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**THURSDAY**  
September 20, 2007

# PLYMOUTH Observer

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## Board ponders search choice

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education will spend the next few days checking references of two search firms who are seeking the contract to conduct a nationwide search for a new superintendent, before making a decision next Monday on which to hire.

In separate one-hour interviews Tuesday night, trustees asked 22 questions to representatives of Michigan Leadership Institute of Old Mission, Mich., and Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates of Glenview, Ill. At the end, it didn't appear there was a clear choice as to which firm the board will hire to help find a replacement for Jim Ryan, who will retire in March.

"We'll have to compare their answers, see where they are different or similar, and make a decision," said Vice President Barry Simescu. "Neither one of them lost today, and neither one of them knocked us over. Both are very good, I don't think we would make a mistake hiring either one."

In somewhat similar proposals, both search firms plan to meet with trustees and community groups to build criteria for the new superintendent, find four-six qualified candidates and help the board through the process of signing the new CEO to a contract. The base fee for Hazard is \$20,000, with additional charges for advertising plus consultant and candidate expenses, which could increase the total to \$33,000. MLI's proposal was mainly all-inclusive, with a price tag of \$17,500.

The representatives of each firm, who will lead the search, are familiar with Plymouth-Canton. Michael Wilmot, regional president of Michigan Leadership Institute, served as superintendent of Garden City Schools for 18 years. Meanwhile, Roger Garvelink, a senior consultant with Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates, was superintendent in Birmingham for 12 years.

"There are subtle differences between the two firms in terms of their approach, so we have to find which one we think will bring us the best pool of candidates and represent the needs of our district," said Judy Mardigan, Plymouth-Canton school board president. "Everything you read indicates there is a diminishing number of people who want to be superintendent now, so it's very critical we get the best pool of candidates possible."

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Richard 'Wolf' Nobert samples chili at Wednesday's press kickoff for the chili cook-off, which is scheduled for Sept. 30 in downtown Plymouth.

## Heating up the chili

Annual taste contest draws record numbers

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

Dressed mainly in black, including a black vest, shoes and doo-rag, 68-year-old Dick Nobert of Livonia said he's been riding motorcycles the past 25 years.

Nobert, who didn't resemble the stereotypical retired Garden City elementary school teacher that he is, said he spends his retirement traveling with his wife on their Harleys, and meeting with his biker friends from Motor City Harley-Davidson in Farmington Hills, a motorcycle club chapter with about 1,200 members.

"If I knew how good it was, I would have retired years before," said Nobert, who taught for more than 32 years in Garden City.

Nobert was in Plymouth's Kellogg Park Wednesday afternoon, helping to promote the Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff, which takes place Sept. 30 in downtown Plymouth. Not only will there be a record 60 contestants vying for top honors in red and green chili and salsa competition, there will be thousands of bikers on hand, many of them displaying their "hogs" for competition.

"I like looking at the different bikes and the things people have done to them," Nobert said. "I like all the people you see and meeting with the people we know from our chapter. It's just a real, real good time."



Local chili aficionado Annette Horn samples the wares.

It's the 12th annual event put together by Annette Horn of Plymouth, who — along with her husband, Ken — will be competing individually at the world championship chili cookoff in Omaha, Neb., next month.

"There will be more than 60 chilis to choose from, which is a record for

Please see **CHILI, A4**

## Underpass gets blame for August flooding

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

An undersized sewer connection for Wayne County's Sheldon Road underpass project is being blamed for flooding that occurred on Goldsmith and Junction streets in Plymouth when 3½ inches of rain fell Aug. 20.

Plymouth city engineer Sean Keough called it "the perfect storm" when he told city commissioners Monday night a massive downpour that day, combined with a temporary drainage restriction for the underpass project, resulted in the flooding that caused several businesses and homeowners to sustain thousands of dollars in water damage.

As Keough explained it, the 30-inch storm sewer on Goldsmith generally connects with a 36-inch Wayne County storm sewer along Sheldon Road.

"During construction of the underpass, Wayne County made a temporary connection while repairing the storm sewer, and the temporary connection was only 8 inches," said Keough. "You have all that water and only a small outlet. As a result of Goldsmith backing up and the storm sewers getting full of water, the water headed to the lowest area (Junction Street.)."

"It's a construction measure that is used all the time, they just forgot it had been there because the project has taken some time to get going," Keough said. "It was the perfect storm, all the wrong things happening at the same time."

Wayne County Assistant Executive Alan Helmkamp said the sewer connections have since been corrected.

"In my view, the deluge on Aug. 20 overwhelmed storm sewers throughout the county, including many places that weren't construction projects," Helmkamp said. "We learned after the fact the contractor used a temporary connection smaller than the 36-inch pipe, and we had a question, in our mind, about the adequacy of the flume (connection.)"

"There had been a flooding incident on Goldsmith a month before, which city personnel responded to,

### GOT A CLAIM?

Those who want to file flood claims should file a letter with supporting documentation, including photographs, receipts and reports, to Wayne County's project engineer for the Sheldon Road underpass construction. The complaint or claim will be forwarded to the prime contractor and insurance company for review and determination:

Craig Wobrock  
Wayne County Dept. of Public Services  
Engineering Division Field Office  
33809 Michigan Ave.  
Wayne, MI 48184

but didn't report to the county," he said. "Had we known about that situation, we would have had the opportunity to check it out before Aug. 20. All of us lost an opportunity to check things out before then."

Who is to blame didn't matter much to Jada Korsman, whose home on Junction resembled an island as water gushed from Goldsmith to her property during the August storm.

"I've cried so many tears just talking about it," said Korsman while describing the antiques, photo albums and furniture she lost as a result of the flooding. "We had to have a restoration company come out to dry out the crawl space and replace duct work underneath the house. Thank God much of my artwork is ceramic and didn't get ruined."

"The county should come out and see this mess," added Korsman, who said she will file an insurance claim with Wayne County. "Because of their screw-up we've experienced a lot of heartache and hardship."

Several other areas of the city also experienced flooding during the Aug. 20 storms, including residents on Adams Street — near Central Middle School — and Coolidge.

"We further recommend that the city address the structural concerns identified to the storm sewer on Adams Street," said Keough in

Please see **FLOODING, A4**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ron and Jada Korsman, who had to pump flood waters out of their Junction Street home after a heavy rain last month, say they'll file a claim with Wayne County.

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### Coming Sunday in Health



Cardiac screening recommended for student athletes

# Marchers strike up band with Novi win

BY DIANE HANSON  
CORRESPONDENT

An early fall season chill, along with a few other challenging conditions, couldn't put a damper on the 200-member Plymouth-Canton Marching Band as they took the field for their first competition of the year at Novi High School's Fanfare Saturday.

Capturing the Flight I first-place trophy, all three caption awards for Best Music, Best Marching and Best General Effect along with the highest score, 72.1, of all 13 competing bands, the hometown marchers started off pretty much the same as last year — on top.

"These kids are impressing me this year," said Marc Whitlock, beginning his fifth

## ON THE SCHEDULE

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band's 2007 schedule:

- Sept. 29 - Bands of America Regional at EMU's Ryneerson Stadium
- Oct. 13 - Great Lakes International Invitational at P-CEP
- Oct. 20 - Clarkston Invitational
- Nov. 3 - State Championships at Ford Field
- Nov. 14-17 - Bands of America Grand National Championships at the Indianapolis RCA Dome



P-CMB tuba players (from left) Ryan Hoffman, Scotty Hawkins, and David Goodman are hard at practice Saturday morning before their first competition at Novi High School that evening.

training really kicked in and I'm very proud of them."

Canton senior Sarah Hallinen, a fourth-year clarinetist with the band, agreed. "I thought we had a lot of energy, even though the conditions weren't the best," she

said. "We didn't give up and we pushed through. I thought it was a really good performance."

Some of those less-than-perfect conditions included a wet and slick natural turf, yard lines that were difficult



PHOTOS BY DIANE HANSON

Flutists (front, from left) Robin Tramel, Kaitlyn Tracy and Jessica Brashears keep in step during their practice session at the P-CEP stadium. The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band went on to take the highest score of the Fanfare competition at Novi High School in the evening.

season as director of bands. "They were working aggressively through problems that were not their fault. Their

to see and a non-functioning synthesizer.

"I think we were able to stay together because we were closely watching the drum majors," Hallinen added. "That is one of the most important things."

Second-year drum major Dave Brooks, a Plymouth senior, couldn't agree more. He and senior Bradford Ragland share the conducting responsibilities this year.

"I was very proud of them," Brooks said of his fellow band members at their inaugural performance. "Our band has a lot of energy and it looks like they will go far."

He has special kudos for this year's 65 new marchers.

"This year we have outstanding freshmen," he noted. "They have been sticking with it and they are doing a great job."

The 2007 competition show,

"Out of the Shadows," moves visually and musically from darkness to light.

"Everything is in a minor key, so there is a certain amount of melancholy," explained Whitlock. "But the color scheme gets lighter and brighter as the performers come out of the shadows."

After a summer of practice including at-home and away band camps, the band has nearly 70 percent of their nine-minute show completed.

"I think we're in a good place," said Whitlock, who has personal goals in mind for his students that involve more than just the musical, marching basics.

"I want the kids to reach within themselves through performance to know themselves better through this year's show," he explained. "I hope that we are able to perform with more confidence."

## CORRECTION

The game-clinching tackle in Plymouth's 22-20 victory over Canton Friday night was

made by Aaron Uller, not Ronnie Goble as was originally reported in Sunday's *Observer*.



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Beautification awards

The deadline for nominations for the Chamber's Annual Business Beautification Awards has been extended to Tuesday, Sept. 25.

For the past 10 years, the chamber has presented Beautification Awards to acknowledge those businesses who strive to make the Plymouth Community a more beautiful place to do business.

Nominations are eligible in three exterior categories: renovation, landscaping and new construction.

Nominations must be done in writing and mailed to the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 48170, faxed to (734) 453-1724 or e-mailed to chamber@plymouthmi.org

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

Salvation Army craft show The Salvation Army of Plymouth is in need of crafters for its Holiday Craft & Vendor Fair, to be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 10.

Those who wish to sell their wares at this fair may do so by renting an eight-foot table for \$25. You must be available to stay the entire time.

For more information, call the Salvation Army, (734) 453-5464.

Chiefettes variety show

The Canton High School Chiefettes Pom Pom teams present their annual variety show 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, in the Gloria Logan Auditorium at Salem High School.

This event will showcase a variety of entertainment appearances by Plymouth-Canton Community School students and community members, as well as performances by the Chiefettes.

Advance ticket purchases are available for \$5 each or purchase tickets at the door on show day for \$6 each.

OLGC fashion show

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church presents its "Falling into Fashion" dinner and fashion show featuring Ladies Fashions and Accessories Friday, Sept. 28.

The evening starts with a 5:30-6:30 p.m. preview of fashions and accessories to purchase (20 percent of any purchase is tax-deductible).

The event takes place in OLGC's Social Hall, 47650 N. Territorial (at Beck), and features door prizes, beverages and wine. Cost is \$30 (\$20 tax-deductible contribution to debt retirement).

Fit Zone open house

Fit Zone for Women - Canton, located at 7225 N. Canton Center Rd. (at Warren) in Canton, hosts a Fall Open House noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22.

Members, their friends and women of the community are invited to a fun and informational afternoon including chair massages and nutritional information by Plymouth Chiropractic Wellness Center;

health screenings by Oakwood Hospital staff; demonstrations by Clearly You of Plymouth; body-fat analysis; training demonstrations; and group fitness class samplers.

The event will feature a drawing for a free 90-day membership, light refreshments will be served and a prize raffle will be held.

For more information, call Fit Zone for Women-Canton at (734) 927-9991.

Dance classes

Plymouth-Canton Community Education sponsors dance classes for seniors (50 and older), and for teens wanting to learn basic dance steps.

Seniors can enjoy dancing in a comfortable and supportive environment and gain health benefits as well. Build on what you already know and learn the fun, easy steps of the



Kissing the bride

Joanne Dwight Pemberton shared the traditional kiss with her new husband, Terry, after the couple was married Aug. 25 in a ceremony held in the botanical gardens of Medilodge of Plymouth, where the new Mrs. Pemberton is director of nursing.

2001-2003. Most recently, Paciorek called games for the Washington Nationals. Tickets are \$2 each or \$15 to reserve a table for eight, can be purchased at the PCCA 201 S. Main (in the city hall building).

Class starts Tuesday, Sept. 25, from 6-7 p.m. at the Tonda Elementary School gym.

Meanwhile, teens can learn to dance with a partner, while spending four weeks learning the very popular Swing, then moving into salsa.

This class also starts Tuesday, Sept. 25, from 7-8 p.m. at the Tonda gym.

For more information and to register for either class, call (734) 416-2940.

Baseball legacy

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging presents "Coffee with a Baseball Legacy" featuring former major league baseball player Tom Paciorek 1 p.m. Monday, Oct. 8, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, in Plymouth.

Emcee Raymond Rolak and Paciorek, now a motivational speaker, will deliver a lively afternoon of hijinks, motivation and tales of perseverance. Paciorek's career spanned 18 seasons as an outfielder for the Los Angeles Dodgers, Chicago White Sox and others.

The presentation, set for 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 20 in the lower level at the Plymouth Historical Museum, will focus on the Civil War flags in the collection.

The public is invited, admission is free. The museum is located at 155 S. Main in Plymouth.

For more information please call (734) 451-7998.

Lincoln round-table

The Abraham Lincoln Civil War Round Table will host Kerry Chartkoff, chair of Michigan's "Save The Flags" project which preserves, interprets and displays the state's collection of battle flags.

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters and the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band are hosting a fund-raising raffle to raise enough funds to purchase a new semi-trailer.

The raffle, titled "Music & Motion," is being co-sponsored by the Plymouth-based multi-product powersports dealer Plymouth Motorsports. The money raised by the raffle will be used to purchase a new trailer to replace the aging 50-foot trailer currently used by the nationally acclaimed-band to carry all the large, front-ensemble instruments and equipment to each competition or performance.

Raffle tickets, priced at \$10, will be sold for the next four weeks to win your choice of a wave runner, motorcycle, snowmobile, or four-wheeler. The tickets will be on sale at many P-CEP Friday night varsity football games at the Varsity Field at Canton High School and at Plymouth Motorsports located at 110 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth.

Raffle tickets will be sold up until mid-October, with the final winner announced at the Great Lakes Invitational Marching Band Competition hosted by the Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters at Canton High School on Saturday, Oct. 13. All proceeds will benefit the Plymouth-Canton band programs. For more information, visit www.pcmb.net

Artists needed

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging is looking for volunteer artists for a creative display project for The Plymouth Community Council on Aging.

Sports background or the simple love of baseball would be helpful. The project will be needed by Oct. 8.

Interested artists should call Bobbie at (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 for more information.

Corriveau hours

State Representative Marc Corriveau (D-Northville) invites residents to talk with him about any issues or concerns during his upcoming office and coffee hours in Plymouth.

Corriveau will hold a coffee hour with residents on Monday, Sept. 24, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at Three Brothers Restaurant, 8825 General Road in Plymouth.

Businesses or organizations who would like to

schedule an event with Corriveau should contact his office at (877) 20TH-REP (208-4737) or send e-mail to MarcCorriveau@house.mi.gov

Entertainment Books

The Plymouth Symphony League is selling Entertainment Books as one of its fund-raisers.

For only \$20, buy the 2008 Entertainment Book and receive a 2007 Book free. The book offers 50-percent discount coupons at hundreds of restaurants and discounts for many other services and events.

Buyers wishing to support the Plymouth Symphony and Orchestra Canton can purchase a 2008 Entertainment Book at the Plymouth Symphony Office, located next to the Cozy Cafe in downtown Plymouth, (734) 451-2112, or call Mary Thomas at (734) 453-3016.

The 2008 Entertainment Book will be available for pick up in August.

The BeckRidge Chorale is also selling the books for \$20 to support their educational and charitable activities.

Buyers who pre-order now get a 2007 book free.

The 2008 books will be available Aug. 12. Call (734) 459-6829 to order.

Cruise for the arts

Patrons can help the arts thrive in the community and cruise the Caribbean at the same time.

The first Plymouth Community Cruise, sponsored by the Plymouth Rotary A.M., is scheduled March 22-29, a seven-day cruise of the western Caribbean.

Prices start at \$969 per person, and a \$200 per-cabin contribution will be made in the cruiser's name to the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society upon return.

For reservations and more information, contact Kathy or Kate at Carlson Wagonlit Travel, (734) 455-5810.

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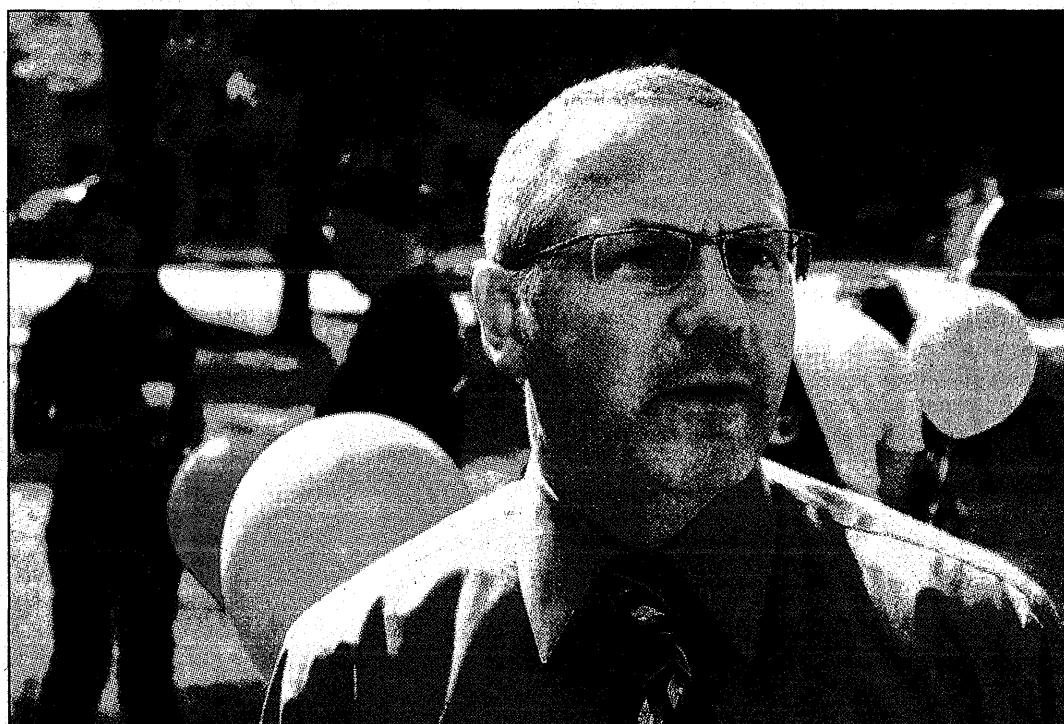
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Western Wayne County Habitat for Humanity board member Mike Sage talks about their mission. The organization will be the beneficiary of the Chili Fest.

**CHILI**  
FROM PAGE A1

us; there will be 12 restaurants to choose from," Horn said. "The public will be able to vote for their favorites, with a people's choice winner and a restaurant people's choice. "It is a well-loved event," added Horn. "People from town like it, and we get phone calls immediately after the event from people who want to know when it's going to happen next year."

Horn said for the third year in a row the proceeds raised by those tasting and voting for the top red and green chilis, salsas, and motorcycle competition will be the Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne — located on Starkweather in Plymouth — which last year received \$20,000 from Horn.

"When you look at a house being about \$75,000, that's a very, very good start for us," said Michael Sage, president of

the board of directors. "We did build a house in Canton, and there's a possibility in April there will be another in the same general area."

Along with Motor City Harley-Davidson, BMW Motorcycles of Southeast Michigan, located in Canton Township, will be lending its name and monetary support to the Chili Cookoff.

"It's really important that we become involved with the community, and this is a great event and charity we're sponsoring," said owner John Horner. "We were here last year, just as observers, and saw the quality of the family event and wanted to be a part of it."

On hand for the preview event were three Plymouth restaurants — Station 885, Doyle's Tavern and The Omelette and Waffle Cafe — all previous winners in the Chili Cookoff. All had reasonable facsimiles of their winning chilis to taste; waiting, instead, to save some of the "secret ingredients" for competition.

"The one we win with every year is a pork chili, with three different textures of pork in it," said David Pawlowski of The Omelette and Waffle Cafe, which won the People's Choice Award last year. "The secret ... I can't tell you because it's an ingredient I make myself."

The Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff also has competition for the Hottest Dog in the Coolest City.

"It's to get the families with dogs involved, they can dress them up and be part of the event," said Horn. "We have two categories, Hot and Spicy and Biker Dog. The winner will receive a trophy and gift basket."

Entry forms are available at Specialty Pets, Jill Andra Young Photography and Happy Hounds Day Care. Entry fees are \$5 for pre-registration and \$7 at the event.

The Chili Cookoff and related events will be held noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30, in downtown Plymouth.

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**KNOW THE SCORE**  
check out the numbers in  
today's **SPORTS** section

**Experts, Spider-man weave web of safety for children Saturday at Laurel Park**

Spider-man will help cast a safety net over local children, when the superhero headlines the Passport to Safety event Saturday at Laurel Park Place.

From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. children can visit eight safety stations throughout the mall to learn about safety topics and have their passports stamped. Topics include bike safety, 9-1-1 training, computer safety, automobile safety, food safety, choking/poisoning, fire safety and stranger danger.

The annual event, sponsored by police and fire departments, the Department of Homeland Security and local companies, has become the largest indoor kids safety event of its type in the Midwest, said Patrick Derrig, marketing director for Laurel Park Place. The annual event attracts about 5,000 people.

Dispatchers will demonstrate the proper way to report an emergency during a 9-1-1 call. Nurses will provide training about dangerous household chemicals and how to perform life-saving techniques on a choking person.

Some bike helmets, fire safety DVDs and coloring books

will be given away.

"As children go back to school, we want to keep them safe," Derrig said. A stamped passport gives children a feeling of accomplishment, he said. Entertainment helps keep them focused while learning.

Spider-man, this year's featured entertainment, will be available to meet and greet children and parents from noon until 2 p.m.

Other entertainment includes Buckle Up Bear from the Michigan State Police and the Allstate Fire Dog.

Forty Livonia Public Schools high school students will volunteer at the event. LPS will hand out coloring books that focus on bus safety.

Children can dress up as firefighters and have their picture taken for a donation to the Selfridge National Air Guard Base.

Raffle prizes include a family vacation package to Great Wolf Lodge.

Laurel Park Place is at 37700 W. Six Mile Road at Newburgh in Livonia.

For more information, visit [www.laurelparkplace.com](http://www.laurelparkplace.com) or [www.livoniapassporttosafety.com](http://www.livoniapassporttosafety.com).

**FLOODING**

FROM PAGE A1

a report to the commission. "Fixing these in the near future will prevent blockages

that could occur if this area of the storm sewer continues to deteriorate in these areas."


Those who live on Coolidge might not get any relief as their homes were built on a flood plain.

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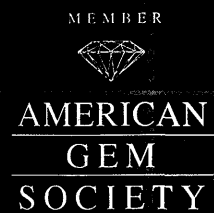
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## Teen journalists – Observer wants you!

The *Plymouth Observer* is looking for sophomores, juniors and seniors interested in producing local newspaper pages and online material for teens by teens.

This marks the second year of the *Observer's* Student Voices project in which area teens write about issues important to them.

Last year nearly 100 students participated in the school-year program.

Teens report, write, edit and take photographs for the hometownLIFE.com print and online sections which will appear periodically in Sunday editions of the *Observer*.

Sophomores, juniors and seniors are eligible to apply.

In addition, students must commit to serving as a student journalist for the entire 2007-08 school year and be prepared to attend a 90-minute

orientation session on Wednesday, Oct. 3 at the *Observer* offices, 36251 Schoolcraft, in Livonia. Students must also be prepared to attend planning meetings as determined by the student group.

The first pages and online stories are scheduled to appear in November.

"We want teens to take ownership of the section in print and online," said Susan Rosiek, executive editor of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. "Teens will decide what to cover, what to write about — what's important to them. They'll be mentored by reporters, editors and photographers at the *O&E*."

To apply, go to [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com) and click on the Students Voices logo for an application.

Deadline to apply is Monday, Sept. 24.

# New Morning kicks off 35th birthday bash

New Morning School celebrated 35 years of creating future leaders during an anniversary celebration that included the entire staff and student body, as well as special guests Richard Reaume, Plymouth Township Supervisor, Rita Heaven, one of the school's founding educators who continues to be involved as an art teacher, and Craig Fry and Larry Hutchinson, alumni parents and current members of the New Morning School Board of Directors.

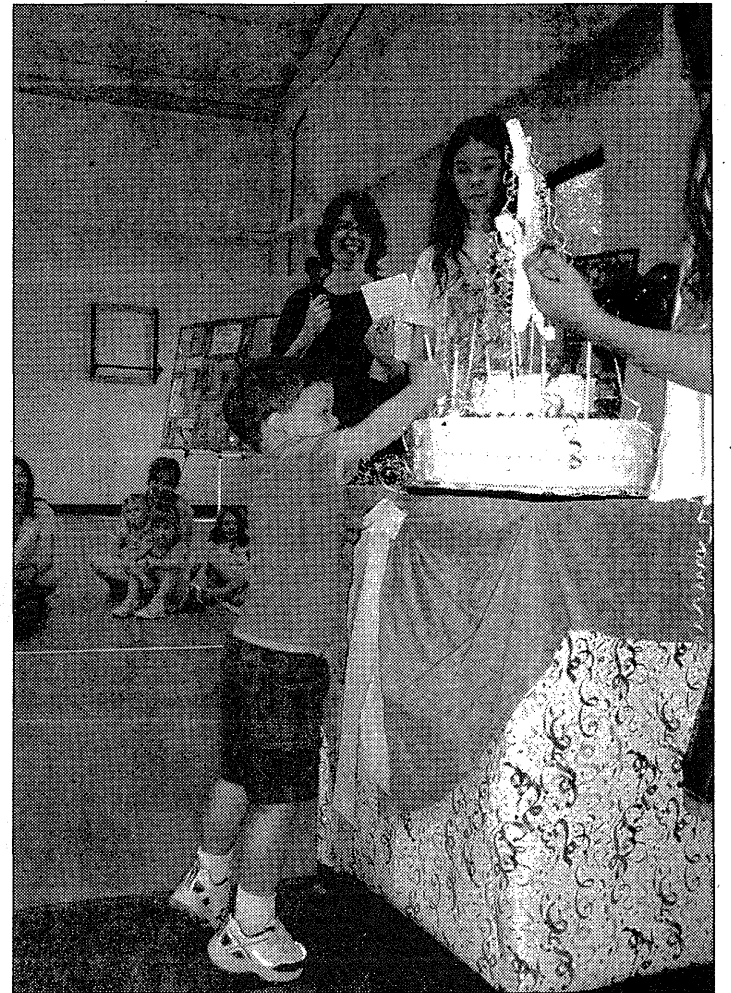
The ceremony included musical entertainment by middle school flutists Catherine Bank and Katherine Mercieca. Reaume and Heaven provided a historical perspective. Administrative Director Joan Barrett read a 35th anniversary proclamation, recalling contributions of past students and their families as the foundation for the current strength and success of New Morning School's educational program.

She also reminded the audience that "it is your hard work and accomplishments that will be the basis

for success in the future." Students participated in the celebration by placing 35 candles in a giant anniversary cake and by singing "Happy Birthday" to New Morning School.

A year-long 35th anniversary celebration is planned for New Morning School, which will encompass multiple events for the school family and local community. Upcoming events include a live concert at New Morning School by local D'Art Band on Saturday, Oct. 13, at 7 p.m.

New Morning School is a state-certified, non-sectarian, non-profit school for students in preschool through grade eight. Since 1973, New Morning School has been creating future leaders through individualized, hands-on learning for each student, a low student-teacher ratio, and a high level of parental involvement. The latest brain-friendly learning methods based on established research result in effective learning for every child. To find out more, call (734) 420-3331 or visit the school's Web site at [www.newmorningschool.com](http://www.newmorningschool.com).



Nathan Burke puts a candle on the anniversary cake as New Morning School in Plymouth Township opened its 35th anniversary school year.

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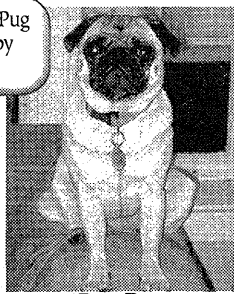


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## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2007 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, October 4, 2007 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

- Application 1444, 39559 Winesap, Plymouth Twp: The applicant is proposing an eight (8) foot high privacy fence along the rear lot line of the property; the required maximum height is four (4) feet. With the proposed variance, the applicant is requesting a variance of four (4) feet in fence height.
- Application 1445, located at 9353 Ridge RD, Plymouth Twp: The applicant is requesting a variance in the lot depth to width ratio of 4:1 to allow the purchase of the 1 acre parcel directly behind their home. With the proposed variance the applicant is requesting a variance of .95 depth to width ratio.

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734-354-3210.

Publish: September 20, 2007

OE0657197-244

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**AROUND TOWN**

**Holiday bazaar**  
Crafters are needed for Holiday Bazaar American House-Northville, Thursday, Nov. 15, 1-7 p.m. No charge for table space. For more information, please contact Carol, (248) 449-1480.

**Farmington Players auditions**

The Farmington Players Community Theater announces upcoming auditions for Neil Simon's Chapter Two. Auditions take place Thursday, Nov. 1, with registration at 7 p.m. Auditions begin promptly at 7:30 p.m. at The Farmington Players Barn Theater, 32332 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. Based on part of Neil Simon's own life, this comedy features George Schneider, a writer whose wife has recently died, as he returns to a lonely apartment. His younger brother Leo, a theatrical press agent and born matchmaker, tries to snap George out of his emotional tailspin by supplying him with unwarranted and unsuccessful dates. Then Leo comes up with Jennie Malone and she's a winner. There will be four available parts: George, (40's to 50's), a widower after 12 years of marriage, successful author, thought to be based on Neil Simon's own life; Leo, (40's), George's younger brother, a theatrical producer, womanizer, fast talking "player" of sorts; Jennie, (late 20's to late 30's), a recent divorcee reluctant to start over, soap opera actress, small town girl originally from Cleveland; and Faye, (late 20's to late 30's), Jennie's supportive friend whose own unhappy marriage triggers an unfortunate casual affair. For more information, call (734) 612-1767.

**Pageant applications**

The Miss Washtenaw County Organization sponsors the fourth-annual Miss Washtenaw County's Outstanding Teen Pageant. The competition will be held in conjunction with the Miss Washtenaw County Scholarship Pageant at Chelsea High School Nov. 3. Applications are being accepted through Oct. 20. Miss Washtenaw County's Outstanding Teen Pageant is "open," meaning teens from all over the state are eligible to participate. They must be between the ages of 13 and 17 and

will compete in the areas of Talent, Evening Gown, Interview, Lifestyle and Fitness in Sportswear and On-stage Question. The winner of this year's title will advance to the state pageant and the opportunity to represent Michigan at Miss America's Outstanding Teen in Orlando, Fla., next summer. She will also make appearances with Miss Washtenaw County at parades and other events throughout the year. Scholarships are awarded at the State and National Level for Outstanding Teen winners. Information about Miss America's Outstanding Teen Program can be found at [www.maoteen.org](http://www.maoteen.org) or Miss Michigan's Outstanding Teen Program at [www.missmichiganteen.org](http://www.missmichiganteen.org). The deadline for applications for Miss Washtenaw County's Outstanding Teen is Oct. 20. For more information or to apply, e-mail [mwced1@msn.com](mailto:mwced1@msn.com).

**'Festival of Fashion' set**

The Redford Suburban League will host its 34th celebrity fashion show, the 2007 Fall Festival of Fashion starting with a luncheon served at noon Wednesday, Oct. 17, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Road. The show is a benefit for the Burger School for Students with Autism. Tickets are \$45 per person. For more information and tickets, contact the league at (734) 981-6003.

**Dance ensemble**

The PRCUA Syrena Dance Ensemble is looking for children (3 years and up) who would like to learn about their Polish heritage through song and dance. Registration began Sept. 5. For more information, visit the group's Web site at [syrenadance.com](http://syrenadance.com).

**Comedy walk**

It will be a laugh - or giraffe - a minute at Gilda's Comedy Walk at the Zoo taking place Saturday, Oct. 6. Walkers will enjoy a stroll through the Detroit Zoo located on Woodward Avenue and 10 Mile in Royal Oak to support Gilda's Club Metro Detroit - a nonprofit cancer support club for lives touched by cancer. On-site registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. The walk will be kicked-off at 8:45 a.m. Register as a single participant for a \$40 donation. Includes parking, zoo entry, T-shirt and admission to Gilda's Jokes & Junk Food Walk



**High 'Society'**

The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit recently installed a new Executive Committee for the 2007-2008 year. Committee members (from left) are Mary David of Plymouth, membership secretary; Andrew Monro of Bloomfield Hills, treasurer; Franklin Dohanoyos of Royal Oak, first vice president; Scott David of Plymouth, president; Rod Harris of Northville, second vice president; David Martin of Livonia, society piper; and Helen Brisson of Clarkston. St. Andrew's Society hosts many events throughout the year, including the annual Highland Games in Livonia the first weekend in August. For more information about the society, visit [www.highlandgames.com](http://www.highlandgames.com).

**Registration Party, 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 27** at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle, 269 E. 4th St., Royal Oak. Registration is also available online at [www.gildasclubdetroit.org](http://www.gildasclubdetroit.org). RSVP to Gilda's Club, (248) 577-0800.

**Women's hockey**

An adult women's beginner's hockey league begins its fall session (October through January) at Vet's Arena in Ann Arbor. No experience necessary. Registration fee of \$190 includes jersey. Games scheduled at 7:50, 8:50, 9:50 and 10:50 p.m. on Friday evening. You can register on line now at [macrhl.com](http://macrhl.com)

**Holiday craft show**

The Mother's Club at Catholic Central High School in Novi is sponsoring a Holiday Craft Show and Marketplace to take place Saturday, Nov. 3 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the school on Wixom Road in Novi. The show is open to artists, craftspeople and businesses that sell items suitable for holiday gift giving. For more information, call (810) 231-2325 or (248) 705-9519.

\$170,600 in scholarship money to students for the 2007-08 school year. Ten full-tuition scholarships from the Sisters of Mercy and 19 named scholarships are being awarded along with \$20,000 in scholarships provided by the Mercy Alumnae Association. Scholarships are awarded based on applications and student-written essays. For information on donating to the Mercy High School Tuition Assistance Fund, or establishing a new named Mercy scholarship, contact Director of Development Nadine Maynard at [nmaynard@mhsml.org](mailto:nmaynard@mhsml.org) or call (248) 893-3538.

**Travel clinics**

When traveling to a foreign country, a vaccination and travel consultation could be just as important as a passport. From diseases you may have already heard of such as hepatitis, to the more exotic illnesses like Japanese encephalitis, Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's TravelWise Travel Clinic can provide the vaccinations and information you need to consider. This new service from VNA provides inoculations for many common diseases including influenza, pneumonia, meningitis, tetanus and diphtheria, in addition to vaccinations specific to your travel destinations such as hepatitis A and B and typhoid. Additionally, VNA is a certified provider of the yellow fever vaccine. In order to prepare for VNA's travel consultation, individuals should bring their anticipated travel dates, itinerary and lodging plans. Past immunization records and a list of allergies and current medications will also help. For appointments, cost, on-site clinics and general information, contact the VNA TravelWise Travel Clinic at (248) 967-8755 or visit [www.vna.org](http://www.vna.org).

**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 daytime 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.

**Card party/luncheon**

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

**Hospice training**

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in

Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

**Literacy Council tutors**

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

**Toastmasters meet**

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

**Grief support**

New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach and resource center located in Northville. Age appropriate groups for widows and widowers are provided in various locations in southeastern Michigan including groups for young widows and widowers and their children between the ages of 4 through the teen years. Groups for parents who have lost a child, adults who have lost a parent, pet loss, and other specialized groups are offered at various times of the year. All services for adults and children are offered at no cost to the participants. If you are grieving or know someone who is, please call the office at (248) 348-0115 for further information about services provided by New Hope Center for Grief Support, or visit [www.newhope-center.net](http://www.newhope-center.net).

**Post Polio Clinic**

Easily fatigued? New, inexplicable physical complaints? History of paralytic or non-paralytic polio? Contact the Post Polio Clinic, 13850 E. 12 Mile, Warren, or call (586) 778-4505. The clinic sponsors support group meetings the fourth Saturday of every month (March through October) at 4328 Livernois in Troy. For more information you can also call (734) 765-8384.

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FR/SAT/LS 11:45
- SYDNEY WHITE (PG-13) 11:30, 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10  
FR/SAT/LS 11:35
- MR. WOODCOCK (PG-13) 12:10, 2:15, 4:30, 6:55, 9:00  
FR/SAT/LS 11:15
- THE BRAVE ONE (R) 11:05, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:50  
3:10 TO YUMA (R) 11:00, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40  
SHOOT 'EM UP (R) 1:40, 9:45  
FR/SAT/LS 11:40
- HALLOWEEN (R) 11:15, 1:40, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35  
FR/SAT/LS 12:00
- BALLS OF FURY (PG-13) 3:30, 5:30, 7:35

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 4027 - Jason Brodie - Tool Box, Couch, Dresser  
 4054 - Maqsood Huq - TV, Couch, 5 Chairs  
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 4120 - Grant Young - Mirror, Dresser, Headboard  
 4133 - Celeste Hubbard - 2 Bikes, Big Screen TV, Entertainment Center  
 4208 - Vandella Hubbard - Couch, 3 Totes, 5 Bags  
 5036 - Mark Williams - Big Screen TV, 3 Bikes, Dresser  
 5150 - Angelik Lancaster - Lawn Mower, 20 Boxes, 2 Printers  
 5245 - Erin Morley - Dresser, Headboard, 20 Boxes

Publish: September 13 & 20, 2007

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS**

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

David Medley, ADA Coordinator  
Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road  
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Publish: September 20, 2007

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# Choose mutual funds that have a solid track record

I received a call from a friend who heard about a new mutual fund and wanted my opinion. He was told the fund is following a new strategy of investing and using some sophisticated trading techniques to protect the portfolio in up and down markets.

There was a sense of urgency. He was told that the fund may soon close to new investors.

My answer to him is the same I give whenever asked about new mutual funds — avoid them.

When you make an investment, it should meet certain criteria. One is the investment must have a solid track record.

Typically, I like investments that have been around for a period of time so they can be compared to other investments. In a perfect world, investments that have solid three-, five- and 10-year track records are preferred. Unfortunately, we don't live in a perfect world and exceptions have to be made. However, those exceptions should be few and far between and never in the case of a new investment. This holds true even with mutual funds where the manager has had success at another company.

Companies come up with new investments not necessarily because they have a better way of managing your money, but because they are trying to capture market share.

There have been many cases where a successful fund manager leaves a company and begins managing a new fund. The general consensus is if he/she was successful at one fund, he/she should be successful at another fund. It doesn't work that way. In today's world, mutual funds are very rarely managed by one individual. Typically, a company will have an entire management team that includes a variety of analysts and researchers.

In addition, mutual fund companies have different cultures associated with them. When a manager leaves one fund family and goes to another, the culture that allowed them to be successful may not exist in the new company.

A good analogy is sports. In today's world of free agency, where players move from team to team, a player may have been productive on one team, but when they come to another team they fail.

We see the same thing with portfolio managers.

I recognize that by avoiding new funds, you potentially can miss out on an opportunity. However, there is a difference between investing and speculating.

When you purchase an investment, you need to research how the fund has performed vs. its peers in different market conditions.

Investors that hear about an opportunity may wish to pursue it. As a general principle, I have no problem with taking a flier on something. However, I want to make sure that I identify it as a flier. I would not want my entire portfolio invested in fliers. There is



Money Matters  
Rick Bloom

no problem, though, investing a small portion of your portfolio in something that interests you.

Even with a new fund, you can research who is establishing the fund and who is managing it. By doing some homework ahead of time, you're increasing the odds in your favor.

As investors, we must be able to separate the fluff from the facts. I'm a firm believer that in order to be a success-

ful investor, one must live by a set of rules. One rule I live by is that I don't invest in new funds. Others include checking things out independently and investing in what I understand and in funds that have a good solid track record.

I'm willing to give up some opportunity to protect myself from investing in something that goes belly up.

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

### CORRECTION

The Senior Alliance, Area Agency on Aging 1-C, request proposals to provide **Adult Day Care** services. Priority will be given to bidders with service availability and location in the northwest portion of The Senior Alliance service area.

Proposal applications and bid specifications are available on our website, [www.aaalc.org](http://www.aaalc.org).

Application deadline is Wednesday, September 26, 2007.

Publish: September 20, 2007

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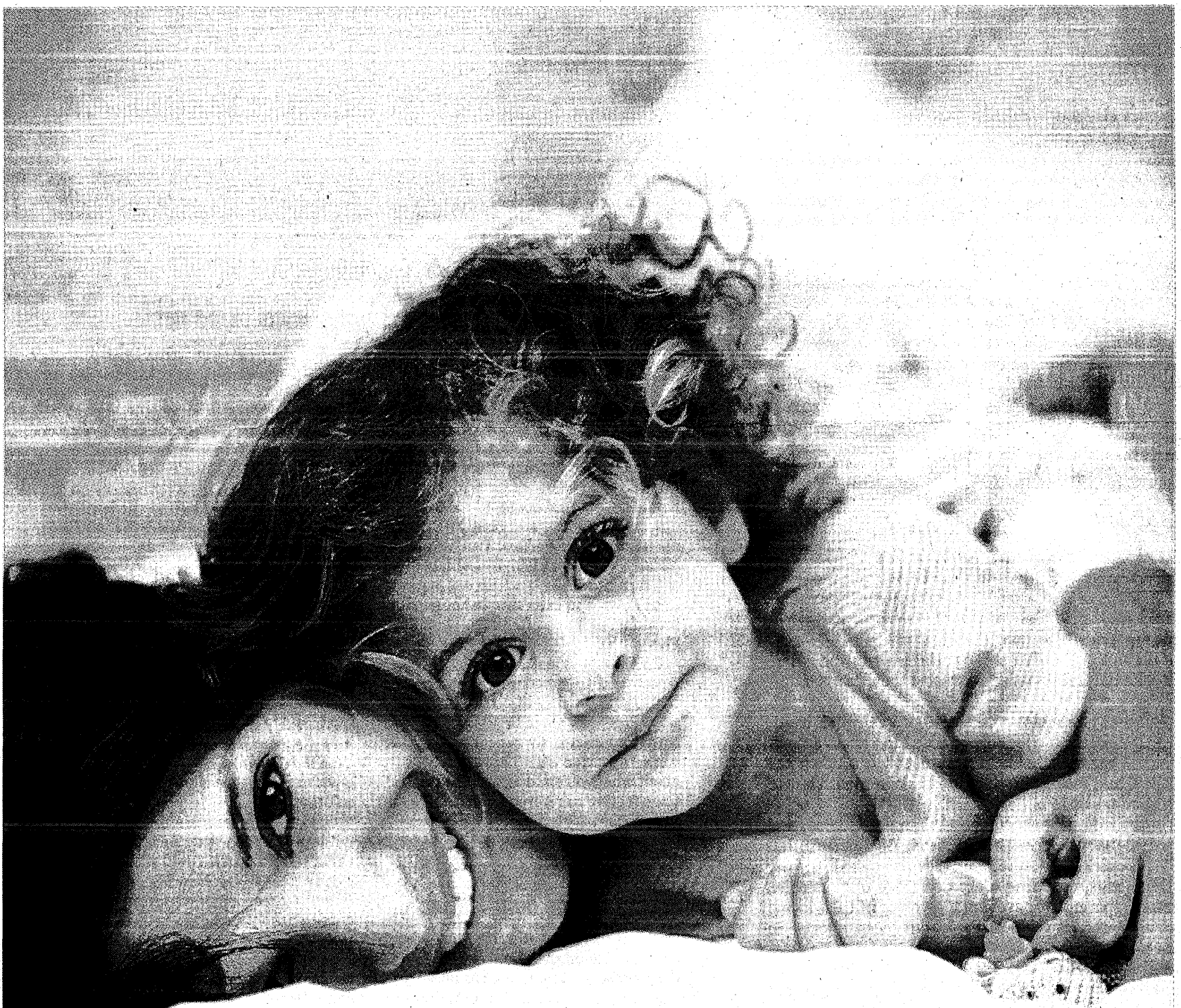
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OUR VIEWS

## A thankless job well done

While there are fewer jobs in local government less thankless than committee work done by usually nameless, faceless volunteers, there are also no jobs more important to a well-run civic body.

When residents in the City of Plymouth hit the polls in November, they'll be embracing — many without even knowing it — the efforts of nine such people. Those nine — Jim Potter, Anthony Guillom, Michael Holmes, Robert Johns, Fred Libbing, Don Morgan, Robert Mundt, Steve Renaldi and Tim Roraback — spent hundreds of hours sifting through the city charter to come up with the ballot proposal that will give the charter the new look it's needed for so long.

And while the work isn't sexy — they don't get to sit up on the dais and claim political victory — these nine men spent the better part of more than four years digging through the archaic charter and coming up with one that makes a little more sense.

Much of the work was dull, tedious detail-watching that, in the end, won't be visible to anyone who lives here. But some of the changes the commission produced will be key elements of how the city is run into the future.

The most notable changes will affect the city's governing body, the Plymouth City Commission. The new charter, if approved by voters as expected, will extend to three the number of consecutive terms a city commissioner can serve. This change would allow effective commissioners such as departing Mayor Dan Dwyer and Commissioner Michele Potter one more term to continue work they've started.

The changes will also affect how the city's mayor and mayor pro tem are chosen. Under the new charter, the sitting mayor pro tem will be the first nomination for mayor following an election cycle. This will reduce (though not eliminate) some of the political jockeying done under the current system, where mayoral hopefuls can often be seen lobbying for votes weeks before an election.

Of course, if the sitting mayor pro tem is an unpopular choice, said political jockeying will still be a popular electoral sport.

The men who accomplished the charter review started their work in January 2003 as a committee; then, when the City Commission decided they needed a "charter commission" to make political recommendations, these same nine men were elected to a job they ultimately did very well.

Will the charter be perfect now? Probably not, but then, nobody will know for sure because very few people will read it. Still, when voters step into the booth in November to cast their ballot, like the changes or not, they should give a little silent applause to the nine men who made them happen. They've earned it.

## Leadership lags on state budget

In the latest state budget tango, the Republican-controlled Senate approved a temporary 30-day budget extension Monday to avoid a shutdown of government services when the new budget year begins Oct. 1.

We're not optimistic that the Legislature and the governor will take the steps needed to resolve their partisan differences.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm said she would veto the extension. No Democrats in the Senate voted for it. At a news conference, Granholm said, "It will just kick it down the road." It will also mean that the state has one month less to resolve the state's \$1.75 billion deficit.

Over in the House, Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford, says he has a deal that would include an income tax increase, but Republicans quickly countered that there is no deal.

Ten Democrats, including Marc Corriveau of Northville, didn't vote, apparently to avoid riling voters in their swing districts and protecting their seats from recall efforts. So much for political courage.

Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, says he would be willing to look at some form of tax increase, but only after deeper cuts in state spending. Democrats counter that they have already supported deep cuts, but that some proposed cuts would be harmful to state services and fall on those most vulnerable.

After the vote to extend the budget, Bishop said, "It's about getting the job done."

He's wrong. It's about *not* getting the job done, just as last year's long partisan squabble prevented a budget resolution until the end of the budget year. Then the Legislature voted to delay payments, juggle accounts and put off making hard decisions.

It also took a long struggle to approve the new business tax to replace the old Single Business Tax.

The leaders in both parties need to look beyond their partisan concerns toward serious long-term resolution of the state's financial situation that includes structural reforms, appropriate rather than across-the-board spending cuts and new taxes that do not unduly burden those less able to pay. Based on past performance, we're not optimistic.



## Not so Cozy

What's going to happen to our walnut-raisin rolls?

My wish is that the new owners of the Cozy Café reconsider their decision to close this Plymouth landmark. The former owners served homemade, rather than purchased, menu items which will be sorely missed, as will their wonderful desserts.

It's a shame that restaurants of today rely on items such as chicken and tuna salads, vegetables, meat dishes and even desserts that are purchased from suppliers rather than homemade. Believe me, we can tell the difference.

Nowhere else can you find their specialty walnut-raisin rolls. We would often have breakfast at Cozy and then split a wonderful walnut-raisin roll. Where else can you find such friendly wait staff? They often had our coffee ready for us before we even sat down.

Just like Cheers, every one knew our names and our favorites. True we are "elderly" (some day you, too, will be elderly and will seek out decent places to sit down and eat a simple homemade breakfast or lunch after a day shopping in Plymouth).

Our money is just as green as those who attend so-called upscale patio restaurants and wine bars. And do they serve lunch, let alone breakfast? Cozy could count on us for repeat business as we were treated well. Think carefully about what you are doing to the small-town feeling so revered by many of us in Plymouth.

Ed and Georgia Randinitis  
Plymouth

## We must stop dog fighting

I want to commend Kurt Kuban for an excellent job on the Michael Vick column ("Vick case has exposed us as nation of excuse makers," Sept. 2). If only everyone that reads it will understand it and agree with it. I do and this whole Michael Vick thing makes me sick.

This Vick guy is lower than the poop that those dogs excreted and I think he needs to pay for it. If he doesn't than this abuse will go on forever and we will never see the end to it.

It seems to me that the intelligence of people has decreased and continues to decrease as the years go by. Especially when people make statements that dog-fighting is no different than hunting. Do these people have any common sense? This is ridiculous. Hunting is not torture or abuse. It is a hopefully quick death — most of the time anyway. I just don't understand what these people are thinking about.

Another thing that I don't think most people know is that when these people fight dogs they have to be trained and they have to use something as bait, and when little Fe-fe comes up missing after she has been put out for her before-bed potty time, chances are she has been taken by these wonderful upstanding citizens to use as that bait. It is sick and horrible to think that these tender little loving family pets are thrown into these blood-thirsty pits and they go through a horrible, horrible ripping and tearing before they finally die from the injuries

and pain that are inflicted upon them during these training sessions. This is sickening.

So thank you for taking the time to write your thoughts on this Michael Vick case and I just pray that someone will read this and perhaps be touched by your words and thoughts enough to know that dogfighting has got to stop and it has got to be soon.

Barbara Ann Walker-Gondick  
Canton

## Residents taxed out

The old rural adage "you can't get blood from a turnip" aptly applies here in Michigan.

Most low- to middle-income Michigan families are just about "taxed out." We agree with conservative views that state government has grown excessively and now seeks to "feed itself" primarily on the backs of low- to middle-income families. In addition, we are skeptical that a \$1.8 billion budget deficit is actually necessary.

With our dire employment environment coupled with raging fuel prices, there is just not enough left for most Michigan families to live on any longer. So why are state officials and legislators continuing to primarily address our budget issues with so-called temporary increased taxes? We believe it's because it may appear easier in the short term than downsizing and restructuring state government — the more appropriate solution.

Our state government infrastructure with its overburdening social services agencies and courts could substantially shrink themselves. New laws restoring parenting responsibilities to fit parents equitably would not only reduce the demands upon the Department of Human Services, but also dramatically reduce the burdens upon the Michigan state courts.

Analyses indicate that reforming Michigan business and personal tax codes to a single, equitable tax rate for all of us based solely upon gross/net incomes with deductions ostensibly for donations to state charitable organizations would generate enough revenues to run a much smaller state government infrastructure.

In addition, with these increased donations, private social services organizations could then afford to assist those who are truly in need and the "It takes a village" phenomenon might return to its true African meaning which excludes government and involves citizens.

We believe this would be an all around win for Michigan and a model for the nation!

Murray Davis  
Southfield  
Board president, National Family Justice Association

## Not in the give-up mode

The reporting on the surge in Iraq has been scant. *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* have followed the policy that good news is no news. The move by Petraeus and our forces surprised the Jihadists and assorted miscreants in that the enemy evidently thought that the wail and cry by the leftists and assorted

Democrats in the United States would mean the certain early retreat, Iraq left to the poachers, Iranian interlopers, all kinds and sorts of Koran rapists and killers.

The murdering Muslims had determined that the leftists in America would steer our country to a give-up mode, quit the attempt to preserve freedom, and high-tail home, opening the door to a more complete takeover and domination of the social and economic affairs of all nations in the immediate East.

The liberal press continues to be of little help.

Neil Goodbred  
Livonia

## Unions are the problem

Read your article ("This is a day to reflect on tales of tough laboring," Sept. 2) and have to say that unions are (and were) a major problem with American industry and have been for the last 30 years.

Were they necessary? Yes, they were back in the '20s, '30s and '40s, but they got out of control and they are coming close to destroying American industry along with the "good ol'" boy network of CEOs who sit on each others' boards of directors at public corporations and give one and other these asinine compensation packages.

We must keep value added manufacturing in this country, for this is how wealth is created. Whether it's from farming or industry we must keep the ability to produce products instead of depending on the "service economy," which will just turn us into a debtor nation.

So while Gettlefinger and the rest of the labor leaders tell everyone what a great guy Walter Reuther was (gag me, I have no respect for communists) while they continue to blame management for all problems in industry, I have one question for them:

When will the UAW, or any other union, buy Delphi or any of the companies on the brink and show us all how to run a manufacturing operation with the contracts they negotiated in place and make a profit? Their combined silence on this subject speaks volumes to those of us who know what is really going on in this country's industries.

Jeffrey Scott  
president/owner  
Allan Tool & Machine

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## QUOTABLE

"Plymouth-Canton is in a good position to attract worthy candidates because it's a district that has established itself as a place where excellent education happens ... We've seen other schools struggle to find a superintendent."

- Linda Wacyk, director of communications for the Michigan Association of School Administrators in Lansing, on Plymouth-Canton's chances of finding a suitable replacement for Superintendent Jim Ryan

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# Ramadan sparks memories of happy days in Palestine

The holy month of Ramadan and its fasting are once again upon us. Muslims will fast from sun up 'til sundown, abstaining from food, water and intimate relationships.

Each year around this time, my memories are rekindled of Ramadan in our small village of Beit Hanina, a suburb of Jerusalem still without electricity, where people carried lanterns to light their way in the darkness as they went first to the mosque and then to visit friends and family.

Beit Hanina had a drummer, charged with the pre-dawn task of awakening the village to sahoor, the light meal whose end marked the beginning of each day's fast.

Closing my eyes and thinking real hard, still brings back the sound of Beit Hanina's drummer banging away, and the delightful memories of joining the other children, carrying our decorated fanoosia lanterns with candles burning brightly inside them, as we ran along behind the drummer, singing, laughing and shouting to help awaken the sleeping adults and start them on sahoor and their new day.

How I admired the drummer. How I wanted his job and to share in his fun.

During Ramadan in 1979, when I made my first visit back to Palestine since the 1967 expulsion, my cousin and I, both 18 and living in the U.S., finally became the Ramadan drummers of Beit Hanina. The Israeli invasion of 1967 and the subsequent occupation made the drummers' job very high risk and today they are scarce. Ramadan drummers were often stopped, even beaten, and some have been killed by the Israeli occupying army.

By 1979, the village had not enjoyed a drummer in five years, so my cousin and I delighted in our job of walking through the village each morning banging away on large tin cans. It must have been a very humorous sight. The elderly were happy to hear us, while the younger people thought we were a great joke and made fun of the "bored Americans."

But everyone agreed that we had renewed some "life" that had been lost as we broke through the dark still nights of Ramadan. For me, however briefly, I was transported back to a happy childhood whose memories had never left me for a moment.

I still remember sitting by the family's transistor radio with my siblings listening to the special programs as we awaited the "cannon" to go off, signaling that it was time to break our fast. The "cannon" was a World War I-era English relic and merely made a loud bang, which was all that it was good for.

Ever since my own children were very small, I had regaled them with the many stories of my childhood in Palestine, enjoying the look of fascination on their faces as they implored me to tell them yet "another story of when you were young in Palestine."

This past summer, I took my children to visit

the grave of my grandmother, which is located on a hillside cemetery off of Salah Eddin Street in the Old City. The cemetery is actually located inside the boundaries of the Palestinian village of Lifta, which was ethnically cleansed of its Palestinian inhabitants, including my wife's family, by the Zionists in 1948. Many people, including my grandmother and her family members, are buried there, although now it is considered part of Jerusalem.

As we made our way through the cemetery gates and up the hill so that we could read Al-Fatiha, which is the opening verse of the Quran, at her graveside, I noticed an old rusty cannon sitting on the top of the hill, virtually buried beneath the overgrown weeds. I decided to head up the hill and take a closer look. Much to my surprise, the cannon was an exact copy of the very same cannon that I had remembered as a youth. I called my children up the hill and showed them the cannon, surmising that the cannon was used to alert the residents of Jerusalem when to break their fast before the city fell under Zionist control.

During Ramadan, my mother would always invite friends and relatives to our home to break the fast with us. As Muslims, we are obligated to share breaking our fast with others, especially those less fortunate than us. It is considered a blessing to do so. It is something that we continue to do here in America as we invite friends and loved ones to share in our blessing on this holy month — the essence of which are a time of prayer, fasting and charity.

Some of the best memories that I carry with me are connected to the month of Ramadan in Palestine when I was a child. The closeness and feeling of "community" that I felt during those times is something that is almost beyond description. The sound of the drummer, the Muezzin call to prayer, the static emanating from the transistor radio, the "boom" of the cannon, the enticing aroma of the special foods that we only ate during Ramadan, the sight of families huddled together on a mat-covered floor around the evening meals, illuminated by the flickering light of a kerosene lantern, enjoying their meals, as humble as it may have been, in the company of family and loved ones.

These are my memories of Ramadan before the Israeli invasion and subsequent brutal and inhumane occupation, which has destroyed many families and communities and is now in the process of causing further havoc as Israel continues to erect its apartheid walls, checkpoints and roadblocks that have reduced many Palestinian villages and cities to nothing more than walled off ghettos and open-air prisons.

Unfortunately, these will constitute the next generation of Palestinian children's memories and experiences.

**Mike Odetalla**, a 30-year Canton resident, emigrated from the Middle East in 1969 when he was 8 years old, following the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. For more on Ramadan, an Islamic religious observance that takes place during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, visit [www.holidays.net/ramadan](http://www.holidays.net/ramadan).



Mike Odetalla

# Let's hear it for the team – Shock pros send good message

As we left The Palace Sunday evening, my husband tuned the radio into the Lions game in time to hear of their victory over the Minnesota Vikings.



Julie Brown

That game was a nail-biter, but my mind was on the Detroit Shock-Mercury Phoenix pro basketball championship game we'd just seen, in which the Shock lost 108-92 in the final championship matchup. The Shock had to hand over the trophy to the Phoenix women's team, but they're all still champs in my book.

It's been 10 years since the WNBA came along to dominate women's sports, and things haven't been the same since. Women stars from college teams now have a pro league to aspire to; more importantly, girls and young women in this country have role models to look up to and emulate.

At The Palace Sunday, there were lots of moms and daughters, as well as other family combinations. Coach Bill Laimbeer of the Shock got plenty of applause. I hear comments often of surprise from people that the former "Bad Boy" Piston could do so well coaching a women's team to trophies.

Deanna Nolan, who scored 27 points Sunday, and other Shock players also got lots of applause. The parking lot of The Palace included church vans from Detroit; many tickets for Sunday were given away and our \$17 seats, good ones, certainly provided a great view of the action.

Pro sports in Detroit have gotten expensive, and it's good to have a family-friendly option that's affordable, which the Shock team provides. I like to see the players and others from the Shock so involved in community projects.

Laimbeer received the Michigan Women's Studies Association/Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Philip A. Hart Award a while back, given to recognize a male Michigander who has advanced women's rights. I remember being at the awards dinner, when two Shock players accepted the award — and joked about Laimbeer sending women to do the work.

Certainly, members of the Shock have been visible in our community, not just conducting basketball clinics for kids but also participating in a variety of service projects, even leading up to the championship games.

It's been 10 years since the WNBA came along to dominate women's sports, and things haven't been the same since. Women stars from college teams now have a pro league to aspire to; more importantly, girls and young women in this country have role models to look up to and emulate.

So far, they've been a model of civility on and off the court, without the high-profile antics of some male athletes. Let's be honest, some of the guys aren't the greatest role models for youngsters.

The Shock have also encouraged young people, and adults, to take care of their health by being active, a good lesson to teach in a notably overweight state of Michigan.

This is a sports-mad town, with fans of the Red Wings, Tigers, Pistons and even Lions following their teams with eager anticipation each year. I like all those sports, too, especially baseball on a nice sunny day, but am glad to see there's room as well for women's basketball.

The Detroit Shock may have lost the three out of five series that culminated Sunday at The Palace, but I'm glad I spent the money and time to go to see them play. Here's to hoping for many more years of playing and, hopefully, winning.

Setting a good example for girls and young women, and letting them know they can reach for the stars when it comes to their futures, means a lot in this day and age, too. We have the Shock and other members of WNBA teams to thank for that — no matter what the scoreboard says.

I'm reminded of the coach in *A League of Their Own*, who's at first highly skeptical about women playing baseball in the wartime 1940s. By the end, he's on their side, telling them, "It's OK, you played a good game."

The Shock played a good game, too, and I'm glad I was there to see it.

**Julie Brown** of Plymouth Township is presentation editor for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2111 or via e-mail at [jcbrown@hometownlife.com](mailto:jcbrown@hometownlife.com).



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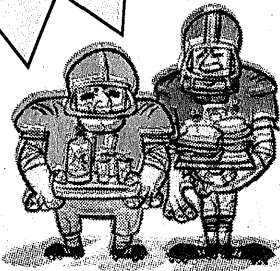
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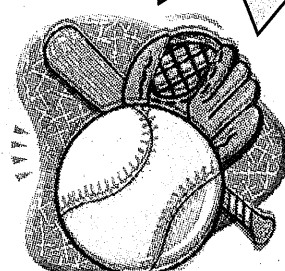
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A Great Michigan Wine!

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## Humane Society holds Best Friend event

The Michigan Humane Society and the Detroit Zoo will host the seventh annual fall Meet Your Best Friend at the Zoo, the largest off-site companion animal adoption event in the country, on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 29 and 30.

The event will take place 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak. There is no charge for admission to the adoption event or for parking.

Hundreds of adoptable dogs, cats, puppies and kittens will be available for immediate adoption both days. Because puppies are often in high demand, "puppy passes" will be given each morning to the first 15 adoption event guests who are looking specifically to adopt a puppy. Those puppy passes will be allowed to enter the adoption tents at 9:45 a.m., with the remainder of guests allowed to enter at 10 a.m. Preventing a "puppy rush" during general admittance to the event will ensure

that all adopters – and the adoptable animals – will have a wonderful experience. A "get acquainted" area will be available to give guests an opportunity to spend time with an animal before adopting.

The participating organizations, in addition to the Michigan Humane Society, include: Adopt-a-Pet, Animal Rescue Connection, Animal Welfare Society, AuSable Valley Animal Shelter, Battle Creek Animal Shelter, Detroit Animal Control, Faerie Tales Cat/Maine Coon Rescue, Feline Friends, Great Lakes Weiwaraner Rescue, Greater Hillsdale Humane Society, Home Fur-Ever, K-9 Stray Rescue, Kitty Haven Rescue, Last Chance for Animals, Metro Area Animal Adoption Association, Michigan Greyhound Connection, Mid-Michigan Cat Rescue, No Place Like Home, Oakland Animal Care Center, REGAP, Roscommon County Animal Shelter, Sanilac County Humane Society, Southern Star MinPin Rescue and

WAG Animal Rescue.

Last year, the fall Meet Your Best Friend at the Zoo event found homes for more than 550 animals. Since the event's inception in 1993, more than 13,400 dogs, cats and rabbits have been placed into new homes.

Meet Your Best Friend at the Zoo is held outdoors under tents in the Detroit Zoo parking lot at 8450 W. 10 Mile Road.

Adoption fees and policies are set by each participating group. Adopters must present a driver's license or state ID card. All dogs and cats will have received a medical checkup and age appropriate vaccinations. For health and safety reasons, leave current companion animals at home.

For more information or to donate to the welfare of homeless animals, call the Michigan Humane Society at 1(866)-MHUMANE (648-6263), 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or visit [www.michiganhumane.com](http://www.michiganhumane.com).

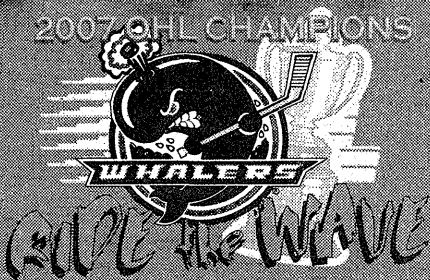
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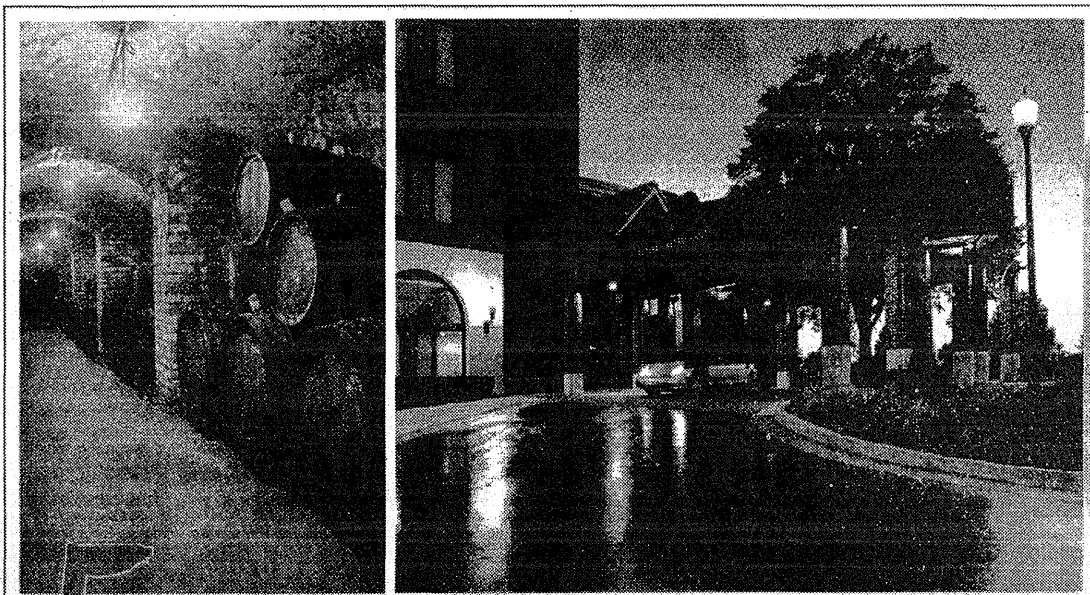
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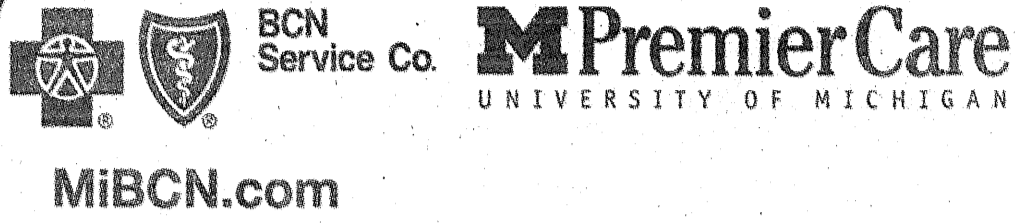


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# Real Estate

**B** (\*)

Thursday, September 20, 2007

The Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers

Julie Brown, editor, (734) 953-2111, jcbrown@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com

## Clutter a detriment to home sale chances

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Some local homes are taking longer to sell these days and frequently command less than the asking price, if and when they do. First impressions are more important than ever so Realtors want their clients' home hotel-bare, according to Tom Todoroff, owner of the Farmington franchise of 1 800 GOT-JUNK.

This ensures potential buyers can envision themselves in the space and often allows homes to sell faster and for higher value.

The folks at 1 800 GOT-JUNK have come up with a simple three-step strategy to make a house market-ready.

**Visualize:** Homeowners want to sell, but deciding what to keep and what to let go of is the hardest task. By deciding on an overall theme or style (most Realtors agree less is more) they have a measuring point.

**Assess:** Once the vision for the room is set, items can be assessed according to whether or not they fit into the decided theme for each room. Other questions to ask are: When did I use it last? Is this a duplicate? Does it hold sentimental value?

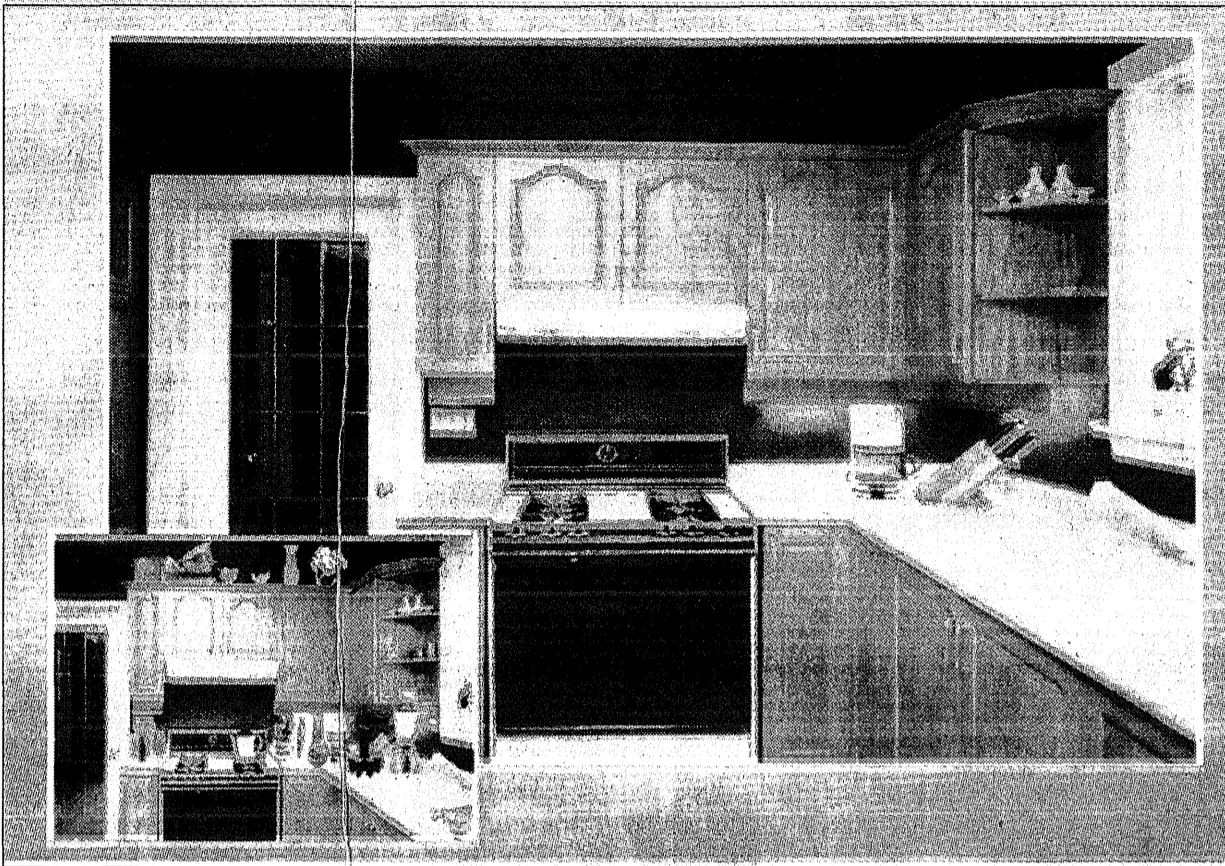
**Action:** Once the decision has been made about what stays and what goes items are categorized into piles: items for donation; items for recycle; items for re-sell; items for the landfill.

Todoroff, a Wolverine Lake resident, acknowledges that even he can be lax on clearing out stuff he no longer needs.

"You don't even notice that you acquire them," he said of possessions. "We are a society of buyers." His kids play with things he's bought and don't pick them up again.

"If you purchase something, you don't want to throw it away. We just keep putting things off to the side, we don't make a decision on it."

"It has become very important,"



Todoroff said of making a home spacious to help it sell. Driving that is part of the effort to sell and move on. "We help people declutter. We help people get their space back." Some rooms are unusable when 1 800 GOT-JUNK staffers arrive to do their work.

"If you're going to sell your home, every Realtor and every staging company will tell you less is more. They want to see their personal things there, or be able to imagine them there," Todoroff said of potential buyers.

He's worked with staging companies to make homes more attractive for sale. "When you're on the opposite side of the fence that's not what you see," he said of Grandma's knickknacks, which a potential buyer most likely will see as clutter.

His business is doing more and

**"If you're going to sell your home, every Realtor and every staging company will tell you less is more. They want to see their personal things there, or be able to imagine them there."**

TOM TODOROFF, 1 800 GOT-JUNK franchise owner

more work in that area of preparing for home sale, gathering items for donation and recycling. "There's definitely a trend toward those types of jobs." There are some sellers who need to move rather than just going to a bigger house out of choice.

He bought the franchise in November 2005, and it existed before that. "It's across the country," with 1 800 GOT-JUNK franchises in the U.S. and Canada, along with Australia and the United Kingdom.

"I talk to other partners. We have regional meetings and national meetings. It is definitely something they find," he said of the trend.

"Farmington's a relatively wealthy community. They're trying to protect their investment," he said of those on the move.

Todoroff's found people look at his service, and how much it costs. After they go, the reaction is "I can't believe how much room there is. They don't realize what they've acquired and don't need. Our job is to try to help them. We try and help them out."

## Tax credits complex, boon to developer

**Q. I am a new real estate developer and I am wondering what types of federal tax credits I might be able to obtain for my "disadvantaged properties"?**

**A.** While this column cannot provide you with all of the potential benefits through federal tax credits, the Internal Revenue Code provides a federal tax credit of either 10 or 20 percent of qualified rehabilitation expenditures incurred in connection with the rehabilitation of a qualified building. To be eligible for the 20 percent credit, the building must



Robert Meisner

be individually listed in the National Registry of Historic Places or contribute to an historic district that is listed in the National Register, and the rehabilitation must comply with the design and construction principles of the Secretary of Interior's standards for rehabilitation.

Nonresidential, non-historic buildings that were originally placed in service prior to 1936 are also eligible for a 10 percent federal credit. The 10 percent credit can also be applied to a mixed use project (e.g., first floor retail and upper floor loft apartments) as long as the rent revenue generated by the residential portion of each building is less than 80 percent of each building's total annual gross rental revenue. In addition, there are some general restrictions that apply to both credits. To claim a 20 percent credit, the rehabilitation must be certified by the National Park Service.

You are best advised to consult with your accountant or other tax adviser. Ask him or her about the "new markets tax credit" which results in a federal tax credit equal to 39 percent of the amount invested or loaned to the qualified business where the investment is through a community development entity that has directly or indirectly received an allocation of NMTCs from the CDFI Fund of the Department of Treasury.

**Q. We have standard subdivision documents that require a dwelling unit that has to be used for residential purposes only by a single family and a basement may not be used as a temporary or permanent residence. One of our owners has a 9-year-old retarded child that needs full-time attention and she's using the basement to house a caretaker for the child. Does the association have a basis to pursue her?**

**A.** It is certainly within the spirit and intent of the 1988 Fair Housing Act Amendments to accommodate the homeowner's request. It may also be a wake-up call to the older owners in the association that they too may need a live-in caretaker during the time they are owners. I would recommend that the Board not take any action in this regard, after discussing it with their attorney.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

## Realtors applauded for fair housing work

The Michigan Association of Realtors is being awarded the 2007 Fair Housing Center of Metropolitan Detroit's Fair Housing Leadership Award, following the creation of a "self-testing" fair housing program. The plan is designed to help its members evaluate their real estate practices in terms of fair housing guidelines and determine if each client is being treated equally.

This program is the first of its kind, as MAR is the nation's original state Realtor association to implement such a program. MAR's Chief Executive Officer Bill Martin and President Furhad Waquad spearheaded the program's creation. Both were honored by FHC for their progressive efforts at the 10th annual Fair Housing Leadership Awards Reception.

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Fair Housing Leadership Awards Reception, held Sept. 19, as well as in the September issue

of Fair Housing News. MAR hopes the project will thrive and encourage similar associations to follow with their own fair housing programs.

For updated information on fair housing, please visit MAR's web site at [www.mirealtors.com](http://www.mirealtors.com) or [www.fairhousinginmichigan.org](http://www.fairhousinginmichigan.org).

The Michigan Association of Realtors (MAR) is a 30,000-plus member trade association which protects the rights of private property owners while serving as the primary source for Michigan housing and real estate data. MAR is comprised of 45 Local REALTOR® Associations, which adhere to a strict Code of Ethics, established by the National Association of Realtors.

## Birmingham and Troy make the grade for schools

Birmingham and Troy have been named among the Top 25 places to live and go to school. Relocate-America.com, a Web site that provides relocating consumers access to resources for their upcoming relocation has released its 2007 list of "America's Top 25 Places to Live To Go to School."

"Over the past 12 months we received nominations for thousands of great schools across the country, all vying to be part of the annual list,"

said Steve Nickerson, president and CEO. "This year's main nomination and selection process factors ranged from school spirit to the number of students going on to higher education and the involvement of teachers in the lives of their students."

In order to make the list, a school must first be nominated by someone familiar with the community's benefits. Relocate-America's editorial team reviews the nominations for compelling

reasons that make the community stand out for schools. The top 25 towns were chosen because they offered specialized programs, unique offerings and nontraditional curriculum. Other considerations included communities with strong public schools, private institutions, charter schools and other specialized training schools.

Anyone can nominate a town by visiting [www.RelocateAmerica.com](http://www.RelocateAmerica.com) and completing the questionnaire.



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These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of May 14-18, 2007, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales

Table with columns for address, price, and city. Includes entries like 50335 Colonial St \$252,000 Canton and 338 N Willard Rd \$208,000 Northampton Ctr.

Table with columns for address, price, and city. Includes entries like 40555 Ramblewood Ct \$242,000 Northville and 22349 Atlantic Pointe \$122,000 Garden City.

Table with columns for address, price, and city. Includes entries like 18889 Gillman St \$136,000 Northville and 30414 Alvin St \$144,000 Northville.

Table with columns for address, price, and city. Includes entries like 32247 Wisconsin St \$152,000 Northville and 31724 Wyoming St \$168,000 Northville.

FEATURE HOMES advertisement with HOMETOWNlife.com logo and contact information: Call (734) 953-2070 to search 34,000 or more listings go to HOMETOWNlife.com

Northern Properties advertisement with contact information: For information on how you can advertise on this page call: 1-800-679-7355

Bayshore Condo on Tawas Bay advertisement: 637 Lake Street #5, two bedroom, two bath, with fantastic views from nearly every room. Offered at \$224,900

Oscoda Senior Condominiums HELPING VETERANS advertisement: As a way of saying thank you 2 years free maintenance & utilities. Prices from only \$54,000

Manistique Shores advertisement: For those seeking vast expanses and abundant forests, bordered by the clear, beautiful waters of Lake Michigan. Offered by Candace Cuyler • 248.390.1053

Table listing various real estate listings with addresses, prices, and cities. Includes entries like 25301 Five Mile Rd \$44,000 Westland and 1324 Berkshire St \$145,000 Westland.

Woodside Village advertisement by Lombardo Homes: 5 bedrooms, Full basement, 9' 1st floor ceilings, 2450 sq. ft. Colonial, 53 Acres of Wooded Preserve. ALL FOR UNDER \$199,900

"Your Real Estate Expert" CBSHomeSearch.com advertisement with Coldwell Banker and Schweitzer Real Estate logos. Includes CELEBRATING 100 YEARS logo.

Grid of 36 real estate listings, each with a photo, title, price, and description. Includes listings for GREEN OAK, NORTHVILLE, WIXOM, VAN BUREN, STERLING HEIGHTS, DETROIT, WESTLAND, NORTHVILLE, GARDEN CITY, etc.

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# SPORTS



(CP)

Thursday, September 20, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

## Hard-working Whalers set to defend OHL title

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

When the Plymouth Whalers hit the ice Saturday night for the 2007 season opener against Erie, their helmets and visors won't be replaced by hard hats and safety goggles.

But the defending Ontario Hockey League champions will be equipped with a blue-collar mentality, head coach Mike Vellucci assured. "We want to be the hardest-working team in the league

this year," said Vellucci, who lost several key players — including high-scoring Tom Sestito and hard-hitting Jared Boll — to the NHL during the off-season. "We're going to be a very young team, so our young guys are going to be seeing a lot of ice time. We're going to have to make up for the inexperience with hard work."

Vellucci said the nucleus of returning players will be driven by a desire to repeat what they accomplished during the 2006-07 campaign when the

Whalers bulldozed through their regular-season schedule before ultimately upending Sudbury in six games in the OHL Finals.

"Without a doubt, that will be the case," the reigning OHL Coach of the Year said. "This is a big year for guys like A.J. Jenks because it's his draft year and other guys like Chris Terry, who is ready to step up and be a leader for us."

"We have a couple of guys — Brett Bellemore and Zach Shepley — out with injuries, so other players are going to

have to step up until they get back."

Terry (a Carolina draftee), Jenks, Andrew Fournier and Vern Cooper will give the Whalers a formidable scoring punch.

At the other end of the ice, Plymouth is stocked with world-class goalies — that is, if their respective NHL teams don't stock them on their season-opening rosters.

As of Tuesday, last year's dynamic goal-tending duo of

Please see **WHALERS, C3**

### IN SEARCH OF A REPEAT

**Who:** Defending Ontario Hockey League champion Plymouth Whalers;

**What:** Season-opening game against the Erie Otters;

**When:** Opening face-off is set for Saturday at 7:05; OHL championship banner-raising ceremony will commence at 7 p.m.;

**Where:** Compuware Arena, Beck Rd., Plymouth Township;

**Tickets:** Were still available as of Tuesday; contact the Whalers' box office at (734) 453-8400 or visit www.ticketmaster.com.

## Sidelines

### Ignition news

■ The Detroit Ignition will kick off its Major Indoor Soccer League preseason schedule Saturday, Oct. 20, when it hosts the Cincinnati Excite at High Velocity Sports in Canton. The opening kick is set for noon.

Admission to the match is free with at least one canned food item or a donation to the Gleaners Food Bank.

Tickets to the Ignition's home opener at Compuware Sports Arena on Saturday, Nov. 3, at 7:35 p.m. are available at HVS at discounted prices. The regularly priced \$22 tickets may be purchased for \$17 a piece.

For more information, call (734) HV-SPORT or visit www.hvsports.com.

■ The Ignition has asked approximately 30 players to participate in the club's invitation-only combine this weekend. The combine marks the next step for players competing for a spot on the 2007-08 Ignition roster.

The event will take place on Friday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and on Saturday from 9-11 a.m. Last season's combine featured current Ignition players Dreo Callahan, Ryan Mack, Doug Rice and Worth Sampson.

### McClendon lauded

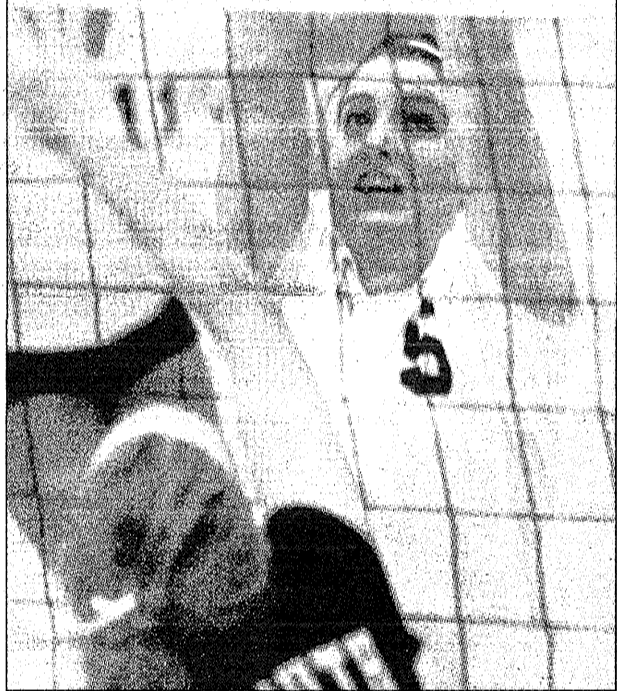
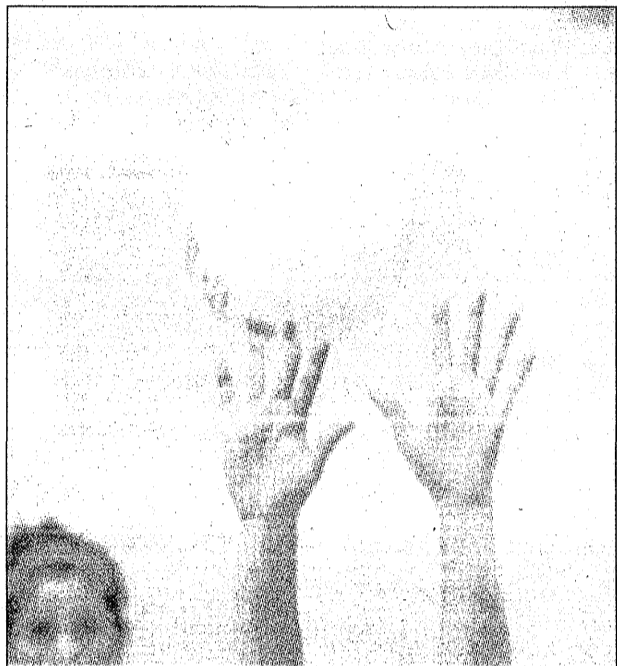
Former Canton football standout and current Saint Joseph's (Ind.) College freshman Deshon McClendon was named the Great Lakes Football Conference's Defensive Player of the Week for Sept. 15.

McClendon received the award on the strength of his performance in Saturday's 11-8 loss at Butler University. The first-year defensive back recorded six tackles, a forced fumble, an interception, tackle for a loss, and a pass deflection.

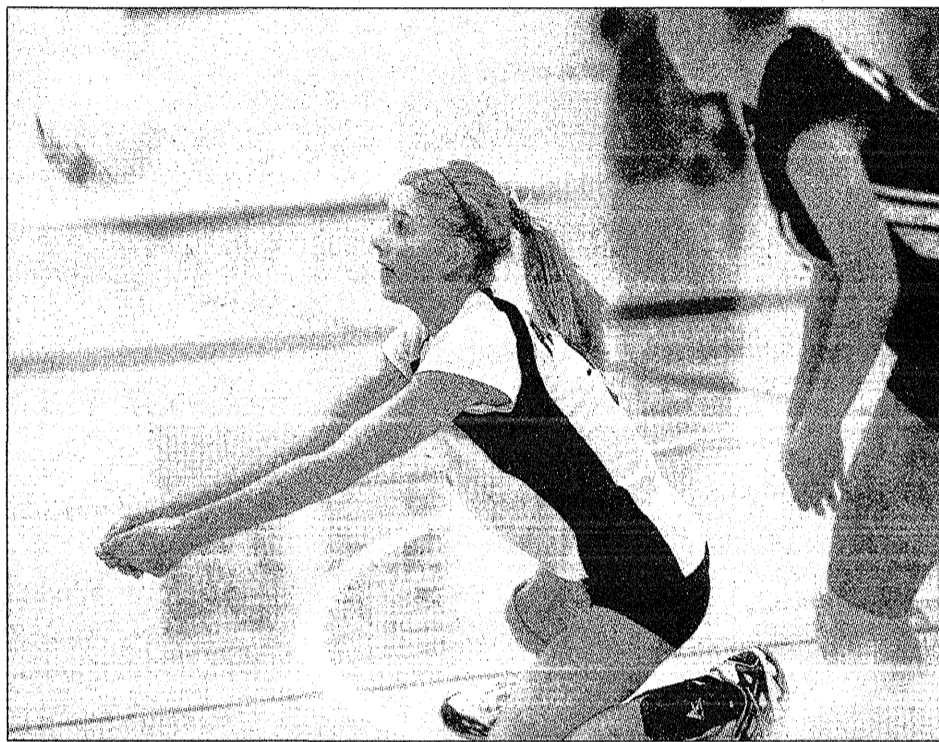
McClendon's efforts helped the Bulldogs to 158 yards of total offense.

### Penguins hockey

With conditioning workouts fast approaching, the Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls high school hockey team is looking for players for the upcoming season. For more information, contact Penguins coach Eric Mink at emink12@yahoo.com.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Salem's Kelly MacDonald skies high for a block during Monday's match against Plymouth. The Rocks rebounded from a Game 1 loss to defeat the Wildcats in four games.



Plymouth's Briana Beyer hits the floor for one of her many digs during Monday's match against Salem.

## Salem edges Wildcats in thriller

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

When the chips were down, their backs were against the wall and the pressure was on, the Salem volleyball team turned to its difference-maker Monday night against crosstown rival Plymouth.

And what a difference Jansan Falcusan made.

The three-year starter responded to the challenge with flying colors as she led the Rocks to a dramatic four-game triumph over the Wildcats: 24-26, 25-21, 27-25 and 25-12. The excruciatingly close outcome left the Rocks with a 9-6-3 match record; Plymouth slipped to 6-3-2.

Falcusan did everything except singing the National Anthem before the match and take down the net when it was over as she registered 31 set assists, 10 digs, seven blocks, five kills and three service aces.

"Jansan was absolutely phenomenal tonight," said Salem coach Amanda Suder. "There's not much more that can be said about her. By far, she's one of the top setters in the state and one of the best to ever play for Salem. We have a very young team, but she stepped up and brought them together tonight with her leadership and athletic ability."

Both the Wildcats and Rocks were just 48 hours removed from grueling weekend tournaments in which they came up just short.

"Since both teams had disappointing ends to their Saturday tournaments, Amanda and I were concerned that it would carry into Monday night's match," said Plymouth coach Kelly McCausland. "I think I can speak for both of us when I say that each team came out to play competitive volleyball. Any time you face a cross-campus rival, you always would like to come away with a win, but, unfortunately, it was not us tonight."

Salem built an early 20-15 advantage in Game 1 before the Wildcats clawed back behind the back-court play of Briana Beyer and the front-row heroics of Rachel Heaton and Mandy

Please see **SALEM, C2**

## Chiefs retain 1st with 1-1 draw

Plymouth's Rolfe scores 6 goals. Please see Page C2.

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Canton's boys soccer team may not have locked up a WLA Western Division title Monday night, but the Chiefs took a huge step toward tying one up.

Senior captain Pat Nolan's goal off a restart with 31:10 left gave the Chiefs a 1-1 tie with visiting Northville, which entered the match one game behind Canton in the Western standings.

The game-tying restart was created when Northville's Latif

Alashe tripped up Canton's Mark Edwards as he cut through the heart of the Northville mid-field.

Canton is now 8-0-3 overall and 5-0-1 in the division while the Mustangs are 4-1-1 in the Western. Northville's lone loss this season came Aug. 28 when the Chiefs handed it a 4-2 setback at home.

The least Nolan wanted when he lined up his free kick approximately 35 yards from the Northville goal was to create a scoring opportunity for his teammates.

He got so much more when his laser of a shot soared over the outstretched hand of Northville

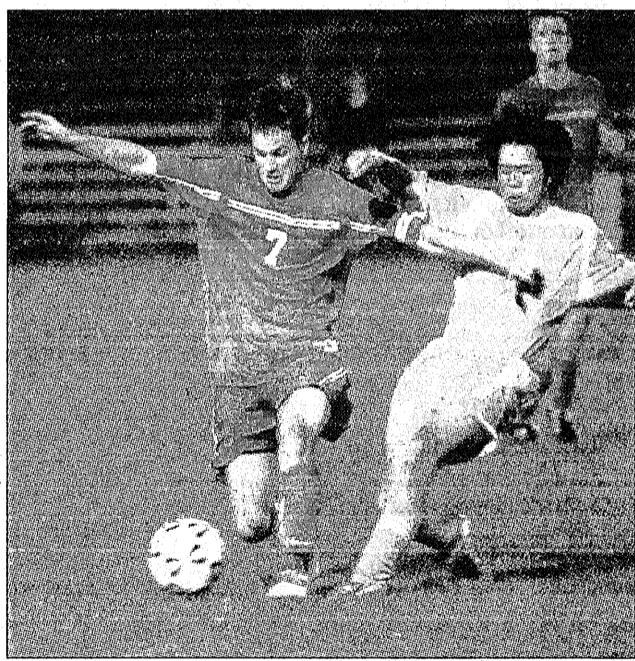
keeper Jarrod Daul and into the back of the net to erase a 1-0 deficit — amazingly, the only deficit the Chiefs have faced this season.

"I was trying to get it on net so that it would have a chance to either go in or come off for a rebound," said Nolan, explaining his pre-kick mind set. "I figured if I just served it in there, they were probably going to win it out, so I might as well go for the net."

"It would have been nice to win tonight, but a tie is OK as long as we play out well."

Nolan said the secret to his team's success can be traced back

Please see **CHIEFS, C2**



Canton's Mark Edwards (left) beats Northville's Masato Morioka to a ball during Monday's key WLA Western Division showdown at Canton. The Chiefs and Mustangs battled to a 1-all draw.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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# Canton harriers claim Ludington Invite crown Wildcats add more hardware to their collection of trophies

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

How was your weekend? Probably not as good as the one the Canton boys cross country team experienced at the Ludington Invitational.

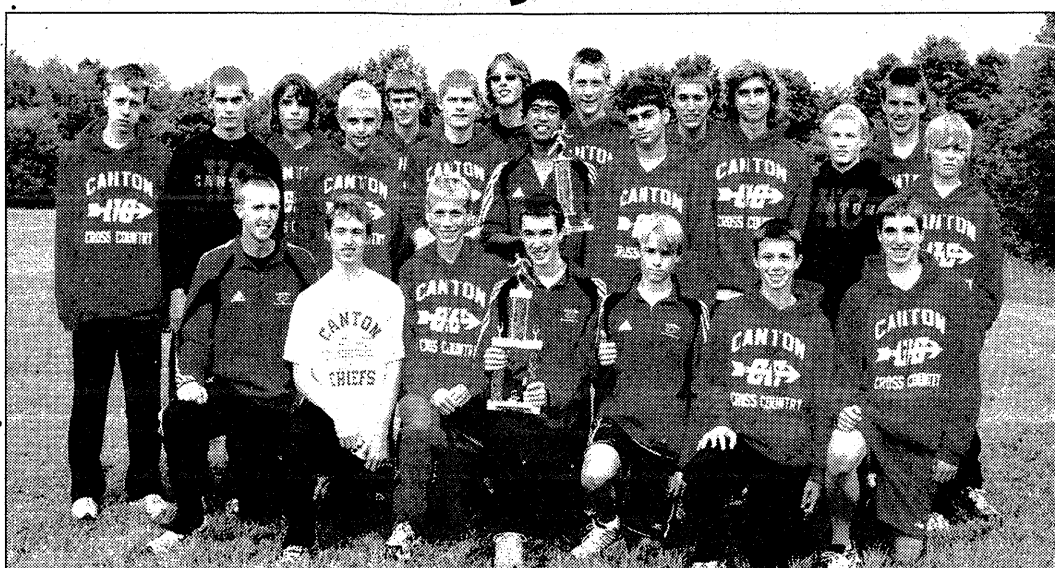
The Chiefs not only won the talent-rich varsity meet for the first time in almost a decade, but they also grabbed first in the junior-varsity competition. Icing on the cake came when the younger brother of a Chief runner won the gold medal in the middle-school race.

"Saturday was as good of a day as we could have had," said Canton coach Bill Boyd, whose varsity contingent outran 21 other Division 1 and 2 teams by accumulating 52 points, 25 less than runner-up Petoskey. "It was especially nice to win up there because it's the toughest course we'll run on all year. Plus, to beat a team as good as Petoskey is exciting."

Petoskey twins Blaise and Derek Henning finished 1-2 with times of 16:40 and 16:51, respectively. Isaiah Stone of Orchard View placed third with a clocking of 17:10.

Canton's top finisher was junior Duncan Spitz, who turned in time of 17:26 on the hilly course. Also earning medals for the Chiefs were Kyle Clinton (eighth in 17:29), Derek Hoerman (13th in 17:42) and Zach Spreitzer (16th in 17:45). Josh Osinski (36th in 18:30), Jon Peck (39th in 18:35) and Greg Reed (44th in 18:47) also turned in fine showings for the champion Chiefs.

"We've been going up to Ludington since I took over nine years ago and had never finished



The Canton cross country team took first-place honors at Saturday's Ludington Invitational. Pictured are (front row from left) Derek Hoerman, Jon Peck, Zach Spreitzer, Duncan Spitz, Kyle Clinton, Josh Osinski, Greg Reed, (back row from left) Anton Schauerte, Alex Watts, Dan Kieliszewski, David Austin, Sam Galizia, Steve Watts, Aaron McClellan, David Catalan, Matt Western, Matt Cipolla, Paul Rakovitis, Jay Jasinski, Mike Eimers, Martin Sisolak and Keegan Sullivan.

## BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

first before," said Boyd, putting the title in perspective.

Mitchell Clinton, the eighth-grade brother of Kyle, captured the middle-school title.

## Salem rocks

Salem, which is ranked No. 12 in Division 1, took first in the Ann Arbor Huron Invitational on Saturday at Willow Metro Park. The Rocks finished with 42 points, two fewer than the runner-up River Rats and 60 fewer than third-place Livonia Stevenson.

"It's not a huge invitational, but the whole team ran well and we beat a good Huron team and

a Stevenson team that looked strong," said Salem coach Geoff Baker.

Kevin deBear and Rob Curtis paced the Rocks by finishing third and fourth, respectively, in 16:15 and 16:34. Also excelling for the winners were Craig Cowing (eighth in 17:06), Eric Volstromer (12th in 17:13), Jason Smith (15th in 17:17), Alex Volstromer (16th in 17:20) and Justin Kane, who placed 18th in 17:36. Monroe's Justin Heck was the overall winner in 15:34.

## Plymouth 10th

The Wildcats turned in a top-10 performance at Saturday's Holly Invitational, which was won by Ann Arbor Pioneer (45 points). Lake Orion was second with 75

points.

"The boys ran OK and a lot better than they did at Thursday's City Meet," said Plymouth coach Lee Shaw. "We're showing improvement, but it seems like all the other teams are as well."

Derek Lax was the pace-setter for the Wildcats, placing 26th in 16:50. Other varsity scorers for Plymouth included Justin Huey (41st in 17:15), Alex Noble (66th in 17:45), Matt Neumann (69th in 17:55) and Steve Schultz (91st in 18:19).

Warren Buzzard (106th in 18:37) and Jimmy Eiden (107th in 18:38) turned in good efforts for Plymouth.

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

## GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

### Rocks excel

Salem placed sixth in Saturday's Holly Invitational held at Springfield Oaks County Park. The Rocks finished with 170 points, 85 behind champion Clarkston. Grand Blanc (99), Lake Orion (133), Waterford Mott (158) and Lakeland (164) were the only teams that finished ahead of Salem.

"It was nice to see the kids rebound after our outing on Thursday with a great day competitively," said Salem coach Dave Gerlach. "We definitely took a step forward and ran with a little more passion and determination today. We were six points out of the awards and had six out of our seven varsity athletes run a personal-best time. We are keying on the meets at the end and trying to improve each week, and we did that today."

Pacing the Rocks' fine showing was junior Kelley Determan, who placed 16th in 20:18.

Also medaling for Salem were Jordyn Moore (20th in 20:26), Kara Booms (38th in 21:13) and Shannon Griffiths (40th in 21:15). Also shining for the Rocks were Sabrina Burcroff (56th in 21:46), Lauren Olson (68th in 22:05) and Linda Ling (80th in 22:15).

# Plymouth-Canton Steelers varsity thumps Ypsilanti Braves

The Plymouth-Canton Steelers varsity football team defeated the Ypsilanti Braves, 21-14, on Sunday at Central Middle School in downtown Plymouth. Jason Jackary provided strong blocking from his tackle position while Ryan Jankowski (interception) was strong on both sides of the line for the winners. On defense, Michael Kennedy played well at cornerback and Jonathan Malone did a nice job breaking up the Braves' passing attack.

The Steelers' junior-varsity squad dropped a hard-fought 19-6 decision to Ypsi. Quarterback Brent Pilligian made several strong plays while Gabe Vaughn excelled in the blocking department,

## JUNIOR FOOTBALL

paving the way for Trenton Shelby's 32-yard TD run. Mitchell Lewiston hit hard on defense and twins Jalen and Kadeen Hemphill covered well from their defensive-backfield positions.

The Steelers' freshmen unit suffered a tough 18-14 setback to the Braves despite the strong play of halfback Cameron Stella and offensive lineman Mitchell Gross. Defensively, Nick Boka and Jacob Mallad turned in solid efforts.

The Steelers' junior freshman contingent shined against the Braves. Dante Collins found the end zone three times while Ethan Pierce included a 40-yard

TD run. Luke Walkley and Ryan Young excelled from their defensive end positions.

## Lions sweep Hawks

The Canton Lions varsity clipped the Lake Area Hawks, 31-14, on Sunday to improve its record to 2-0. The Lions received strong blocking from Ian Green and Josh Peterson, allowing the team move the ball on the ground and through the air. Kyle Dexter connected with Paul Baumgart for the first TD. Kevin Buford, Clay Behrman and Marcus Houston also scored for the Lions. Defensively, the Lions were led by D.J. McMillan, Blake Owens, Corey

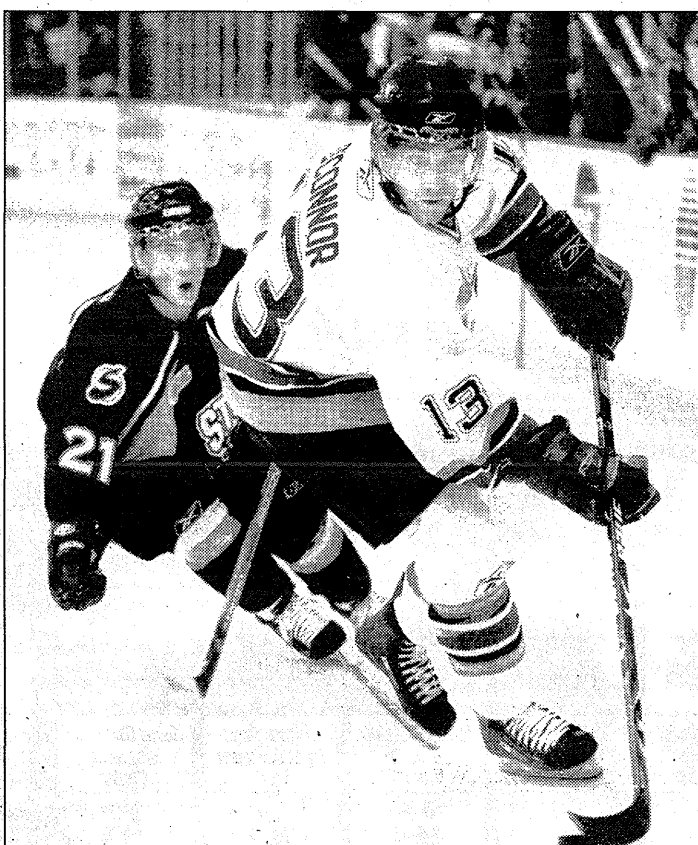
Watkins and Eric Jipping.

The Lions' junior-varsity squad knocked off the Hawks, 37-19. All 37 points came in the first half as Malcolm Hollingsworth (three TDs) and Jamari Eiland scored. Quarterback Brandon Lee connected with tight end Lucas Bunting for a score. Bunting also nailed three of four extra points. Defensively, key tackles were made by Luke Denzer, Jordan Ciciotti, Collin Hall, Nathan Emminger, Kenneth Arnold (forced a fumble) and Darwin Slominski, who recovered a fumble.

The Lions freshmen unit improved to 2-0 with an impressive 22-7 victory over the Hawks. The offense was paced by the

strong running of Daniel Kilgore, Luke Edwards, Allante Wheeler and Cordell Gibson. The Lions' defense was able to keep the Hawks under control thanks to strong play from Shane Raymond, Shaw Lyall and Jake Stropes.

The Lions' junior freshmen turned in a hard-hitting performance against the Hawks. The offense was sparked by solid blocking from Mason Kopchia, Jake Miller, Guido Constantino and Carter Kahl. Strong defensive play was registered by Kyle Amick, Spencer Brown, Mitchell McKenzie and Sean Lee. Hard-hitting, two-way player Brian Victor was sorely missed as he's out for the year with an arm injury.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Plymouth Whalers will be counting on forward Sean O'Connor's offensive talents this season when they defend their Ontario Hockey League title.

## WHALERS

FROM PAGE C1

Michal Neuvirth and Jeremy Smith were still battling for spots on the Washington and Nashville rosters. If they're not back by Saturday, Kyle Jendra will get the starting call in net.

"From what I hear, Michal and Jeremy are doing well in their camps," said Vellucci, who added that he expects Smith to be back for at least one more season with the Whalers.

Neuvirth's return is a little less clear, considering he's more seasoned than the younger Smith.

Vellucci said it was too early to put a finger on what his team's strengths will be this season.

"It's tough to say right now," he said. "We should be pretty good defensively once we get everybody back. A lot will depend on who can put the

puck in the net for us. We have some young guys who have a lot of potential."

Among the high-impact newcomers Vellucci has high expectations for are center Taylor Carnevale and defenseman Josh Bemis.

Vellucci gave a nod to Sault Saint Marie and Sarnia as two of the teams to beat in the OHL this season.

"The Soo has a lot of players coming back and Sarnia has the No. 1 prospect back — Steven Stamkos," said Vellucci.

The Whalers' coaching staff has undergone some reconstruction during the off-season as Joe Stefan has replaced Todd Watson as Vellucci's top assistant.

"The transition has gone very well," said Vellucci. "Joe is very familiar with how we operate and I've known him for a long time. He's going to be a great addition to our staff."

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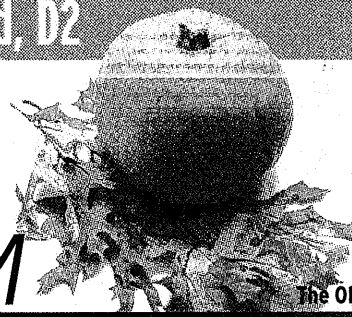
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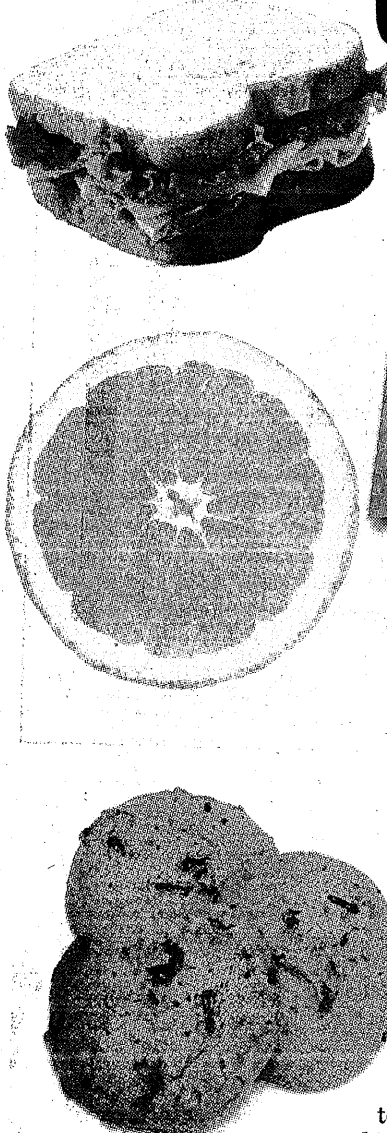
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# Get children involved with the ABCS of lunches



BY ANNMARIE TIMMINS  
FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you don't know what to put in your child's lunch box, look to the wide variety of lunch boxes out there for inspiration. Insulated bags and boxes often come with separate compartments to keep food at different temperatures, and everything in its place. And there's plenty of room for individual tiny containers, so kids can have fun "making" their own food.

"I've had four kids, and if the lunches are fun, parents aren't going to get resistance," says Kit Bennett, founder of the family advice site [AmazingMoms.com](http://AmazingMoms.com). "It's worth a little bit of extra effort the night before if you know you are providing healthy food."

For example, in an insulated, multi-compartment lunch box, pack a "make your own taco" kit, complete with lettuce, shredded cheese, meat and salsa your child can use to assemble a have-it-your-way healthy Mexican meal. Or instead of assembling a sandwich yourself, pack the ingredients separately and let your child put it all together at lunch (or eat it in deconstructed fashion).

Of course, you'll need to make sure you're packing foods your child likes in the first place.

"Get kids involved so they are more likely to eat it," suggests Deanna Cook, director of creative development for *FamilyFun* magazine. "I often talk with my kids about how lunch went that day. I ask them if there was something someone else had that looked good."

Several times a year Cook even joins her daughters, ages 6 and 10, for lunch at school to see what their peers are eating.

Many parents are inclined to Please see **LUNCHES, D3**

## EASY LUNCH IDEAS By The Associated Press

Some simple suggestions for packing lunches your child won't want to trade.

- Take your child grocery shopping. Even preschoolers can give you some idea of what they do and don't like.

- Keep a master list of your child's favorites, categorized by main courses and sides, and include them in your weekly menu planning.

- Don't forget that peer pressure occurs in the cafeteria, too. Keeping your children involved in the selection and packing of their lunches will help them be more comfortable eating it, especially if it's different from what their friends are eating.

- If you have a garden, encourage your child to incorporate some of the harvest into lunch. That's worked for Deanna Cook, director of creative development for *FamilyFun* magazine, whose daughters choose their own lunch box sides from the family garden. A grocer's produce section can stand in if you lack a yard or green thumb.

- Don't hesitate to resort to humor. Cut a comic strip out of the morning newspaper and slip it into your child's lunch. Or write a knock-knock joke on the outside of her lunch bag. Write the punch line on the dessert bag.

- Freeze juice boxes and water bottles. It keeps the drink cold (but will thaw by lunch) and doubles as a chill pack.

## ACCENTS

### SCHOOLCRAFT CULINARY EXTRAVAGANZA

Samples of culinary delicacies and the chance to win a trip to Paris await those who attend the Schoolcraft College Foundation's annual Culinary Extravaganza fund-raiser.

The event is set for 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23 inside the VisTaTech Center, located on the main campus in Livonia on Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile roads.

In addition to enjoying fine cuisine, patrons can tour Schoolcraft's culinary arts instructional kitchens, sample wines and coffee, and bid on silent auction items.

Tickets for the Extravaganza are \$50 per person, \$20 of which is a charitable contribution.

Tickets can be ordered by phone at (734) 462-4518 or online at [www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation/events](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation/events). Credit cards and checks are accepted. The City of Light awaits the winner of the event raffle.

Tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. First prize is a trip for two to Paris, including round trip airfare and hotel accommodations for 6 days/5 nights; second prize is \$1,000 cash; and third prize is dinner for six at the American Harvest Restaurant, which is operated by Schoolcraft's award-winning chefs and culinary arts students. Tickets will be drawn between 4 and 5 p.m., although ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

### SOUTHERN MENUS, COOKBOOKS SOUGHT

The Southern Food and Beverage Museum, a nonprofit institution dedicated to the discovery, understanding and celebration of the culture of food and drink in the South, is soliciting donations of restaurant menus and cookbooks to add to its collection.

"Our goal is to serve as a regional resource focusing on the history of Southern food and beverage," says Elizabeth Williams, executive director of the museum. "We have a unique culinary history and experience and we want to document what we have for future generations."

Menus will be catalogued and archived at the University of New Orleans and will be made available to researchers and historians. Donated cookbooks will become part of the museum's library and also will be made available to visiting scholars and historians.

"We are looking for all kinds of menus and cookbooks," says Williams. "Menus can be from fine food establishments to diners and barbecue joints, and they can be old or new. Any menu from a restaurant in the South will do. We are also looking for menus that purport to be southern — located anywhere else. It would be wonderful to find a Cajun restaurant in Tokyo. Cookbooks can be hard-bound books or small spiral-bound publications to benefit churches or schools. Our goal is to document it all."

Donations should be sent to: The Southern Food and Beverage Museum, 1435 Jackson Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130. Visit [www.southernfood.org](http://www.southernfood.org).

## Internet phone services offer excellent value to mixed reviews

It's been nearly two months since Internet phone company SunRocket went belly-up, leaving me and hundreds of thousands of others without service.

After testing five potential replacements — Packet8, ViaTalk, Verizon VoiceWing, VoicePulse, and Vonage (what is it with these services and the letter V?) — I've finally settled on one.

Obviously I'm concerned that my new provider will pull a SunRocket and skip town with my money, but I'm willing to risk it given the potential savings.

**Tech Savvy**

Rick Broida

For about \$200 per year, I

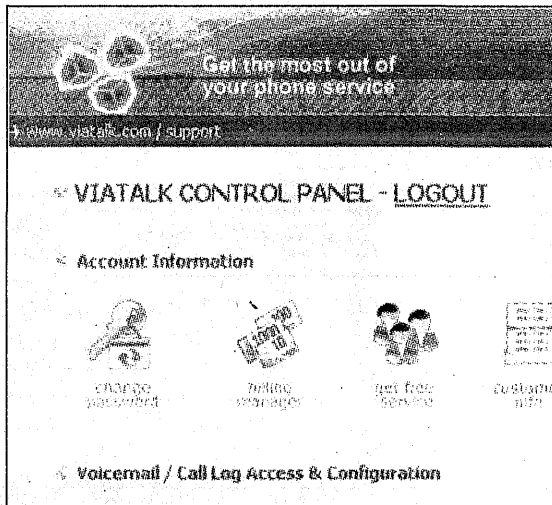
get unlimited local and long-distance calling, cheap international rates, and just about every bell and whistle you can imagine. The same is true of all five services, though a couple of them cost a bit more.

VoicePulse and Verizon VoiceWing, for example, each charge \$25 per month. Same goes for Packet8 and Vonage, but those two offer price breaks if you pay for a year in advance: \$200 and \$240, respectively.

ViaTalk also charges \$200 per year, or you can pay the monthly rate of \$23.

If you make a lot of international calls, you'll love Packet8 and Vonage: Both offer free, unlimited calls to select countries (includ-

Please see **BROIDA, D2**



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# LUNCHES

FROM PAGE D1

underestimate how adventurous their children's palates are. But if your family is like many today who eat out more, often at ethnic restaurants, your child already may have expanded tastes. So don't be afraid to borrow some ideas.

Bennett said her kids enjoy Asian and Mediterranean foods, so she has packed sushi, falafel and Greek salads. And the once-exotic hummus is now so mainstream many children enjoy it as a dip for vegetables.

Once you've sussed out what the little ones want, put as much energy into finding appealing and functional ways of packing it.

Let your children help select their lunch boxes. Many lunch box companies now sell models intended to be customized, either with craft supplies or professional monogramming done when they are ordered.

The food itself can be fun, too. Bennett likes to pack lunches with themes. For "zooloogy," cut your child's sandwich with a lion or bear cookie cutter. Add "bugs" on a log



(cream cheese filled celery with raisins on top) and decorate a banana with monkey stickers. If Bennett is going for a circus theme, she'll add sides of popcorn and animal crackers.

She also keeps a stockpile of comic strips, riddles, jokes and Mad Libs and includes one with the lunch.

It sounds like a lot of extra work, but it doesn't have to be. Don't forget the sweet fruits, like peaches, grapes or oranges, either, an easy pack in lunches.

"Get organized. A little bit of effort on the weekend can save you a lot of stress," says Bennett. "Keep everything in one place so you aren't running around in the morning looking for things."

# Snacks are OK with the right choices

BY PATRICIA SAMOUR  
FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weight-conscious adults may be leery of snacking, but for active children a nibble here and a treat there can be vital parts of an overall healthy diet — as long as the snacks themselves are healthy, of course.

"With my kids, snacks are a regular part of their day," says Julie Roberts, a registered dietitian and mother of three.

"They grow so fast and they need the energy, but with their small tummies, they can't possibly get all the calories and nutrients they need in just three meals," she says. "We make frequent use of low-fat granola bars, nuts, pretzels, cheese and crackers, fruits and veggies."

Most school-age children should consume at least one healthy snack a day, which should account for about 20 percent of their calories. Younger children may need two snacks, depending on what else is eaten during the day.

Here are some guidelines and tips to consider as you try.

■ **Make your home a nutritional safe zone,** says Dr. David Ludwig, an obesity specialist at Children's Hospital Boston and author of the recent *Ending the Food Fight*, a book about helping children eat healthy diets.

He says that snacks such as ice cream are fine occasional treats, but keep them out of the house. This limits their availability. Otherwise, healthy snacks have trouble competing with

sugary and fatty treats for children's attention.

■ **Read food labels and look for whole-grain foods,** such as whole-wheat breads, crackers, pasta or corn tortillas with at least 3 grams of fiber per serving. Whole-grain foods aren't just more nutritious than refined grains, they also are more filling.

■ **Model good behavior.** Don't expect your child to nosh celery if you're chomping on cookies and chips. Teach your children moderation, and to balance treats with physical activity. Children need at least an hour of physical activity a day.

"All foods can fit into a healthful eating style if consumed in moderation with appropriate portion size and combined with regular physical activity," says Judith Gilbride, registered dietitian and president of the American Dietetic Association.

■ **Aim for more than five servings of fruits and vegetables a day,** or at least 2½ cups of vegetables and 1½ cups of fruit. For young children, make a game out of counting the servings, perhaps with a wall chart and stickers.

Older children can help select and prepare the food. "Kids love to be part of the process, decision making, preparation, taste-testing, and of course, enjoying eating," says Dr. Christina Economos at Tuft's Friedman School of Nutrition.

■ **Variety is the best way to ensure children get the nutrients they need.** Work in as many colors as possible. Again, younger children can

use stickers and a rainbow poster to make a game out of keeping track of all the colors they eat in a day. And snacks are an easy time to add colors that are missing. At snack time, ask your children what colors they've eaten that day and what colors they would like to add to their rainbow. "Teaching school-age children about healthy snacking is imperative as this is the parents' last chance to influence their child's eating habits," says Aida Miles, a registered dietitian and head of the American Dietetic Association's pediatric nutrition practice group.

■ **Teach yourself and your children proper portion control.** Many Americans have adopted restaurant-style portions, which are too big. For easy portion control, use the guidelines on nutrition labels.

■ **Beverages count.** A lot. Juice drinks and sweetened beverages amount to empty sugar calories. Limit 100 percent real juice to ½ cup a day. For the rest of the day, offer water (seltzer water can make it more interesting) or milk. Sports beverages can be as bad as soda. Only highly active children need these.

■ **Timing matters, too.** Snacks should be served at least 1½ to 2 hours before meals, otherwise children won't be hungry for dinner.

■ **Get creative.** Children love interesting finger foods, many of which can be purchased already prepared. Sushi, salsa and chips, precut slices of cheese with crackers, or single-serving bags of baked chips, pretzels or baby carrots make excellent, easy snacks.

# Creative ideas for lunches

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Some simple recipes for thinking beyond peanut butter and jelly when packing your child's lunch.

## CRACKER STACKERS

Start to finish: 10 minutes

Servings: 1

- 2 slices cheese
- 2 slices deli-sliced turkey or ham
- ¼ cup hummus
- Whole-grain crackers

Assorted precut vegetables, such as green beans, pea pods, celery sticks and cherry tomatoes

Use small cookie cutters to cut interesting shapes out of the cheese and deli slices.

Place each in small containers or bags. Place the hummus in a small container with a tight-fitting lid. Bag the crackers and

vegetables separately.

Encourage your children to use the ingredients to assemble their own stacks of crackers, meat and cheese. They can spread the hummus on the crackers with the cheese and meat, or use it as a dip for the vegetables.

(Recipe adapted from "FamilyFun Cooking with Kids" by the editors of FamilyFun magazine)

## SANDWICH SPIRALS

Start to finish: 10 minutes

Servings: 2

- ½ cup low-fat cream cheese at room temperature

Chopped fresh herbs (such as several chives, a sprig of dill or 3 to 4 basil leaves) or 1 tablespoon vinaigrette salad dressing

- 2 large whole-grain flour tortillas
- 1 cup loosely packed baby spinach leaves

- 1 tomato, thinly sliced or 2 tablespoons dried cranberries

In a small bowl, combine the cream cheese and the chopped fresh herbs or salad dressing. Mix well.

Spread half of the cream cheese mixture evenly over each tortilla, making sure to spread it all the way to the edge. Scatter half of the spinach leaves over each tortilla, then top that with half of the tomato slices or dried cranberries.

Starting on one side, carefully roll each tortilla, using the cream cheese along the edge to seal it into a tight wrap.

Use a serrated knife to carefully cut each wrap into five or six pieces.

(Recipe adapted from "FamilyFun Cooking with Kids" by the editors of FamilyFun magazine)

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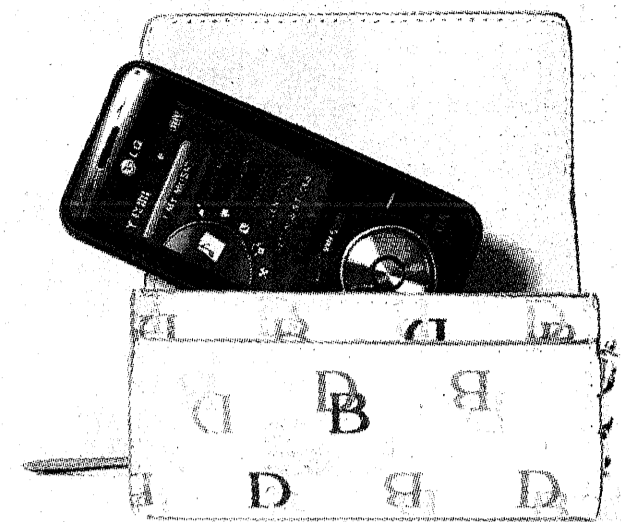
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# pink

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WENDSY VON BUSKIRK • EDITOR • (734) 953-2019 • wvonb@hometownlife.com

## pink picks



# Hello, Nordstrom

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK  
STAFF WRITER

Shoppers, the wait is almost over! Nordstrom will officially open at Twelve Oaks Mall on Friday, Sept. 28.

The grand opening will kick off with a free cosmetic tailgate party at 8:30 a.m. The first 450 shoppers to arrive at "Breakfast, Beauty and SWAG" will get a goody bag filled with cosmetic and fragrance finds. Everyone will be treated to free breakfast throughout Nordstrom beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Food stations will be arranged throughout the store serving frittatas, quiche, yogurt with pick-your-own toppings, fresh fruits, smoothies, made-to-order fruit cocktails, homemade scones and croissants, and cappuccino.

Meanwhile, Nordstrom beauty and fragrance experts will hold court in the lower level of the mall, offering beauty tips, consultations, demonstrations, gifts-with-purchase and the inside scoop on new products and trends.

Shoppers will be invited to raise non-alcoholic mimosas in a toast at 9:40 a.m., featuring Twelve Oaks Mall General Manager Daniel M. Jones; Michigan Senator Nancy Cassis; Novi Mayor David Landry; Interim Novi Public Library Director Mary Ellen Mulcrone; and Robert S. Taubman, chairman, president and CEO of Taubman Centers Inc., which owns and manages Twelve Oaks.

The fun continues the entire weekend with live entertainment in the new Nordstrom wing and throughout the shopping center.

Nordstrom, Inc. is one of the nation's leading fashion specialty retailers, with 155 U.S. stores located in 27 states.

It was founded in 1901 as a shoe store in Seattle, Wash., and stores are still known for fabulous footwear selections for men and women.

Nordstrom operates 98 full-line stores, 50 Nordstrom Racks, four Façonnable boutiques, one freestanding shoe store and two clearance stores. Nordstrom also operates 37 Façonnable boutiques in Europe, and serves customers through its online presence at www.nordstrom.com and through its catalogs.

Fashion-philes from throughout Metro Detroit and beyond have made pilgrimages to the Nordstrom at Somerset Collection since it opened in 1996, but the Twelve Oaks store makes shopping more convenient for west-siders.

The Novi location will be managed by Todd Buntin, who began his Nordstrom career in Indianapolis in 1996, and comes to Twelve Oaks from Nordstrom's flagship Façonnable boutique in Manhattan.

Buntin will manage the 165,000-square-foot, two-story Twelve Oaks store, which will feature 30 apparel, shoe and accessory departments for women, men and children. Each department will be merchandised by lifestyle, including two special size departments to meet the needs of petite and plus-sized women.

An open-sell cosmetics department will carry recognized collections as well as cutting-edge trends.

The store will also house a Cafe Bistro, and grab-and-go Ebar. Other amenities include an on-site alterations and tailor shop, certified shoe fitters, Personal Touch — a complimentary wardrobe and shopping service, a family restroom, mother's lounge, complimentary beauty and skincare consultations, certified bra fitters, prosthesis products for women who have undergone breast surgery, package delivery and a shoeshine stand.

*Celebrate grand opening in style*

**BREAKFAST, BEAUTY AND SWAG**

**What:** Grand opening of Nordstrom and the adjoining wing at Twelve Oaks Mall

**When:** Friday, Sept. 28

**Itinerary:** 8:30 a.m. strolling breakfast and cosmetic demonstrations; 9:40 a.m. opening ceremony; 10 a.m. open for business.

**Where:** Nordstrom and lower level of mall outside Nordstrom, Twelve Oaks Mall, 27500 Novi Rd., Novi

**Details:** Free and open to all shoppers. Enter through the Valet Entrance at Nordstrom. First 450 people to arrive will receive goody-filled SWAG bags. Call: (248) 348-9438 or visit www.shoptwelveoaks.com.

MaxStudio 'Yess' lace-up oxford in black patent leather, \$158.95; Steven by Steve Madden 'Babbett' lace Mary Jane in argyle haircalf, \$138.95; and Michael Michael Kors 'Panama Oxford' in chocolate crinkled patent leather, \$128.95.

DKNY melange tweed coat with ruffled edges, \$298, available at Nordstrom and nordstrom.com.

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Gossip Girl

**Hear It!**  
The Long Blondes Someone to Drive You Home

**Eat It!**  
Anything at Rossini's in West Bloomfield on Monday Sept. 24 to benefit The Mentor Connection

**Drink It!**  
Naked Juice Black & Blueberry Rush

**Experience It!**  
Detroit Fashion Week, Sept. 24-29 at the St. Regis Hotel

**PINK list**  
A listing of stylish events for women in Metro Detroit.



**Dr. Jerri Nielsen made national news** when she diagnosed her own breast cancer while trapped at the South Pole.

**MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS, SISTER & FRIENDS**

Dr. Jerri Nielsen, author of "Ice Bound: A Doctor's Incredible Battle for Survival at the South Pole," will be featured speaker at the 3rd annual Mothers, Daughters, Sisters & Friends luncheon, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26 at Shenandoah Country Club, West Bloomfield. The event benefits the Francee & Benson Ford, Jr. Breast Care & Wellness Center at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital. Patron tickets begin at \$600, and include boutique shopping, private reception with Dr. Nielsen the night before the event, and admission for a friend. Call (248) 661-7194.

**CELEBRITY FASHION SHOW**

Don't miss your chance to "Be Bad for a Good Cause" 8 p.m.-midnight Saturday, Sept. 22 at the Roostertail in Detroit. Charm School's Lelene and FOX 2's Jay Towers will host this fashion event featuring SLEDGE clothing and renowned supermodel Tyson Beckford. Tickets, \$65 in advance; \$85 at the door, include premium open bar, silent auction

valet parking, and benefit the Michael T. Schoenith Family Foundation in support of Make-A-Wish. Call (313) 822-1234 or visit www.BEBAD.org.

**NORDSTROM GRAND OPENING GALA**

Nordstrom will kick off the opening of its second Detroit-area store with a fashionable fete starting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 26. Guests will enjoy hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dessert buffets, cocktails, live entertainment and the opportunity to do some "sneak preview" shopping in the new 165,000-square-foot specialty store. The highlight of the evening will be a runway fashion show featuring fall designer collections. Tickets, \$100, benefit the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the metro Detroit chapter of The Links. Call (313) 576-5590.

**AMERICAN SEWING EXPO**

If you love sewing, you won't want to miss the American Sewing Expo, coming to Rock Financial Showplace Sept. 28-30. It's the largest independently owned sewing expo in the country, and offers classes, workshops, fashion shows, demonstrations, vendors, exhibits and more. Expo hours are 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. General admission is \$12, with additional fees for classes and special events. Call 800-422-2952, or visit www.americansewingexpo.com.

**ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT**

The National Association of Women Business Owners Greater Detroit Chapter will host author Patricia Russell-McCloud 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 27 at the Gem Theatre in Detroit. Russell-McCloud will discuss her book, "A Is for Attitude," which shows readers how to create fresh approaches to old problems. Tickets, \$40 for members; \$50 for non-members, include networking, book signing and buffet dinner. Call (313) 961-4748 or visit www.nawbogdc.org by Sept. 24.

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**A Chip Off the Chip & Pepper Block**

Denim world darlings Chip & Pepper have teamed up with JC Penney to create a new line of affordable, in-fashion jeans. With the highest-priced item in the collection going for \$55, the C7P offers style at a reasonable price, compared to the \$150-\$180 Chip & Pepper line found in small boutiques and upscale department stores. The C7P line will include jeans, T-shirts, tops and fleece.

Chip & Pepper, by the way, really are Chip and Pepper, twin brothers with the surname Foster. After successfully creating a Canadian sportswear line in 1987, they started their LA-based denim label in 2003 in the midst of the premium denim boom. Their tousled-blond good looks and breezy personalities inform the brand's laid-back chic vibe. "We don't believe fashion should be solely about who has the most money," said Chip, in an e-mail sent from the brothers' fishing vacation in Manitoba, Canada. "We have always wanted to expand our reach and bring our styles to all ages and demographics."

JC Penney has partnered with a number of designer brands in recent years, including Nicole Miller, Bisou Bisou and Liz Claiborne, to mix in glamorous names with their private-label lines. This is the first designer venture aimed for juniors and young men, and it arrives just in time for back-to-school shopping.

- By Diane Davis, AP

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Monia Mays stars as Gretel in 'Lines' by U.S. filmmakers Sarah Jasansky.

## One world, one week, one film festival

BY LANA MINI  
STAFF WRITER

Metro Detroit movie lovers can unite with film fans in 98 other cities across three continents to view and judge the next supposed generation of filmmakers.

It's the 10th Annual Manhattan Short Film Festival at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 27 at Emagine Novi.

Twelve films, all under 12 minutes, will be screened. They were chosen by the group, Manhattan Short, from 456 entries received from 33 countries.

The 12 finalist films are from the USA, Australia, Canada, UK, Kenya, Israel, Spain, Singapore and Germany in what festival organizers describe as a "cinematic Olympiad."

"While the goal of any festival is to discover and promote future talent, the ultimate aim of this festival is to bring communities together via 12 stories from around the world," said Nicholas Mason, Manhattan Short founder and director.

At the festival, film-goers receive voting cards to choose their favorite film. Votes are tallied at each cinema and sent to the festival's headquarters where the winner will be announced at Union Square Park in New York at 9:15 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 30 and posted online.

"More than 50,000 people from as far north as St. Petersburg, Russia to as far south as Buenos Aires will view and vote on these 12 films."

Please see **FILM, E4**

Film

## Springsteen tickets available Friday

Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band return to Detroit on their first full-scale tour of the United States and Europe since 2003, with a concert at The Palace of Auburn Hills Monday, Nov. 5.

The initial leg of the tour launches Oct. 2 in Hartford, Conn. -- the same day the band's new album, *Magic*, is set to drop.

There are currently 15 North American cities on the itinerary, after which the band will tackle a series of dates in Europe.

Joining Springsteen on the trek will be E Street Band members Roy Bittan (keyboards), Clarence Clemons (sax, percussion), Danny Federici (keyboards), Nils Lofgren (guitar), Patti Scialfa (vocals, guitar), Garry Tallent (bass), Steven

Van Zandt (guitar) and Max Weinberg (drums).

In a statement, Springsteen's manager, Jon Landau, described the forthcoming *Magic* album as "a high energy rock CD," adding, "It's light on its feet, incredibly well played by Bruce and the members of the E Street Band, and, as always, has plenty to say."

It's been five years since Springsteen released *The Rising*, his last album with the E Street Band.

For more information, please visit: [www.brucespringsteen.net](http://www.brucespringsteen.net) Tickets are \$57.50 and \$91.50, and are on sale 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 21.

Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster locations, [www.palacenet.com](http://www.palacenet.com), [www.livenation.com](http://www.livenation.com), The Palace Box Office or charge by phone to (248) 645-6666.

Live

Inside this week's

PURE ENTERTAINMENT  
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**ART- 4**

Five photographers in Exposure Detroit display work in a new exhibit.

**COVER -6**

Take a balloon ride and check out the fall colors.

**MUSIC - 7**

Everything from Bulgarian wedding music to psychobass funk takes the stage at the Arab American National Museum.

**ON STAGE -8**

Michael Anderson hopes to promote ballet locally as the new associate director of the Michigan Ballet Theatre.

**TABLE HOPPING -10**

Metro Detroit's restaurants and chefs turn up the burners this fall for local food events all over town.

**FILTERED TOP TEN - 13**

Zach Rogue of Rogue Wave gives Filter his top 10 records.

**MOVIES- 13**

See what's playing at the theaters right now.

**PURE PICKS -16**

See what we've picked as our top entertainment choices for Sept. 20-26.

**GET OUT! - 18**

See what's happening this weekend and beyond in our entertainment calendar.

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Revelers at the 1939 Scarab Renaissance-themed ball wear original costumes during the midnight Grand March. Photo courtesy of the Scarab Club Archives, "Images of America: The Scarab Club" by Christine Renner, Patricia Reed and Michael E. Crane.

# Scarab Club hosts party of the century



BY WENDY VON BUSKIRK  
STAFF WRITER

The annual costume party at The Scarab Club was the don't-miss event of Detroit's social scene from 1917-1950. It promises to be the highlight once again this year.

To mark its 100th anniversary, The Scarab Club will host an Egyptian-themed costume ball starting at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29. Artists and art lovers are invited to don linen robes, wigs and lots of kohl eyeliner (or optional black tie) to enjoy a night of festivities. In its heyday, the Scarab Club's annual cos-

tume ball drew revelers who stayed until the wee hours of the morning, dancing amidst lavish decorations, and mugging for motion picture cameras. Murals that artists painted to document the parties still exist today.

According to the club's Executive Director Christine Renner, the costume ball debuted in 1917 with the theme "Fashion in the Year 2017," which asked guests to don their vision of the future. The second costume ball was held in 1920, and was so successful it became an annual event. Since 1950, parties have been hosted sporadically.

Please see **BALL, E14**

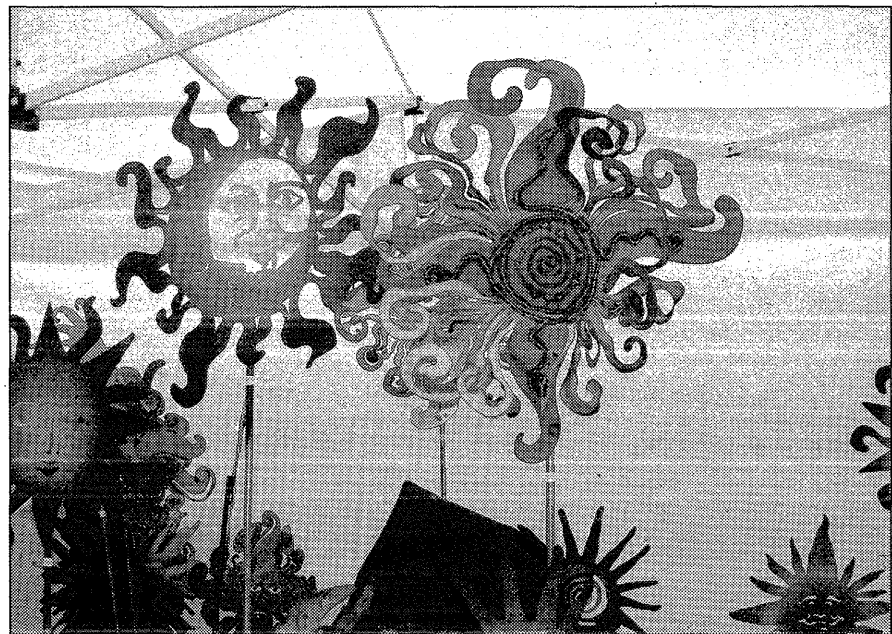
# Ferndale rings in fall with annual Art Fest

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

For the past 20 years Ferndale has hosted its own community-centered art festival. Each year the Funky Ferndale Art Fest has grown.

In 2006 more than 37,000 people

Please see **FUNKY, E15**



The 2007 Funky Ferndale Art Fest is a great place to find whimsical yard art like these pieces.

# Exhibit is five perspectives of Detroit

**FILM**

FROM PAGE C2

BY LANA MINI  
STAFF WRITER

Five Michigan photographers snap a unique look of Detroit and the surrounding area in a new exhibit.

Exposure Detroit launches its photography exhibit with a grand opening celebration at a new coffeehouse in Royal Oak, Bean & Leaf Cafe, located next to

Memphis  
Smoke, on  
Friday,  
Sept.  
21.

That  
night  
also fea-  
tures a live  
performance  
from critical-  
ly-acclaimed  
singer/  
songwriter  
Liz Larin.  
Visitors will  
be enter-  
tained by  
Lansing-

**What:** Exposure Detroit, an art exhibit  
**When:** Opens 7-10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21 and runs through October

**Where:** Bean & Leaf Cafe, 106 S. Main Street, Royal Oak

**Admission:** Free

**Web site:** [www.flickr.com/groups/exposedetroit](http://www.flickr.com/groups/exposedetroit)



Paul Hitz's "starry morning" shot with a Holga 120 CFN, 120 slide film, shot on Main Street in Clawson.

The artists with works on display are Bobby Alcott, Paul Hitz, TedGuy49, Kirk Allen and "Spike" (from Mojo In The Morning on Channel 95.5). The show features a wide range of styles and subjects, but it's all about the Detroit area.

Exposure Detroit is a group that hosts periodic exhibits to offer talented, aspiring Michigan photographers the chance

to widen their audiences. Formed online in 2006, Exposure Detroit has grown into a group of more than 300 Michigan photographers and artists, said photographer Paul Hitz.

The group hopes to enhance each other's knowledge of photography, create friendships and build a resource network.

The Manhattan Short has become known as one of the breeding grounds for the next big thing in Hollywood. Past finalists have won Oscars. To start chatter with audiences worldwide, the Manhattan Short website's blog opens during festival week on Sept. 23. Festival attendees can share their thoughts on the finalist films. Visit [www.msfilmfest.com](http://www.msfilmfest.com)

Ticket prices are \$9 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors. To purchase, visit [www.emagine-entertainment.com](http://www.emagine-entertainment.com), or call (888) 319-3456 or come to the box office at Emagine Novi, 44425 W. 12 Mile Rd., Novi.

**Finalists are:**

- Lines* (USA), by Sonja Jasansky
- The Prestidigitator* (Spain) by Ugo Sanz
- 100th of a Second* (UK), by Susan Jacobson
- Soft* (UK), by Simon Ellis
- Clooney* (Germany), by Florian Ross
- Trainee* (Singapore), by Craig Rosenthal
- Cherries* (UK), by Tom Harper
- I Want to be a Pilot* (Kenya), by Diego Quermada-Diez
- I Met the Walrus* (Canada), by Josh Raskin
- feeling lonely?* (Australia), by Rachael Turk
- Boris's Complete Book of Rules* (Israel), by Shefy Malek
- King Ponce* (UK), by Sam Donovan

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Sunday | SEPTEMBER 23, 7:00 PM

Music Hall's Season opens with the passion and drama of Tango Buenos Aires - a world famous dance company known throughout America, Europe and Far East for its beautiful authenticity and uncompromising artistry.



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He played with Eric Clapton, Sheryl Crow, Sting and Bono. A best-selling artist in Italy and all over Europe for the past 20 years, Zucchero (Sugar) is an Italian rock singer whose music is inspired by gospel, blues and rock.



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A living Legend! He will play only 5 concerts this year and only 2 of them are in the USA: one at Carnegie Hall, the other at Music Hall. This rare appearance by the greatest master of improvisation today is a "Must See" for any true jazz connoisseur!



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The hottest band in the Asian music world, the 12 Girls Band from China. The women of the 12 Girls Band were selected in a Chinese national competition from a pool of over 4,000 entrants. In the past five years, they have released over 10 top-selling records.



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www.hometownlife.com

The 12th Annual



Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, September 30th, 2007

11:00 am - 6:00 pm

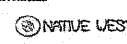
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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 20, 2007 • (OF\*) E5

# See fall colors from above

BY LANA MINI  
STAFF WRITER

Dennis Kollin likes to say that he's avoided employment for 32 years.

No sedentary desk job for him. No boss telling him what to do. No long car rides stuck in traffic jams.

For Kollin, work is "pie in the sky."

He has one of those jobs that pique curiosity and fill children's eyes with wonder. Kollin is a hot air balloon pilot and owns a company called Sky Adventures in Oxford.

His livelihood gives guests a memory of a life-time, flying and floating them sometimes 2,000 feet in the air, but usually lower, where they can see the landscape and animals, including deer, turkeys and even foxes below.

"We like to fly low to the ground and can actually talk to people as we pass," Kollin said.

Hot air balloon rides are a perfect way to see the colorful, autumn Michigan landscape. Autumn is one of the most popular times for the rides and there's a handful of locations that offer rides.

## BALLOON RIDES

Kollin's company is Sky Adventure, (248) 628-1000 or visit [www.skyadventures.com](http://www.skyadventures.com). Other companies:

At Renaissance Balloons, Inc. in Brighton and Howell, guests meet at the Island Lake Recreation area, or Livingston County Airport. Call (517) 552-1900 or visit [www.renaissanceballoons.com](http://www.renaissanceballoons.com).

At Balloon Quest in Fenton rides are at sunrise and sunset year around. Call (248) 634-3094 or visit [www.balloonride.com](http://www.balloonride.com).

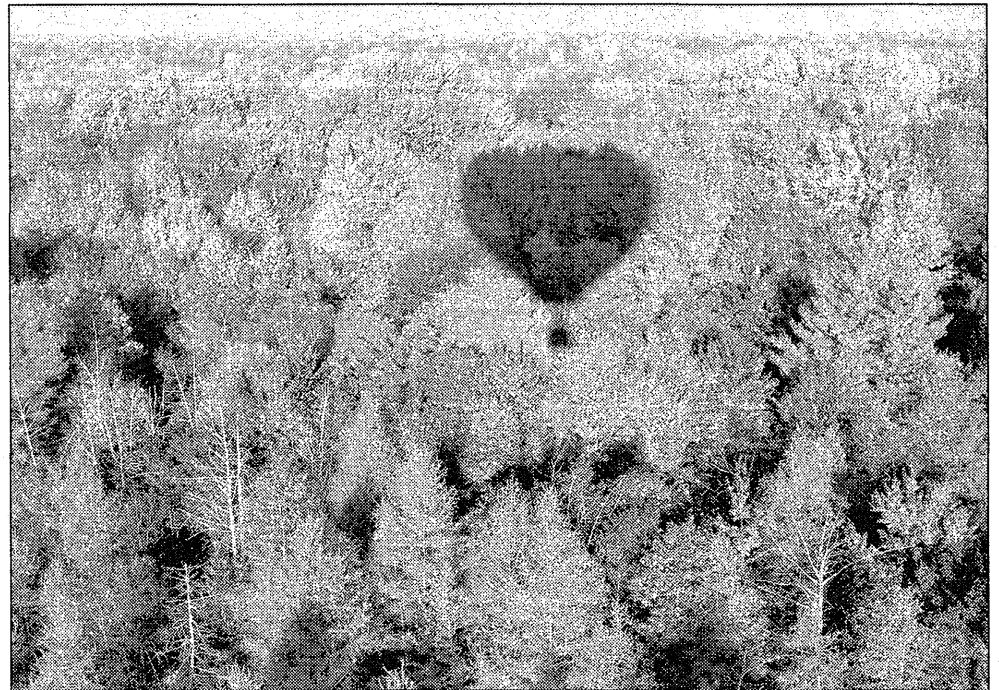
Fly Balloons meets at the Oakland County International Airport in Pontiac. Call (248) 681-8184 or visit [www.flyballoons.net](http://www.flyballoons.net).

**Cover Story**

On a balloon ride, the temperature is about the same in the air as on the ground and on ideal days, the wind is as strong as you might expect. "There's about a 3.5 to 5 degree temperature change for each 1,000 feet," said Kollin, of Oxford.

Most rides are about one hour long.

You won't land exactly where you took off - but most companies have chase cars



Take a ride in Oakland County with Dennis Kollin of Sky Adventures.

that follow the balloon and then pick you up.

At Sky Adventure rides are available seven days week and there's even winter rides available. Call Kollin at (248) 628-1000 or visit [www.skyadventures.com](http://www.skyadventures.com)

"Our most popular time of the year is the warmer months, but we ride in the winter mostly for our own amusement,"

Kollin said.

He fell in love with balloons in 1975, after a ride in Rochester. He went back two weeks later, still loved it, and then went to North Carolina to earn his license.

Kollin, an experienced pilot, has owned 31 balloons over 32 years. Currently his company has nine - that's how popular it is.

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# Music concert series goes global on Thursdays

BY LANA MINI  
STAFF WRITER

Let music sail you around the world every Thursday at the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn. Feel the heat of a fiery Mexican flamenco dancer or the joy of a Bulgarian wedding band.

Contemporary Irish acoustic supergroup Lunasa opens the *Ford Comerica Global Thursdays* series on Sept. 20. It ends on Dec. 13 with an international holiday marketplace. There isn't a bad seat in the house at the 156-seat auditorium and includes free parking. All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. unless noted.

The schedule includes:

■ **Scott Feiner & Pandeiro Jazz** (Brazilian/New York City jazz), Sept. 27: Combine the rich rhythmic texture of the Brazilian pandeiro – a tunable cousin of the tambourine – with the intensity of New York City jazz. The sound produced by this percussion, guitar and saxophone trio is high energy with intense grooves.

■ **Eastern Blok** (Eastern European fusion), Oct. 4: The Chicago-based group, formerly known as the Goran Ivanovic Group, blends classical and jazz with the folkloric traditions of Macedonia, Bulgaria, and Serbia. Middle Eastern motifs merge with the evocative sounds of Eastern European klezmer music.

■ **Shusmo** (Middle Eastern jazz), Oct. 11: New York City-based SHUSMO originally mixes elements of jazz and Middle Eastern music plus Latin rhythms, counterpoint, and spoken word.

■ **Betty Shamieh** (one woman show), Oct. 18: She's an award-winning Palestinian-American playwright and has two plays making New York and world premieres this season. Shamieh's off-Broadway debut, *Roar*, was selected as a *New York Times* Critics Pick for 2004.

■ **Yuri Yunakov and his Romani Wedding Band** (Bulgarian wedding music), Oct. 25: In Bulgaria, some of the most innovative music is generated by the country's colorful, competitive wedding music scene, with many musicians emanating from the Roma or Gypsy tradition. Saxophone virtuoso Yuri Yunakov and his band of rising stars, featuring clarinetist Sal Mamudoski and electric guitarist Vasil Angelov, create a lyrical, exuberant Eastern European weave of vibrant sounds said to impress even seasoned jazz players.

■ **Gaida** (Arab songstress), Nov. 1: A leading



Music

La Chispa & Company and dancer Valeria Montes perform at Global Thursdays.

New York City Arab vocalist, Damascus-raised Gaida learned from the recordings of Sabah Fakhri, Umm Kulthoum, and Fairouz.

■ **Stratospheerius** (psychojazz funk), Nov. 8: Dance grooves; rip-roaring guitar/violin jams, and hooks that mix jazz, funk, and world beat. Known as *Best Jam Band* in the *Musician's Atlas Independent Music Awards* and a winner of the BMI John Lennon Songwriting contest.

■ **Edmar Castaneda** (Columbian folk/jazz), Nov. 15: Combining Latin jazz with traditional Colombian music, Castañeda has carved a firm place in the international jazz scene. A jazz harpist who transforms the harp into a lead instrument.

■ **La Chispa and Company** (flamenco), Nov. 29: La Chispa ("The Spark") and Company explores all aspects of flamenco to create a powerful mixture of complex rhythms and haunting melodies. Led by Mexican-born Valeria Montes, aka La Chispa, this Detroit-based troupe offers a performance of music and dance.

## FORD COMERICA GLOBAL THURSDAYS

**Where:** Arab American National Museum, 13624 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, [www.arabamericanmuseum.org](http://www.arabamericanmuseum.org)

**When:** Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., unless noted

**Admission:** \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door; \$8 for students with ID.

■ **Mady Kouyate** (West African griot), Dec. 6: Born in Senegal, Mady is a descendent of the Kouyate family of Dialolu, oral historians and musicians of Manding traditions, recording the history of West African societies through music and verse. Performing on the 21-string kora, he is a master of the traditional and ancestral heritage of griot.

■ Free admission, 6 p.m. Dec. 13, International Holiday Marketplace & Fashion Show, popular holiday bazaar returns with fashion, art, crafts and food from around the world.

# Michigan Ballet Theatre welcomes Joffrey veteran

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

Michael Anderson returned to metro Detroit this summer with a purpose in mind. The accomplished dancer and new Rochester Hills resident brings a wealth of experience to his role as associate director for the Michigan Ballet Theatre. Anderson wants to promote the local ballet community, and bring it to a new level.

"I want to be part of the catalyst to celebrate the talent we've already got here," Anderson said.

Dancing has always been part of his life. "I started as a kid because I would hear music and I loved to move," said Anderson, a Salt Lake City native. "I had a performing family."

Noticing his talent early on his parents enrolled him in dance classes at the age of 8. Soon sports like baseball and basketball began to take over his free time. "I didn't really get back into it until high school musical theater," Anderson said.

In college, at Southern Utah University, a ballet instructor working on *A Chorus Line* suggested that Anderson take a ballet class.

"I fought it for a while," he recalled. "It brought everything together for me. It was athletic, musical, dramatic. It was what I'd been looking for."

Anderson later continued his education at Detroit's Wayne State University, where he earned a master's degree in arts administration. During that time he also studied under the direction of Cornelia Sampson at the Rochester School of Dance. "It's been a great company in the community

for many years," said Anderson, a member from 1989-1992.

Sampson founded the Michigan Ballet Theatre in 1985 in an effort to give local dancers an opportunity to perform professionally. In July, upon Anderson's return, they will again join forces to achieve that goal.

"I'm just really glad to be back with Cornelia," he said. "She's been a teacher and a mentor to me. It's so nice to work with her in taking the Michigan Ballet Theater to the next level."

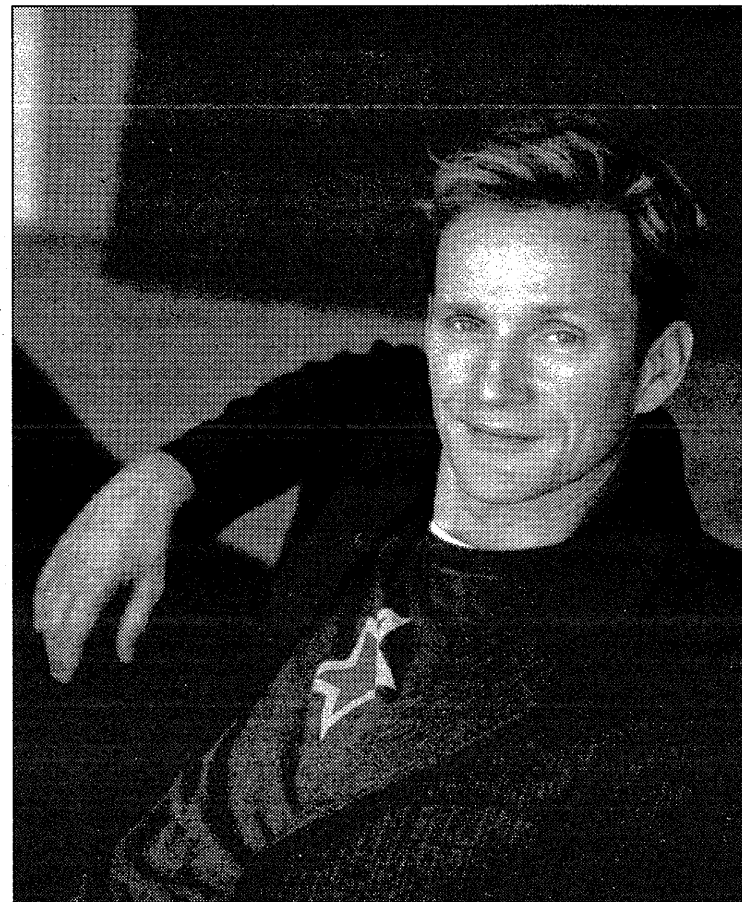
Sampson welcomed him back, and said "his success with the Joffrey and professional expertise will enhance the students' training, helping them to realize their dreams and hopefully, follow in his footsteps."

In addition to the MBT, Anderson danced with the Tulsa Ballet Theater and The American Folk Ballet, all prior to joining the Joffrey Ballet in 1992. During his time with the Joffrey, Anderson took on roles like Drosselmeyer and the Mouse King in Robert Joffrey's *The Nutcracker*, the Caller in Agnes DeMille's *Rodeo*, and the Manager in Leonide Massine's *Parade*. He performed as a guest artist with many companies and has continued to choreograph productions in Detroit, Chicago and Japan. His 2005 work *Timelines* was crafted for a choreographers' workshop at Thodos Dance Chicago, and then placed in the company's permanent repertoire.

"I think it was a great opportunity to do what you love and to do it with a world class company," he said.

Anderson said he learned a lot about his craft and himself during his 15-year ten-

On  
Stage



Michael Anderson returns to metro Detroit with the Michigan Ballet Theatre.

PHOTO COURTESY OF  
LISA SPINDLER

ure with The Joffrey Ballet. It gave him a chance to use the skills he had learned and see "the bigger picture."

"It's not just about the steps or the choreography," he said. "It's about finding yourself in these characters."

He hopes to spread that message to his new students. The Michigan Ballet Theater is currently working on a production of *The Nutcracker*, which runs Dec. 8-9 at Avondale Performing Arts Center.

"It's great," said Anderson. "Having done it so many times, it never gets old. It's always a new year and a new group of young kids. Every year you see it through their eyes. It brings new life to what you were doing. *The Nutcracker* is one of my favorites. It's a lot of peoples' favorite."

Prior to returning to Detroit, Anderson served as director of event operations for the Office of Institutional Advancement at Columbia College in Chicago. The opportunity to make an impact in Detroit, and the people he came to know while living here drew him back. "It's a great city," Anderson said. "It has so much to offer."

He said he's grateful for all of the experiences he's had - including his role in the Robert Altman film *The Company* which featured The Joffrey Ballet. "It was a great experience to do that movie with Robert Altman. He was really hands-on. He kept telling us 'You guys have changed the way I've thought about dancers my whole life.'"

Instead of working with actors who show up an hour late, dancers show up an hour early to stretch, he explained, adding that Altman really allowed the dancers bring their own creativity into the film - to create a snapshot of the environment. "In movies and television you realize how much of a business it really is," he said. "It's all very chopped up. The magic really

happens in the editing."

In addition to *The Company*, Anderson can be seen in the film *Save The Last Dance* and in the public television documentary *Distant Dance*, which followed a 1990 tour to the Soviet Union.

Anderson has just begun teaching classes at the school, as well as at Oakland and Wayne State universities and the Detroit Opera House.

"We all have to help each other," he said. "Opera is such a stronghold in the downtown area."

Anderson truly believes that "a city that's world-renowned needs to have a really strong ballet company."

And, he said, it's going to take a community to achieve it.

Meg Paul, director of dance at Detroit's Music Hall, has worked with Anderson in the past and believes in him. "After an incredible career with the Joffrey Ballet, I am so pleased that he will be joining the greater Detroit arts community, incorporating his dynamic personality to inspire young dancers and enthrall our community," Paul said.

Anderson will also be responsible for choreographing and staging new works, grant writing and fostering greater collaboration within the community. "It's exciting," he said. "I've always loved coming back to visit and when the opportunity came up I was in a transitional place. I wanted to get back in the studio and use that degree in arts administration. It was a great opportunity for me. I'm definitely excited about the possibilities that are here."

For more information about Michigan Ballet Theatre, visit [www.rochesterschoolofdance.com](http://www.rochesterschoolofdance.com).

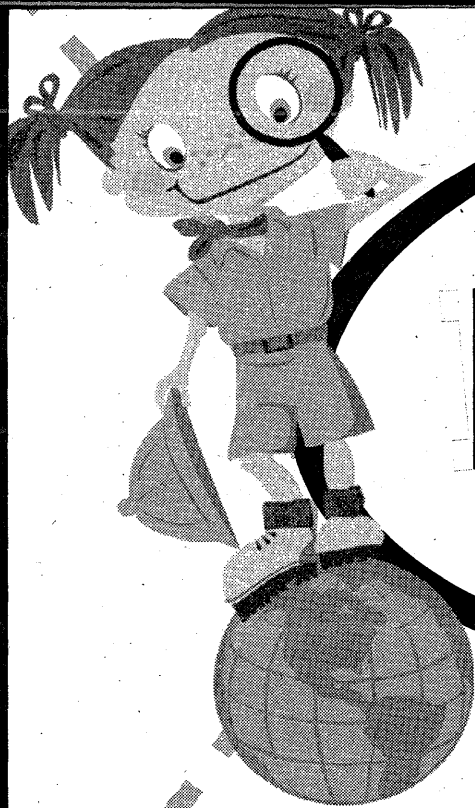
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HERB MIGDOLL

Michael Anderson performs in "Wedding Bouquet."





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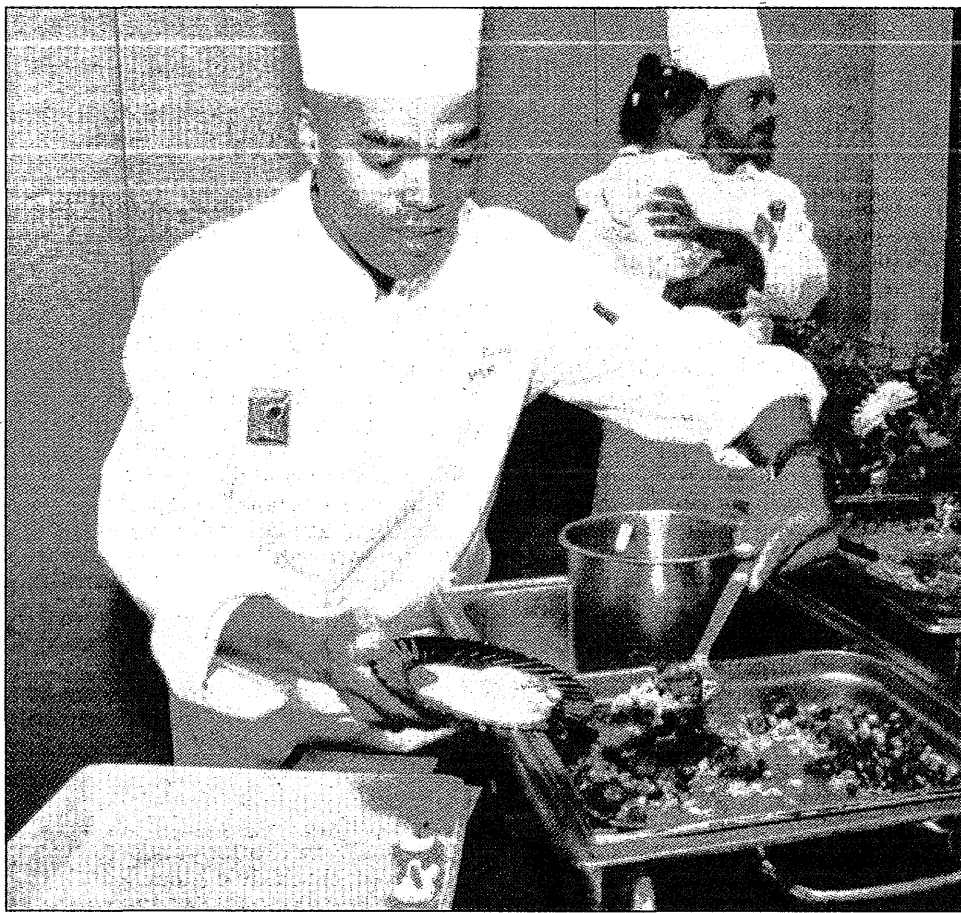
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Shawn Loving, owner and chef at The Loving Spoonful in Farmington Hills, is one of scores of alumni of Schoolcraft College's Culinary Arts Department who return for the school's Culinary Extravaganza, a fund-raiser for the Schoolcraft College Foundation's scholarship fund.

# Culinary Extravaganza kicks off fall food events

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER

When fall arrives, it seems Detroit steps up with food and wine activities. Chefs all over Detroit fire up grills and burners to prep foods at local fund-raisers to benefit everything from scholarship funds to children's charities.

One of the culinary highlights of the year takes place on Sunday at Schoolcraft College. Samples of culinary delicacies and the chance to win a trip to Paris await those who attend the Schoolcraft College Foundation's annual Culinary Extravaganza fund-raiser, set for 2-5 p.m. inside the VisTaTech Center, located on the main campus in Livonia on Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile Roads.

The Culinary Extravaganza is a celebration of food that brings together students, food professionals and the southeastern Michigan community. From

Andiamo to Zingerman's, more than 50 restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors are participating.

It is also a premier fund-raiser for the Schoolcraft College Foundation. Since its inception in 1991, the event has raised more than \$1.4 million. Proceeds benefit the college's Culinary Arts Department and the college's scholarship fund.

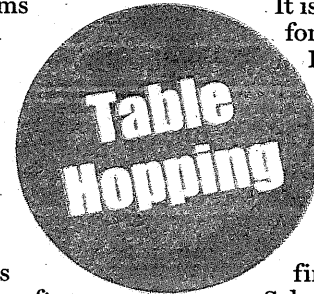
In addition to enjoying fine cuisine, patrons can tour Schoolcraft's culinary arts instructional kitchens, sample wines and coffee, and bid on silent auction items.

Tickets for the Extravaganza are \$50 per person, \$20 of which is a charitable contribution.

Tickets can be ordered by phone at (734) 462-4518 or online at [www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation/events](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation/events). Credit cards and checks are accepted.

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Please see **FALL, E11**



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**FALL**  
FROM PAGE E10

the event raffle. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. First prize is a trip for two to Paris, including roundtrip airfare and hotel accommodations for 6 days/5 nights; second prize is \$1,000 cash; and third prize is dinner for six at the American Harvest Restaurant, which is operated by Schoolcraft's award-winning chefs and culinary arts students. Tickets will be drawn between 4 and 5 p.m. although ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

**DETROIT UNCORKED**

If you like wine, you'll like Detroit Uncorked. The fourth annual Detroit Uncorked will feature hundreds of wines from around the world, light hors d'oeuvres, entertainment and a silent wine auction. Last year's event was a sold-out success for the third year running, with more than 2,000 guests in attendance and raising \$92,000 for The Children's Center. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-serve basis, and event organizers are expecting another sold-out event. Guests must be at least 21 years old to attend. Wine on sale for the fourth annual Detroit Uncorked, one of the region's

largest wine events, presented by Ford Motor Company and created and organized by Detroit Wine Organization (DWO).

**MORTON'S THE STEAKHOUSE**

Morton's The Steakhouse in Southfield celebrates the grand opening of the Lodge Freeway with a Savor the Bubbly event. From 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 24, guests will enjoy a tasting of champagne and sparkling wine, paired with exceptional Morton's hors d'oeuvres. A portion of the proceeds will benefit CORE-WiSH, a partner with the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

"It has been a long summer of construction and we think this is great way for Morton's to celebrate the grand re-opening of the Lodge Freeway and help out CORE-WiSH at the same time," said Jeff Daniels, general manager at Morton's The Steakhouse. "The selection of champagne and sparkling wines are top notch and this is great way to learn more about both."

In Morton's private Boardroom, guests will be treated at Savor the Bubbly to Domaine Chandon Brut Classic NV paired with Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes, Domaine Chandon Sparkling Reserve Pinot Noir Brut paired with Tuna Tartar Canapés, Domaine Chandon Rosé NV paired with Petite Lamb Chops and Domaine Chandon étoile Brut paired with Key Lime Tarts.

Tickets are \$50 per guest and include tax and gratuity. For further information or to make a reservation, contact Cara Volmar at (248) 354-6006 or [cm.mso@mortons.com](mailto:cm.mso@mortons.com).

**THERE'S MORE**

Other events include a benefit for the Oakland Land Conservancy at Music Under the Stars, scheduled for 7-11 p.m. Sept. 29, at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, 1516 Cranbrook, Birmingham. Food will be provided by Five Lakes Grill in Milford (owned by chef Brian Polcyn), with beer from Rochester Mills Brewing Company, coffee from Java Roasting Company in Rochester and entertainment by Big Shorty. The event benefits land conservation and stewardship. Tickets are \$50. For information, call (248) 601-2816, e-mail [dfolland@oaklandlandconservancy.org](mailto:dfolland@oaklandlandconservancy.org) or visit [www.oaklandlandconservancy.org](http://www.oaklandlandconservancy.org).

The Townsend Hotel, 100 Townsend in Birmingham, hosts A Night to Embrace with food, music, dancing and an auction, to benefit the Judson Center at 6 p.m. Oct. 27. Tickets are \$250. Proceeds help care for 2,400 children and adults in need in southeast Michigan. Visit [www.judsoncenter.org](http://www.judsoncenter.org) or call (248) 837-2020.

For more food events, check out Filter's Get Out! calendar.

**Bacco to open new banquet center**

On Oct. 1, Bacco owner Luciano Del Signore will open Bacco Saletta, a banquet center next door to Bacco Ristorante in Southfield. By the year's end, Del Signore will also add a wine shop next to Saletta that will feature wines from all around the world.

Saletta, which means "banquet hall" in Italian, will house three rooms, all emphasizing a private dining experience for business meetings or parties. One room will have a "boardroom" atmosphere, another will house state-of-the-art audio-visual capabilities, and the third will be inside a 3,000-bottle wine cellar. Bacco Saletta will be located next to Bacco Ristorante and will have its own private entrance.

Bacco Saletta is located at 29410 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48034. For more information, to book an event or schedule a tour, call (248) 356-6600, fax (248) 647-1289, visit [www.baccoristorante.com](http://www.baccoristorante.com) or email Luciano Del Signore at [luciano@baccoristorante.com](mailto:luciano@baccoristorante.com).

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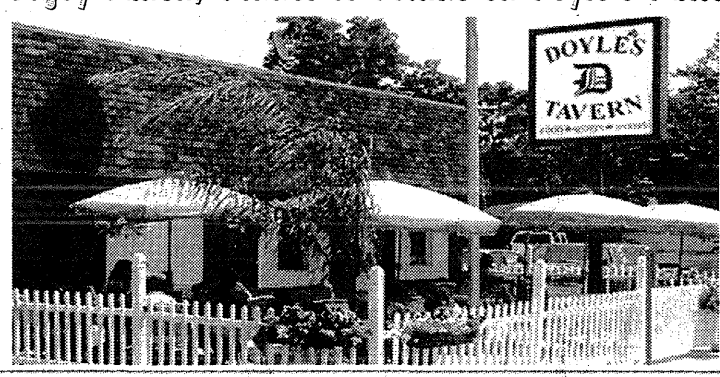
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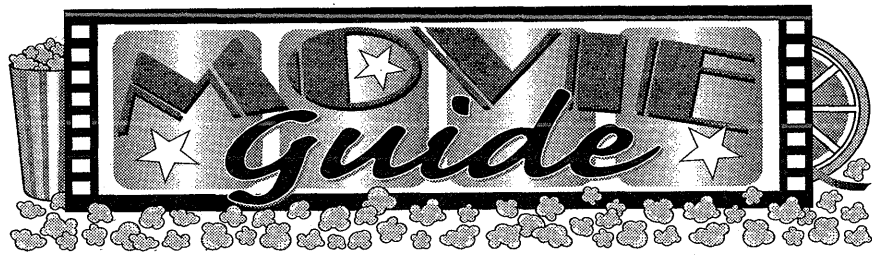
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# 'Across the Universe' lacks direction

Capsule reviews of films now at the theaters:

## 'ACROSS THE UNIVERSE'

You'd have to be a nostalgic boomer, a hopeless romantic or Paul McCartney to fall completely in love with this sprawling musical and all its indulgences and idiosyncrasies. Inspired entirely by Beatles songs, with characters

Movie reviews

whose names include Lucy, Jude and Jo-Jo, Julie Taymor's film is visually imaginative and often quite bold, as you would expect from the director of the Frida Kahlo biopic *Frida* and *The Lion King* on Broadway. The actors, who do all their own singing, are certainly up to the challenge, including Evan Rachel Wood (besides Marilyn Manson, who knew she could sing?) and especially charismatic newcomer Jim

Sturgess, who resembles a young Paul and whose character hails from — wait for it — Liverpool. And while many of the arrangements are inventive (a lovesick cheerleader's rendition of *I Want to Hold Your Hand* has an unexpected poignancy), other performances are far too literal, and the conceit wears out its welcome after about an hour. By then it's painfully clear that there is no strong driving narrative here, only a series of '60s-era clichés (Vietnam War protests, hallucinogenic drug trips, etc.), tied together

by tunes. The music makes you wish the filmmakers hadn't bothered with a story at all. Bono is a hoot in his first film role, though, as an egotistical counterculture leader who sings *I Am the Walrus*. PG-13 for some drug content, nudity, sexuality and violence. 134 min. Two and a half stars out of four.

— Christy Lemire, AP Movie Critic

Please see **MOVIES, E14**



Rogue Wave calls it a new day with "Asleep At Heaven's Gate."

## FILTERED TOP TEN: Rogue Wave

Rogue Wave has just unleashed a fiery new album inspired by the ambient music scores of films like *Tron* and *A Clockwork Orange*, and cloaked in the urgency of self-examination. *Asleep At Heaven's Gate* finds the bandmates at various stages of joy and pain in life.

From the birth of a child to the loss of a parent members Zach Rogue, Pat Spurgeon, Gram LeBron and Patrick Abernethy have experienced much since we last saw them — under the heartfelt pop flurry of 2005's *Descended Like Vultures*. And on this record, a first on Brushfire Records, the band is accompanied by plenty of guests — like John Vanderslice and members of Nada Surf and Snowblink.

Following a stop in Ann Arbor, on tour

with Feist, namesake and frontman Zach Rogue detailed the top 10 records in his ear. For the record, we always ask for five but it might have been hard to narrow down:

1. *Heaven Tonight* by Cheap Trick
2. *69 Love Songs* by Magnetic Fields
3. *Bee Thousand* by Guided By Voices
4. *Crooked Rain, Crooked Rain* by Pavement
5. *Ha Ha Bus* by Broadcast
6. *Geogaddi* by Boards Of Canada
7. *Either/Or* by Elliott Smith
8. *The Who Sell Out* by the Who
9. *Doolittle* by Pixies
10. *Exploded Drawings* by Polvo

Compiled by Stephanie A. Casola

## Amanda Bynes

# Sydney White

Freshman year is no fairy tale.

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# BALL

FROM PAGE E3

"The thing that was so interesting in our research of past balls was they were all-nighters. They began as early as 9 p.m. and ran until the early hours with a special midnight grand march," Renner said.

Renner said the club hopes to show old footage during this year's costume party.

"It's so funny to watch these people posing in front of the camera. You can tell they really had a lot of fun. They were just crazy," Renner said.

Life Magazine covered the 1937

"Scarabean Cruise" with a two-page photo spread, WJR broadcast live from that year's event. The Detroit News and Free Press regularly devoted two pages in their society section to the parties.

This year's ball offers two ticket levels, making it accessible to everyone. The \$100 price includes 6:30 p.m. cocktails with music by Joe Lucido, an 8 p.m. strolling supper catered by Union Street, orchestral music by the Mike Zelenak Orchestra, a silent auction of artist murals and full open bar through 1:30 a.m.

Revelers who wish to arrive at 10 p.m. can enjoy pizza, entertainment by DJ JKenobi, DJ Rock n Roll Scientist and DJ

Milieu, along with a limited cash bar for \$25 advance, \$35 at the door.

A fashion show featuring local designers also will be featured. And lest we forget partiers of times past, Ghost Hunters of Michigan will present paranormal findings at the Scarab Club building, and lead guests on a guided Ghost Hunt through the club.

The fun is designed to raise money to preserve the beautiful Scarab clubhouse, as well as renew interest in the club itself.

"It's a gem in the city of Detroit," Renner said. "We're just proud to be around for 100 years. We're the oldest arts organization in Detroit."

Founded in 1907 as the all-male Hopkin Club, the artists association formalized in 1913 with bylaws, a board of directors and a new name.

The building on Farnsworth was erected in 1928 to help the club meet its goals of uniting artists and patrons, and promoting arts appreciation throughout Detroit. Women were first admitted in 1962.

The Scarab Club building is recognized as an historic treasure at the city, state and federal levels. It consists of exhibit spaces, studios occupied by working artists and a walled garden courtyard available for special events rentals.

The clubhouse on the second floor boasts a cozy lounge with a fireplace, and beams that have been decorated with murals over the years, as well as signed by 250 community leaders, patrons and artists, including Diego Rivera, Norman Rockwell, Marshall Fredricks, Marcel Duchamp, Pablo Davis and Tyree Guyton.

"It's beautiful," Renner said. "That's where the members used to go and have a drink and smoke their cigars and relax and just talk about art and different events, the news of the day. You could spend days looking at the unique murals that are up there. I've been here for three years and I still see new things in them."

## CELEBRATING 100 YEARS: AN EGYPTIAN THEMED COSTUME BALL

**What:** A fund raiser for preservation of the historic Scarab Clubhouse

**When:** 6:30 p.m.-2 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 29

**Where:** The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit

**Tickets:** \$100 includes 6:30 p.m. cocktails; 8 p.m. strolling supper, orchestral music and silent auction of artist murals; \$25 pre-sale (\$35 at the door) includes 10 a.m. admission, DJ entertainment, limited open bar and pizza

**Fashion Designers:** Kate Bennett, Samantha Bullock, Super Deformed Robot, Valerie Keiser, Blair Grinn and Eugenia Paul

**Mural Artists:** Taurus Burns, Jamie Alexander, Floyd Binns, Agnes Gira, Howard Dombrowski, Bill Harper, Rosemary Bu, George Booth, Carol Taft, Francine Kachman, Mitch Scheidel and The Art of Walter and Jerbear.

**Poster Artwork:** Mark Heggie

**Information:** Call (313) 831-1250 or visit [www.scarabclub.com](http://www.scarabclub.com).

As at balls of the past, artists will be painting murals live on the walls of the main gallery, and revelers can view a new mural by Dennis Orlovski commissioned to mark the Club's centennial.

"That's what the club's all about," Renner said. "The artists have contributed and really made a work of art to the interior of the building."

The Scarab Club currently has 250 members and is actively seeking new members and volunteers passionate about the arts and the Detroit cultural scene. The club hosts classes, lectures, exhibitions, special events and tours. For more information or to purchase tickets to the ball, visit [www.scarabclub.com](http://www.scarabclub.com).

## YOU THOUGHT YOUR FAMILY WAS NUTS.



# MR. WOODCOCK

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AMC STAR GREAT LAKES 25	AMC STAR ROCHESTER 10	GOODRICH CANTON 7	MJR MARKETPLACE 20	NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED.

## MOVIES

FROM PAGE E13

### 'THE BRAVE ONE'

We have long known that Jodie Foster is a formidable force. This much was obvious from *Taxi Driver*, which earned her an Oscar nomination when she was just 14 years old. Now, Foster gets to play a modern-day Travis Bickle as a woman who turns into a vigilante after an attack in Central Park leaves her seriously injured and her fiance dead. You can kind of imagine at first how this transformation might occur. Foster's Erica Bain is mad as hell and she's not going to take it anymore.

She's also the host of a radio show that requires her to walk the streets of New York, exploring its sights and sounds and seeking out stories you don't normally hear about, so it's certainly possible that she'd have enough knowledge of the city

to prowling about in search of wrongs to right.

She's so intense, and yet so clearly shaken on the inside still, she makes you believe her — or maybe, if you view Erica as the incarnation of some sort of urban gothic graphic novel heroine, it makes sense. Either way, all plausibility gets tossed out the window and run over by a cab in the third act of this thriller from director Neil Jordan (*The Crying Game*) when the pieces snap way too conveniently into place to allow Erica to exact her ultimate revenge.

Foster has a comfortable, low-key chemistry with the always engaging Terrence Howard, though, as the police detective investigating the city's sensational vigilante killings. R for strong violence, language and some sexuality. 108 min.

Two and a half stars out of four.

— Christy Lemire, AP Movie Critic

## FUNKY FERNDALE ART FEST 2007

**What:** 100 artists in the juried show join with students and craftmakers to sell their wares. It's all set to live music.

**When:** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22 and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23.

**Where:** Nine Mile between Woodward and Planavon, downtown Ferndale.

## FUNKY

FROM PAGE E3

wandered the cozy downtown area seeking original works and reveling in local fare and music. This year, even more visitors are expected.

"The main thing is we're a uniquely Ferndale festival," said Mark Loeb, event organizer. "We celebrate all that is fashionable, funky, fun and fabulous. The art tends to be a little edgier. It appeals to a younger crowd."

This year's festival soars to new heights, literally, as extreme stunt artist Gurmej Singh aims to prove once again that art can defy gravity. The Kalamazoo resident has painted while doing everything from riding a bicycle to walking in traffic. This time, he will hang upside down from a 40-foot crane and simultaneously paint on four canvases - each held by a volunteer. Look for the spectacle at the corner of Nine Mile and Allen streets. Loeb said he wasn't sure how long it might take Singh to finish the paintings, but he would be performing periodically.

The Ferndale Downtown Development Authority and Integrity Shows have joined forces to host the event this weekend along Nine Mile Road. More than 300 artists applied for 100 coveted spots in the juried show. Their booths will be situated along Nine Mile between Woodward Avenue and Planavon.

In addition to the juried artists, area students will be on hand to show their own paintings, jewelry, sculptures, and more. Look for these budding talents along Allen Street.

Three separate stages will feature an array of live acoustic music from performers like classical guitarist Russell Donallon, singer-guitarist Kim Nichols, and Ferndale's own The Hipsters. Acclaimed sitar musician Stephan Mikes will perform his brand of Eastern music, taking cues from Latin, Middle Eastern, Afro-Cuban and Caribbean beats. "We wanted the music to become part of the festival, so it enhances the festival but it doesn't intrude," said Loeb.

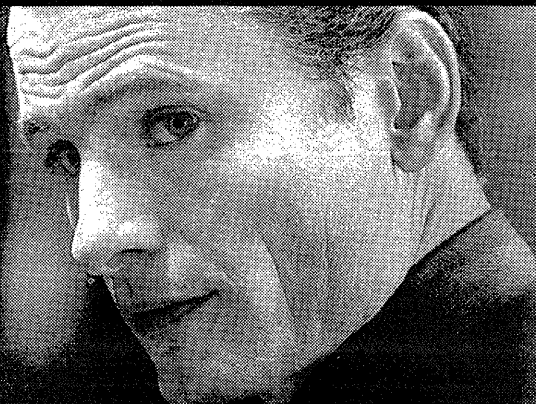
Look for food and refreshments furnished by some of Ferndale's most popular restaurants. A.J.'s Café, Angel's Café, Le Soups!, Maria's Front Room, Pinwheel Bakery, Strawberry Moon, Affirmations and Buffalo Wild Wings will sell refreshments in front of their Nine Mile Road locations. And families can seek out the artsy activities meant strictly for kids.

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Rolling Stone

**"A MESMERIZING POWER-PUNCH OF A THRILLER! DIRECTOR DAVID CRONENBERG IS A VISIONARY! THE BATHHOUSE FIGHT IS A SHOWSTOPPER! 'Eastern Promises' is Viggo Mortensen's tour de force. Naomi Watts is extraordinary."**  
- Peter Travers



**Chicago Sun-Times**  
★★★★★. EXTRAORDINARY.  
- Roger Ebert

**AP Associated Press**  
**"DIRECTOR DAVID CRONENBERG RATCHETS UP THE TENSION. Holds you in an increasingly tight grip. Viggo Mortensen coolly dominates. Naomi Watts is vibrant. Breathtakingly human."**  
- Christy Lemire



**PREMIERE**  
★★★★★

# EASTERN PROMISES



**A young girl's diary will lead one woman to the heart of the Russian mob.**

**Ebert & Roeper**

**"FULL OF TREMENDOUS PERFORMANCES?"**

The fight in the steam bath... is like nothing you've seen before."  
- Richard Roeper 1, Robert Wilonsky, Guest Critic 2, Ebert & Roeper

**TIME**

**"DIRECTOR DAVID CRONENBERG PROVIDES THRILLS GALORE."**

Excellent. Brisk, compelling. A taut film."  
- Richard Corliss



**VIGGO MORTENSEN**

**NAOMI WATTS**

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Imagine Entertainment <b>CANTON 39535</b> Ford Rd 888/319-3456	AMC Star <b>FAIRLANE 21</b> 18900 Michigan Ave 800/FANDANGO #834	AMC Star <b>GRATIOT 21</b> 35705 Gratiot 800/FANDANGO #833	AMC <b>LIVONIA 20</b> Haggerty & 7 Mile 734/542-9909	Imagine Entertainment <b>NOVI 44425</b> W 12 Mile Rd 888/319-3456	MJR Theatres <b>SOUTHGATE CINEMA 20</b> 15651 Trenton Rd 734/284-3456	SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORIES OR CALL FOR SOUND INFORMATION AND SHOWTIMES

MOBILE USERS: For Showtimes - Text EASTERN with your ZIP CODE to 43KIX (43549)

Go to [amazon.com/easternpromises](http://amazon.com/easternpromises) to see the trailer, clips, a retrospective of David Cronenberg's works and more!

**PURE PICKS: THE WEEK OF SEPT. 20-26**

**21** Shine up your **Solid Gold Soul** as performers like Jerry Butler, Gene Chandler, Billy Paul and The Impressions hit the Detroit Opera House. The show is set for 8 p.m. tonight and tickets range from \$39.50 to \$75, call (248) 645-6666.

**22** Fresh from NBC's *Last Comic Standing II*, catch funny man **Alonzo Bodden** tonight at Meadow Brook Music Festival. For tickets, \$10-\$29.50, call (248) 377-0100.

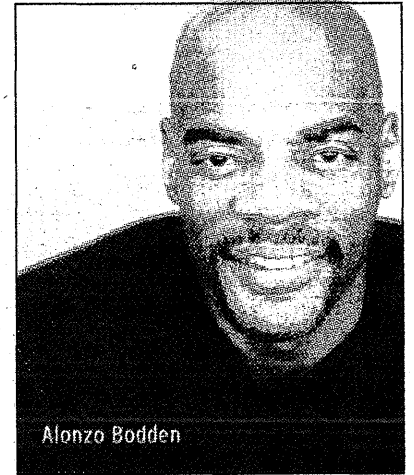
**23** Schoolcraft College cooks up a **Culinary Extravaganza**, 2-5 p.m. today. Sample foods from more than 50 participating pastry shops, vendors and area restaurants while supporting the Schoolcraft College Foundation. It all happens at the VistaTech Center on campus in Livonia. Tickets \$50, call (734) 462-4518 or visit [www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation/events](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation/events).

**24** Ever since the **Beastie Boys** traded a punk persona to rage onto the hip-hop scene way back

with *Licensed to Ill*, the Boys have won fans across all genres. Catch them if you can, at tonight's sold-out performance at the Fillmore-Detroit.

**25** The Detroit Science Center has extended its run of *Our Body: The Universe Within* for a second time, due to record-breaking crowds. Now is the time to see it, or see it again as the exhibit features five new human specimens.

For more information, call (313) 577-8400 or visit <http://www.detroitssciencecenter.org>.



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Dearborn native and L.A. resident Susie Pilzninski escapes to Venice Beach on weekends.

## Unfiltered: Susie Pilzninski

*Filter* reader and former metro Detroiter Susie Pilzninski fled the snow for sunshine - and a career in film and television in 2006. Pilzninski is currently working behind the scenes on one of this fall's most anticipated shows, *Private Practice*. The *Grey's Anatomy* spin-off stars Kate Walsh (Grey's fans know her as fiery Addison Forbes Montgomery), Amy Brenneman, Tim Daly and Taye Diggs. The hour-long drama finds Addison making a new start in Los Angeles. It is set to premiere Sept. 26 and will air at 9 p.m. Wednesdays on ABC.

This week the well-read Dearborn native reveals her current take on the following forms of entertainment in Unfiltered:

**Book:** *On Beauty* by Zadie Smith  
"If you think your family is dysfunctional, read this book. A look at race, family, art, and a number of other topics with a humorous twist."

**Song:** *Take It Off* by The Donnas  
"The Donnas are fantastic and this song is full of energy and perfect for dancing around your home when no one else is looking."

**Show:** *The Gilmore Girls*  
"I love this show and was practically in tears when the last episode ran this year. It's quirky, well written and never dull. If you've never watched it get all the box sets."

and sit down for a weekend marathon!"

**Flick:** "My favorite of all time is Alfred Hitchcock's *Rear Window*. But of recent times, nothing beats *Superbad*, fantastic and funny."

**Game:** Scrabble.  
"I'm not afraid to admit that I became addicted to Internet scrabble over the summer. If only I could remember more words that use the letter Q I would be unstoppable!"

**Dish:** Vegetable or Shrimp Pad Curry from Thai Palace in Dearborn, medium spice please.  
"I can't tell you how many times I have gotten sad and homesick just from thinking about this dish."

**Escape:** "In my hometown of Dearborn, my favorite escape is Greenfield Village, I miss it every week."

"In Los Angeles, the beach is my escape. There is nothing like the sand and water on your toes to make you forget your problems and the traffic."

"But my all-time favorite escape is Switzerland. I have been lucky enough to visit there twice and it is amazing and beautiful and so many things I can't even describe with words. I would love to live there one day."

To submit your own Unfiltered picks for the best book, song, film, T.V. show, movie, game, local dish and escape, send your picks - along with your name, jpg photo and city of residence - to [scasola@hometownlife.com](mailto:scasola@hometownlife.com).

Unfiltered

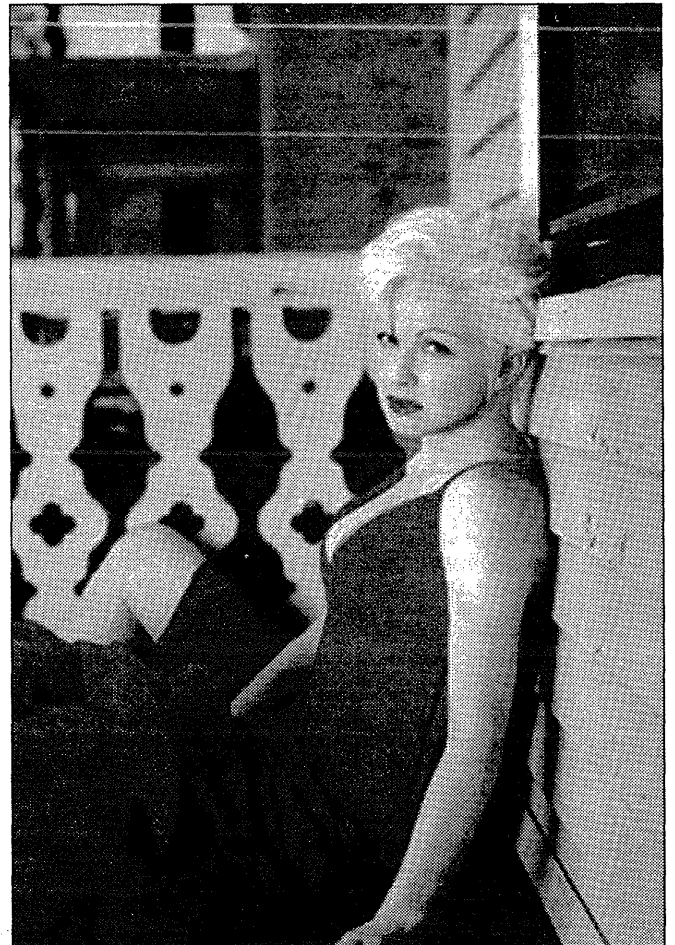
## Guilty pleasures

Some 80s icons only get better. Take Cyndi Lauper for instance. She's just wrapped up her first True Colors Tour to support the Human Rights Campaign with help from Erasure, Debbie Harry, The Dresden Dolls, The Gossip, The Misshapes and host Margaret Cho. It's expected to become an annual event.

For now, Lauper was mentioned among some of your favorite guilty pleasures - in response to a Noise Patrol column written by Stephanie Angelyn Casola which ran in *Filter* on Aug. 30.

Here's what we've heard: Detroiter Drew Krajewicz chose "True Colors" by Cindy Lauper. Lisa Walker of Westland said it was a toss up between "You're So Vain" by Carly Simon ("Sing it at the top of my lungs in the car when I THINK nobody's looking") and "Love is Higher Than a Mountain" by Andy Gibb. ("I mean, come on I was in 5th grade and he was SOOOOOO dreamy.") And Southfield's Kathy Harvey went for a Bangles' classic with "Walk Like an Egyptian."

Keep the guilty pleasures coming by sending an e-mail to [scasola@hometownlife.com](mailto:scasola@hometownlife.com). And check out a CD full of them titled "Guilt By Association."



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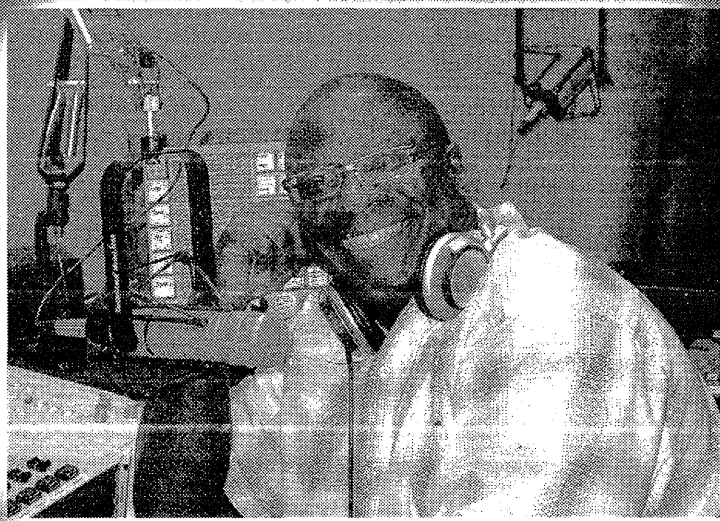
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