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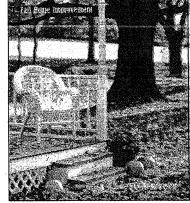
Our Opinions - A10

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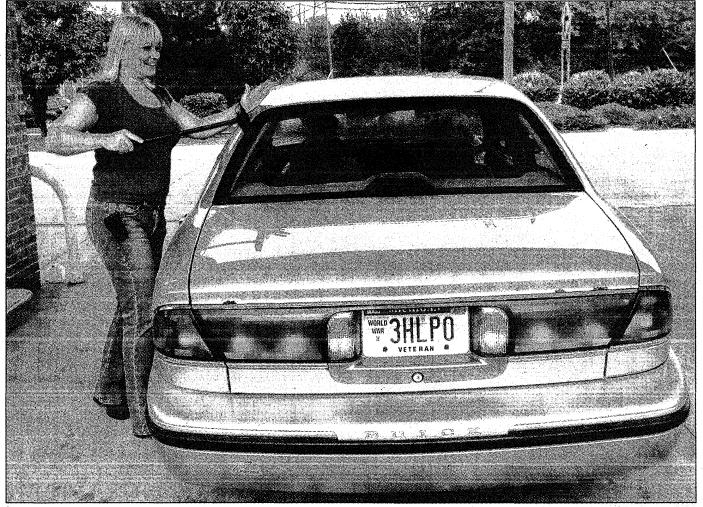
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Housekeeping and Laundry Supervisor Sharon Fike of Redford makes sure Howard and Edna Behrman have clean windows.

# Giving away gas

# Senior center event helps 'greatest generation'

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

Staffers at Plymouth Independence Village simply wanted to show appreciation to what they call America's "Greatest Generation," and devised a gas giveaway to do the job.

Senior citizens born in 1937 or earlier were given \$20 gas vouchers as part of the event. On Tuesday, the senior citizens showed appreciation right back.

right back.
"I think this is great," said Theresa
Cimino of Plymouth, who watched
as volunteers filled her gas tank and
washed her windows at the BP station
at 5 Mile and Northville Road. "It's

nice to be appreciated."
As of Tuesday morning, staffers had given out some 150 vouchers, and were expecting more Tuesday morning. All in all, officials said, some \$4,500 worth of gas was expected to be handed out.

Lauren Lucas, community representative for Independence Village of Plymouth, the senior assisted living center in Plymouth Township, said the whole idea was to recognize seniors who were instrumental during the war years.

"(Gas) is such a big expense for a lot of them, many of whom are on very limited incomes," Lucas said. "They're the ones who went to war, and their wives stayed back and manned the country. We owe an awful lot to these people."

The gas was paid for by a variety of donors, including Armada Gas & Oil, which donated \$500, and station owner Al Bazzy, who chipped in \$1,000 himself.

"It's a good thing to give back to your community, and to the senior citizens," Bazzy said. "Giving a little to them is a great help to them. I was honored to be part of it."

It's the first time Independence
Village has gotten involved in an
event like this, and staffers thought it
was well-received by the seniors.

"This is the first time we've done anything this spectacular," said Sharon Fike, housekeeping/laundry supervisor. "(Seniors) are very happy. They can't believe they're getting free gas."



Independence Village Chef Tim Bryant pumps gas into the tank of resident Louise Stenrose's car. Bryant is a resident of Farmington Hills.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAP

Richard 'Wolf' Nobert will be one of the hundreds of bikers in town for the Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff.

# Chili fest rides into Kellogg Park

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Sunday's Great Lakes Chili Cookoff in Kellogg Park has become a welcomed tradition

in downtown Plymouth.

"It's a well-loved event,
people from town like it
as well as those in the surrounding area," said Annette
Horn, organizer of the 12year event. "We get phone
calls after each year's event
wanting to know the date for

the next year."

A dozen years ago, the Chili Cookoff wasn't such a welcome site in Plymouth. Police and residents wondered about the safety of their quiet, bedroom community as thousands of blackleather-wearing bikers with their sometimes loud hogs descended on Plymouth.

However, as times have changed, so has the stereotype of the bikers who make the trek to Plymouth for the Chili Cookoff.

"We realized, at first, there were a lot of people who have this mystique of what a Harley rider is," said Mike Shelton, assistant general manager of Motor City Harley Davidson in Farmington Hills, a sponsor of the event since the beginning. "It's a whole different breed now, with a lot of businessmen and women. All the

Please see CHILI, A5

# Teachers, district agree on new pact

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Nearly 1,100 Plymouth-Canton teachers have agreed to a two-year contract that gives teachers raises, but saves the district money in both salary scale and health care costs.

According to Chuck Portelli, president of the Plymouth-Canton Education Association, the members ratified the contract with almost 90 percent of the vote.

In the first year, teachers get step increases plus a quarterpercent lump sum raise, which won't be added to the contract pay scale.

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education approved the contract Tuesday night.

The top scale of teachers, who don't receive a step increase, will receive a 1.5-percent lump-sum pay increase. The second year of the contract, in 2008-09, gives annual step increases to teachers, with those at the top of the scale—who don't get a step increase

— getting a 2-percent raise. Entry-level teachers with a bachelor's degree currently start at \$39,954, with the top end of the scale \$66,388 after 10 years. Teachers with master's degrees start at \$43,954 and after 11 years top out at \$77,915.

"This is a market change for us," Portelli said. "We have not turned our backs on the district for the financial problems it has. Our members get a two-year agreement that freezes health care costs and saves them money. It's good for the district because it also saves them money over the two-year period, reducing their costs in health care."

Portelli and Supt. Jim Ryan said the district will receive bigger discounts in health care costs as all teachers will be enrolled in one Blue Cross Blue Shield plan, instead of the previous three choices of health care.

"We're going to save from \$400,000-\$500,000 in health insurance costs," Ryan said. "That says the teachers union was reasonable in their negotiations, and understood the economics of our situation."

Ryan said another detail of the contract includes closing schools for the November 2008 election. Teachers and parents had expressed concerns in the past because the school buildings are used for voting, but because of space there is sometimes no separation of those walking into the buildings and students.

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

# Cancer walk weaves through Plymouth

BY TONY BRUSCAT STAFF WRITER

This weekend's 60-mile Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk — which will weave its way Saturday through Plymouth — has special meaning for many cancer survivors, including Angie Lipford of Canton Township, who will participate for the second time in three years.

Lipford, 45, was diagnosed in 2004 with breast cancer. After undergoing treatments and walking in the 60-mile fund-raiser in 2005, Lipford was told in November last year the cancer had spread to her bones and liver.

"Walking is a chance to let other women know this is a serious, wicked disease, and they really need to take care of themselves and be in tune with their bodies," Lipford said. "If women have the knowledge about breast cancer and getting mammograms and self breast exams, they can find things early on.

"I had inflammatory breast cancer, which doesn't show up on a mammogram and is often diagnosed as a breast infection," she added. "I noticed changes in my breast through self examinations,"

# **WALKING FOR A CURE**■ What: Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk

- Where: Through Plymouth
- When: Saturday
- Why: To benefit breast cancer research

**Map of** 3-Day Walk route through downtown Plymouth, A5.

Lipford said participating in the Breast Cancer 3-Day is a personal challenge.

"When you have cancer, you are angry, and this is a way you can fight back," said Lipford, a special education teacher at Discovery Middle School in Canton. "After the initial shock, you realize you have to fight this, and walking in the 3-Day is therapeutic.

"I'm scared to death, but you pray a lot and have to have hope," she added. "I want to live a lot longer."

The Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk — which begins Friday morning in Farmington Hills and ends Sunday evening in Dearborn — will arrive Saturday morning in Plymouth. A cheering station

Please see WALK, A5

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# in Health

New laser treatment helps reduce enlarged prostates.



# Board, consultant to meet to set search blueprint

# Ryan eyes 'surreal' process

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Jim Ryan usually sits quietly on the sidelines as the Board of Education discusses its plan to replace him as Plymouth-Canton Schools superintendent when he retires in February.

However, Ryan admits it's a bit surreal watching them pick his successor.

"I'm a little melancholy about it because I've enjoyed being the superintendent here," Ryan said shortly after trustees selected a search firm. "I was never selected through a search process, being deputy superintendent before (Superintendent) Kathleen Booher resigned."

Ryan said he never intended to become interim superintendent when Booher resigned in July 2002 because of the turmoil created during Booher's two years in Plymouth-Canton.

"I told them (trustees) 'no, have you seen what happened here lately?" recalled Ryan. "I've had a decent career."

However, when trustees asked what it would take for Ryan to take the position, it wasn't money or perks he was after.

"You'd have to root like hell for me," Ryan said he told the THE RYAN FILE

Who: James Ryan ■ What:

Plymouth-Canton Schools superintendent When:



intendent July 2002; full-time job December

Career: 4 years as superintendent in Reed City; seven years in Lansing

board. "They said 'We can do it,' and I think they have." Ryan was appointed super-

intendent in December 2002. As for the current search, Ryan said "it should be an exciting time" for Plymouth-Canton Schools.

'We should be on fire in this district as we're picking a new leader," he said. "And I only hope that the new leader is embraced not only by the board, but by central office personnel, building people, parents and the community ... like they have me."

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STAFF WRITER

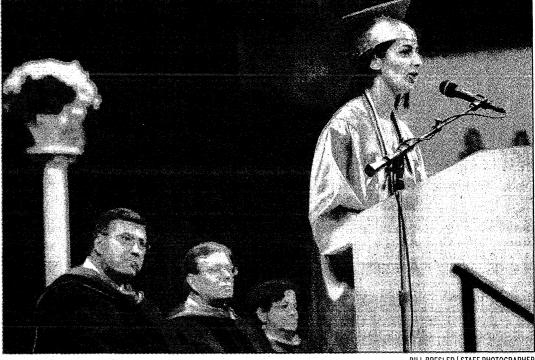
Plymouth-Canton Schools trustees have tentatively scheduled a Tuesday night workshop to set the agenda for a superintendent search with Roger Garvelink, a senior consultant for Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates of Glenview, Ill., the firm selected by the board Monday night on a 6-1 vote to conduct a national search to replace Jim Ryan, who will retire in February.

"This is one of the most difficult decisions I've had to make since I've been on the board," said board Secretary Steven Sneideman. "I do believe we need a national search, and they'll do a better job. Hazard is one of the best at the national search, from what I can gain from all of this."

Trustees interviewed two search firms last week, including Michigan Leadership Institute of Old Mission, Mich., which was the choice of Barry Simescu, the lone vote in favor of MLI.

"I was on the fence until I talked to the president of the Utica Board of Education," Simescu said of his reference check concerning MLI. "They got two excellent candidates from out-of-state. As for dollars and cents, I think we would get just as good a job from the MLI proposal, and it's less money."

MLI's price for an all-inclusive search was \$17,500. HYA's bid was for \$20,000, with additional charges for advertising and plus consultant and can-



Sharan Kaur Shokar was the Senior Class Speaker as Dr. James Ryan (left), former board member Mark Slavens and trustee Judy Mardigian listened during commencement exercises in June. It was Ryan's final graduation as superintendent before he retires in February.

didate expenses which could increase the cost to \$33,000.

"We owe it to the community to do it the right way, and not look at the dollars as much as putting together a quality process so we'll be able to attract someone," said board President Judy Mardigian. "I can't see us running all the aspects of a search as an elected board, which would include the community engagement pieces and really finding out what the community is looking for, and then doing all the logistical pieces to it. I think

it would send a message (to superintendent candidates) this board micro-manages.'

Garvelink said one of the first steps in the search will be to determine what various groups are looking for in a new superintendent.

We'll meet with board members, community groups, faculty and administrative staff to get input and ask questions about their attributes of the district, to help us sell the position and attract candidates we would like," Garvelink said. "It will also help us as consultants when we interview potential candidates as to what kind of challenges they will be facing."

Garvelink, who was Birmingham superinten-

dent from 1978-1990 and is consulting in the current Birmingham superintendent search, said his knowledge of Plymouth-Canton will help him in the search process.

"I can speak with real conviction, I've watched the Plymouth-Canton district grow over the years and I can hopefully give a genuine sales pitch," he said. "Because of the bad publicity Michigan has gotten the past couple of years because of our financial situation, we found in the search for Birmingham that was a deterrent in finding national candidates. But, I try to turn it into a positive, it's a wonderful time to come to Michigan and buy a home. Michigan still has a lot to offer."

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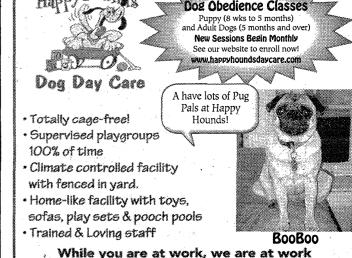
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# Choir concert

The award-winning P-CEP Choirs, under the direction of Jennifer L. Kopp, will join with the P-CEP Orchestra and Symphony Strings, under the direction of Catherine DePentu, for a collaborative Fall Concert 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, in the Salem High School Auditorium.

The choirs will feature a medley of Motown classics, music from the film Dreamgirls, and the musical My Fair Lady, as well as works by Joseph M. Martin, Moses Hogan, John Rutter, and oth-

The choirs will also debut a new choral arrangement of This Is Halloween from the film A Nightmare Before Christmas, arranged by P-CEP Choir sophomore, Matthew Dempsey. In addition, Mr. Tim Schoenherr, the Arts Coordinator for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, will pick up the baton and conclude the concert as the special guest conductor for an arrangement of the traditional Shaker tune Simple Gifts, featuring the combined talents of the over 300 students in the P-CEP Choirs and Orchestras.

Tickets are on sale now at a cost of \$4 each pre-sale and will be available at the door on the night of the concert for \$5.00 each. Tickets are available from P-CEP Choir and Orchestra students as well as from Room 1603 at Salem High School. For more information please contact the P-CEP Choir Office at (734) 416-7765 or visit www.pcepchoirs.org.

# Folk society concert

The Baseline Folk Society begin its third season the way it began its first: With a special concert 7 p.m. Saturday,

Sept. 29. "BaseLine in Concert, a fund-raiser for the BaseLine Folk Society" takes place at the Joanne Winkelman Hulce Center for the Arts, 774 N. Sheldon in Plymouth. The concert features traditional, Folk and acoustic music featuring BaseLine performers Alex & Maggie Zakem, Pairadocs Trio, Rise Again and host Jeff Karoub, with a special sing along led by BaseLiners Scott Ludwig and Cathy Fitzpatrick

and friends.

mic series 7 p.m. Oct. 20, at The Art House, 215 Cady in downtown Northville. The group hosts an open mic on every third Saturday through June 2008, with the exception of November, which will be on the second Saturday (Nov. 10) due to a scheduling conflict at the Art House.

Anyone interested in performing should sign up at 6:15 p.m. There are about five open mic spots available on a firstto-sign-up basis. Admission is \$5 at the door.

# 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 buffet dinner starts at 6 p.m., with the fashion show at 7 p.m.

The event takes place in OLGC's Social Hall, 47650 North Territorial (at Beck), and featuers door prizes, beverages and wine. Cost is \$30 (\$20 tax-deductible contribution to debt retirement). Contact one of the following participating boutiques for reservations: Bella Mia at (734) 656-0057, Gigi's Mode at (734) 254-8774, Maggie & Me (734) 459-5340, or Van Dam's at (248) 449-4282.

# Smith School spree

Smith Elementary School hosts its fifth-annual Shopping Spree fund-raiser 4-8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12.

The event features more than 25 home-based businesses that will have their product line available for purchase. Come check out the raffle, too! Proceeds from the \$1 admission and the raffle go directly to the Smith Elementary PFO.

Smith Elementary is located at 1298 McKinley, a block west of Harvey. For more information, call (734) 454-4389.

# Aging well

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging hosts Heartland Rehabilitation's "Balance & Posture and Grip Strength" health screening 10:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 1 at the Plymouth Cultural Center.



# **Band raffle**

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band and boosters are hosting a "Music & Motion" fund-raising raffle, with the winner racing off on an exciting recreational vehicle of their choice from Plymouth Motorsports on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, co-sponsors of the raffle. Sitting aboard three of the four vehicles offered are (from left) flutist Katie Hensel on the 2007 Yamaha V Star Silverado; flutist Kelcey Cross on the 2007 Yamaha VX Sport WaveRunner; and clarinetist Lindsey Johnson on the 2007 Yamaha Raptor 700R. Behind them are Rick Sanford, sales manager for Plymouth Motorsports, and sales associates Danielle Sarko and Mike Davis. Not pictured is the fourth choice of vehicles, a 2008 Yamaha Phazer snowmobile with trailer. Tickets are \$10 and are limited. The marching band is in particular need this year of a new 50-foot semi trailer to replace the aging one used to carry the 200-member band's large instruments to competitions and performances. Tickets can be purchased at Friday night varsity football games at Canton High School's varsity field and at Plymouth Motorsports, 110 W. Ann Arbor Road.

and women to insure safety while walking, climbing stairs or rising from a seated position. Grip strength for opening bottles and turning doorknobs. Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 to sign up.

# Miller Woods walk

The public is invited to enjoy the colors and smells of autumn on a walk through Miller Woods Sunday, Oct. 14. Walks will begin at 2, 2:30 and 3 p.m. and will highlight how animals, trees, and flowers prepare for winter. Miller Woods is located on Powell Road between Beck and Ridge Roads in Plymouth Township.

A 2008 Miller Woods calendar is planned and orders may be placed that day. Proceeds from the calendar sale will be used to further the goal of the Friends of Miller woods which is to inspire responsible stewardship of this historic forest through education and community awareness.

# **New Morning concert**

Looking for a unique opportunity for some rockin' family fun? On Saturday, Oct. 13, the D'Art Band will headline a live 7 p.m. concert at New Morning School in Plymouth.

The event is open to everyone in the local Plymouth-Canton community, with a suggested donation of \$4 per person to benefit New Morning School. Refreshments will be provided.

D'Art Band is a Plymouthbased group that includes current and alumni parents of New Morning School. Band members include lead guitarist Waldon Reed, Jr., who has been teaching aspiring guitar students for over twenty years. His wife, Celeste, a Dearborn music teacher, also performs with D'Art Band. The show will feature a very special guest appearance by former New Morning School music teacher and popular Detroitarea trombonist Bugs Beddow.

"The concert is a fitting way to help celebrate New Morning School's 35th year," explains D'Art drummer Jerry Teevens. "New Morning School is about family and community, and so is this concert." Teevens' son and daughter currently attend New Morning School. Vocalist Jane Renwick-Fry, keyboardist Craig Fry, and guitarist Pete Celano complete the six-piece ensemble.

For more information, visit the school's Web site at www. newmorningschool.com or call (734) 420-3331.

# Make a Difference

The Plymouth Community United Way sponsors "Make a Difference Day," 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 28, meeting at the Plymouth Salvation Army headquarters, 9451 S. Main in Plymouth.

Volunteers are invited to help rake leaves, clean yards and provide light labor (replace light bulbs and smoke-alarm batteries, etc.) for senior citizens in the Plymouth-Canton community.

Morning refreshments, lawn bags and other supplies will be provided. Volunteers should bring rakes, garden tools and gloves.

To register, call the Plymouth Community United Way, (734) 453-6879 before Oct. 18.

### **Blood drive**

The Plymouth Post Office hosts a blood drive for the American Red Cross 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 3 at the main post office on Beck Road.

Appointments are available, but walk-ins are also welcome. To schedule an appointment, call Barb Mitchell, (734) 453-

# Scarecrows in the Park

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce is now taking reservations for the 2007 Scarecrows in the Park.

Groups, businesses and families are invited to decorate their very own scarecrow in Kellogg Park. The scarecrows will then be on display from Oct. 5 through Nov. 9. This is a popular activity for service clubs, girl/boy scout troops, families and businesses.

Call the chamber office for more information at (734) 453-1540.

# Grief workshop

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church sponsors an eightweek grief workshop, "From Grief to New Hope," beginning The free workshop is open

to the community and will be presented by Karen Jimmet of the New Hope Center for Grief Support. Each session will begin with a talk about one aspect of grief followed by small group participation led by trained facilitators. Each person will be placed in a group with others who've suffered similar losses.

The workshop meets eight

consecutive Mondays, 7-8:45 p.m., at OLGC, 47650 N. Territorial (at Beck) in Plymouth Township. For registration information, call (734) 453-0326, Ext. 221.

# Junior Miss program

High school senior girls interested in participating in the Plymouth-Canton Junior Miss Scholarship Program should contact Marissa Sarnecky at jmsarnecky@aol. com or (313) 215-3512.

There will be an orientation 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at the Westland Friendship Center located on Newburgh in Westland.

## Preschool auction

Academic Pathways, a cooperative preschool located in Livonia which draws students from all over western Wayne County, hosts its annual "The Read Carpet" dinner-auction 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2, at the Livonia Marriott in Laurel Park Place Mall.

Auction-goers will enjoy cocktails and a strolling dinner while viewing the silentauction tables. The evening also features live entertainment and dancing. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Michigan Dyslexia Institute.

For more information visit the school's Web site at www. academicpathwayspreschool. com or call (734) 261-9540.

# 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. No more jewelry vendors, please. For more information, call

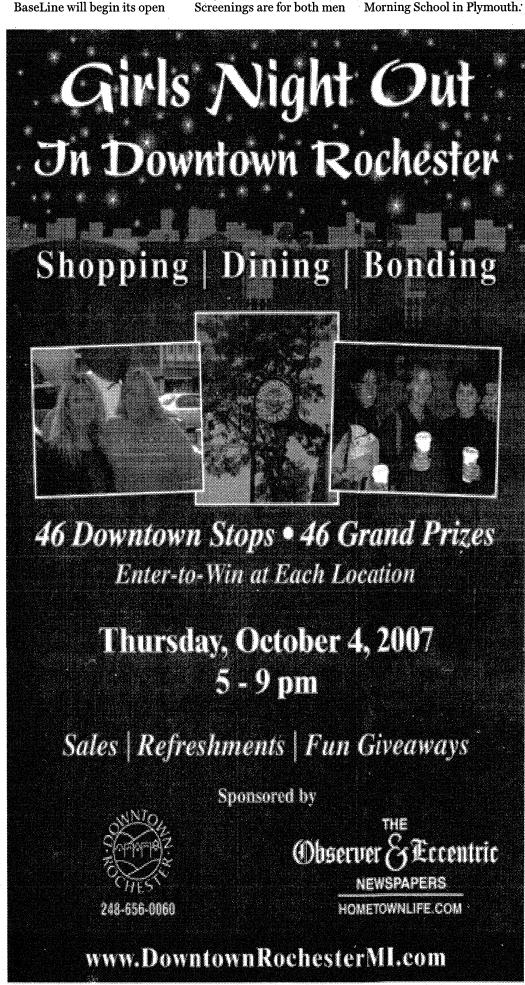
the Salvation Army, (734) 453-

### Artists needed

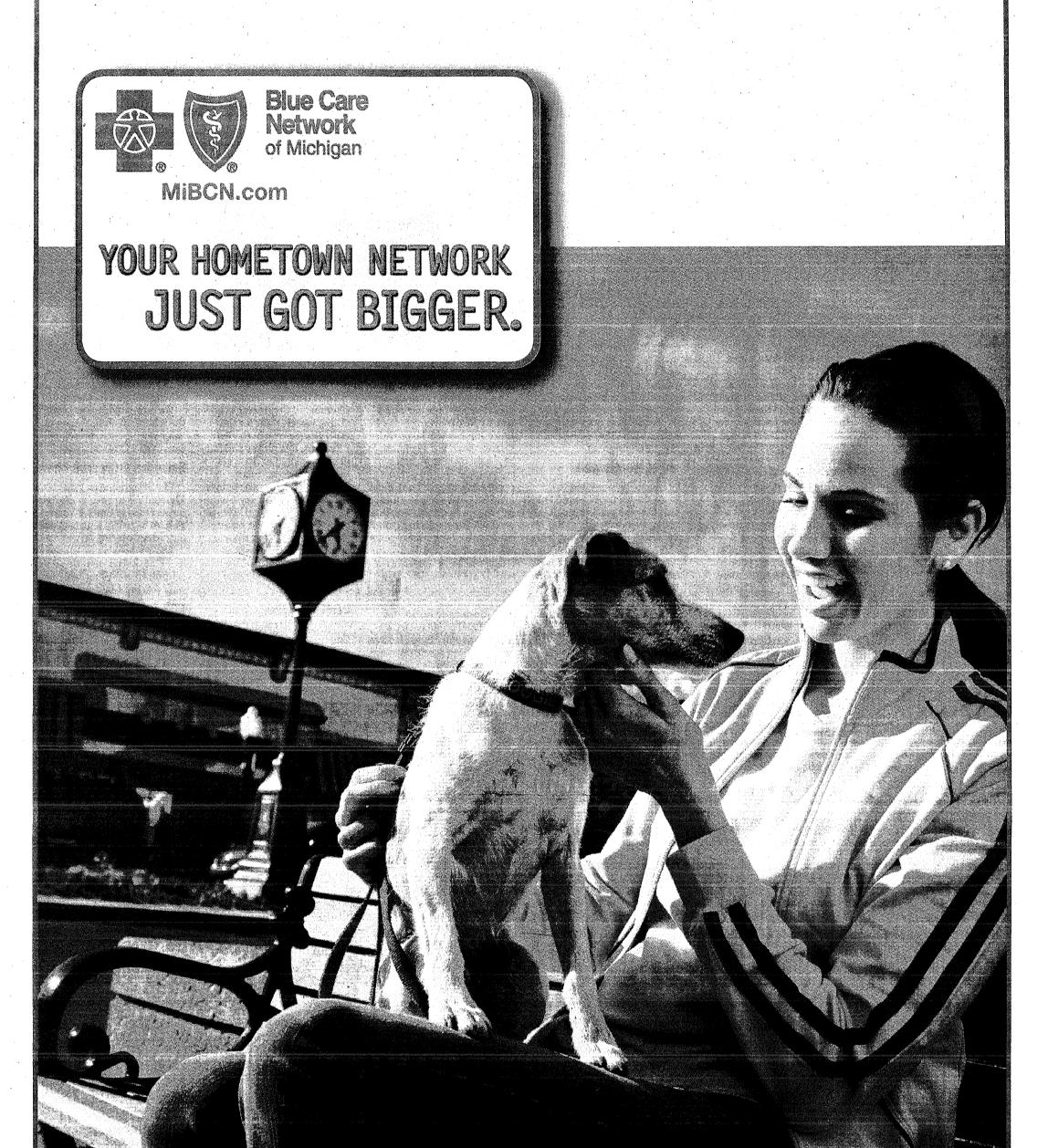
The Plymouth Community Council on Aging is looking for volunteer artists for a creative display project for The Plymouth Community Council on Aging.

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.





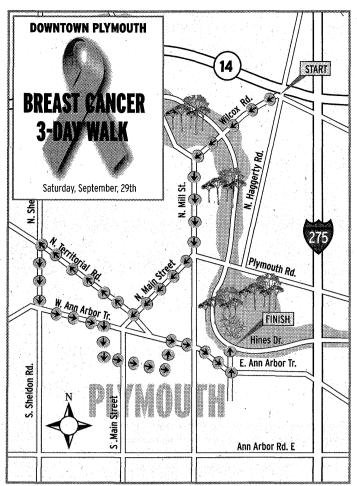


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for family, friends and anyone who wants to boost the spirits of the walkers will be set up at Wilcox Lake Park, in the Wilcox Road and Hines Drive area. Residents along the route are also being encouraged to support walkers with a signs, cheers, treats and water.

Sherrie Pryor, Plymouth Downtown Development Authority director, is walking in her first 3-Day event. With no immediate family members having been affected by cancer, Pryor said she's "walking for the future of all women."

Pryor said she's excited the event is walking through "her downtown."

"When I found out they were coming to downtown Plymouth, I was so excited and told everyone they were coming to my downtown," Pryor said. "I want to be here to make sure everything is just right to welcome them, but I will be walking. I'm really excited for them to see Plymouth."







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# FROM PAGE A1

riders are looking for is a place to ride for a day of events and fun."

John Horner, owner of BMW Motorcycles of Southeast Michigan in Canton Township, said he decided to sponsor this year's Chili Cookoff because "it's a quality, family event."

"As you look at our demographics, it's amazing how many people are the typical doctors, lawyers, nurses, all walks of life," Horner said. "Most of them are strong, upstanding family people.'

Dick "Wolf" Nobert, 68, of Livonia has been riding his Harley for 25 years. He's heard the sometimes not-sosoft whispers about bikers. However, the retired Garden City elementary school teacher believes the stereotype has turned the corner.

"We're not bad people," Nobert said. "I think that notion is starting to diminish

The Great Lakes Chili Cookoff runs from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

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# Church offers class on life's calling

People looking for their life's calling are getting some help from the folks at St. John's **Episcopal Church in Plymouth** Township

Carol Dowdy, along with St. John's Pastor Dorian McGlannan, are offering a class entitled "Reinventing Your Life - God is Calling You to a New Song." The class, which started Wednesday night and runs through the end of October, will cover the practical and spiritual aspects of discovering where you are being called.

"This class is for anyone who is finding themselves at a crossroads," McGlannan said.

'something' is." weeks:

"It's for people who have lost jobs, people who are bored with their jobs and want to explore new territory, people who are empty nesters, people who have just know that something else is out there but they aren't quite sure what that

The class is divided into five

■ Week 1, started Sept. 26, 7:30-9 p.m. - Discussion of business and the current economy, exploring personal empowerment and happiness.

■ Week 2, Oct. 3, 7:30-9 p.m. - Predictive Index training, gaining a better understanding of yourself and others, exploring strengths and

weaknesses. ■ Week 3, Oct. 10, 7:30-9 p.m. - Characteristics and behaviors of a personally

empowered person. ■ Week 4, Oct. 17, 7:30-9 p.m. - Staying motivated in this business climate; how our fears hold us back.

■ Week 5, Oct. 24, 7:30-9 p.m. - Finding your passion; goal setting; Concrete steps to take to move in a new direction.

For more information on the workshop, call St. John's Episcopal Church, (734) 453-0190, Ext. 10.





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available everywhere, V CAST Music & VZ Navigator M. Add'I charges apply. Mobile emails are text only. Network details & coverage maps at vzw.com. While supplies last. Rebate takes up to 6 wks. © 2007 Verizon Wireless

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# Though she fought to the end, young skater loses battle to cancer

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS STAFF WRITER

Natalie Salazar was the Arctic Figure Skating Club's star, the Ritz-Carlton's prom queen and her mother's

Natalie, a pretty, petite 13-year-old Canton girl with a charming smile and an infectious giggle, died early Thursday morning after a

"She caught the hearts of so many people," said Nancy Fees of the AFSC. "Her spirit made everyone want to rally behind her."

year-long battle with cancer.

Natalie, an award-winning ice skater who began the sport at age 3, was diagnosed with neuroblastoma in September 2006 and had been hospitalized since early

summer. After several rounds of treatment proved fruitless, the teen's doctors gave her a month to live.

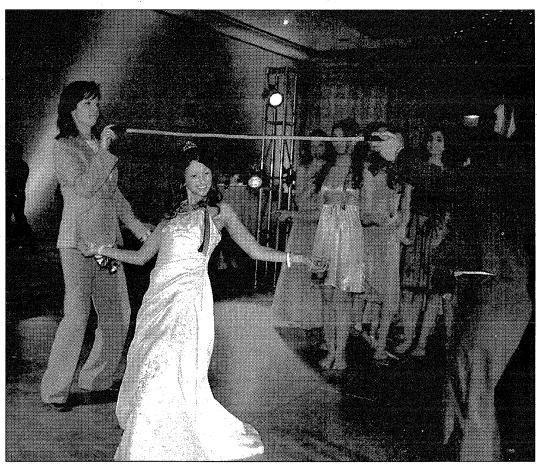
"Her parents revolved their lives around their little girl," Fees said. "They have been through the fire and now there's an empty spot in their lives.

The youngest child of Maria and Sumorfin Salazar, Natalie did constant research on neuroblastoma and believed she would be able to live out her dream to attend high school and juggle successful careers as a veterinarian, lawyer and part-time fashion designer.

Earlier this year, Natalie was the focus of a skating fund-raiser that pulled in

or the provision of services.

Publish: September 27, 2007



Natalie Salazar enjoyed doing the limbo June 6 at a special eighth-grade prom the Ritz-Carlton held for her.

more than \$20,000 in donations.

"Natalie was like the Energizer bunny," Fees said. "She never gave up and she fought until the end."

Upon graduating from the eighth grade in June, the St. Anselm Parish student was treated to a prom at The Ritz-Carlton, Dearborn that was organized in her honor. The hotel sponsored the

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of

Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed

bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, October 18,

HOUSING REHABILITATION: 8 HOUSES

(NOTE: EACH TO BE BID SEPARATELY)

Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on

our website at <u>www.canton-mi.org</u>, or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed

envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name,

address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening.

The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race,

color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment

"Sweet Escape"-themed bash. "We do a lot of projects

but with this one, everyone adopted Natalie," said Laura Gutierrez, Ritz-Carlton director of human resources.

"She was our little prom girl

– that's how we'll remember At the prom, Natalie had long, auburn hair and wore a ball gown in her favorite

color, pink.

"From the time she walked in the door until the time she left she was smiling," Gutierrez said.

Natalie, who worshipped God and loved ice cream, French manicures and her plump chinchilla, Mr. Chubbykins, had told friends that one of her greatest wishes was to live to be 16 years old. She would've turned 14 on

tlparks@hometownlife.com

# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **INVITATION TO BID**

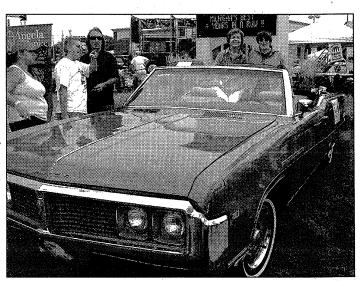
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, October 11, 2007 for the following:

# COMMUNITY CENTER DOOR OPERATOR INSTALLATION

Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at <u>www.canton-mi.org</u>, or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: September 27, 2007



Light Up a Life volunteers Lee Zalewski of Livonia and Connie Sarasin of Redford take a seat in the classic 1969 Buick Electra 225 Convertible that will be raffled at this year's benefit.

# Hospice benefit goes Groovin' and Cruisin' with '60s-style party

Get those go-go boots ready! Angela Hospice is planning a 1960s party for its 20th annual Light Up a Life Benefit, which will be Saturday, Oct. 13, at Rock Financial Showplace - Diamond Center, in Novi.

The Livonia-based Angela Hospice invites the community to join them for this gala, which raises money to fund programs for terminally ill patients and their families. 'Groovin' and Cruisin' through the '60s" is the event's theme.

This event is an opportunity for a lot of people to come together to celebrate the good work of Angela Hospice, have a great night of entertainment, and raise funds for this worthy cause," said Barbara Paul, events coordinator.

The night will begin at 6 p.m. with a performance by The Stubbs Girls. Guests will be treated to hors d'oeuvres and an open bar while the silent auction and fishbowl raffles take place. A plated dinner will follow, then The Reflections will take the stage and the dance floor will come alive. Dessert, classic automobiles, and a "Best Dressed

1960s" contest will round out the evening.

"The committee is really looking forward to this event, and encouraging all of their friends to buy a table," said volunteer Ramona Keatts of Plymouth. "Between the music, the dancing, and the excitement of the raffles and auction, it's going to be a great time."

This year, in addition to its popular \$1 Raffle offering the chance to win up to \$1,000 in cash, Angela Hospice is holding a Classic Car Raffle as well. A limited number of \$100 tickets are being sold for the chance to win a 1969 Buick Electra 225 Convertible worth more than \$25,000.

This benefit follows last year's 1950s event, which was popular with those who attended.

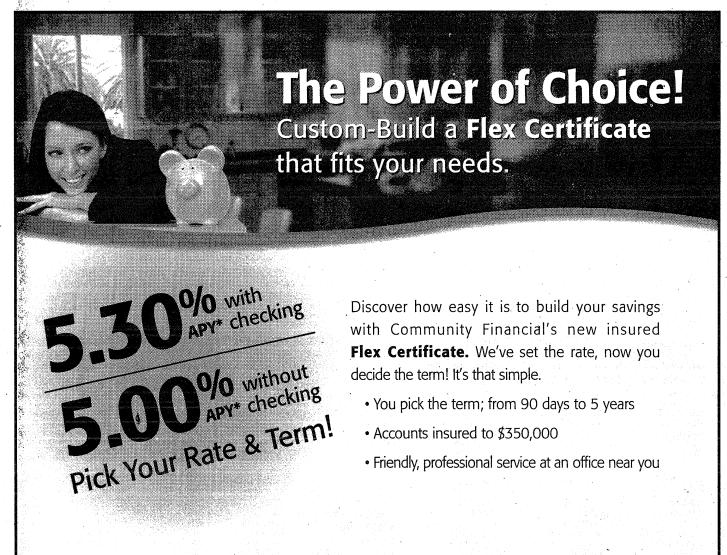
For more information about the event and to make reservations, call Barbara Paul at 734-953-6014, or visit www. angelahospice.org. Tickets to attend are \$100, though sponsorships, advertisements and donations at various levels are also available.

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: 23 & 27, 2007





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### Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings-September 18, 2007

A regular study meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton held Tuesday, September 18, 2007 at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm and led the pledge of allegiance. Roll

Call Members Present: Bennett, Caccamo, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Staff Present: Director Faas, Director Eva, Director Conklin, Executive Director Santomauro, John Spencer, Mike Ager, Greg Hohenberger, Karen Fox, Abe Vinitski, Brad Sharpe, Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz, Sean Fletcher, Mike Rorabacher, Anna Stump, Laura Golles, Robert Kerr, Dave Medley, Jeff Goulet, Tom Casari, John Weyer Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, seconded by McLaughlin to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously. STUDY SESSION TOPIC Item 1. 2008 TOWNSHIP BUDGET Items for Discussion: 1. Overview of Proposed 2008 Budget 2. Administration a. Clerk's Office b. Treasurer's Office c. Supervisor's Office 3. Finance & Budget 4. Municipal Services 5. Public Safety 6. Leisure Services 7. Wrap-Up 8. Other Items Trustee Caccamo requested additional 2007 revenues and expenditures and proposed 2008 revenues and expenditures. Treasurer Kirchgatter stated information on bond for Fellow's Creek Payment Schedule for 2009-2012. Adjourn Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo at 10:17 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. - Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor -Terry G. Bennett, Clerk -

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

Publish: September 27, 2007

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON** 

# **NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION**

**NOVEMBER 6, 2007 ELECTION** 

**FOR THE** 

# WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that OCTOBER 9, 2007, is the last day registrations can be accepted in order to be eligible to vote in the Wayne County Community College District Millage Reauthorization Proposal Special Election to be held on Tuesday,

Only those voters residing in Canton precincts 2, 15, 20, 28, 33 are eligible to vote in this election.

Registrations will be accepted at the office of the Canton Township

1150 South Canton Center Road, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Registration can also be made at any Secretary of State Office or State Designated Agency. Persons with special needs who are unable to register in the above mentioned manner are urged to contact the Clerks' Office at 734-394-5120. Mail-in registration will be accepted if postmarked by October 9, 2007.

Terry G. Bennett

Publish: September 27, 2007

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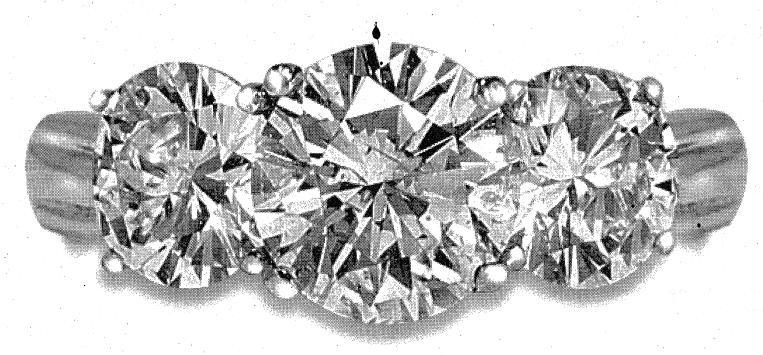
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# Fear and greed can lead to bad investment decisions

Greed and fear are harmful to investors.

Fear leads to bad decisions which can cost investors substantial amounts of money.



One example is what has happened over the last few months. Back in mid-July the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the S&P 500 Index reached record highs. The Dow Jones Industrial Average broke through the 14,000 mark for the first time and almost immediately thereafter the market began to retreat. Just a month after breaking through the 14,000 mark, the Dow fell below the 13,000 mark.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 27, 2007

At that time, the topic du jour was the subprime crisis along with the slowing U.S. economy and, unfortunately, many investors began to bail out of the market. Too many of them let fear dictate their decision as they focused on the day-to-day volatilities of the market as opposed to longterm goals and objectives.

A little over a month from



**Money Matters** 

**Rick Bloom** 

market has rallied. In fact, the Dow is up 1,000 points. Investors who rushed out of the market missed the

recovery and

a substantial

the low point

that time the

and since

amount of money No one, including me, likes to see their investments go down. However, that's the reality of the stock market. Successful investors recognize that volatility is part of the process. A well-balanced, diversified portfolio can somewhat reduce the impact of shortterm volatility. Don't focus on the day-to-day volatilities of the stock market, but rather on the

overall portfolio strategy. Make sure your investments match your goals and objectives and that your portfolio is diversified and balanced.

As we are entering the last quarter of the year, there are some strategies that investors may wish to consider. The first is whether to convert a traditional IRA or a portion of it into a Roth IRA.

The transaction must be completed before Dec. 31. Many brokerage houses and mutual fund companies require at least a few weeks to complete the transaction. If you are considering conversion, don't wait.

I am a fan of converting to Roth IRAs because it allows the individual investor to turn tax-deferred money into taxfree money.

The longer you have until

you need your money from your IRA, the greater the benefit of converting.

In order to convert, you must have an adjustable gross income of \$100,000 or less. If you meet this criterion you are eligible. If you are over 70½, you cannot convert your required minimum distribution, however, you can convert anything above and beyond that amount.

My general rules are: 1) vou have the money to pay the tax created by the conversion, without touching the money converted; 2) converting the money will not throw you into a higher tax bracket; 3) you can let the money grow within the Roth IRA for generally at

least five to seven years Yes, you are incurring a tax liability by converting. However, the long-term ben-

efits of a Roth IRA are substantial. The money you are converting would always have been subject to tax. By converting, you're just paying that tax earlier.

It's also time for year-end tax planning. Whether it's selling investments to recognize tax losses or accelerating deductions into 2007, the goal is to focus on your increasing net worth. Don't do anything for tax reasons alone. Do tax planning that will result in you having more money in your pocket exactly where it belongs.

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

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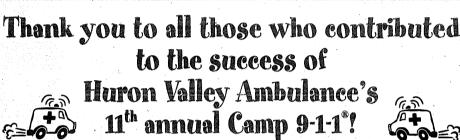
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11:00, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45 3:10 TO YUMA (R)

11:00, 1:35, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35 HALLOWEEN (R) 9:55

Jason Anderson Jayson Anuszkiewicz **Nathan Barvo Larry Beevers Beth Bozicevich Angle Commet** Rose Cox **Adam Dav** Alicia DeMarco **Thane Domrase Matt Dudley** 

**Andrea Dunn** Tyler Ensign Jamie Enyedy Lorenda Faist **Denise Geisman Justin Giersdorf Christina Gomez** Joe Gomez **Steve Grosse** Jeffrey Hale Dan Haller James Hannah

**Ryan Hendricks Scott Holden Cheryl Kiefer** Elaine Jachyra Sean Layow **Bill Luketich Don Marsh** Luis Medina **Shannon Miller** Jason Meyers PJ Moffett **Ted Mynderse** 

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# Rep. McCotter gets airtime on BBC broadcast

STAFF WRITER

As a congressman, Thaddeus McCotter is accustomed to answering reporters' questions. Things were a bit different this past week, however, when the Republican from Livonia was interviewed by the British Broadcasting Corp. on Fred Thompson's run for the presidency and other GOP hopefuls.

The BBC story, heard by local listeners on satellite radio, focused on the presidential hopefuls who were in Michigan for the Republican Mackinac Leadership Conference. McCotter introduced Thompson, a former U.S. senator.

"I'm supporting Fred Thompson," the congressman said Tuesday. "I think he's a proven, common sense conservative. When you've got all the presidential candidates hanging around, you never know who's going to pop up," he added of the BBC reporter.

McCotter has been interviewed by the BBC in the past on the Iraq situation. He noted his Irish grandfather would have laughed "the BBC talking to me."

The congressman listens to radio broadcasts on his iPod, but hasn't heard a lot about the BBC story. "I don't know

what people listen to. There are so many options out there. You can find out anything you want if you look hard enough."

McCotter noted of the BBC: "It's government-run. It's like the CBC." Questions have been raised in the United Kingdom about the BBC's objectivity, he said, but "not being British, I don't have an opinion on it."

He was approached by the BBC after introducing Thompson, who also has an acting background. "I don't think I was their first choice," McCotter said.

He's interested in how British people view our politics and vice versa, noting our government is based on Britain's going all the way back to the Magna Carta in

'We're traditional allies." he said. "We like to keep an eve on the British. The War of 1812 isn't that far away."



**McCotter** 

# Archer will speak at WSU

Dickinson Wright Chairman Dennis W. Archer will be a keynote speaker at E2detroit, an entrepreneurial and excellence symposium at Wayne State University Oct. 1 and 2.

E2detroit provides resources to entrepreneurs and small business owners by bringing together the southeast Michigan regional leaders and business community to share ideas about the tools and relationships necessary to launch and grow a successful business. E2detroit also assists entrepreneurs in locating funding sources, qualified management and facilities for company operations. Dickinson Wright

is a sponsor of the event. Archer will speak on small business growth, public office, law firms, and bringing the economy in Michigan and Detroit to great heights.

Archer was Mayor of Detroit from 1994 - 2001. He was the first African American attorney to be elected to the position of president of the American Bar Association and was an associate justice of the Michigan Supreme Court. Recognitions in the past several years include being named among the "100 Most Influential Black Americans," by Ebony magazine; one of the "25 Most Dynamic Mayors in America" by Newsweek magazine; the "Most Respected Judge in Michigan" by Michigan Lawyers Weekly among the "100 Most Powerful Attorneys in the United States" by the National Law Journal. and "Public Official of the Year" by Governing magazine.

E2detroit is hosted by the Wayne State University Venture Development Office, which works with faculty, staff, students, and alumni to leverage Wayne State innovations and create early-stage technology companies. Its objective is to provide tools and foster relationships necessary for entrepreneurs to launch successful businesses.

Registration for E2detroit is \$195 for business professionals and \$25 for students. For more information, visit www. e2detroit.com or call (248) 275-

# County gets grant to control pollution

The Wayne County Department of Environment's Water Quality Division has been awarded more than \$200,000 from Michigan's Clean Water Fund grant to control polluted water discharges into the Rouge River.

When leveraged with existing federal grants, the total amount to be spent by Wayne County on this effort will be more than \$405,000.

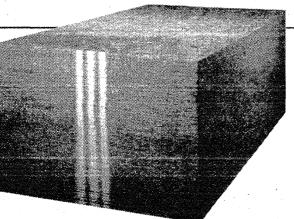
"These funds will allow us to expand our ongoing mission to identify and stop illegal discharges into the Rouge River," said County Executive Robert A. Ficano. These discharges can come from sewage pipes improperly connected to the river, building drains that empty into the river, and runoff from failed septic systems.

"The Department of Environment has done a great job in securing a substantial grant in difficult economic times," said Ficano, "and by leveraging these grants with existing federal dollars, we are providing added value for our residents."

For more information on the program, call (313) 224-3631

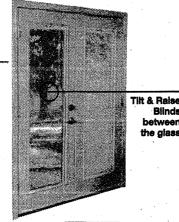


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**OUR VIEWS** 

# It's a weekend of generosity

One of the things we like best about people in the Plymouth community is their demonstrated ability — determination, really — to help others even in the face of their own struggles.

The problems of the auto industry, indeed the faltering economy of the entire state, have hit this area hard. The community relies heavily on auto-related jobs, and those jobs are going away in great numbers.

The struggle manifests itself in many ways; for instance, the Plymouth Salvation Army is having a hard time keeping food on the shelves of its pantry right now because families

Despite the economic crisis, people in this community stand ready and more than willing to help. When news got out about the pantry shelves, food came in in a steady stream. The Salvation Army also tops its Red Kettle Campaign goal every year, and the Plymouth Community United Way routinely reaches its target.

We're about to witness two more great examples of people helping people. The first comes Saturday, when walkers completing the Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk make Plymouth part of their route.

These folks are all walking 60 miles in three days through, among other communities, Livonia, Farmington Hills and Dearborn. supported by the generous donations and buoyed by their own desire to see breast cancer wiped out.

For example, Plymouth Downtown Development Director Sherrie Pryor, who is walking the 3-Day, was pleasantly surprised Tuesday morning to find out she's exceeded her \$2,200 fund-raising goal by more than \$500, an "incredibly generous" outpouring of support, she said.

If that's not enough for one weekend, the 12th annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff is set for Sunday. Thousands of chili-eaters will descend on Kellogg Park to taste chili and salsa, and to see the hundreds of motorcycles that are part of the show.

Proceeds from that event will be used to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County, headquartered in Plymouth but building homes for needy families all over the

It's destined to be a great weekend, especially if you're someone in need, a hopeful weekend for those wishing to see the eradication of breast cancer or the end of homelessness. Obviously, that isn't going to happen overnight.

But when it does happen, it'll be because of efforts like you'll see this weekend in Plymouth.

# Short jabs help state in economic slugfest

Michigan's been hit with a one-two punch with the pullout of area corporate headquarters, like Volkswagen of America in Auburn Hills and Comerica. The state may be bloodied; however, it's not down for the count.

In fact, what is less known are the many success stories in the area of economic development in southeastern Michigan. That's is an important story that not only needs telling but promoting.

Success, as the saying goes, breeds success. Just as some out of state companies may be reluctant to locate here, hearing about the growing number of firms making a move to Michigan ought to tell CEOs that Michigan has a lot going for it.

How the state's economic image is portrayed needs to be revised to target a new audience. Forget the corporate office buildings; what's happening here is the growth of smaller, sometimes high tech businesses.

And the Michigan Economic Development Corporation has played a key role in this upswing.

Recently, the MEDC announced nine new projects that received state help to create nearly 3,000 jobs. There's more. Also included in the projects is roughly \$52.3 million in new capital investment in communities, including three tech companies in the Ann Arbor.

Clearly the emphasis is on technology here, with firms planning to develop portable fuel cells and clinical diagnostic testing products.

In a separate announcement, a British company has said it is establishing three firms in Troy to deal with different segments of the amphibious vehicle market. One of the firms is expected to bring 1,500 jobs to the area.

As good as all this is, what may be equally important is the determination seen at Oakland County's Automation Alley, also in Troy, to fight back.

Six companies are joining Automation Alley's trade mission to India Oct. 10-20. While many companies are outsourcing work to India and elsewhere, those on the trade mission expect that country's growth to produce a demand for products and services that Michigan can

The important message here is that the state hasn't suffered a knock-out punch. It's ready for the next round.



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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.



"He says small businesses are going to save the state's economy. I just wish he weren't our CEO."

# **LETTERS**

# **Media control elections**

Reforming presidential primaries according to two plans, as suggested in your editorial ("Parties need to reform primaries," Observer, Sept. 13), or moving primaries to some earlier date will most likely be nothing more than exercising in futility.

It will do nothing worthwhile for the furtherance of election of more representative candidates. It seems that we, the public, have little say as to who the winners will be. This is decided for us backstage by big money and power wielders, but above all by those few individuals who own and otherwise control mainstream news media.

Preferred by them, candidates, no matter how mediocre and undeserving, are given continuous, favorable exposure in the mainstream media, and otherwise support.

The media seem to condition us to vote only for the candidates of their choice, but no other. Just watching TV can be seen how it is done. Most of us just go and vote for them, knowing little about who else is running for the office.

Those other candidates, no matter how worthy some of them may be deserving, patriotic and truly dedicated to doing what is right for the country, but if not otherwise liked by these news media moguls, are hardly mentioned in their media, or if ever mentioned it is usually unfavorably, or at best are simply ignored.

It is therefore important, before going to vote, if we intend to do so, to be wellinformed from independent, truthful, objective sources. Only then we hopefully can make a difference for the better.

There is another, recently introduced undesirable aspect of our electoral system — the unverifiable electronic voting. We can never be sure whether our votes are directed where intended by us. We cannot be sure whether those announced winners are truly elected by us voters.

Some states, including California, in order to dispel such doubts, require their votes be verifiable, subject to recounting, thus minimizing the possibility of being manipulated, which can easily be done electronically. Such should be the requirement in all other states, including Michigan.

Unless at least the above-pointed-out electoral deficiencies are satisfactorily and honestly addressed, going to vote may be a waste of time, energy and money, especially in presidential and congressional elections. Perhaps that is why only about half of the entitled go to the polls on election day.

> Joseph Wira Plymouth Township

# Thanking Corriveau

I'd like to thank state Rep. Marc Corriveau for looking out for our Michigan workers.

This is not a union or a non-union issue, times are really tough in Michigan right now. Jobs are scarce and families are suffering because of it. Rep. Corriveau was in the news recently talking about the "Hire Michigan First" plan, which will help our neighbors,

family and friends find jobs. Requiring companies that contract with Michigan to hire Michigan workers is the right thing to do. If companies benefit from economic breaks, our workers should benefit, as well. I applaud Rep. Corriveau for this commitment to Michigan's workers, and I thank him for the work he is doing.

Also, on a second note to my fellow residents, please before you buy another car, toy or appliance, think about your children and grandchildren, look inside the door, look on the box and see where the product is made. I've seen your kids and they're not all

engineers and Nobel Prize winners. So, if one day you want your kids to leave home and your neighbors to have a good life, buy American. It's your future.

Carlo Castiglione

# Ethical, not political

The issue of universal health care is not a political issue or an economic issue, it's an ethical issue. It is patently unethical to profit from the treatment of the sick. Period. And ethics should be a completely nonpartisan issue. As a U.S. and Michigan taxpaver. I would gladly agree to a tax increase in order to fund universal health coverage. By the way, if we weren't paying for a war thousands of miles away, it might be a less taxing proposition. Let's really make this the greatest country in the world and take care of all of our citizens, not just those who can afford it. Please pass H.R. 676. Thank you.

**Rachel Kain** Farmington

# Letter writer off-base

This letter is in response to the absolute garbage kind of letter to the editor titled "Unions are the problem."

That was one of the most totally false, misleading and mean-spirited attacks upon organized labor I have witnessed in a long time from the pages of the Observer & Eccentric. Freedom of the press, indeed. That writer is, simply put, totally ignorant of the truth about workers and their unions, the epitome of arch-conservative, right-wing, unpatriotic nonsense and possibly an outright danger to the forces of democracy, common decency and the American middle class ideals that portray and completely justify the growth and strength of the American labor movement.

I knew Walter Phillip Reuther. More than any other single person in the 20th century, Reuther created the middle class. I know. I was there.

From 1940 until 1985 — and beyond - I was active in the UAW. I remember starting work in a GM plant before World War II at 55 cents per hour, including a newly UAW-won 5-cent. third-shift premium, to more than \$20 per hour less than 20 years later.

I remember Walter, who fought against and defeated communism and did more to create the greatest most effective union bargainers in the world - the UAW — than any single person in America in the 20th century.

Hey there, character from Troy,

what did you ever do to help create our middle class? What kind of positive contribution did you ever make to ever help anyone who works in America? America is only as strong as its middle class. The middle class is only as strong as its labor unions. Destroy America's labor movement and the destruction of America cannot be far behind. No democratic nation can exist without a strong, growing labor movement. The UAW and its officers and members are numbered among the finest of citizens, workers and patriotic Americans in our nation today. I know this to be true. I worked with them side by side for more than 45

Troy letter writer, can you say the same? I don't think so. If you did, you would not have written such a venomous letter about the splendid life of Walter Reuther and the UAW and its great membership. Shame on you!

> L.B. Kingery **Rochester Hills**

# Open for business

Brazil is open for business. Workers there are willing to try anything, much like Michigan in earlier times.

Automobiles were created in Detroit area garages by few employees performing multiple tasks. Henry Ford developed a standard Model T suitable for mass production and cheap enough for the average household. He was so successful he added a steel plant, railroad, steamship line and even gasoline (Benzol). When costs per automobile went down, so did the price. Factory workers became scarce, so he offered \$5 per day (very high in those days). The rich got richer, and so did everyone else.

Sit-down strikes and picket lines ended Henry's dream. Government mandates would require steps backward, perhaps so others could keep up. Union members prospered and manufacturers raised prices to absorb

increased costs (not Ford's preference). International markets seek willing workers and cooperative governments. Brazil enjoys prosperity like Michigan did 100 years ago while we cling to policies that failed. It need not be that way if we were "open for business"!

> Hank Borgman Farmington

# **SHARE YOUR OPINIONS**

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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# QUOTABLE

"At this point, they are looking real good ... It's a good thing when I can walk into a fleet and they have longstanding, qualified technicians. They're aware of some of the critical issues, and have a proactive approach to maintenance problems. It's not reactive, wait 'til it's broke and then fix it."

- Larry Doty, Michigan State Police civilian inspector, on the quality of the Plymouth-Canton school bus fleet

# Prison reform, worker benefits key parts of budget woes

fter another week of watching the same endless shenanigans going on in Lansing, I can only repeat: "Michigan's political, policy and finance systems are broken. Ten million Michigan citizens have been held hostage to the partisan agendas of both political parties and their members who now hold office, not to mention the interest groups that fund their campaigns."



Phil Power

We are in trouble. We're facing the greatest crisis since the Great Depression, and desperately need leaders with a vision for Michigan that will get us through our present turmoil and lay the foundation for a radical transformation of our state.

We're not going to get that by habitual partisan finger pointing or by absurd, face-saving compromises that claim to "solve" the \$1.8 billion state budget deficit. Without a new vision, no matter what they do, a similar deficit will be staring us in the face next year.

Even if we buy into that vision, it won't become reality unless we have state government that is effective, efficient and accountable.

Republican lawmakers say the way to do that is by cutting something like \$1 billion from state spending. But you when ask exactly what they'd cut, mostly what you get back is mumbles about "government waste, inefficiency and bloat." That's not a responsible recipe for crafting a budget. Especially when they've known the dimensions of the problem we're facing for a year.

But if they are serious about cutting spending, here are two big, obvious, long-overdue ways to cut nearly \$800 million, as suggested in The Center for Michigan's most recent newsletter:

■ First, enact \$500 million worth of prison reforms. Michigan's incarceration rate is 40 percent higher than our neighboring states, while our crime rate is just about the same. One-third of our enormous state prison population is there for drug-related or nonviolent crimes. Nearly another third are being held beyond their earliest possible release date. And our prisons cost Michigan taxpayers around \$5,000 more per inmate each year more than neighboring states pay to keep theirs locked up.

Ending expensive jail time for nonviolent offenders and releasing inmates unlikely to be dangerous to society will save hundreds of millions. Gradually bringing pay for Michigan prison guards in line with neighboring states would help. Privatizing some operations like food service could save even more.

People from all over the political spectrum — business conservatives, social liberals, academics and the state's financial advisers — have for years urged cost-conscious prison reform. Any concrete results? Nah. In part, Republicans fear being accused of being "soft on crime."

■ Second: Bring Michigan state worker benefit costs in line with the national average. How big? Around \$275 million. Both the Small Business Association and The Center for Michigan reached that conclusion in separate studies earlier this year.

Republicans are going to have a harder time swallowing the first of these two suggestions; Democrats, the second — but both are vitally necessary. For a while earlier this summer, both Gov. Jennifer Granholm and Democratic lawmakers talked a good game about reforms in pay and benefits for state employees earlier. But not recently. The story in Lansing is that public

employee labor leaders are holding court in the capital, holding the line against reforms among the troops who want labor campaign contributions later on.

Detroit News columnist Daniel Howes, in a stinging column last Saturday, asked of labor leaders: "Tell us how you explain to recently retired autoworkers fearing for their pension and health benefits that they have to pay higher taxes so their pals in the public sector won't be asked to do the same? Answer: You can't, and sooner or later they'll wake up to the rank hypocrisy and fight back."

And although much of the debate on the revenue side of the budget argument has had to do with the income tax, here's a quick, simple and fair way to bring in an added \$300 million each year:

Tax beverages.

States like Texas and California raise more than \$100 million each year by taxing unhealthy, sugar-saturated soft drinks; they're classified as "food" in Michigan and therefore not taxed.

Our tax on beer was last adjusted 41 years ago ... when it was cut to just under two cents per beer. Two cents in 1966, adjusted for inflation, would be about 14 cents a bottle today.

All lawmakers would have to do to raise \$225 million would be to raise beer taxes to keep up with inflation. But they haven't. Why not? Because the beer and wine lobby is among the most powerful in Lansing. And lots of legislators are scared they'd anger off blue collar beer drinkers. So, instead, they're arguing about an income tax increase that would cost a \$50,000-a-year blue collar worker another \$275. That would buy an awful lot of beer.

There you have it; three simple ideas to make our government more efficient and less costly. There are lots of others:
Benchmarking public employee pension and health care benefits against public employees elsewhere or (gasp!) private sector workers. Find ways vastly to increase collaboration and service sharing among Michigan's thousands of local government units and school districts.

And if government is indeed to be more accountable and effective, we need more experienced, strategic, competent and decisive leaders — leaders who are willing to set aside traditional party politics to find common ground strategies to move Michigan forward.

Why has this been so hard? Mainly for two reasons: First, the law we passed setting strict and short term limits makes sure that we will be ruled by lawmakers who are relatively inexperienced. Second, the way we redraw legislative district boundaries assures that candidates at each political extreme are mostly the ones elected.

The ideas I'm proposing here are neither new nor particularly complicated. They're common sense ways of finding common ground that most of Michigan's 10 million citizens can agree on.

So how do we get people talking about making common sense the centerpiece of our political discussions? That will be the subject of community conversations taking place throughout Michigan next month as part of the Michigan's Defining Moment campaign.

To learn more or reserve a seat at a conversation near you, go to www.thecenterformichigan.net.

Phil Power is founder and president of The Center for Michigan, a centrist think tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions expressed here are his own and do not represent the official views of The Center. Power welcomes comments at ppower@thecenterformichigan.net.

# Welcome back to wonderful world of reading real books

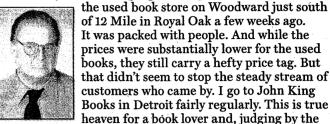
he kids at Birmingham Berkshire Middle School are engaged in a novel — and I do mean novel — program. They're reading. They are reading things they can hold in their hands, and I don't mean iPods.

For 15 minutes a day, the kids just sit and read. They can read novels, magazines or anything they want except textbooks.

This is a fabulous idea. I don't think reading is a dying art.

Just go to any library or book store like Borders or Barnes &

Noble and you will find people sitting and reading. I went to
the used book store on Woodward just south



Greg Kowalski

customers who came by. I go to John King Books in Detroit fairly regularly. This is true heaven for a book lover and, judging by the people I see in there, there are many book lovers.

People are reading. Unfortunately for us in

the newspaper business, they don't seem to be reading newspapers as mush as they used to. But that's another story.

I used to read novels at a voracious rate, and for the longest time I confined myself only to the great classics. But I've exhausted almost all of them and what's left doesn't really appeal to me. I just don't think I have the stamina anymore to wade through Trollop's Barchester Towers, and I refuse to have anything more to do with the vastly overrated Jane Austen. On the other hand, I think a moratorium should be put on Stephen King — one book every five years. No more.

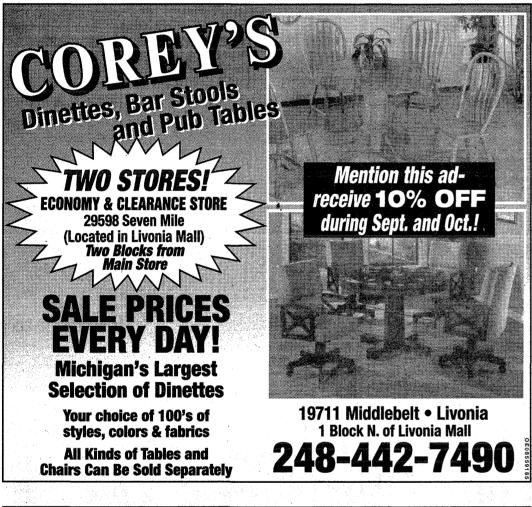
For the past few years, I have been concentrating on local history books, which is a fascinating area in itself. Everybody should at least thumb through Silas Farmer's mammoth *History of Detroit and Michigan*. What makes this book really amazing is that it is probably still is the best history ever written in Detroit — and it came out in 1884.

Farmer did some other local history books, as did Clarence Burton, who is probably best known for founding the Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Public Library. Friend Palmer also did some 19th century contemporary history books that are worth a look. But the number of local history books isn't endless and I'm back to poking around the shelves of the new novels.

I just finished J.M. Coetzee's Foe, which was fairly dumb, Paulo Coehlo's The Alchemist, which was OK, and am into See, by Jose Saramango, which — 100 pages in so far — is enticing, although a bit of a challenge considering there are no paragraphs or quote marks and the sentences tend to run on and on — which, while it can be an effective style, makes for some disjointed reading despite being fairly and surprisingly comprehensible when you finally get to the end and reflect back on what you have just read like a rider on a charging steed. Get the idea?

At any rate, it's good to be back into the world of novels. Reading them has been an experience of a lifetime — literally. I hope the kids at Berkshire pick up the habit. There is a whole world of great, and some not so great, books waiting for them.

**Greg Kowalski** is editor of the Birmingham Eccentric. He can be reached at (248) 901-2570 or by e-mail at gkowalski@hometownlife,com.







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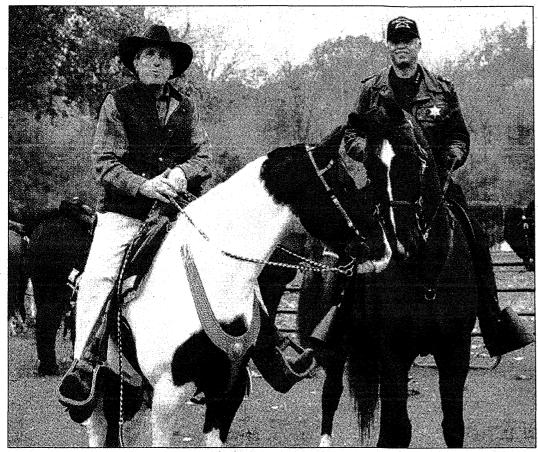
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Sheriff Warren C. Evans (right) is joined by rider Burt Farbman, a supporter of the Wayne County Sheriff's Mounted Unit.

# **Sheriff hosts Mounted Unit benefit**

Sheriff Warren C. Evans is planning a ben-

On Saturday, Oct. 6, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Evans will host his third annual Mounted Unit benefit fund-raiser at Nankin Mills in Hines Park. Tickets are \$25 for horse owners

who wish to participate in a trail ride with the sheriff's team and \$10 for members of the general public. Children ages 12 and younger can attend for free. Refreshments and various displays and activities will be provided. For ticket information, please call (313) 967-6300.

# Metroparks plan autumn hayrides for young and old alike

Autumn's reds, yellows and golds will soon be coloring the trees at the Metroparks. A schedule of hayrides is being planned at the parks.

Pick Your Pumpkin Hayrides will be held October weekends from noon to 4 p.m. Kensington Metropark Farm Learning Center, near Milford/Brighton. Visitors will take a horse-drawn hayride to and from the farm's pumpkin patch where they can pick their favorite Jack-O-Lantern pumpkin. Hayride fees are adults \$3, children and seniors \$2, children 2 and under are free. Pumpkins are prices according to size. Registration is not required. For more information, contact the park office at (800)477-3178 or

Group hayrides are Wednesdays and Thursdays in October from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Kensington Metropark Farm Learning Center. The cost is \$35 per group for a half hour hayride. Tractor-drawn hayrides are available weekends and other selected days after 4 p.m. at \$100 per hour. Hayrides are for groups up to 25 persons per ride. Groups must register at least 10 days in advance for these daytime hayrides by calling the park

office at (800)477-3178. Cider & Doughnut Wagon Rides will be held Sundays, Sept,. 23 and 30 from noon to 3 p.m. at the Farm Learning Center at Wolcott Mill Metropark in Ray Township. Fee is \$4 per person. For additional information, call the

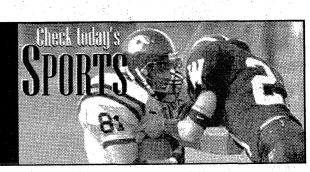
Farm at (586) 752-5932. Pumpkin & Wagon Rides are Saturdays and Sundays, Oct. 6, 7, 13, 14 and 21 from noon to 3 p.m. at Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Learning Center in Ray Township. Fee is \$4 per person. Pumpkins are priced according to size. For more information, call Wolcott Mill Farm Learning Center at (586)752-5932.

Moonlight and Hayrides are Fridays, Oct. 5, 12 and 19, 7:30-9 p.m. at Stony Creek Metropark Nature Center near Rochester. Fee is \$6 per person by appointment. Call the Nature Center at (586)781-9113 to reserve a

A Metropark vehicle entry permit is required.

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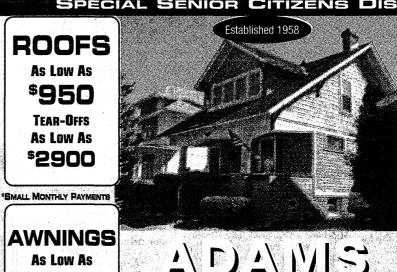
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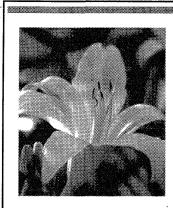
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Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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### ALEXANDER CALDER

Sept. 24, 2007 age 98. Former resident of Livonia for 54 years. Beloved husband of Janette for 74 years. Dear Father of George, Neil (Michele), Gary (Debra) & Kenneth. Loving Grandfather of five & Great-Grandfather of two. Brother of Anne Duthie of CA. Also survived by many nieces & nephews. Visitation Fred Wood Funeral Home (Rice Chapel) 36100 5 Mile, 1 mile W. of Farmington Rd. Sunday 2:00 - 7:00 pm. In State St. Matthew's United Methodist Church Monday 10:00 am until time of service 11:00 am. Memorials to Angela Hospice or St. Matthew's United Methodist Church preferred.

# BEATRICE JANET GREAVES

Age 79 died Sept. 24, 2007. Funeral 9-28-07 at 10am. Uht Funeral Home



**BRIAN DAVID PETITPREN** 

Age 30, of Chicago, IL, formerly of Troy, MI, died Sept. 22, 2007. He was born Jan. 26, 1977, the son of Lynn (England) Petitpren, of Troy, MI & John Petitpren (Sheridan), of Chesterfield Twp., MI. Brian was a graduate of Troy Athens High School in 1995, a graduate of Michigan State University 1999. He loved boating, skiing & traveling. He was currently employed by Met Life in Chicago, IL. He is survived by his parents, sister Ms. Jamie Petitpren, Royal Oak, MI; aunt, Janice (Mark) Tucker of Birmingham & one uncle, Michael Petitpren of Harrison Twp., MI. and his maternal grandmother, Martha England of Troy, MI and paternal grandmother, Mildred Petitpren of Harrison Twp., MI. Visitation will be held Thursday, 3-8pm at Price Funeral Home, 3725 Rochester Rd., Troy, MI. Funeral service will be held at the funeral home Friday, 12noon with Pastor Clifford Mayes officiating Interment White Chapel Memorial Cemetery, Troy, MI. Memorials may be made to Karmanos Cancer Institute. Share memories with online register book at www.pricefuneralhome.net



### **BUD MARTIN** Passed away September 22,

2007 at the age of 84. He was born in Plymouth and lived here his entire life. He is the beloved husband of Dee. Dear father of David (Cindy) Martin and Scott Martin. Also survived by two sisters Marleeta Walton and Marilyn (Hudson) Scheifele and numerous nieces and nephews. Mr. Martin retired from Ford Motor Company in 1985. He was a supervisor at the Livonia Transmission Plant. He was a member of the Plymouth Lions Club, Past president of PTA at both Junior High East and Smith School in Plymouth, Mr. Martin was the Mayor of Plymouth in 1980-1981 and served as a commissioner for 10 years. He also served on the Fall Festival Committee. Mr. Martin served in the U.S. Army during WWII. He was also very artistic, making bird houses, pottery and paintings. Remarkably he jumped out of an airplane from 13,000 feet at the age of 80 years. Funeral srevices were held at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth, Thursday, September 27, 2007, 11am. Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice.

# IN MEMORY OF ALLISON MAY NEWMAN May 7, 2004 - Sept. 22, 2006

You touched so many lives in such a short time. We are hurting as much today, as we were a year ago when we first learned of the tragic news of how your life was taken away from you by the hands of another. Our hearts are broken. We pray for justice, not only for your sweet spirit, but also for other children who have also lost their lives in a similar way. Love Always and forever, Daddy, Grandma & Papa Newman, sister Chrissy, Aunt Becca, Uncle Bob, cousins Hannah, Zachary, and Great-Granny.

# WINIFRED ELY

Age 92, of Westland, MI, died Sept. 23, 2007. Uht Funeral Home.

# DONALD J. ADAMS

Age 58, of South Lyon, died September 23, 2007. He was born July 12, 1949 in Detroit, MI, to Richard and Ferne (McIntosh) Adams. Donald was united in marriage to Maureen Murphy on December 18, 2004. A longtime resident of the area, he was the owner of Country Line Contractors, Inc. based in South Lyon. Donald was a very hard worker, who raised buffalo on his farm. He enjoyed riding his motorcycle and liked to travel. Survivors include his loving wife Maureen; his sons, Donald K. (Anna Marie) Adams and Thomas G. (Holly) Adams; his stepsons, Michael Ryan, Jason Ryan and Christopher Ryan; his sisters, Pat (John) Tongusi and Pam Adams; and his grandchildren, Triston, Christopher, Sebastian, Bailey and Preston. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother. Visitation will be held today, Sept. 27, from 1-8pm. A Funeral Service will be held Friday, Sept. 28, 11am at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc, 59255 10 Mile Rd., South Lyon. Pastor James N. McGuire will officiate the service. Mr. Adams will be laid to rest at Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Paws for a Cause, 4646 S. Division, Wayland, MI 49348.



DONALD J. PENNELL

Age 83, of Bloomfield Hills, died September 19th under the care of Hospice at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital. He was born in Pleasant Ridge to Otto and Lillian (Grundy) Pennell, in 1923. He is survived by his loving wife, Jean (McKendrick) whom he married April 1944. Don was a graduate of Redford High School and received his B.A. from the Detroit Institute of Technology. He worked for Michigan Bell, AT&T, and Ameritech in Detroit and New York City for a total of 36 years. He was proud Veteran of World War II, having served in the Army Air Corps. Don was active in many organizations including the Sons of The American Revolution, where he held state and national offices. He was also active in the Paul Bunyan Sportsman Club, Society of Colonial Wars, and Society of the War of 1812. A noted genealogist, he had published several books of family genealogy. Don was a Free and Accepted Mason of Birmingham Lodge #44, and a member of the Birmingham Men's Club. He is also survived by his son George (Nancy) Pennell of Marquette, Michigan; daughter Christina (John) Bols of San Antonio, Texas; five grandchildren: Jennifer (Shane) Salmi, Adam (Janis) Pennell, Kimberly Bols, John Bols II, Jeffrey Bols and two great-grandchildren Savannah and Grant Salmi. The funeral was held September 24, 2007 at the Birmingham First United Methodist Church where he attended, and burial took place at Oakview Cemetery in Royal Oak. In lieu of flowers, the familv asks that memorials may be sent to the Salvation Army or the Redford Cemetery Association c/o Mary Jane Major, 31270 Franklin Rd, Franklin, MI 48025.

# DONNA J. GREEN

Age 63, Prudenville, MI, formerly of Garden City, MI, passed September 21, 2007. Donna was born August 12, 1944 in Saginaw, Michigan, the daughter of Milford and Lillian (Arndt) Finner. She married Jerry A. Green August 21, 1963 and he survives. She is also survived by five sons, Ty of Manchester, Nick, Jesse, Loui, Tommy, all of Prudenville, MI; daughters, Kim (Scott McDonagh) Green of Northville, Kathy (Bob) Williams, Shelly Green and Cammi Green, all of Ypsilanti, Theresa (Kevin Miller) Green of Prudenville; sister Katie (Gary) Yackel of Saginaw; brother Jerry (Betty) Finner of Saginaw; seven grandchildren, Devon, Gary, Cody, Kendell, Bailey, Robert & Whitney. She was preceded in death by one son, Jonathan Green in February 2007. Funeral service will be held Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2007, 11 am at the Christler Funeral Home, Prudenville, MI with Rev. Lawrence & Lonnie Cook officiation. Burial will follow in Denton Township Cemetery, Prudenville, MI.

**EVELYN C. STAATS** Age 77. September 23, 2007. Beloved wife of the late Vernon Dearest mother of John (Cheryl). Dear grandmother of Chad and Chelsea. Beloved sister of Elsie Emala. Funeral Service was held at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City on Wednesday, September 26, 2007 at 1:00pm. Please sign Evelyn's online guestbook at www.rggrharris.com

# HARRY LOWELL DEEM

Age 90, passed away in Dearborn on September 21, 2007. Married for 60 years to the late Christine Valerie Deem, he is the father of Susan Andringa (AZ) and Judy Duerks (CA). He had three grandsons, Dirk Andringa (MN), Mark Andringa (VA) and Brad Duerks (CA). He also had three great-grandchildren, Peter, Tyler and Emily Andringa. Mr. Deem was retired from 42 years with GM and was a resident of Bloomfield Hills, then Henry Ford Village. Arrangements by Querfeld Funeral Home, Dearborn, MI www.querfeldfh.com



JAMES M. LAWSON, M.D.

September 24, 2007. Beloved husband of Wendy. Dear father of Stephanie Maitland, Frances, Henry, Melanie, Devin and Steven Lawson Private services have been held Interment Great Lakes National Cemetery. Memorial Tributes ARC of Oakland County, 1641 W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy, MI 48084. A. J. Desmond & Sons 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at:



# JOHN CARL HILTY

Age 59, died Monday, September 17, 2007, at University Hospital in Ann Arbor, after a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer. John had many talents and interests. He was an outdoors man and spent many hours hunting and fishing at a cottage on the Pine River He was a gourmet chef and caterer and a lover and caregiver of animals John was a beloved family man and is survived by his mother. Dorothy Hilty sister, Susan Hilty; his nephews, Carol and Daniel Zimring, and numerous uncles, aunts and cousins Preceded in death by his father John Carol Hilty Inurnment was held at White Chapel Cemetery. Memorial Tributes U of M Cancer Center Lymphoma Program or Michigan Humane Society, A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500 View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



# **MERTON JAY BELL**

September 24, 2007 Age 98 of Birmingham. Retired VP and Treasurer of C.J. Glasgow Co. Detroit. Beloved husband of the late Gladvs M. for 50 years. Dear father of Cynthia I. Buckles (Robert), Lawrence D. Bell and Donna S Zimmer (David). Grandfather of Amy Suzanne Zimmer, Kristen Bell Zimmer, Julie Ann Zimmer and Jennifer Lynn Zimmer Pavlov. Great grandfather of Alexander Pavlov. Loving companion of the late Katherine Healey. Memorial service Thursday 11am at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham. In lieu of flowers family suggests memorial tributes to FAR Conservatory of Therapeutic and Performing Årts, 1669 W. Maple Rd. Birmingham, MI 48009. A Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500 View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

# **PAUL THOMAS**

Age 73, of Westland, Sept. 21, 2007. Beloved husband of the late Geraldine Thomas. Loving father of Judith (Bruce) Austin. Dear grandfather of (Marybeth) Naegel. Also five great-grandchildren, her, Nichole, Connor, leaves Christopher, Cameron and Zachary; four sisters and many nieces and nephews Funeral service was held Tuesday at Vermeulen Funeral Home, Westland. Interment Cadillac Memorial Gardens, West. Memorial donations to the Arbor Hospice would be appreci ated by the family. To leave a message of condolence for the family, log onto www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

# OBITUARY **POLICY** The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example:

American Flags, symbols, etc.) religious Deadlines: Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 Charolette Wilson

734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

# **SEPTEMBER**

Rummage sale

Orchard United Methodist Women present the annual Fall Rummage sale 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 27; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29, and the bag sale 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Sept. 29, at Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. For directions or information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

# **ENDOW**

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia hosts two different sessions of the Archdiocese's ENDOW program, the women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths. The group based on Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women meets 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays to Dec. 5, in the Convent Meeting Room behind the school at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth road, Livonia. The second session meets 9:15011:15 a.m. Tuesdays to Dec. 4 in the same room. Different Times, Abiding Dignity deals with women's inherent dignity at all stages of life. Women of all ages and faiths welcome. Cost is \$60 for materials but no one will be turned away because of an inability to pay. To register, call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200 or visit www.endowonline.com.

# **ENDOW**

Educating on the Nature & Dignity of Women, a women's study group to discover their God-given dignity and femininity through Catholic teaching, series of sessions explores Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women while enjoying a prayerful, relaxed atmosphere of faith, friendship and fellowship, runs Thursdays, Sept. 27 to Nov. 15, in Bixman Hall (church building) at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$60 for materials. Registration required. Visit www. endowonline.com or call (734) 425-

# Mom to Mom sale

Tri-City Christian Center is having their Spring Mom to Mom Sale 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at 3855 Sheldon in Canton, just north of Michigan Avenue. Table rentals are sold to capacity with more than 75 moms selling their kids' toys, baby equipment, etc. \$1 admission.

### Mom-to-Mom sale 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept.

29, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. For details, call (734) 422-0149.

### **Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition** St. Michael the Archangel Parish of

Livonia is hosting a showing of the Vatican Exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles of the World, Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 29-30, to celebrate the feast day of its patron in a special way. The Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit uses an extensive assortment of historical photographs, descriptions, and scientific data to present 126 church-sanctioned miracles which have taken place throughout the world from the 2nd century to 2001. The exhibition will be open to the public 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30, in the school gymnasium, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. Guides will be available to assist visitors through the exhibit and answer questions. Nationally-known Catholic apologist and St. Michael's parishioner, Gary Michuta, will also speak about the Eucharistic Miracles during the exhibition. During exhibition hours there will be a concurrent exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the church 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and immediately following the noon Mass until 5 p.m. Sunday. The exhibition is open to all. For details, call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200, or visit www.livoniastmichael.org. Holy Grounds coffee house

# Orchard United Methodist

Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills is hosting its first Holy Grounds coffee house in The MAC 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29. Local musicians will be featured and the styles will be eclectic. \$3 at the door, beverages and snacks available for purchase as well as the entertainers' CD's. For more information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

# Animal blessing

Blessing of the animals at 11 a.m. worship Sunday, Sept. 30, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Bring your domestic animals to the fellowship hall to be blessed during this special service. Call (734) 464-0211.

Felician Sisters Marian Rally

# **RELIGION CALENDAR**

Join the Felician Sisters of Livonia as they honor the Blessed Virgin Mary at the annual Marian Rally Sunday, Sept. 30. The rally begins at noon with the Celebration of the Eucharist (Mass) in the Motherhouse Chapel, followed by praying of the rosary at the shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa at 1:30 p.m., and a procession to the Fatima shrine and crowning of Mary by students from Ladywood High School. Refreshments will be available after Mass. Wheelchair participants are welcome. Parking is available at the Montessori Center of Our Lady at the Newburgh entrance. The Felician Sisters Motherhouse is at 36800 Schoolcraft, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 591-1730.

# Father Solanus concert

Remembering Father Solanus - A Simple Man concert 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30, at St. Bonaventure Monastery Chapel, 1780 Mt. Elliott, Detroit (48207). Featuring the Rev. William Cunningham Memorial Choir, The Metro Catholic Gospel Choir, and John R. King Academic and Performing Arts Academy. Tickets are \$15, (313) 579-2100.

### Organ concert

International concert organist David Briggs plays a recital 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30, at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Tickets \$15, \$12 seniors, \$10 students, and available by calling (248) 626-2515, Ext. 109, or at the door.

### Fall schedule

Orchard United Methodist . Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, has new worship hours for Fall - Three Hours Of Power! Worship services at 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. with Christian education for all ages at 10 a.m. Leadership is shared by class members. For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc. org.

### Pancake breakfasts

The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continue their 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts on the third Sunday of each month. The breakfasts are served in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard. south of Plymouth Road, with an expanded menu that features pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, bashbrowns, and assorted breakfast beverages. Meals are served buffet-style at family friendly prices. Adults, \$5; children ages 4-11, \$3; children under age 3, free; and family (2 adults and all children). \$15. Everyone is welcome.

### Tiny Tots Preschool Now enrolling for 2007-08 for

3- and 4-year olds, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

# MOPS meetings

The Hosanna-Tabor Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group began meeting this fall on a new time and time at the Lutheran church, 9600 Leverne, Redford. Meetings continue the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. Join in for teaching, discussion, creative projects and presentations. For more information, call (248) 470-5202 or send e-mail to nikki.tiernan@gmail. com.

# Bible studies

Regular Bible Study program begins 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 20, and continues on the first and third Thursdays of the month, at St. Michael's Catholic Church on the corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia. The group will be undertaking an in-depth study of Paul's Letters to the Romans, the longest and often considered the most systematic presentation of the disciple's thoughts on salvation. Informal classes are open to all interested persons regardless of religious affiliation. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

# **MOPS** groups

Mothers of Preschoolers meets on the first and third Friday mornings or first and third Wednesday evenings at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. MOPS recognizes the year from infancy through kindergarten are foundational in a mother-child relationship and filled with unique need. For information, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4, or send e-mail to cbcwomensministries@hotmail.com.

# LOGOS Youth Club

Calling all youth grades four-12 to join the LOGOS Youth Club at Northville First United Methodist Church, Recreation, dinner, Bible study and music Wednesdays, 5:15-8:15 p.m. began Wednesday, Sept. 26. For more information or registration forms, visit www.fumcnorthville.org or call (248) 349-1144. HeartCry

The support group provides hope and help for mothers of prodigals at 7 p.m. on the second, fourth and fifth Wednesdays of each month, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. The group is using the book, The Hope of a Homecoming, by O'Rourke and

Sauer (\$12). For information or to register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4.

# **UPCOMING**

# **Grief recovery**

Living with the loss of a spouse series dealing with grief and coping with loneliness and other issues, facilitated by members of Widowed Friends, a peer support group, at St. Columban Parish Center, 1775 Melton, north of 14 Mile between Woodward and Coolidge, Birmingham. Six-week series begins 1-2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, call Dorothy at (248) 540-9848 or Gerry at (586) 795-0477 to register by Oct. 1, four week series begins 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, call Pat at (248) 549-1220 or Carol at (248) 853-2268 to register by Oct. 1.

### Smart Discipline seminar

6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 2, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. Cost is \$12 per person, \$20 per couple. To register, visit www.christoursavior.org. For more information, call (734) 522-6830. If unable to attend the seminar, the DVD and 4 workbooks are available for \$89. Call (800) 208-0807 or purchase online at www.smartdiscipline.com.

For those of you wondering, the main difference between Love and Logic and Smart Discipline is Smart Discipline addresses and is extremely effective with a wider range of behaviors.

### Islam: A primer

Join us for an introductory exploration of Islam: a 14-century old religious, geo-political, and social system 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 3, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. Presenter is David J. Conrad. Please register to allow accurate preparation of handouts, seating and hospitality. Call (734) 425-5950. No charge. Rummage sale

Newburg United Methodist Church,

Livonia, will be holding a Rummage

Sale fund raiser. Pre-sale 5-8 p.m.

36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between

Wayne and Newburgh roads,

### Thursday, Oct. 4 (admission \$2 per adult). Big Sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, and 9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, Oct. 6 (admission free). Saturday everything is half price. Reformed Protestant Service The doctrines and teachings of solid, Reformed Protestantism will be preached 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, at the regular, monthly worship service of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge, Canton. All are welcome to attend. The Rev. Robert McCurley of Greenville, South Carolina will preach at the service. For more information, call Margaret

Waldecker at (313) 530-6170 or visit

Ham & eggs, hashbrowns, pancakes,

### www.westminsterconfession.org, or phone the church at (703) 359-0192 Men's breakfast

and more ... when you come to the Men's Breakfast at 8 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month at The Senate Restaurant, located off Haggerty Road between Five Mile and Six Mile in Northville. All men are invited for fellowship and food. Next breakfast is Saturday, Oct. 6. Sponsored by Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

### **Church Women United** Next meeting for Suburban Detroit-

West is 12:15 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, at Farmington First United Methodist Church (please bring one salad for every three persons attending), and Area 2 Meeting: Stepping Up to the Plate with Mind, Body and Soul Friday, Sept. 28, at Smith Chapel A.M.E. Church, 3505 Walnut Street at Beech, south of Michigan Avenue, Inkster (cost is \$10, call (248) 646-9574). Deadline for registration is Friday, Sept. 21.

### Mom to mom sale 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 6, at

First United Methodist Church, 6448 Merriman, Garden City. Admission is \$1. Rental cost is \$25 for 6-foot table, \$27 for 8-foot table, \$3 for a rack with table rental. Call (734) 532-7818 for information.

### South Pacific The Chancel Choir of Rosedale

Gardens Presbyterian Church in Livonia will present "South Pacific" 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 6 in the fellowship hall of the church located on W. Chicago, between Merriman and Farmington roads, Livonia. "South Pacific," featuring classic musical selections such as "Some Enchanted Evening," "There's Nothin' Like a Dame," and "Bali Hai," earned Rodgers and Hammerstein extraordinary reviews and a Tony Award for best musical. It was the second musical to ever receive the Pulitzer Prize for drama. A sell-out crowd is expected. Tickets are \$5 and may be reserved by calling (734) 422-0494 or Marilyn Hirtzel at (734) 422-0841.

Please see CALENDAR, A15

# Healing service

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville, will be hosting a Service of Healing and Wholeness 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, in their Sanctuary. The service affirms God's presence in our lives and is designed to comfort those who desire a healing of body, mind, relationships or other areas. Communion served. No child care provided. Information available Monday-Friday at (248) 374-7400.

Celebration of the arts The annual juried art show, Sharing

the Gift Within, opens Saturday, Oct. 6, at the historic First Presbyterian Church in downtown Northville. The art gallery is open each day and evening through Oct. 12. Guests can enjoy the displayed artwork, much of which is for sale. The celebration continues with a

concert 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, by pianist Paul Sullivan. Tickets are \$15 adult, \$10 senior, \$5 student and can be purchased in advance or at the door. For more information, call Darlene Kuperus at (248) 349-0911, Ext. 206, or visit www.

firstpresnville.org. Celebration of life Mass

In honor of Respect Life Sunday, St. Aidan's Parish will host a Celebration of Life Mass with Monsignor John Kasza as celebrant and the church's contemporary choir will perform (and a signer will be provided) 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at St. Aidan's, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Light refreshments and fellowship to follow. For more information, call (734) 425-5950. Faith in film series

An Al Gore movie being shown at a church? That's not likely to happen often, but that's exactly what's happening 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at St. John's Lutheran Church in

Redford. As part of its Faith-in-Film

series, An Inconvenient Truth will be shown, a discussion follows on the applications of faith, theology, spirituality and religion in the movie.

Future Faith-in-Film movies include Sicko, The Nativity Story, and Amazing Grace. The Faith-in-Film series is free and open to anyone who would like to respectfully share their views. For information about attending this event, call (313) 538-2660.

**Grief recovery** 

Living with the loss of a spouse series dealing with grief and coping with loneliness and other issues, facilitated by members of Widowed Friends, a peer support group, at St. Columban Parish Center, 1775 Melton; north of 14 Mile between Woodward and Coolidge, Birmingham, Six-week series begins 1-2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, call Dorothy at (248) 540-9848 or Gerry at (586) 795-0477 to register by Oct. 1, four week series

begins 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, call Pat at (248) 549-1220 or Carol at (248) 853-2268 to register by 0ct. 1.

### **CROP** walk

To raise awareness and funds for international relief and developments as well as for the Plymouth Salvation Army 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, beginning at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth Township. There will be two-mile and four-mile routes. For CROP Walker envelopes and information, call Bill Brave at (734) 414-9867.

**Animal blessing** 

Blessing of the Animals Service 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083 Newburgh, Livonia. All pets are welcome. Treats will be provided. For more information, call (734) 591-0211 or visit www.holyspiritlivonia.org

**World Communion Day** 

Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road,

Farmington Hills celebrates World Communion Day Oct. 7. Everyone is invited to join in celebrating at 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. For more information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

# Concert

**Woodward Corridor Musicians** present Pathetique: a Chamber Music Concert 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Rd. at Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults; free to students K-12. A reception follows the concert. For more information, visit www.WoodwardCM.org or call (248) 546-5818.

## **Immigration issues**

The social justice committee at St. Thomas a Becket Church has invited a speaker to explore the issues of immigration in the United States 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9 at the church, south of the corner of Lilley and Cherry Hill, Canton. The speaker is Bishop Daniel Flores,

Detroit's newest bishop, who is a third-generation Hispanic and was born and raised in Texas. All are Welcome.

### Interfaith dialogue

The Detroit West District Peace Center at Hope United Methodist Church will present an Interfaith Dialogue with the Rev. Dr. Carlyle F. Stewart, III, senior pastor, Hope United Methodist Church, Southfield, and Rabbi Joshua Bennett, Temple Israel, West Bloomfield to discuss differences and similarities of Christian and Judaic Religions. They will speak from the same text with different perspectives and engage in dialogue with audience questions and answers, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at Hope United Methodist Church, 26275 Northwestern, near Lasher, Southfield. The event is free and open to the public. For information, call Barbara Talley at (248) 356-1020, Ext. 137.

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For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication.

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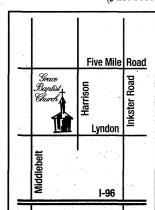
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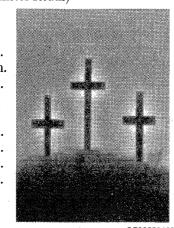
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# Schoolcraft hosts College Night Wednesday on Livonia campus

Area high school students and their families can investigate the programs of more than 80 colleges and universities during Schoolcraft College's annual College Night on Wednesday, Oct. 3. The event is free and open to the community.

The schools, primarily from Michigan and the Midwest. will be on hand to answer questions and provide information on degrees, fields of study, admission requirements, cost and extracurricular activities.

A sample of in-state schools attending include Michigan State University, University of Michigan, Grand Valley

State University, Wayne State University, University of Detroit Mercy, Michigan Technological University, Eastern, Central and Northern Michigan universities, College of Creative Studies, Adrian College and Hillsdale College. Out-of-state institutions attending include Bowling Green State University, Penn State University, Ohio State University, Syracuse University, University of Notre Dame and Valparaiso University, to name

College Night will be held in the Physical Education **Building of Schoolcraft** College's Livonia Campus

on Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile Roads. Typically College Night draws about 3,500 people. The program begins at 6:30 p.m. and continues until 8:30 p.m. The colleges are arranged fair-style and in alphabetical order in both gyms so guests can visit as many tables and in the order they wish.

For more information, call the Schoolcraft College Office of Admissions at (734) 462-4426. Schoolcraft College is a public two-year college, offering classes at the Livonia campus, the Radcliff Center in Garden City and online at schoolcraft.edu.

# Wayne County Senior Day Oct. 12

The 13th annual Western Wayne County Senior Celebration Day will be held Friday, Oct. 12, announced state Rep. John R. Pastor, R-Livonia.

"Our area is home to a great number of seniors, and this fun-filled event is just one way to give back to them and to our community," said Pastor, R-Livonia. The event takes place

at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia, and runs form 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tickets went on sale Sept. 4 and can be purchased at the Livonia senior center.

The event is organized by Pastor and Senior Citizen Achievement Needs, a local nonprofit organization for seniors. This year its major sponsor is Angela Hospice

of Livonia. Tickets are \$5 and include a hot meal, door prizes, games, health screenings, exhibitor booths featuring samples, novelties and other information, and a free cloth bag to carry away all the goodies. The event is limited to 600 people and has sold out in the past. For information, call Pastor's office at (517) 373-3920.

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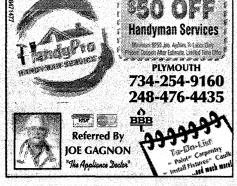


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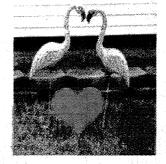
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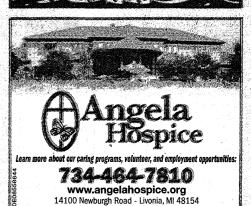
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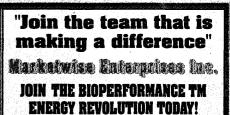


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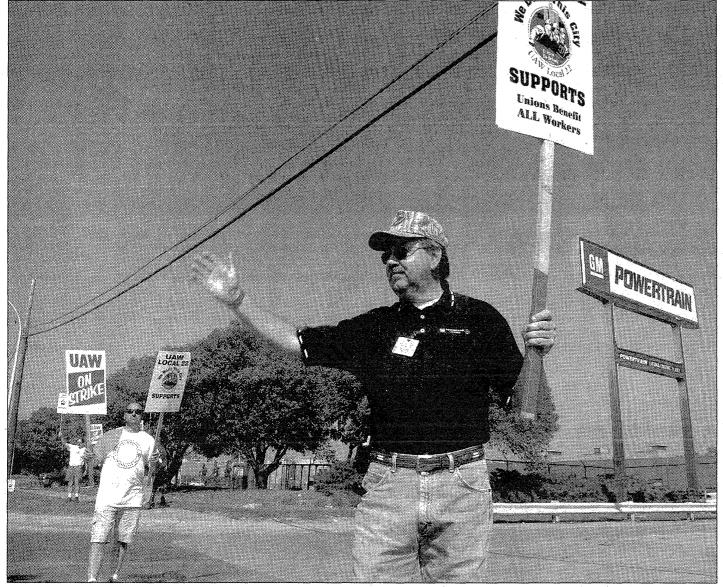


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BILL BRESLER L STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

UAW member Terry Baber waves to people honking their horns as they drive by the Livonia G.M. Powertrain plant on Middlebelt north of Plymouth Road Monday afternoon. At left is Ron Marz, carrying two picket signs. The union called the national strike Monday at 11 a.m., it wrapped early Wednesday morning.

# Festival focuses on Michigan films

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The Lake County Film Festival at Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center Saturday will showcase student and independent film and video work from across the state.

'We're presenting work of all genres and disciplines (experimental, fictional narrative, documentary and animation), and are also premiering the latest work from Academy Award nominee Jeff Bloomer, who is from Michigan," said Alex Holowicki of Plymouth, who is organizing the event. "The show is an excellent opportunity for members of the community to watch films and videos that pertain directly to Michigan

locations, including a few shot in Plymouth."

Holowicki, 20, is a film and video major at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids. The college junior is hoping to improve upon last year's inaugural event.

"It's not only for people from Schoolcraft, but for anyone who wanted to have their work shown, but didn't have the medium to do it," Holowicki said. "There will be 16 short films, ranging from 3-15 minutes each."

Holowicki said the films will be shown from 7-10 p.m., with the films to be shown the first two hours, plus an hour to network and socialize with film and video makers.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

# Get on the ball. Read today's

# Strikers got mostly positive reaction from motorists

BY ALEX LUNDBERG STAFF WRITER

The strike between General Motors and the United Auto Workers is over, allowing the corporation, its workers and the thousands of smaller businesses who depend on the smooth operation between the two to breath easy again.

But for two days, the men and women who carried the signs in front of GM facilities around the country were prepared to work the picket line as solidly as they worked the production line.

At the Livonia GM Powertrain plant, 12200 Middlebelt, a group of 20 autoworkers were trudging up and down the street Tuesday

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waving to passing motorists as the strike was still going on.

Herb Nettles, the safety representative for the plant, has worked there for 39 years. The Oak Park resident said this was his third strike.

"We'll go on until we get an agreement," he said. "We'll be out here until the union president calls us and tells us to go back."

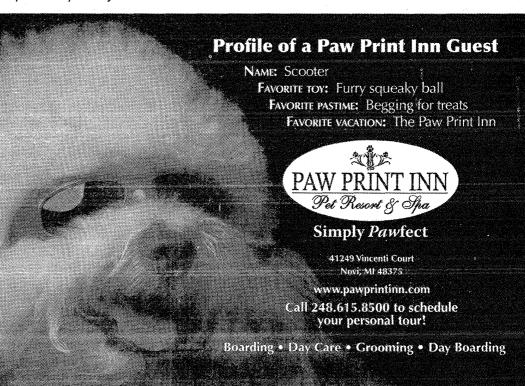
Paul Holdinski, a 34-year employee, was driving to work from his home in Hartland Monday when he got the call to break out the strike signs and inform the union brothers and sisters. It was about four hours notice but also no real

the corporation but it's got to go both ways. We could be out here for months."

He said he's been socking a little money away here and there in anticipation of lean times during the strike. The people who are single and GM is their only form of income would have it worst, he said.

Michael Crouch of Detroit has 37 years at the Livonia plant and has maintained a lifestyle that insulates him against strikes. People driving past the line on Middlebelt were supportive.

"It's been very positive, more from the senior citizens driving by because their health care could be directly affected," he said. "There have been a couple of people giving the finger, yelling insults."



# surprise. We knew it was going to be a rough contract year," he said. "We're all up for helping morning, carrying signs and Let our new Canton Family Practice be your **Medical Home!** The new St. Mary

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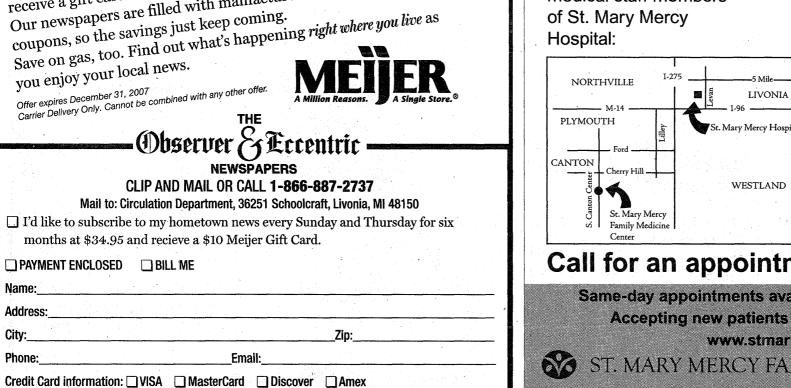
Kenneth J. Grimm. MD

- Fellowship: Michigan State University, East Lansing
- · Residency: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

# Sunil S. Menawat, MD

- Fellowship: Mayo Clinic and Foundation, Rochester, Minnesota
- Residency: University of Florida, Jacksonville, and Oakwood Hospital, Dearborn

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

# Realtors heed safety needs on the job

STAFF WRITER

Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard doesn't see a lot of problems with Realtor safety in his area. Even so, he agrees Realtors — and all professionals — need to think about safety on the job.

"Absolutely. Those would be a good starting point," Bouchard said of National Association of Realtors advice to keep a charged cell phone handy at all times, and meet potential clients for the first time at the office. He recommends letting colleagues know the hours you'll be away, and your general schedule.

"If you're uncomfortable, there's always security in numbers," Bouchard said. A Realtor can ask a friend to accompany him or her for an open house.

Occasionally, you'll find individuals that pick certain m.o.s, what we call methods of operation," he said.

One sex offender he recalled concentrated on getting women alone. "It's something you

have to be knowledgeable of, aware of and take steps to prevent," Bouchard said. Wayne County

Sheriff Warren Evans Michael agreed real estate **Bouchard** pros need to consider safety concerns. "I think most of them are savvy on their

own," Evans said of real estate pros, noting they deal with all kinds of people. "I think their instincts are better

than the average person," Evans said. He agreed it's best to have a person come into the office prior to a first "Preventative medicine's always the

best," said Evans, noting it's not good to be alone with strangers until you've determined it's safe.

For Realtors and other real estate professionals, it's an everyday occurrence to meet clients for the first time. Every job that requires interaction with the public involves some risk, which is why the NAR is reaching out to its 1.3 million members as part of its fifth annual Realtor Safety

According to the U.S. Department of Labor in its most recent Survey of Workplace Violence Prevention, 2.5 percent of real estate businesses reported an incident of workplace violence in 2005. Although not com-



mon, real estate professionals across the country have been assaulted, robbed, even killed in the course of doing their jobs.

"Given their dedication to helping families achieve their dreams of homeownership, Realtors believe that their profession's rewards far outweigh the risks," said NAR President Pat V. Combs of Grand Rapids, Mich., and vice president of Coldwell Banker-AJS-Schmidt. "NAR's ongoing commitment to Realtor safety education and awareness helps our members minimize those risks and, in the process, protect their customers and clients, as well. It's one more way Realtors add value to the real estate transaction."

In advance of Realtor Safety Week, NAR distributed an education and awareness kit to all of its more than 1,400 local and state associations, as well as the top 500 brokerages across the country. The Realtor Safety Week Kit includes a video, which has been revised and updated for 2007; support materials for safety presentations and awareness outreach; and a wallet-size card of safety tips, such



**Sheriff Warren** 

Evans

Never advertise a home as "vacant."

■ Don't put your home phone number on your business

Always take your own car for showings. Wayne County's Evans agreed: "Try to

go in separate cars. It's not good to be at the whim of a client." He recommends getting a license plate number, and leaving that with

colleagues back at the office before going out to show a property. Oakland County's Bouchard agreed it's key not to advertise property as vacant. Potential clients should be

known as much as possible to the

Realtor, to avoid dangerous situa-

card.

"You should take steps to make sure you're not alone in a bad situation," Bouchard said. "We try to put protocols in place." He's seen crimes in which car salespeople have been carjacked on the job.

It's a good idea for a Realtor to have a "code word" he or she can use

with family or associates if in trouble, Bouchard agreed. You can ask an associate to check in with you regularly while out on the job "and have a duress code if something is not right."

"Realtors are busy, it wouldn't be an unusual thing for the phone to ring," Bouchard said. Evans noted such a code word in a phone call is useful "so that the person standing there doesn't have any idea you're calling for help."

The annual awareness week, held Sept. 9-15, is just one of many ways NAR helps Realtors recognize potential threats and protect themselves throughout their careers. This year for the first time, NAR is offering a scenario-based 3D online safety course through REALTOR University at www.REALTOR. org/RealtorUniversity. The course provides personal, professional and client safety information that is critical for all Realtors. Brokers can buy course passes at a savings for their entire office to ensure that their agents practice sound safety techniques.

The NAR Web site contributed to this report.

# Paid directors raise liability issues

Q. What do you think of the advisability of a professional director and/or a board member being paid?

A. I think that it's a bad idea



**Robert Meisner** 

and they give up, among other things, their volunteer status which would otherwise exempt them from certain types of liability if the provisions of the Michigan

to pay directors

Nonprofit Corporation are incorporated in their Articles of Incorporation. I believe that all directors should be educated and I find, with interest, that the California legislature has been considering SB 948, a bill that would require board members of community associations to complete education coursework. If signed into law, the bill would require every member of the board of directors of an association to take a course on statutory and case law relating to community associations not less than every two years. That would also allow the association to pay or reimburse the coowner \$25 for course fees, \$100 for travel expenses. Maybe that's a good idea for Michigan.

Q. Our management company has instructed our attorney to send a Notice of Intent to File a Lien letter well before a lien is placed on the unit. What has been your experience with this practice?

A. Our experiences representing hundreds of associations over the years has been that while it is sometimes effective, generally speaking sending a Notice of Intent to record a lien is a waste of legal fees which the association may have to incur. We recommend an aggressive and consistent collection policy which results in a lien being placed on a unit for nonpayment of assessments as soon as reasonable notice of the delinquency has been given by the association or its managing agent to the delinquent co owner that the matter is being turned over to legal counsel. This protects the association by placing a lien in the public record earlier and in these difficult economic times, it increases the likelihood of a successful collection for the association at reduced legal fees.

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.

# **HOMES SOLD**

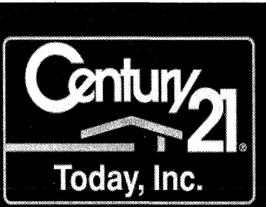
These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real estate closings recorded the week of May 28 to June 1, 2007, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

1936 Brookfield St	\$185,000	
315 Cherry Hill Pointe Dr	\$220,000	
445 Constitution St	\$285,000	
461 Delaford Ct	\$332,000	
1840 Delancy Cir	\$395,000	
385 Dunhill Way St	\$385,000	
7414 Emerson Dr	\$195,000	
45530 Fountain View Dr	\$323,000	
41675 Glade Rd	\$250.000	
1260 High Ridge Dr	\$211,000	
45117 Horseshoe Cir	\$159,000	
45233 Horseshoe Cir	\$150,000	
	\$370,000	
6706 Kennesaw Rd		
1981 Knollwood Dr	\$142,000	
1460 Morrison Blvd	\$195,000	
659 Pheasant Woods Dr	\$325,000	
44603 Ridgefield Rd	\$175,000	
44273 S Umberland Cir	\$238,000	
44191 Vassar St	\$210,000	
44066 Westminister Way	\$190,000	
Farmington		

22674 Maple St	
22530 Power Rd	
	rmington
32863 Biddestone Ln	illington
34909 Bunker Hill Dr	
26187 Greythorne Tri	
29311 Laurel Dr	
21829 Manchester Ln	
29440 N Meadowridge	
37976 River Bnd	
1.0	Garden C
29508 Bock St	
30868 Pardo St	
	Livonia
32125 Balmoral Dr	
33927 Carl Dr	
14015 Cranston St	
14142 Cranston St	
34552 Dover Ave	
8988 Farmington Rd	
14976 Garden St	
14385 Gary Ln	
33069 Grennada St	
32600 Hees St	
28660 Jacquelyn Dr	
29651 Jacquelyn Dr	
28771 Minton Ct	
37764 Northfield Ave	· · · · · ·
17398 Parklane St	
30111 Richland St	
20698 Sarah Rd	

	. Valendaria de la compania de la c
045.000	20120 0
\$65,000	28580 Sunnydale St
\$162,000 \$175,000	14080 Susanna St
\$175,000	17589 Wayne Rd 9429 Westwind Dr
\$195,000	9429 Westwilla Di Milford
\$210,000	370 Cabinet St
\$235,000	3070 Woodland Ridge Trl
\$168,000	Northville
\$320.000	44800 Broadmoor Cir S
\$250,000	40484 Coachwood Cir
\$382,000	17681 Crestbrook Dr
\$302,000	16245 Crystal Downs E
\$175,000	21049 E Glen Haven Cir
\$105,000	46980 Merion Cir
\$103,000	17481 Oak Hill Dr
\$325,000	49242 Ridge Ct
\$250,000	835 Scott St
\$227,000	39655 Springwater Dr
\$182,000	17442 Williamsburg Ct
\$236,000	Novi
\$130,000	24754 Apple Crest Dr
\$155,000	47868 Cheltenham
\$182,000	45326 Jacob Dr
\$215.000	31144 Lagoon Dr
\$145,000	40707 Lenox Park Dr
\$165.000	29750 Martell Ct
\$169,000	51267 Mayfair Ter
\$140.000	Plymouth
\$278.000	39542 E Ann Arbor Tri
\$269,000	12396 Pinecrest Dr
\$149.000	49824 Plymouth Way
\$450,000	10273 Red Maple Dr
	보이 마이막이 어떻게 뭐 뭐니 그렇지않다.

	\$153,000			Redford	
	\$185,000		15605 Centralia		\$132,00
	\$225,000		18889 Dalby		\$125,00
	\$184,000		18421 Indian		\$57,00
		`	9216 Nathaline		\$143,00
	\$169,000		11332 Riverdale		\$125,000
	\$393,000		25425 Southwick		\$104,000
r.			26844 Student	•	\$138,000
	\$359,000		19742 Sumner		\$146,000
	\$419,000		South Lyon		
	\$703,000		407 Amelia Cir		\$367,000
	\$564,000		1355 Drury Ln		\$350,000
	\$104,000		1137 Equestrian Dr		\$293,000
	\$639,000		1219 Gentry Dr	•	\$90,000
	\$519,000		23342 Sawgrass Ct S		\$347,000
	\$90,000			Westland	
	\$230,000		38278 Carolon Blvd		\$98,000
	\$200,000		7698 Cherrywood Dr		\$220,000
	\$590,000		7310 Floral St		\$156,000
			36712 Gilchrist St		\$155,000
	\$239,000		27531 Hanover Blvd		\$110,000
	\$165,000		2024 Imperial Hwy		\$146,000
	\$150,000		38671 Milton St		\$135,000
	\$415,000		8622 N Farmington Rd		\$137,000
	\$249,000		35558 Pheasant Ln	4	\$142,000
	\$530,000		- 28337 Powers St		\$121,000
	\$303,000		8251 Roselawn St		\$140,000
			1706 S John Hix St		\$105,000
	\$175,000		6296 Spruce Ln		\$170,000
	\$196,000		34313 Tonquish Trl		\$154,000
	\$170,000		1 1		
٥.	\$309,000				



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2.5 bath ranch offering an open

floor plan, Master w/bath, finished

Garage, & full

10+ ACRES Ready to build!

10+ acre parcel in Northfield Twp w/utilities & engineered field. Can

split into 2 - 5 acre parcels. Call for

\$239,900 (P-003WI)

TERRIFIC BUY Nice

bsmt, 1.5 car Garage, & mo

including

windows

\$84,900

option to buy.

**CUSTOM RANCH** Totally updated

downtown Northville. Open foyer, granite Kitchen, Fam Rm w/frpl & doorwall to new paver Patio, large

Master w/bath, updated windows,

PRICED RIGHT This 4 bd home

furnace & hot water tank, almost 1200 sq ft, & is priced to sell. Would make a great starter or

(C-248BA)

investment property.

\$64,900

siding, doors, & more.

(P-880VI) \$1,150/mc

roof, C/A, furnace,

(C-053HA)

(P-574WH)

doors,

(P-419WA)

(P-600FL)

PERFECT!! Drop dead gorgeous



PREFERRED, REALTORS



BANKERE

not the same!

\$699,000

yard, & 2 car Garage. (P-309AR) \$99,900

**OUTSTANDING** Beautiful Plymouth

home featuring 5 bd, 3 full & 2 half

island Kitchen, Family Room w/

ceramic baths, fresh paint, &

(P-680PO)

hwd, Master w/bath,

special touches t/o.

large cul de sac lot.

(C-650PL) \$244,900

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SPECTACULAR LOTS IN SALEM GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD 3 bd. TWP. One of the most prestigious in Salem Two, Premium 2 acre + ooded walkouts, Close to shopping & schools, Easy freeway access, Private ad, Bring the plan of your



2 YEARS NEW Builder upgrades t/ CLASSIC COLONIAL Spacious home w/over 1700 sq ft, formal Dining & Liv Rm, fireplace, huge Open spacious layout w/cathedral ceilings, upgraded lighting, carpet, haths. kitchen, & more. Gas frpl, Fam Rm, hwd floors, remodeled baths, updated Kitchen w/ baths, kitchen, & more. Gas frpl, baths, updated 3rd bd could be used as Den. Good appliances, Gar basement. Nice home. location near clubhouse.



KEY HOME Beautifully decorated home w/hwd floors, remod bath, new windows, furnace, oversized 2.5 car Garage w/heat & 220. Nicely finished bsmt, huge Deck, & tucked nicely in sub.



WELCOME TO THE COUNTRY Well maintained colonial offering over 3000 sq ft, Living & Family walkout bsmt w/ windows, & spacious daylight



acre common area 4 bd 2.5 baths

updated roof, siding, windows,

(P-025MU)

(P-244AN)

furnace, in-house surround system,

(P-560AN) list.



ranch situated on approx acre lot. Spacious floor plan offering 2 appl, laundry room w/washer & natural fireplaces, updated flooring, dryer, large Living Room w/doorwall roof. A/C, furnace, front windows, hwh, fenced vard, & 2 car attached

9arage. **\$163,650** 



CORNER LOT Nice 3 bd brick (C-208BA) \$119,900



\$109,900

landscaping w/mature trees & more. Also for lease. & just a short trip to \$124,900 downtown Plymouth. \$368,000



**OPPORTUNITY AWAITS** This 4 bd Livonia condo w/all the features you want! New carpet & hwd floors. after Lakepointe Village. Updated Kitchen, large Fam Rm w/frpl, 1.5 nearly 20k under SEV. Motivated baths, newer furnace & C/A, say bring offers. appliances stay, & Home Warranty (C-218GR) \$189,900



RANCH W/GREAT VALUE! Don't miss a deal on this well kept home w/beautifully updated Kitchen, windows, furnace, roof, driveway, hwh,\* great fenced yard w/shed, & much more. (C-025IV)



of home floor condo offering a private impeccable inside & out! Wooded ranch condo in popular Bradbury Bath, entrance, new Pergo, fresh paint, lot offering a Flagstone Patio off the Park is a must see. Newer carpet, io, & very very cl \$129,000



new appliances, private laundry (C-547LI) \$249,500



**COUNTRY RANCH** Move right into

fireplaces, game room, & too much

(C-150HA)

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE **UPDATED W/LOTS OF GOODIES!** updates w/ acre lot, huge Garage, Enjoy this beautifully updated Attractive 10x5 covered porch, tear open floor plan w/4 bds, 2 full & 2 in popular Livonia location. Vaulted Patio, elevated Deck, & deep

CANTON

(734) 392-6000

condo located in peaceful setting. Numerous updates inc: windows, baths, carpet, décor, Deck, lighting, hwh, & more. Don't wait long on (P-057NO) \$177,000





478-6022



w/fitness center.

OUTSTANDING CONDO

pump. Everything is ready for you! \$127,500 (P-382SC

bd home offers a nice floor plan,

STOP THE CAR!! You'll love this

backvard

finished bsmt,

close to everything.

Great

BEAUTIFUL BRICK BUNGALOW sq ft colonial offers 4 bd, 2.5 baths, When only the best will do... sq ft colonial offers 4 bd, 2.5 baths, Spacious floor plan offers 3 bd, excellent curb appeal, located deep premium walkout lot, & great new windows & carpet, freshly walkout bsmt, & appliances stay. painted, updated elec, & more \$409,900



JUST PERFECT Unpack & relax in HARD TO FIND Relax on the paver this comfortable 2 bd, 1 bath ranch just minutes from downtown Royal Patio surrounded by mature trees. Spacious island Kitchen w/nook, just minutes from downtown Royal Spacious island Kitchen w/nook, featuring vaulted ceilings, Master Oak. Remodeled Kitchen, fresh formal Liv & Din Rm, separate Fam w/bath & WIC, oak Kitchen w/ paint, new carpet in Family Room, Rm w/bridge overlook, Master dining area, att Garage, plenty of awesome yard, finished walk updated bath, extra deep fenced Suite w/volume ceiling, WIC, & storage, & area pool & clubhouse bsmt, & great Plymouth location. ceramic bath. (P-304BR) \$249,900 (P-422CH) \$129,900



GREAT Over 1000 sq ft in this updated bungalow w/hwd floors, coved clubhouse. ceiling, updated bath, spacious Master w/WIC, 1 car att Garage, fin Kitchen, blir bsmt, fenced yd, & updated siding, , windows, & paver \$179,900 (P-827PR)



entertain? This 3 bd, 2 bath, well maintained ranch offers 2 full spacious! Built in 2003, master w/jetted tub, maple Kitchen. hwd floors, huge Master bed, part kitchens. Enjoy the summer breezes by the pool or in the shade of a formal Dining w/trey ceiling, daylight bsmt, inviting Great Rm w/ covered Patio. Hwd floors, updated frpl & 2 story windows, & much \$139,900



PRIDE IN OWNERSHIP Designer to Deck, Master w/doorwall to deck, dining area, neutral carpet, & Room or Den, finished lower level & (C-107PO)



(C-266TA) \$119.900 \$189,900



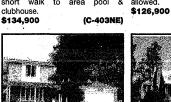
GORGEOUS COLONIAL Beautiful LARGE WESTLAND RANCH Move ADORABLE! Very cute & clean Colony Farms offers this 4 bd, 2.5 your family into this 3 bd home w/a brick ranch located in great bath home w/numerous updates. Close to schools & parks, beautiful completely remodeled in 2006, & updated Kit, remod bath, newer carpet, fresh paint, finished bsmt, (C-900CA) newer large aped yard.



HISTORIC VICTORIAN Must see 4 home is located in highly sought this 5 bd ranch situated on 5 acres bd home nestled on almost 2 w/creek winding thru it. Great acres. Privacy in every direction, Canton location, 2 natural Formal Parlor, 2 full baths, large Kitchen, separate living space on 2nd floor w/kitchenette, Pole Barn, & many updates. **\$239,900** 



TOP SHELF! This home is IT'S A GEM! This 2 bd. 1.5 bath ranch condo in popular Bradbury great Deck, updated roof & hwh, oak Kitchen, Master w/WIC, skylights, 1st fl laundry, & more. appliances stay, Carport, C/A, & appliances stay, Carport, C/A, & (C-151ME) short walk to area pool & clubhouse.



walkout bsmt, & Livonia Schools. \$294,900



CONTEMPORARY CONDO Nice

Arbor Village condo w/open floor plan, skylights, fireplace,

appliances stay, part finished bsmt,

Deck, carport, & pets

(C-538AR)

plan,

off roof, ceramic Foyer, Liv Rm w/ half baths, formal Liv & Din, Kitchen w/all appl's, vaulted Living oak floor, 3 bds, finished Garage w/ w/nook, Fam Rm w/frpl, spacious Rm w/nat frpl & built-in shelves. Workstation & floored attic, 30x14 Master Suite w/bath, finished Finished bsmt w/frpl & glass block, updated roof & garage door (P-778RI) \$150,000 (P-490RO)



for. Many updates t/o, hwd floors,

new concrete driveway, unique built-in storage, & appliances stay.

\$144,000

A CAREER IN REAL

EXCEPTIONALLY MAINTAINED INCOME PROPERTY Great

Gorgeous 3 bd updated home investment on this 2 story brick maintained by longtime owner. home 3 units total – 2 in main Open floor plan, updated Kit, new house & 1 in rear house. Some furnace, flooring, carpet, paint, Fam updates, must see. Rm w/frpl, large fenced yard, & \$68,000 (C-665RU)

(C-993DR)



schools, parks, & Rec Center.

\$120,900

(P-753RU)

PREFERRED, REALTORS

**LILLIAN SANDERSON** 

(734) 392-6000



spacious 2 bd condo has been freshly painted. Large bedrooms, in-unit laundry, carport, gas \* water included in low association fee. Great Canton location. \$95,000 (P-467SA)



THIS ONE IS A 10+! All the

updated Kitchen, baths, plumbing, elec, windows, carpet, paint, flooring, insulated Garage w/air

\$135,000







**FARMINGTON** 

WESTLAND/GARDEN CITY (734) 392-6000

**ALISSA NEAD** (734) 459-6000

> **PLYMOUTH** (734) 459-6000

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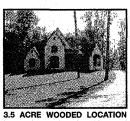
> LIVONIA (734) 425-6060



COUNTRY SETTING 4 bd, 2 bath MOTIVATED SELLER Lovely 3 bd ranch situated on 2 acres & home on beautifully landscaped features 2 Garages, finished bsmt, acreage. Updated C/A, hwh, roof, baths, 4 car Garage, open floor Spacious floor plan offers 3 bd, plan, cherry Kitchen w/granite, 1st flr laund, luxurious Master w/bath, ceilings, Liv Rm w/frpl, updated ba, windows. 3.91 deep floor space of the ceilings o



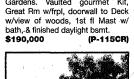
COZY END UNIT RANCH Come SHOWS LIKE A MODEL Beautiful A REAL PLEASER! Terrific. home featuring 4 bd, 3.5 baths, maintenance free brick ranch w/lots of quality updates. Vinyl windows, check out this fabulous condo Kitchen, 2 tiered Deck overlooking awesome yard, finished walkout bsmt, & great Plymouth location. finished bsmt w/bath, 2.5 car awesome yard, finished walkout bsmt, & great Plymouth location. finished bsmt w/bath, 2.5 car awesome yard, finished walkout bsmt w/bath, 2.5 car awesome yard, awesome yard, finished walkout bsmt w/bath, 2.5 car awesome yard, awesome yard, awesome yard, finished walkout bsmt w/bath, 2.5 car awesome yard, awesome yar (C-854CH) \$149,500 \$349,500 (P-423CH)



location in complex near pool & Immaculate estate nestled in gated clubhouse. Private courtyard community. Kitchen w/porcelain tille dreat Rm, formal Dining, 1st fl appliances stay, upper balcony, entrance, newer windows, update & granite, 1st fl Laund, Great Rm w/l aundry, maple Kitchen w/nock, open floor plan, recessed lighting, Kitchen, blinds, roof, hwh, & sump frpl, 1st fl Master w/jetted tub, 5 car Garage, & too much more to list (P-382SO) \$750,000 (P-908TU) \$259,900



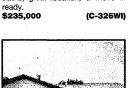
LOCATION! PRICED FOR QUICK SALE Spectacular home nestled at the Fantastic curb appeal & great end of a court in popular Eagle location. Large fenced lot, newer Gardens. Vaulted gourmet Kit, windows, newer doors, over 1600 Great Rm w/frpl, doorwall to Deck sq ft, spacious layout, 2 car great location, & (P-431CO) w/view of woods, 1st fl Mast w/ Garage, & more. \$102,000





SPOTLESS & SPACIOUS Here it GREAT HOUSE Beautiful colonial ARIDE IN OWNERSHIP Designer GREAT PLYMOUTH LOCATION GRAPDEN CITY HANCH Located in a great area & priced to sell quickly! a great area & priced to sell quickly! a great area & priced to sell quickly! This one has a finished bent w/full bath, stove, fridge, & home open floor plan, 3 bedrooms, 2 carpet, vinyl windows, beautiful bath, stove, fridge, warranty included, updated from the process of the price of

(C-753WI) \$235,000



QUIET SENIOR'S COMMUNITY

SUPER

when you can own this charming Outstanding home w/fresh paint, home w/Northville mailing address.

warranty, & immed occupancy

(C-172HA) \$104,000



(C-596DE) finished walkout. (C-343CO) \$152,900



\$425,900 (C-053DU)

GREAT LOCATION 4 bd, 2.5 bath

considered.

(C-997HA) \$319,000



(C-569AY)

(P-245FO)

Den, Master w/bath, 1st fl laun, & \$189,500

(C-200HE)



covered Patio. (C-625FA)







GORGEOUS YARD! This home is BETTER THAN NEW! Very CHARMING COLONIAL Charming updated 3 bd bungalow w/new roof, siding, windows, exterior bds, 2 natural fireplaces, finished doors, Kitchen, bath, furnace, A/C, bsmt w/glass block, nice layout, floors, close to (P-948GL) \$175,000 (P-711HU)



TOTALLY REMODELED HOME

Large family room, formal dining room. On a lg. lot, \$88,900.

3 BEDROOMS

1 1/2 baths, Family Room, fire-place, finished bsmt., 2 car

Century 21 Castelli 734-525-7900

PRIME LIVONIA On 3/4 acre, 3

bedroom, 1.5 bath. Offer \$170,000 as is, but will negoti-ate. Appt. only! 734-968-4486.

BEAUTIFUL HOME

w/wonderful backyard views of protected land. 2

story foyer & family room Granite island kitchen &

granite baths. Finished wall out. \$385,000 (EC31Kl 27170790)

Weir Manuel Realtors (248) 851-5500

NEAR DOWNTOWN- 3 bdrm Ranch, 2 baths. Priced to sell: \$175,000.

810-765-8602 586-214-3430

ONE DAY - 4 HOUR SALE

Sun, Sept 30, Noon-4pm

OLD VILLAGE

REDUCED \$30,000

1090 N. Holbrook (near

Hines Park), Built in 1800s. 2 bdrm. 1 bath, updated

kitchen/bath. Wood plani

floors, almost 1/2 acre. \$144,900. Agent/Owner: 734-834-5822

BEAUTIFUL HOMF!

18615 WAKENDEN

Well maintained 1.5 stor bungalow, 4 bdrm. 1st floo

laundry, open front porch private back yard w/large

deck, 2.5 car heated garage. Conveniently located near Redford Union High School,

parks&elementary schools Move-in & enjoy! \$149,900 Call Sandy 248-912-9990

Remerica Integrity II

Rochester

**Plymouth** 

Redford

garage, \$147,900.

Livonia

**Garden City** 

Observer Accentric

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More than 15 new and

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SAVE UP TO 75% off retail **NOW!** 

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CANTON -55+ Park 1998 Dutch 16 x 72. Beautiful-Move

in ready, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, A/C

appliances. Qualify for park of

relocate - Discount for CASH

Photos avail. 734,429,8568

DEALER WANTS TO BUY PRE-OWNED 1990 or NEWER

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If you are willing to sell

at a discount, call 231-642-1600, 231-642-1607

appliances. Must see & must

sell immediately, \$4000/best. Call: (734) 740-6769

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Deadlines:

Sunday edition ...... 5 p.m. Friday Thursday edition.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday

Offices and Hours:

Eccentric office......805 E. Maple, Birmingham Observer office .......36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia Hours .....8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday



Bank owned homes 5 bdrm 2 bath home only \$350/mo! 3 bdrm 2 bath home only \$250/mo! Never rent again! Buy 1-4 bdrm foreclosed homes from \$10K! For listings and info 800-544-6258 ext T251

BEST OFFER On 3000 sq. ft. new home & 2 Acre walk out sites. See at; www.tonch.net



FOUR BDRM 2 bath HUD only \$200/mo! 4 bdrm 1.5 bath home \$125/mo! 5%dn, 20yrs@8%APR! Financing ref. available. For more info and Open Houses



By Owner

**Huntington Woods** Sun. 2-4. 10745 Nadine Brand New! 4 bdrm, 21/2 bath all renovated w/addition. Sensationa living rm., huge dining rm., spacious great rm,gourmet kitchen w/stainless steel appli ances, a master bdrm suite, & 2nd flr. laundry 2250 sq. ft. Builder dis count pricing, reduced to \$539,900. Located btwn 10 & 11 Mile Rd directly off Coolidge,

LIVONIA FOUNTAIN PARK CONDOS 11688 & 11690 Farmington Builder's Models. Many 2 Builder's Models. upgrades. Approx 1300 sq.ft., 2 bdrm, 2 bath, garage. Huge incentives. \$145,900 each.

W. of Woodward.

248-770-6515

Open Houses

LIVONIA - OPEN SUN 12-3 34247 Hathaway, S. of Plymouth, E. off Stark. Beautiful updated ranch with open floor plan on 1/2 acre. 1930 sq.ft. 3 bdrm. 2 bath, family room, fireplace, C/A, hot tub, attached garage. By Owner. \$242,000. 734-427-3658

Foreclosed Homes

FORECLOSURES! Buy a 4 bdrm 2 bath home only \$350/mo! 3 bdrm 2 bath only \$240/mo! Financing & govt grants available! 5% down 20yrs @8%apr! For listings 800-544-6258 ext T254

3047

New kitchen, windows, hot water tank 3 bdrm, c/a, wood, privacy fence. \$2500 for closing. 2 mos. no payment \$159,000. 248-225-9625

**Beverly Hills** 

By Owner

WEST BEVERLY HILLS 19360 Beverly Rd, Builder's home built in 04', 3,685 sq. ft. home. 4 lg. bdrms, 4 full oaths w/granite, gourme kitchen w/granite countertons, custom throughout master suite w/fireplace, 2 laundry rooms, wrap around cedar deck. \$639,000.

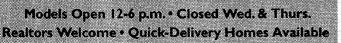


Commerce & Wixom 248-640-2060 Canton 734-320-8330 or 734-451-3320 Lyon Twp. 248-240-8110

- ✓ AWARD-WINNING **FLOOR PLANS!**
- ✓ QUALITY-BUILT HOMES!
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FEFFECTIVE DATE 992307 TO 9202307. PRICES AND OFFER SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. OFFER NOT VALUE ON PREVIOUS PURCHASE AGREEMENTS AND MAY NOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS OR MOTIONS, SEE SALES CONSULTANT FOR DETAILS.
SINGH HOMES BUILDING COMPANY ILC.





MAGNIFICENT craftsman in 1-of-a-kind design in Quarton Lake Limestone foyer to 2-story great room. Custom oal ibrary. Gourmet kitchen. \$1,950,000

(EC13FA-27089363) Weir Manuel Realtors (248) 851-5500

Dearborn Hgts

BEAUTIFUL 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath Ranch, new windows 8 doors. Finished bsmt. \$139,000. 313-320-4791

Detroit

3120

**GRAND HISTORICAL HOME 4 SALE** Originality maintained, Georgian staircase, ornate

By Owner

plasterwork, Pewabic tile hardwood floors, 6 bdrms 5.5 baths, 4 fireplaces, 3 car garage. Open house 10/6 & 10/7, 2-5pm. 313-414-2060

Farmington

**FARMINGTON** Walk to downtown, remodeled home, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, full bsmt, all appliances incl. New 2 car garage. \$185,000 (586) 506-4192

Farmington Hills **FARMINGTON HILLS** 

Updated Colonial, 1,800 sq. ft., 4 bdrm., 1.5 bath, attached garage, finished attached garage, finished bsmt., lg. lot. 11 Mi. & Inkster area. \$229,000. Cheryl Davis Robinson Realty 248-593-9494



SHARP UPDATED anch, private lot w/mature andscaping. Great oper lloor plan, neutral decoi Many newer features updated kitchen. \$209,000 EC32TA-27169141) Weir Manuel Realtors (248) 851-5500

**WESTLAKE SUB** 4 bedroom Ranch close

\$154,900, (22GL) RANCH Open floor plan. Appliances

stay. Bsmt. Nice landscaped yard. \$149,900 (22PU) Century 21 Hartford South 734-464-6400 www.c21-hs.com

Ferndale

INVESTOR SPECIAL! 9 Mi./Hilton. Charming, Ig. 3 bdrm colonial, c/a, bsmt. Best Over \$119,900, 248-399-1233

3170 **Garden City** 

OPEN SUN 1-5PM. 28641 Florence, \$109,000, 3 bdrm, brick ranch, hardwood bsmt, Ig kitchen, yard. No creepy vibes floors. or bad odors! (248) 872-1649

\$339,800 (L60Nav)

(L38Oak)

鱼



Yamasaki w/cathedral ceil ng, floor to ceiling win dows. \$495,000 (EC77AP-27168886) Weir Manuel Realtors (248) 651-3500



hometownlife.com **YELLOW** 

**PAGES** 

LIVONIA - Prime NW location for this 4 bedrm,

2.5 bath colonial offering new kitchen w/granite

counters, new oak firs in library w/ glass French

doors, newer roof, 90% furn, fmly rm w/ froic overlooking private yard, tiered deck & hot tub.

LIVONIA - Updated 3 bedrm, 1.5 bath ranch

offers new light maple ktchn w/ Brazilian Cherry

hdwd firs flowing into dining rm, new wndws,

light fixtures & carpet throughout, park-like fenced yard, 1 yr warr + more! \$209,900

**LIVONIA** - Lovely 3 bedrm brick ranch in friendly

family sub w/ schools & park w/ pool nearby!

Recent updates included new appliances, fresh

paint, ktchn flooring & newer windows. Finished basement & great yard! \$129,900 (L50Har)

www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27167154

www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27147501



\*\*FOR MORE INFORMATION & PICTURES ON THESE HOMES,

LOG ONTO THE WEBSITE ADDRESS AFTER EACH LISTING. \*\*

(L27Gla)

when looking for a great deal check the **Observer & Eccentric** Classifieds!

NORTHVILLE - Curtis built 4 bedrm home w/

awesome craftsmanship throughout in luxurious

Stonewater community. Offers 3 full and 2 half baths, 3" plank Brazilian Cherry firs, gorgeous

NOVI - Immaculate 2 story end unit offering 2

bedrms, 2.5 baths, neutral décor, gorgeous frplc

in liv rm, updated oak ktchn, dining area &

charming breakfast nook w/ door wall to lg private deck, fin'd area in bsmt, etc. \$125,900

GARDEN CITY - This 4 bedrm, 2.5 bath

colonial offers 2527 sq ft, freshly painted, new

carpet, formal living & dining rms, 1st floor library

w/ built-in bookcases, fmly rm w/ frplc, lg att'd garage, new drive, double lot + more! \$219,500

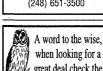
granite ktchn, etc, etc! \$888,900 (L56Man)

www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27071577

www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27086375



sac. Large wooded lot, pri-vate yard backs to commons sidewalks Spacious 2-story great room w/fire-place, eat-in kitchen place, eat \$319,000 271670698) (EC55AS Weir Manuel Realtors (248) 651-3500





**Wayne County** 



DETROIT 2122 MORRELL ST AWESOME HOME rently being used as Iti-unit. Redone hard-Great investment opportun woods, fireplace, large din-ing area, 4 large bdrms, 2 baths, 2 kitchens. Full bsmt ty! 2 story brick multi-fam ly bome priced to sell!
Bring all offers! Each unit
has 2 bdrms, bath, kitchen,
dining & living room
w/access to bsmt from both \$249,900 26192155) Weir Manuel Realtors units & 2 car garage. Ownerin process of renovations Property to be sold "as is cond. Buyer to assume ACR. \$71,900. Call Sandy

248-912-9990 Remerica Integrity II

REAL ESTATE

AUCTION-Sat.,

Oct. 6th, 12 noon

14625 Bainbridge, Livonia MI, 48154-3601. 3 bdrm

Bi-level home on 47 acr

Sundance Auction Co.

734-243-5156

Don @ Remax Propertie 313-610-2520

Homes from \$10,000! 1-3

bedroom available! Repos

These homes must sell! For

listings call 1-800-425-1620 ext 3421

FOUNTAIN PARK

LIVONIA

11688 & 11690 Farmington

2 Builder's Models Many upgrades: Approx 1300 sq.ft.

2 bdrm, 2 bath, garage. Huge incentives. \$145,900 each. Open Sat.-Sun., 1-5pm. 734-612-5532

By Owner

**PLYMOUTH** 

Bdrm, 2.5 baths, newly remodeled kitchen, living

family & dining room. New roof & windows. 2 car

garage. No agents please \$190,000 (734) 776-9048

49930

greatly reduced! Pointe Crossing. 2

REOs, FDIC, FSBO, FHA,

lot! 2 car garage. View by appt.

Real Estate Services

BANK

Condos

3445

**Real Estate Auction** 

3620

3640

3720

FORECLOSURES

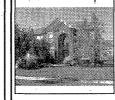
(248) 851-5500

Southfield/Lathrup \*

SOUTHFIELD. 27324 BYRON Newly constructed 3 bedroom

home with 2 full baths. Over 1400ft/2 of new drywall, trim, and flooring. \$124,999.
Robert at RE/MAX Classic 248.231.6737

3403 Sterling Heights



**OUTSTANDING VALUE** Belmonte floor plan, neu tral, tasteful decor, clean. full & 2 1/2 baths, dua staircase, 2-story foyer, oak floors. \$310,000 (EC15LO-27169980) Weir Manuel Realtors (248) 651-3500

FOR SALE BY OWNER We pay for 6 me! 3 bdrm, 2 bath, garage, owner financing possible \$154,900. 734-231-0499

Westland



By Owner

**GREAT CURB APPEAL** Tudor, 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath gas fireplace, park-like set ting in backyard, deck underground sprinklers, 1s floor laundry. Under 10 years furnace, A/C, roof. Al appliances. Livonia schools \$224,900. 734-453-1871

Macomb County







Turnkey Recent interior improve pet thru-out. Shared bsm w.1 other unit. \$64.900 (EC83KE-26172120) Weir Manuel Realtors (248) 851-5500

Duplexes &

**DEARBORN HEIGHTS** & LINCOLN PARK. Investors-2 duplexes for sale Reduced: \$110,000.

Also, several suburbag, single family homes for sale. Call: 734-641-7751 Lynx C.I.R., Inc.

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INVESTOR LOOKING FOR PRE-EXISTING

248-231-5016

GLEN EDEN CEMETERY MEMORIAL IN LIVONIA

lots in Garden of Prayer 000/both. 727-869-8510 \$1000/both. PLYMOUTH

Quick Oil change building for sale, Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth Twp., 3-bay, 1500 Sq. Ft. oi change plus 1200 sq. ft. oi retail office. Business avail able separately \$825,000 #2700584

734-669-5813,734-747-7888 Reinhart Commercial

WAYNE Hall for sale, Glenwood & Venoy area, 6000 sq. ft. Capacity 250 people, fixtures included. \$375,000

**POLICY** 

All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric News-papers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591-0900.) The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reser-ves the right not to accept an advertiser's order, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers sales representatives have no authority to bind this news-paper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the

advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors is given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for CANTON - 14X70, 2 bdrm, 2 omissions Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to bath, newer C/A, gas furnace & stove. Partially furnished, all the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimina-tion". This news-paper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc, 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the dead-lines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the sible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative ad-vertising and marketing pro-gram in which there are no barriers to obtain housing because of race, color, religion or national ori-gin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal

www.hometownlife.com ousing Opportunity". Table III Illustration of Publisher's Cash for Mobile Homes.

Northern Property



HILLMAN Up North Serenity In Hillman, MI for Retirement or Hunting Property Spacious, clean 1418 sq. ft. w/enclosed porch attached 2 car garage on 10 beautiful acres. New kitchen cabinets, all appliances & goes w/home

Peaceful setting w/much wildlife fruit trees & private gated road. Close to State land & lakes. Priced to sell @ \$89.900. For information call (989) 742-4436. **Resort & Vacation** 

Property

**MONTANA LAND & CABIN SALE** 40 acre country road \$69,900, 40 acres with new cabin \$99,900. 160 acre -\$99,900, 640 acre \$900/acre! Beautiful views, trophy elk & deer, lots of water, great bird hunting. Ideal location. Owner financing available Western Skies Land Co. any-time. 888-361-3006 or visit www.WesternSkiesLand.com

Lots & Acreage/Vacant 3820

ANN ARBOR Several parcels 2-9 acres. Hills fields forests, wildlife. Huge pines old orchards. Very private See: www.blackpineridge.com or call Lew at 734-662-1000. BEST OFFER On 3000 sq. ft. new home & 2 Acre walk out sites. See at; www.tonch.net

conside

TIMESHARE!!! Paying too much for maintenance fees and taxes? Sell/rent timeshare for cash. No commissions/broker fees. 866-708-3690 www.vpresales.com

Real Estate Wanted 3870

Cemetery Lots 3880

Business Opportunities 3900

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Whether you're looking to buy or sell that special something, look to the classifieds first.

"It's All About Results!" Observer & Eccentric

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www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27167338 www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27169774 CANTON - Beautiful stately Browns-town condo SOUTHFIELD - Nicely maintained 3 bedrm, 2.5 offers hardwd floors, living rm w/ frplc, formal bath condo w/ open floor plan & loads of space! dining rm, spacious ktchn w/ island, master ste, Extra Ig master bedrm w/bath, fin'd bsmt, very 2 add'l bedrms + a loft/office, fin'd walkout bsmt large private & fenced yard w/patio, community w/ fmlv rm. Great location! \$226,000 (L72Che) pool, new carpet & paint t/o! \$99,900 (L08Fra) www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27079652 www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27157439 "FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALL HOMES LISTED IN **SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:** 

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# Appraising and Sales

Century 21 Today offers career seminars Tuesday or Saturday noon to 1 p.m. at 28544 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Contact Steve Leibhan at (248) 855-2000, Ext. 238.

# **Investors**

Come learn the "Secrets of the Mortgage Short Sale" (discounted mortgage sale). Learn how to negotiate with

homeowners and banks; learn about the required paperwork; and learn how to avoid the deal killers rookies try and fail.

Presented by the Real Estate Investors Assoc. of Oakland at 5:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 11, at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members, \$20 nonmembers.

Call (800) 747-

6742. (www.

REIAofOakland.

# BIA

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 27, 2007

**■** The Sales and Marketing Council (SMC) of the BIA presents its Master Certified New Home Sales Professional course (MCSP) "Housing Construction as a Selling Tool" on Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 3 and 4.

This is a twoday program. The class will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Association offices, 30375

Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. Registration fees are \$275 for SMC members, \$325 for BIA members and \$375 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

**■** Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan will present Real Advice for Builders, Part III: "Closing the Sales: Innovative Ways To Succeed In Today's Economy"

on Thursday, Oct. 11, from 5:30-8 p.m. at Marriott **Detroit Pontiac** at Centerpoint. 3600 Centerpoint Parkway, Pontiac. The roundtable discussion will give participants an opportunity to network and exchange ideas on how to survive the current economic conditions. A brief panel presentation of New Home will be followed by Resource.

a question-and-

answer session

members and

experts.

between audience

**BIA First** Vice President Richard Komer of Wineman & Komer Building Co. will serve as moderator. Speakers include Wende Boerema of Boerema Chaben & Co., Barbara Gates of MJC Companies, Anita Blender of Bluerock Management, and **Denise Contreras** and Linda Spencer

Registration fees, including hors d'oeuvres and beverages, are \$50 for BIA members and

\$85 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

**■** Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's Sales and Marketing Council (SMC) will hold a Real **Estate Continuing Education course** on Monday, Oct. 15, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at BIA offices, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Lori Chmura of Middleton Training will present the course that meets the state-mandated requirement for six hours of Real **Estate Continuing** Education.

Registration fees are \$60 for SMC members, \$80 for **Building Industry** Association members and \$100 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

**■** Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's Sales and Marketing Council (SMC) presents "How To Succeed In A Challenging Market, Part II" on Wednesday, Oct. 24, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at LaSalle Bank Headquarters, 2600 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy, **Conference Rooms** C & D.

Anita Blender of Bluerock Management will be joined by a local economist and a mortgage expert from LaSalle Bank to discuss how onsite sales professionals can adjust for market conditions and still perform at a high level

of success. Registration fees are \$10 for SMC members, \$20 for BIA or AAM members and \$45 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033. **■** Building

Industry

Association of

Southeastern Michigan and its Remodelors Council present an Off-Site Project Management seminar, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills on Thursday, Oct. 25, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The seminar is part of the Certified Graduate Remodelor (CGR) series and counts toward CGR. Certified Graduate Associate (CGA) and Certified

Chuck Breidenstein of Builder **Professional** Services Group, Inc. will review the role of the off-site project manager on a construction project. The seminar also will cover project planning, scheduling, reporting and documenting for record keeping and control purposes. Registration fees are \$155 for Remodelors Council members, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For

Graduate Builder

(CGB) designa-

tions.

registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building **Industry** Association of Southeastern Michigan will sponsor a builder's license preparation course on Friday, Oct. 26, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Presented by NCI Associates, the course is designed to prepare students for the Michigan residential builder's license examination. Material covered will include topics on the exam, laws and rules, building practices and procedures, sample test questions and test-taking strategies.

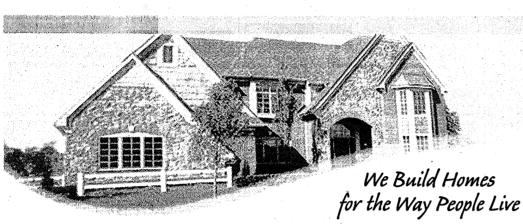
Registration fees are \$200 per person. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building **Industry** Association of Southeastern Michigan will sponsor a lien law seminar on Wednesday, Oct. 31, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Marty Burnstein, of the Law Offices of Marty Burnstein, will discuss "What's New in Michigan Construction."

fees are \$75 for BIA members and \$125 for guests. For Please see BRIEFS, B9

Registration

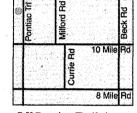




We're pleased to announce the introduction of Green Built<sup>TM</sup> Michigan, a certified program for home building at our Saddle Creek Development \*See Sales Center for more details.

- Homes from the upper \$200's
- 3 Brand New Floor Plans! 1800-2300 sq ft RANCH style 2200 sq ft Colonial UNDER \$300,000! • South Lyon Schools
- Low Lyon Twp Taxes
- Green Built™ & Energy Star Certification Available

Sales model open 11am-6pm Closed Thursdays & Fridays 248-446-8751



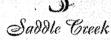
Off Pontiac Trail, just north of 11 Mile Rd.

TARREST AND

















Maybury Park Estates

**Custom Homes from** 

• Wooded Estate Size Lots

the upper \$600's

• 3600 to 6000+ sq ft

Northville Schools

One of Oakland County's

Only Premiere

**GATED** Communities

Sales model open daily 11am-6pm

248-735-8300

of Beck Rd. (Across from Maybury State Park)



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# SCHWEITZER REAL ESTATE

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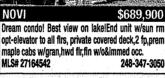
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Spectacular Fml LR W/art Alcove, curved stairs, Fml DR, Cosrvtry W/marble Fir, Gmt Kit, Mstr Ste W/2 Way Fp. Glam Ba W/dual Wic, J&J, Bonus Rm, 4 Car Gar! MLS# 27164307 248-347-3050



















CANTON

MLS# 27160962

4 Br. 2-1/2 Ba Executive Col Priced To Sell! Kit W/ Hdwd Firs & Dbi Oven. Open Fr W/Vitd Cig & Gas Fp. Mstr W. Vitd Clg, Dual Wics, Gas Fp & Fash Bath 734-453-6800

Seller has approx \$769,000 in home. 5 BR, 5.1 BA w/

part fin w-out w/2nd kit, BR, BA & 1475 addl sqft

Grmt kit w/granite. Mstr w/dual WICs & sit rm.



Cape Cod W/pond! 1st Fir Mstr, Circ Dr, Country Porch

Bonus Rm Over Gar. 2 Stry Gr W/fieldstone Fp &

248-347-3050

248-347-3050

734-453-6800

Bridge Above, unfin W/o. Seller Is Lic Agent.

LYONS

MI S# 27171891

MLS# 27168369

MLS# 27165463

734-453-6800



Cust brick colonial! Granite t/o gmt kit w/42"cabs &

SS Appl. 2 Fp. hwd firs, dual staircase, Tuscany

248-347-3050

concrete deck, princess ste, 3.5 car gar, fin LL.

Beautiful Hdwd Firs Entire 1st Fir. Lg Kit (Appls Incl). Open Fr W/ Nat Fp. Lots Of Crown Midg. MLS# 27161576 734-453-6800



Beautiful 2800 Sq Ft Brick Home On .61 Acre W/ 4br, 3

Bath. Kit W/ Stone Pavers & Jennaire Appls; Master

734-453-6800

\$190,000

248-347-3050

Ste; Fr W/ Wet Bar & Library. 2 Car Att Gar.

MLS# 27166177

features hi-vol ceilings, hwd firs, maple/granite kitchen, 1st fir master & partly finished walkout. MLS# 27164576 Lori York-Hesse 248-360-1425, x 224



Cust Design! Fml DR W/vaulted Clg, Butler Pantry.

Gmt Kit W/42"Cabs, island, Eat-in Nook, 1st Fir Mstr

248-347-3050

Ste W/glam Ba, Bonus Rm For Aupair/inlaw, Fin LL!

MLS# 27164268

in Livonia. Granite kit & baths. Hdwd in foyer & hall. GR w/cath clg & FP. Mstr w/vitd clg & WIC. 734-453-6800 MLS# 27144676



Newer Roof. All 2nd Fir Wndws Are Newer. MLS# 27162423 734-453-6800

Great invest. opp. Study/3rd bd. Updates: roof

shngles, ca, ba, kit cntr, flr, DW, micro, HUH, sidewalks

248-347-3050

& fenced backyard. 2 car det gar w/att shed.

MLS# 27163707



Rm. Marble, Limestone, Silestone & Tile! Cath & Volume clgs, Loft/3rd bd W/Full Ba& W/o bsmt. MLS# 27166276 248-347-3050



Access. Custom Fireplace. Ceramic Kitchen & Both

Baths. Finished Base. Att 2 Car. All Appls. Hurry!



UPDATED PERFECTION! Large Cherry Kitch w/Island. Hardwood Flooring, Butlers Pantry, New Appl, Cent Air, Siding, Lighted Brick Paver Patio, & Windows, MLS# 27115717 248-360-1425

Better Than New! HW Firs T/o GR& DR. Kit W/cherry

Cabs& Cer Fir. Open Fir Plan. GR w/gas fp. All Appls

Stay.\*\*Seller To Give 3% Towards Closing Costs!

\$175,000

248-347-3050



Beautiful Cape Cod Built In 2002, Great Fir Plan

Vaulted Clg. Ceramic Kitchen, Foyer & BAs. Fp In L R.

Doorwall Off Dining Area, Move In Condition,

MLS# 27167825

Beautiful Condo. Open Fir Plan, GR W/gas Fp & 1st Fli Lndry. Lg Mstr Bd & Ba w/skylight& Wic. Cath Clgs\* Seller To Give \$2500 Towards Closing Costs!\*\* MLS# 27052714 248-347-3050



WINDOWS, FIN LL w/Office & Bed, 2nd Heated Garage 248-360-1425 MLS# 27145772

Kit/Bath. Enjoy 2nd Fir Laundry And Att Gar. 2 Full

Baths And Daylight Basement.

MLS# 27167434



\$139,000 Desirable! Open kit overlooking formal DR. Drw leading to deck. Mstr ste w/oversized ba w/sep shower. Neut decor t/o. All appls incl. Att 1 car gar.



3 Br. 1-1/2 Ba Brick Home, Updated Kit (New Chnts, C-

Fp. Updated Bath, New Wndws, H2o, Newer Deck.

\$129,000 Lrg bunalow w/many updates: oak kit, ba, wndws & carpet! Bonus rm off mstr would make a great WIC or computer rm. Lrg oversized fenced yard w/privacy. MLS# 27166992 248-347-3050







MLS# 27084386

LIVONIA

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4140

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# Apartment

Observer & Eccentric

# **HOMETOWN/ife**



**BIRMINGHAM** 1 MONTH FREE

To Qualified Studio; 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Applicants Furnished apartments avail. Gorgeous new kitchens and baths. Available in town Birmingham at the 555 Building. Call Michelle (248) 645-1191

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**BIRMINGHAM CONDO Close** to town, 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, bsmt, washer/dryer, \$850, furnished \$975, 248-568-1418 **BIRMINGHAM - DOWNTOWN** 1 bdrm, a/c, remodeled, new kitchen, bsmt, washer, dryer no pets. \$750. 248-901-0425

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apartments avail. Gorgeous new kitchens and baths. Available in town Birmingham 555 S. Old Woodward. Call Michelle (248) 645-1191

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4030 Duplexes

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LIVONIA 3 bdrm ranch, 1.5

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appliances, 2 car. \$2100/mo. D

& H Properties.248-888-9133

NORTHVILLE - 3 bdrm, 2 car

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PLYMOUTH - 3 bdrm executive ranch, 1 1/2 bath, fire-

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w/breezeway, finished bsmt,

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fireplace, garage, finished bsmt, 1.5 bath. \$1200/mo. Plymouth/Canton Schools Lease/buy option possible Pets neg. 313-949-1898

CANTON 3 bdrm, family room,

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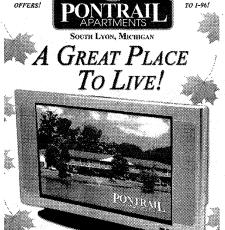
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WALLED LAKE New 3 bdrm

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4120

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\$425/mo includes utilities

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Kitchen and Washer/dryer. NO PETS \$295+utilities Call 248-835-9895 LIVONIA -5 Mile/Merriman. Mature woman, Price negotiable.

**FARMINGTON HILLS** 

NORTHVILLE - 3 bdrm condo Mature professional, nonsmoking, not allergic to cats Laundry. (248) 349-7334 NORTHVILLE -Room for rent. Gentleman only please. No smoking. Share a bath, \$85/week+dep. 248-349-9495 REDFORD- Clean, neat quiet home, has room for self-respecting male. \$100/wk. \$85 one-time fee. 313-534-0109

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Livonia

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4220

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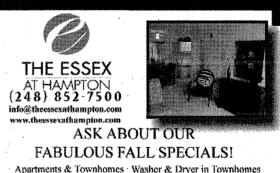


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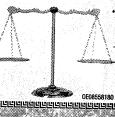
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FIND IT ONLINE HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

37"; Credenza, 88" by 19", \$250. Craftsman 4.5 HP yard vacuum, \$250. 248.556 END TABLES - Baker, design based on ancient Chinese pat-tern, \$450. Call Audrey

**ENTERTAINMENT CABINET** Walnut, \$50. Stereo/radio/tape & disc player, \$50, Variety of tools. (734) 421-8893

248-349-7793, 248-719-0181

MISC Antique buffet \$125; Antique dresser & mirror \$125; Maple kitchen table set (5 chairs) \$125; Chest \$25; 2 end tables \$35 pr.: 2 rocking chairs \$25 ea.: Desk \$20. 248-348-6965

MISC Panasonic 42" HDTV \$800 w/surround sound \$900 Men's Sequoia bike \$500 White 6 drawer chest \$40. All mint cond. 248-444-0357

RUGS - Two Beautiful 100% Wool Hand-knotted Egyptian Keshan 9'x12' Orientals - Like New. One rich deep green, other soft sage green, both with off-white borders. Each \$650. Smaller oriental/dhurrie area rugs also for sale from adult-only Bloomfield Hills home. High quality, like new, low prices. 248-310-2117

SOFA - queen size sleeper sofa, off white & blue, excellent condition, \$250. 248-417-0060

TABLES-CHERRY- Sofa.end & coffee table. Dining room table, pedestal, glass top, 4 chairs. \$500/all. 248-425-7018

**Appliances** 7180

Appliances - Stainless Steel Less than 1 yr'old. 23 cu ft. Maytag side by side fridge, water in door. Frigidaire gas stove w/ self cleaning oven. Under cabinet GE Profile Under cabinet GE Profile Microwave, new in box. All for \$1600, originally \$2700. Broan stainless steel hood fan, \$50. Maytag stainless steel countertop microwave, \$100. Call: (248) 388-2905

RANGE, GE, white electric, excellent condition, asking \$175. Zenith 55" TV, \$100. Maytag white washer & gas dryer \$400/pair, great cond. 248-802-6001, 248-848-1096

Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs 7190

炒 HOT TUB - 2007 - Brand New

> MASTER SPA 2001 6 person, 36 jets, cover and steps, incl maintenance free gazebo. \$4500, 734-722-3237

> > (7220)

7500

**Building Materials** 

FURNACE- 2005, Kenmore. Exc. cond., \$1000/best. Call for more info. 313-387-6373

Industrial Restaurant

SUBWAY EQUIPMENT FOR SALE Oven/Proofer, metal pans, sandwich unit, toaster oven, tables, containers & much more! 734-564-8484

Firewood-Merchandise 7440

FIREPLACE INSERT- Vermont Casting. Large winter Warm. Black porcelain. \$1500. 734-453-1013

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today! Promocode: coconut CASINO SLOT MACHINES \$500 & up. 734-498-3636, call after 6pm

FURNACE- 2005, Kenmore. for more info. 313-387-6373

TIC NASA-VISCO MATTRESS ES WHOLESALE! As seen or TV. Twin \$299. Full \$349 Queen \$399, King \$499. All sizes available! Dormia-Comfortaire Electric adjusta-bles \$799.00 FREE DELIVERY 25-Year Warranty. 60 night trial, 1-800-ATSLEEP

(1-800-287-5337) www.mattressdr.com

MISC 10 ft. complete Jump King trampoline, good cond. \$150; Free-standing complete cond. \$100. 734-459-4166

Still in packaging. With war-ranty. Must sell! Can deliver. 734-231-6622

Miscellaneous For

Contact Movex today! 800-876-6839 www.movex.com/coupon coupon code: NNA0107

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7510 Musical Instruments

BABY GRAND PIANO 5 Young Chang, Great condition Black, Gently used, comes with bench and designer lamp. \$5500. 248-594-2209 BABY GRAND PIANO Hazelton

HB, 150D, with bench, 4' 7", polished Ebony, bought new

Fall 2005, barely used, very

fine sound, carefully main-tained. \$4,500. 248-674-4321 We always find the best

stuff in the Observer & Eccentric

exc. cond. Asking \$3000. 10 free lessons. (734) 722-3233

**ORGAN - LOWREY** 

Double

Sporting Goods 7520 **BOWFLEX EXTREME** 

keyboard, 32 rhythm styles

New! \$650 or best offer. (734) 634-0107 7540) Wanted to Buy

**MOTORCYCLES WANTED** DEAD OR ALIVE Get cash for the New Year! Call 586-727-3697

Cats (7830) KITTENS- 9 weeks old. 2 males, black & gray; 1 female gray & white to a good home

TABBY HOUSE CAT 2.5 year old, declawed. Looking for a good home. Call: 734-981-4794

734-427-4172

**Garage Sales** 

& 9. off Lahser.

SOUTHFIELD,

Estate/Garage. Thurs-Mon. 10-5p. Complete household

clothing. 21272 Mada, btwn 8

**SOUTHFIELD GARAGE SALE** 

25014 Sherwood Circle (Chateau Villas Condo-mini-

ums, off 10 Mile), Fri & Sat

9-4nm housewares linen

"It's All About Results'

Observer & Eccentric

1-800-579-SELL

SYLVAN LAKE Sept. 28-29. 9

5. 2385 Maplewood, Orchard

Lk. Rd. to Inverness. Antique

carrier, lead glass windows

TAYLOR-4 family sale! 1 day

clothing, cabinets, misc.

AKC GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES Indoor, family raised, light to medium col-ors. \$400. 248-636-5133

www.petland.com hometownlife.com

Look for These

Observer & Eccentric WHERE GREAT DEALS UNFOLD! 1-800-579-7355



Garage Sales On The Internet! www.hometownlife.com

7118

7110 Garage Sales

ALLEN PARK 14604 Dasher

Ave, off Southfield between Allen and Dix behind Arbys.

Sat 9/29 & Sun 9/30 9am Train accessories clothes, games, movies etc. Get your christmas shopping done early!!! ANN ARBOR Garage/Estate Sale - Salem Twp. 48105 (Ann Arbor), 5467 Pinecrest Èstates Dr, E. of Pontiac Trail, S. of N. Territorial Sept 27 thru 30, 9am-5pm

Furniture, Hammond Organ

power tools, collectibles

speeds old records holi

day, books, 100's of Beanies

& stuffed animals (adult

players w/olde

ammed with quality goods. BERKLEY- HUGE MOVING SALE! 4 Family Sale. 2980 Greenfield, S. of 12 Mile Rd. Sat. 9-5. Furniture, bdrm set.

etc... Worth the drive! For the best auto classifications check out the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper. "It's all about RESULTS!" Coo

radial arm saw, small appli ances, furniture, tools & clothing. 31800 Eastlady Dr. ly Hills, S. of 14 Mile, Lahser & Cranbrook.

Sept. 28 & 29th, 9-4pm. Superb household items. antiques, designer clothing, collectables, toys and much more. No early birds, please.

BEVERLY HILLS BIG SALE!! Kitchen & household items, Sept 28-29, 9am-5pm. BIRMINGHAM 1769 Pine St,

BIRMINGHAM 419 Suffield, N. of Maple, W. of Southfield Rd., Sept. 27 & 28, 9-3:30pm. Toys, household, furniture, clothing, more. BIRMINGHAM ANNUAL

Abbey Terraces Condo Sale,

on N. Adams, S/Big Beaver

6). Collectibles, antiques,

books, clothes.

7110 Garage Sales

BIRMINGHAM **Huge Baseball Team** Garage Sale Sat. Sept 29, 8-4pm, 920 N. Glenhurst Dr., W. of

BIRMINGHAM MAMMOTH MEGA SALE! Everything must go! Sat. Only; Sept 29, 9-5pm. 1907 Cole St.

Woodward, N. of 15 Mile.



BLOOMFIELD GARAGE SALE items, building items, misc.

Cranbrook. Off Lahser, West-chester Village Sub, look for signs to 3154 Pebble Lane. Bloomfield Hills Garage Friday Only from Everything must go! Kitchen appliances, home

G.I. Joes, clothes, and LOTS of Misc! 1256 Westview. West off Adams Rd, North of Long Lake Rd. BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Sept

urniture, tools, fish tank, home decor, etc. CANTON

**Garage Sales** 

**CANTON GARAGE SALE** Sept 27-28, 8-4pm. 43629 Westminister, N. of Ford Rd. E. of Sheldon. 5 Family. Misc, household & baby items.

bike, teen boy's clothes! BIRMINGHAM Multi family CANTON Two Sale. Furniture & more. Sat Sept. 29, 10am-4pm. 177



great deal check the **Observer & Eccentric** Classifieds!

376 Westbourne Dr. S o Maple, W of Cranbrook, Fri 12-5. Sat, 9-5. Assorted home BLOOMFIELD HILLS- 5 family. Sept. 27-29, 10-5pm. S/ Maple, btwn Lahser &

accessories, dishes, books,

28-29, 9-4. 295 Harrow Circle. S. of Big Beaver, E. of Woodward. Sports equip, home goods, toys, TVs, furniture. CANTON - 3507 Brooklyn Dr. off of Geddes, btwn Beck & Denton, Fri-Sun, 9-4pm

44226 Arlington, just off Sheldon, btwn Warren & Joy. Sept 28 -29, 9 AM - 4 PM.

ONLY! 8-3pm. 46316 Swan-mere, W. of Beck btwn Warren & Ford. Girl's 7 piece bdrm set w/mattress & springs, Family



CARACE TOWNSHIP Huge commugarage sale 1 stor bargain shopping! Sept. 28-

29, 9-4. Pointe at Treyborne Cove at end of Crumb Rd.

btwn. M-5 & Haggerty, N. Great stuff! No junk! FARMINGTON 22511 Violet. Bikes, dishes, furn, oak queen water bed, built in storage,

household. Thurs-Sat, 9-5. FARMINGTON HILLS- Dining set, bar cabinet, storm door end tables, lamps, much more! Fri 9/28-Sat 9/29, 9-4. 30126

DeOrr, NE 13 Mile & Drake.

pool pump, small appliances

dryer, electronics, hockey 34722 Valley Forge, N of 12 Mile, E. off Drake. Farmington Hills Moving Sale Bedroom set, Piano, Sofas and more. Sept 28-29 9-4pm-

Misc. household items, gas

39242 Heatherbrook Dr.-North of 12 Mile/East of Haggerty **FARMINGTON HILLS** Sept. 27-29, 9-5. Tools, household items, books, and more. 25352 Witherspoon, N.

of Grand River, E. off Drake.

Garage Sales 7110

FRANKLIN Friday, Sept.

Furniture, collectibles, house-

28th, 8:30am-5pm. . 30549 North Greenbriar, Franklin FRANKLIN- Garage Sale! 25350 W. 13 Mile, W/ Telegraph. Fri-Sun., 10-4pm. Furniture, clothing, etc. CANTON- Sat. Sept. 29th

7110

hold, garage full. LIVONIA 15500 Surrey, 1 blk. W. of Farmington, N. of 5 Mile. Sept 27-29th, 9-5. Big sale! 3-Family. Antiques, collectibles, finished/unfinished Garage/Moving Sale - Fri-Sat., Sept. 28-29, 10-5pm. dining table w/pads, bikes vinn tandem, toys, linens craft items. Hallmark orna housewares ments, tools, vanity w/stool &

mirror, wicker baby buggy. LIVONIA Big Sale, 30425 Lyndon, N. of Schoolcraft, E. of Merriman at the corner of Henry Ruff & Lyndon. Sept. 27, 28, 29,

9-5pm. LIVONIA Block sale, Sept 27 28th, 9-5. Warner Ct., 1st bridge E. of Merriman, N. of

Schoolcraft. Appliances, records, Ig.-size clothing, etc..

Furniture, piano, game table,

cherry wood drop leaf table

china, antiques, Japanese arti-

hometownlife.com LIVONIA Estate/Moving Sale

facts. lots more!! 35218 Parkdale, Plymouth & Wayne and also Oct. 4th thru 7th. LIVONIA Estate Sale FARMINGTON HILLS Fri 37177 Bristol, S.of 6 Mile. E.of Newburgh. Thurs.-Sat.

> furniture, housewares. LIVONIA - Furniture, baby clothes, household, Hallo-ween, Ig collection of PartyLite products. 15425 Hubbard corner of Roycroft, Sept. 27-

29, 9-4pm. Priced to sell!

LIVONIA Huge Garage Sale -October 4 & 5th, 9am to 4pm. 33621 Rayburn, Livonia

International Rett Syndrome

Rayburn, Livonia Proceeds go to

Garage Sales

LIVONIA Multi Family Garage Sale - At the Tai Chi Center, 38121 Ann Arbor Rd, Friday and Saturday, 10am-4pm

7110

LIVONIA Multi-Family Rummage Sale in Livonia at the TAI CHI Center - Friday, September 28 and Saturday, September 29th, from 10am-4pm. Great Stuff old and new. 38121 Ann Arbor Road, 1 mile east of I-275.

LIVONIA Sept. 27-29, 8:30-

3pm. Sheffield Estates, 35183 Lancashire, E of Wayne Rd.,

btwn 6 & 7 Mile. Misc. items LIVONIA Sept. 28-29, 9-4. 29724 Trancrest, W. of Middlebelt, N. of Curtis, btwn. 6 & 7 Mi. Household, skis & more. Don't miss!



MILFORD ~ Unbelievably Huge Moving Sale! Furniture, display cabinets like new children's to xx adult clothing, snowblower 18hp John Deere tracto \$500, 1985 open bow ski boat w/120 I/O \$1800, '92 Ford Conversion Van \$1600, bdrm sets \$150 ea, office files & desks, Italian slate pool table \$350. Don't miss this one! Thurs, thru

248-685-2304 NORTHVILLE 1 Day Only! Thurs., 9/27, 9am-5pm. All kinds of stuff!! 8211 Terra 8am-4pm. Tools, crafts, art, Bella Rd., take 6 Mile W to Angle Rd., 3rd drive on right

NOVI MOVING SALE - Patio bar, furniture, rugs, 50+ men's golf shirts. Halloween & Xmas decor, women's clothes, books, etc. 47622 Brittany Ct. 9 Mile/Beck. Sept 27-29, 9-5.

**OAKPARK** Everything priced to

sell. Elec. appliances, clothes, yard tools & more. Sept 28 &

29, 9-5pm. 21340 Parklawn

Cloverdale and Northend.

Schaeffer btwn.

of

Garage Sales

PLYMOUTH 14847 Lakewood Dr., W. of Haggerty, S. of 5 Mile Sept 29th, 9-4. Household misc., some furniture, golf clubs, etc. PLYMOUTH - 2 FAMILY YARD

7110

SALE Rain re-do! Thurs-Sat, Sept 27-29, 12-5pm 321 Adams St. 1 blk W of Main/Church. Many new items. PLYMOUTH - 747 S. Main Unusual finds, decorative accessories, antique buffet, hutler's dresser Country French loveseat, kitchen

PLYMOUTH 8950 Manton, N. of Joy, W. of Lilley. Sept. 27-29, 9-5. books & more.

PLYMOUTH-BIG BARGAINS!

cabinets/sinks/ect Fri &

Sat., Sept. 28 & 29, 9-5pm.

Antiques, collectibles and 4pm. 46240 Quail Ridge Ct, off McClumpha PLYMOUTH ESTATE SALE Thurs.-Sat., Sept. 27-29, 9am-4pm. 9038 Ball St., Plymouth, Ml. China, glassware, crystal, antiques, furniture, tools books, and other household

"We Work For You!"

items. Everything must go!

hometownlife.com

PLYMOUTH PROPERTY WIDE GARAGE SALE!! Storage 15176 Beck Rd Plymouth 734-451-3200 Fri., Sept. 28th & Sat., Sept 29th, 9:00am - 3:00pm. Books, clothes, household items, misc stuff!

**REDFORD** - Fri.-Sun., Sept 28-30. 10am-6pm. 19925 28-30, 10am-6pm. Lennane, btwn Grand River & 8 Mile, E. of Beech Daly. Indoor plants, tables, sink, pet cage 2'x2'x18" high, misc.

REDFORD Furniture, small air conditioner, baby items and misc. Sept.

7110 **Garage Sales** 

REDFORD GARAGE SALE 17701 Denby, between 6 & 7 Mile, just East of Inkster, Sept 27-Oct 4, 9-5pm. Lots of good stuff.

REDFORD Huge charity sale.

15911 Leona, E of Beech, S of Six. Over 30 tables, packed

with vintage to new col-lectibles, knives, chimes, furniture and tons of household items. Quilt raffle. 9/28-10/1. REDFORD Sept. 27-Oct. 2. 9-5. 9544 Sioux, S. of Plymouth, N. of W. Chicago.

equip., framing/ gun supplies Sell it all with **Observer & Eccentric** 1-800-579-SELL

REDFORD- Sept 28-29, 11320

Tools, furniture, RV/ camping

Seminole, 9-5pm, Household goods, toys, tools and much more at bargain prices! ROCHESTER HILLS 9-27-29, 9-5pm, Multi-family, Oakrock Lane. Take Rochdale N. off Walton to Oakrock. Sink, toi

let, antiques, tools, house-

wares, kids clothes & more. **ROCHESTER HILLS- Sat 9/29** only, 10-3pm. 850 Downhill Ln. N/ Hamlin, E/ Livernois. Rochester Glenn Sub. Sofas chairs, Pottery Barn lamps rugs, tables, etc. Good stuff! ROYAL OAK Garage/Estate

Sale, Everything must go!! Sept.29 & 30, 9-5pm. 2807 Linwood Ave. 13 & Woodward. Furniture & household ROYAL OAK Wood furniture, household, clothes, more! Sept. 29-30, 9am-4pm, 1417

N. Maple Ave.

SALE ON FURNITURE Sept 29, 10-5. 31674 Trestain, off of Orchard Lk., S. of 11, Kitchen table w/chairs, buffet & more. SHELBY TWP- LG Garage

Sale! 46075 Waco, 3 bks E

of Dequindre, 3 N. of

Auburn, Glass-top dining room Table w/6 chairs

China Cabinet, various fur

niture, kitchwares, sports

equip, bikes, Fri 28 & Sa

only! Sat. Sept 29th. 10-4pm. 6031 Michael, off Van Born, W of Telegraph. Household items, locksmith equipment TV van electronics, misc and yard goods. No early birds! TROY 9/28. Hylane N of Wattles E off Adams 9-3pm.

and much more.

Bikes, toys, golf clubs, books, videos, furniture, table saw, costumes & MORE! TROY Rummage Sale: FAITH APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF TROY Sat., Sept. 29, 9am-3pm. 6710 Crooks Rd., btwn

WAYNE Garage Sale - Sept. 28-30. 31528 Fillmore Girls' infant/toddler clothes 25 cents, lots more! WEST BLOOMFIELD Sept. 27-29; 9:00-4:30, 4201 Blackburr (Long Lk & Middlebelt)

clothes, albums, CD's, VCR's

WEST BLOOMFIELD - Thurs

Fri, Sept 27-28, 9-4pm, 6250

Willow Ct. Nautilus weigh

bench set, tools, furs, misc

size 8 clothes and furniture.

Square Lake and South Blvd.

WESTLAND Auto & truck mechanic tools. Sat., 29th Sun., 30th, 9am-5pm. 8252 Carrousel, Merriman, Joy

7110 Garage Sales WESTLAND - BLOCK SALE Conway. Sat/Sun., Sept 29-30 9-4pm 1 block N of Apr

Arbor Trail, W. of Merriman.

WESTLAND Antiques, architectural, lumber, household & lots more. 35217 Bakewell, S. of Warren, W. of Wayne. Sept. 28-29, 9-6 WESTLAND HUNTER POINTE CONDO COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE (Located on

Hunter, West of Wayne Rd.). Sat., Sept. 29, 9am-5pm, Sun., Sept. 30, 9am-2pm

Moving Sales

Rd. corner of Waddles & Squirrel, Sept. 27-29th, 8-4. mostly Household goods. tapletop accessories BLOOMFIELD HILLS 2 DAYS ONLY ESTATE SALE - Sat. Sept. 29, 10-3pm, Sun., Sept. 80, 12-4pm. 5848 Sutters Lane, N of Walnut Lake Rd. (1/2 mile N of Maple, 4 blks W of Franklin). Quality 5 piece sectional, 8 piece dining, complete queen bedroom set, TV/entertainment (liahted

BLOOMFIELD 4435 Squirrel

treadmill, golf covers, LP's, stereo components, chairs. FARMINGTON HILLS Hunting equip., canoe, washer/dryer, etc. Sept. 27-30, 9-6. 21435 Rockwell River, 6 blks E of Middlebelt

W.BLOOMFIELD- Sat., 9/29,

3333 Hartslock Woods 9-5pm. 3333 Hartslock woods Dr., N/Maple, E/Off Orchard

materials for dresses, Sears

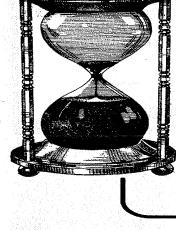
unit), 5 yards designer

artwork, everything must go! IT DOESH'T GET ANY BETTEN THAN THIS Tyer & Eccentric

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registration information, call (248) 862-1003.

■ Apartment Association of Michigan's (AAM) Property Management Council (PMC) will sponsor a "How To Conduct Outreach" course on Friday, Oct. 12, from 9 a.m. to noon at AAM headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington

Hills. Registration fees are \$69 for PMC members, \$79 for AAM or **Building Industry** Association (BIA) of Southeastern Michigan members and \$99 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1004.

**■** Apartment Association of Michigan's (AAM) Property Management Council (PMC) will sponsor an "HVAC Heater Trouble Shooting" course on Tuesday, Oct. 23, from 8 a.m. to noon at Wilmar Offices, 23975 Research Drive in Farmington Hills.

Registration fees are \$40 per person. For registration information, call (248) 862-1004.

# Condominium operation

Attorney Robert Meisner will offer a course on "Condominium Operation: Introduction to the Essentials for Success," 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 16 through Nov. 6, at the Bingham III Office, 30200 Telegraph, Suite 467, Bingham Farms. Price is \$110 for an attendee. The course is offered through the Oakland Community College Business Technology Center. Continuing education credit available, advance registration needed. For registration details, call (248) 522-3618.

# Training/tour

Broker/owner Ronald LaCasse Jr. and Marcy Novak recently franchised WEICHERT, REALTORS - Cass Realty in Dearborn, have completed an indepth training/tour of the inner workings of a thriving real estate business—the fourday WEICHERT Management Academy.

Held at Weichert Real Estate Affiliates, Inc. corporate headquarters in New Jersey, the Academy is focused on building world-class real estate offices. "This is an important step," said Vice President of Business Development Kirk Miller, who conducts the program. "The Academy provides the tools that give new Weichert franchisees a solid foundation and the confidence to manage their businesses as never before. Some of what we cover is not new to established brokers and managers, but most of it is quite an eye-opener."

LaCasse and Novak participated in a concentrated, accelerated pro-

gram emphasizing recruiting, training and career development, systems installation and business planning, followed by a tour

of the Corporate

Campus, where franchise principals could see management at work. Weichert affiliates President Martin J. Rueter said, "These people are already

at the top of their field, or they wouldn't be here, but it's our policy, as well as our promise, to show them the Weichert way, a proven for-

mula of systems and support." WEICHERT, **REALTORS - Cass** Realty can be reached at (313) 357-3800.

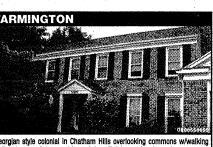




tric, workshop, & loft. Fenced lot. Avondale schools. Cal pare your rent payments! Priced especially for you at \$208,000.



Page Shally Williams 248-400-1221 Office 248-646-6200 x 333
Hannett, Wilson & Whitehouse Realtors
880 S. Old Woodward, Birmingham 48009



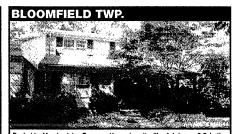
ntiful (and private) backyard retreat welcomes you home!! Hom anty incl. Call me today to see this steal! Priced to sell - \$285,000.



d limestone firs. 2 wet bars, steam shr, lacuzzi, home theatre in Ir. Fir mt w/sauna, exercise rm, bar. Mstr bdrm. Ste. w/ adj library. \$850,000 Call Merie Solway 248-909-1396 cell, 248-283-0328 direct Hannett, Wilson Whitehouse Realtors 880 S. Old Woodward, Birmingham 48009



Fabulous Maplewood St. brk ranch. Bright open floor plan. 3 bdrm, 1.5 bth. Hrdwd firs t/o. Mbrm/1st fir lav. updated kit w/white cab. Fin bsmt w/ peramic tile & rec. area. Brick pavers walkway/porch. Mait, free deck i



Call Dick Gibb 248-217-7611 cell or 248-283-0336 Hannett, Wilson & Whitehouse Realtors 880 S. Old Woodward, Birmingham 48009

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\*Typical financing terms based on a purchase price of \$131,000 at a 30 year lixed rate of 6.25% (6.89% APR), there will be 360 equal monthly payments of \$812.14 principal and interest. Maximum login emount is based on 96% of the appraised value of the home. Additional credit restrictions may apply. Payment does not include lexes, homeowners insurance, mortgage insurance, mortgage points or fees Prices and rates are subject to change. License # 8035 to ""The value of painting and estaining varies subject by desenting or model selected. This special other is not valid with any other offer. Ofter valid or non-continged constants. Some restrictions revy apply. Finance suckage through K. Howanian American Mortgage Financing addendum required. Piezes see a saise consultant for details. Offer may be cancelled at any time without prior notice.



Above Information available as of 9/21/07 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down, Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arms, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders.



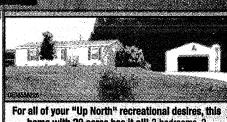
er/Broker **352-447-0233, Cell# 352-949-4880,** 



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 40 wooded acres with 1320 feet of river running through and a newer mobile \$159,900. • 10 wooded acres with trails running throughout \$34,900.

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A high-

and lack of follow-through

among co-

workers. John

achiever may unintentionally

inspire laziness

# TOO COMPETENT? REDIRECTING CO-WORKERS



WORKWISE

Twomey, president of the National Workforce Association in Albany, N.Y., almost wryly characterizes such co-workers as "withdrawing, relying on a champion and being pretty successful at not being willing to step up.'

It's a classic stand-off: The more you step in to do, the less your co-workers offer to do. While you may be thinking about how to change their behavior, consider, too, how to change your own.

'RUTS'

"Ruts get established over time, creating a great deal of inertia," observes Todd Dewett, associate professor of Management in the Department of Management at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. If you have difficulty understanding why coworkers might not want to change. consider the insights of consultant Steven Feinberg of Steven Feinberg Inc., in Palo Alto. "They have a comfort zone," he states. "That's part of it. They stick within what they believe they can tolerate. They try to be consistent with the image they have of themselves so they're consistent in their behavior. We're motivated to be who we think we are."

The same may be applied to the person who's so competent that it's easier to continue jumping in to save projects when others fall back. Being that competent is comfortable. But being that competent

doesn't always work, particularly when there is too much for one person to do. BREAKING THROUGH DYSFUNCTION

What can you do? Twomey says that options include:

- bringing in an outside facilitator;

- "walking away in disgust;"

- convincing the team to become part of the change; or

"accepting the situation."

Feinberg offers different perspective developing influence among the group's leaders. "Go to the trusted people leads and get them on board first by doing some new things," he recommends. "Give them evidence to support the need to adapt.'

Dewett advocates "informal persuasion" and accountability for change on both sides. "Take your part of the blame so it's not all about pointing fingers," he directs. Frame it in terms of how(BEGIN ITAL)we(END ITAL) can do this better. Be positive. Don't assume that they understand exactly what you're talking about and don't forget to mention the skills you're working on. Open up the discussion.

"Let people know they can change," he continues. "This should be part of the standard, consistent communication. Identify and recognize those who are (changing) to send the correct signals."

Then what? You don't want people to backslide. Lee Miller, co-founder of Your Career Doctors in Morristown, N.J., maintains that you must determine whether fear of success under the new rules feeds their reluctance or whether experience teaches them that you'll revert to your practiced method of being too competent.

Do you make them look successful when



Todd Dewett, speaking with associates at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, shares his perspective on ruts, and strategies for persuading co-workers to get out of them. He is associate professor of Management in the Department of Management there.

you're the one who truly is? "If you want the change to stick," Miller advises you to incorporate "resolve, support and fear":

 Make certain that they understand that you won't continue to pick up the slack, that the change is permanent;

- Get them to buy into the belief that the team and the organization will increase its success this way; and

- Communicate that this is it -- be fullyfunctioning contributors or become marginalized.

Then, you must keep your side of the bargain. Do not continue to pick up the

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slack. Prepare to marginalize yourself. If you find yourself backsliding, go to the team's top influencers and remind them that you don't support backsliding - even your own - and want their help in adjusting your own behavioral patterns. You don't want to make yourself obsolete, which is exactly what will happen as everyone else starts stepping up to the plate. When they do, your job description will change, too.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an awardwinning journalist. Copyright 2007

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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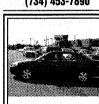
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734-455-7000 OUTSTANDING KITCHEN! 4BR Cape. Granite counters w/Travertine backsplash in huge kitchen/hearth rm--made for entertaining! 10' ceilings; extensive hardwood; daylight (27126507) \$390,000



Canton 734-455-7000 "SPRING" INTO THIS UPDATED COLONIAL! Awesome court location. Updated oak kit w/newer sink and countertops. Warm/cozy nat FP in FR. 1st fir Indry, six panel drs, WIC in mstr BR. Fin bsmt w/full BA. (27083967) \$233,000



UPTOWN CANTON VILLAGE! 46 upscale brownstone condos coming soon w/5 flr plans, 2-3 bedrms, 2-car garage, fireplace, balcony, and GeoThermal heating & cooling. Call for a reservation! (27054660)



BEAUTIFUL CANTON CONDO Not a detail was missed! Large, inviting 2BR, 1.5bath. Updated kit, all applncs stay. Remod baths. Partially fin bsmt. Newer windows. Freshly painted. Close to everything (0026209093 \$129,900



FEELS LIKE HOME! Spotless 4BR/2.1BA col w/Ply/Canton schools. 2' extension on back of house offers big kitchen w/granite, all appl. Deck. A really nice home!



734-455-7000 **Canton Twp** SPACIOUS CONDO! All 3 bedrooms have a



248-684-1065 GORGEOUS HOME W/ 3 CAR GAR, Home off 2 sty foyer. 2 sty GR. Huge kit w/ granite, SS appls, skylites. 1st flr laun & mstr ste w/ jacuzzi & dbl sinks. 1 acre.



LG CORNER LOT. Covered entry w/ fover to la FR w/ fp & DW to deck, Mstr br w/ sep ent ba. Lg DR, kit w/ brkft area open to FR. 1st fli laun. Full bsmt.

\$234,900

(27079092)

248-684-1065 Commerce GREAT SUB IN GREAT LOCATION. Walled Lake schools. Lot is large enough for a ranch. 4 car gar avail. .3 acres w/ poss daylight bsmt.



SUPER CHATHAM HILLS COLONIAL Move righ tin Exposed hardwood floors Spacious root Newer deck, furnace, garage door, central air Updated kitchn. Formal dining room w/great frplc. Huge yard. (27089036) \$239,900



**Farmington** 248-348-6430 WALKING DISTANCE TO TOWN! Charming 2 bdrn, brick ranch in a peaceful neighborhood, hdwd floors, newer windows, 14x10 Florida Room, full finished bsmt & an extra 2 car (27163157)\$180,000



**Farmington Hills** 248-851-1900 LOVELY HOME IN GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD Spacious rooms, oak firs. Newer carpet, roof, dishwasher & H2O heater. 4 BR, 2.5 baths, finished bsmt w/wet bar. Neighborhood has 5 commons parks. Close to everything! \$259.900 (27113637)



**Farmington Hills** 248-348-6430 NEWER QUALITY BUILT IN FARMINGTON HILLS 1440 Sq Ft Colonial w/ 3 BR 2.5 BA, mstr BA has Spa Tub. Ceramic tile kit w/Island & pantry. Fp,1st flr laundry, att 2 car gar w/storage area.



Fenton 248-684-1065 KEEP IT TOGETHER or sell off the 4.9 acres that



Franklin 248-348-6430 UNPACK & MOVE RIGHT IN! This ranch is a gem! Spacious LR w/ flpc, large windows overook beautiful backyard & heated pool. Updated bath & kitchen, quick occupancy.



**Garden City** 734-326-2000 READY FOR ITS NEW OWNER is this 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath colonial with full basement, family room with fireplace, inground pool, Florida room and attached 2 car garage.

(27162631) \$165,000



**Garden City** 734-326-2000 DON'T LET THIS BARGAIN SLIP AWAY!!! A 3 bedroom Cape Cod colonial on a double lot with a remodeled kitchen, formal dining room, first floor laundry, 30 x 20 master bedroom and (27104734)



248-684-1065 **Green Oak** PRIVATE CUL-DE-SAC. Quiet, tree-lined road is 2.5 acre lot. Privs on Hamburg Lake Gorgeous 2.5 acre Peaceful & serene.



248-348-6430 Livonia WOW!! WHAT A VALUE Gorgeous home on 1/2 acre + park like lot, nice LR, 3 br, 2 full ba, huge FR w/frplc overlooking fabulous sunroom, nice

\$254,900

734-591-9200

(27164110)

Livonia



LOVELY LARGE 2 OR 3 BDRM LIVONIA RANCH. Great Ir W/ fp, Ig 3 season rm, Ig mb & formal dr. Fin. basement w/ 3rd br & Ig fam. rm & built in bar. Many more updates. Lg 2.5 car garage. Hot tub & deck. (27087249) \$235,000



Livonia 248-851-1900 UPDATED & MOVE IN READY! Cape Cod with 3 BR, 2 baths & 1545 sq. ft. of living space! 1st fir master suite w/jacuzzi. 1st fir laundry. Hardwood firs. Deck. Full basement. 2 car (27132069)



Livonia 734-591-9200 AWESOME, DEEP, TREED LOT ON QUIET STREET This 3-BR brick Ranch in West Livonia offers it all. Finished bsmt, Updated Kitchen and both Baths. Gorgeous Hardwood. New siding and more. www.doortodreams.com (27122924)



MOVE RIGHT IN! All the week is done. Neutral. hardwood floors, new kit, newer furnace, c/a, roof, windows, vinyl siding, fin bsmt, newer sidewalk & drive & all doors.



SPACIOUS RANCH WAITING FOR A NEW OWNER! a BDRMs, 2 Full BAs, french doors to patio; huge eat-in kit; GR waiting for your finishing touches. Bank owned, as-is; no disclosures. Agent has (27141564)\$149,000



A BEAUTIFUL HOUSE IN A QUIET NBRHOOD Beautiful 3BDRM (Possible 4th in Finished Basement) Ranch w/ att 2 1/2 side entry gar. Hrdwd firs, two full baths. Fp in FR. Gorgeous deck in an enclosed bkyrd. (27107215) \$141,900



SPOTLESS 3 BR RANCH WITH LIVONIA SCHOOLS and much more. A must! (27136451)



Milford ELEGANT, GEORGIAN-STYLE COLONIAL on private cul-de-sac, overlooking natural wooded ravine. Builders own custom residence. 4 br, 4.2



Milford 248-684-1065 6,000 SQ FT TOTAL ON 5.31 ACRE LOT. 8 ft mahogany entry. Custom kit w/ granite t/o. Hearth & brkft rms. Lg DR, huge GR. 1st flr mstr w/ lg sitting/dressing rm.



Milford 248-684-1065 ROOM FOR HORSES-5 ACRES. Ranch w/ huge bonus rm over 2 car gar. Unfin W/O bsmt. FP in GR. MBR w/ WIC & ceramic shower & jet tub.



Milford 248-684-1065 CLOSE TO THE VILLAGE OF MILEORD with Highland taxes! Bring the horses and enjoy the peacefulness of country living. Outbuildings allowed. (27033490) \$149,900



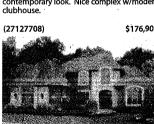
Milford 248-684-1065 SPACIOUS CONDO OFFERS TWO MASTER SUITES. Beautiful views of wetlands, only steps away from downtown Milford. Stainless steel appl. Furniture is negotiable.



248-348-6430 CLOSE TO SHOPPING AND RESTAURANTS Better than new 2 BR, 2.5 BA condo in Northvile upgrades incl, lighting, crpt, sinks and faucets! Bose surround sound t/o. Enjoy FP from LR & DR. 2-car att gar. (27159180)\$189,990



Northville 734-455-7000 NORTHVILLE DELIGHT! Spacious, 1st flr newer 2BR/2BA condo. Better than new! Open contemporary look. Nice complex w/modern clubhouse.



Novi 248-348-6430 MAYBURY PARK ESTATES Custom Cape Cod Elegant elevation on private wooded lot. Custom tiled kit w/granite. Spacious 2 story GR w/open banister. 1st fir mstr & bath w/jetted tub. LGR upper loft area. \$994,000



ISLAND LAKE ELEGANT COLONIAL Located close to lake/clubhouse. Gourmet gran kit, frml LR & DR, 2 stry GR, 2 FP,huge mstr suite w/sitting room. Dressing area, 4 WIC. 3 full bath includes Jack/Jill. (27126472)



Novi 248-348-6430 MORGAN LAKE FRONT Gorgeous Lake front 1.5 acres LL find WO w/FP, FR trapeziod windows, new deck, furnace & C/A. New engineered septic field. Minutes to I-75 Great Lakes Crossing. (27165824)



248-348-6430 GORGEOUS HOME IN ROYAL CROWN ESTATES spacious kit overlooks FR, lovely sunroom, great Mstr ste; 2nd fir laundry, nicely fin bsmt, great Mstr ste, znu deck & lg rear yard. (27040674) \$339,900



POPULAR VILLAGE OAKS SUB 4 BR 2 baths. Walking distance to elementary school & playground. Many updates including new neutral carpet t/o, newer windows, beautiful oak kitchen w/ceramic flr. (27132290)



Plymouth 734-455-7000 LOOKING FOR A COUNTRY ATMOSPHERE? This is it! Lake-like pond with hundred-year-old trees. Dynamite layout, 2 bedrooms, both with private full bath. Finished basement. 3rd bath w/whirlpool tub! (27139196)\$187,450



VALUE AND CHARM IN OTTAWA HILLS SUB. Four bdrm w/ 1.5 baths. Natural fireplace. Updates include C/A, windows, roof. All appliances incl. Fenced yard with patio.



248-348-6430 BEAUTIFUL 3 BR 1.5 BA BUNGALOW W/ UPDATES Newer appliances, base of living & storage space.



NEW CONSTRUCTION! Small town atmosphere close to x-ways. Great room open to kitchen with snack bar. Daylight windows in basement. Northville mailing.

(27096130) \$179,810



TANGLEWOOD IN LYON TWP Custom! Fresh! Clean! Cape Cod w/loft overlooks hearth rm, custom mahogany doors. Built-in entertainment ctr. Freshly painted neutral + carpet. Cathedral master, jacuzzi. (27055929) \$449,900



LOCATION, LOCATION! Set deep in this sub on 1.07 Acres this colonial welcome the most (26201680)



COLONIAL W/OVER 2 SECLUDED ACRES Spacious living in the 3 bedroom home. Family room has natural fireplace. Bright and Airy kitchen w/bay window. Large bkfst nook. Reautiful vard! (27128149)\$259,900



DARLING BUNGALOW ON 1 ACRE! Newly painted, hardwood floors thru-out. Stained woodwork, new window, new vinyl siding. Plaster walls w/oval archways. Formal dining (27094085) \$195,000



South Lyon 248-437-3800 LUXURY CONDOS NEW CONSTRUCTION! 2 BR, 2 BA ranches starting at \$189,900 & 2 BR, 2 1/2 BA cape cods starting at \$199,000. Std features include hickory cabs w/42" uppers, granite cntrtps, much more. (26015094) \$189,900



MOVE RIGHT IN!!! Well maintained, cozy ranch. Oak kitchen cabinets and flooring thru out. Finished family room and third bedroom in lower level with full bath. Large wood deck. (27037892) \$189,000



**South Lyon** 248-437-3800 GREAT CURB APPEAL! This very cute updated ranch is in an established sub with a great location! Large fenced in yard. A must see!



CHARMING HOME DOWNTOWN! New windows. doors, refinished original hardwood floors, new drywall and remodeled master suite. Just add

\$142,500

(27165531)

\$175,000

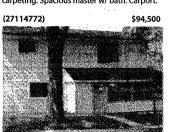


Stunning End Unit Flawless throughout, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, kitchen with all appliances. Newer carpet and paint. Large master with walkin closets. Attached garage.

(27138586) \$129,500



Van Buren Twp 734-326-2000 GREAT OPEN FLOOR PLAN gorgeous oak kit, Irg deck w/best view of the ponds. ground level unit. Appliances stay. Freshly painted & neutral carpeting. Spacious master w/ bath. Carport.



**Walled Lake** 248-348-6430 DOCKING PRIVILEGES ON WALLED LAKE Super opportunity. Lg 4 br, 2 ba home w/2 car garage. Walk to beach, restaurants, downtown shopping. This can be your "UpNorth" retreat without leaving home! Won't last!

(27116324)



\$229,900

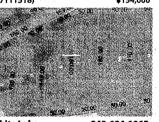
**Walled Lake** THIS ONE WON'T LASTI Updated home just minutes away from all sport Walled Lake. Open fir plan has newer paint, carpet, kit & flooring. Bømt has fin rec rm for additional living space



248-684-1065 Waterford OPEN FLR PLAN. New carpet, paint, hrwd firs. Glass blk windows in mstr shwr. New roof & garage door. New kitchen counters. 3-season sun room. Private yard.



HONEY, STOP THE CAR Seller will make the 1st 6 payments to qualified buyer. This 3 BR, 2 BA home backs to woods & ravine. Fin basement. Hardwood floors under carpet. 2.5 (27111518) **\$154,000** 



248-684-1065 White Lake HIGH DRY SITE OVERLOOKING GRASS LAKE. 3 parcels to choose from. Bring your builder



**Whitmore Lake** 248-437-3800 SPLIT LEVEL ON QUIET WOODED LOT! Home backs to nature preserve and has tons to offer. Updated kitchen cabinets & counters, all new appliances, hardwood floors, both bathrooms, (27128089) \$249,500



Wixom 248-348-6430 HUGE PRIVATE LOT 2 story clnl in quiet nghbrhd! Spacious rooms w/newer Berber. New items: high efficiency furnace: C/A, HWH, water softner, garage, wndws, light fixtures.



\$70K INVESTED IN LASTYEAR. 90+/- ft frontage on all-sports Wolverine Lake, at mouth of canal.

(27071473)

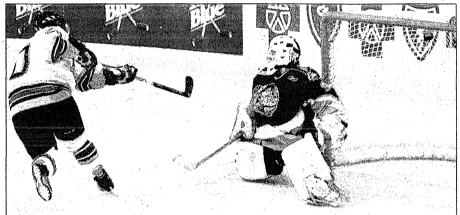
(27128999)

# Opening weekend in the OHL -



Plymouth Whalers left wing A. J. Jenks (No. 22) battles for position in front of the Erie goal during Saturday's season opener at Compuware Arena. Challenging Jenks for the puck are Erie's Robyn Sertic (No. 20) and Mitch Gaulton (No. 4).

Plymouth's Chris Terry converts a penalty shot during the Whalers' seasonopening 6-4 loss to Erie Saturday night. The Otters' goalie is ex-Whaler Justin Garay.



# BANNERS RISE: WHALERS FAL

# Defending champs' late rally falls just short

STAFF WRITER

On a near-perfect Saturday night for hockey at Compuware Arena — 70 degrees, full house, just enough air conditioninggenerated breeze to sway the freshly hung Ontario Hockey League championship banners - the Plymouth Whalers nearly pulled off the perfect comeback.

After falling into a 5-1 abyss two minutes into the third period, the defending OHL titlists fought back to narrow their deficit to 5-4 — and create a man-advantage situation - before falling to Erie, 6-4, in Plymouth's season opener. The Otters evened their ledger at 1-1.

The outcome of the contest wasn't decided until the Otters' Justin Hodgman tallied a shorthanded goal with 1:08 left.

With 3,613 vocal fans on hand to witness the pregame raising of the 2006-07 OHL championship banner to the Compuware Arena rafters, the stage was set for a memorable night for the

However, Luke Gazdic put a damper on the festivities 5:20 in when he lofted a rebound shot past Whaler net-minder Jeremy

Smith. The short-handed powerplay goal came just over a minute after Plymouth's Chris Terry was whistled for goaltender interference when he barrelled into Erie goalie (and ex-Whaler) Justin Garay on a net-charging

The Whalers tied the game at 1-all three minutes later when Joe McCann knocked in his own rebound past a sprawling Garay, but it was their final goal until early in the third period.

In the meantime, the Otters built a 5-1 lead on goals from Hodgman, Anthony Peluso (two), Jordan Skellett and Detroit Red Wing draftee Zack Torquato.

Plymouth's improbable rally was ignited by Terry, who put a penalty shot top shelf past Garay with 15:55 left to make it 5-2. Three minutes later, McCann tucked his second goal of the night into the back of the net to cut the Whalers' deficit to 5-3. Christian Stinegraber and Josh Bemis assisted on the goal.

Things really got interesting with 5:24 left when A.J. Jenks beat Garay from up close to make it 5-4.

Please see WHALERS, C2

# Chiefs push Mustangs to brink before falling in 5

BY ED WRIGHT

The tension was so thick in the Northville High School gymnasium Monday night you could have cut it with an ace.

Playing in their WLAA Western Division opener, the Canton and Northville volleyball teams exchanged high-drama serves, digs, blocks and kills for over two-and-a-half hours before the Mustangs survived with a five-game triumph: 25-19, 24-26, 26PREP VOLLEYBALL

24, 19-25, 16-14. The Chiefs battled back from a 14-11 deficit in the decisive game five to knot the score at 14-all before Northville won it with a Megan Hofmeister kill followed by a Krysta Cicala ace.

The Mustangs improved to 12-9 overall and 1-0 in the division while Canton slipped to 11-7-1 and 0-1,

respectively. "I thought both teams started out kind of slow, but we both picked it up and played to our level after a while. said Canton coach Jen Barnes. "We found some stuff that worked, but sometimes we'd go back and resort to the old stuff that wasn't working. We need to eliminate those errors and play more consistently, especially during the pressure points at the end."

Northville coach Laura Lesko said her team's amped-up level of play couldn't have come at a better time.

"We've been struggling a little, so it was nice to see the girls keep it together toward the end of the match," said Lesko, who is in her first year as the Mustangs' head coach. "Our blockers really stepped up and made some big plays in the fifth game.

'Canton had some powerful hitters, which I expected. Our girls did a good job of covering so that they couldn't block it straight down. I was very impressed with how well we covered tonight."

The Chiefs were paced by senior mid-

Please see VOLLEYBALL, C2

# Rollin' right along Canton Agape soccer team wins 11 of 12 matches

See how PCEP teams fared on Page C2.

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRIGHT

The Canton Agape Christian boys soccer team's unranked status in Division 4 won't last too much longer if the Wolverines continue their spirited play.

Agape improved its record to 11-1 overall and 6-0 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Red Division with a pair of victories earlier this week: 7-0 over Westland Huron Valley Lutheran on

Tuesday, 24 hours after upending cross-town rival Plymouth Christian Academy, 1-0. "Tuesday's win was a fun

game and a lot of kids got to try positions that they don't normally get to play," said Agape coach Dan DeWitt, whose once-beaten team has yet to draw the attention of the pollsters. "Monday's match with PCA was an even match. We were lucky enough to put one in the back of the net and get a big win."

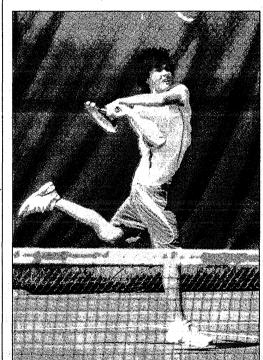
Seven different Wolverines scored in Tuesday's win: Daniel Mullett, Brandon Pierson,

Daniel Walker, Billy Martin, Donald Mullett, Robbie Knight and Kevin Reith. Mark Mullett didn't net a goal, but he did contribute two assists.

Joel Ruffin knocked away nine HVL shots in the first half before getting relieved by Walker, who turned away four shots in the second half. Agape led 5-0 at the half.

Monday's lone goal was scored by Ty Majeski off an assist from Donald Mullett. Ruffin earned the shutout, stopping five Eagle shots.

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



# 'Cats on the prowl

Plymouth's No. 1 singles player Dan Jeong has played a key role in the Wildcats' outstanding 2007 season. Jeong won his flight to help lead the 'Cats to the championship in Saturday's Don Zielinski Memorial Tournament in Dearborn Heights. For more on the tourney, see story on page C2.

# pccs.k12.mi.us.

upcoming season,

tion, contact head coach Eric Mink at emink12@yahoo.com.

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# Fall softball

It's not too late to join a fall softball league thanks to the Canton Sports Center's Adult Softball Fall Mini-League, which is sponsored by Diamonds Bar & Grill. The deadline to register for the abbreviated league is Sept. 30.

The adult softball offerings include: Men's D on Tuesdays; co-ed on Wednesdays; and Men's D'on Thursdays. The season is tentatively scheduled to begin Oct. 2-4 and will last for 10 games with no playoffs. Teams typically play double-header games one night a week at the Canton Sports Center, which is located at 46555 W. Michigan Ave.

Space is limited to eight teams per

The fee is \$330 per team, plus an additional umpire charge of \$12 per game.

For more information, visit http://csc. canton-mi.org or contact the Canton Sports Center at (734) 483-5600.

# Baseball camp

The Plymouth Wildcats baseball coaches will be conducting a fall-ball camp on Oct. 4-5, 11-12 (Thursdays and Fridays) from 4-6 p.m.

The camp is designed for baseball players who want to continue to improve their skills before the 2007 outdoor season concludes. The cost for all four

sessions is \$70, which includes a T-shirt for each camper. For more infor-

mation, contact Plymouth assistant varsity coach Beau Adams at adamsb@

# PCS girls hockey

The defending state champion Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team is looking for players for the which will begin soon with conditioning sessions. For more informa-

# THE WEEK AHEAD

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 27, 2007

### PREP FOOTBALL

FRIDAY, SEPT. 28 Canton at Livonia Franklin, 7 p.m. Northville at Plymouth, 7 p.m. SATURDAY, SEPT. 29 W.L. Northern at Salem, 1 p.m. **BOYS CROSS COUNTRY** 

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27 WI AA Western Division Jamboree at Cass-Benton, 4 p.m. WLAA Lakes Division Jamboree at Cass-Benton, 4:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29 Plymouth at Falcon Invitational, 9 a.m. Canton at Ypsilanti Invite, 10 a.m

# **GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY**

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27 WLAA Western Division Meet at Cass-Benton, 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29 Canton at Ypsilanti Invite, 10 a.m.

**GIRLS GOLF** FRIDAY, SEPT. 28 Wayne Memorial at Plymouth

at Hickory Creek G.C., 3 p.m. Livonia Franklin at Salem at St. John's G.C., 3 p.m. Canton at Northville at Tanglewood G.C., 3 p.m.

**BOYS SOCCER** FRIDAY, SEPT. 28 A.A. Pioneer at Canton, 4 p.m.

**BOYS TENNIS** FRIDAY, SEPT. 28

Northville at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Wayne Memorial at Salem, 4 p.m. Canton at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 29**Salem at Warrior Classic Invite, 8 a.m. **GIRLS SWIMMING** 

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27 Wayne at Plymouth at Salem Pool, 7 p.m. Salem at Livonia Stevenson, 7 p.m. Canton at Northville, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29 Rock-Mauer Invitational at Salem Pool, noon

# **SWIMMING RESULTS**

### **CANTON 119 WAYNE MEMORIAL 62**

SEPT. 25 AT CANTON 200-yard medley relay: 1. Canton (Monica Blaesser, Maggie Carlson, Allison Schmitt, Kari Schmitt), 2:02.93; 2. Wayne, . Canton. 2:25.23.

**200 freestyle:** 1. Katie Kubacki (C), 2:13.88; 2. Sara Krebs (C), 2:14.86; 3. Lindsey Kubacki (C), 2:23.10. **200 IM:** 1. Maggie Carlson (C), 2:25.45; 2. Kayla Eyster (C), 2:30.89; 3. Maddy McLean (C), 2:48.74.

50 freestyle: 1. Allison Schmitt (C), 24.54; 2. Madelynn Bevill (WM), 27.82; 3. Maddy McDuff (C), 28.78.

1-meter diving: 1. Robyn Piwowar (C), 165.35; 2. Mallory Hudak (C), 150.80; 3. Julie Brewer (C), 102.25; 100 butterfly: 1. Catherine Irwin (C), 1:07.78; 2. Saide Earnest (WM), 1:12.64; 3. Maddy McDuff (C), 1:16.18. 100 freestyle: 1. Maggie Carlson (C).

58.30; 2. Madelynn Bevill (WM), 1:01.55; 3. Meghan Sears (C), 1:03.00. **500 freestyle:** 1. Kari Schmitt (C), 5:59.67; 2. Christine O'Keefe (C), 6:00.07; 3. Jessica Bielak (C), 6:26.28.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Wayne Memorial (Kaitlin Durden, Krystle Crandall, Chelsea O'Mara, Keslie Honeycutt), 2:13.89; 2. Wayne

100 backstroke: 1. Allison Schmitt (C), 1:01.72 (new pool record); 2. Monica Blaesser (C), 1:09.23; 3. Paige Goodwin (C), 1:23.80. 100 breaststroke: 1. Catherine Irwin (C), 1:18.69; 2. Meghan Sears (C), 1:25.56; 3. Krystle Crandall (WM), 1:28.05.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Wayne Memorial (Amanda Fill, Madelynn Bevill, Sadie Earnest, Kara Windsor), 4:28.82; 2. Wayne Memorial,

CANTON'S DUAL MEET RECORD: 3-1 overall, 1-0 in WLAA Western Division

## SALEM 103 W.L. WESTERN 83

SEPT. 25 AT WESTERN **200-yard medley relay:** 1. Salem (Emily Nelson, Sara Spala, Katie Gorman, Whitney Aumiller), 1:58.50; 2. Western, 2:06.89; 3.

200 freestyle: 1. Adina Bohr (WLW), . Emily Bair (S), 2:06.03; 3. Allison

200 IM: 1. Whitney Aumiller (S), 2:20.6; 2. Emily Nelson (S), 2:23.25; 3. Sarah Krueger 50 freestyle: 1. Lexie Fregonara (WLW).

26.14; 2. Katie Gorman (S), 26.39; 3. Kristin Hartwig (S), 28.12.

1-meter diving: 1. Katie Koetting (S) 208.80; 2. Jessica Krueger (WLW), 147.20; 3. Sonhie Daughtry (WLW), 144.60. 100 butterfly: 1. Lexie Fregonara (WLW), 1:04.49; 2. Katie Gorman (S), 1:07.17; 3. Kirsten

1.04.49, Z. Natie 60 Main (S), 1.07.17, S. Kil Ste Clemans (S), 1:10.4. 100 freestyle: 1. Adina Bohr (WLW), 57.20; Z. Emily Nelson (S), 58.82; 3. Christie Johnson (WLW), 1:00.7. **500 freestyle:** 1. Emily Bair (\$), 5:36.18; 2. Allison Burke (\$), 5:57.39; 3. Christy Ostach

200 freestyle relay: 1. Western (Adina Bohr, Krys Frane, Stephanie Standriff, Lexie Fregonara). 1:50.31; 2. Salem, 1:50.84; 3.

100 backstroke: 1. Whitney Aumiller 100 backstroke: 1. Whitney Aumiller (S), 1:03.04; 2. Kristin Hartwig (S), 1:08.59; 3. Christie Johnson (WLW), 1:10.44.

100 breaststroke: 1. Sarah Spala (S), 1:17.66; 2. Holly Ferrari (WLW), 1:19.32; 3. Megan Burke (S), 1:22.71.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Western (Sarah Krueger, Lexie Fregonara, Christie Johnson, Adina Bohr), 3:56.48; 2. Salem, 3:57.51; 3. Salem 4:12 67

Salem, 4:!2.67. SALEM's DUAL MEET RECORD: 1-0.

### W.L. NORTHERN 94 **PLYMOUTH 92**

SEPT. 20 AT CANTON H.S.

200-yard medley relay: 1. Plymouth
(Lauren Maslyk, Elle Palczynski, Sijia Hao,
Michelle Chang), 2:05.79; 2. Northern,
2:06.05; 3. Plymouth, 2:17.15.
200 freestyle: 1. Alyssa Liakos (P),
2:11.74: 2. Jauren Cockis (MJ N), 2:11.89: 3

2:11.74; 2. Lauren Cockels (WLN), 2:11.89; 3. Chloe Reuter (WLN), 2:19.16. **200 IM:** 1. Kayla Knight (WLN), 2:31.82; 2. Lauren Maslyk (P), 2:34.35; 3. Madison

50 freestyle: 1. Andrea Wozniak (WLN), 26.71; 2. Michelle Chang (P), 27.58; 3. Lauren Bell (WLN), 27.93.

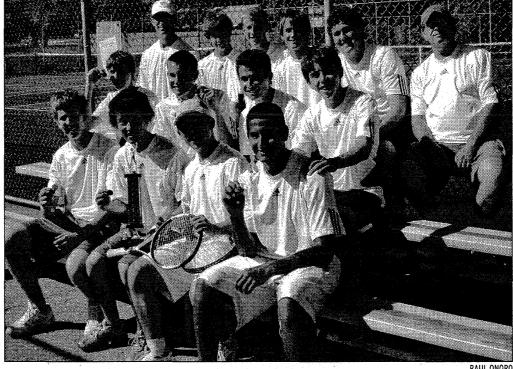
1-meter diving: 1. Hannah Saarinen (WLN), 176.50; 2. Brianna Waldie (WLN), 145.00; 3. Kay Borst (P), 121.30.
100 butterfly: 1. Sijia Hao (P), 1:06.80; 2. Lauren Cockels (WLN), 1:07.34; 3. Kelsey Slayton (WLN), 1:09.37.

100 freestyle: 1. Andrea Wozniak (WLN), 59;55; 2. Michelle Chang (P), 59:81; 3. Lauren Bell (WLN), 1:02.13. **500 freestyle:** 1. Alyssa Liakos (P), 5:57.83; 2. Kayla Knight (WLN), 6:02.26; 3. Molly McKinstry (P), 6:06.38.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Northern (Lauren Cockels, Lauren Bell, Shannon Pawloski, Andrea Wozniak), 1:49.46; 2. Plymouth, 1:51.96; 3. Northern, 1:56.44.

**100 backstroke:** 1. Sijia Hao (P), 1:09.11; 2. Lauren Maslyk (P), 1:12.13; 3. Kelsey Slayton 100 breaststroke: 1. Elle Palczynski (P), 1:15.65; 2. Shannon Pawloski (WLN), 1:20.46; 3. Micelle Carter (WLN), 1:22.20.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Lauren Maslyk, Alyssa Liakos, Sijia Hao, Michelle Chang), 4:01.23; 2. Northern. 4:02.08; 3. Northern, 4:20.57.



Members of the Plymouth tennis team were all smiles after winning Saturday's Don Zielinski Memorial Tennis Tournament. Pictured (front row from left) are Max Ryan, Wen Ning, Cheng Chen, Anoop Gopal, (middle for from left) Matt Dwan, Steve Ostrowski, Dan Jeong, Ramiro Pinon, (back row from left) coach Tom Kimball, Grant Senkbeil, Ryan Kolesar, Pat Bailey, Pat Onoro and coach Jim Tucker. Not pictured is Andy Mitchell.

# 'Cat netters earn Zielinski crown

Plymouth's boys tennis team applied a collective overhead slam to its competition in the 2007 Don Zielinski Memorial Tennis Tournament, which was held Saturday in Dearborn Heights.

The Wildcats won seven of eight flights to post 23 points, eight more than co-runners-up Taylor Truman and Dearborn Divine Child.

Host Dearborn Heights Crestwood, the school where Zielinksi coached for several years, placed fourth with 10 points.

Plymouth swept all four singles flights led by Dan Jeong's championship performance at No. 1. Jeong downed Truman's Frank Szydlowski in the championship match, 6-0, 6-1.

Other singles titleists for the Wildcats were No. 2 player Steve Ostrowski, who downed Crestwood's Scott Gorgeski, 6-2, 6-0 in the final; No. 3 player Andy Mitchell, who upended Divine Child's Colin Brady, 6-0, 7-5 in the title match; and

No. 4 Pat Bailey, who registered a 7-5, 7-6 triumph over Crestwood's Mo Reslan in the championship match.

The Wildcats' No. 1, 2 and 3 doubles tandems also earned first-place medals. The No. 1 duo of Anoop Gopal and Matt Dwan ousted Truman's Chris Foce and Grant Smith, 6-0, 6-2; the No. 2 team of Ryan Kolesar and Pat Onoro bumped off DC's Mike Sitkauskas and David Matusz, 6-4, 6-3; and the No. 3 unit of Wen Ning and Max Ryan prevailed over Crestwood's Sorel Polocoser and Kassem Tanana, 6-1, 6-0.

PLYMOUTH 7 **LIVONIA FRANKLIN 1** Sept. 24 at Plymouth No. 1 singles: Dan Jeong (P) defeated

Steve Trapp, 6-1, 6-0.
No. 2: Walter Woods (LF) def. Pat Onoro, No. 3: Steve Ostrowski (P) def. Chad Dorton, 6-2, 6-0, No. 4: Andy Mitchell (P) def. Joe Kosinski,

No. 1 doubles: Anoop Gopal-Matt Dwan (P) def. Tony Semonick-Dan Camilleri, 6-2, 6-4. **No. 2**: Pat Bailey-Max Korpalski (P) def. Rvan Hudie-Nick Wegela, 6-0, 6-0 No. 3: Ryan Kolesar-Max Ryan (P) def. Nate Warrick-Erik Robertson, 6-3, 6-7 (5-7), 6-1. **No. 4**: Wen Ning-Tom Eggleston (P) def. Skene Milne-Walt Afonso, 6-4, 6-1

Plymouth's dual meet record: 5-2-1; Franklin's dual meet record: 2-8 overall, 2-7 WLAA.

# SALEM 8 W.L.NORTHERN O Sept. 24 at Salem

No. 1 singles: Lawrence Washington (S) defeated Mike Chou, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Brett Foster (S) def. Garek Ng, 6-2, No. 3: Dion Walker (S) def. Brad Stone, No. 4: Dave Benson (S) def. Lenny Kugel, No. 1 doubles: Brock Foster-Eduardo Diaz (S) def. Adam Goldman-Blair Globerman,

No. 2: Tyler Jeleniewski-Jake Burnstein (S) def. Arjun Mahajan-Dan Wang, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Yuvi Rajeev-Ryan Aubert (S) def. Tom Delphy-Micihiro Watanabe, 6-0, 6-2; No. 4: Josh Perrin-John Kang (S) def. Josh Preston-Andrew Garcia, 6-2, 6 Salem's dual meet record: 8-1.

CANTON 6 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 2 Sept. 24 at John Glenn No. 1 singles: Tim Smolen (JG) defeated David Kang, 7-5, 6-2;

No. 2: Mike Darouie (C) def. Rob Fraiser, No. 3: Justin Leidel (C) def. Alex Colosimo, No. 4: Gordie German (JG) def. Rob Milus,

No. 1 doubles: Ryan Hollingsworth-Riley Hoernschemeyer (C) def. Zach Ernat-Jacory Frowner, 6-0, 6-2: No. 2: Jeremy Lindlbauer-Santosh Shanmuga (C) def. Jeremy Proffit-Nick Hubbard, 6-1, 6-0; No. 3: David Ding-Ryan Evans (C) def. Khari Stargell-Zach Edwards, 6-0, 6-1; No. 4: Cory Hurst-Adam Payne (C) won by

Canton dual meet record: 6-2.

# FROM PAGE C1

seen her play, especially defensively," Barnes said of the 5-foot-8 McPartlin. "She took the initiative tonight and was a great leader on the court. She did everything we asked her to do, she served aggressively and played great defense. You could tell she

The Mustangs broke open a tight Game I with eight straight mid-game points seven of which were sparked by senior Lydia Blair serves - to win 25-19. Cicala, who has signed a letter of intent to play for Louisiana Tech University next fall, registered seven kills in the open-

Canton rebounded to win a thrilling game two, 26-24. With the score tied at 24-all, Canton won out on a McPartlin kill followed by a

Game 3 was as evenly played as Game 2 as the biggest lead for either team was four (Northville grabbed a block). With the score even kill and a barely-wide tip by Canton.

The Chiefs fell into an early 11-6 hole in Game 4 before battling back to win 25-19. The game-clinching point game on an Ellie Kenny tip, which was preceded by a sensational, keep-the-point-alive

lead in Game 5 before eventually falling behind, 14-11. Thanks to clutch serving by junior Gina Waite and solid front-row play from Marie Martin and Jordan Kielty, then won it on Hofmeister's

played a stellar match, racking up 20 digs and 44 assists. Kielty (13 kills and 12 digs) and Mills (23 digs) also shined for the Chiefs.

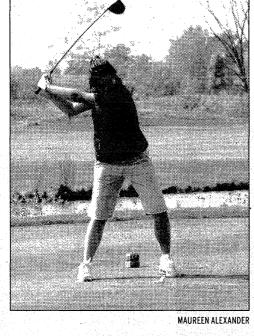
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# **GOLF RESULTS**

# LIVONIA CHURCHILL CANTON 219 Sept. 21 at Hilltop G.C. Churchill scorers: Shannon Warner 35 (medalist); Lexi McFarlane, 47; Amanda Dobos, 51; Danielle Lesniak, 53; Jessica Burdette, 56; Sarah Linder, 68. Canton scorers: Chelsea Osburn, 47; Kara Gregory, 51; Alex Wee, 57; Erin Lixie 64: Johanna

Alexander, 65; Mary Winther, 66. Dual meet records: Churchill, 8-0 overall, 8-0 WLAA; Canton, 2-3 WLAA. LIVONIA FRANKLIN 204 CANTON 220
Sept. 19 at Idyl Wyld
Franklin scorers: Paige
Scarpace Ad (medalist);

Georgia Patrick and Natalie Polakowski, 54 each; Samantha McAtee, 55; Chelsea Duffy, 66; Berki Keeler, 67 Becki Keeler, 67. Canton scorers: Kara Gregory, 45; Chelsea Osburn, 50; Brehanna Hicks, 61; Megan Baugart, 64; Mary Elizabeth Winther, 65; Johanna Alexander, 67. **Dual meet records:** Franklin, 4-4 overall, 3-4 WLAA; Canton, 2-2 WLAA.



Canton's Kara Gregory, pictured teeing off during Monday's match against Wayne Memorial, fired a 51 in Friday's match against Livonia Churchill. Monday's results against the Zebras were not available at presstime.

# solid seventh-place effort at Saturday's Jackson Invitational, which was held at Ella Sharp Park. "I was very satisfied with the girls' perfor-

Canton's girls cross country team turned in a

mance," said Canton coach Eric Pahl. "I was especially pleased with Abigail Gorzalski, who has really been stepping it up and closing the gap between our top two runners (Rachel Rohrbach and Sarah Thomas) and the rest of the team." Saline won the event with 69 points, nine

fewer than runner-up Livonia Churchill. Grand Blanc placed third with 118. The Chiefs amassed 199 points.

Rohrbach, a freshman, led the Chiefs with an 11th-place finish in 19:28. She narrowly beat Thomas, who placed 12th in 19:29. Other point-earners for Canton were Katie

Rymond (48th in 21:00), Gorzalski (56th in 21:11) and Melanie Kulczycki (72nd in 21:37). Rounding out the Canton varsity contingent were Margaret Murphy (99th in 22:21) and Katy

Galm (105th in 22:45). The Chiefs will host today's WLAA Western Division Jamboree at Cass-Benton Park in Northville.

# Rocks split

Salem's girls cross country team split into two groups and competed in both the Jackson Invitational and the Monroe Jefferson Invitational, which was held at Sterling State

The Rocks placed 10th in Jackson with 278

Determan (20:59), Linda Ling (21:06), Kara Booms (21:17), Lauren Olson (21:47) and Sabrina Burcroff (21:50). Salem placed eighth in the 11-team Monroe competition, finishing with 205 points.

points, 209 more than titlist Saline. Jordyn

Moore paced the Rocks with a time of 20:43.

Other varsity runners for Salem were Kellev

Woodhaven won with 35 points, followed by Monroe (59) and Saline (95). Leading the way for the Rocks was Kristina

Klusek, who's time of 22:27 was good enough for 33rd place. Also running hard for Salem were Alex McHugh (34th place in 22:28), Jessica Battle (45th in 23:09), Alyssa Calkin (46th in 23:09), Kortney Marsh (47th in 23:10) and Phoebe VanHoof (51st in 23:39).

# 'Cats in Romeo

Plymouth's girls cross country team traveled north to Romeo on Saturday for the Old School Classic.

"It was a true cross country meet complete with hay bales, two water crossings, woods, farm roads, you name it," said Plymouth coach Mary Kerwin. "My advice to the girls before the meet was, 'Have fun and don't get hurt.' It was a fun, low-key race before the big races start."

Competing for Plymouth were: Beth Heldmeyer (21:20), Pam Bhullar (22:28), Sarah Brown (22:55), Sarah Balgooyen (23:10), Adrienne White (23:13), Kelsey Reineri (23:30), Elise Chagas (23:30), Paula Green (23:30) and Julie Forster (23:30).

# Plymouth kickers tie No. 3 Northville, 3-all "It was an outstanding individual effort,"

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

As the 2007 boys soccer season heads into the home stretch, there's not a team hitting on all cylinders better than Plymouth.

The Wildcats continued their late-season resurgence on Monday when they earned a 3-3 draw with Northville, the No. 3-ranked team in Division 1. The tie came just a week after Plymouth defeated state-ranked

"We've definitely turned the corner," said Plymouth coach Jeff Neschich, whose team improved to 5-6-4 overall and 3-2-2 in the Western Lakes Activities Association's Western Division. "The Canton game was a confidence builder for the guys. The first half of the season we played just OK, but lately we've been able to play right with the top teams in the state.

The setback dropped the Mustangs to 5-

1-2 in the Western Division, one-half game behind first-place Canton.

On Monday, the visiting Mustangs jumped on top 1-0 mid-way through the first half, but Plymouth countered with a goal seconds later when Colin Rolfe assisted Danny Jasewicz for the game-tying netfinder.

"Colin kicked the ball into 'no-man's land on the kick-off after the goal - it went just behind their last defender and in front of the goalie," explained Neschich. "Danny jumped on it, their goalie hesitated and we got one back real quick."

Plymouth took a 2-1 advantage into the halftime break when Rolfe, who has verbally committed to play for the University of Louisville beginning next fall, scored from 25 yards out on a set play.

After Northville netted a pair of goals early in the second half, Rolfe scored the equalizer with 12 minutes left on a breathtaking move.

said Neschich, of Rolfe's goal. "He torched about three defenders and they're very good. "Colin made some magic happen. I'm glad he's on our team."

The assist went to Trevor Floyd. Rolfe nearly won the game for the Wildcats, but his laser with just over five

to Neschich. Brian Rissman played the majority of the game before leaving after a collision with a Northville player. Sophomore Josh Hill played the final 10 minutes between the

minutes left rattled off the post, according

CANTON 3, W.L. WESTERN 0: On Monday at Canton, the Chiefs improved their Western Division record to 9-2-3 overall and 6-1-1 in the Western Division with a convincing triumph over the Warriors.

pipes for Plymouth.

Senior Kevin Krause recorded the shutout in goal for Canton, which led 3-0 at the half thanks to goals from Sherif Hassanien, Tim Belcher and Joey Massel (penalty kick). Hassanien's goal was assisted by Mark Edwards.

"It's only the second time in 12 games we've failed to score," said Western coach Lee Fruman. "We were averaging four goals a game. I'm very disappointed to see we didn't create much of an attack. Their keeper made one very excellent save. Most of the other shots we had were right at the goalkeeper - soft shots that were easy to handle.

"For the last 60 minutes, it was an even game. I just wish we hadn't given away three early.' SALEM O, W.L. NORTHERN O: On Monday at

Northern, Salem senior goalie Sasa Miskovic notched a shutout with five saves. The draw left the Rocks with a 4-4-8 overall record and 3-2-1 mark in the WLAA's Lakes Division.

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# FROM PAGE C1

A few seconds later, Garay was whistled for delay of game when he scooped the puck high up into the crowd. However, the Whalers were unable to keep the momentum going and ultimately fell on Hodgman's late goal.

Smith turned back 29-of-35 Otter shots while Garay stopped 38-of-42 of his exteammates' scoring efforts.

The Whalers return to action Friday when they travel to Kitchener to battle the Rangers. They return home Saturday to host rival Windsor at 7:05 at Compuware Arena. Tickets are available by calling Compuware Arena at (734) 435-8400; or by visiting Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com.

# Welcome back, Michal

On Monday, Whalers head coach Mike Vellucci announced that the Washington Capitals had returned goaltender Michal Neuvirth to Plymouth.

Neuvirth will rejoin Smith to give the Whalers a potent 1-2 punch in front of the net. The Czech Republic native was selected by the Capitals in the second round (34th overall) of the 2006 NHL Entry Draft. He played in one pre-season game for the Caps -a 4-3overtime loss to Carolina on Sept. 16.

Neuvirth and Smith teamed up last season to contribute to Plymouth's run to the OHL title as the Whalers won the OHL's Dave Pinkney Award for fewest goals allowed -173over 68 regular-season games. Neuvirth won the F.W. "Dinty" Moore Trophy last season after posting a league-best 2.32 goals-against average and .932 save percentage while going 26-8-2 in 41 regular-season games. Neuvirth's strong play continued into the post-season when he posted a 16-5-2 mark in the playoffs.

dle-hitter Lauren McPartlin, who racked up 16 kills, five blocks and 15 digs.

Chief harriers 7th in Jackson "That's the best I've ever wanted it real bad."

ing game.

deep hit by a Mustang player.

23-19 lead on a Sarah Koupal at 24-all, the hosts seized the pivotal game on Emily Grant's

dig by senior Hannah Mills. The Chiefs surged to a 4-1

Canton roared back to tie the game at 14-all. The Mustangs kill and Cicala's ace. Canton setter Kacy Moran

ewright@hometownlife.com

# There's a method to my 'Grid Picks' madness P-C Steelers

et me explain the method to my "grid picks" madness.

Boy, did I take it in the gut for recently picking Garden City and Redford Union to win games two weeks ago against Mega Conference dynamos Highland Park and Dearborn Fordson. Even one of my colleagues, Livonia-Westland Sports Editor Brad



Tim Smith

Emons, couldn't resist chirping
— in person and in print — about how ridiculous people said those picks were.

Apparently.

Apparently, the masses were ready with their white coats to come and get me. But to quote

Jim Leyland, it is what it is. Yeah, I messed up with those picks, as both the Cougars and Panthers (two teams I cover as Redford-Garden City sports editor) were summarily trounced, tackled and torn to bits, 50-6 and 36-8, respectively. I dutifully swallowed my medicine.

By the way, I didn't follow up with a superior week, going 7-4 in Week 5 to drop in the Observer standings. Pass the medicine

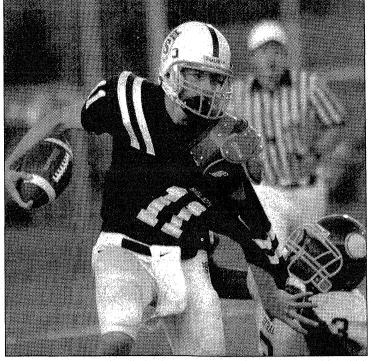
again, please.
But I have always had a soft spot for the underdog. My favorite Beatle is "dark horse" George Harrison. I like Canada and love hockey. Athletes who others give short shrift, generally ignored because they aren't the flavor of the week, are those I pull for to make it. And so I decided to fly in the face of conventional football wisdom and give Garden City and Redford Union a vote of confidence against teams a cut or more above.

That's because those programs do the best they can with they have, with whoever walks through their doors. Those are not school-of-choice destinations for hot-shot running backs and linebackers from outside district boundaries who are recruited by public high school coaches or booster groups.

Garden City, RU and Redford Thurston simply are not in the business of turning prep athletics into an extension of pro and college, as seems to be the case elsewhere.

If that means they get pounded, so be it. If I get catcalls for making my picks, oh well. Sometimes

prior to show choing. See mobile for detail



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOG

Salem quarterback Heath Parling, pictured above trying to elude a tackle during last week's loss to Walled Lake Central, will lead the Rocks against Walled Lake Northern Saturday at 1 p.m. at the PCEP varsity football stadium.

sticking to principles is the right pick of the week for any sports

Unfortunately, my principles have me looking up in the grid picks standings to Emons, entering this week's slate of games on a major roll. He went 11-0 last week to improve to 41-15 and take a commanding lead over Plymouth-Canton Sports Editor Ed Wright (9-2 last week) and yours truly, both tied at 36-20.

Now, here is a peek into the crystal ball for Week 6:

### FRIDAY'S GAMES (ALL AT 7 P.M. UNLESS NOTED)

GARDEN CITY (1-4, 1-3) AT EDSEL FORD (3-2, 2-2), 4 P.M.: I won't make a "sentimental" pick this week, however. The Cougars are struggling mightily and have managed just 26 points in five games. Their defense hasn't been holding up in recent weeks, and it will be tested by the steamrolling Thunderbirds' attack, which sparked a 44-18 triumph over Romulus last week. PICKS: Smith (Edsel Ford); Emons (Edsel Ford); Wright (Edsel Ford).

IIV. CLARENCEVILLE (0-5, 0-5) AT HAMTRAMCK (0-5, 0-4), 4:30 p.m.: If ever there was a chance for the Trojans to bust into the victory column, this is it. Clarenceville hung in there against Metro Conference co-leader Macomb Lutheran North last week, before losing 21-0 while the Cosmos were trounced 37-0 by Lutheran Westland. Hamtramck has managed just

12 points while giving up 200 this season. PICKS: Smith (Clarenceville); Emons (Clarenceville); Wright (Clarenceville).

LIV. STEVENSON (5-0, 3-0) AT LIV. CHURCHILL (5-0, 3-0): This has to be the Game of the Week in Observerland. Both WLAA teams enter this Lakes Division showdown looking to squeeze into the driver's seat. Both also are coming off lopsided victories and should be firing on all cylinders. It should be interesting who wins the battle of the trenches. Although the Spartans have scored more points this season than the Chargers, the home team is stingier overall on defense. This is almost too close to call. PICKS: Smith (Churchill); Emons (Stevenson); Wright (Stevenson).

CANTON (2-3, 1-2) AT LIV. FRANKLIN (2-3, 2-1): These WLAA-Western Division rivals will hook up in a game that features teams possibly headed in opposite directions. The 2006 Division 1 state semifinalist Chiefs lost a 24-23 heartbreaker to Walled Lake Western and must win out merely to qualify for the state playoffs. The Patriots defeated Plymouth last week, and would like to stay on the heels of the division-leading Warriors. PICKS: Smith (Canton); Emons (Franklin); Wright (Canton).

W.L. WESTERN (4-1, 3-0) AT WAYNE (3-2, 2-1): The Zebras will enter this WLAA-Western contest with some momentum following a 33-14 victory over winless Northville. But the first-place Warriors provide a much tougher test, as proven by last week's one-point triumph over Canton. PICKS: Smith (Western); Emons (Wayne); Wright (Western).

WESTLAND GLENN (2-3, 1-2) AT W.L. CENTRAL (2-3,

# GRID PICKS

2-1): After losing Friday to unbeaten Livonia Churchill, all that lies ahead for the Rockets is a WLAA-Lakes matchup against a team that dismantled Plymouth Salem, 40-0. PICKS: Smith (Central); Emons (Central); Wright (Central).

TRENTON (2-3, 1-2) AT REDFORD UNION (2-3, 1-2): Could the Trojans spoil homecoming night for the Panthers and their fans? It's possible, given that both of these Mega White squads have scored and allowed virtually the same number of points. This game could go either way, but the energy of Kraft Field could provide enough of an edge for outstanding RU senior halfback Yourye Wilson, who scored four TDs and rushed for 179 yards last week. PICKS: Smith (RU); Emons (RU); Wright (Trenton).

RED. THURSTON (1-4, 1-2) AT YPSILANTI (4-1, 3-0):
Eagles head coach Bob Snell correctly said his team has a "brutal schedule" and any good feelings gained by Friday's 21-0 win over Garden City should get wiped out by the Mega Blue rival Braves, a team that has it figured out in all areas. PICKS: Smith (Ypsilanti); Emons (Ypsilanti); Wright (Ypsilanti).

NORTHVILLE (0-5, 0-3) AT PLYMOUTH (3-2, 1-2): The Wildcats can garner steam toward a playoff spot with a victory. As long as the home team doesn't get too complacent, that should happen against the Mustangs, still without a win. PICKS: Smith (Plymouth); Emons (Plymouth), Wright (Plymouth).

# SATURDAY'S GAMES (ALL AT 1 P.M. UNLESS NOTED)

RED. COVENANT (4-1, 3-0) VS. SFLD. CHRISTIAN (2-3, 1-2) AT BIRMINGHAM GROVES, NOON: The Spartans, who sit atop the Southern Michigan Football Conference standings with Parkway Christian, will look to keep building momentum toward what could be their first-ever playoff spot. If the chemistry between Covenant quarterback Tony Harrison and wide receiver Anthony Davis (three TD catches last week) stays strong, it could be a long day for the Eagles. PICKS: Smith (Covenant); Emons (Covenant); Wright (Covenant).

CLAWSON (2-3, 2-1) AT LUTHERAN WESTLAND (3-2, 2-1):
These Metro Conference teams are looking to build on Week 5 victories, with the Warriors coming off a 37-0 blitzing of Hamtramck while the Trojans defeated Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest.
PICKS: Smith (Lutheran Westland);
Emons (Clawson); Wright (Lutheran Westland).

W.L. NORTHERN (0-5, 0-3) AT SALEM (0-5, 0-3): There will be some smiling faces, guaranteed, as one of these struggling teams will finally get into the win column. The Rocks are looking to score their first point in WLAA-Lakes play. PICKS: Smith (Salem); Emons (Northern), Wright (Salem).

# P-C Steelers rout Rockets

The Plymouth-Canton
Steelers varsity football
team continued its winning
ways Sunday afternoon by
doubling up Farmington,
39-18. Nick Tata, Jack Vida
and John Randle paced
the winners' offense while
Lowell Wade, Alex Brown
and Cameron Dillard helped
contain the Rockets' offense
from their defensive positions.

The Steelers' junior-varsity contingent defused the Rockets, 31-0, thanks to strong play on both sides of the ball. Michael Saccone led the offense with several key plays, including a 70yard touchdown run. Brian Schmid and Thomas Jones displayed toughness on both sides of the ball while Justin Broughman led the defense with a pair of quarterback sacks.

The Steelers' freshmen earned a hard-fought 32-12 victory thanks in large part to strong blocking from Adam McKee, Joseph Paz and Christian Mayberry, whose downfield block sprang a TD. Zachary Davenport and Drake Wanshon sparked the defense, while Dakota Lynn grabbed an interception to stymie a late Rockets' drive.

The Steelers' junior freshmen continued their excellent play behind the tough offensive efforts of Andrew Estey, Matthew Lessel and Ben Kandah. Defensively, Joey Ahearn and Matthew Danis, who recovered a fumble, shined for the winners.

### Lions roar

The Canton Lions varsity football team earned its third victory of the season Sunday by knocking off Westland, 18-0.

Marcus Houston opened the scoring for the winners with a 41-yard TD sprint. D.J. McMillan doubled the Lions lead to 12-0 when he caught a pass, broke three tackles and raced into the JUNIOR FOOTBALL REPORT

end zone. Clay Behrman capped the scoring with a 2-yard TD run early in the third quarter. William Askew, Zach Smilo, Blake Owens and Matthew Harris helped the Lions earn their first shutout of the season.

The Lions' junior varsity squad trampled the Comets,. 45-0, to run its record to 3-0. Malcolm Hollingsworth got things going when he returned the opening kickoff for a TD. The offensive line play of Luke Denzer, Daniel Tidwell, Pat Stropes, Scott Gring and Daniel Jipping opened holes for Jamari Eiland (two TD's), Nathan Emminger (two) Kyle Durham and Kenneth Arnold. Defensively, Collin Hall, Tyler Searls, Westen Price, Nathan Emminger and Arnold excelled for the

The Lions freshmen ran their record to 3-0 by extinguishing the Comets, 26-6. The Lions led 19-0 after one quarter thanks to strong running from Antonio Dumas and Cordell Gibson, both of whom found the end zone. Strong blocking was provided by Alex Petrarca, Eric Daniels and Daniel Paulot while the defensive surge was led by Ty Jasman, Jakob Wickens, Daniel Kilgore, Allante' Wheeler and Luke Edwards.

The Lions' junior freshmen played in a high-scoring game against the Comets. The Lions' running game was fueled by strong blocking from Scottlar Chakarbarty, George Jablonski and Jack Underwood, who paved the way for excellent runs by Jason Arnold, Spencer Brown, Kyle Burnette and Ray Bunting. The defense outplayed a bigger Westland team led by Trevor LaPere and Devon Farmer, who forced a key fumble late in the game.







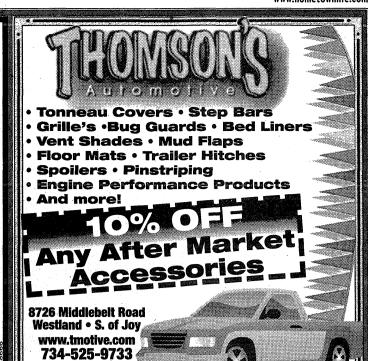


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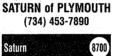
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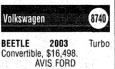
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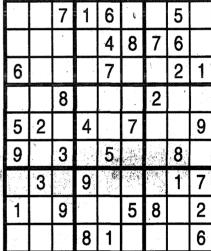
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# VOLVO HAS A 'HOT HATCH' IN NEW C30

Advertising Feature

# **CAReport**



By Dale Buss



With high gasoline prices now firmly established as a fact of life, automakers are devoting more attention and resources to small cars. As a result, they're finally bringing some meaningful diversity to a category that was stuck in a bland homogeneity for many years.

Volvo's brand-new C30 sporty compact is in the very vanguard of this development. Aiming to appeal to young urbanites and compete with established lookers including the Volkswagen GTI and the Mini Cooper, Volvo has launched the C30 this year behind hot styling, peppy performance, and just enough amenities to make it a credible entry in the high-end small-car derby - what some wag has taken to calling the "hot hatch" segment.

Aiming the car mainly at the narrow streets and tight parking of the European market, Volvo also has graced the United States with the C30, a sporty hatchback that closely follows the design of a concept vehicle from a few years ago. Starting retail prices are around \$22,700, but fully loaded, C30 can set you back around \$30,000.

For that kind of lucre, you want something that impresses - and C30 delivers. Start with looks: C30 boasts a tongue-wagger of a design, both in the overall and in some intriguing details. Not known until lately for its design prowess, Volvo really has pulled out all the stops with the C30. Its dramatic wedge shape and short-clipped rear end suggests a vehicle back on its haunches, ready to rocket.

The chopped-off front grille is a blunt statement by this two-door coupe. So are the huge-looking 18-inch wheels on the Version 2.0 that I drove. Dramatic flares run along the bottom of the C30 from the front to the rear wheels. Parallel to them, the car's shoulders rise and its roof quickly descends to form smart-looking wedge shapes.

And yet, it isn't until you get to the rear end where Volvo really makes a design statement with the C30: The hatchback is nearly entirely comprised of a huge, squarish back window that extends well below where a traditional design would have it end, creating a dramatic effect. The chrome-tipped dual exhausts help as well.

In the case of the C30 I drove, Volvo also adds to the appeal with a dramatically fresh color scheme. The body color of the vehicle was an extremely light mossy green,

The hatch window of the Volvo C30 provides fantastic rear visibility.

Interior of the C30 features sensible climate control and a "waterfall" center console.

almost a bare tint of a hue, while the trim pieces along the bottom were a very deep mocha. Interesting combination with an esthetically pleasing result.

The only down side to this entire design picture is a strange pair of taillights, in which the brake-light strip extending vertically on the sides of the hatch - reminiscent of Volvo's design in other vehicles -are actually adjacent to the arc of the main taillights, producing weird effects. Of course, all of that is only annoying to the drivers behind you.

For the driver who's actually behind the seat of the C30, it's a big treat. Powered by a turbocharged, 2.5-liter five-cylinder engine, C30 generates 227 horsepower and 236 pound-feet of torque. As a result, toting around a vehicle this small, C30 is able to accomplish remarkable acceleration - about 6.5 seconds zero-to-60 -as well as determined quick moves whatever the driving demands.

Shifting up through the five-speed automatic I drove is extremely smooth as well. At an estimated 19 mpg in the city and 28 mpg on the highway, fuel economy is about where it must be to take advantage of the small dimensions of the car

Inside, C30 is mostly a treat. The first thing you notice

is the extremely high visibility out the windshield, the front side windows and, especially, the huge hatch, all of which is a real treat. However, C30 displays the same blind-spot problems for the driver that are generic to many coupes. And if you're a rear passenger, the seats are so deep and the windows so shallow that the effect is a bit like sitting in a jail cell looking up at a scant chink of a space to the outside.

The interior design is sleek, highlighted by a signature, thin, "floating" or "waterfall" center console that Volvo first incorporated into the S40 and V50. Not only is the visual effect stunning, but there's a handy compartment behind the waterfall stack where you can stash keys, cell phones and other objects safely without having them clutter up the important space right next to the driver's

And, of course, Volvo has used its uniquely sensible approach to climate controls in the C30 as in its other vehicles. An icon of a human shows you exactly where the air stream will be pointing, and all the necessary climate switches and dials are clustered within a few inches of each

And obviously, climate-switch design isn't the only thing that competitors could learn from the C30.

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by J.L. Sims Independent ad features

Livonia, MI - A Livonia dealer is selling 2007 vehicles for about one-half of the original manufacturer's list price. And they're offering many other models far below normal market values. The low financing offered by GM, Ford, and Daimler-Chrysler mesmerized so many buyers that far fewer shoppers even bothered looking at pre-owned 2007 models.

How does 0% financing on a new model do in a heads-up comparison to a pre-owned 2007 model? In the instance of the Buick LaCrosse, financing \$21,960 plus tax vs. \$9995 plus tax, the payments on the new car at 0% interest would be \$392 monthly for 60 months, but only \$269 monthly at 5.9% for 60 months on the program model. With the prime at a record low, today's interest rates are very competitive. Many credit unions charge under 6% for auto loans if the applicant has a good credit rating. And when purchasing the used 2007, don't forget that you'll be saving about an additional \$1,000 in sales tax and licensing fees. (Taxes estimated at an average of 6%).

John Rogin Buick sold over 150 Buick LaCrosse & **Pontiac Grand Prix's in the** first 30 days of their sale.

A "program" car is a vehicle that has been leased by a premium rental company through a special "program" from the manufacturer. Strict maintenance is required, and all vehicles are carefully inspected upon return. In many cases, these program units receive better maintenance than vehicles owned by private owners.

John Rogin Buick-Livonia has long been known as Michigan's hunting" "bargain dealer. Currently, they're selling more 2007 Pontiac Grand Prixs than any other dealer in the nation. (Over 150 Pontiacs & Buicks were sold during the first 30 days of their sale.) Last year, they sold the most pre-owned 2006 Impalas and Pontiac Grand AMs in the nation from their single location. And the vear before they set the sales record selling the most off-lease

found at John Rogin in the preowned 2007 vehicles. The low financing on new 2007's has left the used models unnoticed and overlooked. So, with far fewer dealers purchasing these units, the prices have dropped to record

So, once again, John Rogin has gone shopping for the vehicles with a huge cart. They have just made a multi-million dollar purchase of these units from General Motors, bringing in truckload after truckload from

GMC Yukons and pick-ups. Today's real bargain can be

> Bargains abound in pre-owned 2007 program vehicles all with 100,000 mile warranty. across the country. In addition to filling their giant used car facility to the brim, John Rogin had to lease additional storage lots to accommodate their massive acquisition of vehicles. And they

currently stock the largest

inventory of 2007 program cars in Michigan with a 100,000 mile warranty.

> The purpose of 0% financing is to clear out the remaining new 2007's. In another week or two, these vehicles will all be gone,

along with the incentives. In the meantime, the 2007 program vehicles are truly today's "sleeping" bargain... But they'll soon disappear as smart shoppers begin to "wake up" and recognize the <u>real</u> deals.

John Rogin Buick is located at 30500 Plymouth Road, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia. Their used car superstore may be contacted directly at (734) 525-0900 Monday - Friday during normal business hours.



the highest ranked Premium Midsize Car in J.D. Powers and Associates Initial Quality Study. This study was based on a total of over 64,900 consumer responses indicating owner reported problems during the first 90 days of ownership. Of those surveyed, Buick owners reported the fewest problems - An outstanding mark of excellence for superb workmanship and a prelude to the satisfaction yet to be experienced during the

coming years. Equipped with a powerful 175horsepower V-6 boasting 20 mpg city and 29 mpg highway fuel economy, the Buick LaCrosse will capture your heart from the moment you slip behind the wheel. There won't be any need

for a salesperson to explain how to operate "all the buttons." because this LaCrosse will greet you like an old friend, or a comfortable pair of slippers. The cabin is exceedingly driver friendly, with all controls neatly laid out before you like an elegant table setting. And

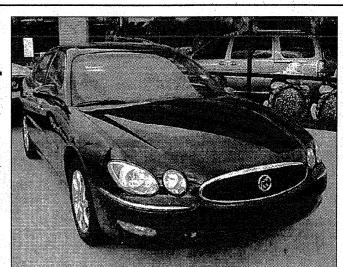
everything just seems to "fit." The Buick LaCrosse still retains all the traditional value you've come to expect from Buick. From its luxurious well-appointed interior to the clean, flowing exterior design, LaCrosse makes a stylish impression.

The standard features provide evidence that the Buick still remains just one step down from the Cadillac in GM's lineup. Dual (driver and passenger side) heat and air conditioning controls, sixposition tilt steering wheel, cruise control, power windows, locks, and seats, remote key fobs operating doors and trunk, rear window defroster, plus a stereo system that will blow you away.

Children aren't forgotten with the rear seat upper and lower latch system for compatible child safety seats and rear door child security locks.

Four-wheel independent suspension provides for solid handling and the ride of a magic carpet.

Best of all, the new LaCrosse requires just a little more maintenance than a rock garden. 100.000 miles between spark plug changes. 100,000 mile transmission service intervals under normal driving conditions. "WOW".



See the 2007 Buick LaCrosse at John Rogin Buick in Livonia.

It's no wonder that John Rogin Buick-Livonia considers the preowned 2007 LaCrosse to be the most car they've ever been able to offer for the money. And for the past several weeks, they've silently amassed hundreds of these wonderful units from

throughout the country and brought them to Livonia. Best of all, today you can purchase a pre-owned 2007 LaCrosse from John Rogin for nearly half its original value of \$24,000 list price new. While they last.

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OE08558103

Thursday, September 27, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

# JIM WELLER'S MACKTOWN CHILL

Mary Klemic, editor . (248) 901-2569 . mklemic@hometownlife.com

- 3 pounds tri-tip beef, cubed 114 ounces can beef broth
- 114 ounces can chicken broth
- 18 ounce can Hunt's tomato sauce
- 1 teaspoon tabasco sauce
- Water Spice Mix
- 8 tablespoons mild California chil
- 2 tablespoons not California chili
- 3 tablespoons cumin I tablespoon gárlic granules
- I tablespoon onion granules % tablespoon arrowroot

Brown meat. Drain and add to chili pot with broths and tomato sauce. Add 75 percent of spice mix, bring to boil and simmer for 2 hours. Add tabasco and remaining spices. Thin gravy with water, if neccessary. Cook additional half hour or until meat is tender. Add salt to taste. This recipe makes approximately 3 quarts,

Jim Weller is the 2000 International Chili Society World Cham-

# SOUTHERN CHILI GEORGIA STYLE

- 3 teaspoons Wesson oil
- 4½ tablespoons California chili powder 4 tablespoons Gebhardt chili powder 1/2 tablespoons New Mexico hot chili
- 1/2 tablespoon chimayo
- % tablespoon pasilla 3½ tablespoons cumin
- I tablespoon granulated gartic
- 4 teaspoons onion powder ½ tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon tabasco
- 3 pounds beef chuck, cut in chunks 1 can beef broth
- 1 can chicken broth 18 ounce can Hunt's tomato sauce

1 can green chiles, chopped

Brown meat and add to chili pot along with chicken and beef broth, tomato sauce and green chiles. Add % of the spices. Cook for 2 hours. Add remaining spices. Cook an additional hour or until meat

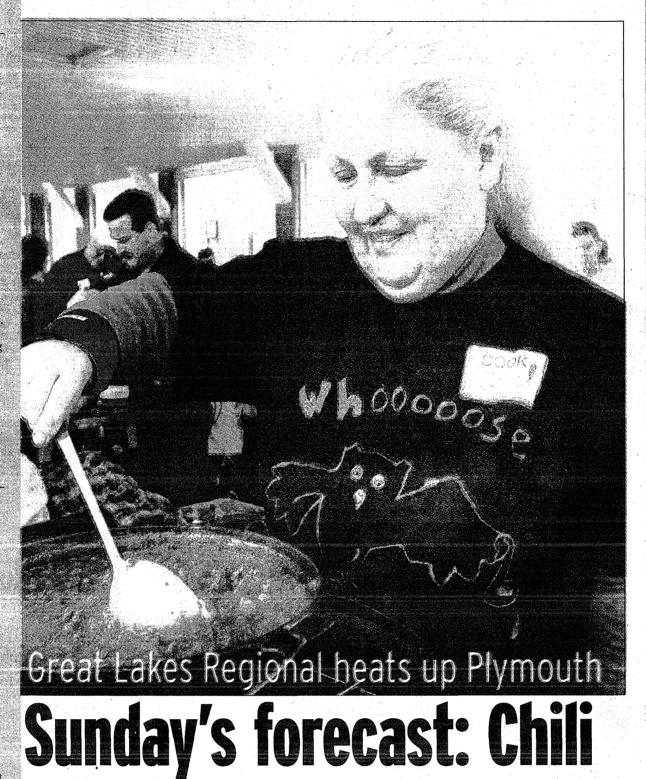
is tender. Add salt to taste, Serve

with Nabisco original Premium

Saltine crackers. Georgia Weller is the 1996 ICS world

champion.

Recipes courtesy of the International Chill Society Web site at www.chilicookoff.com. For more recipes, visit www. chilicookoff.com.



BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER

Chili cooks always think their chili is the best. Nothing beats a bowl of their concoction, a simmering stew of beef, chili spices and whatever sauce or broth they care to add.

So says Annette Horn, who organizes with husband Ken Horn the Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff in Plymouth, set for Sunday at Kellogg Park in Plymouth, along with a MotorCity Chili Ride and BMW Chili Ride, two motorcycle rides that end at the cookoff with a motorcycle bike show.

"We talk about the excitement of competing and in making the chili," Annette says about her conversations with her husband and other chili cooks about the competition. "(Chili competitors) make a pot every other weekend and have friends over to try it. You want to make chili that's going to win, and everybody thinks that they have a great pot of chili, and

"You enjoy competing and you like to show it off. Your heart beats a little faster and it's really exciting." On Sunday, 60 cooks are expected to brown their favorite cuts of beef, then slowly simmer added chili

Please see CHILI, D2

# **Green Street Fair** announced

PLYMOUTH - Next summer,metro Detroit will "go green" like never before. The Green Street Fair, presented by Whole Foods Market, will bring a host of ecofriendly foods, goods and services to downtown Plymouth May 3-4.

The fair is a joint venture between owners of Plymouth Art in the Park and Street Marketing in Northville.

Designed to educate people of all ages, and promote global interest and personal well-being, the fair will bring companies, artisans, entertainers, workshops and speakers together in a family-oriented outdoor environment. Highlights include The Whole Foods Market Village, exhibitor displays, film, live music, sinteractive displays, children's activity centers, fitness demonstrations, organic cuisine, a farmer's market, art installations and more.

Cities across the country, including Chicago and New York City, host annual green fairs, and now Green Street Fair will bring the concept to southeast Michigan.

For Green Street Fair sponsorship opportunities, contact Terri O'Brien at (248) 347-4350 or terri@greenstreetfair.com. For information on becoming an exhibitor, contact Raychel Rork at (734) 259-2983 or raychel@ greenstreetfair.com.



Janice Reichenbach (left) and Carol Woods, Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club members, price merchandise for Third Annual Colossal Indoor Garage Sale.

# **Indoor Garage Sale**

ROCHESTER - The Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club will host its third annual Colossal Indoor Garage Sale in the 20,000-square-foot **Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion** on the campus of Oakland University Oct. 17-20. Bargains will include fine jewelry, collectibles, furniture, china, antiques, sporting goods, books, garden items and toys, as well as a bake sale of goodies made by garden club members. All proceeds from the sale will benefit the 15 gardens at Meadow Brook Hall. Those who would like to support the gardens by donating sale items (excluding clothing) may bring them to the Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Oct. 15-18. Hours for the sale are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Oct. 18-19; and 9 a.m.-noon Oct. 20. Admission is \$1. A preview sale with silent auction (\$10 admission) will be held 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17. Call (248) 608-0485.

# Michigan-made gadget aims to improve your gas mileage

hat if you could improve your fuel economy by 20 percent just by plopping a gadget on your dashboard? That's the promise — or the potential, anyway — of the Digital Fuel Mizer

Creator Dwayne Esterline

devised the device after an

EPA report revealed that

drivers could achieve fuel

more just by changing their

"After studying the situ-

savings of 20 percent or

driving habits.

ation, I decided that there would be a large

market for a product that could help drivers

to improve their fuel economy without sub-

stantial expense or modifying their vehicle,

Esterline says. "In developing the technol-

ogy, we looked for the largest contributors

(digitalfuelmizer.com). Manufactured by GI Engineering Company of Grosse Ile, this little blue box could save you a bundle on gas.

Rick Broida

to poor fuel economy, and the number-one contributor was harsh acceleration and braking. [That's how] the Digital Fuel Mizer was born."

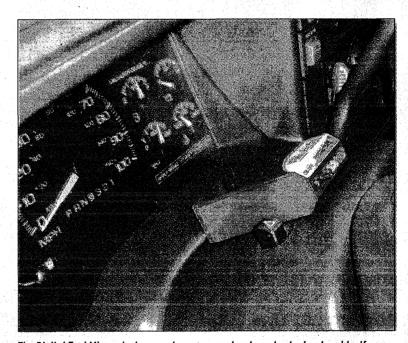
The DFM incorporates an accelerometer that's tied to a bank of LEDs on the front. When you accelerate or brake inefficiently, the LEDs light up and beep. The idea is to train you to accelerate more gradually and brake less frequently (meaning planning ahead so you can coast instead of brake).

The less the DFM flashes and beeps, the better your mileage should be. And better mileage, of course, means fewer trips to the pump.

I spent a few weeks with a DFM in the car. As much as I love the idea behind the product, I do have some quibbles with it.

For starters, it quickly gets annoying. There are times when you have no choice but to accelerate quickly (like when merging onto the freeway) or stomp the brakes (because traffic just came to sudden stand-

Please see MIZER, D2



The Digital Fuel Mizer alerts you when you accelerate or brake too harshly. If you can change your driving habits as a result, it might save you money.



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# Some service calls should be free

have never seen a lower door

hinge on a modern refrigera-

tor with only two bolts. They

always have three bolts and

in this particular case there

to fit the third bolt. I believe

somebody decided to try and

save a penny, excluded the bolt

in doing so and caused a field

under warranty.

But is it?

repair, which should be covered

During the first year of own-

was a hole already in the hinge

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 27, 2007

was fishing in Northern Canada a few weeks ago with a good friend from the States who has over 25 years of experience repairing major



ances. While sitting one evening in an old cabin enjoying the supreme taste of freshlycaught fish, my friend looked at the refrigproclaimed, have these in

home appli-

ership, your refrigerator is covered under the manufacturer's erator door and **Doctor** warranty so if you notice this problem it's a free repair. What 'wow, they even Joe Gagnon about the person who doesn't discover this problem until after Canada." What he was referring to the first year warranty is over? Shouldn't that person be taken was a Frigidaire top mount refrigerator with a door gasket care of at no charge, after all the that didn't fully seal against problem was caused at the facthe frame properly. He showed tory and it was repaired at no me how he has to repair the cost for many other homeownproblem by adding a third ers. Common sense dictates that bolt on the bottom door should be the case, but don't expect a free repair to happen. hinge and a shim in order to lift the door to its proper In the world of major home level. So from him to you - if appliances, many things happen

and it doesn't meet the frame bulletins abound which describe all across the top of the door, what a service technician should you have a problem. Call your do to solve a particular problem selling dealer and tell them with a product. These don't you heard about it in this come out in the form of a recall, or information that is given to column. This is the type of engineera homeowner, but rather kept secret only for the eyes of some ing performance at the factory level which never gets to in the appliance repair industry. In the end, the public pays for be exposed. In all my years I

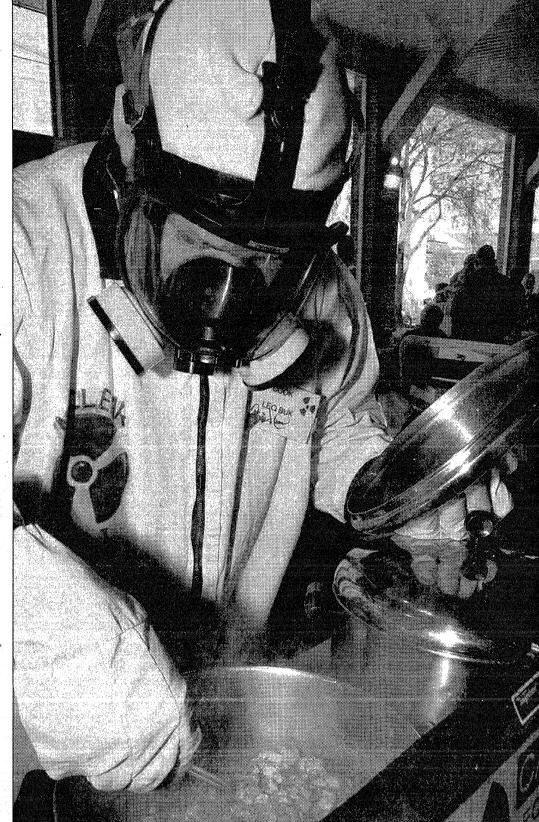
the mistakes created at the factory level.

This whole concept is wrong and unfair.

A gentleman wrote me recently about having to constantly replace a light bulb in his microwave oven. It is only six months old and even though it is under warranty the light bulbs are not covered and the manufacturer has been charging him \$15 for standard light bulbs. He discovered that the light bulbs he was receiving were the wrong voltage and that is why they failed prematurely. He went to the hardware store, purchased a light bulb for \$2.29, and the problem is solved.

There are many thousands of stories to tell about problems created by the manufacturers of major home appliances and there was a day and an era when the manufacturers paid for service calls of this caliber. Those days are gone. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard on Talk Radio WAAM 1600 at 8 a.m. Saturdays and on WDTW-AM 1310 at 6 a.m. Sundays. He is a board member of Spectrum Human Services and the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals (SOCAP). His phone number is (734) 971-1600, Ext. 28. Do you have a question about an appliance or a problem you have with an appliance? E-mail your question to mklemic@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon.



Leo Buk of Trenton is a regular at the Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff every year, creating his Nuclear Chili. Buk is expected to compete again this Sunday at Kellogg Park in Plymouth.

# **HOME CALENDAR**

in production that are never told

to the purchasing public. Service

**Get Treasures Appraised** 

you check the rubber door

seal on the refrigerator door

Three professionals from the International Society of Appraisers will help residents discover how much family heirlooms, treasured antiques and collectibles are worth with a verbal appraisal of approximate value at the Second Annual Antiques & Collectibles Appraisal Fair 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13. Bring jewelry (old & new), furniture, china, glassware, pottery, silver, dolls, toys, collectibles and memorabilia to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, 24155 Griswold Rd., South Lyon, Entry fee, \$2 at the door; appraisal fee, \$6

per item/two items for \$10. Call (248)

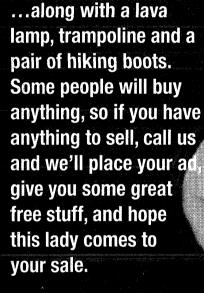
**Decor Seminar** 

Local author and realtor Kathi Jones-Cutler will host a Cashing in on Design seminar 2-4:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13 at Century 21 Town & Country, 294 E. Brown St. in Birmingham. Jones-Cutler will offer tips on real estate and decorating. The seminar is free with purchase of her book, "Cashing in on Design" (\$19.95), which will be used as a guide. For information, call (313) 218-3956 or visit www.cashinginondesign.com.

**Update on Design** 

Steve Piersall, CEO of Huntington House, and Michael Kirby, director of merchandising for Huntington House, will visit Art Van Furniture locations to give an overview of how to update a single room or entire house. The seminars will take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 16 in the Novi store, and Wednesday, Oct. 17 in the Shelby Township store. Refreshments will be served at this complimentary event, and the Art Van's Kids Castle at each location will be open, offering a free supervised play area for children. Reservations are requested. Call (888)

She got her goggles at a garage sale...



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Observer & Eccentric **NEWSPAPERS** 

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Pointe Plaza 313-884-7400 **Carry-out Only** Royal Oak 248-549-8000 ★ Bloomfield Hills 248-645-0300 Join Our Email Club at www.buddyspizza.com

spices with names ranging from Anaheim to New Mexico, habanero to serrano, jumping the Scoville scale with tsunami-like force.

OK, it's not quite THAT hot, but the chili bowls exude a pleasant burn that warms the palate in fall's early chill. (Since it is an official International Chili Societysanctioned event, there are no beans allowed.)

And if the weather is hot that day, so what? It's still good stuff.

The competition also hosts salsa and green chili (chili verde) competitions. Chili and salsa samples will be available to the public after 1 p.m. for \$1 donation per sample.

Proceeds from the event will go to the Western Wayne Habitat for Humanity. Last year's event raised \$20,870 for the group.

Last year's winners (Chuck Hoff, Columbus, Ohio, red chili; James Richards, Whitmore Lake, green chili; and Julianna Schopper, Livonia, salsa) are expected to return to defend their titles. With victories in 2006, they are qualified to compete in this year's world competition the following weekend (Oct. 5-7) in Omaha. Whoever wins this year's regional competition will advance to the 2008 national championship.

Many cooks will bring their whimsical booths to The Gathering, where the chili cooks compete. Leo Buk — complete with his Hazmat warnings and protective gear — will be in attendance, simmering his Nuclear Chili. Lauren and Gary Ray usually set up a booth of Old No. Seven Jack Daniels, and many other cooks set up with props of chili peppers, hot sauce and firefighting, all reflecting the heat or an occupation.

Of course, longtime competitors Jim and Georgia Weller, formerly of West Bloomfield, will be in attendance, fresh from a move to Illinois, Annette Horn said. Jim won the World Championship in 2000, while Georgia won in 1996, one of only two couples who have won world championships.

Ken and Annette Horn will be competing in the world championship after Ken won for red chili and Annette for salsa at the Snowflake Regional in Jackson and Annette for green chili at another competition at a UAW

Restaurants will be competing too for People's Choice and Best Judged chili.

Last year's event was won by Omelet and Waffle Cafe (people's choice) and Station 885 (best judged chili). Other

restaurants in Plymouth competing this year include Compari's on the Park, Sean O'Callaghan's, Doyle Tavern, E.G.Nick's, Boulder's, The Penn Grill, 1999 Tavern, Hilton Garden Inn's Great American Restaurant, Don's Drive-In (Novi), and Rocky's Rotisserie, which just opened in Livonia.

Restaurant samples will be available 11 a.m.-5 p.m. on Penniman Avenue in Kellogg Park. Bowls will be available for a \$4 donation, while 2ounce samples will be available for \$1.

But it isn't all about chili, either. Motorcyclists can ride in either the Chili Ride at MotorCity Harley-Davidson in Farmington Hills, or a ride from the BMW dealership on Ford Road in Canton for BMW bikers. The motorcycle bike show is scheduled from noon-

4 p.m. Dog owners can dress up their dogs in a "hottest dog in the coolest city" contest at 2 p.m. at the park's fountain in hot & spicy" and "biker" categories.

But the highlight of the day is who really makes the best chili. And someone will advance to the 2008 national championship, all in a friendly

competition. 'The cooks really like this event," Annette Horn said. "It's really a fun event."

kabramcz@hometownlife.com

still). The DFM doesn't discriminate: It beeps and flashes regardless of the situation.

I found it particularly difficult to placate the DFM when driving around town, where there's a lot of necessary starting and stopping. If a light turns red while I'm approaching it, hey, I gotta hit the brakes. Stop scolding me, DFM!

Indeed, it's the nagging nature of this device that will turn off most users. And I think that lead-footed drivers, the kind who are most likely to benefit from changing their driving habits, are the least likely to buy this product in the first place.

Consider the reaction of a friend I had in the car during my test period. When I explained the function of the curious-looking gizmo on my dash, he looked me square in the eye and said, "You've gotta be kidding.' This is not to say the Digital Fuel Mizer is

without value. Quite the opposite: Anyone serious about saving money (and/or helping out the environment) will probably find that the device does indeed change their driving habits for the better.

And if a fleet manager can get his drivers to use and learn from the DFM, the annual savings could be substantial. There's nothing to install and no training required. You just stick it on the dashboard and flip the on/off switch.

Would the savings be substantial enough to justify the DFM's \$249 price tag? I'm not sure, but I suspect few everyday drivers will be willing to invest that kind of money when they could just as easily train themselves.

Don't stomp the gas pedal. Brake as gradually as you can. Keep your tires inflated to the recommended PSI. Replace your air filter regularly. Ask your boss if you can telecommute.

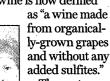
There. If you have trouble remembering all that, write it on a Post-It note and stick it on your dashboard. You'll save money on gas and forego all the annoying beeping.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including How to Do Everything with Your Palm Powered Device, Sixth Edition. He welcomes questions sent to rick. broida@gmail.com.

# **Natura wines express** wine's green movement

ne of the more confusing wine terms is organic. More often than not, it's used incorrectly.

Based on the creation of a National Organic Program by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, an organic wine is now defined



now, under this

definition, be

The vast majority of what wine distributors and retailers have been calling organic wines must

Ray & Eleanor

Heald

referred to as "wines made from organicallygrown grapes." These wines are allowed to contain up to 100 ppm of added sulfites. Most wines contain far less than this maxi-

mum. There are very few organic wines — those that do not contain added sulfites. The reason? Without addition of sulfites, which act as wine preservatives, the shelf life of a truly organic wine is short. Often, simple shipping of an organic wine causes it to become unstable in the bottle.

As the international wine community has gone green and ecofriendly over the last few years, more grapes are being grown organically.

# **ECO-FRIENDLY CHILE**

In 1998, Emiliana acquired prime acreage in Chile's Casablanca, Maipo, and Colchagua valleys and transformed it into organic and biodynamic vineyards, thus giving birth to Emiliana Orgánico, a unique project in Chile and a pioneering effort in Latin America.

Some wines from organicallygrown grapes carry a hefty price tag. Natura wines produced by Emiliana are wallet friendly.

At \$10 each, the following are value wines for an age that's begun to think "green" seriously.

■ Natura 2006 Carmenere is 87 percent carmenere, the

merlot in Chile. Grown in Chile's Colchagua Valley and blended with small percentages of syrah, petit verdot, tempranillo and malbec, it expresses ripe cherry and red plum fruits in an easydrinking, mellow wine.

■ Natura 2006 Chardonnay has intense tropical fruit character and is a perfect accompaniment to seafood and shellfish. Grown in Chile's Casablanca Valley, the wine sports lively acidity that makes it food friendly.

■ Natura 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon hails from Chile's Central Valley, well-recognized for the excellence of Bordeaux varieties. Blackberry fruit is highlighted by notes of cocoa. It takes to grilled meats and stronger cheeses.

# **CERTIFICATION**

Goals of organic grapegrowing include maintaining earth's natural balance, which is believed to showcase the vineyard terroir, or site personality better. Those grapegrowers dedicated to organic grapegrowing believe that organically-grown grapes express the grape variety more fully. Flavors distinguishing each variety are discernable. We found this to be true in the Natura

Not all vineyards claiming to be organic are certified. We believe certification is important. A number of organizations monitor certification and Natura has been certified as organic by IMO Switzerland.

Switzerland's small size has made it aware of ground water pollution and the need for organic farming practices. Thus, a Swiss certifier can be trusted

If you've been seeking organically-grown produce, seek out some organically-grown wine. Natura is a good place to start for sensibly-priced wines that taste good.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are contributing editors for the internationally-respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine, spir its, and restaurants for the *Observer* ಟ Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them grape that was once mistaken for by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

# **WINE PICKS**

It's oysters, mussels and wild-caught salmon season, so here are the wine matches: **MUSSELS MARINIERE**:

- 2006 Chateau La Paws Cote du Bone Blanc \$14 (viognier, chardonnay, sauvignon blanc, roussanne and marsanne blend)
- 2006 TAZ Santa Barbara County Pinot Gris \$15
- 2006 Tablas Creek Cotes de Tablas Blanc \$20 (viognier, marsanne, grenache blanc and roussanne blend)
- 2006 Michel-Schlumberger Dry Creek Valley Pinot Blanc \$21

### **OYSTERS**:

- 2006 Redcliffe Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc \$12
- 2006 Simi Sonoma County Sauvignon Blanc \$15
- 2006 Beringer Napa Valley
- Sauvignon Blanc \$16 ■ 2005 Domaine Laroche Chablis Saint Martin \$25 (stainless steel
- production) ■ 2004 Domaine Laroche Chablis Premier Cru Les Vaillons Vieilles Vignes \$37 (half aged 10 months in French oak barrels and casks adding step up in weight and flavors)

MERLOT for wild-caught salmon. As price rises so do fuller flavors of the follow-

- 2006 Bulletin Place \$8
- **2005** Bogle \$9 ■ 2005 Cellar No. 8 California
- 2004 Gainey Santa Ynez Valley
- 2005 Beringer Napa Valley \$20
- 2004 Simi Sonoma County \$20 ■ 2004 Buena Vista Carneros \$21
- 2004 Clos du Val Napa Valley
- 2004 Swanson Oakville \$34
- 2004 Terlato Angels' Peak Merlot/Cabernet Sauvignon blend \$50, extraordinarily deli-

If a retailer does not stock a specific wine we recommend, ask that it be ordered from the distributor, or if it's a domestic wine, order it directly from the winery.

# 'Why' it pays to spay and neuter

Of all the question words, 'why' tends to be the one we forget most often once we get to adulthood.

We all want to know when and where and who for just

about everything. How just seems other questions naturally. ignored for

**About Animals** 

Dr. Brad Davis

to follow the Why gets

too long much of the time, sometimes until it's too late. In medi-

cine, veterinary or human, why can often be ignored if the situation yields positive

For instance, if you stop smoking because it's expensive, that's great ... you're quitting. Granted, you should be quitting for your health, but what does it matter? You still quit ... it's fine. But what if you hit the

Lotto, and money's no longer an issue? Knowing the best reasons

for something can make a difference. It can show why you should or should not do something, and give you the conviction to follow up.

I've long talked about Bob Barker, the recently retired host of The Price is Right. Bob has been an

animal lover for as long as I can remember, and always finished his show by saying "help control the pet population ... have your pet spayed or neutered."

That was great. He was getting people to help stop animal overpopulation.

That's a great reason why that he's giving everyone ... except for people who have only one pet, which will never be in contact with another dog or cat.

They might wonder, why should I get my animal spayed or neutered? Bob told me it was to help control the pet population ... I heard him say so right after the nice young woman won the camper and dinette set! But I will never be adding to the pet population. My critter never leaves my yard.

Spaying and neutering dohelp control the wildly outof-control pet population, but the reasons for spaying and neutering go way beyond

With females, spaying helps eliminate problems with mammary cancer, as well as diseases like pyometra – a life-threatening uterine infection.

Neutering a male dog helps with prostate problems, as well as decreases the chances that the animal will be hit by a car. (Males tend to catch a scent and get tunnel vision going after it.) Along with eliminating

much of the awful smell from spraying, neutering a male cat usually makes him ametter, quieter companion. It also makes him less likely to roam and be exposed to infectious diseases like

Feline Leukemia. So the reason why to have your pet spayed or neutered is to give them a longer and healthier life, which is really giving yourself a healthy pet for a longer time.

By the way, speaking of Bob Barker's message about overpopulation, that really is a problem we shouldn't forget about.

According to the Doris Day Animal Foundation, 8-10 million animals are taken into shelters every year. Stray/feral cats number in the tens of millions.

The foundation also states that 4-5 million animals are euthanized in shelters each vear.

When you look at those statistics, there's really only one thing you can ask yourself. Why?

Dr. Brad Davis is the Medical Director for the VCA of Garden City, 2085 Inkster Road, Garden City, MI 48135. Feel free to write him there with questions and comments. He is also one of the hosts of the nationally syndicated radio show Animal Talk. Visit the web site at www. Animaltalkradio.com. Send E-mail questions or comments with your e-mail address to Questions@animal-

# LIKE NUMBERS? there are a pile of them in

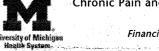
# HELP US UNDERSTAND THE EFFECTS OF PREGABALIN ON BRAIN ACTIVITY IN FIBROMYALGIA (FM)

talkradio.com.)

Research Volunteers are needed to take part in a study (IRB # HU0009334) looking at the brain activity of women who have FM You may be eligible to participate in this study, if you: have been diagnosed with fibromyalgia for at least 3 months, are

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- approved for fibromyalgia),
- are willing to undergo brain scans (MRI), and heat and pressure sensitivity testing, do not currently take narcotic medications, sedatives or tranquilizers

• have not, at any time, taken pregabalin (brand name: Lyrica) For more information, please contact: the University of Michigan



Chronic Pain and Fatigue Research Center 1-866-288-0046 (toll free)

> Financial compensation is provided for study participation.

# High flavor ingredients save time

BY J.M. HIRSCH AP FOOD WRITER

Deadline cooking is all about the ingredients. Select the right high-flavor, low-prep ingredients and great meals practically assemble themselves.

But success depends on rethinking your shopping and pantry stocking habits. Convenience is only half the criteria that should influence your buying decisions. Intensity of flavor should get equal weight.

For example, if you're buying bagged shredded cheese to use on salads, pizzas, nachos, maybe even over warm pasta and casserole dishes, opt for one that includes a blend of cheeses, at least one of which should be Parmesan. Its intensely savory flavor adds nuance and complexity.

Here's a list of other high-flavor pantry staples the deadline cook can rely on:

- Capers. These pickled green flower buds explode with salty, savory flavor. Add them to salads, pasta, chicken stirfries, or even blend a few into salad dressings. Go easy on them; they can be quite salty. Rinse if you want to tone them down.
- Sun-dried tomatoes. Stick with those packed in olive oil,

as they are easiest to work with. Cut into thin slivers, they go great with pasta, stuffed into roasted chicken breasts. sprinkled over pizza or even nachos.

■ Spicy refried beans. Microwave for a warm sandwich spread. Fill wonton wrappers with it, then bake or frv them and dip them in salsa or marinara sauce. Spread it on a bagel, top with cheese and heat until meltingly good.

■ Olives. Try some of the stuffed green varieties, such as those with feta, almonds or jalapeno peppers in them. Put them in sauces, puree with olive oil for a sandwich spread or use in place of tomato sauce on pizza, or saute them with onions, mushrooms and peppers to top steak.

Prosciutto. Swath figs or asparagus with thin slices of this Italian cured ham in it, then give them a quick sit on the grill.

■ Peanut butter. No, really. Get some of the natural stuff (the one where the oil separates). Blend it with a splash each of water, vinegar, hot sauce and a dusting of black pepper. Toss this with warm noodles or simmer chicken

breasts in it. ■ Smoked salmon. Sure, it goes great on bagels with cream cheese. But it's also won-

derful tossed with hot pasta or cut into slivers and sprinkled into a salad with goat cheese, as in the recipe that follows.

# SMOKED SALMON SALAD

START TO FINISH: 15 MINUTES Servings: 2

3 cups mixed salad greens 1 earn of fresh corn (raw) 4 ounces thinly sliced smoked salmon 3 tablespoons toasted pine nuts ¼ cup crumbled goat cheese 1 teaspoon finely chopped fresh dill 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil 1 tablespoon lemon juice Salt and freshly ground black pepper Fresh baguette, warmed in a 200 F

Divide the greens between two

servings plates. Set aside. Use serrated knife to carefully cut the kernels from the ear of corn. The easiest way to do this is to stand the ear on it's wide end and saw down the length of the cob. Divide the kernels

between the two plates. Cut the salmon into thin strips and scatter them over each salad. Top each salad with half of the pine nuts, goat cheese and fresh dill. Set aside.

In a small bowl, whisk together the olive oil, lemon juice, salt and pepper, then drizzle over each salad. Serve with baguette.



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# **GARDEN CALENDAR**

# **Meadow Brook Garden Club**

The public is welcome to the Meadow Brook Hall garden club meeting 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 28 in the Coach House behind Meadow Brook Hall on the campus of Oakland University. Master Gardener Mike Saint will discuss "Beautiful Bulbs," concentrating on bulbs that tolerate Midwestern climate. Refreshments served at 9:30 a.m. Non-member donation \$5. Call (248) 608-0485.

# Fall Fairy Houses

Join Hidden Lake Gardens' staff building a fairy house in the woods 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29. The afternoon will

be filled with discovery and imagination, collecting objects in the woods to create enchanted houses. Program designed for children 5 and up with adult. Dress for building in the woods. Pre-regsitration required. Cost \$12. Hidden Lake Gardens is located at 6214 W. Monroe, in Tipton. Pre-register

### at (517) 431-2060. The Man and His Roses

The Farmington Garden Club will host "The Man and His Roses" noon, Oct. 1 at Spicer House in Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. Court painter to Empress Josephine of France, and nicknamed

'Raphael of the Rose,' Pierre-Joseph created gorgeous, detailed and accurate botanical illustrations - those of roses being among the most loved. Using reproductions of his prints, rose expert Deanna Stephens will present the evolution leading to his famous rose illustrations. Interested parties are welcome. Call (248) 626

# Livonia Garden Club

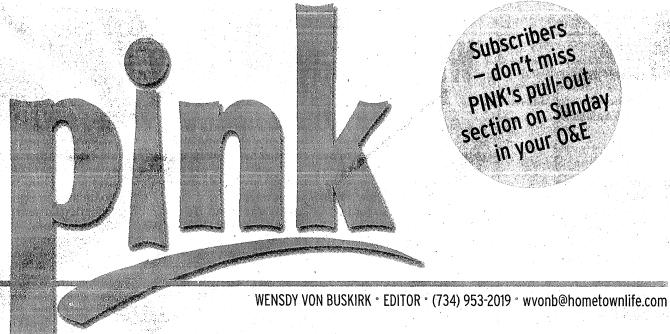
Livonia Garden Club will meet 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 2, at the Livonia Senior Center (Five Mile and Farmington.)

ROCHESTER

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Subscribers Junaci meta - don't miss - don't miss PINK's pull-out section on Sunday section on Sunday in Your O&E

honorable mention picks that stood out from the pack: Wear it!

Tote It!

Kick it!

Mane Iti

L'Oreal Paris Studio Tightly

Wound Curl Booster

Michelle K flats

Envirosax Flora #5 at Lotus

Tanya Chisholm, Troy

Suzanne Dickson, Westland

Import Co., Royal Oak

Perfect Lingerie Collection at H+M

It's such fun to read the entries each year in our Reader PINK Picks Contest, we just had to

share. Here's a snapshot of some

Joanne Von Mach, Birmingham

Plastic clogs

Wendy Capella, Dearborn Heights

Sonia Kashuk Ginseng Blossom and Tuberose Solid Perfume at Target

Joanne Von Mach, Birmingham

Eat it Strawberry Poppyseed Chicken

Salad at Panera Richelle Fales, Canton

Read It! Nineteen Minutes

by Jodi Picoult Mary Ann Cozad, Plymouth

Experience It!

Sunset on Lake Michigan

Lisa Tyzo, Livonia

Do iti

Diamond Jack **Detroit River Cruise** 

Anglea Powers, Redford

NARS powder brush

> Diane Risner, Westland

Check out Sunday's pull-out edition of PINK for more Jennifer Zur, Westland Reader PINK Picks!



yraegog tylosgog

# Design contestants compete at Sewing Expo

BY WENSDY VON BUSKIRK STAFF WRITER

If you're addicted to Project Runway, you'll be able to get your fix at the American Sewing Expo.

The Baby Lock Passion for Fashion Design Challenge will pit 12 designers against each other in a contest cut from the same cloth as the hit reality show on Bravo.

In fact, Chloe Dao, winner of Project Runway Season II, will help judge the competition.

"The grand prize is a trip to New York City during Fashion Week in February, a Baby Lock sewing machine, and a private meeting with Simplicity pattern designers," said Janet Pray, president of the ASE. "If the contestant has any aspirations to design patterns, this could be a great opportunity."

The expo put out a call for entries across the nation for this first-ever contest earlier in the year. To enter, designers were required to send in a garment that they had made. Based on the craftsmanship and creativity of the designs, a panel of judges selected 12 finalists who hail from throughout the United States, and span a range of ages.

Maria Torres, of Farmington Hills, sent in a vintage wedding gown and secured a spot among finalists. Torres, who moved from Argentina just five months ago, started sewing when she was nine years old.

# **AMERICAN SEWING EXPO**

When: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 28; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29; and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30.

Where: Rock Financial Showplace, Novi

What: The largest independently-owned sewing expo in America features classes, workshops, fashion shows, demonstrations, vendors, exhibits and more.

Cost: Admission, \$12, with additional fees for classes, events. Information: Call (800) 422-2952 or visit www.americansewingexpo.



Chloe Dao

**Coffee with Chloe** 

When: 8:30 a.m., Friday, Sept. 28, during the American Sewing Expo

Where: Rock Financial Showplace, Novi What: Project Runway Season II winner Chloe Dao will chat with guests. Cost: \$12, includes a "Coffee with Chloe" mug

and Fashionista Discount Coupon to use in the Haberman Fabrics expo booth.

**Information**: Visit www.americansewingexpo.com for online registration.

"My mother gave it to me like a present, a sewing machine from her grandmother, that was my first machine," she said.

Now 26, Torres has stud-

ied fashion design, and owned her own boutique in Argentina. On Friday morning at 8 a.m. she and the other contestants will get instructions for

expo floor. Pray said the project is top

their challenge, which they

will complete that day on the

secret, but she did offer a hint. "The scenario is directly related to something happening in Michigan, a cultural event a couple weeks from

now, but I can't say what it is," she said.

At 8:30 a.m., each contestant will receive \$100 to shop for their fabric and notions. Simplicity Pattern Co. will provide patterns to contestants, unless, like Torres, they choose to draft their own. Expo attendees will be able to watch the designers rushing to complete their projects on the expo floor.

"Then they have from the time they get done shopping on Friday morning until 7 p.m. that evening to create their garment," Pray said. At 12:15 p.m. Saturday, the finished looks will be unveiled during a free, high-energy runway show. that's all," she said.

# **FASHION CHALLENGERS**

Baby Lock Passion for Fashion Challenge contestants: Becky Fulgoni, Kalamazoo, Mich. Valerie Keiser, Hazel Park, Mich. Virginia McConnell, Richmond, Va. Erin Miller, Toledo, Ohio Tracie Perez, Lewisville, Texas Maxine Ricks, Lubbock, Texas Cindy Rodack, Shelby Twp., Mich. Maria Torres, Farmington Hills,

Katrina Walker, Puyallup, Wash. Karen Whitehead, Springfield, Ohio Angie Wolf, St. Joseph, Mich. Christina Woodman, Fern Park, Fla.

Just as Project Runway is harsh with eliminations, Passion for Fashion judges will immediately say goodbye to six designers.

Then, they'll question remaining contestants and take time to deliberate before announcing the winner. Aside from Dao, judges

include Amber Eden, editor of Threads Magazine; Bonnie Simmons, design director for Simplicity Pattern Co.; and a surprise celebrity judge relating to the challenge.

Torres said she doesn't know what to expect tomorrow, but she's up for the challenge.

"The only thing I know for sure, I'm going to enjoy that, because I really love design I hope to have a good time



Detroit fashion designers Sarah Lapinski (left) and Sarah Lurtz show a Macy's buyer samples from their menswear line Wound last fall.

# Macy's holds local fashion design competition

Aspiring designers will have an opportunity to meet with Macy's buyers and trend managers noon to 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4, at Macy's Somerset as part of the annual Macy's Distinction in Design Competition.

The competition is a tradition for the department store at its Chicago and Minneapolis locations, and came to Detroit for the first time last fall.

Dozens of local designers lined up for the first-ever event with garment bags, suitcases full of shoes, stacks of children's knitwear, handbags made from cigar boxes and portfolios full of press clippings, sketches and photographs.

Each got five minutes across the table from a buyer.

"I just wanted to get feedback on the line I am creating," said Treas Charow. longtime designer and owner of Shapes Boutique in Royal Oak. Charow carried hangers filled with reversible jackets, embellished skirt suits, flowy

dresses and high waisted skirts with suspenders, all in tapestry prints and pastels. "(The buyer) said she liked the way all the pieces of my line fit together."

Lynette Gideon of Royal Oak brought samples of unique organic clothing, including a pant with attached wraparound skirt.

"I just kind of wanted some feedback on my designs, Gideon said. "She said that I had a good idea, there's a market for it, and to move ahead with my dream. I was very encouraged. She was great."

In the end, Macy's awarded \$1,000 to wedding gown designer Kate Abraham, of Rochester Hills, and \$500 to Shaun Williams, of Detroit.

Abraham's custom couture bridal label Kate Bennett has been featured in local magazines, and is sold at Elegant Lady Bridal and Tuxedo in Oak Park.

Williams, a Wayne State University business major, won with sketches of hip-hop hoodies and casual clothes.

# Relax at the sew Experience Café

Sewing shouldn't be daunting. At least that's according to organiz-

ers of the American Sewing Expo, who hope the new Sew Experience Café puts beginners at ease. The café will be a relaxing retreat dur-

ing the expo, where visitors can make a hands-on project as they enjoy a lounge environment. There are five projects to choose from, all using ultrasuede fabric, including a handbag, coffee sleeve and wrist bracelet.

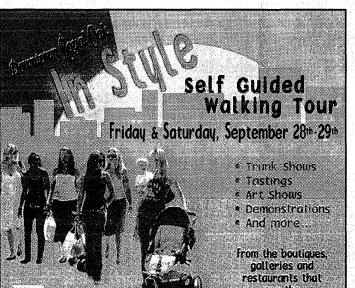
"It's a new way of enjoying learning something about sewing so that it's non-Swarovski crystals. intimidating," said Janet Pray, owner of the expo. "You come into an intimate environment, have a cup of coffee, and watch instructional videos as you're waiting for your turn in the project area."

The café will be buzzing with stateof-the-art sewing machines, and guests will learn how to use them to create and personalize their projects with embellishments ranging from embroidery to

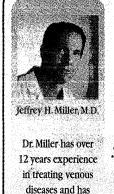
Instructors will be on hand to help - or not.

"Some may choose to just work by themselves. Everyone will go at their own pace," Pray said.

The cost is \$5 per project, which includes all materials. The first 25 customers at the Sew Experience Café each day of the expo will get a free copy of the new book, Subversive Seamster.



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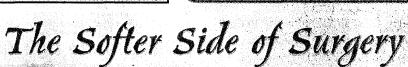


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# PURE ENTERTAINMENT! Thursday, September 27, 2007

Casino Crazy

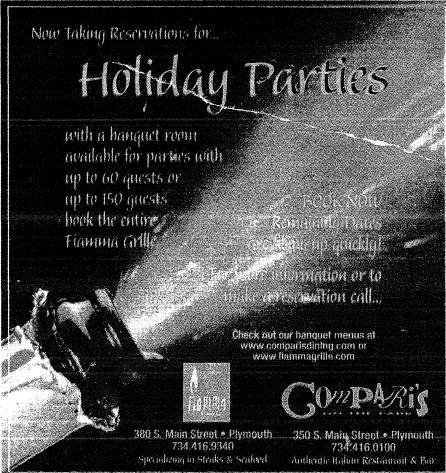
'Spelling Bee' preview Genesis at The Palace

ww.hometownlife.com



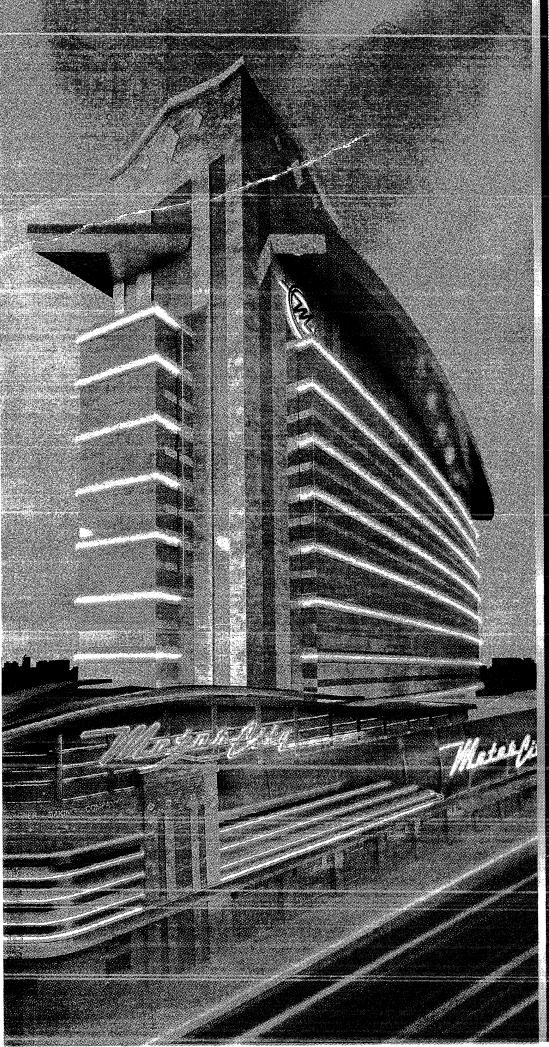
Featuring: Yankeville...12 pm - 1:45 pm

Auston Scott., 2, 15 pm 3, 45 pm





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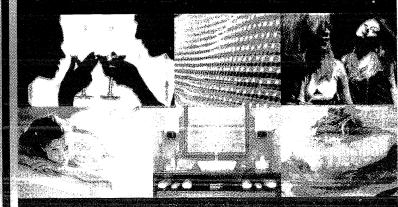
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# Inside this week's

# **HOMETOWN***life.com*

C) GANNETT

# COVER - 4

MGM Grand Detroit features a new hotel, spa, restaurants and convention area, and is expected to open on Tuesday.

# LIVE - 5

"And Then There Were Three" again...the core members of Genesis (Phil Collins, Mike Rutherford and Tony Banks) return Sunday on the band's first tour in 15 years.



# ON STAGE -6

Dana Steingold, a West Bloomfield native, performs in The 25th Annual **Putnam County Spelling** Bee, opening at the Fisher Theatre Tuesday.

# MUSIC - 8

Perpetual Groove takes the stage Sunday at the Magic Bag in Ferndale.

# **TABLE HOPPING**

MGM Grand Detroit features three restaurants owned by celebrity chefs Wolfgang Puck and Michael Mina.

# GET OUT! - 16

See what's happening in entertainment this week in the Detroit area.

# **MOVIES - 17**

"Feast of Love" stars Morgan Freeman and opens Friday.

# Observer & Eccentric

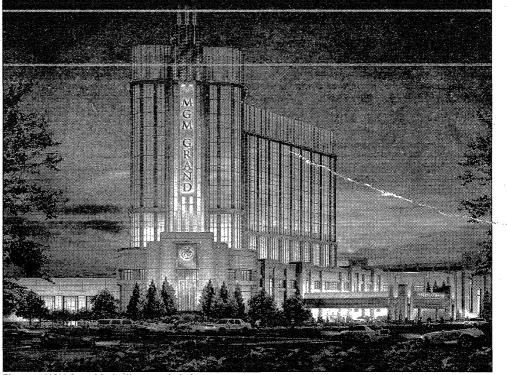
Ken Abramczyk | Marty Carry Lana Mini Stephanie Angelyn

Staff Writer

Editor | Advertising Director Dan Dean Staff Writer | Design Editor Susan Rosiek **Executive Editor** 



blackjack, slot machines and



The new MGM Grand Detroit opens Oct. 3.

# **Grand Detroit**

cover

Story

New MGM may raise **Detroit entertainment** to the big leagues

> BY LANA MINI STAFF WRITER

An \$800 million hotel and entertainment destination.

Four hundred chic rooms. Nine rooftop and 56 opulent corner suites ranging from \$500 to \$3,000 a night.

A 24-hour Wolfgang Puck restaurant. A resort style spa.

Laid-back yet highly stylized lounges all aimed to elevate the term "leisure and luxury" in Detroit.

On Wednesday, Oct. 3, the casino scene in Michigan changes as the doors to the new MGM Grand Detroit open to the pub-

So, what does someone actually get in a \$3,000 per night room?

Luxury. For example, it includes a private kitchen where hotel chefs create private meals just for you.

"The opening will signal a new era for downtown Detroit with matchless amenities and accommodations never before available in the Midwest," said George Boyer, MGM Grand Detroit president and chief operating officer.

The MGM Grand Detroit will help put Detroit as an entertainment/gambling destination on the map, but the other

# **MGM GRAND DETROIT**

Opens: 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 3 What: New hotel, spa, restaurants, lounges and convention area.

**Details:** For more information about meeting spaces, call (877) 888-2121. For room reserva-

tions for Nov. 1 and later dates, call (888) 646-3387 or visit www. mgmgranddetroit.com.

casinos in town aren't standing still, either. The new MotorCity Casino Hotel is also scheduled to open in fall. It's hotel will include 400 guestrooms, 41 suites averag-

ing 455 square feet; exclusive Molton Brown bath amenities; marble bathrooms with separate soaking tub and shower; customized individual climate control based on guest history; plus several lounges with live music.

In November, Greektown's 10-story parking structure opens. And the gaming area expands this month.

Greektown's hotel and casino expansion opens in 2008 with 100,000 square feet of gaming space, an 1,100 seat live theatre, 400 rooms and two new restau-

And let's not forget Windsor. It will be renamed Caesars Windsor in 2008 with a \$400 million (Canadian) expansion with 400 rooms, a 5,000-seat entertainment center, new restaurants,

Please see MGM, E18

# Michigan casinos

- Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, 6800 E. Soaring Eagle Blvd, Mount Pleasant, (517) 775-5777, www.soraingeaglecasino. com
- **■** Turtle Creek Casino, 7741 M-72 East, Williamsburg, (231) 534-8888, www.casino2win. com
- MotorCity Casino, 2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit, (313) 237-7711, www.motorcitycasino.com
- Casino Windsor, 377 Riverside Drive East, Windsor, (519) 258-7878, www.casinowindsor.com
- Greektown Casino, 555 E. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, (313) 223-2999, www.greektowncasino. com;
- Bay Mills Resort & Casino, 11386 Lakeshore Dr., Brimley, (906) 248-3715, www.4baymills.com
- Chip-In's Island Resort & Casino, PO Box 351, Harris, (906) 466-2941, www.chipncasino.
- Kewadin Casino-Christmas, N7761 Candy Cane Lane, Munising, (906) 387-5475, www. kewadin.com
- **■** Kewadin Casino-Manistique, U.S. 2 East, Rte. 1, Box 1533D. Manistique, (906) 341-5510, www.kewadin.com
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- Kewadin Casino-St. Ignace, 3039 Mackinaw Trail, St. Ignace, (906) 643-7071, www.kewadin. com
- **■** Lac Vieux Desert Casino, N 5384 U.S. 45 North, Watersmeet, (906) 358-4226, www.lacvieuxdesert.com
- Leelanau Sands Casino, 2521 N.W. Bayshore Drive, Sutton's

Please see CASINOS. E9

Peter Neill

General Manager

# Genesis turns it on again

BY LANA MINI STAFF WRITER

If you're under 35, you may not know much about Genesis, the progressive rock/pop band that's one of the top 30 highest selling recording artists in history, selling more than 130 million albums.

No matter what your age is, you probably know frontman Phil Collins from his scores of solo hits. His solo song In the Air Tonight was parodied on The Family Guy. And his voice can be heard singing in popular Disney hits like Targan.

Genesis visits the Palace of Auburn Hills on Sunday, Sept. 28 with Collins, Tony Banks, Mike Rutherford and longtime sidemen, Chester Thompson (drums) and Daryl Stuermer (guitar), the first tour of Collins and Genesis in 15 years.

Peter Gabriel, frontman for Genesis in the early 1970s, hasn't rejoined. (Gabriel's solo song *In Your Eyes* was the one that John Cusack played to woo his girlfriend back in the romantic comedy *Say Anything*, and who can forget Gabriel's *Sledgehammer* video?). Guitarist Steve Hackett also did not return.

### **GENESIS**

When: 8 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 30
Where: The Palace of Auburn Hills
Tickets: \$60-\$204. Call Ticketmaster at
(248) 645-6666 or visit www.palacenet.com or any Ticketmaster
box office or at the Palace.

The Turn It On Again tour was a mega-hit throughout Europe this summer with most dates sold out in Finland, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, Poland, Germany, France, Holland,

United Kingdom, Monte Carlo and Italy. Loyal fans here are paying ticket prices of \$204, \$103, \$80 and \$60.

The band's most popular songs are: Misunderstanding; Turn it On Again; Man on the Corner; No Reply at All; Taking It All Too Hard and Tonight, Tonight, Tonight.

The band is impressing audiences with its live, progressive/subdued ambiance created with elaborate light shows and large video screen showing photos of the band throughout its history. Don't expect a silly Collins playing around goofily on stage like he does in his solo videos.

Genesis is a British band that has enjoyed success spanning several decades,



Tony Banks, Phil Collins and Mike Rutherford reunite as Genesis with a stop at the Palace of Auburn Hills Sunday.

but it took several years for the band's music to gain popularity.

Banks, Rutherford, Gabriel and Anthony Phillips created Genesis in 1966 when they were teens. Collins joined the band as a drummer in 1970, eventually taking over the lead vocals on *A Trick of the Tail* in 1975, the first album without Gabriel.

Over the years, Genesis has been a band that seems to be either loved or hated. Die-hards - mostly middle class, educated fans - loved the progressive sound, resembling King Crimson and Yes, and later a

new legion of fans enjoyed the pop sounds with many albums containing shorter songs geared more toward Top 40 radio.

Former and current band members say they are all still friends. Gabriel isn't touring because he is still working on a current solo project. Hackett wishes the band well on his Web site.

The last studio album with Collins was in 1991 with *We Can't Dance*. Collins was replaced with singer Ray Wilson several years later.

The group wasn't as successful and broke up in 1997.

# Filtered Top Five: The Pipettes

The latest wave of British exports, polka-dot clad beauties The Pipettes, already have the pop world aflutter thanks to their blend of polished songs that would make Phil Spector proud and The Supremes blush.

With their long-awaited North American full-length debut, cheekily titled We Are The Pipettes, the band harnesses

sugar sweet swagger in songs like Your Kisses Are Wasted on Me and dares you not to dance to the gleaming Pull Shapes. Get on the bad girl's good side with Judy. It's all wrapped in a strikingly fashionable package as RiotBecki, Rosay and Gwenno are backed by their band The Cassettes. The Pipettes revamps the girl group ideal, giving a careful wink to 60s-style.

One third the pop princess trio, Gwenno, paused from all the pre-tour fervor just long enough to share these top faves with FILTER:



Rosay, RiotBecki and Gwenno are embarking on their first North American tour, and heading to Detroit Oct. 3.

# **RECORDS**

1. Best Of Claude Debussy by Claude Debussy

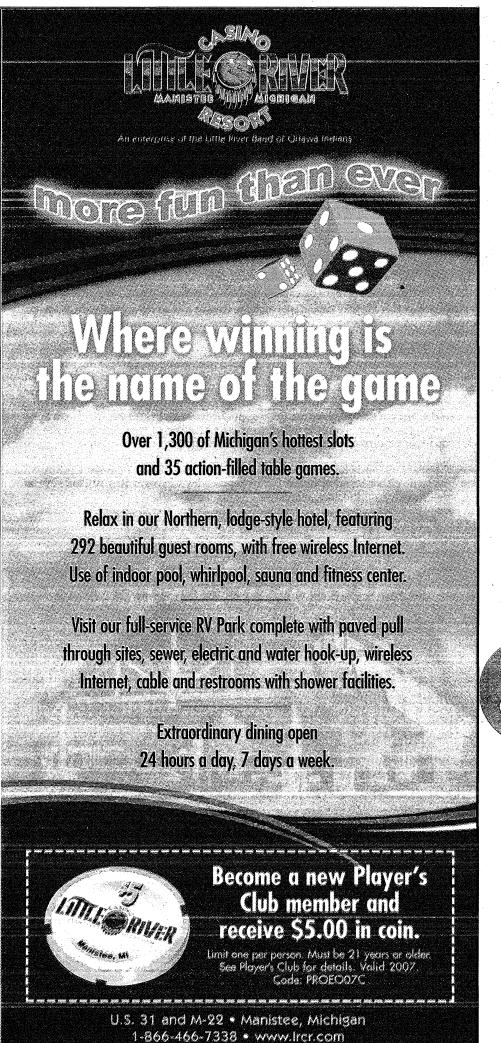
"I knew Clair De Lune and wanted to hear more so I thought this would be a good place to start."

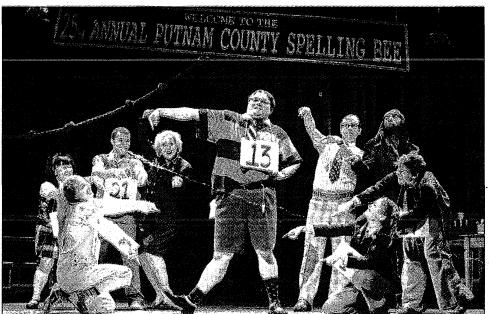
2. Kala by M.I.A

"I love her influences and how she's channelled them all into song, I really love Jimmy and the vid is great!"

Please see **TOP FIVE**, **E13** 







JOAN MARCUS

The touring cast of Broadway's hit musical "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," is heading to Detroit's Fisher Theatre.

# New musical sure to spell success

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA

West Bloomfield-bred actress Dana Steingold only needed a taste of the stage lights to convince her that the theater was exactly where she wanted to be. Now a New Yorker, she returns in October

with the adult cast of the Broadway hit musical *The* 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.

"I was a very energetic kid," the actress said in a phone interview Sept. 20. "I always knew all the words to everything. I would watch a movie one time

and know all the words. I was always singing and entertaining people."

On her sixth birthday she attended a casting call for community theater production of *The King and I* and she got the part. To this day she remembers how it felt to hear the audience clapping for her during the curtain call. "I was hooked," she said. "From there on, I never really stopped."

Steingold performed in community theater while growing up in metro Detroit. She attended Abbott Middle School, West Bloomfield High School and was accepted to New York University. "I really wanted to be in the city," she said.

Earning her bachelor's degree in musical theater at NYU last May, she auditioned for the touring cast of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* right away and got a part. "It was one of my first audi-

# THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

**When**: Showtimes are 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday matinees; and 7:30 p.m. Sunday from Oct. 2-21.

**Where**: Fisher Theater, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit

**Tickets**: From \$25-\$70, call (248) 645-6666 or visit www.BroadwayInDetroit.com.

**Spellers:** Each night four spellers will be chosen from the crowd to join the competition. Volunteers are sought about an hour prior to the show and interviewed before joining the cast on stage.

**More information**: Call (313) 872-1000.

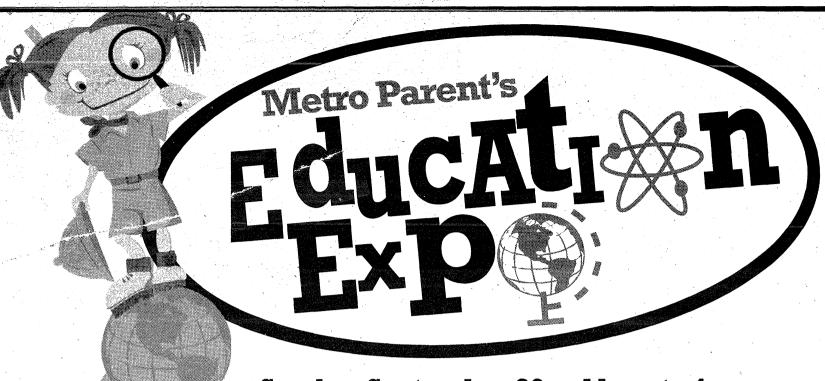
tions," she said.

Steingold was familiar with the show, and had seen it on Broadway. "I watched it and I thought, 'I could do that," she said.

Her character, the almost-unpronounceable Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre, is a 10-year-old politically-charged power house who's out to win the bee. It's a challenging part, and the youngest competitor in the bee. Steingold called Logainne "fiery and intense," but described herself as more of a "quiet competitor." "She's under a lot of pressure from her

"She's under a lot of pressure from her parents and she's out to prove herself that she's worthy of winning," said Steingold. "She's a very political child, very demo-

Please see SPELLING, E14



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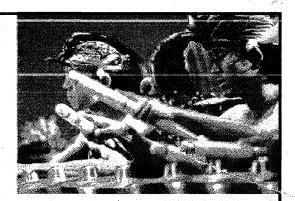












# 129th UMS Season 2007 2008

Second Visit to the Empress Shen Wei Dance Arts

Shen Wei artistic director

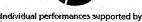
FRI, SEP 28 | 8 PM SAT. SEP 29 ) 8 PM SUN, SEP 30 4 PM

**Power Center** 

Chinese choreographer Shen Wei's unmatched style threads together the traditions of Chinese opera with contemporary approaches to both dance and visual art in this stunning, iconoclastic 75-minute dance-theater work that tells of a power struggle in the 16th century after the death of Emperor Muzong.

In Chinese with English supertitles.





ANN ARBOR NEWS Jane and Edward Schulak

Funded in part by the Wallace Endowment Fund, the National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts, and the Performing

Media Partners Michigan Radio, Between the Lines

# Beethoven Sonata Project Concerts 1 & 2

András Schiff piaco WED, OCT 3 8 PM FREOCTS BPM

Rackham Auditorium

The outstanding Hungarian pianist András Schiff launches a two-year, eightconcert cycle during which he will perform all 32 Beethoven piano sonatas.

**ALL-BEETHOVEN PROGRAM (WED 10/3)** 

Piano Sonata No. 1 in f minor, Op. 2, No. 1 Piano Sonata No. 2 in A Major, Op. 2, No. 2 Piano Sonata No. 3 in C Major, Op. 2, No. 3

Piano Sonata No. 4 in E-flat Major, Op. 7

ALL-BEETHOVEN PROGRAM (FRI 10/5)

Piano Sonata No. 5 in c minor, Op. 10, No. 1 Piano Sonata No. 6 in F Major, Op. 10, No. 2

Piano Sonata No. 7 in D Major, Op. 10, No. 3 Piano Sonata No. 8 in c minor, Op. 13 ("Pathetique")

The Wednesday performance is supported by the Morris and Beverly Baker Foundation in mer of Morris D. Baker.

The Friday performance is supported by an

Media Partners WGTE 91.3 FM and Observer &

# Filarmonica della Scala

Riccardo Chailly conducto Ben Heppner tenor

Hill Auditorium

Founded in 1982 by Claudio Abbado, the La Scala Philharmonic spends most of its time as the orchestra for Italy's most famous opera house. UMS is delighted to present the first concert on its inaugural US tour with the great dramatic tenor Ben Heppner.

### PROGRAM

Wagner

Wagner Prelude to Act III from Lohengrin Wesendonk Lieder Wagner

Scene from Die Walküre "Siegmund, heiß ich und Siegmund

bin ich!"

Fountains of Rome Respiahi Pines of Rome Respighi

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# Nivitan Timernan sam FRI, OCT 12 8 PM

Hill Auditorium

"Zimerman's approach to playing the piano has greatness written all over it. It has intensity, majesty, intimacy, daring, and simplicity, and above all insight." (The Times, London) Program to be announced.

A Prelude Dinner precedes this performance.

Supported by Donald L. Morelock.

Media Partners WGTE 91.3 FM, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, and WRCJ 90.9 FM.

Dianna Reeves with special quest Romero Lubambo mas

Billy Childs piano Reuben Rogers bass **Greg Hutchinson** drums

Hill Auditorium

"Her three-plus octaves, diva-like delivery, and intimate sense of song have long made [Dianne Reeves] one of the most compelling vocalists in jazz." (The Seattle Times) For this return appearance, Reeves and her trio are joined by the great Brazilian quitarist, Romero Lubambo.

Media Partners WEMU 89.1 FM, WDET 101.9 FM. and Michigan Chronicle/Front Page.

# Odalan Bali

Cuósmani

I Dewa Putu Berata artistic director

FAL OCT 19 1 3 PM Hill Auditorium

The Balinese music and dance ensemble Cudamani makes its UMS debut with a performance that captures the exhilarating splendor of the Balinese temple festival, featuring dazzling dancers, glittering costumes, and the shimmering polyrhythms of Bali.

Funded in part by the Wallace Endowment Fund. edia Partner Metro Times.



# Buy a ticket, plant a tree

Perpetual groove plays in Ferndale.

BY LANA MINI STAFF WRITER

If you buy a ticket to the Perpetual Groove show from the band's Web site, the band will plant a tree

in your honor. The rock band that recently released its ecofriendly album LiveLoveDie . is on tour and coming to the Magic Bag on Sunday, Sept. 30.

The Serious Business Tour is powered by Green Mountain Energy - a group that works to make driving less harmful to the Earth.

The band says they are trying to offset emissions of the tour with renewable energy credits through a partnership with Sustainable Waves and Eco-Tunes.

Perpetual Groove describes its music is a mix of jazz-rock, neo-psychedelia, R&B, trance electronica, progressive rock and anthemic arena rock.

LiveLoveDie was produced by Grammy winner Robert Hannon (Outkast - Speakerboxxx/The Love Below). Online fans are asked, through the band's own online ticketing service PGroove Netix, to donate \$2 for a "renewable energy credit to offset emissions created by traveling to and from the show." And for every ticket purchased through the Web site, one tree will be planted.

All of Perpetual Groove's printed promotional materials (posters, flyers, postcards, handbills, etc) are created using 30 percent PCW (Post Consumer Waste) materials and are printed with soybased and vegetable inks. LiveLoveDie was also produced. Tickets are printed on hemp and flax recycled paper.

The band is Brock Butler (guitar, vocals), Adam Perry (bass), Matt McDonald (keyboards) and Albert Suttle (drums).



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# Feel the thrill of playing the slots

7/double-7/double7.

It wasn't a big hit, about \$125, I but wasn't going to walk away from it.



Greg Kowalski

"That's great," said the woman behind me. "You really hit it my boyfriend says I'm scaring you but you don't mind if I talk to you I like to talk to people we came here last week and weren't going to come today but it's my birthday so we decided to come after all..." said without periods or commas.

She sat down at the machine next to me. "Now, don't lose that back," she said.

I pointed to the digital counter, which was at 480. "I set a limit," I said. "I'll play till I hit 400 and if I don't hit again, I'll move on."

She said, "That's what I do." And much more. That was OK with me. People who

dropped two quarters in the slot and hit 7/double-7/double7. play the slots generally don't talk to each other. I liked her enthusiasm. We talked for a while, but when the counter did hit 400, I decided it was time for me and this machine to part company.

"Happy birthday," I told my neighbor. "Good luck," she said. I never did get her name or see her boyfriend. But she became part of my casino experience.

Despite the generally solitary nature of the game, you can meet fascinating people playing the slots. I've have seen blind people playing. I have met hucksters straight out of a Damon Runyon story as well as homeless people. Yes, they do ask you for money right in the casino.

I've been playing the slots off and on for several years. Sometimes I win. Sometimes I lose. I have never won enough to retire but I've never had to miss a mortgage payment.

Play the slots right, and they can be a lot of fun, especially if you win. But don't count on it. I'm told real gamblers avoid

the slots. There is no way to get an edge though skill, like you can with blackjack or poker. A drunken monkey has as much chance of winning as you. But I have found ways of getting the most fun out of playing.

I favor the quarter slots. They have a decent payout and you won't run through your money in a heartbeat. I do like the nickel slots, but they are dangerous. You have to bet a minimum of five nickels a line and on five lines to get any kind of decent payout. That's \$1.25 a pull. And remember, you're really betting quarters to win nickels. The most I ever won on a nickel machine is \$1,000. But they are loads of fun because almost all have bonus games that take playing to a different level where you are assured of winning at least something.

But I do avoid the 1 cent and 2 cent slots. They are very deceptive. You will end up betting \$1 to \$2 a pull on these machines that really just pay back pennies. Stay away unless you have a little money and time to kill and don't care much about winning.

But whatever you play, make the slots part of the whole casino experience. Stop and watch the entertainment. Do some people watching. Watch some of the table games even if you don't play. And be realistic. Go expecting to win but prepared to lose. Never, ever play if you can't afford to lose. Set a loss limit and if you hit it, leave. That night will not be your night. But one will come along when you will get that thrill of hitting triple-red-7/triple-red-7/ triple-red-7. Jackpot.

I guarantee you will never enjoy sitting and waiting more as you will while the payout people gather a stack of \$100 bills to bring to you.

Greg Kowalski favors Greektown casino for the biggest variety of slots. He can be reached at (248) 901-2570 or by e-mail at gkowalski@hometownlife.

# Soaring Eagle brings in big names

Casinos are popular Michigan tourist destinations, and the Soaring Eagle is one of them.

Based in Mount Pleasant, Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort is popular as it's one of the few Michigan casinos that brings in big name acts. Queen Latifah and Loretta Lynn perform there next

Recently the casino announced new table games including Mini-Baccarat and Single Deck Blackjack. Pai Gow will be added shortly.

The casino has 4,300 slot machines, the third highest amount in the state. (The new MGM will have 4,500 and Four Winds in New Buffalo has 6,000).

Right now Eagle's big promotion offers players a chance to win \$1 million by swiping a Players Club card into any of the promotional kiosks.

With every swipe players get an "easypick" ticket that predicts the total score of five pro football games. If you match these totals, you could win anything from a \$5 food voucher to the \$1 million.

The resort, decorated in a woodland Native American motif, features more than \$2 million in artwork and is also home Sinnikaung, a steakhouse and Three Fires Grill, a malt shoppe.

Owned by the Chippewa tribe, the casino also has an arcade for kids plus a daycare center.

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a> crr= is (fx)

# Chefs Puck, Mina open MGM restaurants

The chefs and owners of MGM Grand Detroit's new restaurants are recognized nationally, but the talented chefs working for them have local ties.

Wolfgang Puck Grille, Bourbon Steak, and Saltwater, the latter two owned by Michael Mina, are set to open Wednesday. **Executive Chef Marc** Djozlija will lead the kitchen at Wolfgang Puck Grille and also will oversee the celebrity chef's 24-hour in-room dining program.

**Executive Chef Don** Yamauchi, who made his culinary mark in Detroit at Tribute in Farmington Puck to share his incredible culinary Hills, will make his anticipated debut within Mina's Bourbon Steak and Saltwater restaurants.

With the addition of these remarkable culinary talents to MGM Grand Detroit, we are laying a foundation for what is sure to be the most celebrated cuisine in the region," said Rich Schneider, vice president of Food and Beverage at MGM Grand Detroit

# Puck stops here

Detroit native Djozlija began his more than 15-year career with the Wolfgang Puck Fine Dining Group at Spago Las Vegas, a restaurant credited with sparking the fine dining and "celebrity chef" revolution in Las Vegas. Djozlija also played an integral role as executive chef in the opening of the group's first two bar and grill concepts (Wolfgang Puck Bar

Table

& Grill at MGM Grand in Las Vegas and Wolfgang Puck American Grille at Borgata in Atlantic City), making him uniquely qualified to debut Puck's celebrated California-style cuisine to his hometown with Wolfgang Puck Grille.

"After leaving Detroit 17

years ago, I'm elated to return home and work alongside chef gift with Detroit for the first time," said Djozlija. "Creating inventive, superior cuisine is my passion; Wolfgang Puck Grille will deliver on these objectives with an extensive menu to entice all palates at a variety of price points.'

Wolfgang Puck Grille will present a contemporary twist on the traditional "bar and grill" concept and will be Puck's first venue offering 24-hour dining (Friday and Saturday only). Guests will find Puck's signature dishes using fresh, seasonal and organic ingredients. Lunch, dinner and late-night menus will offer creative salads, sandwiches and paninis, pizzas from the wood-burning oven, pastas, steaks and seafood.

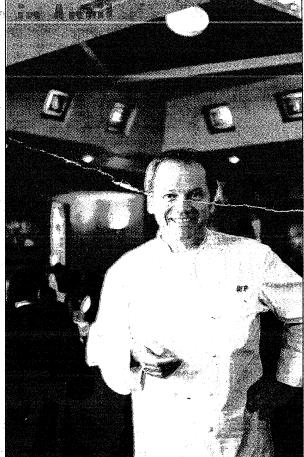
The restaurant will offer a spectacular setting crafted by esteemed hospitality designer Tony Chi reminiscent of Detroit's bustling Motor City culture, Midwestern wheat fields and expansive skies. Wolfgang Puck Grille will accommodate up to 190 guests and will be open from 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday through Thursday, 24 hours on Friday and Saturday.

### Chef causes sensation

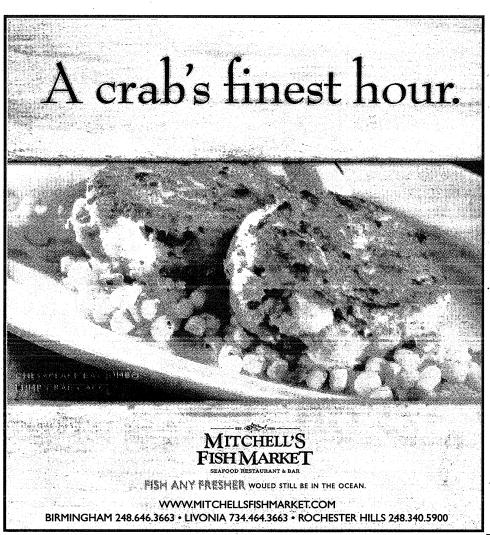
Executive Chef Don Yamauchi will oversee the kitchens for both of Michael Mina's MGM Grand Detroit restaurants. Bourbon Steak and Saltwater.

A rising star chef, Yamauchi was named one of "America's Best New Chefs" by Food & Wine Magazine and also is a James Beard Foundation "Best Chef Midwest" nominee. Most recently, Yamauchi cultivated a culinary following as executive chef at Tribute in Farmington Hills. Yamauchi also has played an integral role in the success of some of the Midwest's finest restaurants, including Le Francais, and four-star restaurants Carlos and Gordon. Known for his intense attention to detail, Yamauchi strives for perfection in his cooking. With each new venture, creation and

Please see RESTAURANTS, E11



Wolfgang Puck Grille, owned by the world famous chef seen here at one of his other restaurants, opens Wednesday at the MGM Grand Detroit.



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Here is an artist's rendering of Saltwater at MGM Grand Detroit.

# RESTAURANTS

DOM DACE FIR

dish, I strive to create a remarkable experience for each guest. Every texture and flavor should be individually recognized within each bite before it flows into one incredible taste sensation," said Yamauchi.

Bourbon Steak, a classic steakhouse with a downhome feel, will deliver imaginative interpretations of traditional steakhouse favorites in a modern setting. Mina's unique kitchen design will include woodburning grills to perfect his slow-poached all-natural Angus Beef, prime ribs, short ribs, short beef and short pork. Other Mina classics on the menu will include Duck Fat Fries, Spinach Soufflé and Truffle Mac & Cheese.

Bourbon Steak will seat approximately 200 guests

within its dining rooms, bar and lounge, and private dining area. It will open nightly at 5:30 p.m.; the lounge will open at 4 p.m.

Saltwater will serve up contemporary seafood and refined American cuisine in an elegant design that celebrates the richness of the sea. Saltwater will showcase Mina's classic dishes including Lobster Pot Pie, Caviar Parfait, Tartare of Ahi Tuna and Mussel Soufflé. Rich hues of blue, sparkling mosaic tiles, carved glass panels and romantic lighting will create an intimate dining room where guests are bathed in soft-focused light and surrounded by sumptuous fabrics.

Saltwater will seat 96 for dinner, 39 in the bar and lounge, and 22 in private dining rooms. It will open for dinner nightly at 5:30 p.m.; the lounge will open at 4 p.m.

Ken Abramczyk

# Tapawingo to reopen in April

Before beginning his 25th year as chef/owner of Michigan's most celebrated "Up North" restaurant, Tapawingo in Ellsworth, Harlan "Pete" Peterson is taking time for a cold weather hiatus.

After leaf-peeping season, Peterson's time away will begin following dinner service, Saturday, Oct. 20 and pause until mid-April 2008.

Following the interval, Tapawingo will open with a new head toque, so that search is ongoing now.

"As he has in the past, my former partner and good friend Mickey Bakst (now restaurant director at Chef Bob Waggoner's Charleston Grill in Charleston, S.C.) is using his extensive restaurant connections to search for Tapawingo's new chef," Peterson said.

To broaden his horizons and test other culinary ports, Tapawingo's current executive chef Jeremy Kittelson has thought about leaving for some months. "He now has the opportunity to do this," Peterson added.

"Since this is the case, cooking classes at Tapawingo are also taking a hiatus."

And how will Peterson relax? "I've had continuing problems with my knees (an all too frequent chef's ailment)," Peterson noted. "I'm going to get this annoyance fixed once and for all.

Then, I'll be starting on my first, and I believe overdue, cookbook. I have

friends and family in western states and I want to visit them once my knees are OK and I feel comfortable driving long distances again."

And if you've heard any rumors about Peterson and Tapawingo, such as he's sold the restaurant, he's quitting the restaurant business, etc., know that's all false. Tapawingo is an ongoing culinary legacy in Michigan and Peterson will have Tapawingo rebloom in 2008 with early spring flowers in its garden.

Tapawingo is located at 9502 Lake St., Ellsworth (231) 588-7971

Eleanor Heald, Correspondent







features and times are listed. Observer & Eccentric Where available by deadline,

# Call your local theatre for showings for this week. Please check listings below for phone numbers and websites.

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RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION [R] SUPERBAD [R]

> THE KINGDOM [R] SHOOT EM UP (R)

DRAGON WARS [PG13] WAR [R]

EASTERN PROMISES [R] ILLEGAL TENDER [R]

[6-9]

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# PURE PICKS: SEPT. 27-OCT. 1

Boy-girl harmonies straight from Auckland, New Zealand, The Brunettes perform tonight at The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Cickets \$10 for this all-ages show. Doors open early, at 6:30. Opener is Ferraby Lionheart. Call (248) 645-6666.

Running through Sunday, Sept. 30, St. John's Armenian Church of Southfield's Bazaar and Carnival, opens for its 76th year. It's a carnival of rides and midway outside

an indoor food court with Armenian s, live music, dancing, arts and afts and a fine art exhibit, at 22001 Northwestern Hwy., at the Southfield Freeway. Free admission, but carnival rides are \$15 per day. Bring canned food to benefit Forgotten Harvest.

Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra performs The Ring, 8 p.m. Sept. 29, a concert dedicated to Kyle Mills, French hornist with orchestra who died in plane crash in May, at Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor (734) 994-4801, www.a2so.com.

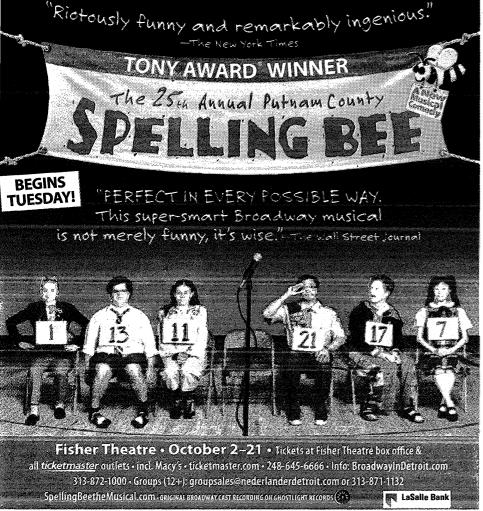
Taste of Clarkston: 30 restaurants, live music, kids zones, plus exhbitors in downtown Clarkston, noon-6 p.m. Sept. 30. Main Street is closed between Washington Street and Waldon Road.



Jonathan Bree and Heather Mansfield are The Brunettes, twee pop from Auckland. See them Sept. 27 at The Shelter.

Call (248) 625-8055 or visit www. clarkston.org.

A charity golf outing benefits
University of Michigan Mott Child
& Family Services, with guest
speaker former University of Michigan
and Detroit Lions football coach Gary
Moeller, 10:30 a.m. registration, 11 a.m.
barbecue lunch, noon golf, dinner and
silent auction, tickets \$100-\$1,500,
Meadowbrook Country Club, 40491 W.
Eight Mile, Northville (248) 374-1100.



# TOP FIVE

3. In My Own Time by Karen Dalton "She has such a distinctive voice, very different from other female voices I've been listening to recently, which I really like."

4. Morricone Aromatico by Ennio Morricone

"I picked this up the other day, it's a collection of his music from various films." 5. Amser (single) by The Gentle Good "A great, Welsh folk singer, he covers a lot of very old songs in his set, this is an original, and fits seamlessly alongside the traditional stuff he does, and shows that not only can cover folk songs but make new ones too."

THE PROPERTY OF COMMON

Opt for pretty polka dots and hit up The Pipettes show, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 3, the Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$12 for this all ages show, call (313) 833-9700 or visit www. majesticdetroit.com.

Compiled by Stephanie A. Casola

# Thusic Hall.org Thusic Hall Center for The Performing Arts Detroit

# ZUCCHERO

Sunday SEPTEMBER 30, 7:30 PM

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.



# MOTOR CITY BLUES & BOOGIE-WOOGIE FESTIVAL

Fri., Sat OCTOBER 5-6, 8:00 PM

Bules night, October 5th, featuring Koko Taylor & her Blues Machine along variouse national blues artists. Like to boogie? October 6th, Marica Ball headlines a great boogie-woogie lineup.



# SONNY ROLLINS

Saturday OCTOBER 13, 8:00 PM

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 iazz connoisseur!

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# FOR KIND ARWIN GLOW-IN-THE-DARK ADVENURE

Sunday OCTOBER 14, 4:00 PM

Glow-in-the-dark crayon-like creatures light up the stage with a heart-rending tale—a dinosaur and his friends discover the true meaning of love and friendship.

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FROM PAGE E6

cratic. She's very fun to play."

The drive to win is at the center of the Spelling Bee story. Steingold said the show deals with "winning and losing, what it means to lose and if losing makes you a loser." Because the characters are portraying adolescents, it becomes an emotional ride set during the day of the bee itself. "It brings together a bunch of quirky and lovable characters," Steingold added. "Everyone was one of these kids or went to school with one of them."

There's a girl whose parents all but ignore her, an athletic student, a homeschooled student and a perfectionist in the bunch. Spelling Bee capitalizes on a media fascination with this very academic competition - one beautifully captured in the documentary Spellbound. Steingold said she thinks audiences are drawn to the adolescent time in life and that quest for a competitive edge to win - two aspects of the spelling bee tradition.

"No matter how great your childhood was, adolescence is rough and awkward," she said. "You're learning so much about vourself and everyone around you. Every day is the most important day of your life." Steingold said while she visits that world onstage each night, she's comforted to return to her adult life after the curtain closes.

"You really get emotionally involved," she said. "You believe (the actors are) 10-11-12 years old. It's touching."

Each night Steingold gets a chance to improvise a bit during a monologue where her character rants about current events. At the time of this interview, she was talking about Britney Spears' lackluster MTV Video Music Awards performance.

Other cast members also have a chance to improvise when dealing with the vol unteer spelling bee participants, four of whom are chosen from the audience nightly. Sometimes such good spellers are picked, it interrupts the flow of the production and the moderators have to give out impossible words in order to move the plot along with the cast alone. Steingold

said it keeps the show fresh and new.

She's excited for her homecoming appearance at Detroit's Fisher Theatre and recalled seeing touring shows there when she was a young girl. "I was mesmerized by it," she said, adding that she hopes to inspire young actors and actresses just as she was inspired as a child. Friends, family and former teachers are all expected to be in the audience.

"It was a dream to leave school and walk into a job like this," she said. "It's a great start.

Spelling Bee is "not your typical musi-Steingold said, calling it a show that appeals to everyone. "I encourage people to come, bring their friends and family." scasola@hometownlife.com | (248) 901-2567



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### **ART EXHIBITS**

Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center: Then and Now: The Evolution of a Michigan Glass Studio, Celebration-An Exhibit of Fine Art, The Writings on the Wall, exhibits run through Oct. 5, 1516 S. Cranbrook (between 14 Mile and Maple roads), Birmingham, www. BBArtCenter.org, (248) 644-0866. City Gallery: Native Americans and the Southwest, Patricia Bombach, through Oct. 18, City Gallery, in lobby of Costick Center on 11 Mile Road, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Farmington Hills, (248) 473-1856. Cranbrook Art Museum: Hot House: Expanding the Field of Fiber at Cranbrook 1970-2007, through Oct. 14; Material Memory: World Textiles from the Collections of Cranbrook Art Museum and Gerhardt Knodel, through Dec. 30, (248) 645-3300, www.cranbrookart edu. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 n.m. Wednesday-Sunday and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the fourth Friday of each month. The museum is closed Monday-Tuesday and select holidays.

Cranbrook Art Museum: seeking motivated people with good public speaking skills to volunteer as tour guides during the international exhibition "Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future" in November 2007-March 2008. training starts in October, for information, call (248) 645-3314, or email eivanova@cranbrook.edu.

Oakland Community College: From Our Perspective, OCC Womencenter's 18th annual national women's art exhibition, exhibit runs until Oct. 12, Orchard Ridge Campus' Smith Theatre Gallery on Orchard Ridge campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, for information, (248) 522-3642, or go online to oaklandcc.edu/ womencenter/artshow.htm.

Picasso Cafe: Pearls of Wisdom-Drawings of Life Figures (clothed), Barbara Eko Murphy, through Sept. 31, 39915 Grand River, Novi (248) 427-0600, visit www.barbaraekomurphy.com

Visual Arts Association of Livonia: Fall Art Exhibit, Oct. 1-26, Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard, Livonia (734) 432-5976

### **ART GALLERIES**

Cary Gallery: Ann Loveland, watercolorist, through September, 226 Walnut Blvd., Rochester (248) 651-3656.

Elaine Jacob Gallery: Street Sense: Celebrating 20 years of the Heidelberg Project, opening reception, 5-8 p.m. Sept. 28; public symposium, 2-4:30 p.m. Sept. 29; exhibit runs Sept. 28-Dec. 14, 480 W. Hancock, Detroit (313) 993-7813, www.art.wayne.edu.

Janice Charach Epstein Gallery: Frank Jonas: The Geostructure Series, through Oct. 4, located in the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield.

Lawrence Street Gallery: The Third Dimension, all-media juried sculpture competition, Oct. 3-26, opening reception 6-9 p.m. Oct. 5, 22620 Woodward, Ferndale (248) 544-0394, www.lawrencestreetgallery.com.

Lemberg Gallery: Posedown, Orly Genger, Sept. 29-Nov. 10; reception with artist, 5-8 p.m. Sept. 5; 23241 Woodward, Ferndale (248) 591-6623, www.lemberggallery.com.

Maroot's Gallery & Frame: Group Show of eight

Margot's Gallery & Frame: Group Show of eight artists, opening reception 7-10 p.m. Sept. 29 and noon-4 p.m. Sept. 30, show runs through Oct. 20, 5 S. Washington, Oxford (248) 628-5398.

Sisson Gallery: Blue Collar, sculpture by Kelly



and Kyle Phelps, reception 6-8 p.m. Sept. 28, exhibit runs Sept. 28-Oct. 31, Henry Ford Community College, MacKenzie Fine Arts Center, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn, (313) 845-6485

Tangent Gallery: Guns: Replacing Violence with Art, Not for Killers but Collectors, Sept. 29-Nov. 3, reception 7-10 p.m. Sept. 28 with music by K-9, 715 E. Milwaukee, Detroit (313) 873-2955.

### **BOOKS**

**Jee Borri:** Author of Eight Dogs Named Jack, 7<sup>4</sup>9 p.m. Oct. 20, Barnes & Noble, 500 S. Main, Royal Oak.

### CLASSICAL

Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra: The Ring, 8 p.m. Sept. 29, concert dedicated to Kyle Mills, French hornist with orchestra who died in plane crash in May, Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor (734) 994-4801, www.a2so.com. Plymouth Symphony: 62nd season A Love Affair with Music opens with Exotic Nights, 6 p.m. Oct. 6 at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville, tickets \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$10 for students through 12th grade, for tickets, (734) 451.2112, visit www.plymouthsymphony.org, or 470 Forest Ave., Suite 18, Plymouth. Kirk in the Hills: David Briggs, organ virtuoso, on Kirk Sanctuary organ, 4 p.m. Sept. 30, \$15 (248) 626-2515 Ext. 109,

### **CLUBS**

Arturo's Jazz Theatre & Restaurant: Jean Carne, Sept. 27-29; 25333 W 12 Mile, just west of Telegraph, Southfield, (248) 357-6009. Bert's Marketplace: John Lee Hooker Jr., Oct. 6, \$20, 2727 Russell, Detroit (313) 393-3233, bertsentertainment.com.

**Blind Pig:** Elvis Perkins in Dearland, Oct. 9, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor, (734)

Clutch Cargo: Therapy with John Acquaviva, Oct. 12, 65 East Huron, Pontiac, www.clutch-cargos.com or (248) 333-2362.

Eden Nightclub & Ultralounge: Friday night party with DJ Ryan Richards, 10 p.m. guest celebrity hosts and DJs; DJ Urban Chris in the Garden Room, DJ Pannos in the Ultralounge accompanied by percussionist Jared Sykes, 10 p.m. Saturday, 22061 Woodward Ave, Ferndale (248) 541-7674.

Edison's: The Randy Brock Group, Sept. 27, and Aaron Vaughn, Sept. 28-29; 220 E.

Merrill St., Birmingham (248) 645-2150. **Gala Bistro:** Meri Slaven with Scott Gwinnel on piano and Dennis Horvath on bass, 7-11 p.m. Sept. 29 and Oct. 13, 33316 Grand River, Farmington (248) 478-2355.

Magic Bag: Charlie Hunter Trio, Sept. 27; The Backbeats, Sept. 28; Perpetual Groove, Sept. 30; Pat McGee Band and Josh Kelley, Oct. 2; Roger Clyne & The Peacemakers. Oct. 4; Nathaniel Mayer CD release party with SSM & The Meltdowns, Oct. 5; EOTO with Macpodz, Oct. 7; Patrick Wolf, Oct. 8; Ty Stone & Friends with Five Horse Johnson & Dirt Road Logic, Oct. 13; 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale (248) 544-3030, www. themagicbad.com.

Mario's of Troy: Ralph Koziarski's Expedition, Oct. 5, 1477 John R, Troy (248) 588-6000. Mary Donnelly's Public House: Robbie No!l (PSYCHILD), blues guitarist, Sept. 29, 3011 Orchard Lake Rd., Keego Harbor (248) 681-3111.

Ginopolis on the Grill: Don Swindell and Shuffle Play, with Swindell, Sheila Brown, Mike Lorenz, and Jake Reichhart, 7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 27851 Middlebelt at 12 Mile in Farmington Hills, no cover, (248) 851-8222.

Station 885 Tavern: Wally Gibson & Friends, Beth Stalker & Jim Rowlins, Lee Hyland & Company, Robin Horlock, in September, call for schedule, 885 Starkweather, Plymouth (734) 459-0885.

### COMEDY

Rosie O'Grady's: Wednesday Night Live comedy improv with Miguel's Basement and guest troupes, 9 p.m., Wednesdays through Sept. 19; 175 W. Troy, Ferndale; (248) 591-9163.

JD's House of Comedy: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday; 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield, (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com.

Second City: Night of the Living Debt, Wednesdays-Sundays, 42705 Grand River, Novi, 248-348-4448 or go to www.secondc ity.com

Maxie's Sunday Night Comedy Shoppe: Kevin Zeoli, Sept. 30, 2500 Hill, Flint (810) 232-2500. The Fox Theatre: Comedy Explosion: Bruce Bruce, Sheryl Underwood, John Witherspoon, Don DC Curry and Dominique Witten, 8 p.m. Sept. 29; Jim Gaffigan, Nov. 17; Lewis Black, Nov. 24; (248) 433-1515, Ticketmastercom.

### **CONCERTS**

The Fillmore-Detroit: Myspace Tour with Hellogoodbye, Oct. 15, \$18.25; Kelly Clarkson, Oct. 28, 2115 Woodward, Detroit Call (248) 645-6666.

The Fox Theatre: The Smashing Pumpkins, Oct. 7; Loreena McKennitt, Oct. 16; Wilco, Oct. 17; Tori Amos, Oct. 27; Sammy Hagar & the Wabos, Nov. 2; Najwa Karam, Wael Kfoury and Fadel Chaker, Nov. 9; B.B. King, Feb, 16, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515.

(248) 433-1515.

The Palace of Auburn Hills: Maroon 5 with The Hives and Sara Bareilles, Sept. 29; Genesis, Sept. 30; Brad Paisley with Rodney Atkins and Taylor Swift, Oct. 4; Van Halen, Oct. 22; Keith Urban, Nov. 3; Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, Nov. 5; Fall Out Boy, Nov. 20; visit palacenet.com or call (248) 645-6666 for tickets.

Joe Louis Arena: Van Halen, Oct. 20, (248) 645-6666, www.ticketmaster.com, OlympiaEntertainment.com.

### DANCE

Jazz & Spirit Dance Theatre of Detroit: Dance series, Moving in the Spirit, September 2007-June 2008, dance for children, adults and teens, 23224 Joy Rd., Redford, (313) 534-0301, jazzspiritdance.freehosting.net. Joe Louis Arena: So You Think You Can Dance, top 10 finalists from hit show, Nov. 3, OlympiaEntertainment.com, (248) 645-6666.

### **FAMILY**

Detroit Zoo: Meet Your Best Friend at the Zoo, hundreds of adoptable dogs, cats, puppies and kittens will be available for immediate adoption 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 29-30, for information, 1-866-MHUMANE or visit www.michiganhumane.org.

Second Annual Celebration of the Horse: Parade of

Second Annual Celebration of the Horse: Parade of horses march in Metamora, carriage tours, demonstrations, pony rides, stable tour, pancake breakfast, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 29, on High and Oak streets, one mile east of Lapeer Road, north of Oxford (810) 678-8000. www.equineoatherings.com.

Penn Theatre: Films for the family featuring The Ghost and Mr. Chicken, 7 p.m. Oct. 11; The General, 1 and 1 p.m. Oct. 18; all seasts \$3, (734) 453-0870, www.penn-theatre.com. Fisher Theatre: World's Greatest Magic Show,

Fisher Theatre: World's Greatest Magic Show Oct. 25-28, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, (248) 645-6666, www.broadwayindetroit. com.

The Palace of Auburn Hills: Finding Nemo, Oct. 17-21; Disney On Ice Presents: High School Musical The Ice Tour, Feb. 29-March 2, Palacenet.com, The Palace Box Office and all Ticketmaster centers, (248) 377-0100. The Fox Theatre: Kidz Bop World Tour, 3 and 7 p.m. Nov. 11, kidzbopworldtour.com, for tickets, Ticketmaster.com or call (248) 433-1515

Plymouth Ride the Rails: Explore the history of trains. Exhibit open 1-4 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday through Nov. 1. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for students under 18, and \$10 for families. The Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main Street, Plymouth.

Walking with Dinosaurs: The Live Experience runs Nov. 14-18, Cobo Arena, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.

### **FESTIVALS**

Fall Farm Fun: Old Ruffwater String Band, dancing, cheese tasting, butter churning, milking, 1-4 p.m. Sept. 29, Troy Museum & Historic Village, park and shuttle at Zion Christian Church, 3668 Livernois (south of Wattles), walk to fair at Troy Museum & Historic Village, 60 Wattles (northwest corner of Livernois), Troy (248) 524-3570, troymi.gov/museum.

Kirk in the Hills: Kirk Festival, music, food, activities, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sept. 30, 1340 W. Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills (248) 6262515, www.kirkinthehills.org.

### **FOOD AND WINE EVENTS**

Detroit Uncorked: 100s of wines from around the world, light hors d'oeuvres, entertainment, silent auction, created by Detroit Wine Organization, presented by Ford Motor Co., benefit for The Children's Center, 6:30-9 p.m., Sept. 28, Ford Field, Detroit, \$80 a ticket, DetroitUncorked.com, (313) 262-1112

Grapes & Groves: An event featuring wine tasting, appetizers from local restaurants, a live jazz band (Jim Holden Quartet) and a silent auction. Presented by The Grapevine, a gathering place for wine lovers, coming to downtown Novi this fall, 6:30-10 p.m., Friday, Sept. 29 at the Atzium of Novi, 43155 Main St. (just south of Grand River Avenue, east off Novi Road). Tickets are \$30 prior \$40 at the door. RSVP to (248) 347-4622 or visit www.greaternovichamber.com for more information.

Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff: Sunday Sept. 30 with MotorCity Chili Ride starting at BMW Motorcycles in Canton and MotorCity Harley Davidson in Farmington Hills, ride to chili and salsa cookoff at Kellogg Park in Plymouth, benefits Habitat for Humanity, for ride info, call MotorCity Harley-Davidson at (248) 473-7433, www.motorcityharley.com or BMW Motorcycles at (734) 981-1479, www.bmwmcsem.com.

Taste of Clarkston: 30 restaurants and a variety of exhbitors in downtown Clarkston, noon-6 p.m. Sept. 30. Main Street is closed between Washington Street and Waldon Road. Entertainment stages at Waldon and Washington, KidZone in Depot Park, and other fun family friendly events. Silent auction benefis high school scholarship fund. For info, call 248) 625-8055 or visit www. clarkston.org.

### **FUND-RAISERS**

Oakland Land Conservancy: Music Under the Stars, 7-11 p.m. Sept. 29, food from Five Lakes Grill in Milford, beer from Rochester Mills Brewing Company, coffee from Java Roasting Company in Rochester, entertainment from Big Shorty, benefits land conservation and stewardship, \$50, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, 1516 Cranbrook, Birmingham, for information, (248) 601-2816, e-mail dfolland@oakland-landconservancy.org or visit www.oaklandlandconservancy.org or visit www.oaklandconservancy.org or visit www.oaklandconservancy.org or visit wwww.oaklandconservancy.

landconservancy.org.
Charity golf outing: benefits University of Michigan Mott Child & Family Services, Oct. 1, guest speaker Gary Moeller, sponsored by Oliver/Hatcher Construction, 10:30 a.m. registration, 11 a.m. barbecue lunch, noon golf, dinner and silent auction, tickets \$100-\$1,500, Meadowbrook Country Club, 40491 W. Eight Mile, Northville (248) 374-1100.

Skyline Steps Out: a gala fund-raiser for Skyline Camp and Conference Center, which serves underprivileged and special needs children and adults, guests will enjoy Spanish tapas and wines, jazz music and a secret bid auction, while they are surrounded by beautiful glass masterworks, 7-9 p.m. Oct. 18, Habatat Gallery, 4400 Fernlee, in Royal Oak, \$75 per person, (248) 644-2043 for reservations and information

Judson Center: A Night to Embrace, food, music, dancing, auction, 6 p.m. Oct. 27, The Townsend Hotel, 100 Townsend, Birmingham, \$250, proceeds help care for 2,400 children and adults in need in southeast Michigan, www.judsoncenter.org, (248) 837-2020.

### JAZZ

Arturo's Jazz Theatre: Hiroshima, Oct. 5-6; Spyro Gyra, Oct. 11-13; 25553 West 12 Mile Rd., Southfield, (248) 357-6009, arturosjazz.com.

# Legendary director returns with 'Feast of Love'

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA STAFF WRITER

Director Robert Benton began his career as a writer, having penned scripts to legendary films from  $Bonnie \ensuremath{\mathfrak{S}}$  Clyde to Superman.

But as a director
he was influenced early on
by French New
Wave founder
Francois
Truffaut, later
taking cues from
American master
Howard Hawks.
It's no surprise then

that Benton's easy going, straightforward directing style has won him accolades galore - most notably Best Picture for *Kramer vs. Kramer*.

During a recent press stop in Birmingham - promoting his latest film Feast of Love - Benton quoted Georgia O'Keefe's sentiment that if "painting is a management of color on a flat surface, movies are time management. It's that simple."

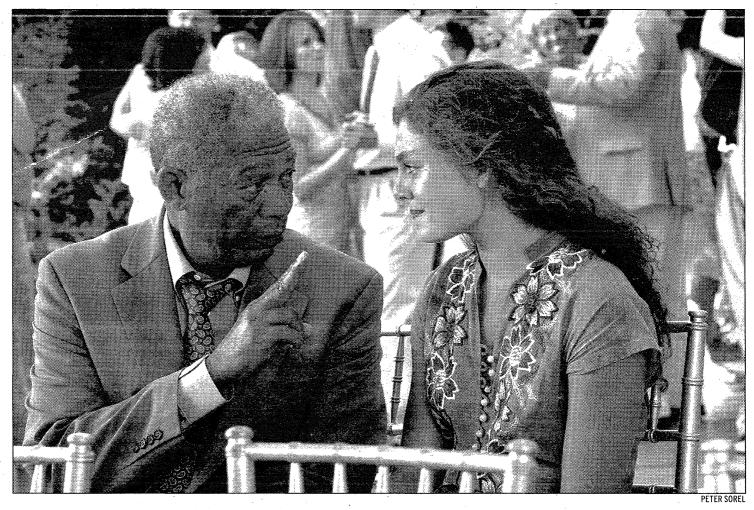
In the time allotted, he said, a screenwriter uses tools like point of view and voice to fill the time - and hopefully creates a good story.

Benton said *Feast of Love* truly belongs to his cast and to Charles Baxter, who penned the novel of the same name.

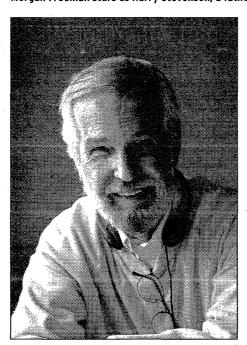
In theaters Sept. 28, Feast of Love weaves a story around the lives of five couples in a tightly-woven Portland community. It's an exploration of all kinds of love - romantic love, companionship, lust and parental love. "It's hot and heavy in the suburbs," said Benton, a Texas native. "I grew up in a small town, too."

Benton read Baxter's book and saw it as "extremely cinematic." "It had that quality that *Kramer vs. Kramer*, *Places* (*In the Heart*) and *Nobody's Fool* had. It's about ordinary people ... It talks about love without talking about romance."

The film centers around this seemingly grounded man, played by the believable sage Morgan Freeman. Freeman had signed onto the project before Benton was involved, but the director noted that he possessed a morality and an ability to truly listen to his fellow actors, which made him a natural match for the part



Morgan Freeman stars as Harry Stevenson, a father figure to Alexa Davalos' Chloe in "Feast of Love," directed by Robert Benton.



Robert Benton is the director of the new romantic film "Feast of Love."

of Harry

Because he's such a Hollywood heavyweight, Freeman was matched by actors like Jane Alexander and Greg Kinnear. But newcomer Alexa Davalos held her own onscreen beside Freeman, Benton said. In a wedding scene where Chloe reaches out to Harry in a daughter-parent gesture, the audience can't help but focus on Davalos.

While Harry keeps his eyes wide open, observant of the life and loves around him, he proves to be a go-to friend to coffeeshop owner Bradley (Kinnear), a father figure to free spirit Chloe (Davalos) and her troubled love Oscar (Toby Hemingway), and a devoted husband to wife Esther (Alexander).

The movie opens with moonlight and then travels back 18 months to connect us with these characters. We find open, honest Bradley - quite a switch for the handsome rogues Kinnear usually plays - losing his wife to another woman. He's unlucky in love, to say the least. But there is hope. Chloe and Oscar meet at the coffee shop, a classic case of love at first sight - as long as intense Oscar's drunk and dangerous father stays out of the picture. Blonde bombshell Diana (Radha Mitchell) can't help but keep her steamy affair going with her otherwise very-married beau, David (Billy Burke).

Though Charles Baxter's book was set in Ann Arbor, cost concerns required the filming to take place elsewhere - in Portland. "We're an independent film," Benton said. "We don't have the funding that a major has. If Michigan had the tax rebates Oregon has, we would've shot it here."

Feast of Love possesses all the elements one might expect, straight from euphoria to pain, and quite literally weddings to funerals. It details how one half of a couple might be happier

than ever, while the other half already has one foot out the door. It shows just how much a love affair can endure, and exactly what it can't handle. For Bradley, love is everything. For Diana, it's a trick the universe plays on us.

"It's too easy to say it's about the redemption of love," said Benton. Because the movie shows love in all its forms - parental love, love-at-first-sight, love where people are behaving badly.

His favorite scene in the film is one where a cheating spouse, David, attempts to take the moral high ground questioning his lover Diana, who has announced she is marrying Bradley. Benton called it "sheer absurdity."

Benton is a fan of Clint Eastwood, calling him "the best living American director."

He shares Eastwood's plain-andsimple style and was trained by Robert Altman - who's known for making changes throughout filming. "The process is a life of its own," Benton said.

As for Feast of Love, the movie succeeds in tugging at one's heartstrings, even if it does manage to hand-hold a bit too much while driving home its final message. Some moments seem unnecessary, or simply over-the-top. But the film's characters remain more than believable. They're the people we all know or hope to meet.

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# MGM FROM PAGE E4

a sky bridge linking the new center to the existing one and major convention space.

Casino operators are literally raising the stakes and the bar of entertainment.

At MGM, if you're eager to be one of the first to get a massage, dine at one of Michael Mina's restaurants, play the tables and spend an evening in one of the marbled floor penthouses, make reservations soon because rooms are becoming hard to get. Right now, rooms are only available after Oct. 31.

Regular rooms start at \$300 per night.

MGM Grand Detroit is owned by MGM Mirage and Partners Detroit, a group of local Detroit investors.

Photographs of the new hotel are being kept secret until opening day.

"We believe we will deliver downtown Detroit's first true luxury experience and have built our hotel and casino from the ground up to ensure our guests will be delighted and inspired at the turn of every corner." said John Hutar, MGM Grand Detroit, vice president of hotel operations.

Here's more of what the new MGM Grand will include:

Three signature restaurants by two celebrity chefs: Wolfgang Puck and Michael Mina. The Wolfgang Puck Grille is California-style dining. Mina's include

the seafood themed Saltwater and steakhouse named Bourbon Steak.

■ The hotel includes a private valet and entrance for hotel guests. Its lobby has 20-foot high ceilings; a "guest only" lounge called the "Living Room" that includes full-service concierge, a fireplace, backlit alabaster wall with cascading fountain; oversized ottomans and contemporary artwork by Detroit artists.

### THE NIGHTLIFE

Lounges, lounges, lounges. High-energy mega dance clubs are fun but quickly become passe. The drinkspots at MGM feature:

■ Agua -Aquatic ambiance marketed as the feeling of an underwater escape. Twenty varieties of tequila and rum. South American-inspired music. Signature margaritas, caipirinhas and mojitos.

■ U•Me•Drink - Located in the heart of the casino. Fine wines by the glass and specialty cocktails. Visual effects by legendary Cirque Du Soleil designer Rouge.

■ Ignite - A fire pit and chic decor. Tapas-style menu, signature martinis, fine cigars and premium whiskeys, scotches and cognacs. Two exclusive bourbons created by Woodford Reserve and Knob Creek exclusively for MGM Grand.

■ Int Ice - Aimed as the place to dazzle your clients with classic cocktails like the sidecar, pink lady or modern gimlet with a piano lounge atmosphere.



### **GAMING**

- More than 4.500 new slot machines from a penny to \$100 - all machines are coin-less.
- An extensive non-smoking section for table games and slots. Poker room is entirely smoke-free.
  - Video Poker at the bars
- Existing players' cards will transfer to the new property.
- Kiosk system for players to comp themselves.

### THE SPA

- The Immerse spa hosts a menu of services of aromatherapy-based treats. Services for face, nails and body.
  - s men's treatments including massage,

a fitness center and indoor pool.

### **SHOPPING**

■ Rolex, Gucci, John Hardy, Hearts on Fire, Bulgari - fine jewelry and accessories at a shop called Accents. Christian Lacroix shoes, or Dolce & Gabbana wear at Essentials boutique.

### THE ROOMS

Three color schemes: luxury king and double queen rooms are warm with chocolate, dark cranberry and lime color accents; corner suites are a combination of vanilla and espresso with splashes of chartreuse; penthouse suites are filled with taupe, black and red décor. Each room will feature Wenge furniture and

modern zebra wood headboards.

- Room sizes are 510 to 2,225 square  $feet.\ Showers\ include\ peek-a-boo\ panels$ of opaque-tangerine glass for glimpses of a showering silhouette.
- Advanced technological features. Unlocking the door automatically will adjust the room's lighting to a soft glow.
- Telephones include touch-screen technology to schedule wake-up calls, order room service and connect to the Internet.
- All rooms include 42-inch plasma television and IPOD docking station.

### THE PENTHOUSES

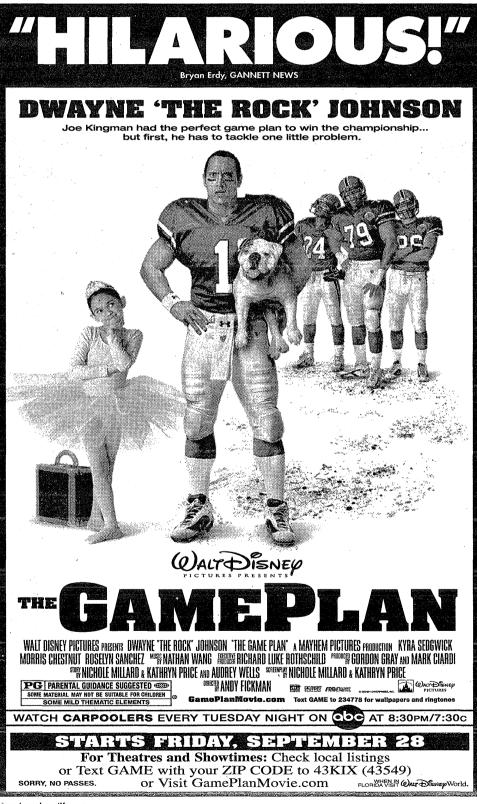
■ Marble floors, entertainment rooms with 50-inch plasma TVs and surround

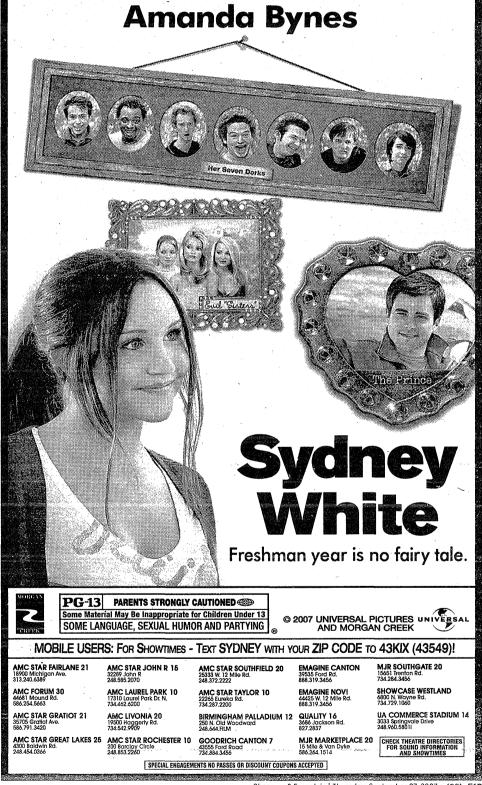
sound, separate living rooms, multiple bedrooms and oversized bathrooms featuring whirlpool tubs and Swiss Body Showers with double rain

- Luxury corner suites feature their own half bath, giving privacy for guests when entertaining.
- Panoramic views of the Detroit sky-

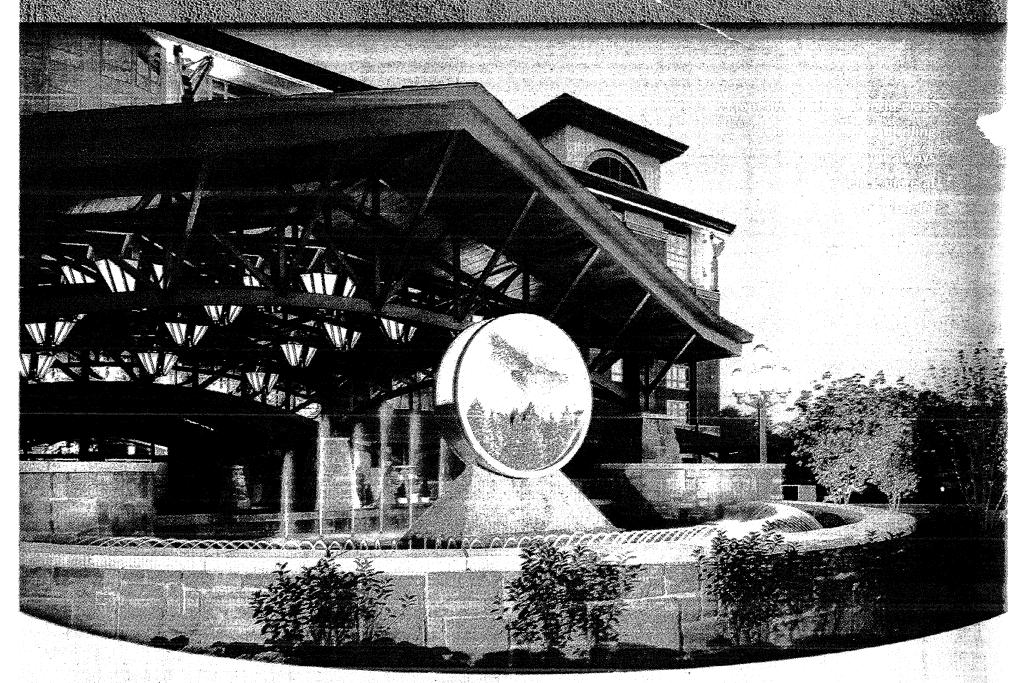
### THE CONVENTION AREA

Expected to be a destination for fullservice meetings and events, capable of hosting large corporate events and blacktie engagements. The Grand Ballroom, is 14,000-square-feet and has a seating capacity of 800.





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# Going green

# Eco-friendly ways to improve your home

(MS) — As the world continues to grow more aware of the environment and the ways to preserve it for future generations, many people wonder what they can contribute to ensure the planet's health for centuries to come. Among the many ways the environment can be given a helping hand is through eco-friendly home improvements that can both save money and the planet at the same time.

Flooring: While oak flooring has long been a popular choice for homeowners, thanks to the nature of oak trees it's not always the most environmentally friendly choice. Oak trees take a long time to replace, and their absence isn't good for the environment. In lieu of oak, homeowners should consider more sustainable alternatives such as bamboo. Bamboo trees re-grow in less than three years, making them an ideal choice for flooring. If you'd prefer to go a different route, consider cork or recycled rubber as a source for flooring.

Cleaning Materials: Cleaning your home can also be done in an environmentally friendly way. Bio-degradable cleaning products are available for just about every cleaning job you need to do around the house, from cleaning the toilets to removing stains to doing the laundry or even cleaning the carpets. These products are organically based and will do the job just as well as their more popular counterparts.

Paint: Paint can be one of the biggest polluters when it comes to home improvements. Paint usually doesn't smell too good because it's loaded with chemicals that not only produce an odor but hurt the environment as well. Eco-friendly paints, however, typically smell better while drying and are safer for the environment. Getting their pigments from things such as charcoal or even foods, these paints are just as beautiful as regular paint and beneficial to the environment as well.

Previously Owned Materials: You can head to the local salvage yard to see if you can purchase recycled cabinets and doors for your home. Some of the things you'll find at the salvage yard will be just like new, and you'll save a bundle of cash in the meantime while also being eco-friendly.



Waste: It's not only the bottles and cans your family uses that can be recycled. Major home renovations where items such as cabinets and doors are replaced also provide a great chance to recycle your old items. Old toilets, sinks and countertops can be recycled as well, many times going to organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, meaning you're not only helping the environment, but the less fortunate as well.

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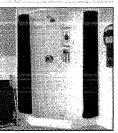


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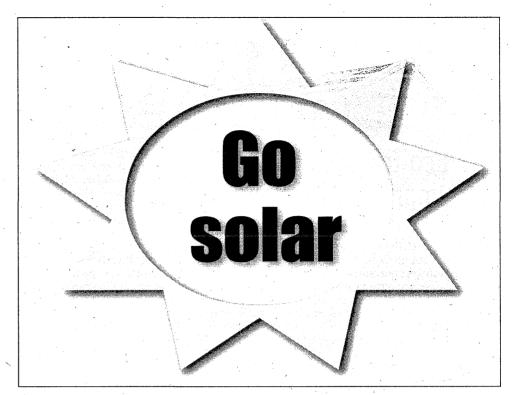


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# New designs, tax breaks offer style and savings

Solar heating systems are becoming more popular than ever before. Capturing the heat of the sun to warm pools, household water and provide electricity is certainly eco-friendly and cost-effective.

These days, it's also chic.

Today's solar panels are less obtrusive and more aesthetic than ever before. New technology means they also are more efficient.

Mechanical Energy Systems in Canton offers a wide range of solar products, from solar boilers that require no electricity at all, to solarwalls, which collect the sun's energy to heat the air.

According to Donna Napolitano, operations manager for Mechanical Energy Systems, one easy way to bring the benefits of solar energy to your home is to retrofit a solar space heating system to your roof.

If the sun shines on your house for most of the day in winter, it is a potential candidate for solar hot air panels, which do wonders to combat increasing energy costs.

"Many people are unaware of the viable use of solar thermal power in Michigan," Napolitano said. "Proven technology in the solar field has resulted in the reduction of water heating, home heating and pool heating costs. Thermal solar systems offer longevity and reliability, short returns on investment and make a significant difference in energy

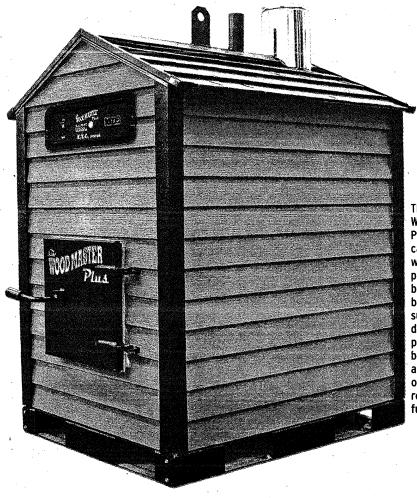
In addition to long-term cost savings, homeowners can write off some of the purchase price of their solar systems with new Federal Solar Tax Credits.

Under this program, residential homeowners can receive a 30 percent federal tax credit on solar hot water and electric systems installed during 2007 and 2008. This credit is a further encouragement to individuals considering solar applications for their home or business.

"Utilizing solar and renewable energy options will help to reduce our dependence on imported fuels, reduce our carbon footprint and make our earth a cleaner, greener environment for all of us," Napolitano said.

Mechanical Energy Systems is located at 8130 North Canton Center Road in Canton. Call (734) 453-6746 or visit www.mes1.com. To search for other solar energy businesses in Michigan, visit http://energy.sourceguides.com.

If the sun shines on your house for most of the day in winter, it is a potential candidate for solar hot air panels, which do wonders to combat increasing energy costs.



WoodMaster **PLUS furnace** can burn corn, wood and paper pellets, barley, beat pulp, sunflowers, dried cherry pits, soy. beans, and a variety of other renewable fuels.

# Heat your home with renewable resources

(MS) — As the world climate crisis continues to be a "hot" topic and point of political debate, people are interested in how to make a difference toward helping the environment. Scientific research has established that the energy we use, both for our vehicles and our homes, is a major contributor to climate changes. Utility bills are also some of the largest homeowner expenses.

Finding a source of fuel that is both environmentally friendly and cost-effective is easier than one may imagine. In fact, it may be as simple as turning to something that has been used to heat homes for centuries: replenishable natu-

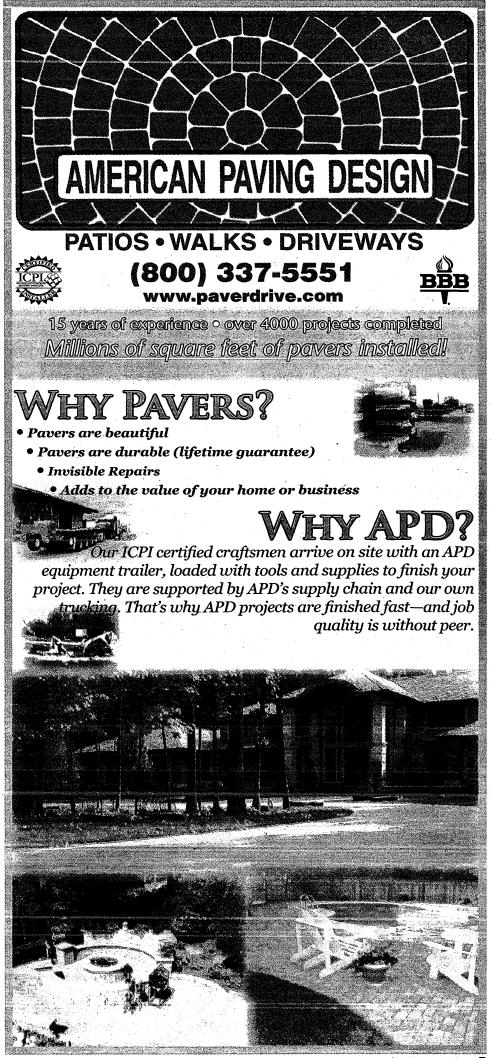
ral energy.

Northwest Manufacturing offers a line of popular WoodMaster PLUS natural energy furnaces that can reduce heating costs by as much as 75 percent. The units can efficiently burn corn, wood and paper pellets, barley, beat pulp, sunflowers, dried cherry pits, soy beans, and a variety of other renewable fuels. This reduces energy bills and a reliance on other less environmentally friendly energy sources.

"There are a number of fuel sources that can cut energy bills and help the environment, but many homeowners just don't know where to start their research," says Chuck Gagner, President of Northwest Manufacturing.

The versatile design of these furnaces make them compatible with most heating systems, including hot water, hydronic heat, forced air, radiant baseboard and others. The furnaces can be used as a home's primary heating source or used in conjunction with an existing home's system. Available in a range of sizes, the WoodMaster PLUS can heat average- to moderate-sized homes, in addition to apartments, garages, shops, pools and spas. They easily connect into the heating system, making the transition to natural energy seamless.

For more information, visit www. woodmasterplus.com, or call 1-800-932-3629. As a further means of helping the environment, Northwest has a sister Web site called www.buypellets.com, where retailers and manufacturers can post their products geared around natural fuel sources.



# Going 'green'? Start with the roof

(MS) — When a major financial institution announces that they are going to spend \$18 billion on commercial lending and investment banking for 'green' projects as well as an additional \$2 billion for consumer programs, you have to take notice. With today's heightened interest in and demand for ecologically sound building materials, metal roofing is an ideal choice.

Green building practices promote construction of buildings that are healthier for the occupants and healthier for the environment. The metal roofing industry's products are already environmentally friendly, and are contributing to the reduction of landfill waste and energy consumption.

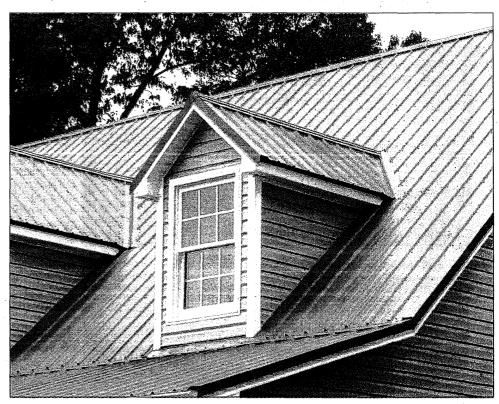
A study conducted by Oak Ridge National Laboratory found that the installation of reflective metal roofing can save homeowners up to 40 percent in summer cooling costs while highly emissive metal roofs can reduce urban air temperatures by as much as 12 degrees. A basic unpainted metal roof will reflect much of the solar radiation that would be absorbed by a traditional asphalt roof. However, for homes in warmer climates, pre-painted or granular coated metal roofing systems not only reflect solar energy but they also cool the home by re-emitting most of the solar energy that is absorbed.

The EPA reports that \$40 billion is spent annually in the United States to cool buildings. This accounts for one-sixth of all electricity generated in a year. Ninety percent of the energy in the United States is generated by burning fossil fuels, which create pollution.

In addition to being energy efficient, metal roofing is recognized as a sustainable building material for several environmental reasons. Many metal roofs typically have a minimum of 25 percent recycled content. This level of recycled content allows metal roofing to be routinely included on listings for 'green' and recycled content products. In addition, metal roofing is 100 percent recyclable where other roofing materials are routinely removed and disposed of by the ton in landfills.

Along with providing superior environmentally friendly protection, a metal roof also increases a home's resale value. The 2005 Residential Cost Handbook reports the appraised value of a home increases by \$1.35 per square foot when a metal roof is installed.

The Metal Roofing Alliance was formed to educate consumers on these and other benefits of metal roofing. Visit www.metalroofing.com to learn more about metal roofing and to find a metal roofing contractor in your area.



Metal roofs typically have a minimum of 25 percent of recycled content. Additionally, metal roofs reflect sunlight and can help save energy on heating/cooling costs.



# Stoke up your furnace for season ahead

As cool weather sets in, it's time to get your furnace ready for working overtime. Experts recommend checking your furnace each fall to make sure it is running at optimum condition.

"Carbon monoxide leaks are always a concern. It's a safety issue," said Mike Bergstrom, owner of Thornton & Grooms Heating & Cooling in Birmingham. "With our economy in Michigan being a little slow, it's also important to check that they're running at peak efficiency, to make sure you're not spending too much on utility costs."

Bergstrom shared additional tips for getting ready for winter:

■ Purchase a carbon monoxide detector for each floor of your home. Do not place them near the furnace or hot water heater, but in the living spaces.

■ Make sure the filter on your furnace is clean. Standard disposable filters usually need to be replaced once a month.

(734) 261-1050

■ Make sure none of your vents are blocked by furniture.

■ Install a programmable thermostat that you can set lower when you're out of the house, and at night when you're sleeping.

What is the ideal temperature set-

"The government I think recommends 68, but it's all personal preference. I've had people who like it down in the 60s, and my grandpa liked his at 82," Bergstrom said. "Try setting it back five degrees from your comfort zone. For every degree, you're going to save about 10 percent in energy costs. Those are significant savings."

Thornton & Grooms, located at 1728 W. Maple in Birmingham, installs, services, maintains and replaces furnaces and air conditioning units in Oakland and northern Wayne counties. If you have a heating and cooling concern, call (248) 644-7810.

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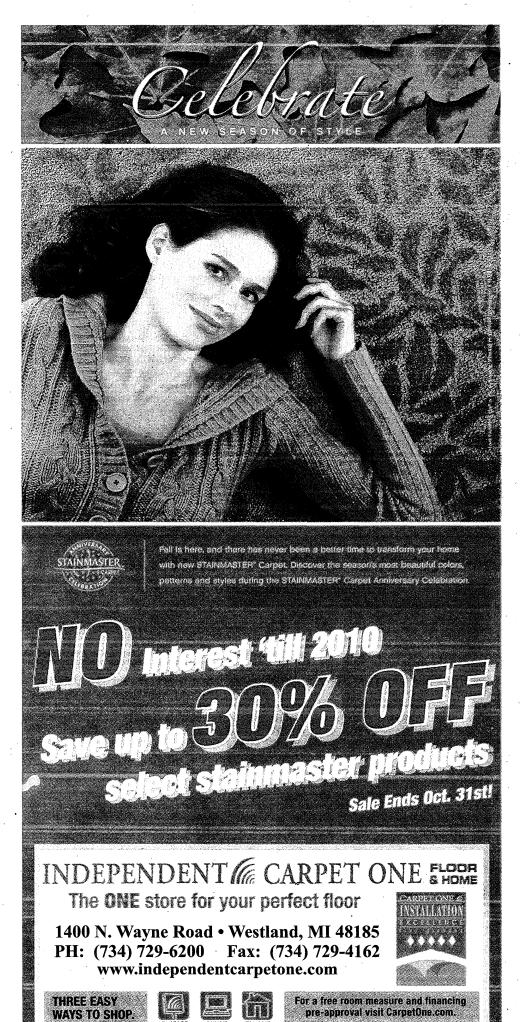
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available: Membership eligibility must be met. MECU membership is open to employees of schools located in Wayne, Washtenaw, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Jackson counties, and their families.

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# Fall cleaning

# Lawn and landscape tips for the season

The days may be getting shorter, but there is still plenty to be done in the yard before winter sets in. Fall is a great time to add perennials and trees to the landscape and to prepare your lawn for the coming

Mid-August to mid-October is generally the best planting time for most climate zones - the soil is warm and moist and the air is starting to cool. New or old, all perennials, trees, shrubs and grass need a thorough watering before the ground freezes to maintain healthy, growing roots through the winter. Here are a few other things you can do around the yard before the big growing season comes to an end.

### **REMOVE LEAVES**

The best place to dispose of fallen leaves is right where they land. Mulching leaves into the grass offers an excellent source of added nutrients for the lawn before winter. If mulching is not an option, start a compost pile or donate your leaves to a neighbor or friend who already has one. You could also use the leaves to cover sensitive plants in colder climate zones.

### **ADD MULCH**

Covering plants with mulch will give them a few extra weeks of root development before freezing. Compost, partially decomposed leaves, woodchips and bark can all be used to give plants an extra blanket of protection for the winter.

### PREPARE THE LAWN

The best time to seed thin or bare areas in your lawn is mid-August

through September. Grass seed germinates quickly in the warm soil and the warm days and cooler nights are the best combination for rapid growth. New grass also has less competition from weeds for soil nutrients and water since most weeds germinate in the spring, not

### TRANSPLANT PERENNIALS

Most perennials need to be divided at least every three years to stay healthy and productive. Fall is the best time to transplant, divide or plant perennials. The nutrients gained during the summer months make the plants less likely to die during a move and the moist soil and cooler air provide the extra TLC the plant needs in its new location.

### **PLANT TREES**

Deciduous trees (those that lose their leaves in the winter) can be planted from mid-August all the way through early November. Evergreens, however, should be planted before the end of September in order to establish a solid root system before the ground freezes.

One of the most important things you can do for a newly planted tree is to provide plenty of water. Water new trees every seven to ten days in dry weather and continue to do so until the ground freezes.

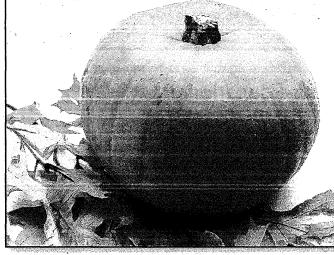
There are a few trees that prove exceptions to this rule.

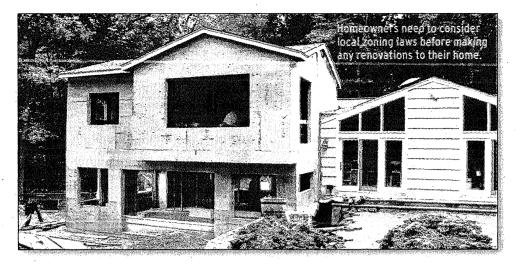
For example, birch, fir, oak and willow have slow-to-establish root systems.

They are better off going into the ground in the spring so that they have a few extra months to recover from transplant shock and can

> establish their root systems before the ground freezes.

Even if you're looking forward to a break from summer yard work, don't hang up the gloves too quickly. Consistent care until the ground freezes will help ensure a healthy lawn and garden for the coming spring.





# Keep renovations in line with law

(MS) — Each year, homeowners across the nation spend millions of dollars renovating their homes. Renovations can range from the small (planting a new flower bed) to the big (an upscale kitchen remodeling). Regardless of the size of the project, modifications are typically done to both improve a home for its inhabitants as well as increase its resale value down the road.

But are all home improvements projects worthy of your time and effort? From a purely financial standpoint, the answer to that question is almost always no, as home-improvement projects almost never recoup for the homeowner 100 percent of what is put in when it comes time to sell a home. Of course, where a home is and what the economy is like at the time play a big role as well. In their annual "Cost vs. Value"

In their annual "Cost vs. Value Report," Remodeling magazine compares construction costs with resale value, basing their findings on research conducted on the 25 most common home-improvement projects in 60 different markets spanning the country. For example, the 2006 report noted that the average major kitchen remodel cost just under \$108,000, but recouped less than 80 percent of that sum at resale.

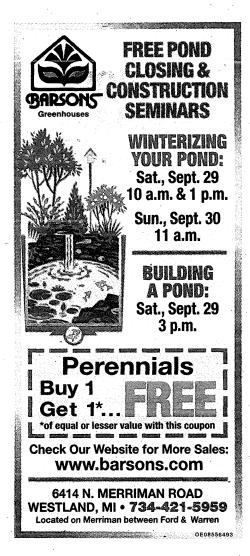
While the overall cost versus what you can expect to earn on a resale should be considered, homeowners also need to take their local zoning laws into consideration before doing any renovating, adding on or remodeling. A set of regulations that limit what a homeowner can do with their property, zoning laws play a big role in home renovations. Even if you've adhered to zoning regulations with past renovations, that doesn't necessarily mean your new project will be in line with current guidelines. That's because zoning laws often undergo changes, essentially shifting and changing in accordance with how much the neighborhood itself is shifting and changing. Some zoning concerns

homeowners should definitely consider include:

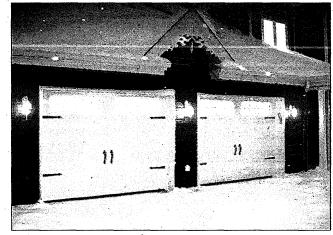
- Usage issues: Most homes are classified strictly as residential properties. This means they're solely for dwelling and not for conducting business. However, recent years have witnessed a boom in work-from-home situations, and many professionals have begun to turn their homes into offices. However, if you're planning to turn your home into a place of business, such as a law or medical office, you'll likely need to be granted a variance by your local zoning board.
- How you're renovating: Zoning laws are in part designed to protect the value of the property throughout a given area. For example, if your home improvements will markedly decrease the value of your surrounding neighbors' property, there's no guarantee you'll legally be allowed to make those improvements. Zoning laws are divided into four groups: height, bulk, density, and use. If your home improvement is designed to build your house upwards, this could dwarf your neighbors' property, hence lowering the value of that property. Much like with usage, you'll likely need to get a variance from the zoning board, but such a variance isn't always easy to get.
- Privacy: Part of the joy of buying a home is knowing it's all yours. After years of renting from apartment complexes or sharing apartments with roommates, most homeowners embrace the privacy that comes with home ownership. When buying a home, homeowners receive a survey plot, which includes something called the setback distance. Setback distances are established by the local zoning board and mandate the distance between a building and the property line. This both protects privacy of you and those around you while also keeping you safe, making your home accessible in the case of emergency.











# Tips for choosing a garage door

(MS) - Usually, there are only two occasions when we buy a garage door in our lifetime - when we build a new house or when we renovate. So when the time comes to shop for a new garage door, there are key elements you should consider and analyze to make the right

According to Vicky Leclerc, communication coordinator at Garaga Inc, Canada's leading garage door manu facturer, you should look for reliability, durability, style and appropriate insulation when choosing your garage door. Here are the key items Ms. Leclerc recommends you should consider:

### **INSULATION AND R-VALUE**

An insulated door will keep the garage area and the rooms above and beside the garage warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer, resulting in energy savings. If you use the garage for a work shop or recreation area, having an insulated door will keep temperature more consistent. The higher the R-Value the better the insulation, for example R-16 is better than R-8 by 50 per cent.

# **INSULATION TYPE**

The two types of insulation are polyurethane and polystyrene. Polyurethane provides twice the insulation value of polystyrene (white styrofoam).

### PLACEMENT OF INSULATION

Insulation can be injected under pressure (polyurethane) or placed between the metal skins in the form of a sheet (polystyrene). Pressure injecting fills the complete cavity of the door and adheres to the metal skins. This adhesion greatly reduces the chance of the skin separating from the insulation causing the door to sound tinny.

# **METAL THICKNESS (GAUGE)**

The lower the gauge the thicker the material, for example 14 gauge is thicker than 18 gauge. The thicker the material the stronger the door, a thicker gauged

metal skin combined with a pressureinjected insulation provides the best impact resistance.

### **HARDWARE**

This is the track, hinges and reenforcement plates. The hardware is the back bone of the door system as it carries the weight of the door, provides the connection between the panels (hinges) and provides the anchor point for the fasteners which hold the hinges to the panels. Having a thicker gauged hardware system will ensure the door system will last longer.

### THERMAL BREAK

A thermal break in the door system means that the front metal skin does not contact the back metal skin along the length and at the ends of the door panels. Without the thermal break, both heat and cool will be allowed to move from the outside of the door to inside the garage reducing the insulation value of the door.

### **ROLLERS**

Rollers which ride in the track and carry the weight of the door come in 3 styles: nylon, nylon with ball bearings and metal with ball bearings. Nylon rollers with ball bearings will last longer than nylon rollers without ball bearings and are quieter than the metal rollers with ball bearings.

### **WEATHER SEAL**

The weather seal on the outside top and sides of the garage door as well as the weather seal on the bottom of the door is what prevent wind, rain and snow from entering the garage. The type of weather seal used should not be overlooked. A good weather seal is made up of two parts, the seal gasket and the holder. The seal gasket should be made of rubber and not vinyl so if will not split or crack. More information on how to select garage doors is available at: www. garaga.com.



# Make remodeling cleanup thorough

BY CYNTHIA INMAN METRO CREATIVE GRAPHICS

If you are like most who get involved with home remodeling, you reach a point that you are praying that the contractors finish quickly and allow your family to get on with life.

Carpenters are not the same as a cleaning service. If you're lucky, your contract indicates that your remodeled rooms will be left "broom swept," and then, that's it.

If you've already begun your remodeling process, you may need cleaners in to get your place in livable condition, and if you haven't begun - be sure to put it in your plans and budget.

Many people don't make an initial after-remodeling cleaning plan. They often are shocked when they learn they must add the cost to an already taxing

Effective planning and coordination is just as necessary between cleaning contractors and remodeling contractors as between different trades contractors (i.e., carpenters, plumbers and electricians). Failure to properly coordinate the cleaning task with the completion of the remodeling work only creates confusion, frustration and wasted time and money. You must schedule your cleaners after remodeling is finished.

The first thing to do, in connection with the plan, is for the cleaning contractor to conduct a complete walkthrough of the home. Decide priorities and make sure that the contractor is thinking detailed cleaning. That means simply that the cleaning crew must go after that dust that has settled on everything and everywhere.

A list of equipment includes a backpack vacuum with nozzle or crevice tool attachment as well as the upholstery brush, to reach those hard-to-get-at corners, edges and ledges. You'll need lamb's wool high dusters to reach into electrical fixtures and recessed lights. Also needed are 8-foot ladder, wet-dry vac for heavy dirt and dust removal, filtration masks, and of course, buckets,

brooms and mops.

Getting rid of dust is a multi-phase

After crews vacuum up as much dust as possible, have them go over dust-ridden surfaces at least three times (base clean/surface clean/finish clean).

Remember that dust travels to some of the most unlikely places. Some of the areas that I always recommend my customers target are attics and crawl spaces. One might say "why not let sleeping dogs lie?" The trouble with that reasoning is that dust in attics and crawl



After the construction contractors have finished work, make sure a cleaning contractor gets your home back into a livable condition.



Cynthia Inman

spaces never sleeps - it only takes short naps. What you'll find is that it will continue to resurface in your general living areas over and over, thereby shortening the time between house cleanings. You'll say to yourself, "Boy! We just had the cleaning team here, but it looks like they didn't do a good job."

All in all, you will find that if you coordinate your contractors well (including cleaning contractor) and if you use the right equipment and process in cleaning, you will have a true "new lease on life" when your last contractor leaves your premises. You guessed it - that last contractor needs to be the cleaning con-

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# Eye on décor: metallic looks evolve

METRO CREATIVE GRAPHICS

Glamour without the glitz and industrial-chic without the grit. That's the next evolution of metallic elegance, color experts say. Home décor trends point to the continued popularity of metallic finishes, with the rich shimmer of brushed metals emerging as a sought-after look.

"We've seen glitter and glamour return to the home in vintage Hollywood looks," says Peggy Van Allen, who selects colors for the popular Krylon® spray paint brand, "but on the cutting edge are softer metallic shades offering a hint of color." These muted metallics are ideal for adding touches of glimmer and sheen to unexpected places, such as small furnishings, vases, and decorative accessories, or to coordinate unlike pieces.

The pleasing patina of brushed metals works in glamour bedrooms as well as today's contemporary kitchens and baths, where stainless steel's dominance is giving way to softer, warm-toned copper, pewter and bronze in hardware, plumbing and lighting fixtures as well as appliances.

"A great look can be achieved by collecting hand mirrors of various shapes and sizes," Van Allen says. "Hang the mirrors collage-style on the wall above a bed, dressing table or vanity. To unify the collection before hanging, spray paint the mirror handles and rims with Krylon Brushed Metallic Finish."

Åvailable in four shades, Caramel Latte, Sesame Shimmer, Sparkling Canyon and Champagne Nouveau, the rich finish dries in 12 minutes or less. Wood, metal, wicker, wrought iron, ceramic and more are transformed with its smooth elegance. Use it to update chrome-framed, glass-topped furniture or worn-out picture frames, lamps, vases, and more. Krylon spray finishes can be found in leading hardware, home center and mass retail outlets nationwide.

Next, bedazzle your bed, sofa or chair with this year's popular metallic-look decorative pillows, available in a range of fabrics full of sheen and flair. If you feel inclined to turn up the glamour dial, consider fringed and jeweled lamp shades, faux-fur rugs and an arrangement of lavish feathers in a tall vase.

For inspiration and more home improvement hints, visit the Krylon Web site at www.krylon.com.



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Metallic accents in the home can be achieved easily with spray paint and dress up everything from picture frames to vases.

# Building a better basement playroom - without a TV

(MS) — In this age of computer games, competitive soccer leagues and organized play dates for tots, it may surprise some parents to learn that the very best thing they could do for their youngsters' development is to send them down to the basement to play — by themselves — without a computer or a TV.

"Unstructured free play has been demonstrated to prepare children for school better than just about anything," observes Mara Kaplan, co-founder of the Center for Creative Play (www.cfcp.org) in Pittsburgh.

"In a free play environment, children decide how they want to play," Kaplan says. "They are free to use their imaginations and their own thought processes about how they want to move the play along without an adult telling them what to do."

Kaplan offered these tips for creating a basement space that encourages the free play that is so important in developing essential cognitive, social, physical and emotional skills:

First, childproof the space so kids can play safely. "Little ones need to be able to crawl around, explore and reach for things that capture their attention," she says. "We don't want to contain their activities too much, so it's important that the space be comfortable and free of safety hazards."

Cover up electrical sockets and make sure there are no cords in which a youngster can become entangled. That's made easier by not having a TV or computer in the basement, Kaplan points out.

Cover up a bare concrete floor to create a warmer, more resilient surface. Some parents start with a modular subfloor system such as DRIcore (www.dricore.com) that creates an air gap between the concrete and subfloor to block transmission of cold from the concrete. And, because it's a wood product, it is more forgiving of the inevitable childhood tumbles. Carpet or any floating floor such as laminate, vinyl or cork tiles can be installed on top.

With the basics attended to, unleash your own creativity to develop a space that will stimulate your child's imagination and encourage creative play. Some ideas:

■ Set up a play kitchen.

■ Make shelves for a pretend grocery store. "Stock" them with empty boxes and containers from the real kitchen upstairs.

■ Paint one wall with chalkboard paint to give the kids a giant "canvas" on which to draw or scribble.

■Get the kids to help you design and paint a mural on one or more walls.

■ If you've installed a modular subfloor, consider leaving part of it exposed without carpet. Kaplan suggested painting the squares in alternating black and white to

create a giant checkerboard, or outlining a hockey rink, a hopscotch board or a foursquare court. Finish with multiple coats of polyurethane for protection and see how the kids incorporate it into their play.

■ Provide a small table and chairs for games, art projects and play with blocks and puzzles. Blocks are one of the best toys to stimulate a child's imagination, Kaplan says. She recommends basic, high quality wood blocks that can be arranged and rearranged infinitely, rather than the kind that come as a kit to build something specific.

"Playing with blocks can help to teach spatial awareness, balance, art, math, and a host of other lessons," she says.

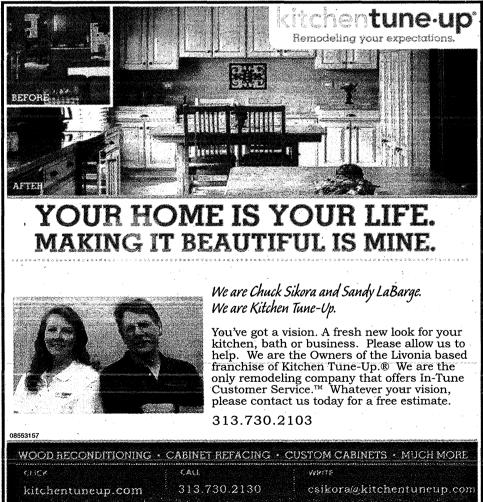
■ Encourage dress-up play by going to your local thrift shop and buying all sorts of fun, used clothing. Then decorate a large box with fun designs to store the play wardrobe.

■ And, be sure to set aside a quiet space where your child can read or daydream. Furnish it with some comfy cushions, fuzzy throw pillows or beanbag chairs and set it off visually from the rest of the playroom.

One of the rewards of creating an inviting, fun play space is that "the battle to keep kids from spending too much time in front of the TV or computer will be easier," Kaplan says.







# ff-the-wall ideas

Changing paint or wallpaper is a quick fix with plenty of impact. Here are three creative ways to spruce up your home for the season:

Dry Erase Paint. Instead of hanging up a dry erase board, turn an entire wall into a message center with Rust-Oleum Specialty Dry Erase Paint. The innovative product can be used over existing paint to create a family message center near the kitchen telephone, give children free reign to write on the walls of their room, or offer dad a way to track projects in the garage. Chalk board and magnetic paints also are available.

**■** Shimmering Paints. Decorative finishes are among the hottest trends in painting today. Stenciling, sponging, rag rolling or adding texture effects can enhance any décor. Versatile water-base coatings like Modern Masters ShimmerStone can create finishes like layered stone, dimensional lace, linen, raw silk and raised ornament without burnishing or sanding. Start with a small area such as an accent wall, entry way or hallway. If you like the look, you can add more

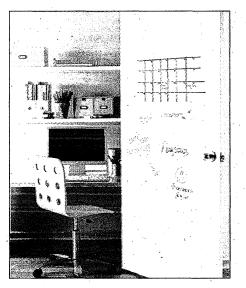
**■** Wallpaper as Art. Today's wallpapers are a great way to create an elegant focus wall. Oversized designs add warmth and balance to large walls in newer homes and dimension to smaller rooms. Popular papers feature geometrics, botanicals, organic elements and raised inks that feel like suede. Traditional stripes. scrolls, damasks and harlequins are still popular, but larger in scale with richlylayered colors, subtle or bold metallics, and unique finishes such as fine sand, sisals, and glass beads. Distressed flocking, enlivened with new color palettes such as chocolate brown on spa blue or burgundy on bronze, adds richness and drama to any room.



Create a signature wall withe elegant wallpaper, like this metallic damask with raised-ink texture from the Ronald Redding Silver Leaf collection by York Wallcoverings.



Give your walls a facelift with decorative painting techniques. This look is achieved with Modern Masters ShimmerStone.



Rust-Oleum Dry Erase Paint can turn an office or bedroom door into a message center.

# 10 tips on caring for windows

(MS) — Extending the life of your windows can mean long-term savings for your family. To maximize the lifespan of your home's windows, the experts at Simonton Windows recommend the following tips:

Tip #1: Never wash windows or doors with a high pressure spray. The extreme pressure could crack or destroy caulking around the units. Instead, take time to individually clean the windows. If you have vinyl-framed windows, a soft cloth or ordinary long-handled soft bristle brush and some mild detergent may be all that's necessary to maintain your windows. Do not use abrasive cleaners that may scratch the frame or glass.

Tip #2: To clean unexpected stains on vinyl windows and door frames (such as bubble gum, felt-tip pens, lipstick, motor oil or top soil), try using Fantastik cleaner. For tougher stains (such as tar, pencil or oil marks) use Soft Scrub.

Tip #3: Vacuum around the edges of weather stripping to remove any dirt buildup. Carefully vacuum window screens regularly instead of removing them and cleaning with soap and water.

Tip #4: Recycle old, white cotton hole-ridden socks and use them for cleaning window sills and frames. Slip the socks on your hands and you can "feel your way" toward a cleaner window.

Tip #5: Never insert nails or screws in the interior or exterior of a window frame to hold up holiday decorations or lights. Window frames should never be tampered with or they can lose their ability to function properly.

Tip #6: If the glass in a window gets broken, do not replace the glass yourself. Some windows have Insulated Glass Units, which contain harmless Argon gas that helps in the window's energy efficiency. A replacement unit should be ordered and installed that perfectly matches the original window.

Tip #7: If you have brass hardware on your windows, use a dry, clean, soft cotton cloth to remove dust and dirt from the protective lacquer coating on the hardware.

Tip #8: Thoroughly wash the exterior frames of your windows (including the sill that is exposed within your home closest to the screens) twice yearly. Remove any bugs or dirt that may have accumulated.

Tip #9: Use a light combination of vinegar and water to gain sparkling glass on your

Tip #10: Over time, dirt may accumulate on window edges and corners. To remove the build-up, use Q-tips dipped in vinegar. Make sure to thoroughly rinse with water afterwards.

"Understanding your windows and accurately maintaining them can extend their lifespan," says Christopher Burk of Simonton Windows. "Just as with any major product or appliance in a house, windows will wear out over time. They lose their efficiency and their ability to operate properly."

When it comes time to replace your windows. Burk advises homeowners to invest in a low-maintenance frame, such as vinyl.

# Fall Home Improvement

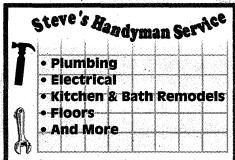
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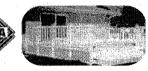
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