awarded twice a year to local and state Realtor associations. Since 2004, 63 grants totaling more than \$195,000 have been awarded through the program.

award winners are:

Council of Residential Specialists, Chicago: \$5,000 to encourage diversity programming among the Council's chapters and to broaden the educational and networking opportunities for members and students so they can better serve consumers.

Greater Tampa Association of Realtors, Tampa, Fla.: \$5,000 to educate members on the fundamentals of the lending process, identify the tactics of mortgage predators and avoid predatory lending.

Kitsap County Association of Realtors, Silverdale, Wash.: \$3,900 to update the association's Web site to feature fair housing issues, host a symposium aimed at educating minorities on employment opportunities in real estate and hold a homebuyer workshop.

Mainstreet Organization of Realtors, Downers Grove, Ill.: \$1,550 to work with the local fair housing advocacy agencies to develop a pocket guide that will address common questions about

fair housing.

Rockford Area Association of Realtors, Rockford, Ill.: \$5,000 to launch a consumer awareness campaign aimed at the community's Hispanic home buyers and sellers.

Orange County Association of Realtors, (Laguna Hills, Calif.): \$2,500 to support a home buyer fair targeted at the city's growing Latino and Asian population.

Rhode Island Association of Realtors, Warwick, R.I.: \$5,000 to develop an awareness campaign targeting the area's minority populations to educate them about the dangers of predatory lending.

Santa Clara Association of Realtors, San Jose, Calif.: \$2,500 to sponsor an event and invite members of minority real estate organizations to educate and prepare members to serve a diverse population of home buyers and sellers in the area.

South Broward Board of Realtors, Pembroke Pines, Fla.: \$5,000 to co-

sponsor a two-day symposium with educational seminars and consumer homebuying information in multiple languages.

Washington Association of Realtors, Olympia, Wash.: \$5,000 to identify and engage real estate agents serving minority populations and help develop local chapters of the Asian Real Estate Association of America and National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals.

While at the Midyear meetings, Realtors also developed new skills for working with buyers and sellers of all backgrounds by attending NAR's "At Home with Diversity" course.

The nine-year-old program educates Realtors about being sensitive to and aggressive in meeting the homeownership needs of a diverse society. The course aims to support the nation's fair housing commitment by giving Realtors the tools they need to serve culturally diverse buyers and sellers.

For additional information on the At Home with Diversity course or to download a Diversity Initiative Grant application, visit www.realtor.org/diversity. Grant applications for the next round of awards are due by Oct. 5, 2007.



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REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real Estate pre-license class

Real Estate One will be holding pre-licensing classes from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. starting Monday, June 4. Call (800) 889-9001 to register.

Buying a home

Catholic Parishes Federal Credit Union will offer a free Homebuyer Seminar 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 7, at the credit union, 36111 Five Mile, Livonia. Walk through the homebuying process and learn how to maximize your purchase with industry experts. All materials will be provided along with refreshments and door prizes. Reservations needed. Call Emma at (734) 432-0212, Ext. 301, or e-mail Eteller-cpfcu@twmi.rr.com.

Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty will be hosting a Career Seminar Saturday, June 9, at 11:15 a.m. at the Plymouth Market Place, located at 40600 Ann Arbor Rd., Suite 100, a half block west of I-275 adjacent to Bally's Fitness Center. Please call in advance to reserve a seat: (734) 459-4700.

Learn about real estate

Real Estate One in Milford is hosting an evening pre-license class beginning June 11. It will be held three nights a week for three weeks. Call Vicki Ascherl at (248) 684-1065 to register; limited space available.

Seminars for pros

There will be free Verl Workman Seminars to help professionals focus on getting real, measurable results from technology tools. Learn the Internet habits of the shifting population and how to win consumer loyalty through e-mail. Seminars are 9 a.m. to noon, June 11, Livonia Radisson, and June 12, Sterling Inn. RSVP to enroll@startechseminars.com or (248) 208-3886. Sponsored by Obeo, Real Estate One, Max Broock, and Johnstone and Johnstone.

Homebuying basics

Homebuying Seminar 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 12. This is for first-time buyers and those returning to home ownership. Subjects included: "Mortgage 101," "Renting vs. Buying," "Repairing a Leaking Budget," "Optimizing Your Credit Score" and "Finding the Right Realtor." Handouts will be available to take home. There will be time for questions. Location: VISTA Mortgage, 38777 Six Mile, Suite 114, Livonia (I-275 and Six Mile). RSVP to Mark Hutchins at (734) 432-2030.

Insurance experts

A June 14 meeting to hear local insurance experts discuss the state of the volatile insurance industry and answer your insurance questions.

Presented by the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland at 5:30-9:30 p.m. at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members, \$20 non-members. Call (800) 747-6742.

Builder pre-license classes offered

Oakland Builders Institute is presenting a 16-hour comprehensive seminar to give students the help needed to pass the Michigan state builder's license examination.

The course is for those who want to subcontract the construction of their own homes, real estate investors and developers and building tradespeople who want to work legally in Michigan. This seminar is comprehensive, teaching math as well as blueprint reading. Oakland Builders Institute teaches building courses in 16 school districts in Michigan. For a free brochure and current schedule of all classes including evening sessions, call toll-free (800) 940-2014 or (248) 651-2771.

Seminars are offered at the following dates and locations:

A seminar is scheduled for Tuesday/Thursday, June 19, 21, 26, 28, from 6-10 p.m. at Adams High School, 3200 Tienken Road, Rochester. The course is for those who want to subcontract the

construction of their own homes, real estate investors and developers and building trades people who want to work legally in Michigan. The cost of the seminar is \$199 plus \$20 for the course textbook and sample questions.

Pre-registration with payment is required no later than Friday, June 15, to Rochester Community Education. Please call (248) 726-3165 to register Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A seminar is scheduled for Monday/Wednesday, June 11, 13, 18, 20, from 6-10 p.m. at Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn Heights Campus, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights.

The cost of the seminar is \$189 for residents plus \$20 for the course textbook and sample questions, or \$208 for non-residents plus \$20 for the course textbook and sample questions.

Pre-registration with payment is required no later than Thursday, June 7, to Henry Ford Community College. Please call (313) 317-1500 to register Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A seminar is scheduled for Saturday/Sunday, June 23 and 24, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Best Western ConCorde Inn of Rochester Hills, 1919 Star-Batt Drive, Rochester Hills. The cost of the seminar is \$205 and is all-inclu-

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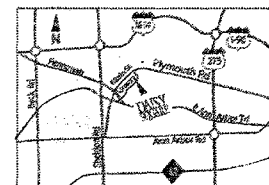
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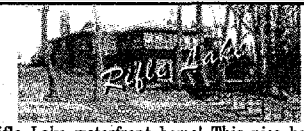
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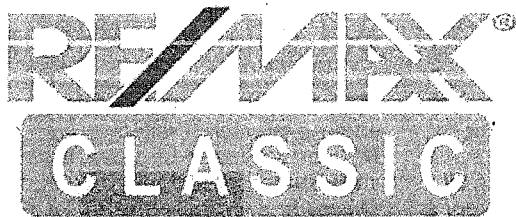


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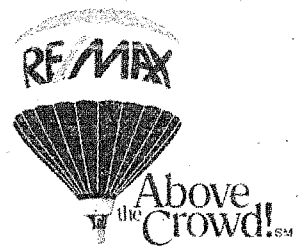
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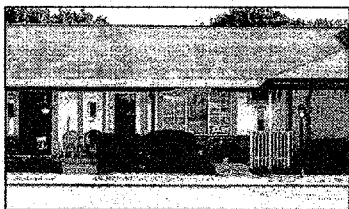


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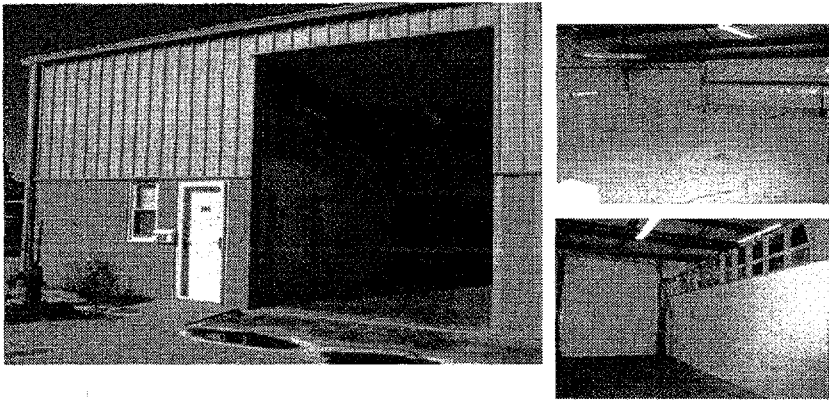
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Flip for market-proof real estate investing

(NAPSI)-In today's slowing real estate market, a "buy and hold" investment strategy might seem to make more sense than "flipping" for investors looking to build long-term wealth. But according to recent National Association of Realtors statistics and a new book in the popular Millionaire Real Estate Series, flippers-investors who buy and sell houses within 12 months after making improvements, like a new bathroom-continue to profit even as real estate markets stagnate nationwide.

"Flipping a house has many moving parts. Anyone looking to flip as a 'get-rich-quick' scheme is going to get burned," says Rick Villani, co-author of the new book "FLIP: How to Find, Fix, and Sell Houses for Profit" (McGraw-Hill). "FLIP provides a road map to success that anyone can follow."

In *FLIP*, Villani and co-author Clay Davis break flipping down to a market-proof, Find-Analyze-Buy-Fix-Sell process that helps evaluate investments and flip houses no matter what the market conditions. Based on their extensive experience finding, fixing and reselling more than 1,000 houses with their company HomeFixers, Villani and Davis provide the practical and technical guidance investors need to read the real estate market, weigh costs and maximize profits. The five-stage process presented in *FLIP* includes:

- Find-Research/select neighborhoods and houses, attract sellers
- Analyze-Identify improvements, consider costs, analyze profit potential
- Buy-Arrange financing, make offer, close
- Fix-Develop and execute improvement plan, on time and on budget
- Sell-Sell quickly for maximum profit.

While there are flipping opportunities in any market, *FLIP* emphasizes the importance of carefully evaluating the market, identifying viable buying opportunities, anticipating potential problems and costs, and developing an overall strategic plan. Before making any real estate investment decision, Davis and Villani strongly recommend each potential flipper evaluate the current local market environment and then consider which opportunities present the best profit potential. They also encourage prospective flippers to follow four key indicators before making any buying decision: mortgage rate trends, seasonal buying cycles, time on the market for all houses in a given neighborhood, and current and planned city/area developments.

"For the average real estate investor to succeed, they've got to know when to buy and when to walk away," says Davis. "Like with any sound investment, investors first must do their homework."

FLIP is available in bookstores and at www.homefixers.com.

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 MLS#27025878 \$139,900 - Highland 4835 Hickory 248-437-3800	 MLS#26175861 \$134,000 - Green Oak 9825 Cambridge 248-437-3800	 MLS#27027035 \$185,000 - Salem New Construction! 248-437-3800	 MLS#27087641 \$279,900 - South Lyon 1.83 acres w/new pole barn! 248-437-3800	 MLS#27002772 \$424,900 - South Lyon 4 BR home w/finished bsmt 248-437-3800
 MLS#27035089 \$249,800 - Pinckney 4 BR home on 1 acre lot! 248-437-3800	 MLS#27044815 \$182,900 - South Lyon 2 BR condo downtown w/gar. 248-437-3800	 MLS#27004093 \$109,000 - Highland Lot in South Bay Shores 248-684-1065	 MLS#26211462 \$220,000 - Brighton Bright, open floor plan. 248-684-1065	 MLS#27066879 \$154,900 - Milford Hill-top walkout site. 248-684-1065
 MLS#27052988 \$949,900 - Milford Full finished LL walkout. 248-684-1065	 MLS#26207812 \$219,000 - Orchard Lake Located on corner lot. 248-684-1065	 MLS#26104331 \$58,900 - Detroit Lovely landscaping. 248-684-1065	 MLS#26207024 \$399,900 - Davidsburg On almost 8 acres. 248-684-1065	
 MLS#26217501 \$699,000 - Farmington Hills Exquisite French cape cod. 248-348-6430	 MLS#26162373 \$324,900 - Farmington Hills Fabulous wooded view. 248-348-6430	 MLS#27038053 \$179,900 - South Lyon Nice 3 BR ranch. 248-348-6430	 MLS#27011471 \$379,500 - South Lyon Beautiful modern colonial. 248-348-6430	 MLS#26208947 \$215,000 - Fenton Great house on wooded lot. 248-348-6430
 MLS#27005985 \$208,900 - Novi Master suite with balcony. 248-348-6430	 MLS#27085352 \$435,000 - Novi Excellent location. 248-348-6430	 MLS#27017625 \$239,900 - Novi Spectacular 2BR w/custom deck! 248-348-6430	 MLS#27021312 \$269,000 - Novi Great home, lot & neighborhood. 248-348-6430	

\$88,500 - Green Oak
1 acre bldg. site w/lake privileges
248-437-3800 27054019

\$169,900 - Green Oak
Quaint farmhouse on beautiful treed lot!
248-437-3800 27081941

\$225,000 - Whitmore Lake
Newer Duplex with lake access
248-437-3800 27067496

\$279,900 - Salem
4 BR ranch w/walkout and acreage!
248-437-3800 27006283

\$274,900 - South Lyon
Neutral colonial w/second floor laundry!
248-437-3800 27041852

\$134,900 - Novi
Beautiful 2 BR townhouse!
248-437-3800 27046964

\$234,900 - Fowlerville
Charming Cape Cod on 2 Acres!
248-437-3800 27077056

\$339,900 - Green Oak
Colonial w/finished walk-out!
248-437-3800 26201600

\$129,900 - Brighton
Beautiful condo backs to wooded area
248-437-3800 27077293

\$174,900 - Farmington
4 BR Colonial w/lots of updates!
248-437-3800 27066402

\$259,900 - Hamburg
Remodeled ranch w/lake access
248-437-3800 27028879

\$349,800 - Hartland
Beautiful 4 BR colonial on cul-de-sac!
248-437-3800 27079722

\$324,900 - Brighton
Custom built colonial with beautiful yard!
248-437-3800 27082031

\$250,000 - South Lyon
4 BR colonial w/finished basement!
248-437-3800 27028337

\$424,900 - Shelby Twp.
Daylight basement.
248-684-1065 27026921

\$129,900 - Ypsilanti
Cute and cozy bungalow.
248-684-1065 27011471

\$549,800 - Highland
120' on Duck Lake.
248-684-1065 27023210

\$149,900 - Milford
Bring The Horses!
248-684-1065 27033480

\$119,900 - Davison
Cute starter home on 1 acre.
248-684-1065 27056072

\$210,000 - Highland
All Sports Lakelot.
248-684-1065 27081685

\$214,900 - Wixom
Well-kept home on 2/3 acre.
248-684-1065 27073379

\$550,000+ - Milford
The Crossings of Milford
248-684-1065 26039607

\$459,800 - Highland
Lakelot on 2.2 acres.
248-684-1065 26076827

\$114,000 - Highland
Beautiful lot on cul-de-sac.
248-684-1065 27004080

\$2,500 - Milford
Incredible village home.
248-684-1065 27004080

\$289,999 - West Bloomfield
On large corner lot.
248-684-1065 26193502

\$319,000 - Northville
Colonial w/inground pool.
248-684-1065 27062841

\$299,900 - Hartland
Offering builder incentives.
248-684-1065 27089340

\$264,900 - Farmington
Super 4 BR colonial.
248-348-6430 27089236

\$124,900 - Livonia
Step back in time!
248-348-6430 27090724

\$415,000 - Novi
Well-maintained colonial.
248-348-6430 27088594

\$75,000 - Redford
Commercial building & business.
248-348-6430 26158536

\$199,000 - Farmington Hills
Freshly painted & carpeted.
248-348-6430 27033653

\$355,000 - Novi
Large open floor plan!
248-348-6430 27007466

\$122,900 - Walled Lk.
2 BR condo.
248-348-6430 27051103

\$284,900 - Northville
Charming 3 BR ranch.
248-348-6430 27035402

\$129,900 - Livonia
Move-in condition condo.
248-348-6430 26193305

\$267,000 - Canton
Meticulous end unit condo.
248-348-6430 27036548

\$110,000 - Redford
Modest 3 BR home.
248-348-6430 27082313

\$699,900 - Novi
DEVELOPERS ALERT!!!!
248-348-6430 26169714

\$169,900 - Livonia
Exceptional value is your opportunity!
248-348-6430 27027823

\$185,000 - Northville
Upscale townhome community.
248-348-6430 27024933

Milford (248) 684-1065 • Novi (248) 348-6430 • South Lyon (248) 437-3800

10 (West) • OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC • MIRROR • HOMETOWN WEEKLIES | Thursday, May 31, 2007

www.hometownlife.com

CREW seeks entries for real estate Impact Awards

The Detroit chapter of Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW Detroit) now has 2007 entry packages available online for its sixth annual commercial real estate award program, the CREW Detroit Impact Awards.

The awards recognize two recently completed southeast Michigan commercial properties that significantly improve their surrounding communities.

The 2007 competition is open to new construction and redevelopment projects completed between Jan. 1, 2006, and June 30, 2007. The projects must also have involved at least one firm with a CREW Detroit member, said Sheila Monohon of Giffels-Webster Engineers in Rochester Hills, award committee chair. A list of companies with a CREW Detroit member is available at crewdetroit.org/memlist.htm.

Impact Award "intent to enter" forms can be downloaded now at crewdetroit.org/awards.html. Printed forms are available from Norma Beuter at (248) 646-0629 or beuter@comcast.net. Completed forms should be submitted along with a \$100 entry fee by June 1. Entrants will then receive an entry package outlining the submission requirements. Those completed entry packages are due on or before June 29.

Projects earn points for being environmentally friendly, improving the surrounding community and creatively using current materials, space and technology, Monohon said. Visteon Village in Van Buren Township and the Mason Run brownfield redevelopment in Monroe won in 2006 in the new development and redevelopment categories, respectively.

A panel of eight judges from the commercial real estate industry will select one winner in each category in August. The awards will be presented at a Sept.

CREW Detroit founded in 1986, is dedicated to advancing the success of women in commercial real estate by promoting networking and professional opportunities among its more than 140 members. CREW Detroit is one of the largest local chapters of CREW Network, a professional organization of 7,000 commercial real estate women and men in the U.S. and Canada.

20 luncheon at Oakland Hills Country Club in Bloomfield Hills, where all finalists' entries will also be on display. Tickets are \$65; for more information, contact Beth Lilley at (313) 256-2342 or elizabeth.lilley@chase.com, or see the Web site.

CREW Detroit founded in 1986, is dedicated to advancing the success of women in commercial real estate by promoting networking and professional opportunities among its more than 140 members. CREW Detroit is one of the largest local chapters of CREW Network, a professional organization of 7,000 commercial real estate women and men in the U.S. and Canada. Other local activities include monthly programs, a golf outing in June, and community outreach work benefiting Alternatives for Girls in Detroit and First Step in Plymouth. CREW Detroit will also host the annual CREW Midwest Regional Midwest Regional Conference May 3-5 at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, expected to draw more than 200 members and non-members from 11 states and Ontario.

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FEATURE HOMES

FARMINGTON HILLS

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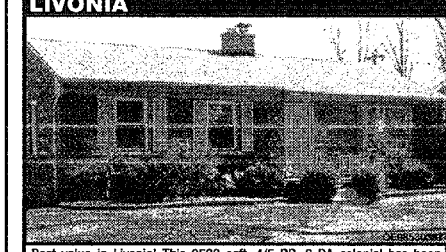
28865 Green Castle Rd. - S. of 12 Mile, E. of Middlebelt. Over \$60K in renovations! 3 BR's w/ new granite/cherry kitchen, new plumbing & roof, fresh paint. 42" plasma TV w/accepted price/terms. \$244,900.
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Magnificent home with great view of Cranberry Lake. 5 bedrooms and 9' ceilings. An office/study, living room, fireplace and hardwood floors. Master suite with jacuzzi tub and shower. Finished walk-out includes bedroom, full ceramic bath and family rm. Total living area 3500 sq. ft.
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Best value in Livonia! This 2520 sqft. 4/5 BR, 2 BA colonial has been completely transformed! Features include: remodeled kitchen, baths & fr. paint. 2nd story has all new windows, carpet and fr. paint. Seller offering a main flr. carpet allowance. This is truly a must see home! Only \$194,900!
Call Deborah Conrad
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NORTHVILLE - Like new 2 bedrm, 2 bath condo w/ upgrades galore! Offers master ste w/ cathedral ceilings, ktchn w/ lots of counter space + built-in snack bar, covered balcony off living rm & master ste, fastastic clubhouse w/ gym, pool, etc! \$179,800 (L13Car)
www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27066818

PINKNEY VILLAGE - Beautifully updated 3 bdrm home on large lot at great value! Lower level prepped & framed for 2nd full bath, newer roof, H2O heater, furnace, garage door, interior freshly painted + more. Great neighborhood! \$162,999 (L68Ash)
www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27060133

BRIGHTON - Beautiful Hope Lake access w/ sandy beach & park! This 3 bedrm home offers family rm w/ gorgeous brick frpic, interior freshly painted, new Pergo flooring, nice large yard + 1 year. Home Warranty. \$153,000 (L07Dia)
www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27083182

LIVONIA - Beautiful country home tucked away in almost 2 acres of gorgeous rolling hills surrounded by trees. Very clean and well-maintained. Property may be divided into 3 separate buildable lots. \$329,900 (L00W.Ch)
www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27027975

LIVONIA - 4 bedrm, 2 bath ranch within walking distance to Livonia Rec Center & Library! Large 76x140 corner lot. Offers: replacement vinyl windows, hardwood floor in living rm & 3 bdrms, fenced yard, updates, great neighborhood! \$169,900 (L08Bro)
www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27066715

FARMINGTON - Charming 2 bedrm starter home. Updated: ceramic bath, ktchn w/ lots of counters, cabinets & 7x3 walk-in-pantry, wndws, roof, A/C, furn, siding, plumbing + award winning landscaping! \$143,900 (L09Vio)
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REDFORD - This updated 3 bedrm, 2 full bath home has been well cared for & is located in great sub! Offers newer roof & windows, C/A, glass block wndws in nicely fin'd basement, 2 car garage, fenced yard, sharp front porch, etc. \$134,900 (L12Woo)
www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27087436

REDFORD - This lovely 3 bedrm bungalow offers updated white ktchn w/ all appliances & ceramic flr, wndws, carpet, refin'd hdwd floors, roof, furn, C/A, etc. Master w/ 4x8 walk-in-closet. Professionally fin'd bsmt \$129,888 (L41Len)
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San Felipe, Mexico, site of much development

Q. I am interested in buying some property in San Felipe, Mexico, which I understand is the new Cabo San Lucas. What information do you have?



Robert Meisner

of the lots allow for the erection of duplexes which can result in an excellent rental property opportunity. The climate is analogous to southern California and there is, of course, access to the Sea of Cortez. You are best advised to contact a realtor or a major American developer in the area.

Q. I am interested in buying a hotel condominium in the San Diego area and am wondering if you have any information in that regard.

A. While condominiums and rental properties have been extremely popular in the San Diego area, the concept of a condominium hotel is relatively new but is beginning to take off. The benefits of a condominium hotel provide you with an opportunity to purchase a prime location at a relatively nominal price for a limited period of time. You also have the opportunity to rent out the unit, but generally speaking, the hotel association takes a substantial portion of the rental fee. You are best advised to carefully review the development with an experienced condo lawyer before making any investment.

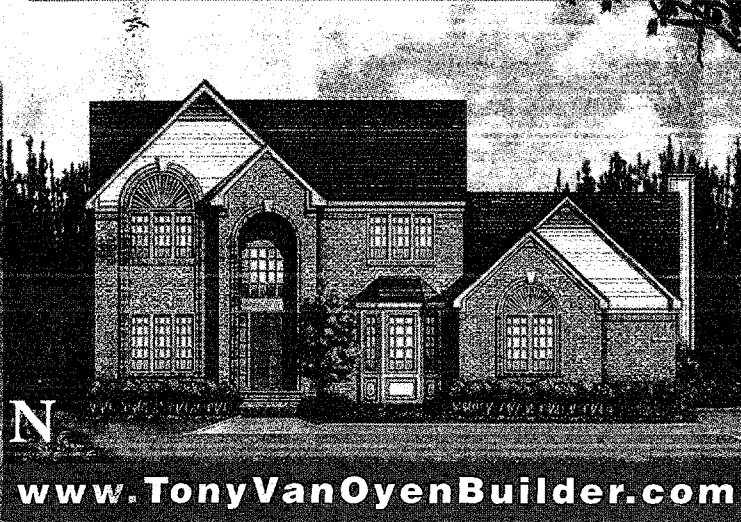
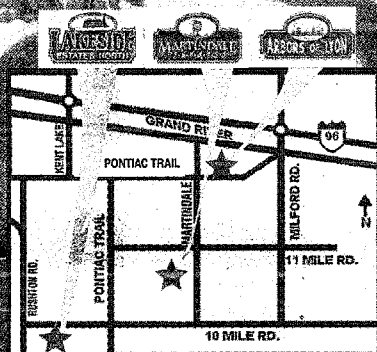
Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote *Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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- South Lyon Herald
- Troy Eccentric
- West Bloomfield Eccentric
- Westland Observer
- and on

HOMETOWNlife



HOMES SOLD

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Jan. 29-31, 2007, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

Canton		240 Brandt St	\$115,000		
967 Ashton Woods Dr	\$360,000	32319 Brown St	\$175,000	11462 Aspen Dr	\$183,000
50357 Colonial St	\$350,000	31739 Cambridge St	\$135,000	635 McKinley St	\$446,000
1668 Emerald Pines Dr	\$255,000	6445 Fairfield St	\$153,000	615 S Harvey St	\$190,000
46729 Inverness Rd	\$369,000				
6479 Lambeth Way	\$266,000	Livonia		Redford	
44420 Penny Ct	\$260,000	11325 Berwick St	\$230,000		
47469 Putney Ct	\$434,000	11037 Brookfield St	\$175,000	10023 Appleton	\$123,000
1400 Stafford Dr	\$170,000	15553 Brookfield St	\$250,000	14827 Aubrey	\$124,000
1585 Trinity Rd	\$458,000	32985 Fargo St	\$54,000	9555 Fenton	\$119,000
6518 Weatherfield Way	\$265,000	34405 Fargo St	\$140,000	20006 Indian	\$90,000
1136 Wildwood Ln	\$224,000	29425 Linda St	\$164,000	20403 Norborne	\$107,000
1826 Willard Dr	\$185,000	29620 Lori St	\$168,000	18698 Olympia	\$105,000
		39127 Meeting House Ln	\$234,000	24963 S Sylbert Dr	\$130,000
Farmington		14184 Merriman Rd	\$176,000	9211 Tecumseh	\$122,000
22750 Mayfield St	\$167,000	32831 Vermont St	\$150,000	25058 W Six Mile Rd	\$40,000
Farmington Hills				South Lyon	
29770 Bradmoor Ct	\$543,000	Milford		996 Oak Creek Dr	\$250,000
21620 Jefferson St	\$118,000	1645 Lone Tree Rd	\$196,000		
29978 Kimberly Dr	\$90,000	626 Napa Valley Dr	\$136,000		
30141 S Meadowridge	\$242,000	Northville			
25961 Springbrook Dr	\$240,000	16714 Dundalk	\$335,000		
30657 Sunderland Dr	\$375,000	16513 Lincoln Dr	\$400,000		
Garden City		37996 W Meadowhill Dr	\$315,000		
31461 Balmoral St	\$138,000	47052 Merion Cir	\$588,000		
33151 Bock St	\$153,000	19186 Northridge Dr	\$108,000		
		49191 Ridge Ct	\$245,000		
		Novi			
		22779 Beckenham Ct	\$685,000		
		41778 Independence Cir	\$157,000		
		40645 Paisley Cir	\$380,000		
		39885 Village Wood Ln	\$101,000		
		46644 W Nine Mile Rd	\$1,250,000		

		1022 Paddock Dr	\$211,000
		25276 Stanely Ln	\$70,000
	Westland		
		7360 Arcola St	\$133,000
		29082 Brody Ave	\$130,000
		8314 Hugh St	\$102,000
		7755 Lear Ct	\$150,000
		7697 Louise Ct	\$155,000
		29007 McDonald St	\$75,000
		7636 Melvin Ave	\$142,000
		29114 Powers St	\$119,000
		200 S Crown St	\$175,000
		1644 S Parent St	\$102,000
		34315 Tomahawk Dr	\$136,000
		27748 Trailbrooke Cir	\$123,000
		33452 Unicorn Ct	\$154,000

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Why 3/4 of Homesellers Don't Get the Price They Want for Their Home

FARMINGTON HILLS - A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their home and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their home on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers

make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable.

In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your free copy of this report, call 1-800-449-3218 and enter ID#3020. You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Call NOW to find out what you need to know to make your move up to a larger home worry-free and without complications.

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Observer & Eccentric • Mirror • Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, May 31, 2007 • (West) 13

Real Estate Women planning June 21 golf event

Commercial Real Estate Women Detroit's 11th annual golf outing will be Thursday, June 21, at Pine Knob Golf Course, 5580 Waldon Road, Clarkston. A portion of proceeds will benefit Alternatives For Girls in Detroit (www.alternativesforgirls.org).

Registration is 8:30 a.m. with continental breakfast; 10 a.m. shotgun start. Cost is \$175 for golf, breakfast, lunch, happy hour and dinner or \$35

Major sponsors are: Quadrants Inc.; Spalding DeDecker Associates Inc.; ISCG; Jones Lang LaSalle; Schostak Brothers & Company; Compuware; Dykema; LaSalle Bank and Moylan Energy.

for happy hour and dinner. Register by June 14 online at www.crewdetroit.org or contact Megan Cottrell at (888) 866-CREW or

megan@crewnetwork.org. Prepayment and pre-registration are required.

Major sponsors are: Quadrants

Inc.; Spalding DeDecker Associates Inc.; ISCG; Jones Lang LaSalle; Schostak Brothers & Company; Compuware; Dykema; LaSalle Bank and Moylan Energy.

There will be golf prizes, door prizes and 50/50 raffle after golf at happy hour and dinner. Sponsorships are available for \$250 to \$2,000; contact Veronica Shepherd, (313) 929-5211 or veronica.shepherd@am.jll.com.



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Opening Bid: \$75,000

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Stonewood



Clarkston
Originally Priced to \$430,457
Opening Bid: \$125,000

• Unique master planned home and condominium development • Minutes to charming Downtown Clarkston • Award winning schools • On White Lake Rd. just west of Dixie Hwy.

Huntmore Estates



Brighton
Originally Priced to \$429,950
Opening Bid: \$150,000

• Golf course community, 1/2 acre sites • Acclaimed Hartland Schools • Old US-23 and Hyne Rd.

Cheshire Park



Clarkston
Originally Priced to \$308,400
Opening Bid: \$100,000

• 3 bed/2-1/2 bath home • Close to charming Downtown Clarkston • Award winning schools • Off Sashabaw Road on the south side of Waldon Rd.

Stonegate Pointe



Pontiac
Originally Priced to \$172,600
Opening Bid: \$40,000

• 3 bed/2-1/2 bath townhome • 2 bed/2 bath condominium • In the heart of Oakland County • North side of Elizabeth Lake Rd. just east of Telegraph Rd.

Woodcreek Park



Flat Rock
Originally Priced to \$274,600
Opening Bid: \$100,000

• 3 bed/2-1/2 bath home • Historic Flat Rock's largest new home development • Off Gibraltar Rd. west of I-75

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A Perfect Mortgage Co.	(248) 203-7726	6.125	0	5.75	0	J/A
AAXA Discount Mortgage	(877) 728-3569	5.875	1	5.625	0.5	J/A
ABR Financial	(248) 622-1262	6.125	0	5.75	0	J/A/V/F
AFI Financial	(877) 234-0600	5.75	1.75	5.375	1.375	J/A
American Home Mortgage	(877) 478-7289	5.875	2	5.5	2	J/A/V/F
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	6.125	0	5.875	0	J/A
Atlantis Mortgage	(248) 985-6000	6.125	0	5.75	0	J/A
Benchmark Lending	(586) 463-2255	6.25	0	5.875	0	J/A
Bank's Goldstar Mortgage	(800) 795-4755	5.625	2.25	5.25	2	J/A/V/F
Charter One Bank	(800) 342-5336	6.625	0	6.25	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	5.75	1.875	5.375	1.75	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	6.25	1	6	1	J
Countrywide Home Loans	(800) 641-2384	5.75	3	5.375	3	J/A/V/F
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	6.125	0	5.75	0	A
DFCU Financial	(800) 739-2770	6.125	2	5.75	2	J/A
Earth Mortgage	(877) 327-8450	5.875	1	5.625	1	J/A/V/F
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	6.375	0.375	6.25	0	J/V/F
First International Mortgage	(248) 540-1065	6.125	0	5.875	0	J/A
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 203-1546	6.125	0.25	5.875	0.25	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	5.625	2.375	5.25	2.375	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	6.375	0	6.25	0	J/A/V/F
LaSalle Bank Midwest	(800) 466-3800	5.875	2	5.75	2	J/A/V/F
Mainstreet Mortgage	(800) 900-1313	6.25	0	5.875	0	J/A/V/F
Manufacturers	(586) 777-1000	6	1	5.75	1	J/A
Michigan Schools & Gov. C/U	(586) 263-8800	6.25	0	6	0	J/A
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	6.125	0.125	5.75	0.25	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(610) 844-2222	5.875	1.375	5.5	1.375	J/A
National City Bank	(586) 825-0825	5.98	1.875	5.625	2	J/A
Northlawn Financial	(248) 988-8488	6.125	0	5.75	0	J/A/V/F
Pathway Financial LLC	(800) 726-2274	6.125	0	5.75	0	J/A/F
Shore Mortgage	(800) 678-6663	5.625	3	5.125	3	J/A/V/F
United Mortgage Group	(586) 286-9500	6.125	0	5.75	0	J/A
York Financial Inc.	(888) 839-9675	6.125	0	5.875	0	J/A

Above information available as of 5/25/07 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arms, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders.

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BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 7

sive. The manual, sample questions and the test application are all included.

A \$25 deposit is required no later than Thursday, June 21, to Oakland Builders Institute, 1277 Dutton, Rochester Hills, MI 48306. Please call toll-free (800) 940-2014 or (248) 651-2771 to register Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or register online at www.buildersinstitute.com.

Building Industry Association offers programs

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and the Construction Association of Michigan will present the following programs:

■ BIA will present another of its Advanced Residential Construction Superintendent (ARCS) courses – Building it Right: Quality Construction for Superintendents (Technical Proficiency Track) – from 8 a.m. to noon on Thursday, May 31, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

Brindley R.W. Byrd, CAPS, CGR of

Qx2, Inc., will guide attendees to learn to identify the stakeholders of a construction project and the performance expectations that need to be set and measured for each group to ensure product quality, as well as offer technical tips and best practices to improve quality at each stage of a construction project.

Registration fees are \$155 for BIA members and \$185 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's Sales & Marketing Council (SMC) will present a "How To Use Technologies To Increase Sales" seminar on Wednesday, June 6, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia. Jerry Rouleau of J. Rouleau & Associates will lead the seminar, which will include such topics as target marketing, lead management systems, e-mail marketing, tracking e-mails, tracking incoming calls from lead sources, using podcasts to provide information and more.

Registration fees are \$30 for SMC members, \$50 for BIA members and \$75 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan will present

another in its series of Certified Graduate Builder (CGB) courses – "Sales & Marketing" – on Friday, June 11, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

Chuck Breidenstein of Builders Professional Services Group Inc. will instruct attendees on how to help turn their businesses into profitable, market-driven enterprises. The course will count towards Certified Graduate Associate (CGA), Certified Graduate Builder (CGB) and Master Certified New Home Sales Professional (MCSP) designations.

Registration fees are \$155 for Remodelers Council members, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan will present another in its series of Residential Construction Superintendent (RCS) courses – "Customer Service and Homeowner Relations" – on Tuesday, June 12, from 8 a.m. to noon at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

Chuck Breidenstein of Builders Professional Services Group Inc. will lead

the course, instructing attendees on how to learn to meet and exceed expectations by avoiding the "seven deadly sins" in customer service.

Registration fees are \$155 for BIA members and \$185 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan will present another in its series of Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR) courses – "Sales & Marketing for Remodelers" – on Tuesday, June 19, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

Chuck Breidenstein of Builders Professional Services Group Inc. will instruct attendees on how to survive and thrive in today's business environment, build positive reputations and contented customers in their communities. The course will count toward Certified Graduate Associate (CGA), Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR) and Master Certified New Home Sales Professional (MCSP) designations.

Registration fees are \$155 for Remodelers Council members, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

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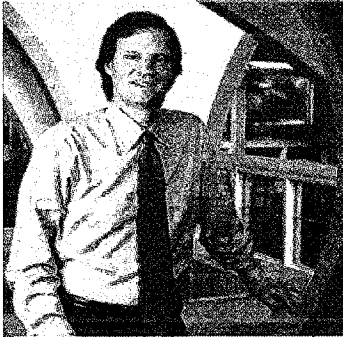
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 <p>Brighton 248-348-6430 NOSTALGIC BRIGHTON FARMHOUSE Beautiful tree setting for this 1556 sq ft, 3 br, 3 ba updt home w/modern flr plan. Mstr BR w/mstr ba. Den could be 4th br. 2 car gar on spacious, nearly 1 acre lot.</p> <p>(27033974) \$209,000</p>	 <p>Canton 734-455-7000 INCREDIBLE CURB APPEAL! Floor plan has an open feel w/high ceilings. Lg kit w/built-ins, oak cabs, sunrm off the kit. Custom staircase. Unfin bsmt. This one will be tough to beat!</p> <p>(27083518) \$414,900</p>	 <p>Canton 734-455-7000 AMAZING PRICE--2004 CONDO! Tons of upgrades: granite; hardwood on 1st flr; SS appl; master w/FP; luxury bath w/jacuzzi; faces pond; clubhouse w/24 hr. workout facilities.</p> <p>(27081120) \$246,750</p>	 <p>Canton 734-455-7000 EXCEPTIONAL CHOICE! Seller to pre-pay summer '07 taxes (\$3,600) at closing. Ranch condo w/\$30,000 in upgrades; hrdwd flrs t/o, granite in kit, SS appl, jetted tub, ceram in baths.</p> <p>(27045949) \$234,000</p>	 <p>Canton 734-455-7000 PREMIUM LOCATION FACING THE WOODLANDS! Upgraded condo with many features: gas FP, upgraded kit cabs, wood flr in kit, SS appl, lg flowing w/doorwalk to deck. Beautiful dining rm, rms, bonus loft area, neutral carpet, mstr walk-in closet.</p> <p>(27084036) \$178,000</p>	 <p>Canton 734-455-7000 ABSOLUTELY TURN-KEY! Immaculate upper level 2BR/2BA ranch condo in Lile Pointe. Mstr ste w/priv bath. Lg GR w/doorwalk to deck. Beautiful dining rm. Spacious kitchen w/all appli.</p> <p>(27084697) \$122,000</p>
 <p>Dearborn Heights 734-591-9200 3 bedroom brick ranch in Crestwood Schools. Updates throughout. New kit, cabinets & countertops, hardwood flrs, jacuzzi in fl. rm off mast. bdrm. Great buy!</p> <p>(27085199) \$144,900</p>	 <p>Farmington Hills 248-851-1900 QUALITY COLONIAL IN A GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD Beautiful Kitchen, Open To FR. Cathedral Ceilings; Crown Mldngs; 6-panel Doors, Bay Window, French Doors, New Furnace, Fin Bsmt 04, New Roof 98. \$1000 to closing costs</p> <p>(27007399) \$339,888</p>	 <p>Farmington Hills 248-851-1900 4 BR HOME ON PRIVATE .44 ACRE COURT LOT Zero cost financing offered. Granite kitchen. Oak floors. Newer baths & windows. 2-story foyer. Prof landscaped. Light, bright & neutral!</p> <p>(27040394) \$331,255</p>	 <p>Farmington Hills 248-851-1900 FEATURE FILLED NEW HOME ON CORNER LOT 2 story ceramic foyer leads to incredible kitchen w/stainless steel prem applncs, granite,elegant wood floors. Master ste cathedral ceiling, jetted tub, sep shower.</p> <p>(27084119) \$289,900</p>	 <p>Ferndale 248-348-6430 LOOKING FOR CHARACTER, CHARM & UPDATES? 1500 sq ft, 3 br, 2 ba, covered ceilings, leaded glass doors, hrdwd floor, family room w/fireplace, all appliances. Walk to downtown, it's a beauty.</p> <p>(27059069) \$200,000</p>	 <p>Garden City 734-591-9200 4 bdrms w/2 masters. open flr plan w/ huge fam rm off the lg kit. w/brkfst bar. doorwalk to custm deck & pool. New roof, Vinyl wind. Fresh paint, new carpet.</p> <p>(27085539) \$149,900</p>
 <p>Inkster 734-326-2000 NEAT & COZY This 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick bungalow has a newer furnace and air conditioning. (2003) Located in the Wayne-Westland school system. Great Home!</p> <p>(27076522) \$99,900</p>	 <p>Livonia 734-591-9200 LOVELY LARGE 2 OR 3 BDRM LIVONIA RANCH. Great lr w/ fp, lg 3 season rm, lg mb & formal dr. Fin. basement w/ 3rd br & lg fam. rm & built in bar. Many more updates. Lg 2.5 car garage. Hot tub & deck.</p> <p>(27087249) \$235,000</p>	 <p>Livonia 734-455-7000 SPACIOUS RANCH LIVING! Over 1300 sq.ft. ranch. Lg eat-in kitchen with Maytag appliances. Great family room with gas FF. 3 seasons room. 3BR/1.1BA, full finished bsmt. 2 car det garage.</p> <p>(27086910) \$192,000</p>	 <p>Livonia 734-591-9200 FANTASTIC RANCH WITH GREAT CURB APPEAL! Very clean home features a newer roof, winds, siding, rmidl baths, paint. Fin lwr lvl w/full bath, newer crpt, lrg open lr area. 1 yr hm wrnty, most appls stay</p> <p>(27061161) \$189,900</p>	 <p>Livonia 248-851-1900 UPDATED & MOVE IN READY! Livonia Cape Cod with 3 BR, 2 baths, +1545 Sq Ft of living space! 1st flr master suite w/jacuzzi. 1st flr laundry. Hardwd flrs. Deck. Full basement. 2 car att garage.</p> <p>(27044861) \$185,000</p>	 <p>Milford 248-684-1065 6,000 sq ft total on 5.31 acre lot. 8 ft mahogany entry. Custom kit w/ granite t/o. Hearth & brkft rms. Lg DR, huge GR. 1st flr mstr w/ lg sitting/dressing rm.</p> <p>(27057252) \$898,000</p>
 <p>Milford 248-684-1065 Spectacular custom brick home to be built in exclusive new sub of million dollar homes. Close to I-96, M-59 & US-23. Beautifully wooded lots of 2-4 acres.</p> <p>(26039680) \$550,000</p>	 <p>Milford 248-684-1065 Well maintained home on 1.5 wooded acres. Huge LR w/ hrdwd flrs. DR w/ D/W to covered porch. Oak kit. Spacious FR w/ D/W to deck. 1st flr laun. 2 car gar.</p> <p>(27007037) \$219,900</p>	 <p>Northville 248-348-6430 BEAUTIFUL IN TOWN LOCATION Totally rebuilt w/custom detailing t/o. Must see to appreciate. Not a drive by. 4 br, 2.1 ba, granite kit w/ lg island, FR w/frplc, fin bsmt. Quick closing possible.</p> <p>(26214997) \$649,900</p>	 <p>Northville 734-591-9200 RANCH CONDO 2 BD WALK-OUT ATT GAR Ranch condo end unit bathed in sunlight. 2 bdrm walk-out w/att garage. Updates inc. roof 04, furnace & a/c 6/05, carpet 6/05 freshly decorated in neutrals. Move in ready.</p> <p>(27007430) \$189,900</p>	 <p>Novi 248-348-6430 HOME ON A NICE LARGE LOT Great home, private backyard, abundance of trees & flower beds, very large FR, spacious kit, comfortable LR w/bay window, patio, newer windows, gutter & roof.</p> <p>(26175321) \$285,000</p>	 <p>Plymouth 734-455-7000 LOOKING FOR A COUNTRY ATMOSPHERE? This is it! Lake-like pond with hundred-year-old trees. Dynamite layout, 2 bedrooms, both with private full bath. Finished basement. 3rd bath w/whirlpool tub!</p> <p>(27087224) \$187,450</p>
 <p>Redford 248-851-1900 LET US MAKE A DEAL Redford ranch. Three bedrooms, one and a half baths, basement. 2 car garage. Sellers are motivated.</p> <p>(26215669) \$119,000</p>	 <p>South Lyon 248-348-6430 ADULT COMMUNITY COOP Nicely decorated, 1 br ranch style condo. Great location backing to stream and clubhouse. Partially finished basement with workshop.</p> <p>(27057329) \$47,900</p>	 <p>Southfield 248-348-6430 AN ACRE OF BEAUTY Enjoy the character, charm and pride of ownership in this beautifully landscaped yard. Ceramic tile bath. Separate in-law suite possibility.</p> <p>(27009031) \$174,900</p>	 <p>Wayne 734-326-2000 OLD FASHIONED CHARM ABOUND in this 3 or 4 BDRM bungalow on a ravine lot with lots of upgrades including remodeled kit & 2 BA, dining room, newer furnace & central air, rec room & garage.</p> <p>(27075545) \$149,900</p>	 <p>West Bloomfield 734-591-9200 UPGRADES + UPDATES T/O 3000 SQ FT RANCH 3 Bdrm 3 Baths W/ Li. Cath Ceilings T/o Grt Rm W/ Mrbl Fp, Dr, oak Kit W/nwr Ceram & Applis. Mstr Ste, jet Tub, wic. 1st Flr Laun Rm. Tier Cedar Deck, prof Lndsc Yd.</p> <p>(27071906) \$289,499</p>	 <p>Wixom 248-348-6430 SMALL BUT AFFORDABLE Low price 50+ co-op, nice ranch unit, enclosed porch, fin bsmt, priv entry, assoc fee include prop taxes, insurance, water, gas & ground maint, mtgs now available.</p> <p>(27032831) \$38,900</p>