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SUNDAY
November 25, 2007

PLYMOUTH Observer

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Third teen still out of school

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

The third "person of interest" mentioned by police in the days immediately after the Nov. 7 murder of 26-year-old Daniel Sorensen — believed to be a Churchill High School student — was still being kept out of school as the Thanksgiving holiday came and went.

Livonia Public Schools spokesperson Donna McDowell said she didn't believe the student had returned to school, and couldn't say when he might.

"He is out of school for an investigation by school district officials," said McDowell, who declined to elaborate on the subject of the district's investigation. "We're certainly very cognizant of the needs of the prosecutor's office and law enforcement agencies, etc. We're having our own investigation of this individual. Right now, we just don't have a lot of information."

It has been widely rumored the Churchill student may have been called to the Canton garage where Sorensen's murder took place after the killing had happened. Two teenagers, 17-year-old Jean Pierre Orlewicz of Plymouth Township and 18-year-old Alexander Letkemann of Westland, have been charged in the case. Police allege the pair stabbed Sorensen, sawed off his head and disposed of his body in a Northville Township field.

The pair faces a preliminary hearing in 35th District Court Nov. 30.

The Canton garage where the murder took place belongs to Orlewicz's grandfather. Police aren't talking because of a gag order imposed by 35th District Court Judge Michael Gerou, but sources say Orlewicz may have called the third student for help

Please see **TEEN, A4**



Santa, escorted by outgoing Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Fran Toney, greets kids.

Concert, food drive usher in St. Nick

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Nicholas Case was happy to donate canned goods to the food drive to benefit the Plymouth Salvation Army which accompanied the annual arrival of Santa Friday night in downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park.

Lindsey Case, who loves to sing carols, showed off her dance moves while the throng gathered in the park took part in the sing-along that always accompanies the arrival.

Nicholas and Lindsey were

among the scores of people who turned out to welcome Santa back to town. Once he got there — carried to the stage aboard a fire truck provided by the Plymouth Community Fire Department, Santa did what he always does: Accepted the key to the hearts of the boys and girls of the Plymouth community and presided over the lighting of the Kellogg Park Christmas tree.

"It's such a great thing for our small-town atmosphere," said Barbara Case, who said she usually attends the celebration, though she missed last year's.

"The kids absolutely love it."

Following the ceremony, Santa and Mrs. Claus retreated to Santa's House on the outskirts of the park to begin visiting with children. Visits will continue weekends through Dec. 23.

The evening featured a couple of new twists. One was the canned food drive. The other was a concert, sponsored by the Downtown Development Authority, which featured Karen Newman, perhaps best known for singing the national anthem at Detroit Red Wings hockey games.

Black Friday a green day for retailers

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

No stores opened at 4 a.m. to lines of shoppers waiting to break through the doors, but many Plymouth retailers benefited from the "Black Friday" shopping tradition just the same.

The bevy of retailers available and the unique qualities of many of the shops made the downtown area an appealing target for shoppers eager to get started on their Christmas spending.

One shopper, who asked not to be identified, said she'd actually started online shopping "weeks ago," but that Plymouth's shopping ambiance had to be experienced in person.

"You have to come down here for the quaint stuff," the woman said. "This is where you get the one-of-a-kind stuff."

With the Michigan economy continuing to struggle, many downtown retailers said they were pleasantly surprised to see so many people streaming through their stores.

At Gigi's Mode, owner Beverly Whitby said lines had been steady on a Friday where bright sunshine made the mid-30s temperatures much more bearable.

"I definitely think the weather had something to do with it, it was so gorgeous," Whitby said. "We've had heavy traffic, and we're noticing a lot more sales."

Mia Bella owner Rosalie Whyman said she'd seen customers who said they'd been at Kohl's at 4 a.m., and "it was so packed." Traffic at Mia Bella was steady, with bursts of crowds sprinkled in.

"It comes in spurts," Whyman said of the business. "We're not seeing more people (than previous years) but we are seeing bigger sales. It's gone very well."

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

Cooks, Kiwanians help keep holiday spirit

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

From the burners of a local restaurant to the shelves at the Plymouth Salvation Army, it wasn't hard to find the Thanksgiving spirit around Plymouth as the holiday came and went.

At The Caboose restaurant in Plymouth's Old Village, owners were focused on helping three young students in a cooking class learn how to prepare some of the foods traditionally prepared for Thanksgiving, including Cornish hens, stuffing and pumpkin pie.

Meanwhile, members of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth sold some 250 turkeys in their annual "Three-Legged Turkey" fund-raiser, which helped raise some \$1,500 for Kids Against Hunger and resulted in the donation of 110 turkeys to the Plymouth Salvation Army.

"The Thanksgiving Turkey Sale is a long-standing fund-raiser with our club," president



Rick Kelp presents Cornish game hens with stuffing prepared by cooking students Gina Salem, A.J. Shuman and Jaden Schutter.

Christopher Lynn said. "We are working to bring it back to the days where we used to sell upwards of 1,000 turkeys."

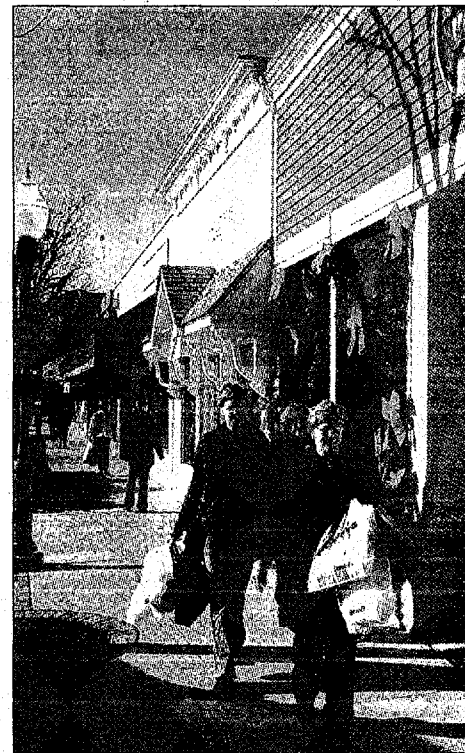
Lynn said local developers Connectiv Communities and Plymouth Associates, and their commercial real estate broker Paramount Real Estate Services, bought 100 turkeys.

At The Caboose, new owners Rick and Kim Kelp are building a stable of cooking classes for youngsters (and adults) who want to get better in the kitchen. On Tuesday, they were showing Thanksgiving secrets to students Gina Salemi of Novi, A.J. Shuman of West Bloomfield and Jaden Schutter of Canton.

All three youngsters have professed a desire to be a chef, including 6-year-old Jaden; pals Gina and A.J., both at the ripe old age of 9, have already decided they'll open a restaurant — A & G's International Bistro — when they're able.

The Kelps have offered these small classes for about five weeks now to kids 6-16, and they offer an adult class on Fridays, if there

Please see **COOKS, A4**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bobbie Bone of Beverly Hills, Michelle Smith of Birmingham and Kathleen Biggs of South Lyon, shop in downtown Plymouth on Black Friday.

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Coming Thursday in filter



Holiday spirit abounds in classic, new shows

Mel's toy drive

Mel's Golden Razor barber shop in downtown Plymouth conducts its 26th annual toy collection drive for needy children at Christmas, as well as donations for food baskets.

Donors can drop off their donations of food or toys to Mel's Golden Razor, 595 Forest in downtown Plymouth, through Dec. 18.

For more information, call (734) 455-9057.

Grilling celebs

88.1FM, the Escape has enlisted the help of some of its strongest supporters. Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Dr. Jim Ryan, WCSX Radio Host Pam Rossi, and WDFN Reporter Denny Kapp will be guest grillers at the bd's Mongolian Grill located in Canton Wednesday, Dec. 5, from 5-7 p.m.

Ryan, Rossi and Kapp will show off their grilling techniques on bd's 2,000-pound grill flipping fresh veggies and meats on their three-foot swords while raising money for 88.1FM. The Canton restaurant is located at 42089 Ford Road.

Proceeds from the event will go toward the student radio station for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. 88.1FM is celebrating 35 years of serving students and the community.

"We really appreciate the support of Pam, Denny and Dr. Ryan," said Bill Keith, WSDP Station Manager. "They've both proven to be true friends of 88.1FM. We hope a lot of people come out to thank them for their support."

Hospice vases

The Hospices of Henry Ford-Plymouth team is in need of small vases for its patient butterfly bouquets being donated by Vanessa's Flowers of Plymouth.

Donated vases can be delivered to Vanessa's at 545 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Questions? Call (734) 451-6866.

Hospices of Henry Ford officials are also looking for volunteers to support terminally ill patients and their families.

For more information or to register for a training session,

call volunteer coordinator Kathy Ostroskie at (734) 354-3372 or e-mail kostros1@hfhs.org

Library Medicare program

The Plymouth District Library will join CVS/Pharmacy in conducting a series of workshops designed to help individuals sort out the different Medicare Prescription Drug programs. The deadline for selecting a program is December 31, 2007.

Three workshops will help attendees make an informed decision about the plan that best suits the needs of the patient. They will be held 1-3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 28, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19.

Reservations are required for the workshop; call the library at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

McCotter staff hours

The staff of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (Michigan District 11) will conduct office hours in several locations. This time is set aside so that the citizens served by the congressman have the opportunity to speak with a staff member one on one regarding any federal issue that they might have.

McCotter's staff will be available Tuesday, Dec. 4, 9-10 a.m. at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center; 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Redford Community Center; and 1-2 p.m. at the Garden City Maplewood Center. Staff will also be available Thursday, Dec. 6, 11 a.m. to noon at the Northville Senior Center.

Congressman McCotter has two offices in the district to serve his constituents. The Livonia office can be reached by calling (734) 632-0314 or the Milford office is available at (248) 685-9495.

Patterson hours

State Sen. Bruce Patterson's district representative, Sue Trussell, conducts office hours at the Canton Public Library 1-3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, in the Community Room. The library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center Road. Visit the library on the Web at www.cantonpl.org



And the winner is ...

Plymouth resident Erin Wheeler (left) was the winner of the inaugural Plymouth-Canton Junior Miss Scholarship Program on Nov. 10. The Ladywood High School senior is the daughter of Richard and Patricia Wheeler, and sister of Kevin and Sean Wheeler. Erin was the over-all winner in Interview, Talent and Fitness, she received a total of \$1,650 in scholarship money. With the title of Plymouth-Canton's Junior Miss 2008 Erin will travel to Ann Arbor in March to compete for Michigan's Junior Miss and the chance to earn additional scholarship money. Plymouth High senior Whitney Askew of Canton (right), the daughter of William and Freida Askew and sister of William and Wesley Askew, was first runner-up and tied for the spirit award. Whitney earned the title of Cantons Junior Miss 2008 and will also travel to Ann Arbor to compete in Michigan's Junior Miss.

Visitors are encouraged to attend and share questions or concerns with Trussell. For more information call (734) 558-0367.

DAR meets

The Daughters of the American Revolution Northville/Plymouth chapter meets 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 17, at Greenmead, Alexander Blue House in Livonia

The program will feature Christmas music and a Sing-along.

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

December exhibit

"Of Faces and Places and Stories I've Heard" is the theme of the December art exhibition at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, with Kay Masini as the featured artist.

The exhibition will be showcased Dec. 1-31 at the Joanne Winkleman Center for the Arts. The center is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. but will be closed Dec. 24-25. The opening reception takes place 3-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, at the center, located at

774 N. Sheldon in Plymouth. Masini will offer a brief gallery tour and question-and-answer period at 5 p.m.

For more information contact the council at (734) 416-4278 or on the Web at www.plymoutharts.com

Santa Saturdays

Santa Claus is coming to the Plymouth Historical Museum every Saturday through Dec. 22.

The museum reopened Nov. 17 with a new exhibit, "A Red Ryder Christmas Story." The exhibit draws its inspiration from the popular 1980s movie, A Christmas Story, in which the main character, Ralphie, longs for a Red Ryder BB gun for Christmas. Throughout the Museum's Main Street, there are vignettes of scenes from the movie and from the original story that the movie is based on—Plymouth Historical Museum style. Red Ryder BB guns were sold by Daisy Manufacturing Company of Plymouth.

The Museum's exhibit seeks to recapture the nostalgic spirit by displaying period toys, clothing, and other arti-

facts. Visitors familiar with the movie will get a chuckle from the vignettes showing the Parker's living room, complete with "FRA-GEE-LEE" lamp; Flick getting his tongue stuck on a metal pole; the windows at Higbee's Department Store; and other memorable moments.

The museum is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays, as well as Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays. Santa has also agreed to be available from 9 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1, during the museum's annual open house, craft show and bake sale.

'Daisy' auditions

Barefoot Productions announces auditions for its productions of *Driving Miss Daisy*, the group's first productions in 2008.

Auditions dates and times: Dec. 10-11, 7-9 p.m. at the Book Cellar & Café Bookstore, 340 W. Ann Arbor Trail, in downtown Plymouth.

Available roles include one female to play Miss Daisy (character ages from 72-97); one male (African-American) to play Hoke, her chauffeur (ages 60-85); and one male to play Boolie, her son (character ages 40-65). Auditions will consist of a cold reading from the script, a prepared monologue (if available) and a headshot/resume (if available).

Performances are scheduled Feb. 14-17 (with dinner theater performances Feb. 23-24).

For more information call (734) 582-9688 or visit the group's Web site at www.just-gobarefoot.com

Webkinz raffle

Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. Foundation is sponsoring a Webkinz Raffle, with the drawing set for 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 23 in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

More than 30 Webkinz will be raffled off, with proceeds to benefit Rotary projects and Tanger School. Tickets are \$1 each or seven tickets for \$5. Winners need not be present to win.

Tickets and Webkinz are available at Gabriela's, 322 S. Main, Plymouth and from Plymouth A.M. Rotarians.

For more information, contact club president Beth Stewart, see the Rotary Web site at www.plymouthrota-

ryam.org/, Gabriela's Web site at www.gabrialas.com/ or the Webkinz site at www.webkinz.com/

Chorus performance

The Belleville Community Chorus welcomes the holiday season with a concert Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles Street.

The chorus presents its second-annual Christmas concert, "The Gift of Song." The concert will feature secular and sacred music under the direction of Sue Hiser. A Children's Chorus gathered from local schools will be featured. The ever-popular Belleville Brass will also join in the musical extravaganza.

The free concert is the Chorus' annual "Gift of Song" to the community. Seating is limited, so plan to arrive early.

Benefit concert

The Chancel Choirs of Divine Child High School in Dearborn will perform a benefit concert in the main chapel at St. John's in Plymouth Township 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8, for the Capuchin and Mannas Meal Soup Kitchens of Detroit.

This will be a full Madrigal concert by 35 members of the choir in full madrigal attire. The evening will feature a student violinist performing in the lobby before the concert, Elizabethan readings accompanied by mandolin, and a wide variety of Madrigal and Christmas vocal selections.

The price of admission includes a 'sparkling' afterglow (sparkling cider and juice with pastries). Admission is a minimum donation of \$15.00.

The choir has grown from nine members to 65 in the last 4 years. Last year's Show choir had 18 performances outside of school, performing at the Ren Cen, the Detroit Athletic Club, the Fox, the Dearborn Country Club and Fairlane Town Center. The choir was invited to sing a pre-show for the Nutcracker and will be singing Dec. 7.

St. John is located at 44045 Five Mile in Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 414-1111.

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HOW TO REACH US

Susan Rosiek
 Executive Editor
 (734) 953-2100
 srosiek@hometownlife.com

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

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

Lisa Walker-Kadrach
 Retail Advertising Rep.
 (734) 953-2168
 lawalker@hometownlife.com

Brad Kadrach
 Community Editor
 (734) 459-2700
 bkadrach@hometownlife.com

Newsroom.....(734) 459-2700 **Fax**.....(734) 459-4224
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NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Plymouth District Library

Notice is hereby given that the Plymouth District Library will accept sealed bids until 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 18, 2007 for the following:

VIDEO CAMERA SECURITY SYSTEM

Specifications, proposal forms and other Contract Documents are attached, or may be obtained at the Plymouth District Library during business hours.

Examination and Site Visit: It is the responsibility of the bidder to examine the specifications and other Contract Documents, and to visit the work site to fully inform himself of all existing conditions and limitations.

Bidders are required to attend a pre-bid meeting at the Plymouth District Library at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 4, 2007. Representatives will be available to review the specifications and to answer questions.

The Plymouth District Library reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or part, and to waive any irregularities. Any bid package received after the scheduled opening time for the receipt of proposals will be returned to the bidder unopened.

An original and one (1) copy of the bid should be mailed or delivered to:

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary
 Plymouth District Library
 223 S. Main Street
 Plymouth, MI 48170

in a sealed envelope plainly marked:

SEALED BID: VIDEO CAMERA SECURITY SYSTEM
 For opening: Tuesday, December 18, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

Publish: November 25, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: November 25 and 29, 2007

PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2007 7:00 PM (734) 453-1234

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

PUBLIC HEARING FOR REQUEST TO AMEND SITE PLAN CONDITIONS:

- SP 07-10 Happy Hounds - Dog Day Care
 673 S. Main
 Zoned: B-1, Local Business
 Applicant: Nancy Janoch

PUBLIC HEARING FOR SPECIAL USE AND SITE PLAN APPROVAL:

- SP 07-12 Sunrise - Senior Assisted Living Facility
 1600 N. Territorial
 Zoned: RM-1, Multiple-Family Residential
 Applicant: Sunrise Development

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In accordance with the Americans with disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

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

Publish: November 25, 2007

DTE investigating cause of house explosion in Canton

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

Officials from DTE Energy have begun an investigation into why a Canton home exploded on Tuesday. The explosion rocked a large area of Canton, and hospitalized homeowners Jan and Dave Goble, who were both inside the home at the time of the incident about 8 a.m.

According to DTE spokesman Len Singer, the company already has a team investigating the cause of the blast that leveled the 3,500-square-foot home on Watervliet Court in the Fairways West subdivision near Beck and Cherry Hill.

"We responded as we usually do in a situation like this. We had a team out there that first shut off the gas supply to the house. We also had special investigators out on the scene,"

Singer said on Friday. "As far as the cause, we are still investigating, and that investigation includes not only checking out the gas supply to the home, but also all the appliances in the home, and the hook-ups for the appliances. We should know a lot more in about a week."

Canton fire officials have already closed their investigation, however. According to Chief Mike Rorabacher, it is clear that the blast was caused by an accidental natural gas leak. He said it is unclear of the origin of the leak, something he said would be figured out by DTE and the Gobles' insurance company.

"Looking at the type of explosion it was, and the fact that Mr. Goble told us he had smelled an odor in the days prior to the explosion, we are pretty confident that this was

caused by natural gas," he said. "Our investigation is over, but we'll assist the insurance company in any way we can."

As of Friday, Jan was still in the intensive care unit at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti, where she underwent surgery for the injuries she sustained in the explosion, including bone fractures. Her injuries were described as non-life threatening, according to Canton Public Safety officials. Dave, who sustained minor injuries, was released from the hospital on Tuesday evening.

Pastor Scott Petersen of the Canton Friendship Church, where the Gobles are members, has been to the hospital daily to meet with the family. He said their spirits are high, especially considering the outpouring of help that has come forward from the

Canton community. He said people have been calling the church constantly since Tuesday offering everything from money, food, vehicles, and even homes for the Gobles to stay in.

"It's been a blessing," Petersen said. "Dave said he knew he lived in a good place but he didn't know how great a place Canton was until this happened."

Those who feel a need to make an immediate donation of clothing or household goods may do so through Growth Works at 50430 Schoolhouse Road (located west off of Ridge, north of Cherry Hill). Donations will be accepted from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday starting Monday, Nov. 26. The Growth Works organization may be reached at (734) 495-1722.



CANTON FRIENDSHIP CHURCH

The photo was taken of Dave Goble at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti on the night of the explosion. As of Friday, his wife, Jan, was still in the intensive care unit. She underwent surgery for the injuries she sustained in the explosion.

New center offers help, hope, healing

A new nonprofit organization offering a variety of care services is being introduced in southeast Michigan.

LifeCare Christian Center, founded by Lillian Easterly-Smith, provides an innovative approach to personal growth and healing by giving care and support to individuals and families. Easterly, a Livonia resident, is the former care ministries pastor at NorthRidge Church in Plymouth Township, where she began the "Life Share" ministry and coordinated the activities of some 67 support groups for everything from divorce to addiction.

"LifeCare's mission is to offer opportunities for life transformation," said Easterly-Smith, who has over 20 years of experience as an accomplished teacher, speaker and leader in the fields of Christian care, recovery and support group ministry. "We strive to achieve this objective by providing a safe place for ongoing care and support for people of all ages from trained individuals who have been through similar life circumstances."

Groups are free of charge and meet weekly on Thursday



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lillian Easterly-Smith, the former care ministries pastor at NorthRidge Church in Plymouth Township, has founded LifeCare Christian Center.

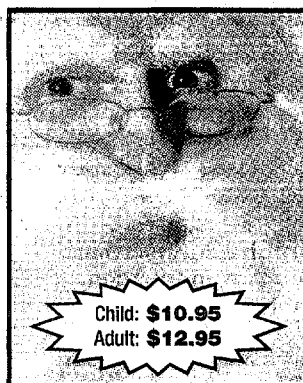
evenings at ROC Church's facility in Northville. LifeCare will also host workshops, seminars, conferences, and

retreats throughout the year that educate participants in life skills and healthy coping mechanisms. One-on-one care in the form of life coaching, prayer ministry, and referrals to affordable professional counselors are also available.

"LifeCare is for those who have a desire to overcome obstacles, learn life skills, have a longing to change and find peace and purpose."

A full listing of groups and other care and educational opportunities is available to view on the LifeCare Web site, www.lifecarechristiancenter.org.

For more information, call (734) 961-7950.



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*At the conclusion of this spectacular event, Douglas and Sydeil Schubot will pass the operation of Schubot Jewellers to their son Brian, who will continue to build on the 90-year tradition at Jules R. Schubot.

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WED. 2	STARS	7:30 PM
TUE. 8	AVALANCHE	7:30 PM
THU. 10	WILD	7:30 PM
TUE. 15	THRASHERS	7:30 PM
THU. 17	CANUCKS	7:30 PM
WED. 30	COYOTES	7:30 PM
FEBRUARY		
FRI. 1	AVALANCHE	7:30 PM
THU. 7	KINGS	7:30 PM
SUN. 10	DUCKS	1:00 PM
FRI. 15	BLUE JACKETS	7:30 PM
FRI. 29	SHARKS	7:30 PM
MARCH		
WED. 5	BLUES	7:30 PM
SUN. 9	PREDATORS	3:00 PM
TUE. 11	BLACKHAWKS	7:30 PM
THU. 13	STARS	7:30 PM
SAT. 15	PREDATORS	1:00 PM
WED. 19	BLUE JACKETS	7:30 PM
FRI. 28	BLUES	7:30 PM
SUN. 30	PREDATORS	3:00 PM
APRIL		
THU. 3	BLUE JACKETS	7:30 PM
SUN. 6	BLACKHAWKS	3:00 PM

Dates and times subject to change.

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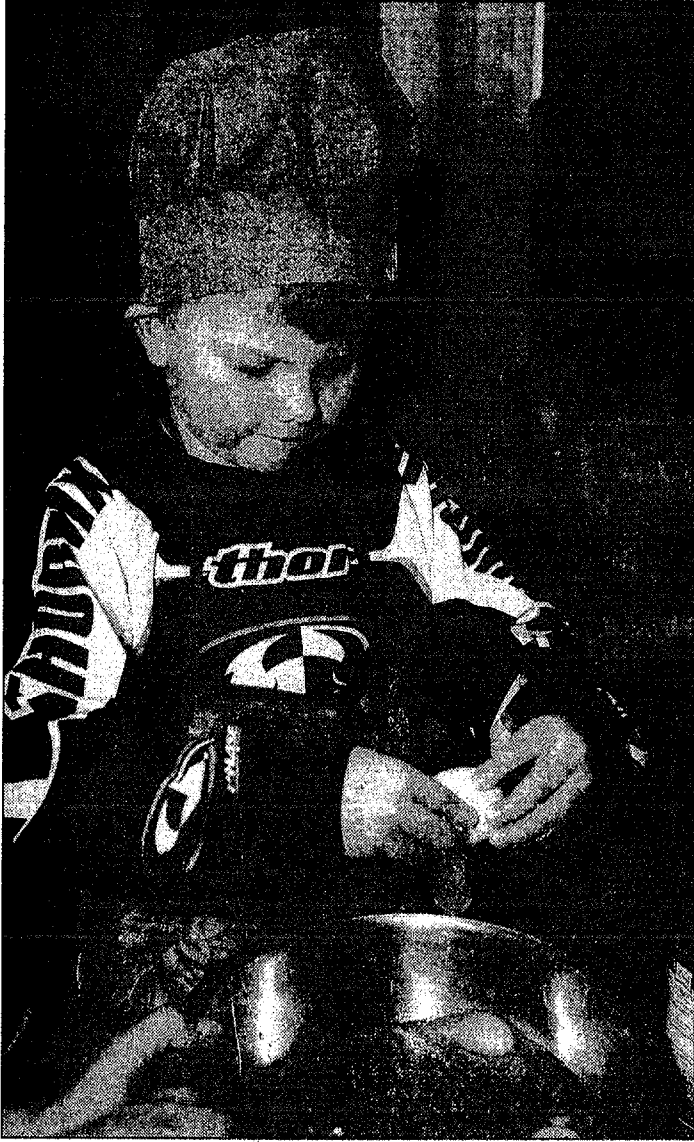
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Limit 2 per person

FIRE ON ICE



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jaden Schutter shows perfect form when cracking an egg into the pumpkin pie filling.

COOKS

FROM PAGE A1

are any takers. The idea, obviously, is to get children more comfortable in the kitchen.

This week, though, they were focused on the holiday. Included on the menu: Gina's favorite, cornbread.

"They make really good corn bread," Gina said. "(Kim Kelp) promised to teach us how to make it."

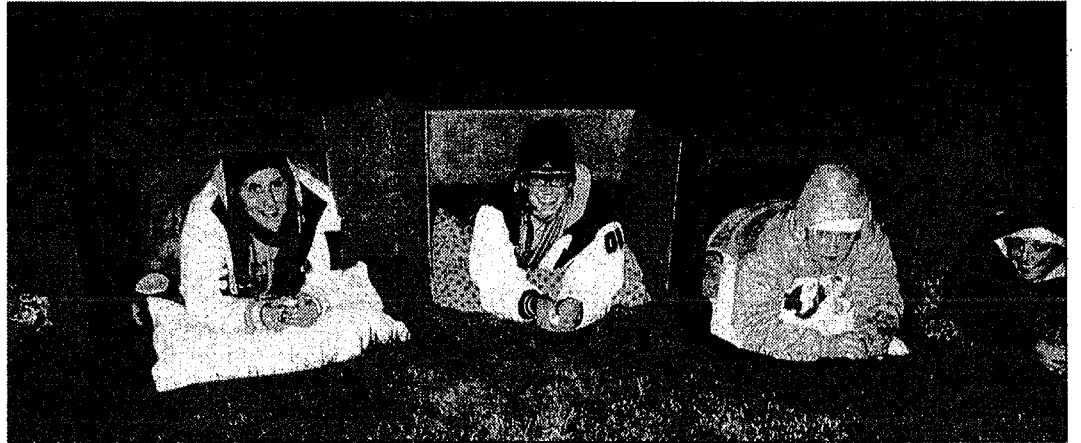
Jaden has wanted to be a cook half his life, even though that's only three years.

"I really want to be a chef," Jaden said. "I just like making food."

His dad, Jake, said Jaden has had other hobbies — tae kwan do, baseball, stuff like that — but that he's "really into the kitchen stuff," which is why he and his wife, Brenda, were glad to see The Caboose offer classes.

"(Jaden) likes to cook with us," Jake Schutter said, and then chuckled. "But we're not very good cooks."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
(734) 459-2700



Ladywood High School students Kaitlin Cooper (left), Nicole Polinski, Elizabeth Racey and Holly Campbell try out their sleeping quarters.

Ladywood students sleep out for benefit

Student Council members at Ladywood High School, the all-girls' Catholic college-preparatory high school, were "counting their lucky stars" after seeing first-hand what it's like to spend the night as a homeless person.

Twenty-eight girls and five staff members spent the night on Nov. 9 in a box under the stars to benefit COTS Detroit, a nonprofit program that provides shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing. They raised

\$1,460 in donations.

The night began with a prayer service and candle vigil followed by a trip to the "soup kitchen" set up inside Ladywood's cafeteria before heading outside for a few hours to spend the night. The "shelter" was located in Ladywood's activity center.

The event was spearheaded by Kelly Hodges and Kristen Selasky, student council officers at Ladywood.

TEEN

FROM PAGE A1

after discovering Sorensen's body was too heavy for the two teens to move.

The third student is not expected to be charged in the case.

Meanwhile, Letkemann's friends and family have been vociferous in their defense of the teen, who dropped out of Churchill High School in 2006, then completed his high school education through the school's adult education program.

Lisa Housholder said she considers herself Letkemann's "second mother," and said Alexander and her son were "best friends." She doesn't believe, despite the charges, that Letkemann was involved in Sorensen's death. She thinks Letkemann was brought into the situation under false pretenses.

"I'm shocked, I'm in disbelief, because Alex wouldn't hurt a spider," Housholder said. "I think he was (brought there) under the misunder-



DETROIT NEWS POOL PHOTO

Murder suspects Jean Pierre Orlewicz (left) and Alexander Letkemann appeared in 35th District Court in Plymouth Monday to waive the 14-day requirement to hold a preliminary hearing. The hearing was rescheduled for Nov. 30. Orlewicz's defense attorney James Thomas is to the left; Letkemann's attorney, Raymond Cassar, is to the right.

standing that he was going to do something very different. He would never go along with something like this."

Jessika Adam, a junior at Churchill, said she believes if Letkemann was involved, he got involved out of fear.

"I think he was frozen with fear," Adam said. "People don't know what they're going to do in a situation like that."

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Rick Kelp helps Jaden Schutter fill his pie shell with pumpkin.

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CDs and annuities good for conservative investors

Dear Rick: I read your column and I understand what you say about the market and how investors should not panic during these times. Even though I agree with everything you say, I am still nervous and have decided to sell my stock investments. I have a little over \$100,000 that I want to invest in a safe and secure area. I don't need the money now but probably will in five to 10 years. Any suggestions?



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

I understand and I know how it feels when you see your account balance go down. As I have stated many times in the past, I don't care how good an investment is, if it keeps you up at night, it's not worth it. It doesn't matter whether I believe the market will turn around or not, the reality is you're not comfortable with stock investments and because of that, I don't disagree with your decision to liquidate.

The issue is where to invest the money. Considering you are a conservative investor who does not like principal fluctuation you have a couple options. The first is certificates of deposit or CDs. They will give you a guaranteed rate of return without principal fluctuation. In addition, CDs are insured by the FDIC for upwards of \$100,000.

With regards to CDs, the first issue is to determine the length of time. Considering the slight differences between short- and long-term rates, I would consider a two- to three-year CD.

The next issue is where to purchase the CD. Consider a bank that is FDIC insured or through a credit union which also has insurance up to \$100,000. In that regard, you

don't have to consider just local banks, you can also shop CDs around the country.

You can go to one of the brokerage houses and they can shop CD rates for you or you can do it yourself at www.bankrate.com. The key in purchasing a CD is to make sure you understand the terms and conditions.

Another alternative is an equity-index annuity which allows you to invest money that will grow tax deferred until it is withdrawn. Unlike a CD that gives you a fixed rate of return, an equity-index annuity return will adjust on a year-by-year basis based upon a formula. An equity-index annuity is a fixed investment and you cannot lose principal.

Unfortunately, the majority of equity-index annuities are stuffed with fees thus, hindering the return to an investor. However, there are many annuities in the market that have very low fees. The key is to purchase one of those annuities through a firm such as Hutton Financial that deals exclusively in no-load annuities, (800) 874-4444. Since you don't need the income for a number of years, I would lean towards the equity-index annuity as the better investment in your situation. **Dear Rick: I lost my job and have run into problems with my finances. I am maxed out on my charge cards and I've had to draw from my 401(k) just to cover bills. I want**

to a credit counselor who came up with a program. I am fearful that by following the program I'll never be out of debt. A friend recommended bankruptcy. The credit counselor said there are too many negatives to bankruptcy and I should go with the work-out plan. Is bankruptcy something I should consider? I am 28 years old.

We live in a great country that believes when people get into financial difficulty — because of bad luck or bad choices — there should be a way to wipe the slate clean and start over.

Bankruptcy laws are well established in our country and for people who are having financial difficulty it is something to explore. Unfortunately, there is a stigma around bankruptcy which I'm not sure is fair. After all, many corporations declare bankruptcy and continue to stay in business and, in many cases, retain the public's confidence.

Bankruptcy laws don't exist in a vacuum. They are part of the safeguards in our system and no one should be stigmatized using the law for their benefit.

In your situation, if there is no reasonable expectation the work-out plan will be successful, then bankruptcy is a viable alternative. Because a bankruptcy remains on someone's record for a period of time, it is not something to use without proper consideration.

My recommendation is sit down with a bankruptcy attorney and discuss your options. Depending upon your situation there will be different ways to proceed with different consequences.

In many cases, someone's financial situation is not caused by bad choices but rather bad luck. Whether it is a health emergency, a lost job, things happen and when they do, bankruptcy is something people should consider.

I recognize there is a guilt feeling associated with bankruptcy, however, keep in mind when you were paying 18.5 percent interest on your charge cards, that amount was substantially more than the going rate of interest. In effect, the company was charging a premium to offset any losses they would incur in case of things such as bankruptcy. Therefore, because you paid higher interest in effect you were buying an insurance policy and now you are just collecting on that policy.

Bankruptcy should not be someone's first alternative, however, it is something that deserves consideration. The key is to understand the consequences of what is involved and to make a decision based on what's good for your future financial health.

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.

'Lion King' prize winners selected

Robin Spivey of Southfield is grand prize winner in the Observer & Eccentric/Mirror Newspapers "Lion King" contest. Spivey receives four tickets to the Saturday, Dec. 1, performance at the Detroit Opera House.

Other winners of "Lion King" gift packs are: Kelly Brang of Garden City, the Gaffke family of Livonia, Charlene Diehl of Farmington Hills, Gloria Miller of Westland, Shelly Stallworth of Southfield, Karen Morawski of Rochester, Norbert Ostrowski of Royal Oak, Janice Kanka of Troy, Nadine Martens of Bloomfield Hills, Betty Cespingo of Canton Township, Jerry Powers of Redford Township and Cheryl Kuzmanovich of Ferndale.

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LABORATORY TESTS IN ARTHRITIS

Laboratory tests often are important in uncovering medical problems not otherwise apparent. Your doctor discovers if you have diabetes from blood work. Thyroid conditions and the presence of toxic chemicals like lead and mercury are also found through examination of the blood.

However, laboratory tests are not as useful in arthritis. You should not be told that a "a blood test showed you have rheumatoid arthritis." Nor is it true that a laboratory test will tell if you have lupus or not.

The reason is because abnormal findings in the arthritic conditions are tied to inflammation or disturbances to your immune system. A variety of reactions can cause these laboratory findings. No one can say if the laboratory results present now represent past reactions to medications, viral infections, or responses to pollutants or dust.

Blood testing results may be in keeping with a physician's impression that your medical history and physical examination indicate rheumatoid arthritis or a similar condition. In arthritis, your experience of joint pain and its pattern of impairment provide the best way to diagnose your condition.

The one exception is gout. For that diagnosis, the only way your physician is sure you have gout is to see the crystals of gout in a sample of fluid drawn from the involved toe or knee. Blood results no matter how high the levels, can only lend support to the diagnosis.

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Clarice's clarity

One woman's story of cancer, recovery

BY STACY JENKINS
STAFF WRITER

Clarice Waldecker doesn't have the sudden urge to go sky diving. She's not itching to travel the globe or train for a triathlon.

Her daily ambitions are simple.

"I look at every day as an opportunity to do better within myself," said Waldecker, 53, of Farmington Hills, who recently celebrated her one-year mark of confronting, battling and beating breast cancer.

She feels at peace, knowing how fragile life is.

She feels lucky — and a little bit guilty — that her cancer was discovered early and was eliminated through surgery. She didn't have to endure grueling treatments like chemotherapy or radiation.

Her journey started Oct. 6, 2006, when she went for her annual mammogram. Three days later, she was notified that she would need a stereotactic biopsy.

She had the biopsy done Oct. 24, 2006, and never expected she would get the call on Oct. 30 from the doctor's office. Her husband, Nick, told her the results over the phone as she was working out at the YMCA. She's thankful, and still tearful, for the immediate support she received from the people in her exercise class that day.

"They literally had to hold me up," she recalls, tears welling in her eyes. "I just said, 'Are you kidding? They must have made a mistake.'"

"I don't remember how I got home."

JOURNEY SHARED

Her journey started Oct. 6, 2006, when she went for her annual mammogram. Three days later, she was notified that she would need a stereotactic biopsy.

Two days later, she and Nick met with her doctor and she selected a team of doctors at Providence Hospital who would ultimately save her life.

She had a mastectomy on the left side on Nov. 27, 2006 and the doctors discovered the best scenario through the surgery. The cancer was caught early and it had not spread into her bloodstream or her lymph nodes.

She's thankful that she had made her mammograms an annual habit for the past 13 years. This time, she had the test later than usual because she was busy with other things, including remodeling her kitchen, preparing for her daughter's graduation and entry into college and a 25th wedding anniversary trip with her husband.

"I always get my mammograms when I get my physical in mid-May," she said. "This time, it was late September. I almost thought about not doing it this year."

As it turned out, the timing was just right. A mid-May mammogram may not have showed the early signs of the cancer — and waiting another several months could have proven fatal.

"This is very early detection," said Waldecker. "This is exactly what the mammogram was designed for, to catch this type of cancer."

The cancer was found in two quadrants.



Clarice Waldecker, on left, is joined by her friends Kim Buckley, middle, and Geri Bresnihan at a walk for breast cancer at Gallup Park in Ann Arbor recently.

A year later, she still can't believe it happened to her.

"I am a healthy person. I eat well, I exercise, I'm spiritual, I love life — who would have ever thought?" said Waldecker. "I did go through the 'why me's?'"

MOVING ON

She learned to accept it and move on, all the while, singing the lyrics to a country song that go, "If you're going through hell, keep on going. Don't slow down. If you're scared, don't show it. You might get out before the devil even knows you're there."

The song helped, but it was really the support of her husband, her daughters Jessi, 19, and Jakki, 22, and her ever-supportive friends and neighbors that brought her through.

On the morning of her surgery, her neighbors decorated her front yard with hundreds of pink ribbons, streamers and a sign that read: "All the best. With love and prayers."

"This whole garden area

had little sticks with pink ribbons on them," she said, pointing to a couple that were faded, but still there.

Waldecker said it was a Kimberley subdivision kind of thing.

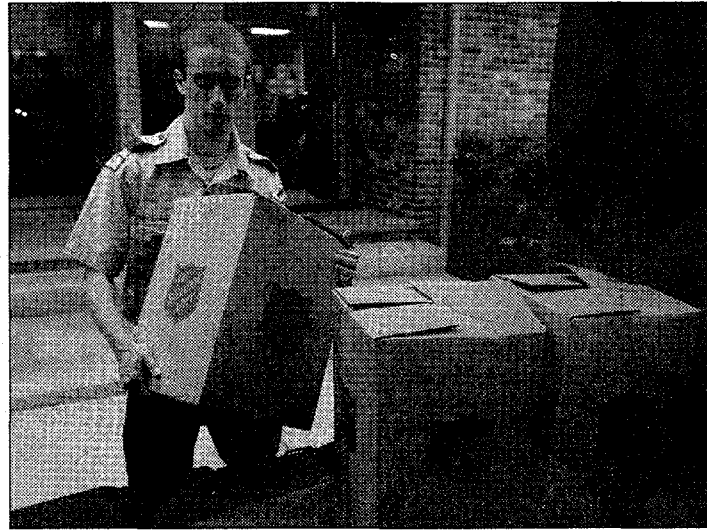
"This neighborhood tends to step up, whatever it is, like job loss, a death in the family — they're even there for you if you have an animal die," she said. "We're all very much like family."

She gives back by participating in events like the 3-Day Walk for breast cancer research, which she did before she was diagnosed. Recently, she participated in a breast cancer walk in Ann Arbor's Gallup Park.

Her best advice to women is to get a mammogram once a year.

"I got a second chance," she said. "I'm feeling good. I'm here. Now I know, my life is fragile. But, I've embraced it and I'm more peaceful now."

sjenkins@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2131



Zach Neville loads a few of the more than 5,000 cans of food.

Eagle Scout hopes are in the cans

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
STAFF WRITER

What do you get when you combine a chiropractic team, the Salvation Army and a hopeful Eagle Scout?

Enough food to feed residents in Canton, Plymouth, Belleville and Northville.

At least, that's the goal for Zach Neville, 16, and Brackney Chiropractic Health Centers.

Mike Brackney, along with his brother, Brian, have been holding food drives at their practice for several years. This year, they chose the Salvation Army in Plymouth as their recipient.

Upon contacting the organization and speaking with Capt. Jim Irvine, they learned of Zach, who wanted to organize a service effort as his Eagle Scout project.

"We met Zach and from there this has taken wings," said Mike Brackney. "This is the most food we've ever collected."

Brackney's practice, located at 8524 N. Canton Center, is filled with labeled, organized boxes of soups, vegetables and boxed pasta. More than 6,000 canned goods have been donated.

Zach, a Plymouth High

School junior who has been involved with the Boy Scouts of America since he was in first grade, has spent the past few weekends at area grocery stores collecting donations.

"The amount of food has been surprising," he said. "The support from the community is great."

Irvine, who said the donations will be used for local families, praised Zach and Brackney Chiropractic.

"I've been doing food drives for a long time and this amount of food even shocked me," he said. "The timing couldn't be better because our pantry is an all-time low. We have families turning to us in need that, in the past, supported us. It has put us in dire-need mode."

Zach, who hopes to be an Eagle Scout before spring rolls around, has gathered a group of volunteers from Scouting and the school district to assist him.

"We need to help more people that would have never needed us before," Irvine said.

To make a monetary or food donation, call Brackney Chiropractic at (734) 455-4444.

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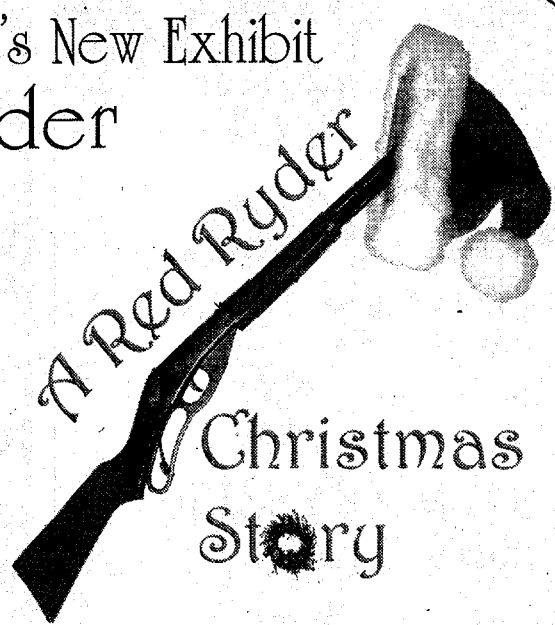
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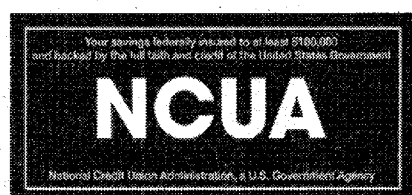
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Shoppers start the season at stores big and small

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

Melina Holyszko started her holiday shopping just hours into what's called Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving.

The Redford woman began her day at 3:30 a.m. at Meijer.

By 2 p.m., she had been to Target, Kmart, Sears, Kohl's, Dick's Sporting Goods and

the Town Peddler Craft & Antique Mall in Livonia. At the last stop, she picked up a Webkinz stuffed animal with online gaming capabilities.

"I'm probably almost done," Holyszko said, but added that she reserves the right to buy more gifts later on. "I like to shop."

Marie McLean of Livonia combined fitness and shopping Friday at Laurel Park Place.

"I bought two sweaters and I bought some socks for my grandsons," said McLean, who is also a regular mall walker. She has four grandsons and six granddaughters.

"So you see, I need to shop," McLean said with a smile. She walked about 45 minutes after her 7:45 a.m. arrival, "not counting my shopping."

The mall was crowded with shoppers following its 9 a.m. opening for stores Friday.

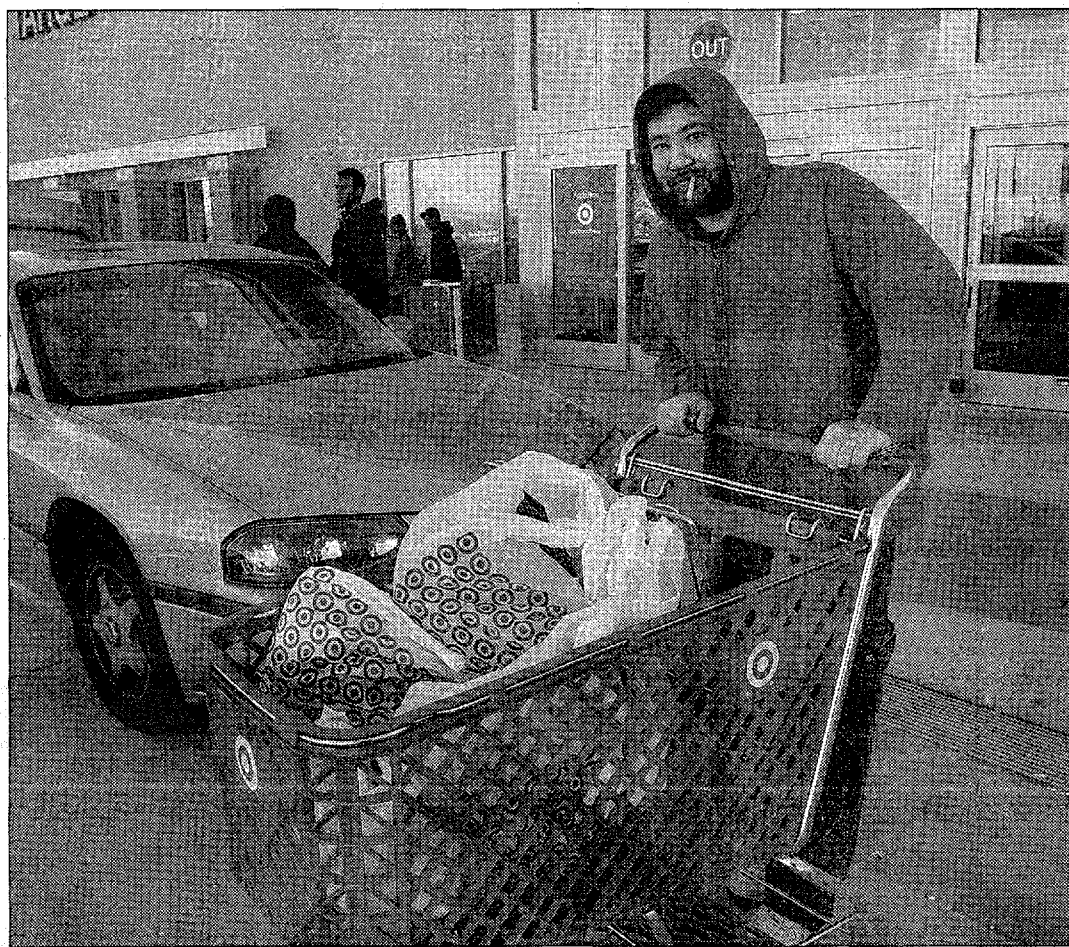
Small businesses like Colleen's Gaelic Gifts on Farmington and Perfect Present on Seven Mile don't have the "door buster" deals that big name retailers use to attract shoppers on the day after Thanksgiving.

However, store owners said they do a fair amount of business with people looking for unique and different gifts. Sales start picking up even before Thanksgiving.

"We've had some increased business in the past few weeks," said Cheryl Williams, owner of Perfect Present. When shoppers see something they like, they tend to purchase it, or put it on lay-away, rather than wait, she said.

"It may only be one of a kind," Williams said. On Friday and Saturday, her store was also participating in a fund-raiser for the Stevenson High School boys swim team. A visit from Santa and author Grandma Janet Mary are planned for Friday, Dec. 7.

Colleen Haggerty, whose store features clothing, jewelry and food, said Claddagh rings are popular gifts. The design features hands clasping a heart, topped with a crown. They signify love, friendship and loyalty, Haggerty said. "The



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jeff Chau of Livonia filled up a basket shopping in the early afternoon at the new Target store at Wonderland Village on Plymouth Road at Middlebelt.



Holly Triplett of Westland had a long walk with her purchases. She has a handicapped parking permit but couldn't find an available handicapped parking spot Friday at Westland Shopping Center.

Claddagh ring is universal. It works for any nationality."

The store also sells imported food, like butter, cheeses and white and black pudding, which is really a meat dish.

Dan and Marcie Schultz had just started their holiday shopping by purchasing a trinket at Value City in Livonia Mall. The Florida couple was in town for Dan's 25th high school reunion from Bentley High School, and to visit family in Livonia.

They planned to go to Kohl's Friday afternoon.

Shoppers also hit Aco Hardware on Middlebelt.

"This is the weekend people start decorating their homes," said store manager David Whitacre, who said the holiday season is comparable to spring, in terms of bringing traffic to the store.

Even people who say they normally avoid Black Friday were out by afternoon.

Carole Karfis of Livonia, another mall walker at

Laurel Park Place, found a dressy top for herself at Parisian.

"I normally don't," she said of Black Friday shopping.

"When I saw I was going to be here and the store was open ... I've changed my mind about shopping on Black Friday. Money talks."

Staff writer Julie Brown contributed to this report.

rrjones@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2054

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

A special meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, December 6, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following item:

Z.07-19 149/157 W. Liberty Non-Use Variance Requested
Front Yard Setback & Off-Site
Dual Use of Parking
Zoned: B-1, Local Business
Applicant: Dominic Maltese

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

MAUREEN BRODIE, ADA Coordinator
201 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

Publish: November 25, 2007

OE057263D - 2x4

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA DECEMBER 13, 2007

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2007 at 7:00 PM.** The meeting will be held in the Board Room at the Township Administration Building located at 1150 S. CANTON CENTER ROAD, CANTON, MI 48188. The following agenda will be discussed:

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag

Roll Call: Randy Blaylock, Jim Cisek, Cathy Johnson, Vicki Welty, Steven Johnson and Dawn Zuber

Acceptance of Agenda

- Jeff Packer and Alex Rahill, 42219 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170, for industrial property located at 7001 N. Haggerty Rd., west side of Haggerty Rd. between Warren and Joy Roads, appealing Zoning Ordinance Article 6.00, Section 6.02U, variance of 10 ft from the 50 ft front setback from Warren Rd. and a variance of 31 ft from the 50 ft front setback from Haggerty Rd. for religious institutions.
Zone Industrial
Parcel 046 99 0003 715
(Planning)
- Taleb & Abdallah Holdings, 15111 W. Warren Ave., Dearborn, MI 48126, for commercial property located at 45495 Michigan Ave. (Amoco), south side of Michigan Ave. between Belleville and Dewitt Roads, appealing Sign Ordinances Article 6A.00, Section 6A.06; Article 6A.00, Section 6A.15; Article 6A.00, Section 6A.25, sign variance.
Zone C-3
Parcel 132 99 0010 712
(Building)
- Henry Ford Health System, One Ford Place, Detroit, MI 48202, for commercial medical property located at 6100 Haggerty Rd., east side of Haggerty Rd. between Ford and Warren Roads, appealing Sign Ordinances Article 6A.00, Section 6A.15; Article 6A.00, Section 6A.25, sign variance.
Zone LL-1 Light Industrial
Parcel 047 01 0005 000
(Building)
- Michael A. Boggio, 30100 Telegraph #216, Bingham Farms, MI 48025, for vacant property located on Canton Center Rd., northeast side of Canton Center Rd. between Michigan and Canton Center Roads, appealing Sign Ordinances Article 6A.00, Section 6A.15; Article 6A.00, Section 6A.21, to allow a directional sign to be placed at an entrance drive which is not located on the premises of the business and to allow a 2 ft variance above the maximum 4 ft maximum height to allow for an architectural element on the proposed sign.
Zone C-3
Parcel 129 99 0002 710
(Building)
- Fairmont Sign Company, 3750 E. Outer Drive, Detroit, MI 48234, for commercial property (Borders) located on the south side of Ford Rd. between Morton-Taylor and Oakview Roads, appealing Sign Ordinance Article 6A.00, Section 6A.22, master signage plan for shops at Morton-Taylor.
Zone C-2
Parcel 057 99 0001 710
(Building)

Election of officers for 2008

Discussion- Setting January training date

Approval of the October 25, 2007 Minutes

All written comments need to be submitted to the Charter Township of Canton Clerk's Office, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48188, prior to 5:00 PM on the date of the hearing.

Publish November 25, 2007

OE057242Z - 2x3.5

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

Girl Scouts help shoppers wrap it up

While shoppers crowded Laurel Park Place in Livonia Friday, the Girl Scout gift wrapping booth was there to help harried shoppers make their gifts look just so.

"We also have Westland

mall," where the booth was being set up Friday, said Mary Dicello of Livonia, a mom involved with the Metro Detroit Girl Scout Council. The Huron Valley Girl Scout Council also participates in

the fund-raiser.

Adults and girls wrap presents for shoppers at both malls during mall hours, continuing through Christmas Eve. You can use your own boxes or theirs, with prices based on box size.

"The bows are handmade," said Dicello, adding all gift tags are stamped. Key organizers are Sue Roy and Diane Bergendahl: "If it wasn't for them it would not be possible," Dicello said.

"I enjoy wrapping," she said. "I enjoy meeting the people. It's just a lot of fun." The volunteers watch a DVD in training. The girls choose what they want to do with money raised, such as camping or trips.

"Just come out and help the Girl Scouts," Dicello urged.

By Julie Brown



NEWS FLASH!

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All new subscribers to an Observer or Eccentric newspaper will receive a gift card worth \$10 at their local Meijer store. Our newspapers are filled with manufacturers' and local merchant's coupons, so the savings just keep coming. Save on gas, too. Find out what's happening right where you live as you enjoy your local news.

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check out the numbers in
today's **SPORTS** section

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\$6.50 EXCEPT ADULT EVE.

Free drink refills & 25¢ corn refills

SHOWTIMES 11/23 - 11/29 No passes

ENCHANTED (PG)
11:00, 1:30, 4:00, 6:55, 9:15
FR/SAT LS 11:35
THE MIST (R)
11:00, 1:40, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00
MR. MAGORUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM (G)
12:20, 2:50, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20
FR/SAT LS 11:40
BEOWULF (PG-13)
11:25, 1:55, 4:25, 7:00, 9:30
FR/SAT LS 12:00
FRED CLAU (PG)
11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:05, 9:40
BEE MOVIE (PG)
11:15, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:05
FR/SAT LS 11:15
AMERICAN GANGSTER (R)
11:45, 3:00, 6:20, 9:35

MOVIE GIFT CARDS
with Bonus Dollars \$

COUPON
FREE 20oz DRINK
with \$2.50 purchase of 46oz bag of battery popcorn
one use at Canton Cinema. Exp. 12/31/07

AROUND TOWN

Railroadiana

The Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers Club will sponsor a buy-and-swap toys and trains show noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, at the church hall, 32500 Palmer west of Merriman, Westland. Admission is \$2 per person, \$4 per family. Food is available and parking is free. There will be operating train layouts of various gauges and more 150 dealer tables. Tables are \$10 per table. Reserve tables by calling (734) 595-8327. Dealer setup is at 9 a.m. the day of the show.

Nutty Nutcracker

Center Stage Dance Co. presents their holiday production of 'The Nutty Nutcracker.' Loosely following the story of The Nutcracker, the show will present a wide variety of music including songs from Dreamgirls, some Sammy Davis Jr., a little Bing Crosby and the soundtrack from Pirates of the Caribbean. Dance styles will include ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, and hip hop. The show starts at 6:45 on Wednesday, Dec. 19 at Hillside Middle School Auditorium. Admission is free. For more information call (248) 380-1666.

Youth Philharmonic

The Livonia Youth Philharmonic of Michigan, a regional orchestra, has openings for interested student musicians in our intermediate and advanced orchestras and also the sax choir. Rehearsals are on Saturday mornings at Churchill High School. For more information contact Kathy Bilger at (734) 464-8704 or e-mail auditions@LYPM.org

New Year's Eve party

Ring in the New Year with Jimmy Howard & Company at a New Year's Party at the Livonia Elks, 3117 Plymouth Road in Livonia Monday, Dec. 30. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; party goes until 1 a.m. Dinner (oven-baked chicken and port tenderloin) served at 7:15 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person. Due to the Christmas holiday, tickets must be purchased by Dec. 19. For more information, call Linda at (734) 507-9173 or Mary Ann at (734) 654-0115, or e-mail parties.2go@yahoo.com

Genealogical society

The Livingston County Genealogical Society meets 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13 to hear speaker Marlene Lipon discuss "Christmas Traditions." The meeting takes place at the First United Methodist Church, 1230 Bower, in Howell.

The society also meets 7 p.m. Jan. 3 to hear David Bridgens of the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing talk about "Treasures Located in Farmers Outhouses-the Last Place to Look for Genealogical Information." There's a help session at 6 p.m. The meeting takes place at

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1041 W. Grand River, in Howell. For more information, call (810) 227-7745.

Suicide Loss Support Group

New Hope Center for Grief Support is offering an ongoing support group for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. This monthly group meets 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday and fourth Monday of each month at the First United Methodist Church in Northville located at 777 W. Eight Mile Road. No registration is necessary for this monthly drop-in support group. For further information about this group or about the many other free, age and loss specific groups offered for children, teens, and adults, please call New Hope Center for Grief Support at (248) 348-0115 and visit us at www.newhopecenter.net

Caring for aging parents

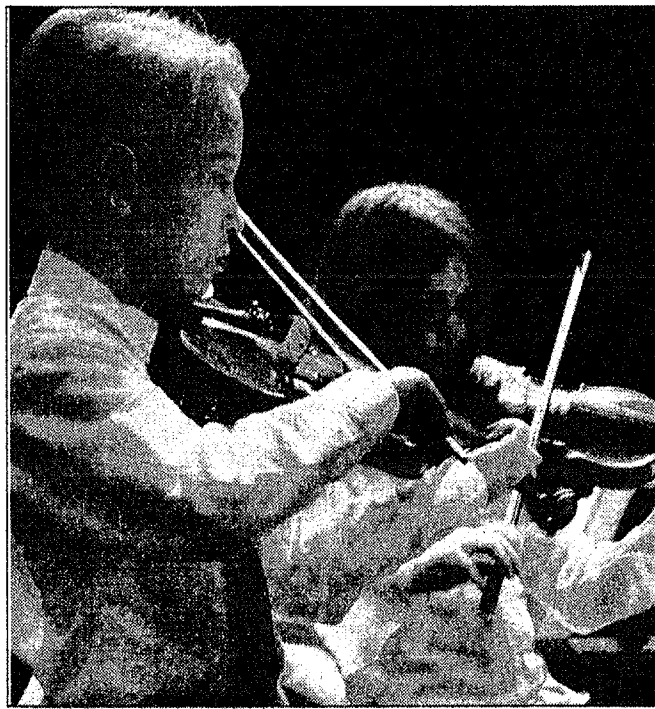
With the fastest growing population segment being 85 years and older, the demands of caring for an aging loved one, baby boomers, spouses and even adult grandchildren are finding themselves spread thin for knowledge and resources in caregiving. In honor of National Home Health Care and Hospice month this November, Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan would like to let people know about its free Consumer's Guide to Home Health Care. Containing information on home health care and Medicare fraud this booklet provides harried caregivers with a place to begin. To receive the booklet, call (800) 882-5720, Ext. 8374.

Gardeners meet

The Gardeners of Northville & Novi meet the second Tuesday of the month September through May at 6:30 p.m. Locations rotate between Novi Civic Center and the Northville Library. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call (248) 231-2334 or visit our Web site www.gardeners-northville-novi.org

Travel clinics

When traveling to a foreign country, a vaccination and travel consultation could be just as important as a passport. From diseases you may have already heard of such as hepatitis, to the more exotic illnesses like Japanese encephalitis, Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's TravelWise Travel Clinic can provide the vaccinations and information you need to consider. This new service from VNA provides inoculations for many common diseases including influenza, pneumonia, meningitis, tetanus and diphtheria, in addition to vaccinations specific to your travel destinations such as hepatitis A and B and typhoid. Additionally, VNA is a certified provider of the yellow



Young artists

The application deadline for the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society's Youth Artist Competition is Monday, Jan. 21. The competition is scheduled to take place Sunday, Feb. 3, at Evola Music, 7170 N. Haggerty Road, Canton. Since 1978, this competition has offered music scholarships to the youth in these areas. The competition is composed of three divisions: SENIOR INSTRUMENTAL (grades 10-12), SENIOR PIANO (grades 10-12), and JUNIOR COMBINED (grades 7-9). Applicants must be piano, band or orchestra students residing in one of the following school districts: Clarenceville, Livonia, Northville, Novi, Plymouth-Canton, Van Buren (Belleville) or Wayne-Westland. Members of the Celebration Youth Orchestra or students at Evola Music are also eligible. The distribution of scholarship funds for the first place winners in each division is Senior Instrumental, \$500; Senior Piano, \$500; and Junior Combined, \$250. Applications, available through the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society, are due by Jan. 21. For an application or further information, contact Jane Libbing, (734) 451-2112 or by e-mail at jane@plymouthsymphony.org. Applications are also available on the Plymouth Symphony Web site at www.plymouthsymphony.org

fever vaccine. In order to prepare for VNA's travel consultation, individuals should bring their anticipated travel dates, itinerary and lodging plans. Past immunization records and a list of allergies and current medications will also help. For appointments, cost, on-site clinics and general information, contact the VNA TravelWise Travel Clinic at (248) 967-8755 or visit www.vna.org.

Heartland Hospice

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

Card party/luncheon

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

Hospice training

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

Literacy Council tutors

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

Toastmasters meet

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

Grief support

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

Post Polio Clinic

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

CLUBS

Rotary A.M.

The Plymouth Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. meets at 7 a.m. every Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. New members

are always welcome. Contact Beth Stewart, president, Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., by calling (734) 420-4094.

Gardeners meet

Gardeners of Northville & Novi meets September through May the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Locations rotate between Novi Civic Center and the Northville Library. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call (248) 231-2334 or visit our Web site at www.gardenersnorthville-novi.org

Canton Newcomers

The Canton Newcomers meet the first Wednesday of each month (September-May) for an adult evening of socializing, a speaker or an activity. Additionally, the group hosts more than 20 events during the month including Book Club, Bunko, Playgroups, Creative Kids, Ladies Day and Night Out, Scrapbooking, Walking and many more. Request a complimentary newsletter at cantonnewcomers.org or call Jennifer at (734) 981-1715. You don't have to be "new" to be a Newcomer!

Kiwanis Club

The Plymouth-Canton Kiwanis Club meets every Tuesday at 7:15 a.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center on Farmer. The Club invites you to their morning meetings to discuss community projects and activities. Be part of the solution and not just a spectator. For more information, call (734) 981-0460 or see the Web site (www.pckiwani.org).

Plymouth Newcomers

Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors playgroups for children ages 0-5 meet several times during the week at member homes and occasional special events. Come meet new parents while your kids meet their own new friends! For details, contact Janet Keller at (734) 451-1840 or robertplusjanet@aol.com

Fibromyalgia/Chronic Fatigue

The Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Association will meet 1-3 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church on Merriman south of Ford. There will be a guest speaker at each meeting and a variety of topics will be covered. There is no membership fee but a small donation will be accepted. For information call Lucy Rowley 734-462-1768

MOPS meet

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) meets twice monthly from September-May, for moms and their children, newborn-kindergarten, at Lakepointe Bible Church in Plymouth. For more information, call Crystal Johnson, (734) 459-1861.

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1-Year Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, December 1st from Noon-3 p.m.

Free Gifts, Refreshments, Drawing for a gift basket, Anniversary ribbon cutting at 1:00 p.m. Free yoga classes 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2-3 p.m., Holiday Gift Selection including books, CDs, yoga clothes, mats, jewelry, gift baskets, gift certificates, organic skin care, and more!

- Your first class is always FREE at evolve yoga studio
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Come... Make a Memory

at The Inn at St. John's

2007 Gingerbread Open House

Sunday, December 2, 1-4pm

Free fun for the family including carriage rides, live reindeer petting farm, visits with Santa and a gingerbread house display. Cookies, cocoa, cider & doughnuts.

Please bring a donation of non-perishable food items to benefit St. Vincent de Paul



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44045 Five Mile Road at Sheldon Road in Plymouth

For more information, visit www.theinnatstjohns.com or phone 734-414-0600.



OUR VIEWS

No shortage of need in this 'season of giving'

It is no secret the state of Michigan is in the midst of a prolonged economic slump. And while there are always the less fortunate who rely on the generosity of others to make it through the day, the number of people needing a helping hand this holiday season surely has increased.

And that is putting extra pressure on area food banks, soup kitchens and emergency shelters to keep up with the additional demand. Organizations like Gleaners Food Bank and the Goodfellows need more help than ever if they are going to succeed in ensuring no child goes without a Christmas, and every family will enjoy a holiday meal.

A great way to get into the "holiday spirit" is by supporting the various charities whose volunteers work tirelessly to help those in need. There is no shortage of ways to help, either offering one's time, talent or treasure to a worthy cause.

The Salvation Army is in need of volunteer bell ringers to help with its annual red kettle campaign. If enough volunteers are not found, the organization either has to pay people to man the kettles or reduce the number of locations, both of which cut into its resources. Visit the Salvation Army's Web site at www.salvationarmymich.org to learn how to help.

Similarly, Gleaners Community Food Bank is seeking both food donations and volunteers to help pack food boxes for the needy. The organization, which serves both Oakland and Wayne counties, experienced record demand for assistance last month, distributing more than 2.2 million pounds of food. With area food pantries experiencing critical shortages, cash donations are the best way to help restock empty shelves. Visit the Gleaners Web site at www.gcfb.org to learn more.

South Oakland Shelter is another area organization experiencing record demand, coupled with dwindling resources. The Oakland County-based shelter not only provides temporary housing and meals to area homeless people, but also helps with case management, job counseling and transportation to help break the cycle of poverty and homelessness. To learn how to help, visit the S.O.S. Web site at www.sos1985.org.

In this season of giving, it is more important than ever to do as much as we can to help those in need this holiday season.

All about choices

Mr. Power's "Judge nixes Dem/GOP plan reminiscent of Orwell" (*Observer*, Nov. 15) makes lots of sense to me.

Why in our supposed democracy only two parties are favored and promoted, parties that many view as one under two names? It certainly appears there is not much difference — only minor, cosmetic — between the two. For personal convenience or gain, politicians freely switch from one party to the other with no regrets.

Under former Soviet domination behind the Iron Curtain, countries, the so-called People's Democracies, had likewise two parties, communist and socialist, controlled from above by a common to both parties ruling clique, parties basically similar, differently only in name.

This scheme was intended to fool the ruled people into believing they have a choice in deciding how they wish to be governed, and to fool the outside world into believing these countries had democratic systems of government, when in fact they had not.

But politically savvy people there knew better. When opportune time had arrived, they got rid of this kind of mendacious sys-

tems, and adopted true democracies. Now they have real choices, several, usually four or five major parties, representing ideas and interests of corresponding electorate.

It is wrong, certainly undemocratic, for the power-wielding elite to discriminate in various ways, including ignoring and omissions, against parties other than the republican-democratic, especially if it happens to be intentional for some mean-spirited reason.

People of this country have the right to hearing on equal basis various ideas concerning them and the country, and should be given such opportunity, not furtively withheld from them. Being well, impartially informed, they certainly are able to make the right, intelligent choices in the best interest of themselves and this, their country.

Joseph Wira
Plymouth Township

Stop media consolidation

Media consolidation means we hear a less diverse and broad spectrum of issues and allows free rein of the airwaves by huge companies pushing their own agenda.

Women and minorities are already misrepresented in the media and ownership and it shows in how they are portrayed in the media. Now Kevin Martin and the rest of the FCC want even more consolidation. This means the brainwashing will get even worse. The U.S. is a melting pot and our media should reflect our society, which is broad and diverse.

Denise Berthiaume
Canton

Nice job, 'Candy Man'

Thanks to the *Observer* for doing the story about the "Candy Man" dentist. My sister, brother and I donated six and a half pounds of candies that we collected on Halloween. We earned \$7 and two toothbrushes, and we wrote letters to the troops.

I'm surprised 500 pounds total of candies were collected in just one day. I hope all soldiers in Iraq enjoy the candies and don't forget to brush their teeth.

I am glad to hear that the dentist office will continue this event next year because I will definitely contribute again.

Tia Felice
Canton

COMMUNITY VOICE

Are you ready for winter?



'I'm ready for winter, I like to play in the snow with the kids.'
Kris Grau, 25
Belleville



'No, because we've had such nice weather.'
Roxanne Burdick, 55
Salem Township



'No, because I hate winter, it's freezing cold.'
Beth Schultz, 24
Westland



'I like the change of seasons. I grew up in Michigan, I'm used to it.'
Kathy Powers, 45
Plymouth Township

Introducing Chase Picks Up the Tab.
Maybe you should have ordered dessert.

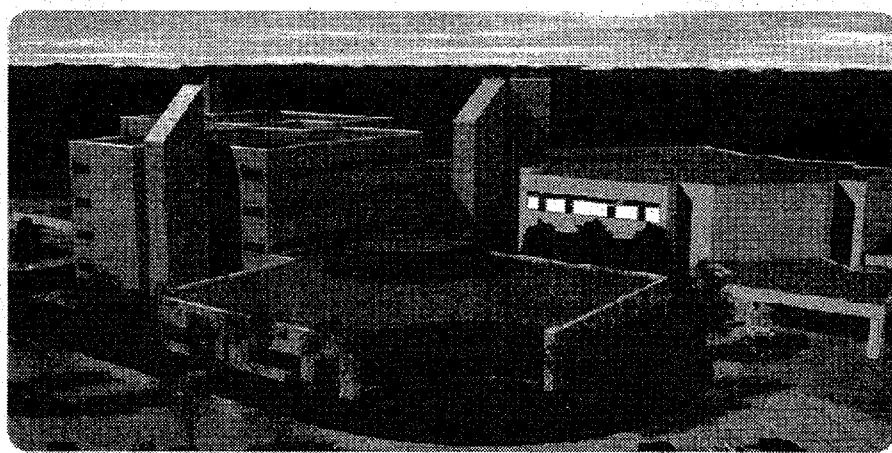
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Free to enroll, visit a branch or Chase.com/TheTab.



*Purchases authorized with a PIN (Personal Identification Number) do not qualify. Maximum amount of prize is \$500. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. PROMOTION SUBJECT TO ALL FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED OR OTHERWISE RESTRICTED BY LAW. OPEN TO LEGAL U.S. RESIDENTS CURRENTLY RESIDING IN CT, IL, IN, KY, IA, MI, NJ, NY, OH, OK, TX, WI AND WV WHO ARE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER. Program begins 12:00:01 a.m. ET on 11/1/07 and ends 11:59:59 p.m. ET on 12/31/07. For information on how to opt in, how to obtain entries, entry limitations, how potential winners are determined, and no-purchase method of entry, as well as the rest of the Full Official Rules, please log on to: www.Chase.com/TheTab. Maximum ARV for all prizes is: \$17,500,000. Odds of winning any one prize is: 1 in 500. SPONSOR: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., 1111 Polaris Parkway, Columbus, OH, 43240. © 2007 JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. Member FDIC.

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Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center >

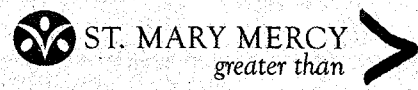
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Plymouth Symphony all set for second concert

The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra presents the second concert of their 62nd season, "The Passion of the Piano," at Ward Presbyterian Church (40000 Six Mile Rd in Northville), 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16.

Headlining the program is Sergei Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto No. 2*, which symphony officials say is not only one of the most beloved works in the literature but considered by many to be one of the greatest piano concertos ever written.

The concerto's main themes are even more recognizable as the inspiration for several popular songs including 1976 pop/rock hit "All by Myself" by Eric Carmen and Frank Sinatra's 1945 hit "Full Moon and Empty Arms."

Performing this monumental work will be the distinguished virtuoso soloist and acclaimed collaborative pianist, Armen Guzelimian. Currently based in Los Angeles, Guzelimian enjoys an international career performing with major orchestras



Cindy McFee

and music festivals across the country.

Originally from Tacoma, Wash., the PSO's guest composer, Dr. Cindy McFee, will be visiting from the University

of North Texas for a performance of her energetic 2005 composition *Finish Line*. The work celebrates the speed, imagery, momentum and kinetic sounds of a finely

crafted racecar.

Completing the program will be a performance of famed British composer, Edward Elgar's *Enigma Variations*. Written in 1899, the work consists of delightfully inventive, affectionate and descriptive musical portraits of a total of fourteen people and a dog who were all considered part of Elgar's circle of close acquaintances. The climax of the work comes in the ninth variation - *Nimrod* - that is arguably one of the most moving and best-loved excerpts in the whole of the classical repertoire.

Prior to the performance, patrons are invited to hear a special On-Stage talk at 7:15 p.m. featuring Nan Washburn and guest composer Cindy McFee. This is a special introduction and a chance to ask questions about the evening's musical program.

Tickets for all PSO season subscription concerts are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$10 for students through 12th grade. Groups of 10 or more receive a 10-percent discount.

Tickets for PSO performances may be purchased by contacting the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society office by phone at (734) 451-2112, by visiting the secure Online Box Office at www.plymouth-symphony.org, or in person at 470 Forest Avenue, Suite 18, Plymouth.

Realtor honors

Several Plymouth area Realtors were among those honored by the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors for holding membership in the National Association of Realtors for 40 years or more. Among the Plymouth Realtors recognized were Carol Leroue, who has been a Realtor for 42 years, Bob Bake and James Courtney.

The trio, along with other Realtors so honored, were recognized as Realtor Emeritus members at the WWOCA annual general membership meeting earlier this month.

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Michigan Eye Doctor Helps Legally Blind

Dr. Sheldon Smith fits special glasses to help those with macular degeneration and other eye conditions keep reading and driving.
By Elena Lombardi

Most of us take things like reading, watching TV or playing cards for granted. But poor vision from conditions like macular degeneration, glaucoma, diabetes or cataracts makes these tasks difficult or even impossible. When people have insufficient vision to do the things they want to do, they have low vision.

Today Michigan Optometrist Dr. Sheldon Smith has the answers many of these people have been seeking. Dr. Smith, a Low Vision Specialist, helps people with these types of eye diseases see better. A Fellow of the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists, Dr. Smith is one of a select group of doctors serving the visually impaired.

"People don't know that there are experienced doctors who can help them with specialized low vision care," says Dr. Smith. "Many people are told by their own doctors that nothing more can be done for their eye condition, but there are ways to improve vision" says Dr. Smith. "We fit special devices to help patients meet their various visual goals."

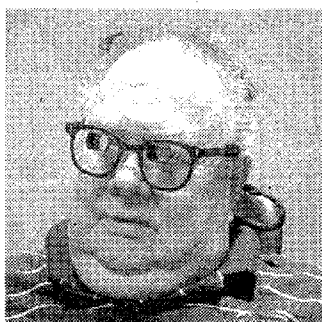
Patients often end up using weak, clumsy handheld magnifiers trying to help themselves see better. Conversely, Dr. Smith prescribes hands free devices that are easier to use. "We use the same

telescopic devices surgeons use during operations," says Dr. Smith. "That's how powerful and convenient they are.

Special prismatic reading glasses and microscopes help make reading a little easier. Telescopic glasses primarily focus on distance objects like TV, passing neighbors or scenery. Telescopes can also be adapted to closer tasks like playing cards or computers. "Telescopes can even help people meet the vision requirement for driving" Dr. Smith explained. Michigan is one of the 46 states that allow bioptic telescopic glasses for driving.

Mr. Charles Willim, age 81, of Taylor came to get his driver license restored after macular degeneration reduced his vision to 20/70. Dr. Smith fit him with special driving telescopes that improved his vision to 20/40. A few weeks later Charles passed his road test and is now a licensed driver again. "Those telescopic glasses are pretty darn good" he said.

Buddy Standafar, age 70, of Westland had diabetic eye problems. He came to reinstate his driver license and read better. His regular vision as 20/200 but with special driving telescopes he saw 20/50. Prismatic reading glasses got him reading newsprint. Two months later his license was restored. "Now I see the traffic lights much better. I am happy to be on the road again. I tell a lot of people about Dr. Smith "Buddy said.



Buddy Standafar wearing driving telescopes

Dr. Smith also advises patients on using sun filters and nutritional supplements to prevent further vision loss. Special glasses and telescopes range in price from \$600 to \$2,500. "Every patient is unique, with different amounts of vision and individual goals," says Dr. Smith. "I strive to help patients resume doing what matters most to them. Meeting patient goals with suitable solutions ultimately improves independence and quality of life."

If you or someone you know is struggling with their vision, call Dr. Smith to find out how low vision care can help. There is help available. You just need to know where to find it. You can reach Dr. Smith and Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at

1-877-677-2020

Dr. Smith has offices in Livonia, Warren, Shelby Township and the Lansing area.

Visit Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at suburbaneyecare.com or find out more about the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists at ialvs.com.

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Sunday, November 25, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Donny Barlow (22) played an instrumental role in the Chiefs' 6-2 victory over Salem Friday night in a semifinal game of the Rocks' annual Thanksgiving tournament. Barlow scored three goals and assisted on another to spearhead his team's offensive attack.

Unbeaten Canton icers skate past Salem

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

One day after feasting on turkey, mashed potatoes and stuffing, Canton's hockey team sunk its chops into something not as tasty, but probably more satisfying Friday night — power plays.

Playing arch-rival Salem in the semifinal round of the Rocks' annual Thanksgiving tournament, Canton jumped to a 3-1 lead after two periods thanks to a trio of man-advantage goals before adding three gray-like net-finders over the final 15 minutes to carve out a 6-2 triumph over the Rocks at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

The victory improved the Chiefs'

record to 3-0 heading into Saturday night's tournament championship contest against Grand Rapids Forest Hills North.

Junior Donny Barlow was the offensive catalyst for the Chiefs as he notched a hat-trick and an assist. Kory Sosnowski, Ryan Lash and Nick Tomilenko scored single goals for the winners while Sam Ott and Eddie Mazorowicz lit the lamp for the Rocks.

"It took us a while to get our game-plan down because of Salem's great team speed, but once we did, it created some scoring opportunities for us," said Canton coach Dan Abraham. "Eventually, the puck started finding center."

Please see **CANTON, B3**



Salem's Ryan Blakey (15) battles Canton's Ryan May for a loose puck during Friday's cross-campus showdown at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

Sidelines

Hoop opens

The 2007-08 high school girls basketball season opens Tuesday night for the three P-CEP squads. Both Salem and Plymouth will open with 7 p.m. home games against Ann Arbor Huron and Detroit Community, respectively, while Canton will kick off its campaign at Saline.

The boys season begins for all three "Park" teams on Tuesday, Dec. 4.

Ex-Chiefs succeed

A pair of former Canton wrestlers are excelling at the next level.

Konrad Konsitzke, who graduated in 2005 from Canton, recently won his first collegiate tournament at Muskegon Community College. Konsitzke, who transferred this year to Muskegon CC from Iowa Central Community College, went 4-0 while competing at 157 pounds.

Corey Phillips, a 2007 graduate and state champion, placed sixth for Eastern Michigan University at the Ashland Open Wrestling Tournament after compiling a 4-2 record at 149 pounds.

Canton Wrestling Club sign-ups

A registration opportunity will be held for the 2007-08 Canton Wrestling Club on Monday in Room 305 of the Canton North Building (Phase III) from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

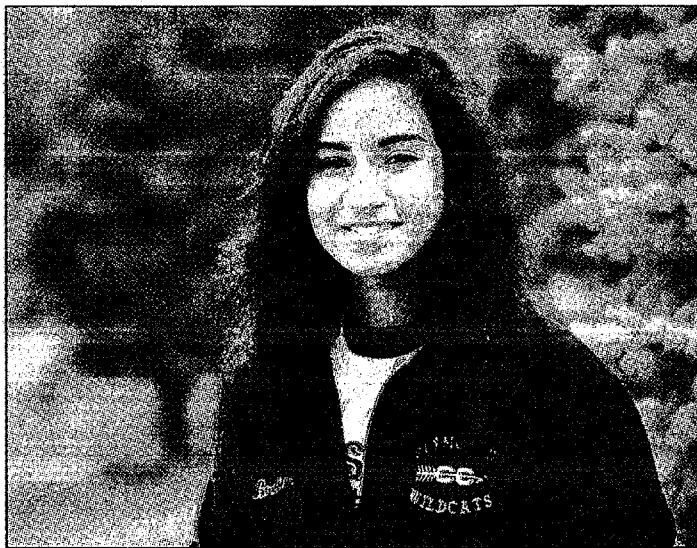
The per-child cost of \$75 includes a T-shirt, shorts and a MYWAY membership.

Practices will be held Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the Canton wrestling room.

Beginner practices (for those with two years of experience or less) will be held 6:15-7:15 p.m. while advanced practices (for those with three years or more of experience) will be held from 7:15-8:30 p.m.

If you cannot attend Monday's registration, contact Casey Randolph at (734) 582-6885 or randolc@pecc.k12.mi.us.

Senior Pam Bhullar has made a positive mark both in the classroom and on the running trails at Plymouth High School. A 4.5 student, she recently completed a stellar four-year career for the Wildcats' cross-country team.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

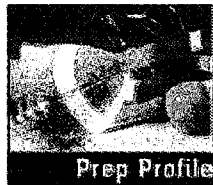
Bhullar's on fast track to success

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

It's difficult to say who's meant more to whom the past four years — Pam Bhullar to the Plymouth girls cross country program or the Plymouth girls cross country program to Pam Bhullar.

This much is crystal clear, though: Both have left positive, long-lasting impressions on the other.

Bhullar, one of the most accomplished students to ever step foot on the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park campus, was



Prep Profile

a solid performer for Plymouth cross country coach Mary Kerwin's squad since her freshman year.

She consistently posted times that hovered around the 20-minute mark thanks to a stellar work ethic and a positive attitude that rubbed off on her teammates from Day 1.

While Bhullar's senior season didn't unfold as well as she may have liked this fall, it

Please see **BHULLAR, B2**

Whalers carve out a pair of victories

Jeremy Smith pitched a 26-save shutout and Joe Gaynor's first goal of the season was all the Plymouth Whalers needed in a 1-0 victory over the Sault Ste. Greyhounds in an Ontario Hockey League game played Friday afternoon at Compuware Arena.

The Whalers improved to 15-7-1-1, good for 32 points and third place in the OHL West, four points behind the Soo, which slipped to 17-6-1-1. Plymouth is 8-1-0-1 in 10 games in November and has received points in 10 of its last 11 games.

Smith and Soo goaltender Kyle Gajewski battled all afternoon, with Smith tying Kitchener's Josh Unice for the league lead with his third shutout of the season. Gajewski stopped 35 of 36 shots.

Sault Ste. Marie's most dangerous scoring chance in the game came at 4:46 of the first period when Dustin Jeffrey was awarded a penalty shot. Smith pokechecked the puck away from Jeffrey just outside the crease area on the penalty-shot attempt.

Gaynor scored the only goal of the game at 2:56 of the second

period. Working with linemates Joe McCann and Brett Valliquette, the line dug the puck out from the left boards in the Soo zone and Gaynor snapped a shot from the hashmarks past Gajewski.

Sault Ste. Marie head coach Craig Hartsburg called a time out and pulled Gajewski with 1:03 left in regulation, but the Greyhounds couldn't find the equalizer.

Smith (a Nashville Predators draft choice from Brownstown Township) came into the game tied with Barrie's Andrew Perugini for the league lead with a .931 save percentage. Smith lowered his goals-against average to 2.46 while raising his save percentage with .934.

The last 1-0 game played at Compuware Arena happened on Jan. 31, 2001, when the Erie Otters defeated Plymouth, 1-0, on Joe Guenther's goal.

On Wednesday, Smith stopped 48 of 49 shots and Chris Terry, Andrew Fournier and Wes Cunningham contributed a goal and assist each as the

Please see **WHALERS, B3**

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Mitchell-led Rocks look for big things in 07-08

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Salem's girls basketball team has just one senior on its roster but, wow, what a senior it is.

One year after Teresa Coppellie, Lauren Kurtz and Tayler Langham provided the Rocks with one of the area's most-talented and versatile front-courts, senior Alaya Mitchell (5-foot-4) makes the Rocks' back-court one of the most-feared this season.

Mitchell, a three-year varsity standout, returns as one of the Western Lakes Activities Association's best ball-handlers, defensive stoppers and shooters.

Mitchell's finely honed skills have earned her the Rocks' leader an athletic scholarship at Marshall University.

"Alaya is a very exciting player," said Salem coach Fred Thomann, talking about his returning All-Lakes Division standout. "She'll be a combo guard for us, playing a lot of shooting guard, but handling the ball against the press. She did a fabulous job getting ready for this season. Her conditioning is excellent and she's ready to go."

The Rocks' best returning post player is junior forward Chelsea Davis, who saw substantial minutes as a sophomore in 2006. The 5-foot-11 Davis gives Salem a strong inside presence while also serving as an outside threat.

"Chelsea has a very good perimeter shot along with a strong inside game," said Thomann.

Mitchell and Davis will be joined in the starting line-up by a pair of sophomore guards — Sara Stone, a 5-10 player who saw varsity action last year, and Brett deBear, a slick 5-9 ball-handler who had a superb season at the junior-varsity level last fall.

Junior Victoria Brotz (5-10) will combine with Davis to give the Rocks a solid 1-2 punch in the paint.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem senior guard Alaya Mitchell, pictured here in a game last season, is one of the premier all-around players in Observerland. She has been offered an athletic scholarship by Marshall University.

GIRLS PREP HOOP PREVIEW

"Victoria is a very good shooter," said Thomann.

The Rocks starters will be bolstered by a strong reserve unit led by 5-9 swing players Rachel Norman and Erin Classen.

Other key contributors off the bench include Alyssa Garbarino, a 5-8 sophomore; Tara Durocher, a 5-10 junior; Lauren Dworzanin, a 5-9 sophomore; and DeAja Hopkins, a 5-9 junior.

"We have some very, very good skill on this team," said Thomann. "We've had a couple of injuries, so we've been a little limited with what we've been

able to do, but we've had some good pre-season scrimmages.

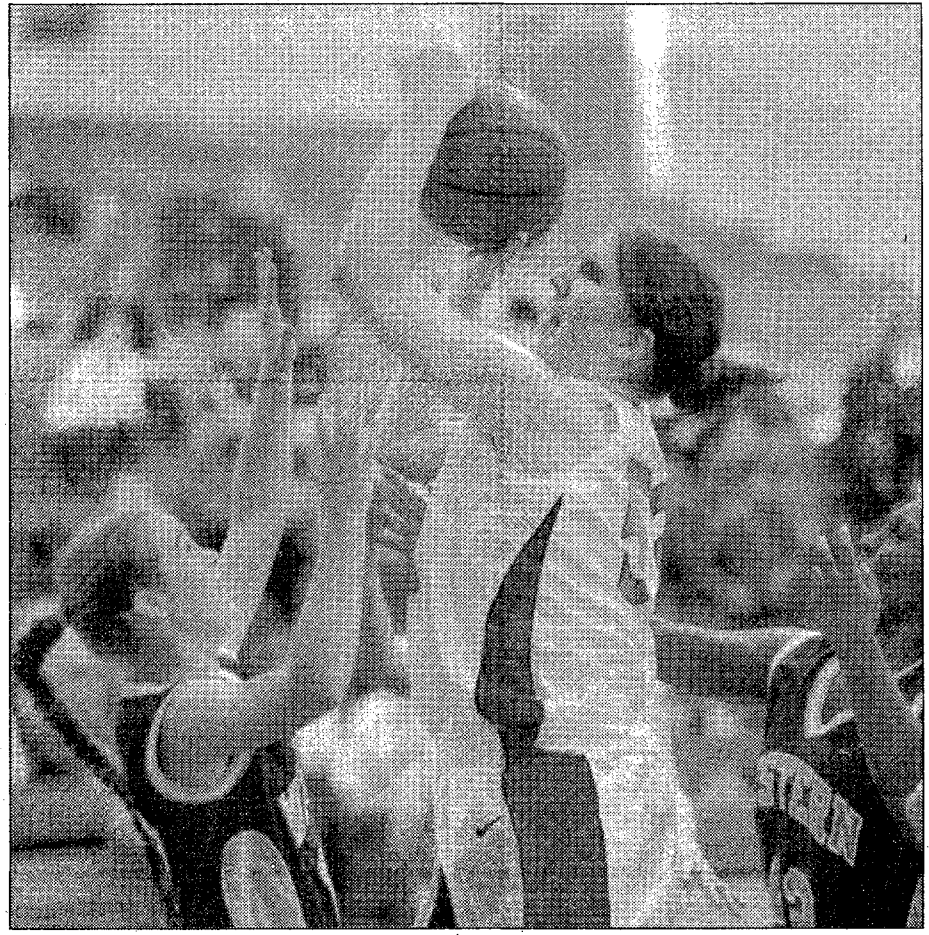
"I think this is going to be a very good all-around team."

As usual, the WLAA should be one of the most-competitive leagues around, Thomann said.

"Obviously, Canton has a couple of key players back and should be very strong," the veteran coach said, when asked what teams should contend for a title. "Livonia Franklin has the Taylor sisters back, so they'll be very good. There are quite a few teams who could step up and win it."

Salem opens Tuesday at home against Ann Arbor Huron. The opening tip is set for 7 p.m.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Baylee Hollowell, shown here shooting in a game last season, will combine with fellow senior Marie Martin to give the Chiefs a potent one-two low-post threat this season. She averaged 9.6 points and 9.4 rebounds as a junior.

Senior post players to lead Chiefs

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

GIRLS PREP HOOP PREVIEW

Canton's girls basketball team will have a "fresh" look to it this season.

One year after winning the Western Lakes Activities Association championship thanks largely to the play of three seniors, this year's Chiefs' roster has the same number of freshmen on it as seniors — three — and they are all expected to play crucial roles in coach Brian Samulski's rotation.

"We're very, very young this year," confirmed Canton coach Brian Samulski. "Our goal is to come in every day and get better and better."

"Our strengths should be our rebounding and our defense. Our post play should be pretty strong, too. We should be able to score points in the paint."

Paint points should be abundant for the Chiefs thanks to a pair of returning senior 6-footers — Marie Martin (6-foot-2) and Baylee Hollowell (6-1). Hollowell nearly averaged a double-double in her first varsity season last

year, posting 9.6 points and 9.4 rebounds per contest.

"Baylee worked very hard during the spring, summer and fall to get better," said Samulski. "She's improved quite a bit both defensively and athletically."

Martin, who is about to begin her fourth varsity season, does it all — from setting picks to hitting mid-range jumpers.

"Marie brings a lot of much-needed experience to the team this year," said Samulski. "She's already done a lot to help the ninth-graders along. She was our best screener last year and she will be again this year. She can hit the shot from 15 to 17 feet out and she good around the rim as well."

The Chiefs' starting backcourt will consist of 5-9 sophomore Kaylie Martin (the younger sister of Marie) and 5-7 junior Leslie Weisz, who was one of the first players off Canton's bench last season.

"Kaylie has really worked hard on her shot during the off-season

and we'll be looking for her to knock down the open 18- to 20-footers this year," said Samulski. "Leslie is very good defensively and we'll put her on the other team's best offensive player."

One of the freshmen — 5-8 forward Carolann Sexauer — will start at forward alongside Martin and Hollowell.

"Carolann has great hands and she can score around the rim," said Samulski.

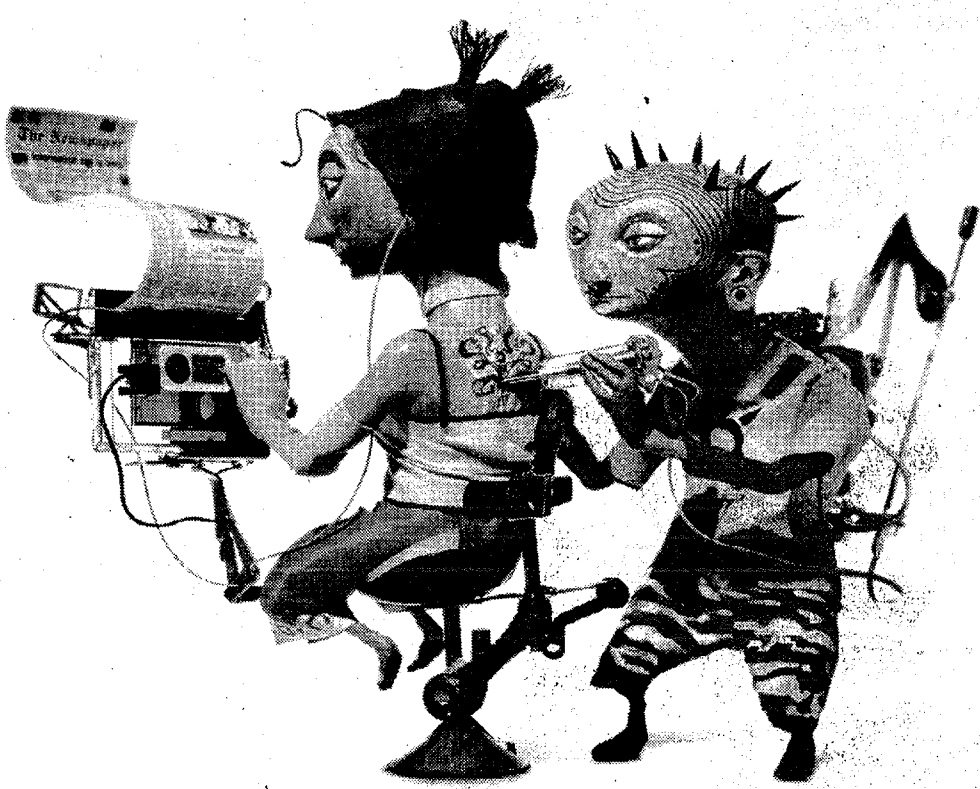
The other two freshmen — 5-7 guard Melanie Pickert and 5-10 Kayla Bridges — will start the season as the Chiefs' first two players off the bench.

Other key reserves include junior Katelyn Comstock, a 5-1 guard; junior Erin Quinn, a 5-1 guard; junior Molly Watson, a 5-7 guard; and Thea Spittle, a 5-9 senior forward.

"Our division should be very, very solid this year," said Samulski. "Every team in the division should be competitive."

The Chiefs open Tuesday at Saline before traveling to Birmingham Marian on Friday.

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JIM CALABRESE

Canton's Payne is Loyola-bound

Canton senior softball pitcher Hilary Payne signed a National Letter of Intent on Nov. 17 to play for Loyola University of Chicago. Payne, a lefty, has been one of the WLAA's most successful pitchers the past two years. Pictured standing behind Hilary Payne are (from left) Canton assistant softball coach Jean Calabrese, Canton head coach Jim Arnold, Payne's parents Nancy and Dave, and John Wocjik, Payne's stamina and mental-toughness coach.

BHULLAR

FROM PAGE B1

didn't diminish the contributions — both athletic and emotional — that she made to the Wildcats' program throughout her career.

"Pam's been the cornerstone of this team for the past four years," said Kerwin. "Even though she had a down year this year, it didn't get her down. She continued to inspire and support her teammates just like she did the first three years."

'The real deal'

Bhullar left a lasting first impression on Kerwin in the summer of 2004 when she appeared at the team's initial practice.

"The first time I met her when she was a freshman, Pam showed up at practice and I asked her how much she ran that summer," remembered Kerwin. "She said, 'Well, I ran a little bit on the treadmill in our basement.'"

"She then went out and ran three miles with the rest of the team and she stayed right with our top runners. It was right

then that I knew she was the real deal."

While Bhullar's infectious personality enhanced the atmosphere surrounding the Wildcats, she was equally affected by the qualities her teammates displayed on a daily basis.

"Being a member of this team has had such a positive influence on my life — from the seniors who were on the team when I was a freshman to the girls on this year's team," Bhullar said. "I've met so many great role models and I've met my best friends because of cross country."

"It's been such a harmonious atmosphere."

Fun to run

While running is a grueling necessity for some athletes, it's anything but for Bhullar, who logged 423 miles during the summer between her sophomore and junior year.

"I feel better when I'm running — it makes me happy," she said. "I started running in middle school and then I thought I'd try out for cross country in high school, and I'm so glad I did."

Bhullar's joy translated into

success on the trails for the Wildcats as she medaled in several meets throughout her sophomore and junior seasons.

"Those were the years I trained the hardest and it paid off for me," she said.

Grade -A student

Bhullar's to-be-envied study habits have resulted in an incredible 4.5 grade-point average, which has swelled above the formerly ultimate 4.0 GPA thanks to A-plus marks in advanced-placement courses.

She also earned an incredible score of 34 on the ACT exam — a number that would make her attractive to just about any university in the country, if not the world.

Hundreds of volunteer hours at the University of Michigan Hospital have led to lofty, but attainable, career aspirations.

"I want to be a neurosurgeon," she said. "Volunteering at the hospital, I've had the opportunity to visit with people who are very ill. I found that when I could bring a smile to their face, it made me feel better about myself."

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Penguins get clipped in opener

WHALERS

FROM PAGE B1

Whalers defeated the Saginaw Spirit, 4-1.

Joe McCann scored the other Plymouth goal. Jack Combs scored the lone Saginaw goal, his 14th of the season.

But Smith was the difference, as Saginaw outshot Plymouth, 49-25. Smith lowered his goals against average to 2.65 and raised his save percentage to a league-best .931.

McCann gave Plymouth a 1-0 lead with his seventh goal of the season at 16:55 of the first period. Terry started the play with a cross-ice pass from the right goal line in the Saginaw zone to the left goal line to McCann, who made no mistake.

Terry gave the Whalers a 2-0 lead at 1:39 of the second

period with a fine individual effort, when he skated from behind the net unchecked through traffic out in front of Saginaw goaltender Ryan Daniels and went top shelf for his 16th goal of the season.

Fournier scored his team-leading 20th goal of the season on a power play at 4:45 of the third period when he took a pass from A.J. Jenks from behind the Saginaw goal and beat Daniels with a shot through traffic.

After Combs scored the only Saginaw goal at 9:02 of the third period when he deflected Tomas Zaborsky's shot from the point past Smith, Cunningham completed the scoring with his fourth goal of the season at 16:00 of the third period when his low shot from the left point beat a screened Daniels.

The Whalers' penalty-killers were excellent again, going 8-for-9.

Ladywood," said PCS coach Lori Callahan. "There's a lot of room for improvement and we will be a much-improved team by the end of the season. We need to work on our passing, carrying the puck and getting it out of our zone."

The final score was indicative of a game that features one team that is returning a strong nucleus of players (Northville) against another (PCS) that features several first-year players.

The Penguins can take solace in the fact they shut out the Mustangs for a close-to-30-minute span that started at the end of the first period and stretched until the waning moments of the contest.

Michelle Shaffer played the entire game between the pipes for the Penguins, stopping 12 shots.

The Penguins return to action with a trio of road games on successive nights:



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth-Canton-Salem's Jennifer Grodus (24) steers the puck up ice with teammate Annie McTurner trailing the play during Tuesday night's Michigan Metro High School Girls Hockey League game against Northville. The Mustangs won, 8-1, in the season-opener for both teams.

Thursday at Grosse Pointe South, Friday at Bloomfield and Saturday at Ladywood. Their next home game is

Dec. 4 when they host Walled Lake at the Arctic Edge.

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

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team started its season of rebuilding Tuesday night against Northville, but it was the Mustangs who wielded the biggest hammer.

Led by Kyrsten Ryzlyo's hat-trick, Northville handed the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League's defending champions an 8-1 setback before an enthusiastic crowd at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton.

The Mustangs led 6-1 after one period before adding a pair of goals during the game's final 2:25.

Freshman Jennifer Fedon scored the lone Penguin goal off assists from Brooke Caccavelli and Kelsey Nikkila.

"I didn't think we played as well as we did in our second scrimmage against

CANTON

FROM PAGE B1

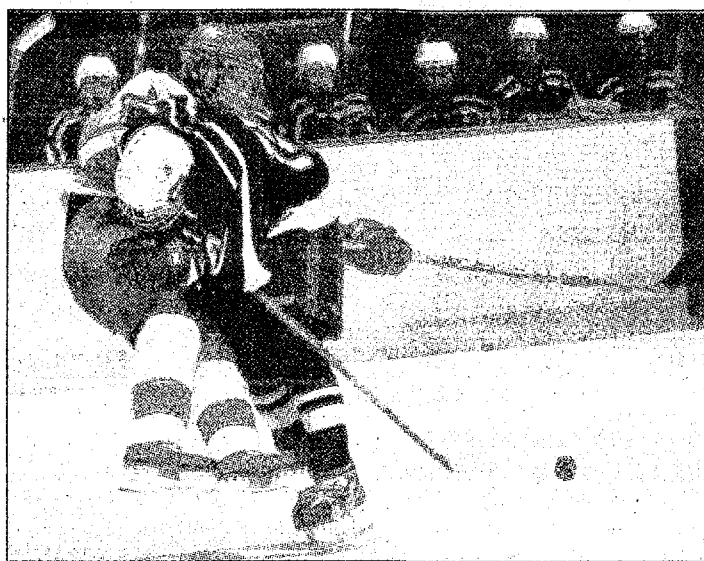
the net and we started feeling like we had a chance.

"Everybody is starting to settle in now. It's not where we want it yet — I don't know if it ever will be — however, when we play our game, we do well. That's when all 20 guys are going in the same direction with no individuals."

The Rocks displayed impressive team speed in their season opener against the Chiefs, but they had a difficult time finishing against Canton senior goalie Kevan Swanberg, who stopped 19 of the 21 shots he faced.

"I thought we played well in spurts — there were times we used our team speed to get the puck in deep and put some pressure on them — but in the first period we took quite a few penalties and ended up giving up a couple short-handed goals. That's tough to do in any game, but especially in a rivalry game like this.

"We're not quite in as good of shape as we probably should be, but it was our first game. There are some things to build



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem sophomore forward Ryan Blakey checks Canton's Kory Sosnowski during the first period of Friday night's cross-campus hockey clash. The Chiefs won, 6-2, to improve to 3-0.

on, for sure, but it's definitely disappointing. I think the results should have been a little better for us."

The first of Barlow's three goals came with 4:13 left in the first period when he ripped a low laser past Salem goalie Eric Fiorentino from just inside the blue line. Sosnowski and Lash assisted on the power-play score.

Barlow struck again exactly two minutes later when he deposited a one-timer from Alex Berlin into the back of the net.

Salem regained a measure of momentum just before the first intermission when Ott's rocket from the blue line beat Swanberg glove-side high to make it 2-1. Kurt Driscoll and Joel Cheesman picked up help-

ers on Ott's goal.

The game's pivotal goal came with 3:14 left in the second stanza when a hard shot off the stick of Canton's Bryan Davison deflected off Sosnowski's skate and past Fiorentino to make it 3-1.

The Chiefs iced the win with goals from Barlow (from Berlin and Clark Albers) and Lash (from Berlin) in the first 6:16 of the third period to go up 5-1. Mazorowicz closed it to 5-2 with 3:06 to play before Tomilenko netted an empty-netter with 1.5 ticks left.

"I thought our defense and goaltender stood out tonight," said Abraham. "They played very well early on, which gave us an opportunity to put some goals in the net. If they hadn't of played as well as they did, this could have been a one-goal game either way."

Fiorentino stopped 24 of the 30 shots he faced. The sophomore also drew praise from his coach.

"I thought Eric played really well," Ossenmacher said. "Most of the goals he gave up were either deflections or tips, so you can't really fault him on those."

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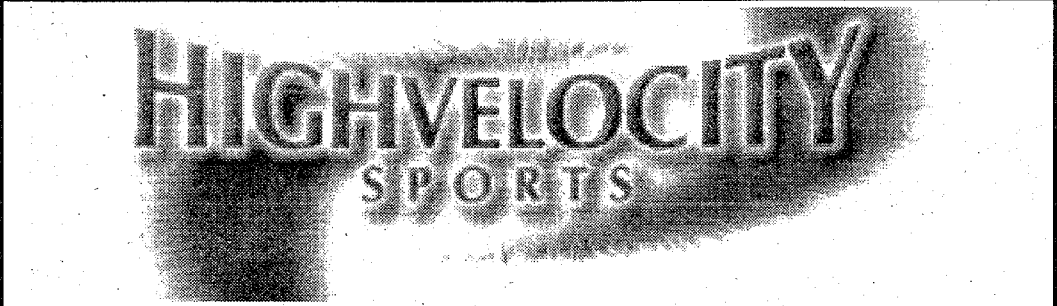
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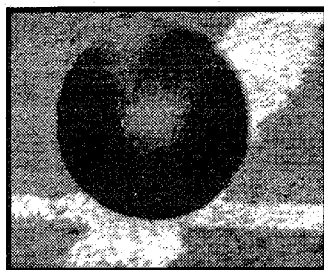
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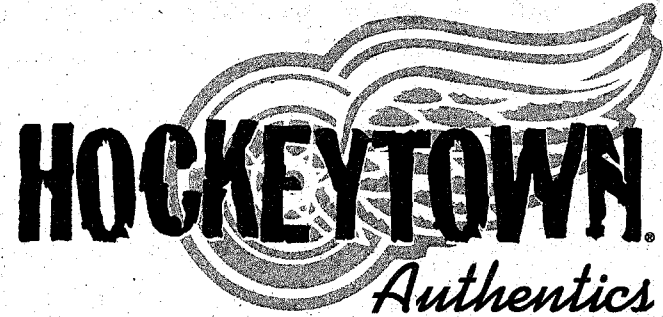


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Hugh Gallagher, editor (734) 953-2149 hgallagher@hometownlife.com

Worm genes may help fight aging

James from Romulus e-mails wanting to know if there is any way he can slow down the aging process.

James, I don't have a secret potion to keep us young, but, I do have some encouraging news. Researchers have identified a group of genes in worms that not only prevent cancer but may slow the aging process. They are now looking to see if the genes work the same way in humans. Experts are encouraged

because the worms the researchers were studying often share genes with humans. This new finding may also lead to creating drugs to mimic these genes and help people battle cancer and also live longer.

Stan from Sterling Heights e-mails that he is out in the sun a lot and is concerned how it is affecting his skin. Is there anything he can do?

Stan, broccoli may be the answer. Researchers found the extract from sprouted broccoli seeds reduced skin redness and damage by more than one-third. They put the broccoli extract on different patches of skin and then exposed those areas to UV radiation. In some cases the extract reduced the redness and swelling by almost 80 percent! Another interesting benefit, the extract was still working two days later! Now, experts are working to figure out how it should be applied to the skin.

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

Flu shots still available

Make sure getting a flu shot is on your list of shopping after Thanksgiving. It could be the best gift you give yourself this season, according to the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan.

Each year, influenza, a respiratory illness not to be confused with the stomach flu, can strike as much as 20 percent of the U.S. population, rendering 200,000 individuals hospitalized and as many as 36,000 dead.

"The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) stresses that a flu shot is your best protection against the flu," said Kay Renny, RN, manager of community programs for VNA of Southeast Michigan. "Even if you consider yourself healthy, you can come in contact with those who are at risk. Your flu shot helps to protect them as well."

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan is conducting public walk in clinics 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at its office located at 25900 Greenfield, Suite 600, Oak Park. For more locations, visit www.vna.org. Homebound service is also available by calling (800) 882-5720, ext. 8755. Cost is \$25.

Pain killer Patients find relief through mind control

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Karen Lewis never believed the power of her mind could reduce the pain and fatigue of fibromyalgia until she completed a three-week treatment program run by Dr. Howard Schubiner. For eight years, Lewis went from doctor to doctor and even tried acupuncture and massage therapy before hearing about the Mind-Body Medicine Program at Providence in Southfield.

Until then no one could offer her a treatment that worked. One rheumatologist gave her muscle relaxers and antidepressants, another steroid injections and pain killers. Six months after participating in the Mind-Body program Lewis has 85 to 90 percent less pain and enough energy to care for her children, ages 3, 6 and 24.

"If I thought my mind would cure me I would have tried it a long time ago," said Lewis of Westland. "After the first week I found I was sleeping better and that made me feel better. The pain didn't subside until the fourth or fifth week. I listened to him (Schubiner) and learned how to meditate and did writing exercises about whatever you feel you need to write about, things that could be stressing you out. It's different for everyone. I wrote about my mother-in-law's death. I had two small children. My husband had been sick. I had a lot of people needing me. Today I have my life back. I still meditate especially if I know something stressful's going to be coming up."

Schubiner admits the program is not widely accepted in the medical community as a treatment for fibromyalgia so he's joining with Dr. Michael Hsu at the University of Michigan to conduct research into the effectiveness of the mind-body prescription. Fibromyalgia patients are currently being sought for the study. For more information, call (248) 849-4728.

BODY AND MIND

"The basis of the program is that pain and other symptoms can occur because of stress and other emotions," said Schubiner, an internist at Providence Hospital and clinical professor at Wayne State University School of



Dr. Howard Schubiner exams Diane Olsem, a fibromyalgia patient at the Providence Medical Center in Southfield. Olsem is part of a study that uses mind-body medicine to treat the disorder which causes pain and fatigue.

Medicine. "Anyone who's had a headache at the end of a stressful day or a stomach tied in knots when they gave a presentation has experienced this. Freud described a young man berated by his father all his life. One day he had enough and went to hit his father and his arm became paralyzed. In the 1600s and 1700s paralysis was a common symptom related to stress. We now have back pain, neck pain, TMJ, fibromyalgia, fatigue, irritable bowel and irritable bladder."

Schubiner estimates 10 million people have fibromyalgia in the U.S., 80 to 90 percent of them women.

"Fibromyalgia means aches and pains, and there's no cure for it," said Schubiner. "Everyone has this in some shape or form. The mind and body are inextricably linked. I believe fibromyalgia is a reflection of stress and emotion and coping with them."

Diane Olsem is practically pain-free since going through the Mind-Body Medicine Program at Providence. Her neck pain and fatigue were diagnosed as fibromyalgia a year ago.

'IT WAS STRESS'

"We learned how our mind affects our body. Through the program we write about our emotions. I knew it was stress," said Olsem, a registered nurse and clinical nurse auditor for St. John Health. "I had three kids and gone through a 25-year marriage in which I was emotionally abused. As I wrote I realized this is

stress and it comes out in pain."

Hsu first read about a program similar to Schubiner's as a resident. Hsu (pronounced she) screens patients for the study before sending them to Schubiner for the program. Hsu treats patients with chronic neck and back pain. He is a clinical lecturer and research fellow in the department of physical medicine and rehabilitation at the University of Michigan.

For more information or to volunteer for Healing Through Affective Self-Awareness in Fibromyalgia, a randomized control trial, call Hsu at (734) 997-7409. The study will be recruiting participants until July.

"I was pretty fascinated by the approach because it's nonpharmacological and non-invasive, and no one's studied this approach in a controlled fashion," said Hsu. "The basis of the program combines mindfulness exercises and self-affirmations, embracing yourself for who you are, self-exploration."

"According to Dr. Schubiner, the results seem to be encouraging although we won't know definitive results until fall of next year. The more we could have evidence, the better results for patients to help themselves and for doctors to be aware of what works."

Hsu speaks about fibromyalgia at the first meeting of the Metro Fibromyalgia and CFS Support Group 1-3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, in Livonia. For more information, call (734) 462-1768.

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

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

NOVEMBER

Movie gala

6:30 p.m. (pre-glows), 8 p.m. movie premier Monday, Nov. 26, at the Uptown Palladium Theater in Birmingham. To attend, call (248) 737-0900 or send e-mail to michigan@ccfa.org. The movie gala is a fundraiser for the Michigan Chapter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America.

Flu shot clinics

University of Michigan Health System's Michigan Visiting Nurses is offering flu clinics throughout the area in November and December. Flu shots \$33, pneumonia shots \$84. Payment options include cash, check and credit card. Blue Care Network, CareChoices, Health Alliance Plan, M-Care, Medicare Part B and Priority Health, all cover entire cost of flu shot. Clinics open to public, most limited to age 12 and older. For a weekly listing, call 888-547-7295 or visit www.umvn.org. Clinics include 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 26, Busch's, 15185 Sheldon Rd., Plymouth; Saturday, Dec. 1, Busch's, 37083 Six Mile, Livonia and Saturday, Dec. 15, Busch's, 24445 Drake Rd., Farmington Hills.

Thyroid presentation

7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 26, Dr. William Carl, D.C., at the Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington roads, Livonia. For reservations or information, call (734) 425-8588.

Divorce support group

Getting through the holidays - Marjorie Lang, an attorney and counselor with the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, discusses the intense emotions triggered by divorce during holidays and other special occasions and offer helpful coping skills 7-9 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 27, at the Women's Resource Center, Room 225 of the McDowell Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 462-4443.

Gastric bypass seminar

Learn about Gastric Bypass, Adjustable Gastric Banding, and Sleeve Gastrectomy at MBI's upcoming Educational Seminars 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 28, in the St. Mary Mercy Hospital Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Speakers are Tallal Zeni, MD, medical director, Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery; and Paula Magid, program

director and post-op patient. Call (734) 655-2693, or Toll free (877) Why-Weight, to register for free seminars.

Joint replacement seminars

To educate community about joint replacement options Thursday, Nov. 29, and Jan. 24, at the Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. No charge. To register or for information, call (734) 655-2400.

Sharing & Caring

Partial breast irradiation presentation by Dr. Pamela Benitez, breast surgeon at Beaumont Hospitals 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, in the first floor classroom at the Beaumont Royal Oak Cancer Center. For more information, call (248) 551-8585. Sharing & caring offers educational and support programs for breast cancer survivors, their family and friends.

Flu shot clinics

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at Livonia Urgent Care, 37595 Seven Mile, Livonia, (734) 542-6100, and Western Wayne Urgent Care, 2050 Haggerty, Suite 140, Canton, (734) 259-0500. The cost is \$25, but it is covered for those with Medicare.

Flu shots

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan are providing flu shots (\$25) and pneumonia shots (\$40) at Oakland and Wayne County locations. Medicare, HAP, Priority Health, Blue Care Network, cash or check payable to VNAHSS accepted. For weekly listings of locations, call (800) 296-8660 or visit www.vna.org. Homebound service also available. \$40 service fee applies that is not covered by insurance. Must have a physician's prescription. Call (800) 882-5720, Ext. 8752.

Holiday cards

The American Lung Association of Michigan (ALAM), a part of its efforts to raise funds to support lung health research, education and advocacy, is selling holiday cards in a variety of styles and price ranges. Interested customers may request an album to examine, and cards may be customized with individual's, family's or company's name. Large quantity discounts also available. To see samples of the cards, visit www.buyholidaycards.com. To preview an album or for information, contact Betty McNeil at (248) 784-2030 or toll free at (800) 543-5864.

UPCOMING

Nativity displays

More than 200 Nativity displays from around the world in a Celebration of the Christmas Creche 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 8-9 (\$7 per person at the door, \$5 per person for groups of 10 or more; Preview party and lecture by Bengt Swenson 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7 (tickets start at \$50 and benefits the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology, RSVP required by calling (313) 824-4710) at their building, 15415 E. Jefferson at Somers, Grosse Pointe Park. The nativity displays are from the private collection of Bengt and Elaine Swenson.

Divorce support group

Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, at the Women's Resource Center, Room 225 of the McDowell Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Attorney Patricia Kasody-Coyne will also be available to answer questions in a private setting on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call (734) 462-4443.

Fibromyalgia support

The Metro Fibromyalgia and CFS Support Group features speaker Dr. Michael Hsu 1-3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, at Merriman Road Baptist Church on 2055 Merriman, south of Ford road. Hsu, a clinical lecturer and research fellow in the department of physical medicine and rehabilitation at the University of Michigan, is part of Healing Through Affective Self-Awareness in Fibromyalgia, a randomized control trial with Providence internist Dr. Howard Schubiner. Donations are accepted. The group meets monthly on the second Thursday. For more information, call Lucy Rowley at (734) 462-1768.

ONGOING

New parents support group

Meets at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. For details, call (248) 858-7766.

H.U.G.S. support group

Help, Understanding and Grief Support Group and counseling for parents who have suffered a pregnancy or newborn loss, meet 7-9 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month, at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. For information, call (248) 937-4847. There is no pre-registration required.

Hospice volunteers needed

Looking for caring volunteers to provide in-home companionship visits to patients with life-limiting illnesses and/or respite support for their caregivers and families. Weekday availability preferred. St. John Hospice provides services in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and St. Clair counties. Mileage reimbursement available. For information, call (800) 248-2298 or visit www.stjohn.org/hospice.

AA support group

Alcoholics Anonymous and the Al-Anon (for family and friends) groups meet 10 a.m. every Sunday, at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. For information, call (248) 706-1020. No pre-registration required.

Volunteer training

Heartland Hospice Services is looking for caring and compassionate individuals for hospice volunteer training to provide companionship, support and friendly visits for patients and their caregivers. Evening and daytime classes available. Office support is also needed. Call (800) 770-9859.

Cancer support group

The Charach Cancer Treatment Center at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital hosts a support group for anyone dealing with cancer 7-8:30 p.m. on the first and third Monday of the month, at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. For information, call (248) 937-5163.

Thyroid cancer support group

Free support group meets monthly and is open to all thyroid cancer patients and survivors as well as their family members and friends. For summer meeting dates or information, call Gwynne at (248) 740-9759.

ONGOING

Our Body exhibit

Our Body exhibit tickets \$24.95, \$22.95 seniors, \$19.95 children. Children ages 12 and under must be accompanied by adult. Advance tickets on sale at www.detroitssciencecenter.org. Exhibit has been extended to Jan. 6, at Detroit Science Center. As part of the extension, five new full human body specimens will be on display. For information, call (313) 577-8400 or visit www.detroitssciencecenter.org.

Volunteers needed

Sandcastles grief support program for children and teens needs volunteers for Rochester, Southfield, Livonia and other sites. Sponsored by Hospices of Henry Ford Health System, the programs meetings are held biweekly. Sandcastles also offers a weekend bereavement camp in August which is in need of volunteers. Call (313) 874-6881.

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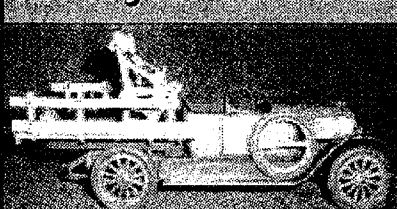
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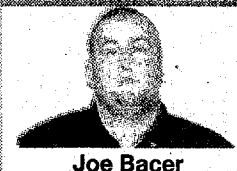
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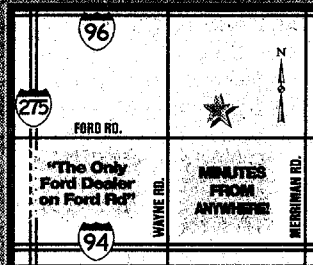


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Hugh Gallagher, editor (734) 953-2149. hgallagher@hometownlife.com

Christmas Walk spotlights Livonia homes

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

A chorus of cuckoo clocks strike at noon, welcoming visitors to the Livonia home of Al and Marylou Larson. Al doesn't know the exact number of time keepers in the house, but there are at least 70 in the family room, more than a dozen in the living room.

The magical tick-tocking wonderland definitely won't be a quiet stop on the Livonia Christmas Walk Saturday, Dec. 1. It will be like stepping into a clock as well as antique shop.

This year, the walk includes six homes and the Hill House at Greenmead's Historic Village. Proceeds go to Friends of Greenmead for the restoration and preservation of the structures on the corner of Newburgh and Eight Mile.

LIVONIA CHRISTMAS WALK

What: A walk featuring seven houses including the 1840s Hill House at Greenmead Historical Village
When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1
Tickets: \$9 in advance, \$10 day of walk, and available in advance at all Livonia libraries, City Hall and Greenmead's office, and on the day of the walk at the Civic Center Library, Five Mile, east of Farmington Road, and Greenmead's Hill House (enter off Newburgh, south of Eight Mile). For more information, call (734) 425-4855.

Al says the couple's 54-year marriage got off to a rocky start on their honeymoon because of antiques. He wanted to visit an antique shop on Cape Cod and she referred to them as junk shops. Now Marylou loves antiques as much as he does.

"We both have collected and inherited many antiques from our family," said Marylou Larson, 78. "He's been collecting clocks forever. They are everywhere."

"I've always loved clocks," said Al Larson, 82. "Since I was a kid I used to go to the clock shops."

FAMILY AFFAIR

Daughter Christine is the official winder of the clocks that come from as far away as the Black Forest and Switzerland.

While some chime in harmony, not all of them do. They're set at different times so some cuckoo is always going off.

"I tell them you have to figure out the right time," said Al. "With cuckoos the weather and humidity affects them."

All four of the Larsons' children return home this Thanksgiving including daughter Jane who's coming from Wisconsin with the antique ornaments Marylou gave her last year. The decorations will be placed on a tree in the couple's upstairs bedroom. Throughout the home an antique manger, Santas, family photos, a village made from paper, and a pitcher collection decorate the home the Larsons have lived in for nearly 40 years.

Like the Larsons, Jane and Mike Cuba's home is filled with furniture and objects holding special meaning. Jane's father hand-crafted nine of the tables and book case in the red-brick colonial built in 1938.

Please see HOMES, C3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Marylou and Al Larson will open their home for the Livonia Christmas Walk to benefit Greenmead Historical Village.

Holiday greetings

Card sales to support nonprofits

There's no easier way to support charities than by buying holiday cards. Here's a list of some of the organizations offering greetings this season.

Forgotten Harvest

Three card selections available this year, priced at \$1 each or \$23 for pack of 25 cards and envelopes (add \$3 for shipping). Peas on Earth is a whimsical card featuring fresh peas. Inside reads *Wishing You a Peas-ful Holiday Season*. Orders can be placed by calling Forgotten Harvest at (248) 967-1500 or visiting www.forgottenharvest.org. Every year Forgotten Harvest collects more than 8.5 million pounds of surplus prepared and perishable food which would otherwise go to waste and delivers it to emergency food providers in the metro Detroit area.

Alzheimer's Association

Greater Michigan Chapter cards include eight designs: 25 cards are \$36 (plus shipping) with option to add imprinting. Order online at www.alzgm.org or call (888) 487-5567. For information, call (248) 996-1048. The nonprofit provides services and support for Alzheimer's patients and their families.

Michigan Humane Society

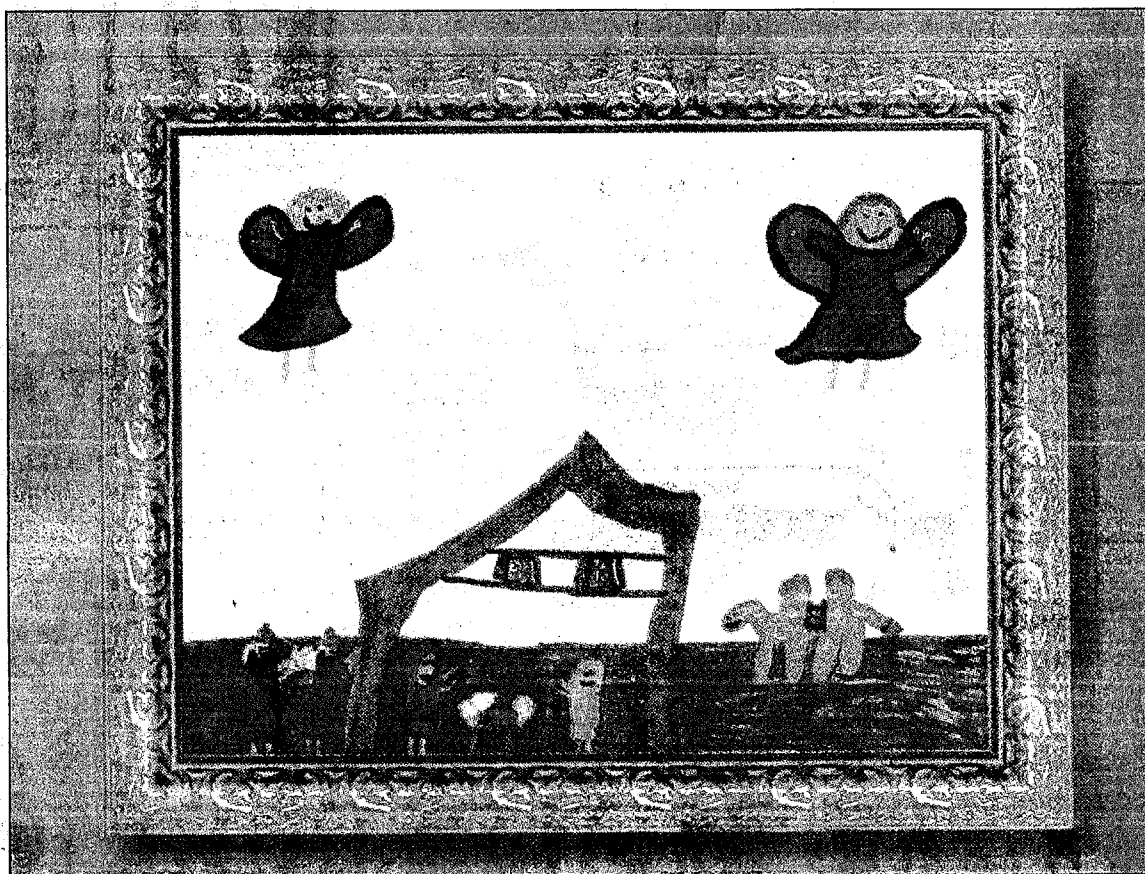
Holiday cards available in one style. Each box costs \$9.95 and contains 15 cards and 16 envelopes, and are available at MHS centers including 900 N. Newburgh, Westland, or by calling (866) MHUMANE or visiting www.michiganhumane.org. Proceeds benefit the Michigan Humane Society which cares for homeless animals at its three adoption centers.

Seedlings Braille Books for Children

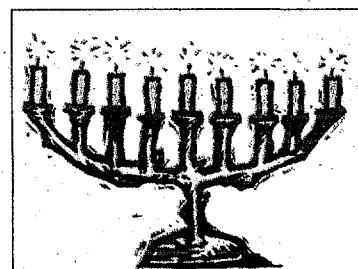
Fine art embossed cards are available in 10 designs by Pumpernickel Press. Cost is \$16 per box of 16 cards and 17 envelopes. Cards are printed on recycled paper with soy inks, made in the U.S., and packaged by occupational training workshop patrons. Cards can be purchased at the Seedlings office at 14151 Farmington Road, Livonia. For details, call (734) 427-8552. Seedlings produces children's books in Braille.



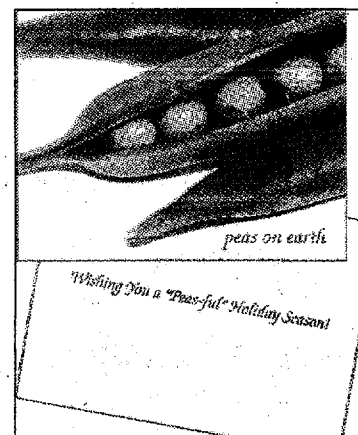
The Senior Alliance



New Hope Center for Grief Support



Dawn Farm



Forgotten Harvest



Alzheimer's Association Greater Michigan Chapter

Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary

Box of 20 cards for \$20. To buy online, go to www.childrensdmc.org and click on About CHM and then Gift Shop and Shop Now. For more information, call (313) 745-0962. The CHM Auxiliary assists various departments and programs at the hospital. Recent projects include SNUG suits for children with neuromuscular disorders, a therapeutic summer day camp, and amplification equipment for newly identified deaf infants.



Right to Life-LIFESPAN

The Senior Alliance

Volunteers for the The Senior Alliance, Area Agency on Aging I-C will be selling cards for \$5 each Friday, Dec. 7. The Senior Alliance is the agency that supports the Holiday Meals on Wheels program. The cards will be placed with meals delivered to homebound seniors on Christmas Day. For more information or to volunteer on Dec. 7, call Jaclyn Kochis at (734) 727-2060.

Right to Life-LIFESPAN

Christmas cards available in two designs — Adoration (\$16 per box of 20) and Jesus, Mary and Joseph (\$7 for 10). Call (248) 478-8878, send e-mail to mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org, or visit the office at 29200 Vassar St., Suite 545, Livonia. The organization has been presenting the pro-life message in southeastern Michigan since 1970.

Please see CARD SALES, C2



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734-542-6100

Saratoga Urgent Care
15000 Gratiot Ave., Suite 100, Detroit
313-527-4000

Southgate Urgent Care
15777 Northline Rd., Southgate
734-324-7800

Warren Urgent Care
31700 Van Dyke Ave., Warren
586-276-8200

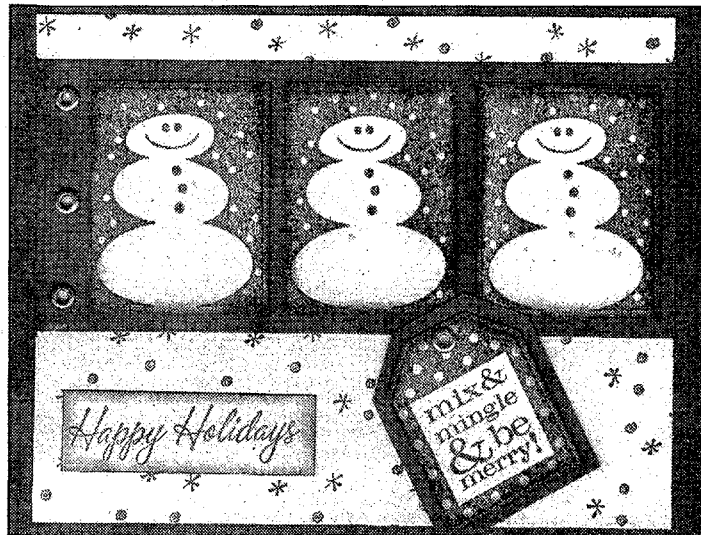
Woodland Urgent Care
22341 W. Eight Mile, Detroit
313-387-8700



Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary



Michigan Humane Society



CARDS

FROM PAGE C1

New Hope Center for Grief Support

Cards are \$20 for 20 cards and available in two designs; \$15 of the price qualifies as a donation. To order, call (248) 348-0115. Proceeds to benefit grief support programs throughout southeast Michigan.

Dawn Farm

Cards available in packs

of 10 for \$12, in more than 20 designs mostly with a Victorian theme. Call (734) 485-8725. Dawn Farm assists addicts and alcoholics in achieving long-term recovery.

Youth Making a Difference

Handmade cards available at \$1.50 each. Proceeds go to a program at Randolph Elementary in Livonia for postage to send care packages to soldiers overseas. For more information, call (734) 464-6214.



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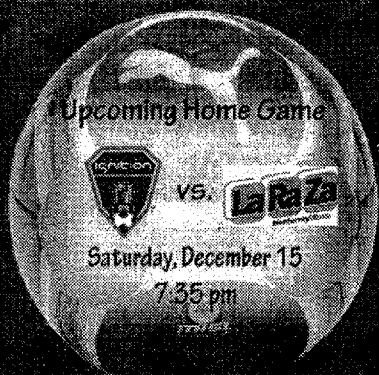
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Mail Your Entry To: Choya Jordan
Observer & Eccentric and Mirror Newspapers
36251 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia, MI 48150

One entry per person/ per household please.

All Entries **MUST** Be Received By Tuesday, November 27th • 5:00pm

OE08571290

HOMES

FROM PAGE C1

The couple doubled the space of the home in 2006 with a major addition and renovation project that lasted nine months. A plethora of windows and white enamel woodworking creates an airy atmosphere. The maple kitchen with granite counter tops provides plenty of work and storage space, especially the large pantry.

SIMPLE THEME

While the home looks like it's straight out of a magazine, holiday trimmings are kept simple.

"It was the Depression and it offends me to do designerly things," said Jane Cuba. "The greens came from the yard. We're trying to keep it how they would have decorated."

On the mantle are mementos from Jane's teaching days in Southfield. Her grandmoth-



This antique manger welcomes visitors to the Larsons' home.

er's sewing machine and a bookcase made by her father accent the dining room.

Mike hand-painted the clothespin ornaments hanging on a fern to remind them of their roles with the Spotlight Players community theater

group and the 15 years they marched in the Thanksgiving Day parade downtown. He retired as a chemistry teacher three years ago after many years at Martin Luther King High School and Wayne State University.

"Everything's special to me," said Jane. "They're some things my students gave me. Most of the furniture is family pieces."

Jan Bennett especially likes the plate rail in the dream kitchen. Bennett is president of the Friends of Greenmead which presents the walk.

"It's a major addition and a lot of neighborhood people have been watching it from outside now they'll be able to see inside," said Janet Bennett. "We'll also have two homes in Rosedale Gardens. We'll have one on the north end of town, one of the newer homes, and one on the east side of town that's been on walk before, but the homeowner says she has surprises for us, and we're going to have hot chocolate and homemade cookies at Hill House."

At the Larsons' home, Al will play Christmas carols on his violin. A former member of the Plymouth Symphony, Al taught music in Livonia Public Schools for many years. This Christmas Eve, he'll provide the music for Midnight Mass at the Felician Sisters Motherhouse at Madonna University.

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



Jane and Mike Cuba.

CHARLES A. HAAS, 26085 Six Mile Rd., Redford Twp., MI 48240

STATE OF MICHIGAN, PROBATE COURT, COUNTY OF WAYNE, File No. 2006-709122-DE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

Estate of DOLORES J. HILLARD AKA DOLORES JEAN HILLARD, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

To all interested persons. Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following.

The deceased whose last known address was 35234 Atlas, Romulus, MI 48174, died February 6, 2006. Thomas Robert Hillard was appointed Personal Representative of the estate on November 13, 2006, as said will, of deceased.

Creditors of the deceased are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the Personal Representative Thomas Robert Hillard, 421 Rustic Lane East, Belleville, MI 48111. Phone: (734) 461-0267 or to both the Personal Representative and the Wayne County Probate Court, 2 Woodward Ave., Room 1305, Detroit, MI 48226. Phone: (313) 224-5709 within 4 months of the date of publication of this notice. Notice is further given that the estate will be hereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Personal Representative: Thomas Robert Hillard, 421 Rustic Lane East, Belleville, MI 48111. Phone: (734) 461-0267

Attorney: Charles A. Haas, P-14486, 26085 Six Mile Rd., Redford Twp. MI 48240. Telephone No. (313) 532-0770.

Publish: November 25, 2007



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Al Larson will entertain with Christmas carols.

PURSUANT TO 15 USC §1692 YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED THAT THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND THAT ANY INFORMATION THAT YOU PROVIDE MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the condition of a mortgage made by Daryl Jones and Debra Lucas Jones aka Deborah Ann Jones, his wife to HOUSEHOLD FINANCE CORPORATION III by a mortgage dated August 13, 1998 and recorded on September 16, 1998 in Liber 29956 on Page 3418, WAYNE County Records Michigan on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Four Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-Eight and 17/100 Dollars (\$54,398.17) including interest at 11.98% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, immediately inside the Southerly or Jefferson Avenue Entrance to the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center in the City of Detroit, Wayne County Michigan at 1:00 pm, on January 3, 2008. Said premises are situated in the City of Detroit, County of WAYNE State of Michigan, and are described as, North 28 feet of Lot 95 and the South 16 feet of Lot 96, Blanck's Mt. Elliott Subdivision, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 55 of Plats, Page 43 Wayne County Records The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241 a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. Dated: November 14, 2007 Michael M. Grand, Esq. GRAND & GRAND PLLC 31731 Northwestern Hwy., #151 Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (248) 538-3737 71851 FOR POSTING ONLY DO NOT PUBLISH PROPERTY ADDRESS OF 19612 Dwyer, Detroit MI 48234 ASAP# 936281 11/25/2007, 12/02/2007, 12/09/2007, 12/16/2007

Publish: November 25, December 2, 9 & 16, 2007

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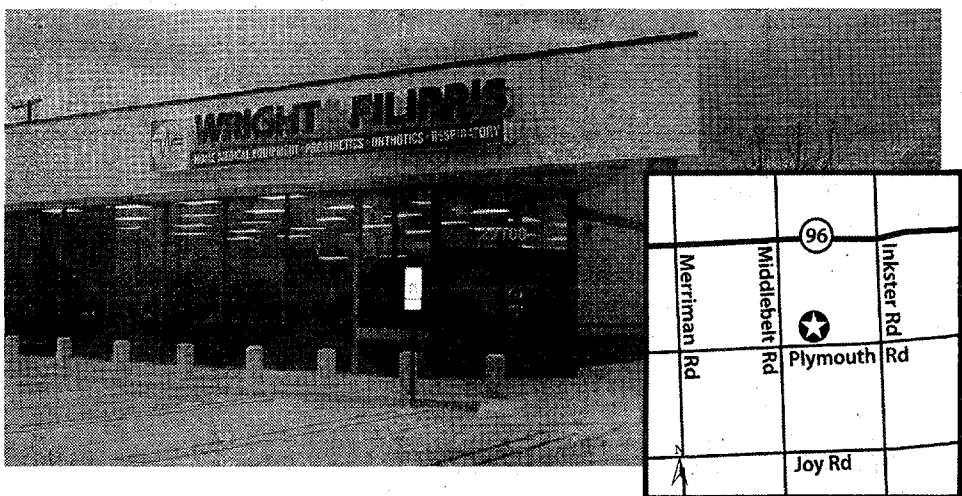
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Don't forget seniors this season

Many seniors served through The Senior Alliance holiday meals program this Christmas will get gifts, too, thanks to the Be a Santa to a Senior program.

Sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care, Be a Santa to a Senior is a national nonprofit program that provides gifts and companionship to socially isolated and lonely seniors. In Wayne County, the local Home Instead Senior Care office takes the program a step further by partnering with The Senior Alliance holiday meals program.

"We've purchased 250 holiday meal cards from The Senior Alliance and will be selling them until Christmas," said Glenna Yaroch, owner of Home Instead Senior Care in Livonia. "When you buy a holiday card from us, a gift will be delivered along with the meal to seniors on Christmas day."

This is the third year that Yaroch and her staff have partnered with The Senior Alliance, which will serve around 700 seniors this Christmas. This year, seniors will receive a first-aid kit.

"Home Instead Senior Care is the only group that approaches our holiday meals program this way," said Lori

Vail, Senior Alliance program manager. Selling meal cards not only helps the organization purchase meals, but helps support other programs throughout the year, said Vail. The holiday cards are \$5 and available by calling (734) 525-5300. For information on the meals program, call (734) 727-2017.

"We see many older adults who have no one during this festive season and that makes for a very sad and lonely time," said Yaroch. Last year, 196,500 lonely seniors received 312,500 gifts through the program which has become the largest gift-giving project of its kind for older adults.

If you'd like to give a senior something to unwrap here are some ideas from Home Instead Senior Care in Livonia.

Gift certificates and pre-paid cards for restaurants that deliver, home cleaning, professional caregiver and handyman services, manicures and pedicures, hair salons, book stores, grocery stores, art, craft or exercise classes, movie rentals or telephone cards.

Handy tools such as a night light or reading light, jar opener, automatic timer, weather radio, large button TV remote,

doorknob extender, magnifier, reacher/grabber, wireless TV headphones or easy-to-read watch or clock.

Gifts to provide comfort include slippers or slipper socks, pillows, flannel sheets, plush bath towels, cozy lap blankets, easy-on ponchos or capes, coats, mittens, boots, heating pad, armchair bag for remote, glasses and books, moisturizers, soaps, and perfumes. For safety an automobile club membership, smoke and carbon monoxide detector, fire extinguisher, installed grab bars, first aid kit, auto emergency kit, and exterior motion lights.

High tech hand-held electronic games like Scrabble, Sudoku and Battleship, video games like Nintendo Wii bowling and golf or Nintendo Brain Age, or a computer for e-mailing, sharing pictures, online shopping and searching the Internet.

Just for fun gifts include magazine subscriptions, large-print books or books on tape, bird feeder and seed, binoculars, rain gauge, oversized playing cards, stationery and stamps, calendar, large print crossword puzzles, favorite candies or treats, favorite old movies, or greeting cards.

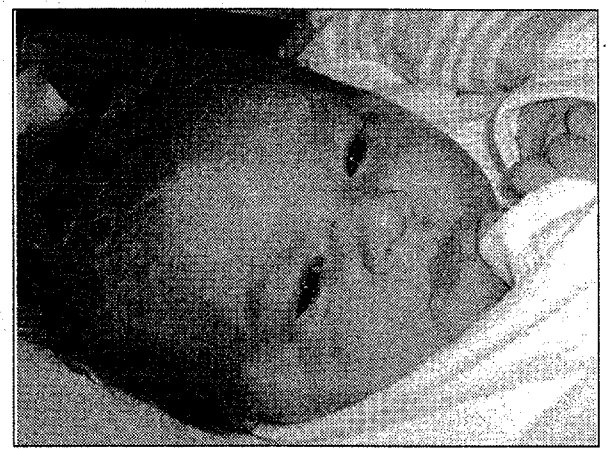
NEW VOICES

Dallas Andrew Terski

Dave Terski and Tara Overaitis-Terski of Garden City announce the birth of their son, Dallas Andrew Terski on Oct. 23, 2007, at Providence Hospital in Southfield.

Dallas weighed 9 pounds, 9 ounces and was 22 inches long at birth.

Grandparents are Joe and Marlene Overaitis of Livonia and Jim and Jeanne Terski of Livonia.



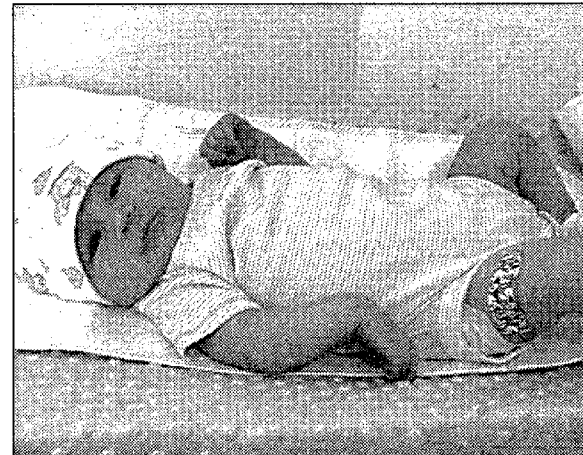
Jack Dylan Wiseheart

Scott and Tracey Wiseheart of Rochester Hills announce the birth of their son, Jack Dylan Wiseheart, on Aug. 16, 2007, at Mount Clemens Regional Medical Center in Mount Clemens.

Jack weighed 9 pounds, 1 ounce and 20-1/2 inches long at birth.

Grandparents are Joe and Marlene Overaitis of Livonia, Rita Wiseheart of Milford and Kenneth Wiseheart of Milford.

Great-grandmother is Alida Wiseheart of Milford.



ENGAGEMENT

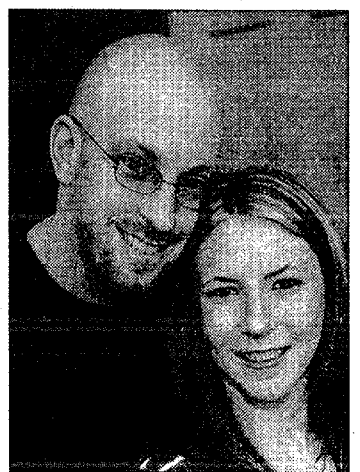
Mousseau-Thomas

Michael Mousseau of Livonia and Kathleen Mousseau of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Marie, to Scott Michael Thomas, the son of Roland and Mary Thomas Jr., of Plymouth.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Canton High School and a soon-to-be graduate of Wayne State University, where she's pursuing a degree in education.

The prospective groom is a graduate of Salem High School and Wayne State University. He is an English/Communications teacher at Plymouth High School.

A March wedding is planned at St. James Catholic Church in Novi.





Passages

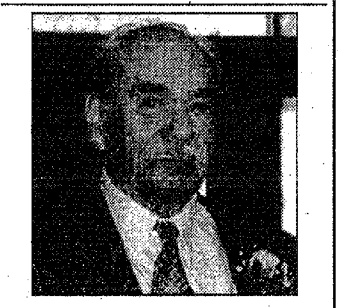
Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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ALBERT SAMUEL COFFMAN
 Age 85, November 21, 2007. Beloved husband for 55 years of Ilene Coffman. Loving father of Joseph (Nancy) Coffman, Heidi (fiancee Craig Cesarone) Coffman and Amy (Andrew) Paberz and the late Dennis Coffman. Dearest grandfather of Alan, Adam and Anna Paberz and Sam, Joel and Lisa Tencer. A1 was a racing columnist for the Detroit Free Press, under the by-line of Al Speed, for 35 years and for the Detroit News for 11 years. Services Sunday, 12:00 PM at the Dorffman Chapel, Farmington Hills (248) 406-6000. Interment to follow at the Hebrew Memorial Park Cemetery or visit: www.thedorffmanchapel.com

JOHN GERICH
 Age 79, Nov. 22, 2007. Retired captain of the Redford Twp Fire Department after 27 years. Beloved husband of Betty of 57 years. Loving father of Michael J Gerich and Susan Adams. Dear Grandfather of Michael A., Heather, Caroline, Lauren & Rachel. Dear Great Grandfather of Mikayla & Mikenzie. Brother of Mary Marino. Sunday visitation 3-9pm at Charles R. Step Funeral Home; 18425 Beech Daly Rd (btwn 6-7 mile Rds). Monday instate 10am & service 11am at Grace Lutheran Church, 25630 Grand River Ave (East of Beech Daly Rd). Interment Glen Eden. Memorial contributions to Grace Lutheran Church appreciated.



S. GEORGE BINSON
 November 20, 2007 Age 93 Founder of Binson's Pharmacy and Hospital Supplies. Beloved husband of Genevieve. Dear father of James E. (Pamela), Betty Lee Bruinsma, and Nancy Carole Fink (Rick). Grandfather of Robert Allen Binson, James E., II, Brandel Marie Rijnoevan, Nicholas Bonar, Robin Martin, Melissa Goodstein, Thomas Bruinsma and David Bruinsma. Also survived 13 great-grandchildren. Brother of George Binson. Stepfather of Dr. Chris Schearer, Linda Merkwa, Martha Walsh, Tom Schearer, Mary Ann Gullen, Joan Schearer and Tim Schearer. Funeral services have been held. Memorial tributes to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at: www.desmondfuneralhome.com

FRANK J. SINELLI
 Age 84, husband of the late Agnes. Dear father of Frank (Kim), John (Debbie) and Ronald (Theresa). Grandfather of eight and great-grandfather of ten. Brother of Mary Paffumi, Beatrice MacDonald, and the late John "Doc" Sinelli. Visiting Friday 3-9pm at Charles R. Step Funeral Home, 18425 Beech Daly Rd., (btwn 6-7 mile Rds). Instate Saturday 9:30am until Mass 10am at Our Lady of Loretto (NE corner 6 Mile and Beech Daly). Interment Holy Sepulchre Contributions to Alzheimer's Assoc. appreciated.



KATHLEEN ELISE DIERKES-ADCOCK
 Age 53, of Vero Beach, FL, died Sunday, October 28, 2007 at her residence in Vero Beach. Born July 30th, 1954 in Pontiac, MI. Kathy held a Masters in Sports Medicine and Nutrition and served as a Clinical Dietitian, she practiced in Mississippi, Michigan and Florida. She is preceded in death by her father and mother, Donald and Mary Dierkes and brother, Donald Dierkes, Jr. She is survived by her daughter, Cloe Estelle Adcock of Louisiana, sisters: Celia Fox of Okeechobee, Mary Ann Argue (Kevin) of Highland, MI, Elizabeth Anstead (Paul), Linda White (Michael), nephews: Christopher, Montgomery, Garrett, Mikgel, nieces: Shaleiah, Dawn, Siobhan and Meghan and Stephanie. She was a avid reader, learner and teacher. She had a contagious laugh and was a dog lover. She will be severely missed and will be carried in our hearts for all our days. The family has no plans for a service at this time. All arrangements are under the directions and care of Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 110 NE 5th Street, Okeechobee, FL.

HAZEL L. RISK
 Age 87, of Fayetteville, passed away November 16, 2007 at Fayetteville City Hospital. She was born July 2, 1920 in Clarksville, AR to John L. and Francis King Johnson. She spent many of her formative years in Tulsa, OK and graduated from Clarksville High School in 1938. She attended and graduated from Sacramento, California Junior College, where she met her late husband Oliver "Ed" Risk, and was married in 1941. They moved to Michigan, her husband's home state, where they raised a family and spent most of their lives. Upon retirement, they moved to Arkansas and split time between Clarksville and Fayetteville. Survivors include a daughter Beverly Ragland and her husband Jim of Farmington Hills, MI; three sons, Mark Risk and companion Virginia Clayton of Fayetteville, John Risk and wife Annie of Costa Mesa, CA and James Risk and wife Andrea of Farmington Hills, MI. Grandchildren: Stacy, Leslie, Craig, Jimmy, Brian, and David Ragland, Kaitlin, Alyssa, Kelsey, Joy and Logan Risk. All Nieto and great-grandchildren: Alex, Mallory, Beau, Jane, and Davis. She had a love of music, teaching and composing for the piano. Her strong faith in Jesus Christ was foremost. She was a scholar of early Christianity and the Dead Sea Scrolls. She spent one fulfilling year as housemother of the Tri Delta Sorority at the University of Arkansas. She had great loyalty to the Democratic Party and a passion for politics, serving endless hours working and supporting campaigns. A memorial mass is scheduled at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church on December 15th at 10:00 am in Clarksville, AR. Interment will be at Mt. Airy Cemetery in Ludwig, AR.

JULIE MICHELLE RATKUS
 November 27, 1946
 November 29, 2001
 Six years can pass like a day, or seem an eternity. Time can change many things, but time cannot diminish the memories, my love for you. 'Til we meet at sunset, Love, Carl.

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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.

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

06081692

Gingerbread open house offers fun for the family on Dec. 2

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
 STAFF WRITER

There's nothing like the smell of gingerbread to put even the grumpiest of Scrooges in the mood for the holiday season. This year Tawnya Johnson couldn't be more excited about the Gingerbread Open House taking place 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, at The Inn at St. John's, 44045 Five Mile at Sheldon, Plymouth. The free family event features live reindeer petting, carriage rides, a gingerbread house display, music, and refreshments.

There is no charge, but donations of non-perishable food items are requested to benefit St. Vincent De Paul. For more information, visit www.theinnatstjohns.com or call (734) 414-0600.

"This is the first year we're doing a celebration. We'd done one on a small scale last year," said Tawnya Johnson, director of sales and

marketing for The Inn at St. John's. "It's kind of like a festival going on. We wanted to involve the community in our facility and spread good cheer. In conjunction with the open house we're doing a fund raiser for St. Vincent De Paul. Everyone's struggling now to get donations."

The contest is divided into two categories: Adult/Professional and Family/Child. Prizes include overnight stays at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth, dinners at 5ive Restaurant, American Express gift cards and more.

"They need to register by Nov. 25," said Johnson. "There are forms at the web site. The adult division can't use a kit. They have to bring the actual gingerbread house here to The Inn at St. John's by Nov. 30. All will be on display Dec. 2, when we're going to have Santa here, reindeers, ciders, donuts, cookies, all kinds of fun stuff."

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

Local students to perform in play

The Henry Ford Community College Theater program presents *To Kill a Mockingbird*, directed by Judy Fletcher, from Nov. 23, to Dec. 2, in the Adray Auditorium of the Mackenzie Fine Arts Center on the main campus, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn. Show times are 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. Special matinees for middle and high school students will be held 10 a.m. Monday-Friday, Nov. 26-30. Tickets are \$7 adults, \$5 for students with ID. Call (313) 845-9817.

To Kill a Mockingbird is based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Harper Lee about a pivotal time in the

childhood of narrator Jean Louise Finch, known as Scout. The story examines social, racial and tolerance issues in the deep south in the 1930s through the eyes of Scout and her sibling Jem as they grow from innocence to experience and ignorance to understanding. The production features Mike Fisher of Garden City as Atticus Finch; Emily Hool of Dearborn as the narrator Jean Louise Finch; Gwendolyn Hope Ulrey of Dearborn as Scout; Kirsten Koschnitzke of Lincoln Park as Jem; Patricia Castill-Bello of Farmington as Mayell Ewell; Alex Carr of Redford as Mr. Gilmer; Christian Plonka of Dearborn

as Dill; Ralph Koschnitzke of Lincoln Park as Heck Tate; Tracey Kochnitzke of Lincoln Park as Maudie Atkinson; James Hodges of Detroit as Tom Robinson; Joanne Robertson of Melvindale as Mrs. Dubose; Eleanor Warner of Dearborn as Stephanie Crawford; Kenneth Scales of Detroit as Rev. Sykes; Jasmine Lewis of Taylor as Helen Robinson; Sharda Davis of Dearborn as Calpurnia; Brian Tarasiewicz of Riverview as Bob Ewell; and Jason Rooker of Brownstown as Boo Radley. The play is the last event celebrating *To Kill a Mockingbird* in the community college's Big Read project, part of a national program to promote literacy. The Big Read was funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, with First Lady Laura Bush as the honorary chair, and is sponsored locally by the Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency which awarded HFCC a \$2,500 grant for the project. Through the Big Read, HFCC promoted literacy and held many events to celebrate *To Kill a Mockingbird* including sending HFCC students to see a performance of the play in Stratford, Ontario.

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Notice is hereby given that on 12/19/07 at 12:30 pm the following will be sold by competitive bidding at National Storage Center of Redford, 9125 W. Telegraph Rd., Redford, MI 48239. Unit #344 Sophia Leverette-Jackson, Misc. Goods; Unit #428 Steven Chapman, Household Items, Misc. Goods; Unit #501 Altria Osborne, Household Items, Misc. Goods; Unit #511 Janice Edwards-Walker, Household Items, Misc. Goods; Unit #517 Cynthia Greenlee, Household Items, Misc. Goods; Unit #615 Stephen Kantos, Household Items, Misc. Goods; Unit #616, Stephen Kantos, Recreational Items, Household Items, Misc. Goods.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF LIENED PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that a closed bid sale will be held on December 5, 2007 at 1:00 P.M. at 40671 Joy Road, Canton, Michigan 48187, County of Wayne. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE will sell to satisfy the lien on the property stored at 40671 Joy Road, Canton, Michigan 48187, by the following persons. The inventories listed below were notated by the tenants at the time of rental. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE makes no representation or warranty that the units contain said inventories. Unit J34 Hayes, furniture, boxes; Unit J15 Jackson, HH Goods; Unit C214, Burton, HH Goods; Unit C224, Dusseau, HH Goods; Unit H29, Eroyan, HH Goods; Unit F04, Hubbard, HH Goods; Unit F46, Jones, HH Goods.

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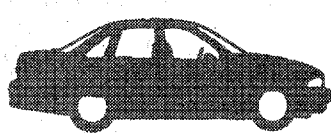
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Suzuki Forenza sounds exotic, but it isn't

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dave Menard
Avanti News Features

As the No. 4 Japanese automaker in terms of market share, Suzuki is often overlooked here in the U.S. Those Americans looking at imports tend to favor Toyota, Honda or Nissan (and those companies' luxury sisters, Lexus, Acura and Infiniti). And that's not even counting Mazda, BMW and Volvo, which all had a head start on Suzuki; after all, Suzuki didn't even start selling cars here until the late 1980s, well after the others had established themselves here.

Suzuki, along with other latecomers Kia and Hyundai, is trying to elbow its way to the table and one of the vehicles the company hopes to use to do that is the 2007 Forenza.

Also available as a wagon, the Suzuki Forenza sedan is styled like you'd expect in the \$15,000 price range - nothing too flashy, but nothing unpleasant to look at, either. It's an average looking compact sedan. The front fascia features a simple grille with the Suzuki logo in the center, the front and rear bumpers, door handles and mirrors are color-matched to the car, and silver roof rails are standard on the wagon. The Forenza comes with 15-inch steel wheels; no other kind is available.

The Forenza is powered by a 2.0-liter DOHC 16-valve 4-cylinder engine. It's rated at 127 horsepower, which, for comparison's sake, puts it between the Hyundai Accent (110 horsepower) and the Hyundai Elantra (136 horsepower).

This means, obviously, you'll get a little more power than you would with a subcompact, but not as much as some others in its class.

This engine is mated with either the standard five-speed manual transmission or the optional four-speed automatic. The test car came with the "Convenience Package," and that includes the automatic; acceleration was unexceptional, but adequate. EPA rates the Forenza at 23/30 with the manual and 22/31 with the automatic, and it does run on regular unleaded.

Inside, the Forenza again is adequate, but not exceptional. Neither leather nor power seats are available on the Forenza, but the standard cloth seats are comfortable with decent support. There's a center console



As the No. 4 Japanese automaker in terms of market share, Suzuki is often overlooked here in the U.S.

with a storage compartment, and cupholders for both the front- and rear-seat passengers. There's a good amount of leg room, even for tall drivers, and the rear seats are actually usable for passengers, always a nice idea in a four-door. The rear seats are 60/40 fold-down split seats to give you more room for cargo.

Suzuki only has two trim levels besides the base Forenza. The base sedan comes with air conditioning, tilt-steering wheel, sunglasses holder, power locks and mirrors, heated side mirrors, and rear defroster. Adding the Convenience Package (\$350) will get you cruise control and remote keyless entry. Adding the "Popular Package" (\$950) gets you a power tilt-and-slide sunroof, in addition to the items available in the Convenience Package.

The standard audio system is an AM/FM/CD system with eight speakers. It's adequate, but not exceptional. There is no upgraded system available, so if you want satellite radio or an mp3 input, you'll have to go aftermarket.

The Forenza will give you a decent ride. The front suspension is an independent MacPherson strut system with gas shocks, while in the rear it's a dual-link suspension with gas shocks and stabilizer bar. Speed-sensitive power steering is standard and the Forenza is fairly easy to maneuver and park.

Advanced dual-stage front airbags are included with the Forenza, as well as advanced weight-sensing front passenger airbag, and driver and passenger seat-mounted side impact airbags. New this year, the Forenza gets a

tire-pressure monitoring system, a nice feature for a vehicle in this price range. Anti-lock brakes (\$500) are available as an option, but, oddly, only if you don't get either of the option packages.

To verify this I went to the Suzuki Web site and did a "build your own," and sure enough, the ABS option only came up when I dropped the other packages - and no, it wasn't already part of either of those packages. If that's the case, then that is truly odd. I know I won't buy a vehicle without ABS again, but to do that with Forenza, you apparently have to give up cruise control, keyless entry and the sunroof.

The new Forenza starts at about \$14,000. Add the automatic transmission the cruise control and the keyless entry and you're at a little over \$15,300.

Compared to the other vehicles it's trying to compete with, there's nothing really outstanding about the Forenza. It's competent, but has nothing that puts it head-and-shoulders above any one of its competitors. Just another one of the import compact bunch.

Write Avanti NewsFeatures Senior Editor Dave Menard at avanti1054@aol.com <<mailto:avanti1054@aol.com>>.

Suzuki Forenza sedan

Vehicle class: Compact car.

Power: 16-valve 4-cylinder engine / 4-speed automatic transmission.

Mileage: 22 city / 31 highway.

Where built: Gusan, Korea.

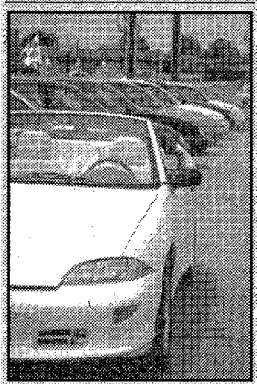
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FORD ESCAPE XLT 2005, 14,800 miles, 4.9%, certified.
EXPLORER 2005 4x4, air, auto, \$14,900.
FORD FREESTYLE LTD 2006, leather, loaded, certified, \$16,940.
F-150 SUPER CAB 2005, 4x4, \$18,970.
EXPLORER XLT 2003 4x4, auto, air, loaded, \$13,960.
FORD F150 2005 Supercab 4x4 XLT, 3.9%, \$20,900.
FORD FREESTYLE LIMITED 2005, leather, rear air, \$16,840. Stk# CD166.
FUSION SEL 2006, loaded, lets deal, \$16,840. Stk #P2025.
TAURUS SE 2005, 10K, like new, certified, \$11,840. Stk #P20205

North Brothers

734-524-1264

SATURN OUTLOOK XR 2007, 17K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, cruise, tilt, Wow, \$26,900.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

SATURN VUE 2003, V-6, moonroof, \$12,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

SATURN VUE 2006, 30K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, OnStar, leather, \$17,750.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

TOYOTA 4RUNNER SR5 2006 Sport, auto, 4WD, \$26,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

TOYOTA HIGHLANDER 2007, 4WD, two to choose from, winter ready, \$19,995.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

TOYOTA HIGHLANDER SPORT 2007, 29K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, alloy wheels, \$19,770.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

Sports & Imported (8300)

CHEVY CORVETTE 1992, reconditioned, like new, black beauty, must see, \$10,995.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

CHEVY CORVETTE 2006, victory red, power top, Nav, six speed, give thanks for this price.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

CORVETTE LT-1 1994 Loaded! 350 engine w/alum. heads. Red. Black removable top. Stored last 7 yrs. 47,000 miles. 2 sets of wheels & tires. Non-smoker. Retiree's pet. Must see! \$14,000/best. 313-537-7533 or 313-477-0223

MERCEDES BENZ E320 AWD Wagon 2002
Silver, one owner, 67,000, mint cond, sunroof, Bose sound, full service history, new tires, \$21,000. Paul at: 248-974-3336

Acura (8340)

MDX 2004 4x4, Nav. system, DVD, silver, \$22,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

Buick (8360)

CENTURY 2005, loaded, sharp! Full power, save, only \$10,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

LACROSSE CX 2007, power moonroof, 3800-V-6, fully loaded, only \$16,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

LACROSSE CXS 2007, 9 to choose, all loaded, leather, most moonroofs, from \$16,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

LESABRE 1999, one owner, dark green, \$5,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

LESABRE LIMITED 2000, light blue, loaded, sharp, \$6,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

LUCERNE CXS 2007, 5 to choose, moonroofs, leather, loaded, from \$20,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

Cadillac (8380)

CTS 2007, 06, 05, several to choose, sharp, moonroofs, from \$18,990.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

DEVILLE 1993, looks & runs great, only \$3,995.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

DEVILLE 1999, loaded, black, low miles, \$5,980. Stk #7C8461A
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

DEVILLE 2002, one owner, leather, crimson red, \$12,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

DTS 2005, leather, moonroof, fully loaded, only \$20,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

ELDORADO 1999 Touring Coupe, 41K, auto, air, leather, moon roof, \$11,990.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

SRX 2005, leather, only 20,000 miles, loaded, sharp!! \$22,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

Chevrolet (8400)

CAVALIER 2004 2 dr. coupe, alloy wheels, air, only 55K, tan.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

Chevrolet (8400)

COBALT 2007, only 1,400 miles, auto, air, sharp!! \$13,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

COBALT LS 2006, 40K, auto, air, tilt, AM/FM stereo, ABS, a steal, \$9,885.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

COBALT LS 2007 4 dr., black, 4 cylinder, auto, low miles, save!!
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

HHR LT 2007, 29K, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, alloy wheels, \$13,990.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

IMPALA 2007, GM Certified, as low as 4.9% APR. Several to choose from, \$14,995.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

IMPALA LS 2004, 57K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, OnStar, leather, alloy wheels, \$10,990.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

IMPALA LS 2007, 28K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, OnStar, \$13,990.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

IMPALA LS 2007, 32K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, OnStar, \$14,990.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

IMPALA LT 2007, 28K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, OnStar, alloy wheels, \$15,450.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

MALIBU, 2003 White w/Grey int., A/C, power windows, Am/Fm/CD, 73K Mi., Clean. Runs great, \$6,600. 248-642-7679

MALIBU LS 2003, V-6, island teal green, well equipped, only \$9,450.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

MALIBU LT 2007, 18K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, ABS, alloy wheels, \$13,550.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

MALIBU LT 2007, V-6, auto, several to choose from, as low as 4.9% APR.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

SEBRING LXI 2001 Convertible, alloys, cruise, leather, a beautiful ride! \$8,995.
COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

Dodge (8440)

MAGNUM SXT 2007, red, H.O. V-6, full power, was \$20,495, special \$19,288.
RedHoban (734) 721-1144

Neon 2000
5 spd, like new, \$1675.
TYME (734) 455-5566

NEON ES 2000 4 dr., one owner, auto, air, \$4,295.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

NEON SE 2005, low miles, \$7,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

Ford (8480)

EDGE SE 2008 ALL NEW CROSS OVER SIGN & DRIVE \$303 PER MONTH. SEE OUR FULL PAGE AD IN TODAY'S PAPER
BILL BROWN FORD (734) 421-7000

ESCORT ZX2 1998, full power, nice nice car! 1st time buyer program available. COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

FIVE HUNDRED 2006 Limited, AWD, navigation, only 18K, \$19,995.
Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

FORD (8480)

FOCUS SE 2000 4 dr., pw/pl, auto, air, \$5,850. Stk #P20366
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

FOCUS SE 2007, 23K, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, MP3 ABS, \$10,450.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

FOCUS SE 2007, 8K, \$12,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

FOCUS ZTS ST 2006, low miles, full power, \$11,995.
Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

FOCUS ZX4 2006, auto, leather, moon, low miles, \$11,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

FOCUS ZX4, SE 2007, 10 to choose. Low miles, all colors. From \$11,495.
Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

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Ford (8480)

FUSION 2006, certified, very clean. Low payments. Ask for Bryan O'Neil
North Bros. L/M TROY (248) 283-6377

FUSION SE 2008 SIGN & DRIVE \$214 PER MONTH. SEE OUR FULL PAGE AD IN TODAY'S PAPER
BILL BROWN FORD (734) 421-7000

FUSIONS 2007, 14 to choose, all colors, low miles, name your price!
Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

MUSTANG 1999, V-6 3.8 liter, 70K, \$6,495.
1st time buyer program. COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

MUSTANG 2001 Cobra Convertible, spotless, 54K, \$15,650. Stk# 8C6000A
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

MUSTANG 2005, 5 speed, \$13,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

FIND IT ONLINE HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

MUSTANG 2006 Convertible, 10K, auto, \$19,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

MUSTANG GT 1999 Convertible, 35th Anniversary, 15K, \$14,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

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\$300 GIFT CARD ON ALL CERTIFIED VEHICLES

FOCUS SE 2007, great value, certified, \$11,980. Stk #20153
FOCUS SES 2005 Certified, 25K, \$10,850. Stk# 7C1145A
MUSTANG 2005, V-6, certified, \$13,803. Stk# 7C8276A
FORD FREESTAR 2004, leather, rear air, \$13,400. 773255A
SABLE 2005, loaded, 4.9% 22K, \$13,895. P20306
FOCUS 2006, great gas, \$11,500. 7C1332A
FORD ESCAPE 2008, V-6, 4x4, 100K warranty, \$22,900. P20321
FORD FREESTAR 2007, like new, 100K warranty, \$16,300. P20322

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734-524-1264

Ford (8480)

North Brothers

Value Lot Great Selection of Budget Vehicles
FORD RANGER 2003 supercab 4x4, cap, full power, \$11,840. Stk# 776325A
FOCUS SE 2004 4 dr. auto, air, \$8,495. 7C8283A
NAVIGATOR DVD 2003 Has it all! \$23,480. P20344
FORD RANGER 2004, \$6,995. P20185
FORD RANGER 2005, \$7,995. P20186
NEON 2003, \$7,500. P20297
FORD ESCAPE 2003, clean, 1 owner, \$8,750.
NEON 2000, low low miles 50K, 1 owner, WOW, \$5,750

North Brothers

TAURUS SEL 2007, certified, 4.9% APR O.A.C., frost green. Ask for Bryan O'Neil
North Bros. L/M TROY (248) 283-6377

TAURUS SEL 2007, certified, 4.9% APR O.A.C., silver. Ask for Bryan O'Neil
North Bros. L/M TROY (248) 283-6377

TAURUS SEL 2007, five to choose from, \$12,450.
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

TAURUS SES 2001, low miles, very clean, \$6,995.
Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

TAURUS SES 2003, moonroof, budget priced, \$7,860.
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

THUNDERBIRD 2005 Harlotop, 11K, \$26,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

North Brothers

734-524-1318

TAURUS 2001, brown metallic, only 69K, air & more, \$6,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

TAURUS 2006, 5 to choose, all low miles, from \$9,995.
Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

TAURUS 2006, certified, low miles \$11,984.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

TAURUS SEL 2007, blue, V-6, leather, full power, alloys, reduced to \$13,688.
RedHoban (734) 721-1144

Ford (8480)

ACCORD 2003 2 dr., V-6, silver, 32K, sunroof, leather, 6 disc, clearance, \$15,788.
RedHoban (734) 721-1144

ACCORD 2003 2 dr., V-6, silver, 32K, sunroof, leather, 6 disc, clearance, \$15,788.
RedHoban (734) 721-1144

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

THUNDERBIRD 2005 Harlotop, 11K, \$26,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

North Brothers

734-524-1318

Honda (8520)

ACCORD SE 2002, 86K, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, moon roof, alloy wheels, \$9,450.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

CIVIC LX 2005, 29K, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, AM/FM stereo, \$13,840.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

ELEMENT 2002 4 wheel drive EX, \$10,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

Hyundai (8524)

Hyundai XKG 2004- Leather & moon. Loaded! \$7999. \$99 down.
TYME (734) 455-5566

TAURUS SEL 2007, certified, 4.9% APR O.A.C., silver. Ask for Bryan O'Neil
North Bros. L/M TROY (248) 283-6377

TAURUS SEL 2007, five to choose from, \$12,450.
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

TAURUS SES 2001, low miles, very clean, \$6,995.
Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

TAURUS SES 2003, moonroof, budget priced, \$7,860.
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

THUNDERBIRD 2005 Harlotop, 11K, \$26,998.
AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

North Brothers

734-524-1318

Jaguar (8530)

X-TYPE 2004 3.0L, 38K, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, ABS, leather, moonroof, \$17,400.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

Jeep (8535)

GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 2003 4x4, red, \$10,995.
Buy here \$ pay here COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

LIBERTY 2005 4x4, silver, V-6, alloys, was \$15,795, sale \$14,188.
RedHoban (734) 721-1144

Lincoln (8560)

MARK VIII 1998, not too many left this nice, \$7,750. One owner, adult owned.
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

DICK SCOTT DODGE CREDIT CENTER

SECOND CHANCE FINANCING SAME DAY APPROVAL

OPEN CHAPTER 7 & 13 OK

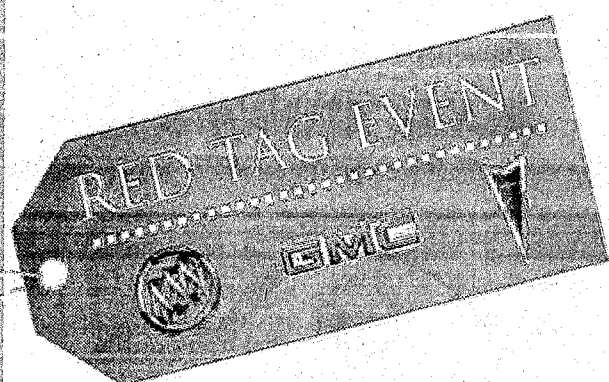
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CALL TODAY - DRIVE TODAY!

\$1000 FOR TRADE*

20 Finance Companies Ready To Help!

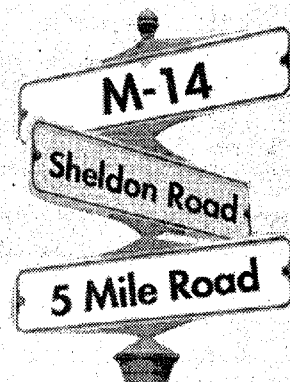
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UP TO 60 MONTHS ON ALL REMAINING 2007s*

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<p>30 MPG 2008 PONTIAC G6 SALE PRICE \$14,690* Stock #6240</p>	<p>28 MPG 2008 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX SALE PRICE \$17,876* Stock #6001</p>	<p>2008 PONTIAC G6 Hard Top Convertible Stock #6252</p>	<p>33 MPG 2008 PONTIAC VIBE SALE PRICE \$14,606* Stock #6178</p>
<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$149** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1499</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$184** PER MO. \$0 DOWN PAYMENT</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$186** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1499</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$226** PER MO. \$0 DOWN PAYMENT</p>
<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$268** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1499</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$308** PER MO. \$0 DOWN PAYMENT</p>	<p>2007 BUICK LACROSSE CXL Was \$28,854 NOW \$22,699* VIN #4474</p>	
<p>2008 BUICK LUCERNE SALE PRICE \$22,934* Was \$26,995 Stock #2029</p>	<p>2008 BUICK LACROSSE CXL SALE PRICE \$24,293* Was \$27,585 Stock #2060</p>	<p>2008 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL VIN #4474</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$247** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1995</p>
<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$301** PER MO. \$0 DOWN PAYMENT</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$276** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1995</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$330** PER MO. \$0 DOWN PAYMENT</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$399** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1995</p>
<p>2008 GMC ENVOY SALE PRICE \$23,142* Stock #4072</p>	<p>2008 GMC YUKON SALE PRICE \$30,621* Stock #4140</p>	<p>24 MPG 2008 GMC ACADIA SALE PRICE \$27,246* Stock #4087</p>	<p>Great Buy! 2007 GMC SIERRA CREW CAB SALE PRICE \$21,995* Stock #3365</p>
<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$219** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1999</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$276** PER MO. \$0 DOWN PAYMENT</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$347** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1999</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$405** PER MO. \$0 DOWN PAYMENT</p>
<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$319** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1999</p>	<p>39 MONTH LEASE \$377** PER MO. \$0 DOWN PAYMENT</p>	<p>QUALITY USED CARS AT AFFORDABLE PRICES</p>	
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<p>2004 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT 2 \$11,995</p>	<p>1998 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE SLE \$5,495</p>	<p>2004 GMC YUKON XL DENALI \$22,995</p>	<p>2000 DODGE NEON ES 4 DR \$4295</p>
<p>2005 BUICK RENDEZVOUS CX \$15,995</p>	<p>2001 FORD TAURUS \$6,995</p>	<p>2006 PONTIAC G6 CERTIFIED \$12,995</p>	<p>2005 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT 2 \$14,995</p>

BOB JEANNOTTE
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(between M-14 & 5 Mile Road)



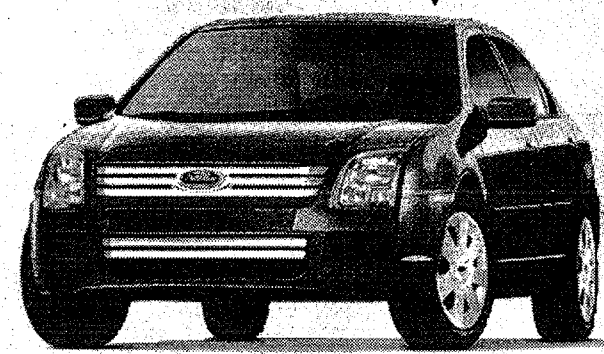
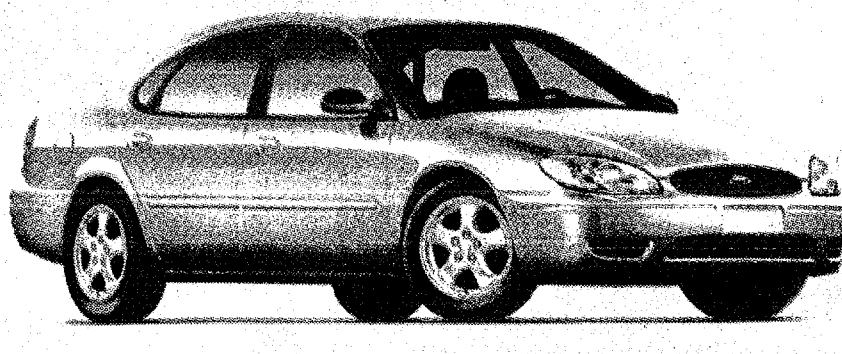
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FOCUS

Over 20 to choose from
Starting at

\$11,495

TAURUS

Over 30 to choose from

AS LOW AS **\$189*** Per Mo.

FUSION

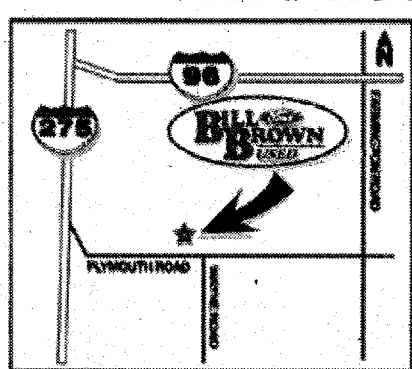
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Starting at

\$14,495

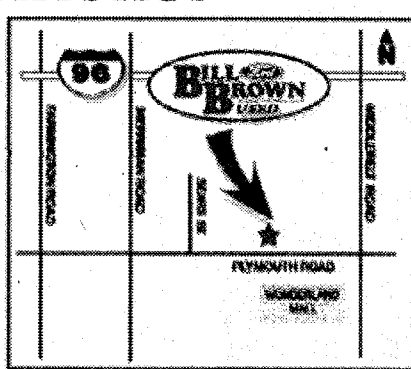
HUGE SAVINGS on Every Fusion, Focus & Taurus on our Lots!

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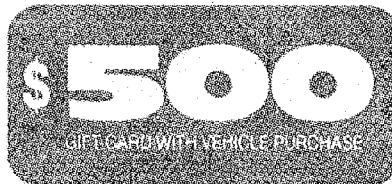
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TERRACE LOT - 30400 Plymouth Road, across from Wonderland Mall.

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Cut it out. Bring it in.



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Automotive

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Lincoln 0560
ZEPHYR 2006, very low miles, certified, call for price.
Ask for Bryan O'Neil
North Bros. L/M TROY
(248) 283-6377

Mazda 0580
Mazda 626 2001
Auto, air immaculate. \$3799.
TYME (734) 455-5566

MAZDA 6i 2005, 48K, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, moon, alloy wheels, \$14,450.
SATURN OF PLYMOUTH
(734) 453-7890

Mercury 0600
GRAND MARQUIS 2004, certified, 3.9 Apr O.A.C.
Ask for Bryan O'Neil
North Bros. L/M TROY
(248) 283-6377

GRAND MARQUIS 2004, loaded, must see.
Ask for Bryan O'Neil
North Bros. L/M TROY
(248) 283-6377

MARAUDER 2004, the mac daddy! Clean, loaded! \$17,995
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

MILAN 2007, leather, certified, low payment.
Ask for Bryan O'Neil
North Bros. L/M TROY
(248) 283-6377

MONTEGO 2005, AWD leather, moonroof, 11K, certified.
Ask for Bryan O'Neil
North Bros. L/M TROY
(248) 283-6377

Mercury 0600
MONTEGO 2005, certified, only 19,000 miles.
Ask for Bryan O'Neil
North Bros. L/M TROY
(248) 283-6377

SABLE 2003, very low miles, certified, call for price.
Ask for Bryan O'Neil
North Bros. L/M TROY
(248) 283-6377

Mitsubishi 0610
MIRAGE 2000, air, cruise, CD, tilt, 42K \$5,295.
Buy here \$ pay here
COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

Nissan 0620
SENTRA 2005 4 dr., radiator, 4 cylinder, auto, priced to save \$9,995.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet
888-372-9836

Oldsmobile 0640
ALERO 2002, dark green, sunroof, \$6,195.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

AURORA 2001 auto, V-6 3.5 liter, leather, absolutely spotless! Luxury for less! \$5,995
COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

Pontiac 0660
AZTEK 2004, AWD, white, sunroof, sharp! \$11,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

BONNEVILLE SLE 1998, sharp, silver, only \$4,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

Pontiac 0680
BONNEVILLE SSEI 2003, Black, power moon, leather, chrome wheels. \$10,795.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

G-6 2005 4 dr., V-6, silver, 18,800 miles, sunroof, alloys, like new! \$15,195
RedHobnar
(734) 721-1144

G-6 2007, 29K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, rear spoiler, premium wheels, \$13,990.
SATURN OF PLYMOUTH
(734) 453-7890

G-6 2007 sedan, only 9,000 miles, auto, air, loaded, sharp! \$14,950
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

G6 2005, V-6, silver, 30K, \$14,495.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

G6 2006, auto, air, gray, certified, 20K \$13,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

GRAND AM SE 2004, V-6, auto, air, moonroof, chrome wheels, spoiler, \$10,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

GRAND PRIX GT2 2004, black, sunroof, leather, H.U.D., loaded, hurry, \$11,895.
RedHobnar
(734) 721-1144

GRAND PRIX GT2 2004, leather, moon, green, \$11,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

GRAND PRIX GT2 2005, bright blue, leather, \$14,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

GRAND PRIX'S 2007 SE, GT, 9 to choose, 4.9% finance available.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

Pontiac 0680
GRAND PRIX'S 2007, 2 to choose, black or red, full power, low miles, choice, \$16,688.
RedHobnar
(734) 721-1144

VIBE 2006, certified, auto, gray, \$13,995
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

Saturn 0700
AURA XE 2007, 20K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, OnStar, ABS, \$15,900.
SATURN OF PLYMOUTH
(734) 453-7890

ION 2004, 16K, 5 speed, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, AM/FM stereo, sun roof, Sale, \$9,400.
SATURN OF PLYMOUTH
(734) 453-7890

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COUNTER A DESTRUCTIVE EGO -- OFFER A 'SOLUTION'



WORKWISE
by
Mildred L. Culp

You and your workplace will be much better off if you know how to spot a destructive ego and how to counter it.

Step back for a minute first. Not all egos are destructive. "Ego is both a liability and an asset," write David Marcum & Steven Smith in "Egonomics: What Makes Ego Our Greatest Asset (Or Most Expensive Liability)..." (Fireside, \$25).

How can you identify problematic ego cases? Joe Healey, speaker and consultant at Joe Healey Performance Inc., in Virginia Beach, Va., says, "They're far less approachable and engaging. People don't feel they're on the same team. Communication is greatly reduced. People avoid keeping them in the loop, because they fear what they'll do and how they'll react." As a result, they undermine creativity, which hampers their effectiveness.

Kimberly Bishop, managing director of search firm Korn/Ferry International in New York City, matches candidates with cultures. She points out that an ego that doesn't fit in one culture might in another. She describes a destructive ego as "one which lacks empathy, humility or self-awareness, having a hurtful, destructive impact, without realizing it."

"Egonomics" warns against people who:
-- fixate upon a competitor rather than improve their own work;
-- rigidly adhere to their opinions, even when confronted with new information;
-- are defensive; and
-- constantly seek recognition and acceptance.

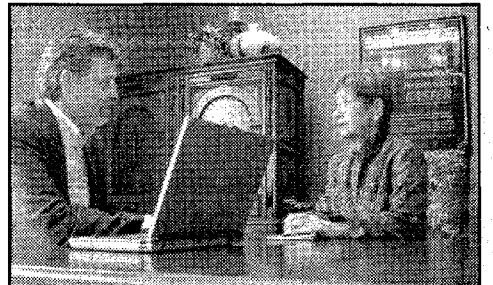
The book is particularly helpful for readers who think that they, themselves, might have a problematic ego.

WHAT TO DO

When you observe a problematic ego that isn't your own, how can you counter it? Bishop says that a company with a 360-degree feedback policy may put a person in check. "Help the person increase self-understanding," she recommends. "Focus on data and facts rather than the way information is being presented. When possible, use positive reinforcement or feedback."

Healey recommends a more direct method, although he cautions against using the word "ego," because it tends to make people feel defensive. He maintains that, even if the person is your co-worker, you must try the method "or you'll be giving permission for that person's ego to walk on you. Focus on the (specific) behavior, immediately." Constant interruptions during a presentation or the person's taking credit for your work are clear examples of an ego working destructively.

"In the current climate," he states, "it is fair game to approach a peer or superior if their actions interfere with the mission or good of the team. Don't allow emotion to get in the way. Be direct and focus on the behavior and consequences of their actions." Be solution-focused. For example, you might say to the person who interrupts you during a presentation, "The next time we give a presentation



Credit: Lex Park
Joe Healey of Joe Healey Performances Inc., consults with Nina McCoy, president of CCG Systems Inc., on the redesign of marketing and sales processes that led to her company's annual sales growth of 75 percent.

together, let me finish my point, because your interrupting hurts the credibility of both of us." If repetition doesn't work -- "Be willing to wear the person down," Healey states -- identify how it's cost the company money. This tactic will give you a good business reason to discuss, rather than personal discomfort.

Finally, if the person keeps getting in your way and the only way out for you is to get reassigned, make it happen. Your reason for changing jobs in the company is that you want to learn and contribute more to build the company's future.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2007 Passage Media.)

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- Familiarity with standard software tools such as compilers, linkers, emulators, debuggers, etc.
- Experience with CASE tools and behavior models
- Experience with CAN/LIN communication interface and associated tools (Vector)
- Design and develop embedded software for automotive electronics
- Familiarity with CMM, CMMI or SPICE development processes.
- Solid Hardware background

For more information on our company, please visit our website: www.hella.com If you meet the job requirements, please send your resume to jobs@hella.com Hella offers a comprehensive benefits package.

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Software Design Engineers



careerbuilder.com™

Observer & Eccentric
HOMETOWNlife.com

Help Wanted-General 6000

Interior Designer

Eastern Michigan University is seeking a qualified **Interior Designer** that will provide design services in the planning, design, and construction of buildings and facilities.

Qualifications: Knowledge of planning, designing, and construction of buildings and facilities, typically acquired through the completion of a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts, Interior Design, or a related field, is necessary. Three years of experience in the field of Interior Design is required. Knowledge of the methods and materials used in institutional design with an emphasis on sustainability and procurement of Green products is necessary. Knowledge of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and its application in a public institutional setting is necessary. Ability to write clear and concise reports is desirable. A Michigan driver's license and the ability to drive to project sites is necessary.

To apply online for Posting #PTBF0806 go to: <http://www.emich.edu/jobs/>.

Application deadline: Monday, 12/10/07. Cover letters, resumes, licenses and/or certificates can be attached to the application. Materials that are faxed, emailed or sent by U.S. mail to either Human Resources or the Physical Plant department will NOT be considered.

Eastern Michigan University
Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer
www.emich.edu

INVENTORY TAKERS
Group benefits after 90 days. Paid training. \$8.50/hr. 1-800-306-7714. Equal Opportunity Employer www.rjgs.com

IRRITABLE?
We are looking for volunteers to participate in a research study of an investigational medication for depression. Qualified participants receive all research related care, study medication, and office visits at no cost. Please call the Institute for Health Studies at 1-877-908-CARE. Ask about compensation available for participation.

LEASING
Apt. community in Southfield seeks out-going and dependable individual to join our leasing team, to show-apts. and perform other office duties. Full time position. Fax resume to: 248-557-0906

LEASING CONSULTANT
Needed at professional Novi community. P/T/F Strong computer skills, customer service skills, and sales experience desired. Schedule to include weekends. Fax resume to HR @ (248) 348-8553

Loan Operations Assistant
Growing community bank in Plymouth seeks full-time loan operations assistant. Prior loan ops exp. required. LaserPro Lending exp. a plus. Fax resumes to 734-416-9401 or email: foutch@newlibertybank.com. EOE. No phone calls.

MAINTENANCE
at private high school. Afternoon shift & some weekends. All around mechanical ability. Must possess or obtain a CDL license. Apply at: 27225 Wixom Rd., Novi, between 6am & 3pm.

MAINTENANCE
Needed for Farmington apartment community. Must have minimum of 2 years experience in carpentry, plumbing, electrical & HVAC. Must have strong leadership capabilities. Position requires on-call responsibilities. A drug screen, criminal and driving check will be run prior to employment. Apt. available after 30 days, includes benefits and advancement opportunity. Call 248-569-8880 ext 3221 or fax resume to Leslie at 248-569-1508

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Help Wanted-General 6000

Plant Maintenance Lead/Supervisor

Seeking motivated, self starting experienced maintenance person. Knowledge of heavy manufacturing equipment, hydraulics, str-onic electrical, DC drives, plc Slick 500 & Supervisory experience required.

Blue Cross/Blue Shield, top wage & incentive program.

Fax resume to: Atlas Tube Plymouth, MI 734-738-5634

Maintenance Technician/Supervisor

Needed full time at upscale Novi property. Experience required. Must be able to live on-site, and pass a criminal background check and drug testing. Please fax resume to HR @ (248) 593-5559

MANAGER/SALES CREW
Seasonal store. Exp. MGR \$400 plus p/wk. PT Sales \$7.15 p/hr plus. 1-800-583-6116 ext 13

MAZAK CNC LATHE OPERATOR
Must be capable of programming Mazatrol T32-2. Full-Time for 1st shift in Plymouth, ability to run other machines a plus.

Attn: HR, Wm. P. Young, Co. 41575 Ann Arbor Rd. Plymouth, MI 48170 Fax: (734) 453-5041 Email: HR@wp-young.com

OPTICAL DISPENSER
Friendly outgoing person needed for busy upscale office in Detroit. Top salary, bonus, benefits, 401K, no nights or Sunday's. Experience needed. Fax resume: (248) 871-0295

PARTS DEPARTMENT & EXP'D SALESPERSON
Motorcycle Dealership. Must be knowledgeable in the power sports industry. Fax resume: 248-476-7818 or call 248-476-4400

PRINTING Customer Service
Printwell has an opening for an individual who has customer service experience in a commercial print shop. Person must be detail oriented who works well with sales staff and customers. We offer excellent wages and benefits. Call John at 734-941-6300 or fax your resume to 734-942-0920

SEWING ROOM-PT
Person needed for small shop. Exp. with industrial machines necessary. Apply: 26789 Fullerton, Redford Twp. 313-592-3190

SNOW REMOVAL LABORERS \$13/HR + OVERTIME
Call 734-320-7467 or 734-320-0483

TEACHERS/ASSISTANTS
Childcare. Only exp'd apply. Livonia area. Call Sara 3:30pm: 248-474-0001 or after 4, 248-926-1656

Technicians Swift Transportation
Is Seeking Experienced TRACTOR TECHS For The New Boston, MI Shop Facility. 2 Yrs. Exp. Req'd & Must Have Own Tools. Valid Driver's Lic. Req'd. Swift Offers Medical, Dental, 401K, & More! (drug screen/background check req'd) (eoe-m/f)

Contact Pete Mueller at 734-753-2361 Apply Online @ www.swifttrans.com

WELDER/FITTER/SUPERVISORS
Capable of fabricating structural steel, pipe welding and fitting, stairs & handrail. Pay up to \$25 per hr. + benefits. Send resume to: PD Box 930441 Wixom, MI 48393 Fax: (248) 477-3365

Help Wanted-Office 6020
Clerical

CUSTOMER SERVICE F/T, for Plymouth insurance agency. Insurance exp. required. Email: ozabramski@finlan.com

LEGAL SECRETARY
Farmington Hills, FT. Benefits. Fax resume to: 248-406-8001

PARALEGAL/ LEGAL ASSISTANT
FT. Exp. in insurance claims, family & criminal law. Fax Vanda resume: 248-968-5099

RECEPTIONIST VETERINARY EXP'D ONLY NEED APPLY!!!
Full-time. Apply in person: Strong Veterinary Hospital, 29212 Five Mile Rd., Livonia. Ask for Eva. NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE!

SECRETARY/ RECEPTIONIST
For Southfield law firm. Exc. phone & typing skills. Email resume: lorlaw@aol.com

Help Wanted-Engineering 6030

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER/ PROGRAMMER

Allen Bradley PLC programming required must be capable of troubleshooting machine control systems, ability to read and understand electrical schematics, experience in panel and machine tool wiring, Auto Cad and Machine Vision is an advantage.

Attn: HR, Wm. P. Young, Co. 41575 Ann Arbor Rd. Plymouth, MI 48170 Fax: (734) 453-5041 Email: HR@wp-young.com

MECHANICAL DESIGN ENGINEER

Successful candidate will possess a BSME and 4 or more yrs. of related experience in design of elastomeric machines that meet customer requirements. Must work accurately on Auto Cad.

Attn: HR, Wm. P. Young, Co. 41575 Ann Arbor Rd. Plymouth, MI 48170 Fax: (734) 453-5041 Email: HR@wp-young.com

Help Wanted-Dental 6040

ASSISTANT - CDA/RDA preferred. Team player needed for family practice in West Bloomfield. Great Benefits, 401K, Blue Cross/ Blue Shield, paid vacations, sick days. Call (248) 661-0678.

DENTAL ASSISTANT
New Center One (Detroit) Immediate Opening Seeking an experienced dental assistant for full time employment. Needs to be aggressive, self motivated, dedicated with professional chairside manner. Fax resume 313-874-0757.

DENTAL HYGIENIST
Registered FT. Farmington Hills. Minimum 5 yrs. exp. Fax resume to: 248-851-4408

Dental Receptionist/Biller
FT/PT. Dearborn. Must have exp. & be familiar with Dentrix. Fax resume: 313-834-0550

Dental SMILE!
...a bright future awaits!
Our busy Livonia, MI practice is seeking a professional with a good personality and manager skills.

Practice Manager
You will ensure teams provide highest quality of care and be resp. for managing financial resources of the practice. Reqs. 5+ years related exp., previous dental exp., pc proficiency, and strong mgmt. skills.

We offer competitive compensation and benefits. Email: cmymers@dcpartners.com EOE

RECEPTIONIST/FRONT OFFICE POSITION
Full or part time for quality-oriented Birmingham practice. Mature, motivated, dependable, cheerful and energetic. Minimum 5 years front office experience. Dentrix a plus. Excellent communication, marketing and people skills. Experienced in insurance. Please fax resume to 248-647-1804

www.dcpartners.com

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Full or part time for quality-oriented Birmingham practice. Mature, motivated, dependable, cheerful and energetic. Minimum 5 years front office experience. Dentrix a plus. Excellent communication, marketing and people skills. Experienced in insurance. Please fax resume to 248-647-1804

CHIROPODY ASSIST.
Fast-paced Western office seeks a reliable, detail-oriented person, Mon., Wed., Fri., 2:45-7:30pm, Sat. 8:45-1:30pm. Clerical skills & computer knowledge necessary. Will train right person. Apply 27527 Joy Rd., 1/2 block W. of Inkster Rd 734-522-5501

DIRECTOR OF NURSING
For The Village of Redford
Redford, Michigan. The Village of Redford is a continuing care retirement community and a subsidiary of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan. The Village is seeking a dynamic, progressive thinking DON to drive innovation and change, lead best practices, and nurture its workforce. The scope includes the 88 bed skilled level of care, with an extensive short-term Medicare A rehabilitation program. We have the first skilled Green Houses in Michigan and as an Eden community we have embraced person-centered assisted living neighborhoods. Current MI RN license, Master's degree and/or a minimum of 5+ years' related experience in a long-term setting. Reports to the Administrator and is part of the Guiding Coalition at the Village of Redford. We offer great benefits and a competitive salary. Interested candidates should forward resume cover letter and salary expectations to: malvarez@pvm.org EOE

Help Wanted-Medical 6060
CARDIOLOGY TECH
needed for 8 Internal Medicine physicians. 5 plus yrs. experience a must; monitor DCG, stress test. 3-5 days a week. Southfield area. Fax: 248-356-4936

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Fast-paced Western office seeks a reliable, detail-oriented person, Mon., Wed., Fri., 2:45-7:30pm, Sat. 8:45-1:30pm. Clerical skills & computer knowledge necessary. Will train right person. Apply 27527 Joy Rd., 1/2 block W. of Inkster Rd 734-522-5501

Help Wanted-Medical 6080
Histotechnologist
Mohs surgeon seeks Histotech with frozen section experience to process fresh tissue with Mohs frozen section techniques in his expanding, private practice. Background in histology, cryostat preparation and maintenance, and histo-chemical staining is essential. Full or part-time, excellent pay and benefits. Ann Arbor area. Fax resume today: 734-996-8767 or a2derm@aol.com

HOME CARE STAFF
Quality professionals needed immediately for Home Health Agency. FT, PT contingent. Seeking exp'd RN's, CHHA, PT/OT. Attractive per-visit rates or per hour. Positions open in your local area. Join our family in providing excellent care to members of our community. Fax resume to: 734-525-0808

LPNs/ RNs/
Newly renovated Autumnwood of Livonia with its expanded sub acute and rehab dept., is seeking full and part-time nurses with LTC experience.

WAGES: RNs - \$25/hr. LPNs - \$23/hr.
Please fax resume or apply in person to: Autumnwood of Livonia 14900 Middlebelt, Livonia, MI 48154 Phone: 734-425-4200 Fax: 734-425-4327

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Experienced. 25-28 hrs/wk. Fax resume: 734-464-9797

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part time, to do front and back work. Call 734-459-7630

MEDICAL OFFICE MANAGER
We are looking for an articulate, experienced and poised individual to oversee the day to day administrative aspects of a 3 doctor, 8 support-staff medical specialty practice. Candidate must have a proven track record of managing a medical office. Full time position in our Canton office, approx. 30-32 hrs/wk. Job requirements include an associate's degree in a related field and 5 years medical office experience, including 2+ years as manager. For further information and requirements see www.cantonallergy.com Fax resume: 734-394-2666

OPTICIAN
Private Novi Optometry practice seeks friendly, experienced optician. Fax/email resume: tcoptican@yahoo.com 248-347-7801

PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION
Saturday accelerated class beginning in Jan. \$850. Call us at: (313) 382-3857

RN, LPN or MA
With Experience, needed for GROWING dermatology practice in Ann Arbor/ Plymouth area. Full-Time, excellent pay & benefits. Email or Fax Resume to: a2derm@aol.com (734) 996-8767

VETERINARY TECH
Experienced Only. Competitive wages + benefit package. Full-time. Resume & references to: Strong Veterinary Hospital 29212 Five Mile Rd. Livonia. Ask for Eva. No Phone Calls, Please!

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 6080
ALL POSITIONS
Kaos Night Club & Lounge Apply within @ 6200 N. Telegraph Rd. Dearborn Heights, MI 313-274-0555

BARTENDER/ SERVER
Exp'd only. Apply at: Pages Food & Spirits 23621 Farmington Rd.

COOKS- Exp'd COUNTER STAFF
Apply at: Shark Club 42070 Ford Rd., Canton

COUNTER PERSON
Dunkin' Donuts. 18 yrs. & older. Must be able to work all shifts. \$8/hr. 734-459-5944

DELI ASSISTANT MANAGER
Upscale market seeking energetic, experienced people to assist customers with orders. Please send resume to: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 Ref. Box 1634 Attn: Donna

Help Wanted-Medical 6060

Histotechnologist

Mohs surgeon seeks Histotech with frozen section experience to process fresh tissue with Mohs frozen section techniques in his expanding, private practice. Background in histology, cryostat preparation and maintenance, and histo-chemical staining is essential. Full or part-time, excellent pay and benefits. Ann Arbor area. Fax resume today: 734-996-8767 or a2derm@aol.com

HOME CARE STAFF
Quality professionals needed immediately for Home Health Agency. FT, PT contingent. Seeking exp'd RN's, CHHA, PT/OT. Attractive per-visit rates or per hour. Positions open in your local area. Join our family in providing excellent care to members of our community. Fax resume to: 734-525-0808

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Newly renovated Autumnwood of Livonia with its expanded sub acute and rehab dept., is seeking full and part-time nurses with LTC experience.

WAGES: RNs - \$25/hr. LPNs - \$23/hr.
Please fax resume or apply in person to: Autumnwood of Livonia 14900 Middlebelt, Livonia, MI 48154 Phone: 734-425-4200 Fax: 734-425-4327

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Experienced. 25-28 hrs/wk. Fax resume: 734-464-9797

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SNACK BAR & CALL REMINDER
Needed. Apply in person. Merri-Bowl Lanes 30950 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, MI, 48154

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Part/Full Time Starting Gate Restaurant 135 N. Center St., Northville

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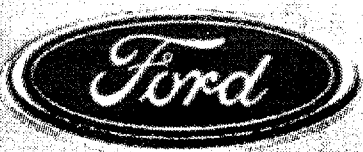
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or fax 716-706-1538

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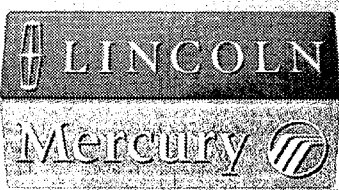
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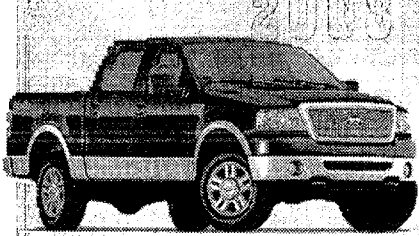
24 Month Lease
\$131 Per Mo.
\$2500 due at signing



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2008 LINCOLN MKZ

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\$149 Per mo.
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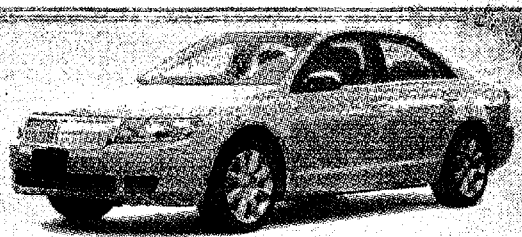


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Auto head lamps, keyless entry, power windows & locks, privacy glass, speed control, tilt, front & side impact air bags Stock #81277

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3.5L V6 Duratec eng, 6 speed automatic transmission, 17" chrome wheels, fog lamps, message center, side air curtain, wood trim, and more. Stock #80809

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24 Month Lease
\$2500 due at signing

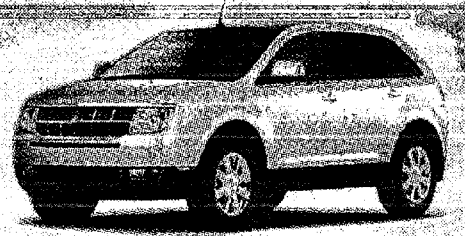


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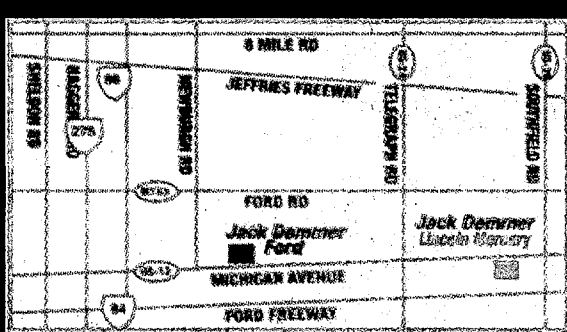


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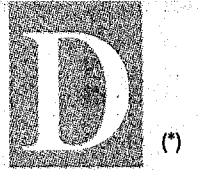
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New Homes



Sunday, November 25, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

This Law of the land is perfect for a corner lot

Some pieces of land require a specially designed home. The Law (405-13) has been created to be accessed from the side of the property. Containing 2,350 square feet, this would be ideal for a corner lot.

The front of the home has the ranch style covered porch that runs width of the home. The entry is a room that could contain an armoire for the coats. The door from this room

leads you directly into the living room.

The living room and the dining room are one large room with a number of windows. A wall in the middle of the area divides the living/dining rooms from the family room.

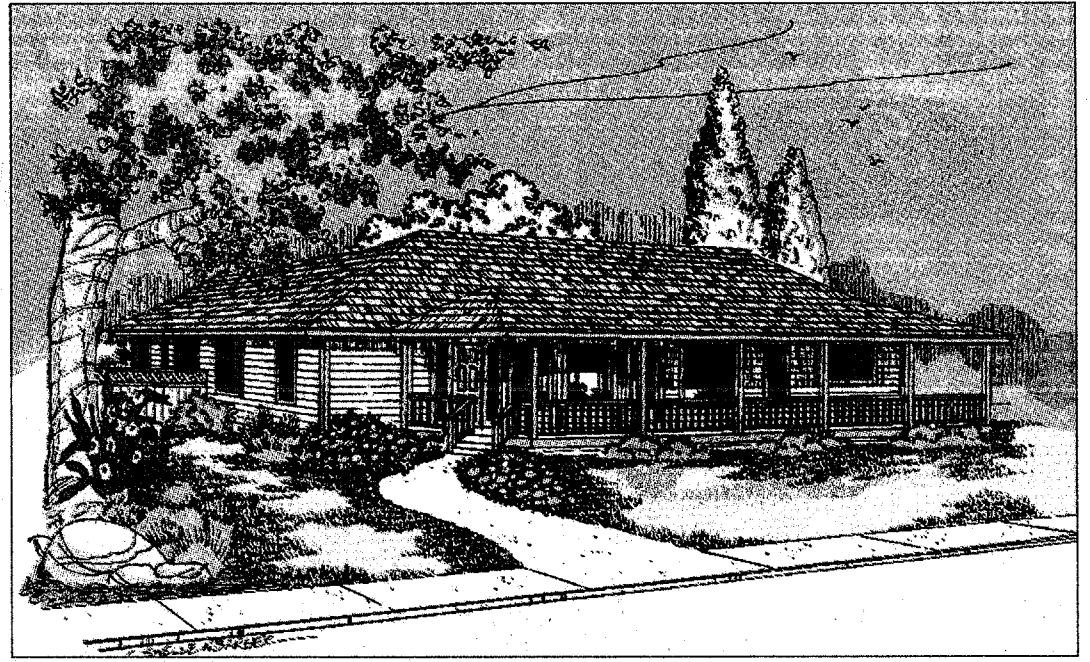
Off the dining area is the kitchen. The appliances are located around the wall, and there are a numerous windows to allow the sunlight to shine

in. Off the kitchen is a walk-in pantry, along with the utility room. There is a half bath in this area, containing a toilet and a sink. The utility has a full linen closet, washer/dryer, sink, and a large area to fold clothes. There is a door that opens out into the garage from this room.

The entire left side of the home is dedicated to bedrooms. Bedrooms two and three are separated by a large bathroom, with a tub, sink, and toilet. Bedroom two has the potential to be a guest suite, with a large corner walk-in closet and its own private linen/storage closet. Outside the bathroom is linen closet for bedroom three, which has been designed larger than a traditional bedroom.

The master suite has large walk-in closet that is shaped for easy access and excellent use of space. The bathroom has a storage/linen area, along with a sink, tub, and toilet. A vanity table has been included for the lady of the home.

Throughout the home are numerous windows that give the home plenty of sun-



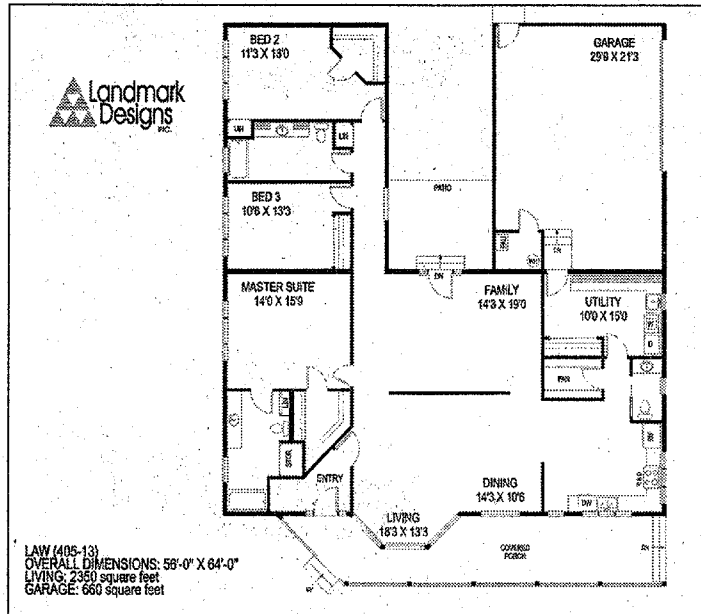
light. The rear of the home is shaped like a "U." The area between the two car garage and the bedrooms would be ideal for a patio, flower garden, deck, or play area for the kids. It could be covered or left open. It has numerous possibilities.

The garage is large enough to provide the handy man

with a shop area, the gardener with room for plants and tools, or storage for the person who enjoys sports or crafts.

For a study plan of the LAW (405-13), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number.

Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for your dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (LOE48) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.



BRIEFS

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.

Holiday party

Commercial Real Estate Women Detroit's Wednesday, Dec. 5, holiday party will include network-

ing, holiday cheer and collection of donated holiday gift bags for children and young adults of Alternatives For Girls, a Detroit nonprofit organization.

The holiday party will be 3-6 p.m. Dec. 5 at The Inn at 97 Winder, 97 Winder St., Detroit, (313) 832-4348, www.theinnat97winder.com. Cost is \$55 for members and \$65 for nonmembers; \$10 fee added after

Nov. 30. That includes two drink tickets (wine and beer), heavy appetizers and holiday sweets. Cash bar available. Register online at www.crewdetroit.org or contact Megan Cottrell at (888) 866-CREW or crew-detroit@crewnetwork.org. Request an AFG recipient Project Giving Tree wish list from Linda Doolittle at (313) 962-8300.

Build a home

Oakland Builders Education Seminars will offer a 16-hour seminar, How To Build Your Own Home, on Saturday/Sunday, Dec. 1-2, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Best Western Concorde Inn, 1919 Star-Batt Drive, Rochester Hills. Designed for those who want to contract their own home construction as well as those who want to work

with a builder, the course details each stage of construction as well as your rights and responsibilities. The course covers home financing, the building process, builder's terms and contracts as well as building codes, insurance requirements and more. Many handouts and guidance from an instructor who is also a builder. The seminar costs \$220. The

textbooks are included. Spouse's discount is half of the tuition.

Pre-registration with payment is preferable no later than Thursday, Nov. 29, to Oakland Builders Education Seminars. Please call (800) 940-2014 to register Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On-site registrations with payment is acceptable (no credit cards, please).

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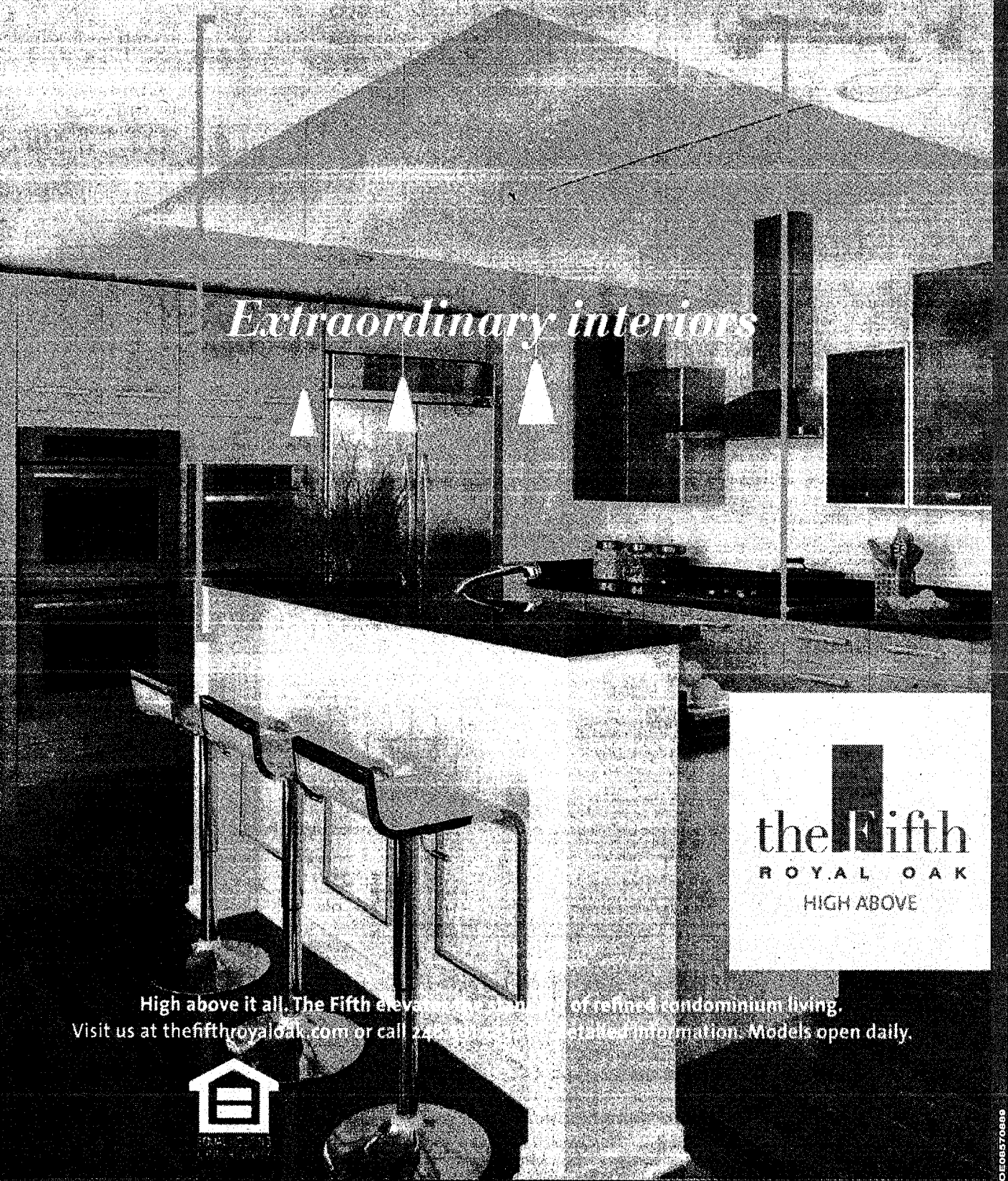
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3049...Beverly Hills	3415...Union Lake
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3070...Brighton	3424...Wayne
3070...Byron	3430...Webberville
3080...Canton	3440...West Bloomfield
3090...Clarkston	3445...Westland
3095...Clemens	3450...White Lake
3100...Cohasset	3460...Whitmore Lake
3110...Dearborn	3470...Williamston
3115...Dearborn Hgts	3480...Wynton-Commerce
3120...Detroit	3490...Ypsilanti
3130...Chelsea	3500...Genesee County
3135...Dexter	3510...Ingham County
3140...Farmington	3515...Lapeer County
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3210...Highland	3610...Country Homes
3220...Holly	3620...Real Estate Auction
3230...Howell	3630...Farms/Horse Farms
3235...Huntington Woods	3640...Real Estate Services
3235...Keego Harbor	3700...New Home Builders
3236...Lake Orion	3710...Apartments For Sale
3238...Lathrup Village	3720...Condos
3240...Linden	3730...Duplexes & Townhouses
3250...Livonia	3740...Manufactured Homes
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THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS
Recommends that you to contact a Realtor*

You may know the first thing about selling a home. He knows the eighth, ninth and tenth.

For everything you think you know about selling a home, there's always a handful of questions just under the surface. A REALTOR* helps you set a fair selling price, orchestrates improvements, conducts open houses, explains closing documents and a million other things that wouldn't even fit on this page.

So once you've made the decision to sell your home, work with someone who'll work with you.

Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors
901 Tower Drive, Suite 190
Troy, MI 48098
248 879-5730

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REALTOR®

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Whether it's fixed or adjustable, for 15 or 30 years, buying a home is a big commitment. You need someone who defiantly knows where the relationship is going. A REALTOR* is committed to making sure that you're comfortable during the entire home buying experience, and that you're satisfied in the end. Everyone knows that a good relationship takes work. So when it comes to buying a home, work, with someone who'll work with you.

THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS
Recommends that you to contact a Realtor.*

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NEW 2008 F150 SC 4X4 XLT
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04 MALIBU LOADED.....9,450	05 IMPALA LS Moon, LOADED.....13,450	06 DODGE RAM 1500.....13,950	03 GRAND MARQUIS GS LOADED.....9,950
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07 CALIBER Auto, air.....12,950	03 EXPEDITION E.B. 4X4.....14,950	07 MONTE CARLO LS.....14,950	03 GRAND PRIX GT Leather, moon.....10,450
06 FORD 500 SE LOADED.....13,950	07 GRAND PRIX.....14,950	07 MAZDA 3 Black, LOADED.....14,950	02 ACURA RSX LOADED.....13,950
05 HONDA SRV.....14,950	04 ENVOY 4X4 LOADED.....14,950	07 IMPALA.....15,450	05 MUSTANG COUPE V6, LOADED.....14,450
07 ESCAPE XLT 4X4.....16,450	06 GRAND CHEROKEE LOADED.....15,950	08 AVENGER LOADED.....15,950	03 LINCOLN LS V6, low miles.....16,450
02 BMW Z3 CONVERT' BLACK.....16,950	06 E150 CARGO VAN.....15,950	04 MUSTANG GT CONVERTIBLE.....16,450	03 GRAND CHEROKEE LTD 4X4.....17,450
05 F150 EXT CAB 4X4 FX4...20,950	07 GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4.....17,950	05 EXPLORER LTD 4X4 LOADED.....17,450	03 TAHOE LT 4X4 Leather.....19,950
07 EXPLORER E.B. LOADED.....22,950	05 F150 CREW CAB XLT 4X4...21,950	07 EDGE SE LOADED.....22,950	06 EXPEDITION XLT 4X4.....19,950
07 CADILLAC CTS.....23,450	05 VOLVO XC 70 LOADED.....24,950	07 EXPEDITION EL LIMITED.....39,950	01 F250 LARIAT E.C. 4X4 (101).....24,950

'07 FOCUS
10 to choose from...
ONLY \$10,950

'05 F150 CREW CAB LARIAT 4X4
Leather, moonroof, LOADED
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'06 EXPLORER LIMITED 4X4
Leather, custom whls, moonroof, black on black!
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'07 FREESTAR SEL
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Sunday

PUZZLE CORNER

Challenging fun for ALL ages

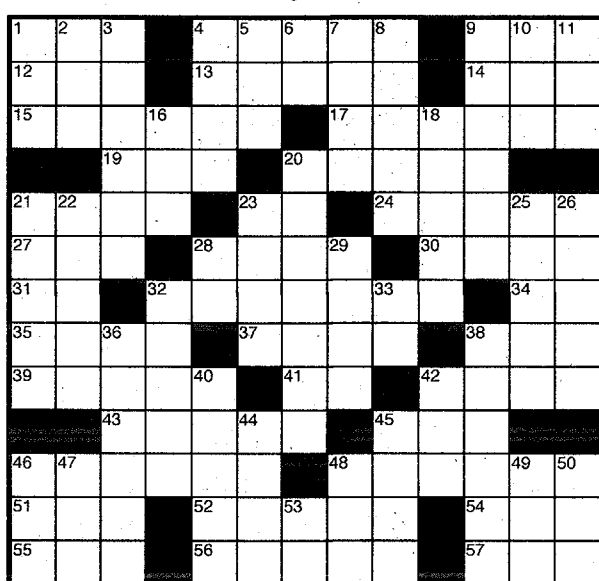
CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- Cut short
 - Fable ending
 - RSPV word
 - Travel choice
 - Really stupid
 - Hematite
 - Floodgate
 - Japanese theater
 - Aunt, in Acapulco
 - Less common
 - Tropical isle
 - They, to them
 - Pottery flaws
 - ABC rival
 - Frisbee
 - Half-moon tide
 - West Coast st.
 - Walloping
 - It precedes mi
 - Nobel Prize city
 - Betrayed, a secret
 - The Joy Luck Club author
- DOWN**
- College degrees
 - Petroleum
 - Famous false friend
 - Isinglass
 - Small bill
 - Pharaoh's god
 - "Lonely Boy" singer

Answer to Previous Puzzle

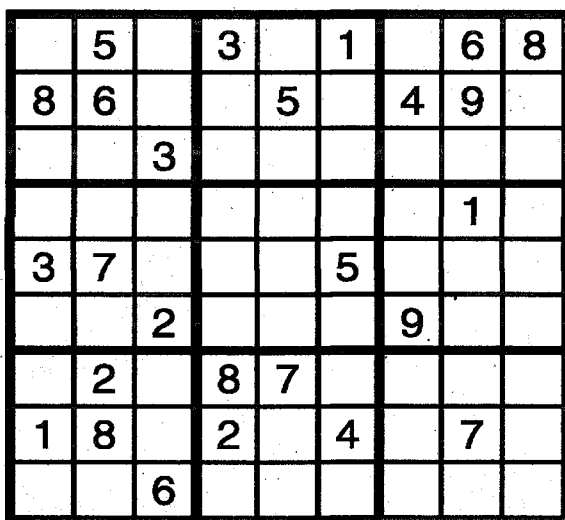
SPARK UPS YEW
PEKOE NEE UTA
ED EL FONDLED
ARN PRONTO
KOHL ELY SLUG
EYED OSAGE
LOGGED BRIGHT
AWAIT HYDE
DEMO BOT REDS
NOOSES MOO
PEASANT PG NF
AWL SEA UNCUT
DEL TDS NUTTY

7-30 © 2007 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.



- Find out
- Fountainhead
- Provoke
- Aloha token
- Sundial numeral
- Existence
- Update inventory
- The real -
- Cheaper
- Go limp
- K, to a jeweler
- Went shopping
- Mai - mer
- Laird's attire
- Mr. Yeltsin
- Fargo's st.
- Los Angeles cagers
- Pulled gently
- Short letters
- Average
- Cummerbund
- Unwanted guest
- Lawyer's charge
- Fleming of 007 novels
- Swampy area
- Previous to
- Apply makeup
- Polynesian plant

SUDOKU



Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

SEEK AND FIND

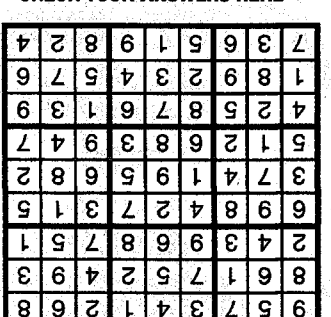
FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

- CAVITY DENTIST FILLING FLOSS
- LOLLIPOP MIRROR MOLAR PLAQUE
- TARTAR TOOTHBRUSH TOOTHPASTE

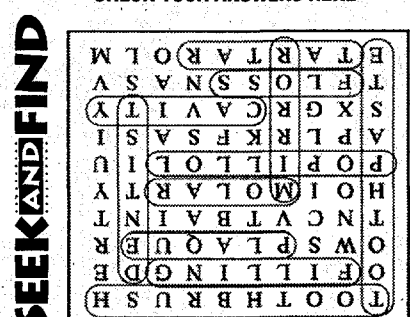
THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

T O O T H B R U S H
O F I L L I N G D E
O W S P L A Q U E R
T N C V T B A I N T
H O I M O L A R T Y
P O P I L L O L I U
A P L R K F S A S I
S X G R C A V I T Y
T F L O S S N A S V
E T A R T A R O L M

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



SUDOKU

SEEK AND FIND

Apartments

4000's Real Estate For Lease

4000...Apartments/Unfurnished
4010...Apartments/Furnished
4020...Condos/Townhouses
4030...Duplexes
4040...Flats
4050...Homes For Rent
4060...Lakefront/Waterfront
4070...Mobile Home Rentals
4080...Mobile Home Sites
4090...Southern Rentals
4100...Time Share Rentals
4110...Vacation Resort/Rentals
4120...Living Quarters To Share
4140...Rooms For Rent
4200...Halls/Buildings
4210...Residence To Exchange

4220...Office/Retail Space
4230...Commercial/Industrial
4240...Land For Rent
4300...Garage/Mini Storage
4400...Wanted To Rent
4410...Wanted To Rent
Resort Property
4500...Furniture Rental
4560...Rental Agency
4570...Property Management
4580...Lease/Option To Buy
4590...House Sitting Service
4600...Convalescent Care
4610...Foster Care
4620...Home Health Care
4630...Homes For The Aged
4640...Misc. To Rent

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4000-4980 Real Estate For Lease

4000...Apartments/Unfurnished

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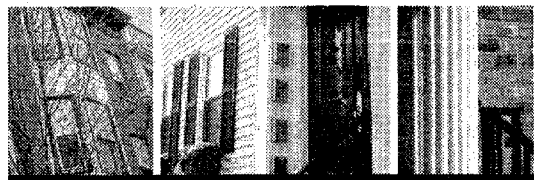
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Condos/Townhouses 4020

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Duplexes 4030

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Duplexes 4030

WESTLAND Palmer & Merri-man area, 3 bedroom, fenced yard, shed, Air, stove/refrig. Section 8 OK. \$675/mo. + security 734-812-6512

Flats 4040

ROYAL OAK / BERKLEY 1 bdrm upper flat, bath, laundry facilities, bsmt. Immediate Occupancy. Tree lined neighborhood. Gas/ Water incl. \$575/ Mo. 313-805-5484

Homes For Rent 4050

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN ABOVE AVERAGE RENTAL? 2-4 bdrm homes avail. Also rent-to-own. 248-819-2425

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BERKLEY 2 bdrm, hardwood floors thru-out, stove, fridge, 2 car garage. 4252 Ellwood. \$750/mo. 734-368-4431

BIRMINGHAM - 3 Bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, fireplace, all appliances, 99 renovation. \$2400/mo. 851 Oakland. (248) 644-3147

BIRMINGHAM - Completely redecorated, 3 bdrm, 1 bath ranch, A/C, all appliances, fin bsmt, \$1100. (248) 646-0485

Buy HUD homes from \$199/mo! 4 bdrm 1 bath only \$250/mo! 5 bdrm 2 bath only \$200/mo! 2 bdrm 1 bath only \$199/mo! More homes from \$199/mo! For BNI Listings 800-366-0142 ext T252

CANTON 3 bdrm. Colonial, fireplace, 2 car garage. \$1295. 248-943-2963 www.birdsallproperties.com

Homes For Rent 4050

CANTON 3 bdrm colonial, hardwood, finished basement, 2 car garage, ravine lot. \$1495 + sec. 734-717-5091

CANTON 4 bdrm, 2 bath ranch on 5 acres, New kitchen, baths hardwood floors. \$1300/lease to own. (734) 658-8823

CANTON - 4 bdrms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, finished bsmt, a/c, all appliances, \$1,495/ mo. No pets. Call: (734) 395-3696

CANTON - Beautiful 4 bdrm, huge kitchen, appliances, 2 car attached deck, lg. fenced yard. \$1595/mo. 734-516-1107

CLAWSON 3 Bdrm, 2 baths, 2 car garage, all appliances, fenced, fin. bsmt. \$1200/mo. + sec. 248-766-4102

DEARBORN HEIGHTS - Sharp 3 bdrm, garage, privacy fence, immediate occupancy, option to buy, \$750. 248-788-1823

DETROIT - Sharp 2 Bedroom, basement, 6 Mile & Telegraph, 16580 Woodbine, \$575/mo. 248-476-6498

FARMINGTON HILLS 2 Bdrm, 1 bath, 2 car garage, \$875/mo + 1 1/2/mo. sec. dep. Newer floors thru-out. 734-564-8402

FARMINGTON HILLS 3 bdrm., 2 full bath, 1000 sq. ft., appliances, garage. Lg. backyard. \$980/ Mo. 248-342-0314

FARMINGTON HILLS - Cute 2 bdrm brick ranch, fin bsmt, stove, fridge, immed occup. option. \$850, (248) 788-1823

FIVE BDRM 2 bath bank repo only \$250/mo! More homes available from \$199/mo! Great area! Must see! Listings 800-366-0142 ext. T104

GARDEN CITY 3 bdrm, newly painted, immediate occupancy, fenced. \$700+ sec. No pets. 734-421-5194

GARDEN CITY - 3 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath, fireplace, 2 car garage, w/ workroom, corner lot. \$1,050/mo. 734-216-5990

Homes For Rent 4050

GARDEN CITY - 4 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, fl room, double lot, finished garage, sec 8 ok. All appliances. Excellent area. \$1000/mo. 734-693-3960

GARDEN CITY 900 sq. ft. 3 bdrm brick home. Finished bsmt. c/a, all appliances. \$900/mo. 734-524-5656

GARDEN CITY - Sharp 3 bdrm, finished bsmt, 2 car garage, C/A, option to buy avail, \$800. (248) 788-1823

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NOVI 1700 Sq. ft. ranch, close to 12 Oaks Mall/freeways, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, exc. schools. \$1200/mo + sec. dep. 734-225-1453 or 248-223-8262

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Homes For Rent 4050

LIVONIA 3 bdrm & office, approx. 2000 sq ft, attached garage, finished bsmt. \$2200/mo. 734-637-4627

LIVONIA 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, a/c, 2.5 car garage. Incl. water, appliances & lawn/snow service. \$1100/mo. 248-474-0228.

LIVONIA - Awesome 3 bdrm near everything with bsmt, appliances & lawn/snow service. \$850+sec. 734-425-8054

MILFORD 4 Bedroom, brick colonial, 2.5 bath, 2477 sq. ft. appliances, 2 car. \$2100/mo. D & H Properties. 248-888-9133

PLYMOUTH New 2004, 4 bdrm, custom brick colonial, 2.5 bath, oak floors, stainless steel appliances, inground pool, 3 car. \$2300/mo. D & H Properties 248-888-9133.

PLYMOUTH/ WAYNE/ WESTLAND 2 & 3 Bedroom homes from \$600/mo. Ross Realty (734) 326-8300

REDFORD - 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, garage, finished bsmt, fresh paint. Sect. 8 ok. \$1398. Divia. \$950/mo. (Agent) Call Marje: (734) 718-4003

REDFORD - 3 bdrm, 1 bath, lg yard. \$750/mo. + sec. Option to buy. Pets okay. Call: (810) 229-7292

REDFORD - 7 Mile/Inkster. Beautiful 3 bdrm w/hw kitchen, open bsmt, deck w/ ravine setting. \$875/mo. 18441 Poinciana. 248-476-8498

ROCHESTER 2 bdrm, 2.5 car, appl, enclosed porch, corner lot, near park. \$995 + sec 248-693-3668, 248-376-0258

ROMULUS 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath brick ranch, bsmt. Newly remodeled. \$1,000/mo. + sec. Option to buy. 313-779-4732.

SHORT TERM RENTALS & MORE. Livonia, Canton, Northville, Plymouth & Novi. 248-921-2432, 248-348-4700

SOUTHFIELD 2 Bdrms, 1 garage, 20210 Westhampton St., Remodeled, 1st month free! \$700. 313-433-8100

SOUTHFIELD S/9, E/Inkster, N/Grandriver. 2 bdrm, 1 bath, appliances, fenced yard, pets okay. \$650/mo. 248-669-3012

SOUTHGATE - Sharp 3 bdrm ranch, garage, C/A, kitchen appliances, option to buy avail. \$750, (248) 788-1823

WAYNE 2 & 3 bdrms, 1 bath garage. Pets ok. \$800-\$950. (734) 612-7708 or (734) 722-8943

Homes For Rent 4050

WAYNE 2 bdrm., 1 bath, bsmt., garage, additional room. \$750 Mo. + \$750 sec. 248-766-5607

WAYNE 2 bdrm, clean, no bsmt. or garage. \$695/mo. plus sec. 34860 John St. 313-680-3100

WAYNE - Beautiful 3 bdrm ranch, full bsmt, new carpet, fenced yard, garage. \$950/mo. + security. 586-247-1186

WEST BLOOMFIELD E/Haggerty, N/Of Green Lk. Rd. 2 bdrm, 1 bath, appliances, pets okay. \$730/mo. 248-669-3012

WESTLAND 2 bdrm brick home, bsmt, shed, c/a, no pets, non smoking. \$675/mo. Contact Call @ 734-564-8280

WESTLAND - 3 bdrm brick ranch, Livonia Schools, mechanic's gar, appliances, option. \$750, 248-788-1823

WESTLAND NORWAYNE AREA 2 bedroom, fenced yard. Only \$675. 734-968-2636

WESTLAND Spacious 3 bdrm, clean, bsmt, all appliances, new bath, Res. or Commercial, \$900. (734) 812-7370

WESTLAND Spacious, super clean 2 bdrm + upper suite, in exc area. No-smoking. Good credit. \$1095. 734-274-2802

WESTLAND 1 & 2 bdrm. \$75/wk. + up. Appliances. Seniors welcome. No pets. Dep. req. 734-462-4074 or 734-591-0146

WESTLAND Spacious, super clean 2 bdrm + upper suite, in exc area. No-smoking. Good credit. \$1095. 734-274-2802

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WAYNE 2 bdrm, clean, no bsmt. or garage. \$695/mo. plus sec. 34860 John St. 313-680-3100

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36 MOS. 36 MOS.

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36 MOS. 36 MOS.

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2008 Escape XLT
Moonroof, auto trans, air, AM/FM/CD with Sirius Radio, power windows & locks, power seat, speed control, tilt wheel

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\$240** **\$279****
36 MOS. 36 MOS.

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2008 Edge SE
Air, power windows, power locks, speed AM/FM CD/MP3 sound system and convenience group.

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\$263* **\$303***
36 MOS. 36 MOS.

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10 at this price - 231 Available



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Moonroof, Sirius radio, running boards, power windows & locks, power drivers seat, speed control, tilt wheel.

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\$244** **\$286****
36 MOS. 36 MOS.

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2008 F150 4X4 Supercab
XLT with free tow & go, CD with audio input jack, sliding rear window, power windows & locks, electronic shift on the fly, speed control, tilt wheel.

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36 MOS. 36 MOS.

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5 at this price - 211 Available



2008 Taurus
Sync, leather, tilt wheel, power windows & locks, heated power seats, AM/FM CDX6/MP3/audiophile w/subwoofer.

Buy For **\$22,394+**

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\$265* **\$307***
36 MOS. 36 MOS.

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2008 Taurus X
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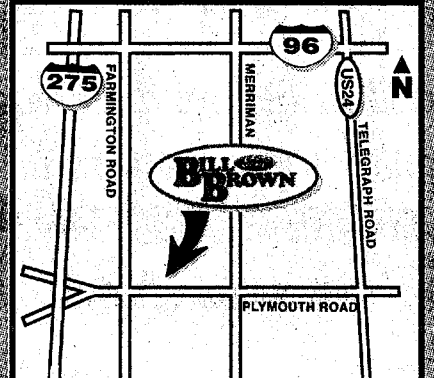
\$1000 Down Sign & Drive

\$304* **\$347***
36 MOS. 36 MOS.

\$1533 due at delivery. All fees included.

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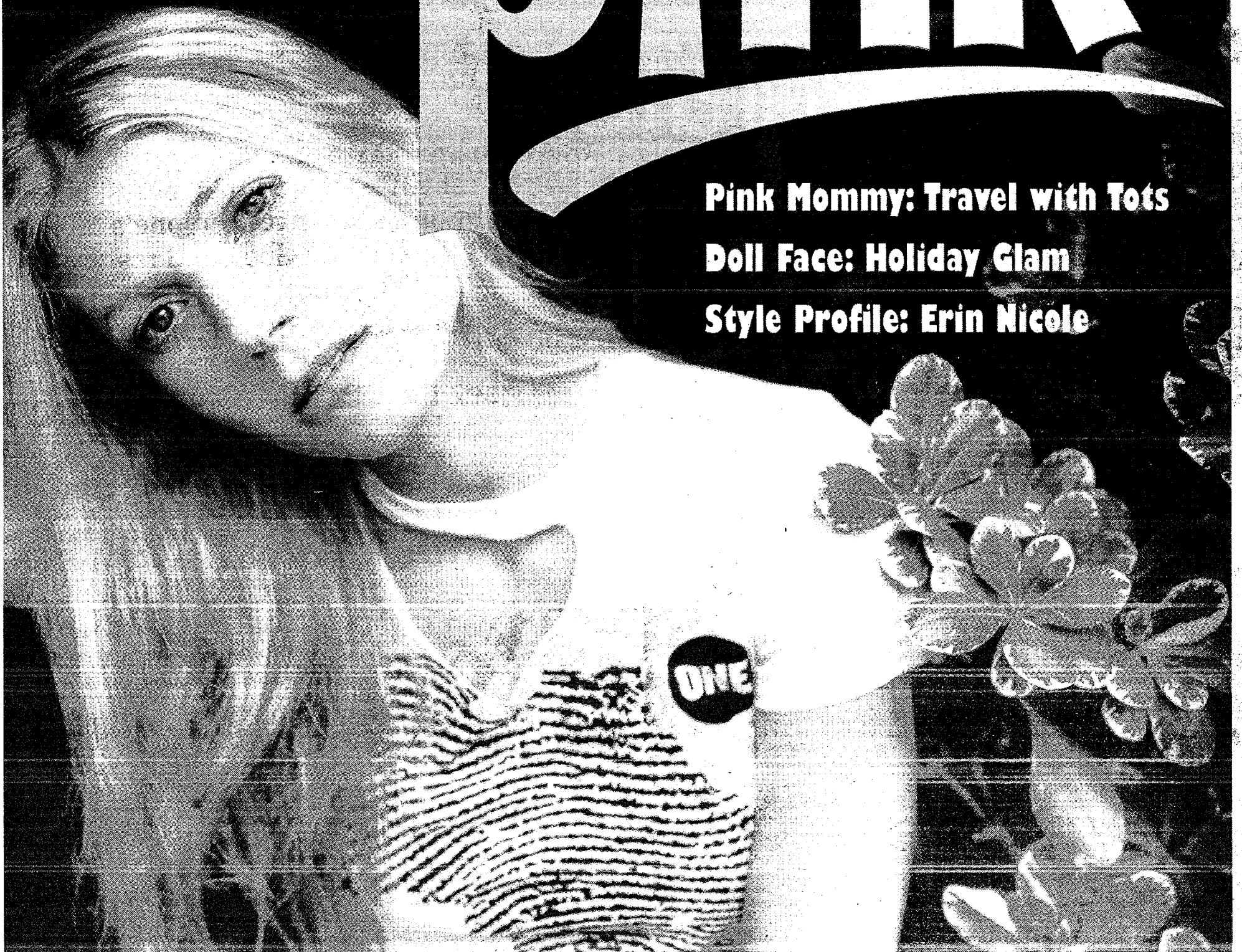
www.hometownlife.com

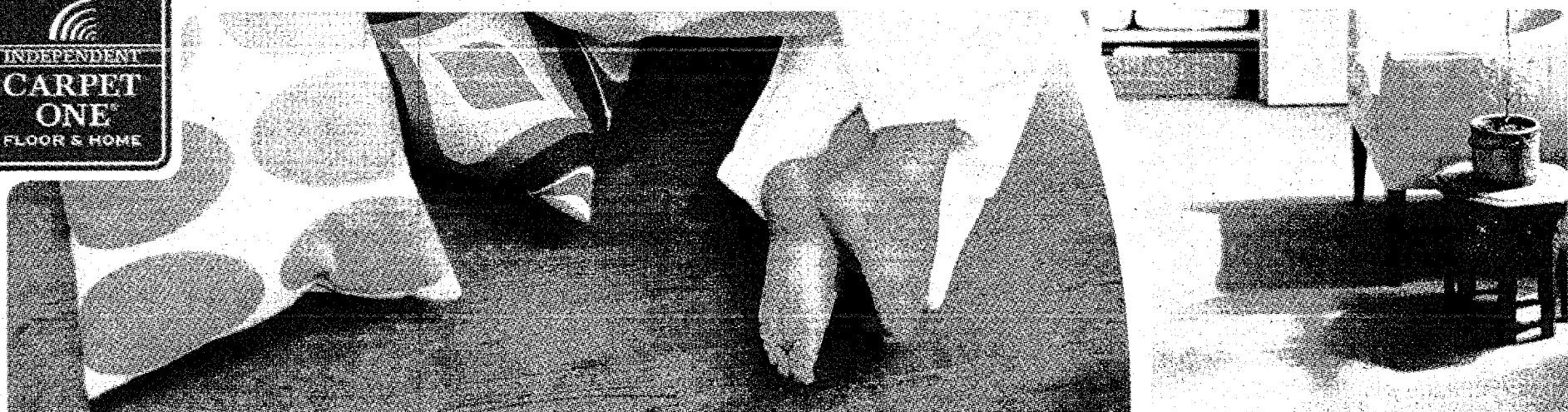
pink

Pink Mommy: Travel with Tots

Doll Face: Holiday Glam

Style Profile: Erin Nicole





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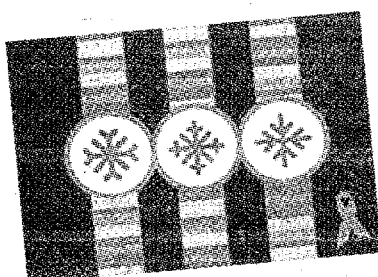
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PINK list

Get your shop on for the holidays with these fun events:

BBAC HOLIDAY SHOP

Find distinctive gifts as the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center hosts its annual Holiday Shop Nov. 30-Dec. 16. Get first peek at merchandise during a Shop & Champagne preview party 6:30-9 p.m. Nov. 28. Tickets, \$50 in advance, \$60 at door, include a 10 percent discount, valet, strolling dinner, gift wrapping and plenty of bubbly. The BBAC's Holiday Shop, 1516 S. Cranbrook in Birmingham, is open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and noon-4 p.m. Sun. Call (248) 644-0866 or visit www.BBArtCenter.org.

MICHIGAN CHRISTMAS SHOW

Don't miss the Michigan Christmas Show and Marketplace Nov. 29-Dec. 2 at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi. Decorated trees will be raffled to benefit the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Center. Attendees of all ages can make an ornament from Arts & Scraps. Get a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus for a \$5 donation to the University of Michigan Burn Center. An Opening Night Benefit, \$25, will kick off the show 6-9 p.m. on Nov. 29. Call (800) 849-0248 or visit www.MichiganChristmasShow.com.

HOLIDAY GLAM

The Learning Experience child care center of South Lyon invites busy moms to a free night of pampering, glamour and indulgence to gear up for the holidays 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30. Holiday Glam: Mom's Night-Out will include manicures, massages, psychic readings, holiday home decor, a fashion show, recipes and shopping booths from local merchants like Aqua Salon and Rococo. Proceeds benefit local children's charities. RSVP at (248) 446-6283.

OLD FASHION CHRISTMAS

Holiday Nights in Greenfield Village brings back traditions as they were celebrated dur-



ing the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Enjoy music, ride in a Model T or horse-drawn carriage, and take a spin on a real ice skating rink. The historic Eagle Tavern offers dinner packages each night, with an authentic holiday meal and live period music. Children can meet Santa and his live reindeer, and every night ends with a sing-along and fireworks. Holiday Nights takes place Nov. 30; and Dec. 1, 7-8, 14-16 and 19-23. Tickets are \$8.50-\$15, with children four and under admitted free. Call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.thehenryford.org.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Laurel Park Place will host Breakfast with Santa 9-11 a.m. Dec. 8 in the Livonia Marriott. A healthy breakfast will be served, along with special prizes and giveaways. The event

is part of the "Salute our Troops" campaign which supports the Family Readiness Wing at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. RSVP required. Call (734) 462-1100 or visit laurel-parkplace.com.

A VISIT WITH SANTA PAWS

Bring your dog or cat for a visit with Santa Paws 9-10:45 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 9 at Twelve Oaks Mall. Animals must be on a leash or in a pet carrier and up-to-date on shots. A donation will be made to a local animal rescue organization with each purchase of select photo packages. Space is limited, so RSVP at (248) 348-9438. Twelve Oaks Mall is also the site of a Fred Claus Interactive Snow Globe Exhibit through the holidays.

in the pink

● Pink Mommy

Gear up for holiday travel with toddlers using these Pink Mommy tips

● Doll Face

Get glam for the holidays with a round-up of the season's best makeup

● Pink Picks

Wear It! DON'T Wear It! Experience It! Eat It!

● Style Profile

Traffic Tracker Erin Nicole brings style to the streets

PINK brief

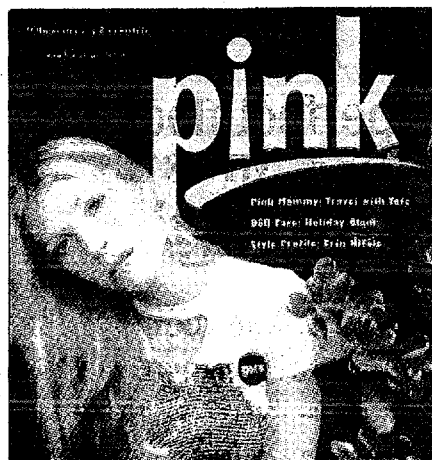
Nominate Top Biz Women for NAWBO Awards

The National Association of Women Business Owners Greater Detroit Chapter is accepting nominations for its Top 10 Michigan Business Women Awards. All candidates must be Michigan-based business women or female business owners. Awards will be given in such categories as "Up-And-Coming," "Red-Tape Buster" and "Global Business." Nominations must be received at the NAWBO office by Friday, Dec. 7, 2007. The Top 10 Luncheon and Awards will take place on March 13, 2008. For more information, nomination forms and complete rules call (313) 961-4748 or visit www.nawbogdc.org.

ON THE COVER

Actress Gwyneth Paltrow models the limited-edition ONE T-shirt by Edun, available exclusively at Nordstrom. For each tee sold (\$40) Edun and Nordstrom will each donate \$10 to the Apparel Lesotho Alliance to Fight AIDS Fund, to bring AIDS relief to factory workers in Lesotho, Africa, where the shirts are produced. Paltrow was among several celebrities who personalized and modeled tees for the campaign.

PHOTO BY HELENA CHRISTENSEN | COURTESY OF NORDSTROM
COVER DESIGNED BY DAN DEAN



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Address all correspondence,
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PINK • 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150
E-mail: PINK@hometownlife.com

VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER • Peter Neill
EXECUTIVE EDITOR • Susan Rosiek • srosiek@hometownlife.com
EDITOR • Wendy Von Buskirk • wvonb@hometownlife.com
734-953-2019 • 734-953-2232 (Fax)
DESIGNER • Beth Jachman
DISPLAY ADVERTISING INFORMATION
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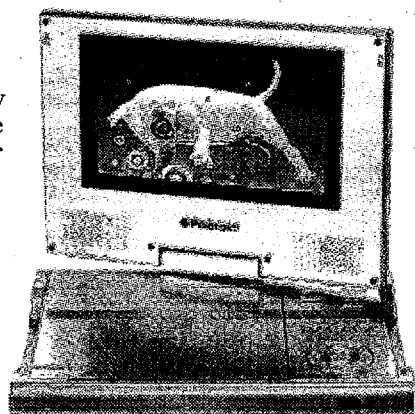
Pink Mommy tips for traveling with toddlers

If you are the parent of a toddler, the thought of traveling with your little one this holiday season is enough to keep you home. But, with proper planning, the right gear and a few helpful PINK Mommy tips, you might decide to make the trek after all.

AIR TRAVEL TIPS

The first time I traveled by plane with my daughter was a disaster. The second time I knew what to expect and I planned for it. Here are a few ideas to make plane travel easier:

- Whenever possible, book a non-



stop flight. Getting through one flight with a toddler is hard enough, but to get off and on another is just asking for frustration.

- Travel at non-peak times like midday. You will have a good chance of getting on less crowded flights and might be lucky enough to catch nap-time.

- Dress your child in comfy play clothes and slip-on shoes. Even kids have to take their shoes off when going through security. It wouldn't hurt to



saddle for your child to hop on and a handle for parents to pull them along. To order, visit www.kidsgotravel.com.

The one item I don't think I could fly without though would have to be a portable DVD player.

I borrowed one from a friend for our last flight and it was great! I brought a couple of my daughters favorite DVDs and she sat and watched them like a perfect angel. I was even able to read a magazine myself! I decided I must have one of my own so I have the Polaroid 7" Swivel DVD Player — in pink of course — on my Christmas list. (Available at www.target.com for \$129.99).

FOR THE CAR

For those of you traveling to Grandma's house by car, the same basic idea applies. Keep your child comfortable and entertained and

pack an extra set of clothes either — just in case.

- Bring your child's birth certificate and immunization records with you, especially when traveling internationally. Even if your child has a passport, it's good to have in case the passport gets lost.

you should have a great trip.

The Kids Car Console & Travel Organizer (\$49.00) was designed by a mom and is the answer to an organized road trip! The console has a raised height and fits neatly in between two car seats. It has two cup holders and a toy storage area within easy reach of toddlers and children.

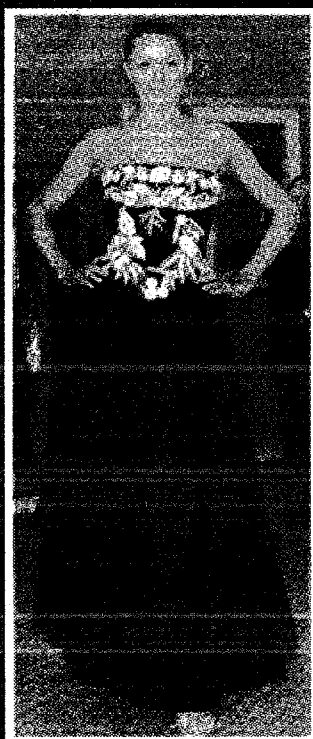
For more information or to purchase, visit www.familyonboard.com.

Happy Trails!

Pink Mommy **Wendie DeLano** is a Livonia-based freelance photographer and writer. Her daughter, Lilly, is 2.

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Dr. Basil Abdo (right) and Dr. Tentesha Wright (left).



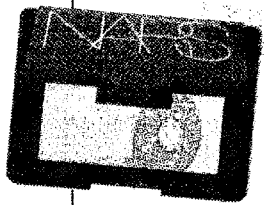
Holiday collections sparkle with the radiance of gems

The holiday season is reason enough to go for glam. Thankfully, this year's makeup collections measure up to the task with a mix of steely shine and glimmering gem tones.

With so many options, it's possible to create a new look for every party. Go classic with bold red lips for Christmas Eve or opt for all-out sparkle on Dec. 31. Here are a few new shades to add to your makeup arsenal, courtesy of brand new holiday collections.

Play up eyes with the rich plum tones of Nars' Nightrider or get a gilded look by defining them with MAC's fluidline in Uppity or Urban Decay's Midnight Cowboy Heavy Metal glitter eyeliner, sold in the Best of Urban eye kit. On Nov. 29 MAC will unveil Metal X, pure metal cream eyecolors and the return of glitter eyeliners. The holidays are a great time to stock up on favorites, too. Hard Candy's Kaleidoscope combines all the best-selling colors from their eyeshadow quartets. Make a statement with shades in bright metallic pink or a basic beige with a bit of gold shine.

MAC Senior Artist Konstantine Mironychev connects makeup to fashion. "Think of it as an accessory," he said. When '80s inspired neons returned, they were toned down. Pair a vivid orange lipstick with a natural eye and black liner, Mironychev suggested.



Nars offers up Luster, a golden apricot shade for cheeks. It pairs perfectly with red red lips this holiday season.



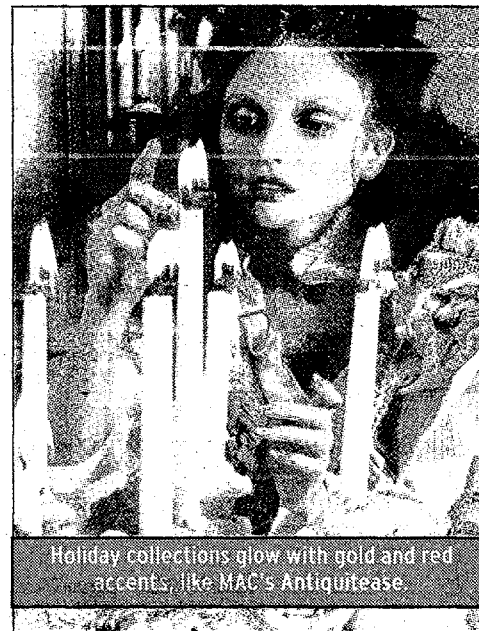
doll face

Stephanie
Angelyn Casola

Cheeks go from bashful apricot, care of Nars blush in Luster, to rosy gold, courtesy of Tarte's Delighted. Known for its long-lasting natural-looking cheek stain, Tarte gives makeup mavens a three-pack called We Wish You Happiness. The colors range from pale pink to candy pink, to that rosy gold. Treat yourself or a friend to this stocking stuffer, one that will last all year.

"Color is such a personal thing," said Mironychev. His advice? Step about five feet away from the mirror to see how all of your makeup works together. One feature should appear accented. If you go for a dramatic eye, keep lips muted, but not nude. Make sure everything else looks "classic and beautiful," he said.

Pair a delicate face with bold lips and nails. This season lipstick makes a lasting impression in deep red tones. MAC's beautifully packaged Royal Assets comes in four lip and four eye palettes. "Every single holiday season I think 'How are they going to top this?'" said Mironychev. The answer this year came in Royal Assets. Choose Red Lips for lipsticks



Holiday collections glow with gold and red accents like MAC's Antiquitase

in classic Cardinal red, deep plum Media and Glass Palace, a shimmery gloss that can be worn alone or coated on top. Or go solo with MAC frost from the intense red of Queen's Sin to a sweet, wearable pale pink called Blueblood luster, which comes

tucked inside MAC's shiny Heirloom bag. The gilded little bags are also sold with various brush collections, and Mironychev said they could easily be carried as a purse.

Nails won't shy away from color, either. Think gold flecked reds and burgundy tones. Nars has created Saratoga for the sophisticate. Essie's elegant Wrapped in Rubies matches a glass of mulled wine, while the more playful shimmer-berry shade of Showstopper is all whimsy. MAC goes for the purity of pale creamy tones like Vestral White and gives off a 14 carat shine in Gold Veneer. Pair them into a French manicure with the holiday pop of gold tip, said Mironychev. Essie's Steel-ing the Scene goes for silvery pewter over gold.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola plans to sparkle in silver and gold makeup, and secretly hum the Burl Ives classic song, for the holidays this year. Send along makeup tips and product recommendations for her Doll Face column to scasola@hometownlife.com or call (248) 901-2567.

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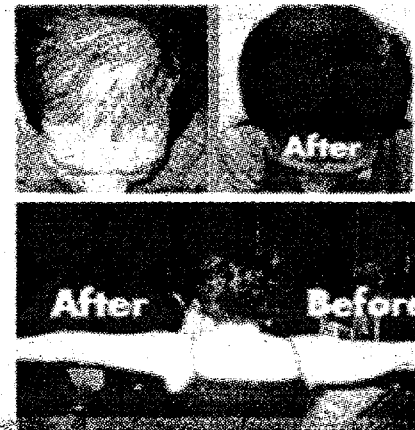
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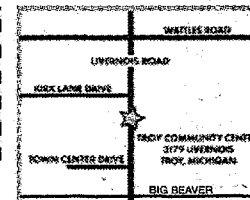


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2 A Perfect Fit Sunny J's has beautiful lingerie, a perfect gift for yourself or someone special to you. Shown is the Marquises bra and panty from Simone Perele. specializing in the perfect fit, they offer a wide selection of everyday and special occasion bras & panties plus sleepwear and robes. Comfort, style and personal service – that's Sunny J's. Holiday gift certificates available. *Sunny J's, 550 Forest Avenue, Downtown Plymouth. Call 734-453-8584.*

3 PJ Perfection These are the jammies worn by Felicity Huffman on *Desperate Housewives* and Gigi's Mode in Plymouth has the perfect pair for you!! This set has a scooped neck top, nine pearlized buttons and 3/4 length sleeves. Pant has elastic drawstring waistband. The Perfect gift for the girl who wants to look great and feel toasty this winter. *Gigi's Mode, 960 Ann Arbor Trail, Downtown Plymouth. Call 734-254-8774.*

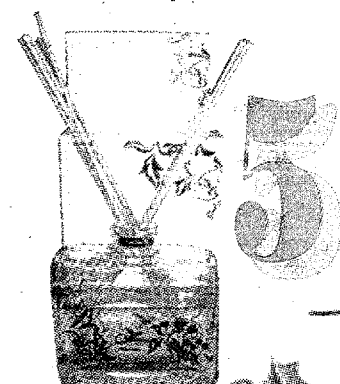
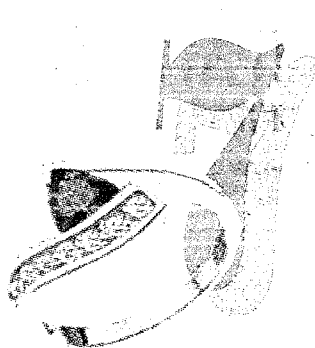
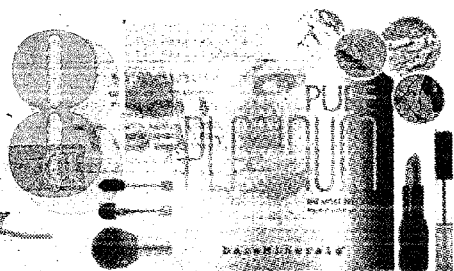
4 Painted Ponies The Trail of Painted Ponies Figurines were originally inspired by life-sized ponies in a New Mexico-based public art project. Each crafted with exquisite attention to detail making it a miniature work of art. All are sequentially numbered and accompanied by a "story tag" telling the tale of the Pony and the artist. This collection can be purchased at *Native West, 863 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Downtown Plymouth. Call 734-455-8838.*

5 Gifts for the Home Bluewick's diffuser collection offers aromas of fruits, flowers and spices presented in sleek glass containers combining warmth and sophistication. The perfect gift, attractive and effective with long-lasting scents to fill your home. Stop by *Magnolia's* and you'll be amazed at the beautiful holiday home items, gift ideas and custom-made tree toppers on display. *Magnolia's, 551 Forest Avenue, Downtown Plymouth. Call 734-414-0376.*

6 A New Curve on Tea This CURVE Teapot, available in 9 colors complete with an extra fine infuser, is designed for simple and clean brewing. The extra fine tea infuser enables you to brew from fine tea like Rooibos to large whole leaf tea like Oolong. A wide assortment of tea pots, accessories and 100's of types of tea at *TranquiliTea, 580 Forest Avenue, Downtown Plymouth. Call 734-459-9686.*

7 Tantilizing Tanzanite Plymouth's leading custom design jeweler, Tony Mannarino, specializes in creating beautiful one-of-a-kind bridal sets, anniversary rings and right-hand rings like the diamond and tanzanite ring shown here. Francis Jewelry can special order any type of jewelry in gold or silver for a special holiday gift. *Francis Jewelry Gallery, 470 Forest Place Downtown Plymouth. Call 734-459-1980.*

8 The Bare Essentials Bare Minerals Pure Platinum Collection – Just arrived! Makeup so pure you can sleep in it. The Pure Platinum set includes double-ended mascara, body gossamer, navy twilight eye shadow, glimmer shadow and posh blush all infused with platinum. The box is beautiful and available along with the entire Bare Minerals line at *Spa Julianna, 444 S. Main, Downtown Plymouth. Call 734-455-4445.*



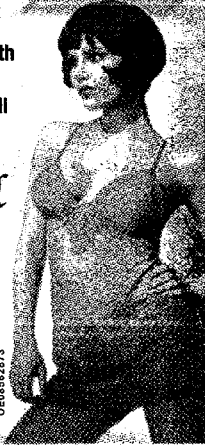


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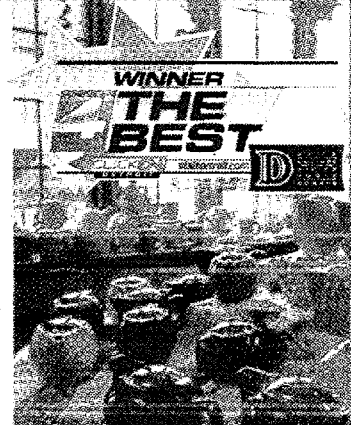
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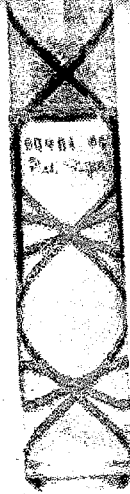
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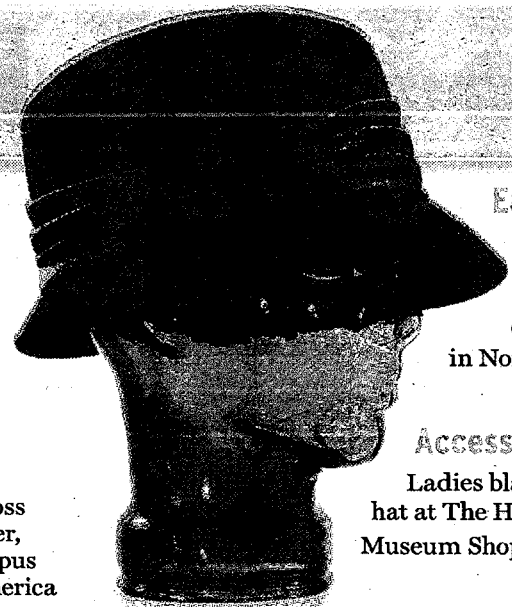
Aquolina Pink Sugar

Mane It!

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Candy Paint lip gloss by Carol's Daughter, benefitting the Lupus Foundation of America



Eat It!

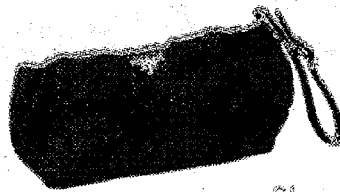
Strawberry Pancakes at Charley's Grille in Northville

Accessorize It!

Ladies black felt cloche hat at The Henry Ford Museum Shop

Yote It!

Prada Tessuto bow wristlet at Saks Fifth Avenue

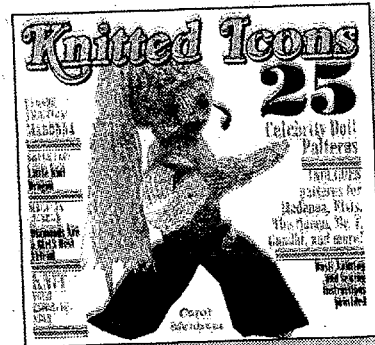


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stylebrief

SHOE ENVY OPENS SECOND SHOP

BIRMINGHAM - Shoe Envy, an upscale specialty boutique featuring shoes, handbags, jewelry, hosiery, shoe pads and belts, has opened its second location at Bloomfield Plaza.

The specialty boutique carries popular brands such as Betsey Johnson, LAMB, Rock and Republic, BCBG Max Azria, Ed Hardy, Uggs, Charles David, Via Spiga, Anne Klein, Corso Como, Steven, Juicy Couture, BCBG girls, Jessica Simpson, Just Sweet and many more. Exclusive brands include Roberto Botello, DAVIS, and HUNTER.

Shoe Envy also hosts private parties and themed shopping events including "Girls Night Outs" and fund raisers. The hostess receives a percentage of sales to shop with or donate to a charity of their choice.

Shoe Envy's first boutique opened in June 2006, and is located 2782 Orchard Lake Road in Keego Harbor. The new location is at the corner of Maple and Telegraph Roads in Bloomfield Hills. Hours are 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday; noon-4 p.m. Sunday. For more information, e-mail shoeenvy@sbcglobe.net or call (248) 539-9260.

More than just a pretty face

BY WENDY VON BUSKIRK
STAFF WRITER

WXYZ's Erin Nicole not only reports on the traffic, she stops it.

People constantly approach the 21-year-old in the street and tell her how pretty she is. And those are just the women. Men are rendered speechless.

Erin Nicole's movie star looks helped her break into the competitive broadcasting industry straight into the country's 11th largest media market. Now, as Traffic Tracker 7 on ABC, she helps Detroit-area commuters plan their routes to work every morning.

She also just started her fourth season as in-arena hostess for The Pistons, where she'll host half the team's home games.

If you've met Erin Nicole at a charity appearance, like the Redford Suburban League's Celebrity Fashion Show, you know she's gracious. If you've heard her host community events, like the annual Detroit Ignition Dance Team Tryouts, you know she's articulate. And if you've ever seen her rally a crowd of more than 20,000 Pistons fans at The Palace, you know she doesn't fit the blonde stereotypes some try to impose on her.

"I do all the in-arena announcements. Basically when the ball's not in play to entertain the fans they do a lot of celebrity interviews, trivia games, half-court shot contests," she says. "I keep the fans energized during time outs."

Erin Nicole is a natural talent on the court, and it seems she was destined for the spotlight.

She grew up in Birmingham and started performing at age 7, then attended Mercy High School in Farmington Hills because of its strong musical theatre department. She acted, sang and danced competitively, then landed her first television gig while still in high school. At age 17 she joined the "On the Scene Team" at UPN CBS, doing live remotes and commercials for the station.

Erin Nicole put Michigan State University on hold to take the job with The Pistons in 2004. She has since starred in Eminem's video "When I'm Gone" as Kim Mathers, and will host WXYZ's "Ultimate Wedding Show" for the second year in a row this January. In August, Forbes.com named the "Traffic Babe" Detroit's most eligible bachelorette in a "Best Cities for Singles" feature. She's in the company of Cameron Diaz, Ivanka Trump and Condoleezza Rice, who represented other cities on the list.

None of Erin Nicole's success would have come without hard work.

Every day she wakes up at 3 a.m. in order to get to work by 4. She does her own hair and makeup, and focuses on caring for her skin by getting facials every other week. Although spare time is scarce, Erin Nicole said she is a 'typical girly girl' who likes to shop, lunch with friends, go to the movies and enjoy the outdoors. "On the weekends I like being at home with family and friends," she says. "I try to not really go by a schedule and relax as much as I can."

Erin Nicole's career is on the fast track in Detroit, but will her ambition drive her out of the Motor City? Stay tuned.



STYLE PROFILE: ERIN NICOLE

Favorite place to shop: Somerset Mall (BCBG)

Favorite designer/label: Juicy Couture

Signature scent: Chanel Chance

Must-have in your beauty bag: Mascara

Best place for power lunch: 220 in downtown Birmingham (Tenderloin Salad is the best)

Favorite date: He picked me up with flowers and we went to dinner at Andiamo's and then saw a comedy show at Second City. I really enjoy seeing shows!

Top way you de-stress: Shopping! Or laying out by the pool during the summertime!

How you stay healthy: I mostly just watch what I eat. I try to cut back on my carbs and I jog on the treadmill.

Guilty pleasure: Coldstone Ice Cream!

Good luck charm: A diamond bracelet that my mom and dad had specially made for my graduation with diamonds from both my mom and grandma's jewelry.



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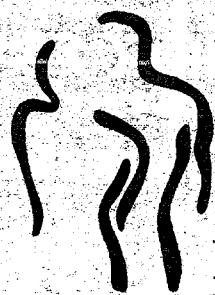
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