



Surgeon trains to treat mass casualties in Israel

Health, B5



Picture books delight children of all ages

Hometownlife, C1

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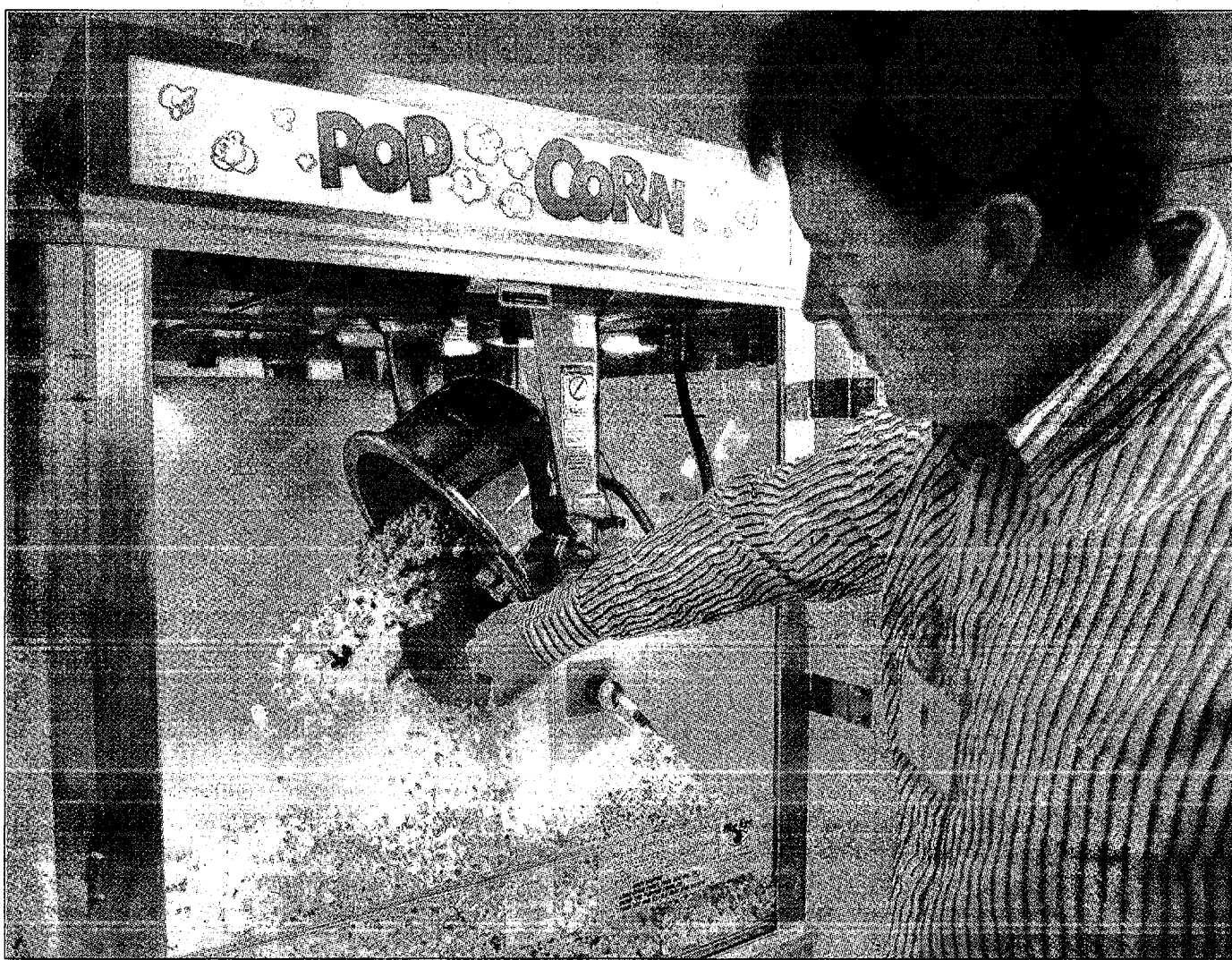
PLYMOUTH Observer

SUNDAY
December 9, 2007

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Joe Elliott - ticket-taker, projectionist and popcorn chef - makes another batch for Thursday's patrons.

Poppin' fresh - Penn has license to bring back its own popcorn

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

What's a movie without popcorn? Until this past week, the answer could have been the Penn Theatre.

However, as part of the renovation of the historic movie house, which opened in 1941, the operators of the theater - Friends of the Penn - have finally secured a food service license and modern popper to deliver freshly popped buttered popcorn.

And for movie goers, that's a big deal. "You have popcorn?" was the surprise response of Carol Livermore, 49, of Plymouth when she entered the theater lobby to buy her ticket to the Thursday afternoon showing of *It's a Wonderful Life*. "It smells so good. We wondered how a movie theater cannot have popcorn. To me it's the greatest combination, a movie and popcorn." The Friends reopened the Penn in



Penn Theater patrons Carol and Keith Livermore sample fresh popcorn.

September 2006, about three years after the theater was shut down by previous owners, but the lack of a food service

license kept the group from popping its own popcorn.

"We couldn't produce anything on site, so we had to buy and sell packaged popcorn, and all we could get was white cheddar," said Ellen Elliott, executive director of Friends of the Penn.

Elliott's husband, Joe, is frequently found on the second floor, popping popcorn on a machine that's as easy to operate as pushing a button.

"All I had to do was dump in the kernels, push the button and it squirts in the right amount of oil," said Joe Elliott. "It beeps when it's done, and can really crank out the popcorn."

Joe Elliott said he can resist the smell of freshly popped popcorn as it's coming out of the hopper.

"But, when I'm all done, I'll grab a bag of it," he said.

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Three is enough

Court board decides to keep third judge

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's 35th District Court will continue to employ three judges.

There had been speculation the 35th District Court Authority - consisting of representatives from Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton Township, Northville and Northville Township - was considering asking the state legislature to discontinue the third judge position at 35th District Court to save as much as \$215,000 annually after Chief Judge John MacDonald, 72, retires Jan. 1, 2009, after 24 years on the bench.

However, representatives of the five communities decided it was best, at this time, to continue the three-judge court in anticipation of increasing caseloads.

"I support the three-judge concept," said Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack. "We don't know where the court is going to go in the number of cases. We may pay more for that concept, but I think we're also about service and adjudicating cases that come before the court in a reasonable time frame."

Plymouth Mayor Phil Pursell expounded on Yack's assumptions.

"As the economy gets worse and worse, those caseloads are probably going to increase over time," Pursell said. "It gives us the freedom to adjudicate those cases in a timely fashion."

Oddly enough, since even before the new judgeship was established in 2001, caseloads have actually gone down. Court officials say last year



The 35th District Court Authority decided to keep its third judge even after the 2009 retirement of Chief Judge John MacDonald (above).

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should the 35th District Court keep three judges? E-mail your opinion to bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

the court handled 3,000 fewer cases than it did in 2000. While the caseload has been down since 2000, the figure for last year actually showed an increase from the previous year.

The State Court Administrators Office calculated the number of cases handled by judges in 35th District Court required 2.26 judges. However, despite the declining caseload, the SCAO held off on recommending elimination of the position when MacDonald retires. The communities could petition for the reduction, but would have to convince the state legislature and have it approved by the governor.

Please see **JUDGE, A5**

IRS auctions seized animals

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

The Internal Revenue Service auctioned a giant African-crested porcupine, giant hissing cockroaches, sharks, lizards, snakes, a hyacinth macaw and other exotic animals it seized from Living Science Foundation on Cherry Street in Plymouth Thursday, after the organization failed to pay back taxes.

"We conducted an auction of their inventory, which was primarily exotic animals," said Luis D. Garcia, an IRS spokesman in Detroit. "The IRS took several unusual steps by marketing the auction to rescue organizations and businesses, such as zoos, that have an infrastructure to keep these animals to safeguard the health of the animals."

Garcia said most property seizures by the IRS occur one

day, with the auctions held in a separate facility weeks later. However, because the seizure consisted of the animals, both were done in the same day.

"We notified prospective buyers of the exotic animals and of the sale, but we kept the location secret until the last minute," Garcia said. "We wanted to make sure the animals had safe homes as quickly as possible."

"Seizures are the absolute last resort for the IRS," added Garcia. "There are all sorts of avenues taxpayers can use to avoid a seizure, including payment plans and using the taxpayer advocate service."

Garcia would not comment on how much money Living Science Foundation owed the IRS. Telephone calls by the *Observer* to the group were not returned.

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Vets, students remember Pearl Harbor

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

As declared by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Friday was remembered as a "date that will live in infamy."

Dozens of people, including veterans and students from Central Middle School, remembered those who died at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, in a short, but meaningful, ceremony at the Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park Friday afternoon.

It was a surprise attack on U.S.

forces at Pearl Harbor by Japanese warplanes that forced the United States into World War II.

"The first bombs fell about 7 a.m., and the United States had 18 ships sunk or severely damaged, about 188 planes destroyed and about 3,700 casualties," said Frank Pawelak of American Legion Post 391. "It pushed the United States public opinion from complacency and isolation to an acceptance that war was unavoidable, our freedom was threatened."

Please see **PEARL, A5**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Korean War vet Joe Burman salutes at the conclusion of the Pearl Harbor memorial ceremony. He's a member of Post 112 American Legion.

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Coming Thursday in filter

A holiday film guide

Toy drives

■ 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.

■ Metro Dance will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for children of all ages through Dec. 19 for the Toys for Tots of Southeast Michigan.

Donations can be dropped off Monday-Thursday 4-8 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Metro Dance is located in Plymouth on the corner of Mill and Ann Arbor Trail at 541 S. Mill. For more information, call (734) 207-8970 or e-mail info@MetroDanceCompany.com

Photo with Santa

Santa Claus will visit good boys and girls at New Liberty Bank for a free photo opportunity 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 15.

New Liberty Bank is located at 1333 W. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

Winter concert

The Celebration Youth Orchestras present their winter concert 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, in Canton. Tickets are \$6.

The CYO is the youth orchestra supported by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society, dedicated to challenging and inspiring students through high level ensemble training and the performance of standard and new repertoire. CYO ensembles are conducted by Ariel Toews, Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Canton Assistant Conductor and are part of the Plymouth Symphony's Youth Outreach Education Program, which will impact more than 5,000 students this year. Showing off all they have accomplished this season,

young musicians in the CYO will perform a variety of classical and contemporary music. The Celebration Youth Symphony is performing the first two movements of Beethoven's Symphony No. 1, Mother Ginger from "The Nutcracker Suite" and Leroy Anderson's "Christmas Festival" in honor of his centennial year. The Celebration Sinfonia will perform "Shaker Fantasia", an arrangement of the tune "Simple Gifts" by Elliot Del Borgo, "Le Froid De L'Hiver" by Soon Hee Newbold, Allegro in D by Vivaldi and Arranged By Steven Frakenpohl, and The Bells of Christmas. Lastly, the Celebration Strings will perform "Beginning Bluegrass", Algodoon by Henry Purcell, Trepak from the Nutcracker, and will be playing "Believe" from the Polar Express side-by-side with the Celebration Sinfonia.

Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased through Summit on the Park, (734) 394-5460, online at the Village Theater link on <http://www.canton-mi.org>, or the Village Theater box office one hour before performance, or online at. For audition information or

more information please contact the Plymouth Symphony office at 734.451.2112 or by e-mail at Jane@plymouthsymphony.org.

Jaycee meeting

The Plymouth Jaycees conduct an informational meeting 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road.

The meeting is open to young men and women aged 21-40 who would like to help their community through leadership training and community services.

For information, call 734-765-9691.

Benefit concert

The National Homeschool Music Ensembles, an instructional band program located in Tecumseh and Ann Arbor dedicated to serving home-schooled students, will host a Red Kettle Benefit Concert Wednesday, Dec. 19, to benefit The Salvation Army of Washtenaw County's 2007 Red Kettle Campaign.

The concert will feature student musicians from NHME, Father Gabriel Richard High School in Ann Arbor, the Plymouth-Canton Homeschool Band and the

Oakland County Homeschool Band. The student musicians will play music from the original Salvation Army songbook that was used to perform on city streets across America more than 50 years ago.

Kicking off at 7 p.m., the concert is taking place at the Power Center for the Performing Arts, located on the University of Michigan campus in Ann Arbor.

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door and can be purchased at Nicola's Books in Ann Arbor (2513 Jackson Ave.), King's Keyboard House in Ann Arbor (2333 E. Stadium Blvd.) and Doby's Smokehouse in Tecumseh (111 W. Chicago Blvd.).

'Rehearsal' auditions

The Spotlight Players are holding auditions for their new show, Rehearsal for Murder, 7-10 p.m. Dec. 10-11 at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

The Spotlight Players, the resident Community Theater Company at The Cherry Village Theater in Canton, are producing the murder mystery, Rehearsal for Murder, based on an Edgar-Award winning 1983 TV miniseries. In the

story, a playwright invites a cast of actors to do a reading of his new show. The reading takes place on the one-year anniversary of his fiancé's death; she committed suicide after the opening night of her last show. Or did she?

For this occasion, the playwright has invited several actors connected to his fiancé in some way - one of whom, he is convinced, killed her. And this reading will be his means of discovering her murderer and exposing that person to justice.

Rehearsal for Murder will be performed Feb. 23-24, Feb. 29, March 1-2 and March 7-9 at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

For more information, call (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460, e-mail villagetheater@canton-mi.org, or visit spotlightplayers.net or canton-mi.org/villagetheater.

CORRECTION

A story in the Thursday, Dec. 6, *Observer* should have said Plymouth High School was the only one of the district's high schools that met all adequate yearly progress standards.

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FRU/SAT LS 11:35
THE MIST (R)
11:00, 1:40, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00
MR. MAGORUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM
(R) 12:20, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20
FRU/SAT LS 11:30
BEOWULF (PG-13)
9:00 FRU/SAT LS 11:30
FRED CLAUSS (PG)
11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:05, 9:40
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Affordable Homecare provides vital links for seniors

BY STACY JENKINS
STAFF WRITER

It's more than a job, it's her life's work.

Denise Boucher is one of the "angels" who provide around-the-clock assistance to senior citizens through the Farmington Hills-based Affordable Homecare.

The business recently moved from Livonia to Farmington Hills and provides all levels of non-medical assistance to help the elderly stay in their homes.

Boucher is a live-in personal assistant to Elizabeth, 91, who lives in Plymouth. She's been Boucher's client for the past two years. Elizabeth's daughter and son-in-law work full time and are unable to provide constant care. That's where Boucher comes in. She manages Elizabeth's diabetes, makes sure she's eating right, getting exercise and keeps her well-groomed.

"To me, we provide the heartbeat of the home of all our clients," Boucher said. "Our care is the center of everything that they live for. She says if I weren't here, she wouldn't be here."

Boucher and Elizabeth, along with a pet parakeet named Candy, are best of friends.

"She makes it fun," Boucher said. "We go places. We both love shopping, with a passion. We go to Meijer — my favorite hang-out — and we go to her favorite hangouts, which are the malls."

Maintaining a quality of life is what it's all about, Affordable Homecare's founder Greg Adair said.

Adair, who has been in the elder care profession for 30 years, started Affordable Homecare after he realized there must be a better alternative to nursing homes when family members can no longer care for their elderly relatives.

"That really didn't exist at that time (prior to 1989)," he said, recalling how he felt when he saw families put their loved ones into nursing homes. "When I saw what that did to families — I saw the pain and how it would tear their hearts out — I knew there had to be a better way."

Live-in personal assistants at Affordable Homecare are



Denise Boucher, on right, joined her client Elizabeth, on left, with her family and their dog, Jake, on vacation in Alpena last fall.

thoroughly screened through background checks by private detectives and they undergo state and county checks, driver's license checks, three different abuse record checks, drug screening, a TB test, random drug tests and are fingerprinted. They also go through skills tests, a training program and are required to do continuing education courses.

Four registered nurses and a social worker are on staff for quality assurance and random home visits. Quality assurance incentive awards are given to employees each month and at the end of the year. Adair said his employees deserve all the recognition for building a fine reputation for his company.

"We really honor those who are doing all the work," he said. "Our personal assistants get very close to their (clients') families. There is no higher reward, I believe, than caring for another human being."

Adair offers his 140 employees health insurance, bonuses, flexible hours and continuing educational opportunities. He values his employees and wants to keep them.

"I believe they are angels," he said. "They have been sent

to do this work. It's a very challenging kind of work."

At-home, personal care can be tailored to individual needs, by days or hours per week, up to live-in care.

"Some people just need an extra pair of hands in the home to remain independent," Adair said.

HIGH-TECH HELP

For those who are not to the point of needing personal assistance, Affordable Homecare offers "space-age technology" to their clients.

"The electronic revolution has entered into the elder care market," Adair said.

The whole concept is to keep seniors in their homes, where they're most comfortable, and to keep them safe.

A personal emergency response system can be leased for about \$1 per day. It provides a constant link to a monitoring center, which is manned by staff. In the event of an emergency, the client presses a button, which can be worn as a necklace or a bracelet, and a call is transmitted to the center. A magnified speaker phone system allows the staff person to communicate



Greg Adair, founder of Affordable Home Care in Farmington Hills, talks about their services and some of the electronic devices available for elder care.

seniors in the U.S. will experience a fall at some point.

"This is designed to know when the person is on the floor," he said.

A third product is helpful for seniors who take medication. The MD2 is also electronically connected to the monitoring center and can signal a staff person if the client has not dispensed his or her medicine after being signaled to do so.

"These are great alternatives to the personal intervention," Adair said. "Electronics bridge the gap when personal care is

not yet needed."

For more details about the electronic devices or about the in-home services, visit online at www.affordablehomecare.org or call (800) 968-8195.

Adair said Affordable Homecare services many low-income clients and they offer educational seminars on topics such as the bird flu pandemic, safety in the home, elder abuse and financing elder care.

"By working with the Area Agency on Aging, we're able to give back to the community," he said.

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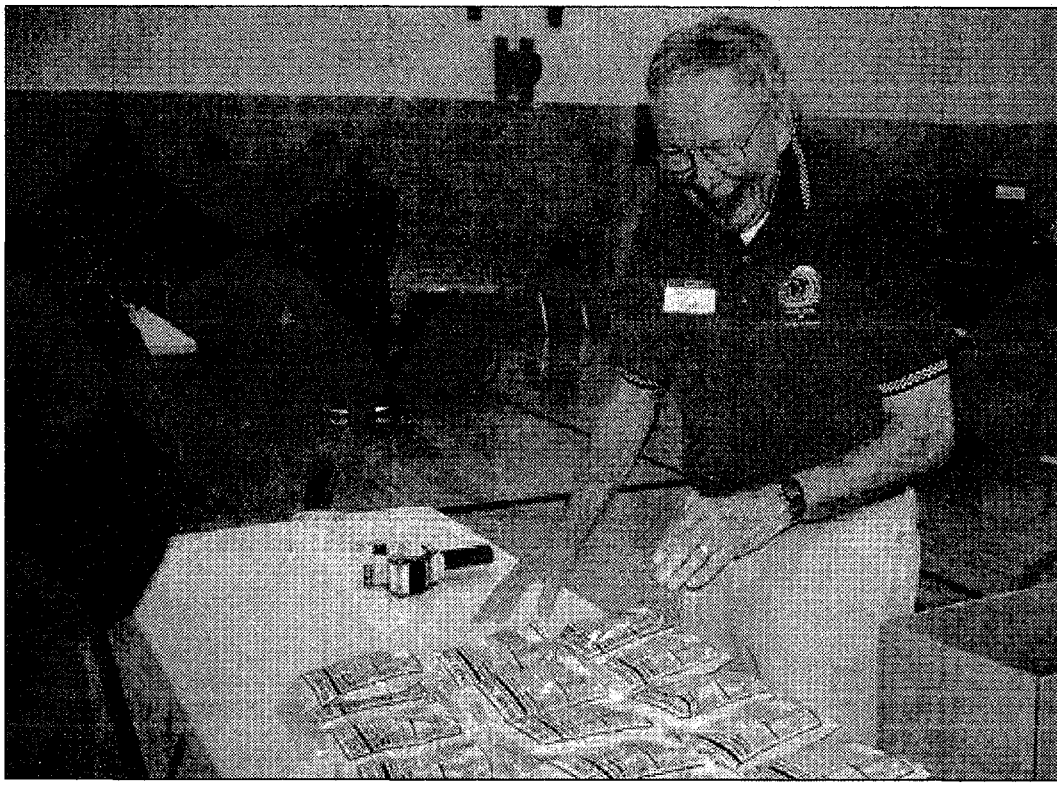
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Kiwanis effort packages 101,000 meals



Plymouth Kiwanian Bob Evans packs the meals up so that they are ready to be shipped. Volunteers helped package some 101,000 meals to support Kids Against Hunger.

BY MICHAEL SIEGRIST
CORRESPONDENT

Mix a cup of soy, a scoop of vegetable protein and chicken, along with the international staple rice and what have you got?

A meal prepared to feed a family of six.

At least that's what more than 800 volunteers packaged earlier this month at Kinawa Middle School in Okemos. Members of the Kiwanis family and many other community organizations joined the group Kids Against Hunger of Michigan in packaging 101,000 meals.

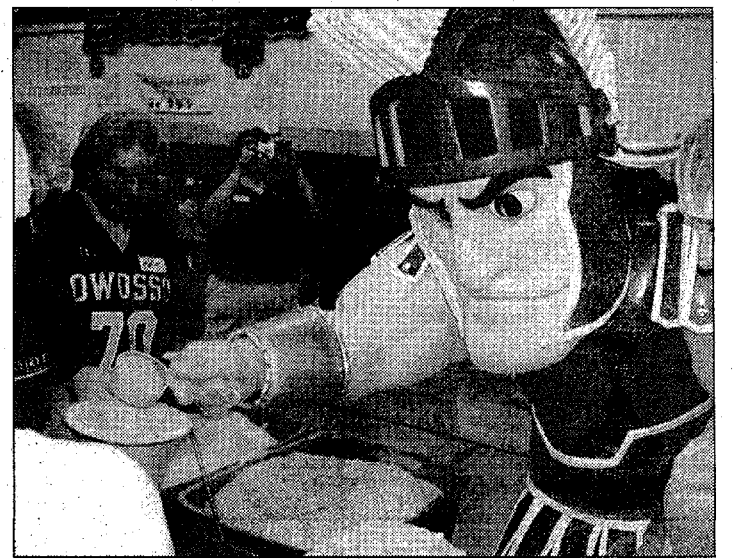
"I am really excited about what we accomplished," said state Director of KAH Don Burwell. "It was a significant day because we have never packaged 100,000 meals in one day."

KAH is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to end the tragedy that 40,000 children die every day from malnutrition, starvation and other hunger-related diseases. The group packages and ships highly nutritious, life-saving meals to starving and malnourished children in and out of the country. This is done by mobilizing the energy of children, teens and adults on behalf of hungry children around the world.

Working from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. the Kiwanis-led effort saw representatives from 16 of the 19 state's districts. Members from more than 50 clubs throughout the state, including other members of the Kiwanis family - K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K and Golden K - with a range of first-graders to individuals 80 years of age, were in attendance.

The fast pace and high intensity at which the packagers worked had suppliers running to keep up with ingredients. The common consensus was the day could have seen upwards of 200,000 meals packaged if there was a greater food supply.

"Many people who weren't



Even Sparty pitched in to help, sealing up meal packages, 50,000 of which were distributed throughout the state by 2 p.m.

scheduled just showed up to help. We couldn't just give away the ship early on and then it's all done," said Rob Noel, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth and one of the program's pioneers. "We had to slow down because people who donated wanted a chance to package. Next time we will have to go to the Superdome."

The day was not all work and no play, as a surprise visit by Sparty, the Michigan State University mascot, and the Detroit Automotion dance team along with periodic raffles and a DJ kept things interesting.

Volunteers were enthusiastic about production, as more than half of the meals were packaged before 11 a.m. and shipped throughout the state by 2 p.m.

The state's food banks and charitable organizations have seen an increase in the need for assistance. The economic woes of the state have put a strain on families who are struggling to meet basic needs. As a result, many organizations are unable to meet the problem without help. This is where the super-packaging comes in.

For the first time, the groups decided to make sure 50 percent of the food pack-

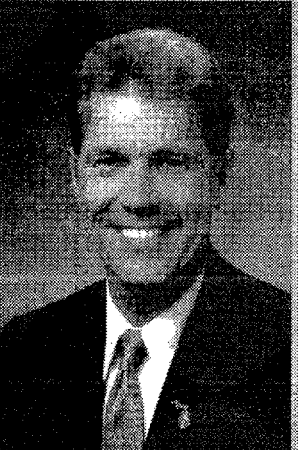
aged stayed within the state. The other 50,000 meals were shipped to destinations outside of Michigan, including Guatemala, Haiti and Zimbabwe - a country which has seen economic collapse and political turmoil, leading to refugee problems.

Over the past three years the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth has been working with KAH, packaging over 84,000 meals and forging a partnership. Since then, the group has donated a van and trailer to KAH of Michigan, allowing the satellite based out of Oak Park to become mobile.

The event was made possible by a June 5 fund-raiser at Fox Hills featuring 310 community leaders and Kiwanis members, which raised more than \$10,000 for the super packaging, adding to the \$25,000 the group raised for the event.

According to Clare Burns, Michigan's Kiwanis Governor who lives in Traverse City, the partnership between Kiwanis and KAH is growing, moving forward into the future.

"The cooperation was brought into Michigan slowly; however, it has caught fire," Burns said. "By next year I think the entire organization of Kiwanis state-wide will adopt it."



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PEARL
FROM PAGE A1

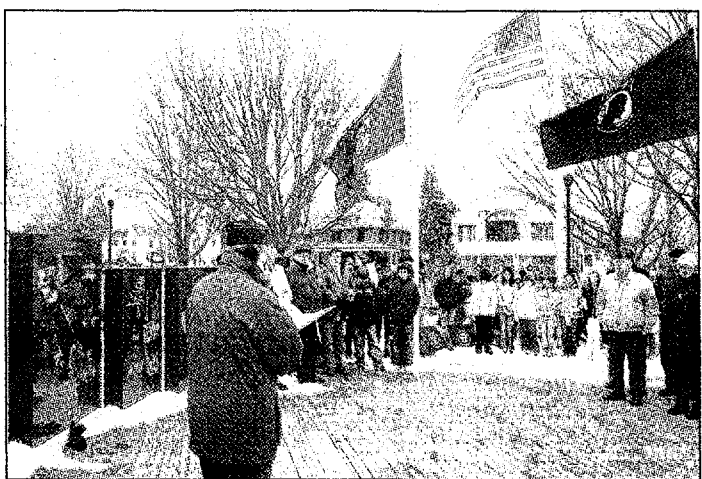
The keynote speaker was 80-year-old Jerry Hoelscher of Canton Township, an Army veteran and member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6695 in Plymouth, whose 19-year-old brother, Lester, was on the USS Arizona, which was sunk during the attack.

"America was truly at war," said Hoelscher. "I think our nation was mad as hell. A new slogan was born, and it caught on swiftly ... Remember Pearl Harbor."

Hoelscher said news of the USS Arizona was difficult to get, and his family waited fearfully for news of his brother.

"News broadcasts made no mention of the USS Arizona, and we were encouraged to believe it was maybe good news," Hoelscher said. "In late December came the first official notice he was missing in action. Two weeks later came the final official notice that stated Lester had lost his life in action and his body had not been recovered."

Lester Hoelscher and more than 1,100 of his shipmates lay entombed in the sunken Arizona, 38-feet below the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Veterans and students from Central Middle School gathered to remember Pearl Harbor.

surface, with a memorial constructed over it.

Jerry Hoelscher, who served in Germany during the Korean conflict, was five years younger than Lester, who enlisted in the Navy when he was 18 years old.

"He was so happy, and did very well, becoming a pharmacist mate first class when he was killed," Hoelscher said. "I was 14 at the time of the attack and remember the day very, very well."

Several classes from Central Middle School attended the ceremony at the Veterans

Memorial Park, which is located adjacent to the school.

"It was a real honor to be there," said Jared Luce, 13, of Canton. "They are legends, people who put their lives on the line for this country."

Prabhreet Singh, 14, of Canton reiterated it was an honor to attend the ceremony.

"They gave up their lives, so the least we could do is give them some of our time to honor what they did for us," said Singh.

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JUDGE
FROM PAGE A1

District court judges earn \$139,272 annually, which is paid by the state. However, benefits and staff — paid for by the local communities — cost more than \$215,000 each year, according to a report to the Court Authority by Judge Ron Lowe.

Court officials are hoping to save about \$20,000 when Magistrate Eric Colthurst, who earns about \$90,000 a year, retires in August and is rehired as a contract employee.

The \$4.5 million 2008 court budget is minus the controversial \$480 per month stipend, as well as longevity pay, for judges. The judges had been criticized by some members of the Court Authority for receiving \$600 monthly expense checks,

which they voluntarily reduced to \$480.

"Historically, each judge received an expense account check per month, and there was no accounting for the expenses," said Lowe. "We (now) will submit our receipts and the court will reimburse us ... for expenses to professional organizations we belong to, travel expenses, cell phones."

After nearly 23 years, judges will no longer receive longevity pay, which ranged from a half-percent at three years of service to 8.5 percent at 24 years. Court controller Pam Avdoulos said MacDonald received 8 percent of his salary in longevity pay in 2007, which amounted to \$11,061. Lowe received 6 percent, or \$8,296 in longevity pay. Judge Mike Gerou, who was elected to fill the third judgeship, received a half-percent for \$691.

The Court Authority also balked at the budget line

item that would have given court administrator Debra Kubitsky a 6-percent pay increase.

"When you're asking for something out of the norm, it's incumbent on you to really thrash it out and put down a lot of justification for it," said Yack, who noted Kubitsky would be one of the highest-paid court administrators in the area with the pay hike.

"Not just to us, but the people out there who aren't getting pay increases," added Pursell. "Plymouth, Northville and Canton are upper-echelon communities, but there's nobody out there getting 6-percent raises."

The Authority instead gave Kubitsky, who will earn \$71,925 this year, the same 3.25 percent pay increase given to union employees, boosting her salary to \$74,262.

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Budget battle not likely to affect term limit law

BY JOE BAUMAN
STAFF WRITER

Democratic state Rep. Paul Condino characterized the 10-month partisan fight over the 2008 state budget the result of a "perfect storm" and an "ugly process."

Republican Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop agreed the process and outcome of the battle was "horrible," but was a necessary part of standing up for philosophical beliefs and holding true to core principles.

And while both expressed hope future budgets will be adopted without the degree of rancor experienced this year, their comments at the Observer & Eccentric's annual Journalist of the Year breakfast made it clear the two parties remain far apart on how the state should be run.

But both agreed the budget fiasco would not be enough to spur the legislature to scrap term limits, even though both agreed the lack of experience in Lansing contributed to the process.

"I don't believe terms limits was the primary cause of what happened; and I think it will take a citizen initiative to bring about any change to the law," said Bishop, a lifelong Rochester resident.

Added Condino, a Southfield resident who will be term-limited at the end of next year, "I agree with the senator."

Asked why voters should return any incumbent to office next year, Condino acknowledged it will be "real tough" to regain the public's confidence.

"You have to understand we started in January with the perfect storm of a \$1.8 billion deficit and the loss of the single business tax," he said. "We did a good job of coming together in creating the new business tax. But the question that should be asked of every incumbent is what did he or she do to be part of the solution."

Bishop said it was important for voters to understand why the budget crisis grew to the magnitude it did.

"I was disgusted by how our state government performed. But you have to understand it happened because people stood up for what they believed in," he said. "I felt like I was at the Alamo, but I wasn't willing to give in to the pressure of going with the easy solution."

Without a true reform of state government, Bishop added no amount of tax increases will solve the budget crisis.

"State spending is out of control and we have to take a look in the core areas of community health, corrections and state government operations," he said.

Bishop said the state should give serious consideration to turning over transportation, health care and food service operations at the state's prisons to the private sector.

Condino, reflecting just one area where the two political parties appear far apart on the issues, said the state instead should focus on moving documented mentally ill patients out of the prison system and into less expensive continuing care options. When he added he opposed privatization of the prisons on "moral and ethical grounds," Bishop responded, "I don't think it's a moral issue to save money."

Marty Budner tapped as top journalist for O&E in 2007

Marty Budner, sports editor of the *Birmingham Eccentric* newspaper, was named the 2007 Journalist of the Year by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

The award was presented to Budner Friday morning at the annual O&E Journalist of the Year breakfast held at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham.

Budner is a veteran journalist and a well-known figure in the world of local sports. He has won numerous awards over 31 years with the O&E. Budner has won either a Suburban Newspaper Association or Michigan Press Association award for sports writing, sports section, sports columnist or sports feature every year at least since 2000.

Budner was nominated for the award by *Eccentric* editor Greg Kowalski. "Marty has an incredible understanding of the local sports scene and knows how to present it to the readers in a fashion that they relate to," Kowalski wrote in the nomination.

Budner was also cited for his "accurate, comprehensive and thorough coverage."

"It's a great honor," Budner said. He added that he is proud to be among the journalists who have won the award over the years. "I've always considered it a team effort," he said of producing the sport section.

The judges singled out a column that he wrote about Joe Clinton, Troy Athens basketball coach who died



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sports Editor Marty Budner is the 2007 Observer & Eccentric Journalist of the Year.



Executive Editor Susan Rosiek presents Marty Budner with the Journalist of the Year award.

suddenly last summer. The judges noted how Budner brought a sense of history to the piece reflecting his long acquaintanceship with Clinton.

Judging of the nominees was done by a panel of journalists not associated with the *O&E*. The award was presented by Susan Rosiek, *O&E* executive editor.



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Beneficiaries must pay taxes on savings bonds, IRAs

Dear Rick: I've just inherited some U.S. Savings Bonds. I'm going to cash out the bonds and reinvest the proceeds. Do I have to pay any taxes?

Unfortunately, you do have a tax liability. When you cash out your U.S. Savings Bonds, you will receive the original investment and the interest. The interest is subject to income tax.

When you inherit items such as U.S. Savings Bonds, traditional IRAs or variable annuities, there is an income tax consequence to the beneficiary. Since they grew tax-deferred, a beneficiary pays taxes on the deferred income. This goes against the general rule because when someone inherits property, they typically inherit it tax free. The one exception is when they inherit something that has deferred income. In addition, if someone inherits a "qualified" deferred income plan, such as an IRA or a 40(k) plan, then the person who is inheriting the property pays ordinary



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

income taxes not only on the deferred income, but also on the principal itself.

For example, if you inherited someone's 401(k) and the plan was worth \$50,000, all of that would be subject to ordinary income tax. On the other hand, if you inherited \$50,000 of someone's stock portfolio and it was not in a qualified plan (IRA), then that same \$50,000 would be tax free.

No one said our tax laws had to be fair.

Under current tax law, when you inherit property not in a qualified plan, your cost basis is the fair market value of that asset on the date of death. For example, if you inherit 100 shares of ABC stock and on the date of death ABC stock is worth \$20 a share, your cost basis for that stock is \$2,000 (100 x 20). If you sell

the stock down the road for \$30 a share, your gain for tax purposes would be \$10 a share (\$30 - \$20). It doesn't matter whether the person you are inheriting the property from paid \$1 or \$100 per share, your cost basis is the fair market value as of the date of death.

It is important to review who you've named as your primary and secondary beneficiary. Doing some good tax planning in this area can save your beneficiaries on taxes.

Dear Rick: I'm going to buy a new car in the very near future. Should I buy or lease?

I do not believe there is one right answer. The real question is what is better for your situation? I lease my cars, but that doesn't mean you should lease.

There are several issues you need to consider. First is how long you plan to own your car. If you plan to own for more than four years, then I would recommend purchasing the car. If you plan to use your car for four years or less, then leasing is an option.

Another issue is how many miles you drive on a yearly basis. The more miles you drive, the more beneficial it is to buy vs. lease. Typically, if you are driving more than 15,000 to 18,000 miles a year, then the benefits derived from leasing are reduced.

There are some other non-financial issues that enter into the equation. One is convenience. Leasing is a good way to go for people who want new cars every few years and do not want the hassle of having to sell a used car.

Before you go shop for a car, you should decide ahead of time whether you are going to buy or lease. This will help you focus on selecting the right car for your situation.

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

DMP will have oversight of O&E/Mirror

Effective Jan. 1, the Detroit Media Partnership will assume administrative and financial oversight of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Mirror Newspapers. The properties were formerly part of HomeTown Communications Network which was purchased by the Gannett Co, Inc. in November 2004.

The Observer & Eccentric newspapers include 12 suburban editions published Thursdays and Sundays. Mirror Newspapers

is a weekly newspaper serving six communities and is published on Sundays. Printing and production will continue to be handled by the Port Huron Times Herald, also a Gannett property. The publications will remain editorially independent and will be a separate operating unit.

Gannett Co. is the majority owner of The Detroit Media Partnership, which runs the business operations of the Detroit Free Press and Detroit News.

Pet photos available at humane society

There's no better way to say "Happy Holidays," while helping the animals of the Michigan Humane Society than with a holiday picture of Santa and your pet.

The MHS is hosting pet holiday pictures with Santa at the Berman Center for Animal Care in Westland, on two consecutive weekends in December. Santa, and his elves, will be posing for pictures with pets on the following dates, from noon to 2 p.m.: Sunday, Dec. 9; Saturday, Dec. 15; and Sunday, Dec. 16. Elves will be giving out doggie goodie bags and candy canes to all children attending. All companion animals are welcome.

For each photo taken, MHS asks for a \$5 contribution to help the organization continue to provide the vital programs and services for more than 100,000 animals the organization cares for and touches each year. Each photo will be printed immediately, and placed in a holiday photo card for pet-lovers to take home.

Photo participants should enter at the Pet Education Center door, located to the right of the adoption center entrance, with candy canes leading the way. The MHS reminds pet owners to avoid any activities which may be uncomfortable, stressful or pose any risk to your pet. When deciding to bring your companion animal into a public environment, please be sure that he/she is properly socialized and is able to interact with other animals.

The Michigan Humane Society Berman Center for Animal Care is located at 900

N. Newburgh at Marquette in Westland.

For more information, call the Michigan Humane Society at (248) 283-1000, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

BARBARA J. SAFRAN
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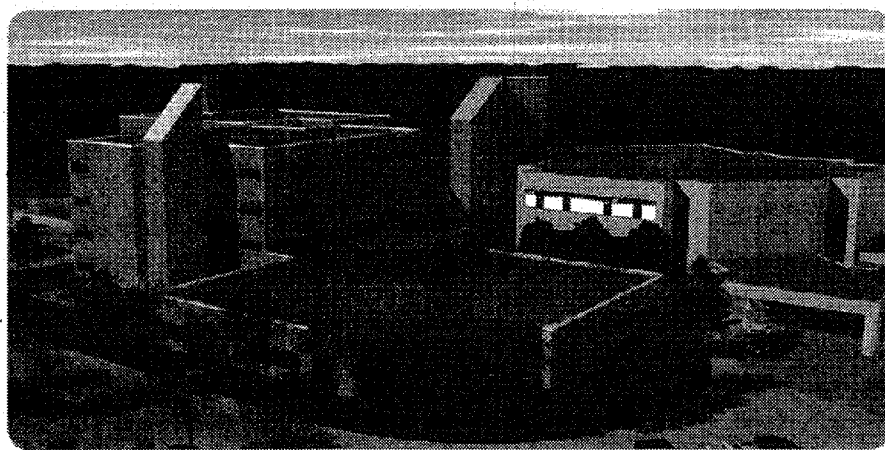
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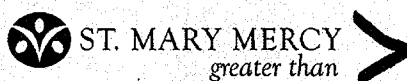
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Malfunction may have caused mobile home fire

Plymouth Community Fire Department investigators believe the malfunction of heat tape under a mobile home may be the cause for the fire which destroyed the residence in Plymouth Hills mobile home park last week.

Fire Chief Randy Maycock said firefighters were called to the scene about 11:15 p.m. last Thursday, and remained for more than eight hours to put out the blaze that caused an estimated \$120,000 in damage.

"The two occupants were able to get out and were treated for smoke inhalation," said Maycock. "One of our firefighters was treated for exposure to the cold."

"It appears the fire started under the trailer, possibly from heat tape that may have malfunctioned, which is quite common in mobile homes," he said. "There was some heat

FIRE RUNS

damage to nearby trailers."

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period Nov. 30-Dec. 4:

■ Tuesday, Dec. 4 - Residential rescue runs on Plymouth Hollow, Greenview Place, Normandy, Sheridan, Northville Road, Powell, Terry and Penniman; vehicle accidents on Inbrook and 5 Mile and at Ridge and N. Territorial.

■ Monday, Dec. 3 - Vehicle accidents on westbound M-14 ramp to southbound I-275 and at Mill and Ann Arbor Road; residential rescue runs on South Drive, on Sheridan, on Ann Arbor Trail and on Spring; downed wires on Brookline; fire on Beacon Hill Drive.

■ Sunday, Dec. 2 -

Residential rescue runs on Northville Road, on Hackberry and on McClumpha; vehicle accident on eastbound M-14 at Northville Road; commercial rescue run on N. Territorial; industrial rescue run on General Drive; downed wires on Clemmons; investigation at S. Mill and Ann Arbor Trail.

■ Saturday, Dec. 1 - Vehicle accident on southbound I-275 south of M-14; residential rescue runs on Academy Court and on Newport; dumpster fire on Beck; commercial rescue run on 5 Mile; investigation on Fox Drive.

■ Friday, Nov. 30 - Rescue run to a public building/school on Church; residential rescue runs on Newport, on Haggerty, on Ross, on Morrison, on Eaton and on Sheridan; commercial rescue runs on 5 Mile and on Ann Arbor Trail; industrial rescue run on Port.

Salem grad named Marshall Scholar

As the third Marshall Scholar in three years for Michigan State University and 12th in MSU history, Monica Mukerjee has made the Spartan community exceedingly proud. Mukerjee, a graduate of Salem High School, is a senior Honors College member with dual majors in international relations in James Madison College and psychology in the College of Social Science.

Her research interests are in gender and international development. Her current research, under the guidance of Dr. Linda Racioppi, focuses on the use and impact of sexual violence on men and women in and after war.

Mukerjee will pursue a master's of science degree in forced migration at Oxford University in Oxford, England, in her first year. In her second year of study, she will pursue a master's of philosophy in gender and development at the University of Sussex in Sussex, England.

"Monica is passionate about advocacy and policy that will

alleviate unnecessary pressures and hardships faced by refugee populations," said Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore, dean of the Honors College. "She has the ability to affect positive and enduring change."

Mukerjee's accomplishments include selection as a 2007 Truman Scholar, an MSU McNair-SROP Scholar, and a MSU Alumni Diversity Scholar. She has also been actively involved as a volunteer at local social service agencies and served as a site leader for an Alternative Spring Break program in Adjuntas, Puerto Rico.

The Marshall Scholarship provides support to approximately 40 of the most outstanding undergraduates in the U.S. to study at any university in the United Kingdom. For more information on the Marshall Scholarship, visit the Web at <http://www.marshallscholarship.org/>

Planner recognized

McKenna Associates' senior planner Seth Shpargel received national accreditation by the American Institute of Certified Planners, the professional institute providing leadership nationwide in the



Shpargel

certification of professional planners.

Shpargel's AICP accreditation follows more than three years of providing outstanding community plan-

ning services to communities across Michigan.

"Seth's significant contribution to community planning, economic development and urban design is demonstrated through the work he has done for his client communities," said Phillip C. McKenna, president and CEO of McKenna Associates. "The AICP accreditation makes official his outstanding capability and eagerness to use his planning skills to help communities."

Shpargel currently provides planning services to a variety of municipalities, including Plymouth Township. A native of Oak Park, Shpargel earned a bachelor's degree in urban and regional planning from Michigan State University. He has been a member of McKenna Associates' team since 2004.



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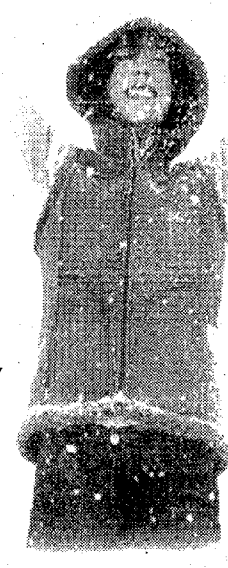
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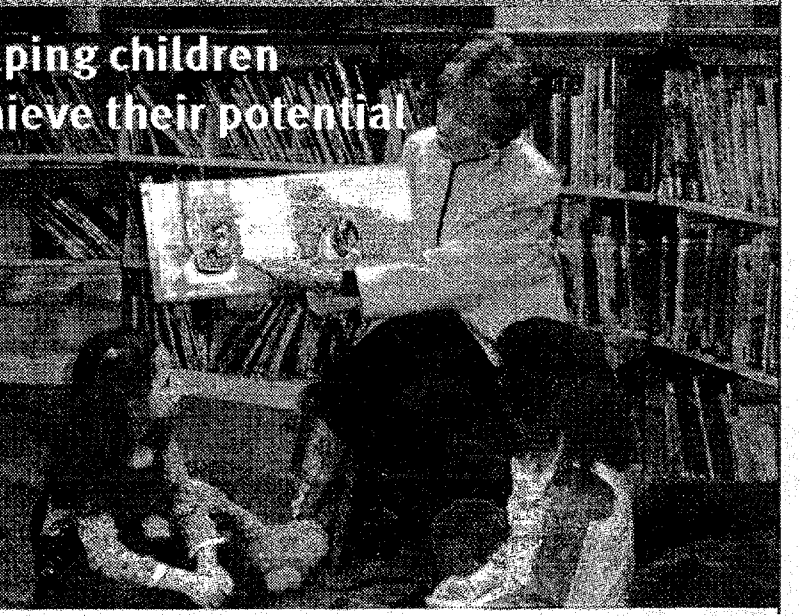
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It was 'The Best of Both Worlds' for Hannah Montana fans

BY STACY JENKINS
STAFF WRITER

The high-pitched eruption of screams, followed by a mad rush of moms dragging their wide-eyed, four-foot tall Hannah Montana fans through The Palace corridors, set the stage for an unforgettable night.

Dubbed by many as the "event of the year" — and for thousands of 6- to 12-year-olds, their first concert ever — the Hannah Montana show Wednesday night met and, yes, exceeded expectations.

"I loved it!" said Caroline Hinnant, 9, of Franklin. "It looked a lot different than I imagined and there were fireworks and smoke everywhere!" Her excitement was shared in every jam-packed row of The Palace of Auburn Hills, starting with the popular trio the Jonas Brothers.

"I really liked it," said Allison Hilborn, 9, of Birmingham. "It was really loud!"

Her dad, Craig Hilborn, was among the handful of men to brave the mass of 17,000 or so screaming Hannah Montana fans.

The best idea of the evening? "Earplugs!" Hilborn said. The 90-minute show, bathed

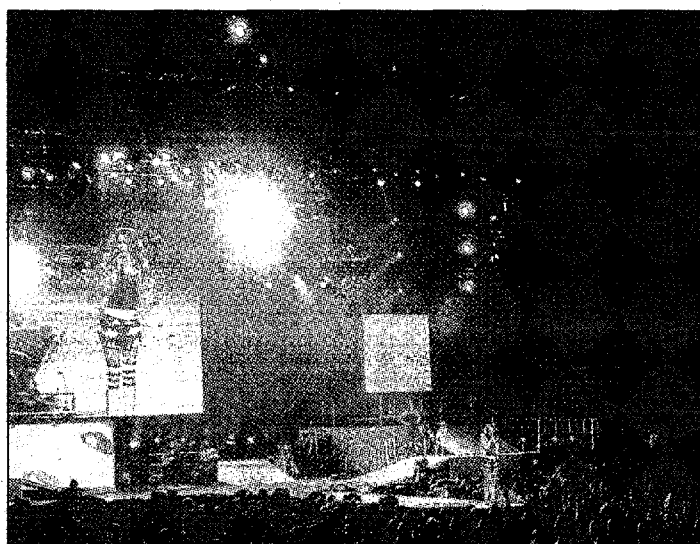
in G-rated pop rock style, was indeed *The Best of Both Worlds* for fans. The first half of the show featured the Disney Channel's blond-wig wearing Hannah Montana, in glittery costumes, tall, fancy boots and confident gallivanting around the multi-level stage.

The second half featured the "real" 15-year-old Miley Cyrus, with long, brown, curly hair and a more casual persona befitting the Tennessee teenager turned pop icon.

A sea of bopping tween fans — many sporting long, blond wigs likely left over from Halloween — sang along and twirled their \$10 glow sticks in the air to the hugely popular songs, *G.N.O. (Girls Night Out)*, *I Got Nerve, Nobody's Perfect* and, of course, Disney's *Hannah Montana* TV show theme song, *The Best of Both Worlds*, to name a few.

At least two moms in the crowd said it's OK for their 6-year-old daughters to "love" Hannah Montana.

"I do approve of Hannah Montana's lyrics in her songs," said Kathy Stubbs, of Troy, who brought her daughter, Shannon, to her first concert. "She's a positive role model for young girls and I don't mind my daughter singing her songs."



Miley Cyrus, during the second half of the show, egged the crowd on to scream louder at The Palace.

Laura Hentgen, of Birmingham, said she can relate to her 6-year-old daughter Harper's love for Hannah Montana.

"I'm a huge Madonna fan, so I remember what it was like," she said.

Other lucky fans scored tickets through presale via the Miley World Fan Club. Elizabeth Cadotte, 10, of Livonia, and her sister, Natalie, 8, were among the fan club members to get tickets to the show.

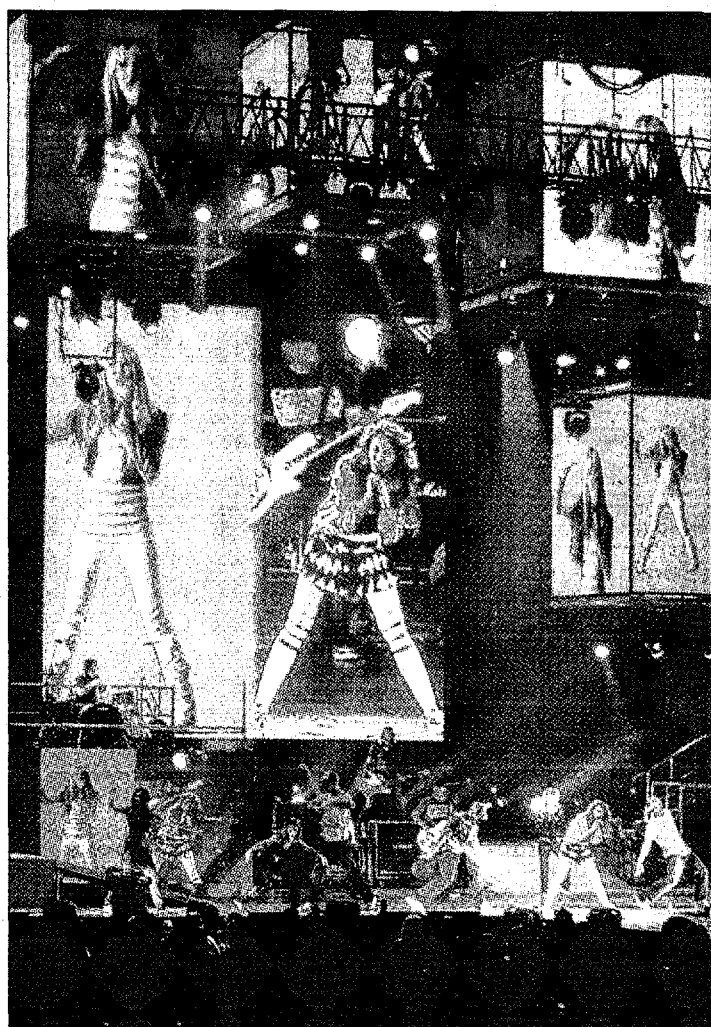
"I think the best thing about

tonight was that she was actually right in front of me!" Elizabeth Cadotte said. "It was pretty cool!"

She's a concert veteran, having been to a Hillary Duff concert, back in the day.

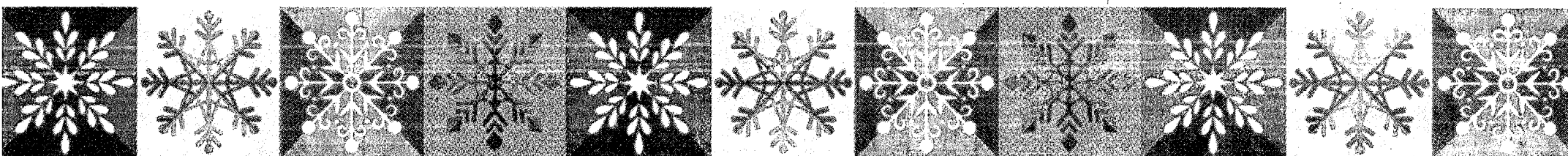
Her sister was also impressed by their side-stage seats, but she was thinking about another bonus to this special outing with her mom, Lynne Cadotte, her friends and her cousins.

"I loved all of the songs — and I love that I get to skip school tomorrow morning!"



The elaborate stage featured images of pop icon Hannah Montana while Miley Cyrus, who plays Hannah Montana, cranked out her popular tunes for thousands of screaming tweens at The Palace on Wednesday night.

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SPOTLIGHT ON:
YOUR DENTAL HEALTH

Presented by
Andrea S. Vivian, D.D.S.

DOWN TO THE ROOTS

The advanced form of gum disease known as "periodontitis" occurs when sticky plaque on and around teeth hardens into calculus (tartar). As it does so, the gums begin to pull away from the teeth, and pockets form between teeth and gums. In time, this can lead to disintegration of gum tissue and bone to the point where teeth loosen and fall out. To avoid this outcome, teeth may be subjected to the standard treatment for periodontitis known as "scaling and root" planing. This procedure involves first scraping the surface of the tooth below the gumline. Then, root planing removes the bacteria-contaminated surface of the root to clean it and make it more acceptable for gum and tissue reattachment.

It is estimated that more than half of all people over age 18 have at least the early stage of gum disease. After age 35, about three out of four adults are affected. Avoid the need for gum scaling and root planing and protect yourself and your family - practice conscientious home care, have regular checkups, and eat a healthy diet. We'll help, too, at **496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth**. (1 blk. E. of Kellogg Park) because we care almost as much as you do about the health of your teeth and gums. Call us soon at **734-453-9413** for an appointment, especially if you'd like to maximize your dental insurance coverage before the end of the year.

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OUR VIEWS

Parking spots should be saved for shoppers

Plymouth city commissioners Monday night approved the suspension of the parking policy downtown in an effort to spur holiday shoppers to use Plymouth as a shopping destination.

The new "Holiday Hospitality" plan runs through Dec. 31 and applies to the public parking spots, particularly those in and around the primary shopping districts. These areas, as most of you know, have been fairly heartily patrolled by Plymouth police with their chalk marking stick, and many shoppers have complained that such a stringent policy inhibits shoppers who wish to make a day of it in town — dining, shopping, etc.

The policy was designed, at least in part, after complaints that business owners and their employees were taking up the prime parking spaces, leaving shoppers to park farther away.

When the commission suspended the parking policy Monday night, it led some retailers to grumble that employees will now feel free to return to previous habits of parking in front of their store, thus denying potential shoppers easy parking access.

In an effort to keep that from happening, the Plymouth DDA immediately sent a notice to business owners, urging them to remember the policy was suspended as a means of encouraging shoppers, not making it easier for employees.

We think it's the right attitude, though we wonder if businesses will adopt it when we see parking spots taken up so early in the morning immediately following the announcement.

Downtown retailers have a lot to offer holiday shoppers, many of whom will be spending fewer dollars in a struggling economy. It only harms business to make it harder to convince them to spend those dollars in Plymouth, and parking is a prime consideration.

Commissioners suspended the parking policy in an effort to encourage shoppers to spend that money here. Retailers and their employees should honor the spirit of that move.

Nazi play book

This administration has been following the Hitler play book to the letter — spying on its citizens, torture, the Patriot Act instrumental in dissolving citizens' freedoms, training and funding "terrorists," instilling fear with ever increasing scenarios of RED, ORANGE, YELLOW Alerts ... oh, my!

In Europe, they laugh at Americans. This game isn't played on the Europeans. Police can break into my house and do a search without my permission. The police can haul me off to jail and I can be detained for three years without contacting an attorney. I can be accused in a court of law without ever facing my accuser. This is 1933 Nazi Germany.

Go visit the Holocaust museum in Washington D.C. to see the ultimate outcome of all these abuses. The same individuals who belong to the Trilateral Commission, Federal Reserve, World Bank, Rockefeller Foundation, America for a New Century, Skull and Bones, just to name a few, are those responsible for much of the following:

Intentionally stupefying the educational system, drugs flowing unrestricted into this country, NAFTA, CAFTA, European Union, American Union, Asian Union, African Union, intentionally eroding our borders, the NAFTA Super Highway and genocide, genocide by way of unprovoked wars against people of color who just happen to be in a resource-rich country.

The following individuals have been very busy suppressing the freedoms of Americans: David Rockefeller, George Bush Sr., Dick Cheney, Henry Kissinger, etc., and they have no conscience. People are nothing more than steaks on the table to them. Actually, they are afraid of us, thus the erosion of freedoms and spying on us. This has got to stop. Do the right thing.

Marianne Mulloy
Plymouth

Stretched too thin?

I read with great interest the article regarding liquor licenses in the *Plymouth*

LETTERS

Observer. However, what was most obvious in the article, for me, was the concern that the city of Plymouth has toward the police protection for the entire city and not just the few downtown streets.

I am quoting Police Chief Wayne Carroll from the article: "There are nights we're taxed ... the more establishments selling liquor you have, the more propensity there is to stretch your resources."

So while the chief admits that his resources are stretched, he and the city of Plymouth would like to add the enormous responsibility of firefighting to the already burdened police officers. If the police chief admits his officers are too busy, why should we believe that PSO (public safety officers) would be a good avenue for the city to follow?

The citizens of Plymouth need to know that there are full-time firefighter/medics ready at any hour of the day or night. I need to know that the fire department is there for my family when someone calls, not overstretched police officers doing police work first. The police officers do a fine job, let them do their job, leave the firefighting to the professional firefighter.

Arthur Scott
Plymouth

UAW off base

I am pro-union. I am upset with the United Auto Workers Region 1A. My wife went shopping in Kohl's tonight and parked her Toyota Scion. Kohl's, like J.C. Penney, Wal-Mart, Sears and Kmart sells textile goods from India, Pakistan, communist China, Guatemala, Honduras and even Vietnam.

Someone from United Auto Workers Region 1A put a bumper sticker on her car that reads: "Support the Troops: Buy American" with a stamp from "UAW Region 1A" stamped on it.

Consider that. Where was that guy when hundreds of thousands of American textile jobs were run out of the U.S.? Where was that guy when I was fighting to get the unions in on construction jobs all through Canton and Westland?

Our military is in Iraq shoring up the

perverted regime in Saudi Arabia and ensuring that oil flows into this country so somebody working with one of the most ravenous unions in the world could wander through a parking lot defacing personal property.

The Scion we have routinely gets about 40 miles per gallon. American auto companies and unions are complaining about trying to reach an average of 35 miles per gallon.

I would buy American — if the things I needed were made in America.

In the meantime, we've got a serious problem with a union like the United Auto Workers picking on the wife of a small guy like me who is just trying to earn a living and get by. It's a filthy thing to see the United Auto Workers jump on the back of our brave and war weary men and women in Iraq.

Alfred Brock
Wayne

Enough, already

I read where political activist Cindy Sheehan gave a speech at Cranbrook a few weeks ago.

Some of her comments were published in area newspapers. I know this woman has suffered a terrible tragedy by the loss of her son, but enough is enough. I am sick and tired of her spewing her hate toward the president, our policies and any of our institutions that are convenient.

In my mind, her loss does not give her license to make ridiculous allegations and endorse every crazy conspiracy theory that makes this country look bad. As if going to Venezuela and playing footsies with their president wasn't bad enough, now she is relentlessly, and irresponsibly, condemning our armed forces, and the very principles her son died for.

I know she must be hurting, and I sympathize with her pain, but using her new-found fame to ridicule and vilify this country, is an insult to the memory of her heroic son.

Steve Cash
Northville



Sounds of the Season

Free Concerts at Schoolcraft College

December 9—Wind Ensemble

Sunday, 7:30 p.m.

Schoolcraft College Radcliff Center

1751 Radcliff Street, Garden City

Featuring the works of John P. Sousa, Dimitri Shostakovich, Hector Villa-Lobos, Elliott Del Borgo, LeRoy Anderson and the holiday favorite *Christmas Song* by Mel Torme and Robert Wells.

December 10—Jazz Band and Synthesizer Ensemble

Monday, 7:30 p.m.

DiPonio Room inside the VisTaTech Center

Schoolcraft College main campus

18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia

The Jazz Band performs holiday favorites by Chick Corea, Dave Brubeck, and Stevie Wonder. The Synthesizer Ensemble's selections range from the traditional to the modern, including *Lacrymosa* from Mozart's *Requiem Mass*, a dramatic rendition of the 1980s hit *Africa* by the pop group Toto, and a special arrangement featuring vocalist Josh Marois, whose voice is electronically transformed to sound like a full choir.

December 16—Choral Union

Sunday, 3 p.m.

Recital Hall inside the Forum Building

Schoolcraft College main campus

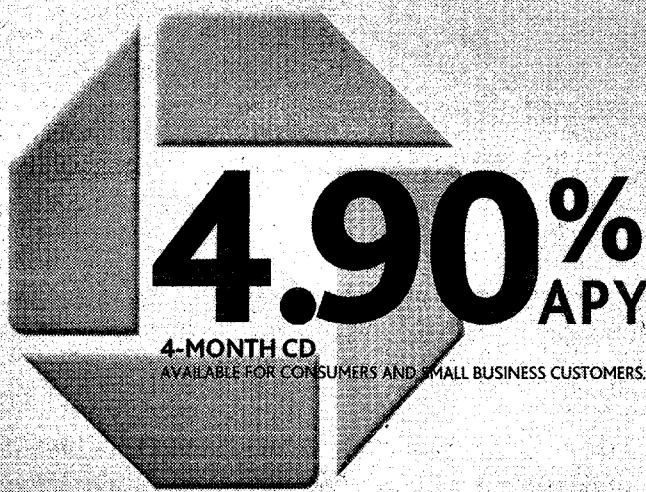
18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia

A choral concert entitled *A Winter's Tale* featuring choral music and poetry readings that capture the spirit of the holiday season. A suggested, but not required, admission donation of one canned or boxed non-perishable food item, which will be donated to the Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan, would be appreciated.

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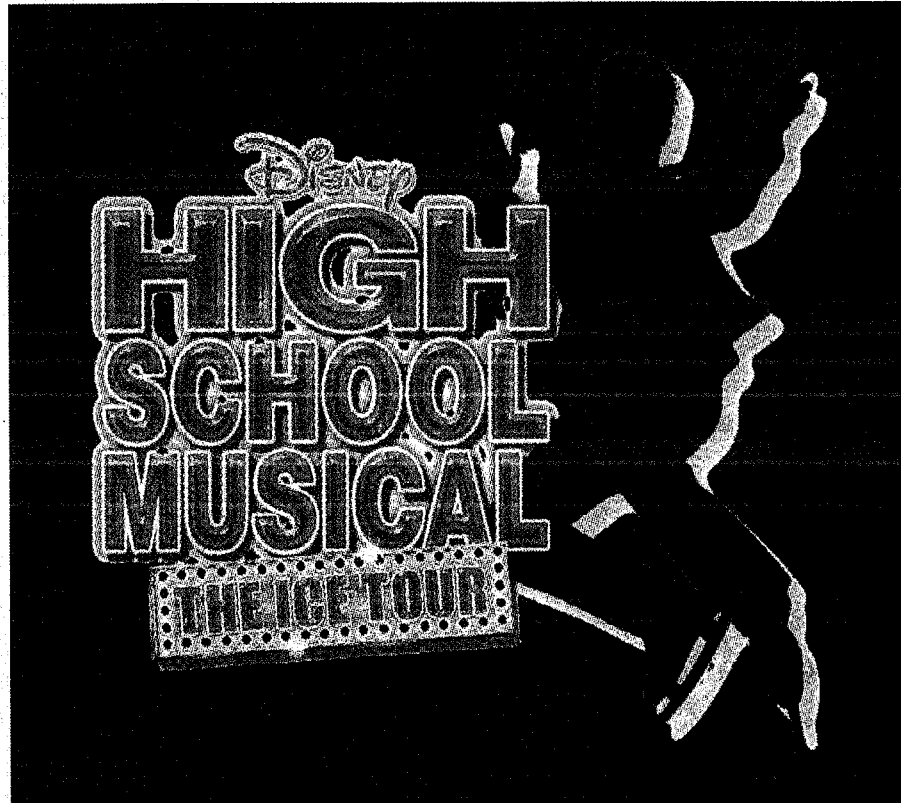
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SPORTS



(CP)

Sunday, December 9, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

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

Salem ices Plymouth with 6 unanswered goals

Sidelines

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Instead of packing it in Friday night against Plymouth, Salem's hockey team decided to pile it on.

Trailing 3-1 early in the second period, the Rocks reeled off six unanswered goals then hung on to post an 8-5 victory over the cross-campus rival Wildcats in a game played at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

Salem improved to 2-3 while Plymouth slipped to 3-2.

"It was a big win for us, especially after getting mercied last Friday (in an 8-0 loss to Livonia Franklin)," said

Salem coach Ryan Ossenmacher. "A lot of teams probably would have packed it in after falling behind 3-1 like we did, but the boys kept working hard and it paid off with a win."

The No. 1 star of the game for the winners was junior Sam Ott, who lit the lamp four times and added an assist.

"Sam played really well tonight," noted Ossenmacher. "He had quite a few chances on the power play and he capitalized on most of them."

Kyle Zink complemented Ott's effort with four points of his own — one goal and three assists. Nick Gennety, Kurt Driscoll and Joel Cheesman also net-

ted goals for the Rocks, who outshot Plymouth, 33-26.

Eric Fiorentino compiled 21 saves for the Rocks. Ryan Schultz took the loss in net for Plymouth as he stopped 25 shots.

Jake Jossey led Plymouth's offensive attack with two goals and an assist.

Jerry Pitts, Ricky Cigile and Justin Gilliam also scored goals for the Wildcats.

Trailing 7-3, Plymouth mounted a late comeback with back-to-back goals to cut its deficit to 7-5.

Salem derailed the rally, however, with a late empty-netter.

STEVENSON 5, CANTON 0: Pat McHugh made

20 saves and John Vella had a pair of goals and one assist to lead unbeaten Livonia Stevenson to a 5-0 win Friday night over host Canton at the Arctic Edge.

Mike Voran and Ryan Baratono each chipped in with a goal and assist for the Spartans, who improved to 6-0 overall with the Western Lakes Activities Association crossover victory.

R.J. Kierdorf completed the scoring for the Spartans, who jumped out to a 3-0 first-period lead and held a five-goal advantage after two periods.

Canton (4-3) used two goalies as Zane Birchler played the first period before giving way to Kevan Swanberg.

Stone's the main man in Rocks' win

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

There wasn't much Garden City could have done to stop Salem's Grant Stone Friday night.

The 6-5 senior forward scored five points in the opening 36 seconds of the Rocks' non-conference varsity boys basketball game at Garden City and he barely slowed down from there. Stone poured in 36 points, 20 in the first half, to power Salem (1-1) to an impressive 69-50 triumph.

"It was a tough matchup for us, but he's a pretty athletic kid," said Cougars' head coach Greg Williamson, whose team lost its third non-league game of the opening week. "He did some nice stuff. They got the ball to him in some good scoring positions and he knows how to finish shots."

Salem head coach Bob Brodie said Stone and the rest of his team came out focused and ready to play — unlike Tuesday's season-opening loss at Redford Union.

"Our game against Redford Union, we didn't play too focused or composed," Brodie said. "Tonight we were composed."

Another positive for the Rocks was adjusting their offensive game plan from the RU contest. "We started to share the ball a lot better." But Stone's dominant play from start to finish really was the story of the night, followed by the Cougars inability to hit field-goal attempts (30 percent; including just 2 of 16 from three-point range).

"He's a very versatile player, he can get it from the outside or the inside in transition," Brodie continued. "Teams are going to key on him, we know that and we talked about it."

"The thing is you just have to rise to the occasion. He did a nice job tonight, he made some tough shots."

Some of his better ones included a sharp-angle jumper from the side of the key and a no-look, over-his-head layup that turned out to be the final bucket he made in the game.

Stone also pulled down 11 rebounds (tied with teammate Ross Davis, who scored nine points) and contributed three assists plus a steal. Although Stone stole the show, there was a subplot for much of the evening. Both teams traded scoring runs during the first half, which ended with Salem leading 28-21. Stone's "throws" keyed a 9-2 Salem run to open the game, but the Cougars did not quit. They went on an 8-0 surge to begin the second, with junior guard Ron Pummill scoring all seven of his points during that span, giving Garden City a brief 17-14 lead. The Rocks answered with a 10-0 string, including eight by Stone, and they never trailed again.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Ross Davis hauls in a rebound in front of Garden City's Joe Felice during Friday night's non-conference basketball game. The senior forward finished with nine points and 11 boards.

Senior duo leads Chiefs past Trojans

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Barnum & Bailey may have the "Greatest Show on Earth," but Canton's Sharma & Bailey put on a pretty darned good one Friday night against Monroe.

PREP HOOP

Seniors Chris Bailey (21) and Neil Sharma (20) combined for 41

points to lead the Chiefs to a rousing 62-41 victory over the visiting Trojans in a contest that was relatively close until the waning moments of the third quarter when Canton reeled off an 8-0 run.

The triumph evened Canton's record at 1-1 while Monroe slipped to 0-2.

Bailey made up for lost time with his stellar 21-point, seven-rebound effort after spending most of his junior season as a seldom-used reserve on the Chiefs' 17-7 District-winning squad.

"Chris Bailey was amazing tonight," said Canton coach Dan Colligan, praising one of the players who helped him notch his first varsity coaching victory. "He had a great practice yesterday and followed it up with a great game tonight. I'm really proud of the way he played."

"We've been encouraging Chris to be more aggressive because when he's aggressive he doesn't have time to worry about making mistakes. He's a high-character kid who played

Please see CANTON, B4

High school rec basketball league

The Plymouth-Canton School District's Community Education Basketball League (CEBL) will be forming a high school boys recreational basketball league.

A player evaluation and draft will take place in mid-December with games set to begin in January at High Velocity Sports in Canton.

The entry fee for each player is \$100, which includes a jersey, practices, a minimum of 10 games (all played on Saturdays) and an NCAA-style tournament.

To register, send an e-mail to cebel@pccs.k12.mi.us, pick up a registration form at High Velocity Sports or visit the Community Education office, which is located at Tanger Center, 40260 Five Mile Road in Plymouth.

Prep wrestling previews coming

The three P-CEP wrestling teams will be featured in a special preview story that will be published in Thursday's edition of the Observer.

Plymouth 'Y' hoop

The Plymouth YMCA's winter basketball leagues are now forming for kids between the ages of 4 and 14.

The winter session will run from Jan. 14-March 14 with one practice and one game per week.

The league fee is \$77 for program members or \$109 for community members. All participants will also need to purchase a YMCA youth sports reversible jersey for \$15.

Programs are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, visit www.ymcadetroit.org; or contact the Y office at (734) 453-2904.

Pitch, hit & learn

Ex-Major Leaguers join Velocity Baseball Academy staff

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

There were no professionally staffed, mound-equipped indoor baseball facilities around when former Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Ken Howell was growing up in the 1970s.

"If it wasn't snowing and you couldn't find a snowball fight, you couldn't get your arm loose during the off-season," quipped Howell, a native of Detroit.

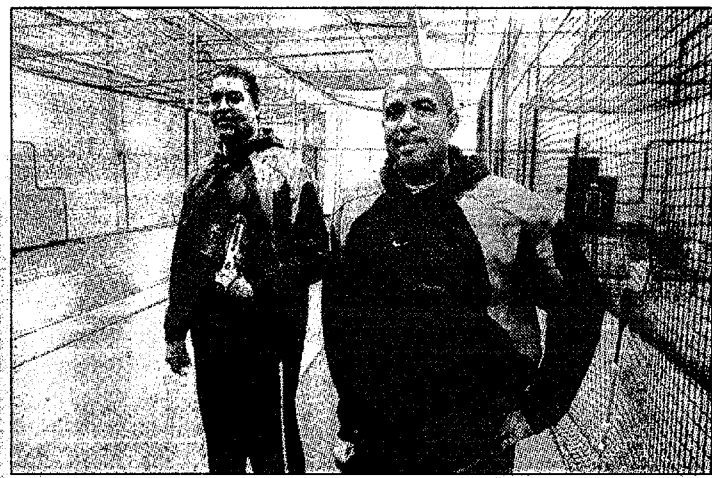
How times have changed — for the better, as far as baseball-loving kids are concerned.

With the recent opening of the Velocity Sports Performance Baseball Academy — the place where Howell and former Detroit Tiger Bruce Fields will serve as lead instructors — there are now at least four baseball-related indoor facilities within a 40-minute drive of

Please see VELOCITY, B2

ASK THE PROS

Velocity Sports Performance Baseball Academy instructors Bruce Fields and Ken Howell have generously agreed to field baseball instruction-related questions from Observerland readers. If you have a question you'd like to ask them, e-mail the question, along with your name and the city you live in, to Sports Editor Ed Wright at ewright@hometownlife.com. The questions will be forwarded to Fields (hitting) or Howell (pitching). The questions and answers will then be published in a future Observer sports section.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Former Major League baseball players Ken Howell and Bruce Fields are two of the instructors at the recently opened Velocity Sports Performance Baseball Academy, located on Michigan Avenue in Canton. Howell, a native of Detroit, is currently the bullpen coach for the Los Angeles Dodgers and Fields, a Lansing native, is the hitting coach for the Cleveland Indians.

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VELOCITY

FROM PAGE B1

Plymouth and Canton.

"With the emergence of these indoor baseball facilities, players can take a month off after their season ends then fire it right back up again," said Howell, who was recently promoted to serve as the Dodgers' Major League bullpen coach. "This place is ideal because we do mostly one-on-one instruction, so it's not loud and the kids can be more receptive to what we're trying to teach them."

"Plus, we have extra-wide and extra-high batting cages so the kids can get a better idea of how they're hitting the ball. We have raised mounds and flat-ground mounds, too, so all the age groups are covered."

Fields, who is currently in his second year as the Cleveland Indians hitting coordinator, has been instructing young hitters off and on since the mid-90s.

After persevering through nine years in the minor leagues, he played parts of three seasons at the Major

League level with the Tigers and Seattle Mariners. From 2003-05, he served as a member of the Tigers' coaching staff during the Alan Trammell era.

So what attracted him to Velocity?
"I started bringing my son here because I had heard so much about the outstanding sports-performance training programs they had at Velocity," said Fields, who lives in Detroit. "After I talked to Mo (Farha) and his staff one day, they found out what I did and they said they wanted to talk to me about something."

"Mo told me they had this space here and they wanted to use it specifically for baseball training. They asked me if I'd be interested. The more we talked, the more sense it made."

Fields emphasized that youngsters who attend hitting and pitching sessions at Velocity will learn much more than just the finer points of swinging and throwing.

"There's much more than just learning about mechanics of hitting and pitching here," said Fields. "Kenny and I pass on to the kids the knowledge we've accumulated over the

years that can help give them a competitive edge.

"It's not like we just say, 'OK, you have to hit like this, stand like this, deliver the ball like this.' We help them out with other things that they could come up against while they're trying to perform — anything from dealing with jealousies from teammates to the proper mindset they should have when they step on the field. Our lessons are all-inclusive — we teach them whatever it takes to help them become better ball players."

The academy will still be operational once Fields and Howell head south to Spring Training in February as three other instructors — Ann Arbor Pioneer coach Jordan Banfield; and former Madonna University players Todd Kalmbach and Jeremy Stevens — are on staff.

"In the spring and summer, they're going to bring the pitching machines in here so that teams that are traveling can come in here and take some swings before their games," said Howell. "With the (Canton Sports Center) fields back there, it creates a nice loop and makes for a perfect player-development environment."

One 30-minute session with Fields or Howell costs \$50. Five-session packages are \$240. Sessions with Banfield, Kalmbach and Stevens are \$35 (five for \$155).

Every youngster who signs up for at least one session will receive one free sports-performance lesson at Velocity, Fields said. To schedule sessions, call (734) 485-2561 or visit www.velocitysp.com/canton. The academy is located inside the Arctic Edge Ice Arena.

No rest (or losses) for the weary

Salem earns 2 wins in 2 nights over tough opponents

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

With back-to-back games Thursday and Friday nights, there was no time to practice during the latter stages of this past week for Salem's girls basketball team.

But with the way the Rocks are playing, who needs practice?

Salem improved its record to 3-0 Friday night with an impressive 56-44 triumph over visiting Brighton. The Bulldogs slipped to 2-3.

The winners were bolstered by strong efforts from a trio of players: senior guard Alaya Mitchell, who racked up 19 points, five steals and five assists; junior forward Victoria Brotz, who contributed 15 points; and junior forward Chelsea Davis, who notched a double-double with 13 points and 14 rebounds.

Jennifer Bisaro led the Bulldogs with 10 points.

"We got off to a nice lead (Salem led 18-10 after one quarter), but then they ran us down in the second quarter and got it down to three at one point," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "It was give and take in the third quarter, but in the fourth 'Mitch' made a couple baskets and she was 5-for-5 from the free throw line."

Thomann said he couldn't be much happier with how the Rocks have come out of the blocks this season.

"We opened with a pretty good Ann Arbor Huron team, then played back-to-backs against Mercy and Brighton,

GIRLS PREP HOOP

both of which have good programs, so absolutely I'm pleased to be 3-0," he said. "I was especially happy with the way we played tonight with no rest and no practice."

Salem led 31-22 at the half and 40-30 with eight minutes to play.

The Rocks rocked at the free throw line, draining 13-of-17 (76 percent) while the Bulldogs connected on 9-of-16 shots from the charity stripe.

PLYMOUTH 61, B'HAM SEAHOLM 20: On Friday at Plymouth, the Wildcats improved their record to 1-3 with a convincing triumph over the Maples (1-2).

Juniors Shaakira Haywood and Kelsi Robinson paced the winners' attack with 17 and 15 points, respectively. Robinson had an incredible shooting night from the perimeter as she buried five three-point shots.

Plymouth surged to a 26-6 first-quarter lead and never looked back, building margins of 37-9 at the half and 52-14 after three quarters.

The winners nailed 12-of-18 free throws (66 percent) while the Maples connected on just 4-of-9 freebies.

SALEM 36, F.N. MERCY 34: On Thursday in the Salem gymnasium, the Rocks overcame a 32-25 deficit over the final 4:37 to improve their record to 2-0.

Senior guard Alaya Mitchell provided the late-game heroics when she converted a driving baseline layup with 2.6 seconds left, but it was a couple of "and-one" efforts from her team-

mates that set the tone for the comeback.

With Salem trailing 32-25, Sarah Stone swished a three-point shot while getting fouled. She made the free throw to cut Salem's deficit to 32-29.

Thirty-seven seconds later Mitchell banked in a driving layup to cut it to 32-31.

After a Mercy hoop extended the visitors' lead to 34-31, Chelsea Davis knotted the score at 34-31 with an old-fashioned three-point play with 32.9 seconds left.

Mitchell's winning layup was set up when Stone stole a Marlin pass near mid-court and dished the ball to her streaking teammate.

A long desperation pass by Mercy was intercepted by Davis.

Mitchell led Salem with 13 points and six steals. Davis contributed 11 while Stone added nine.

Salem led 11-10 after one quarter and 19-17 at the half before Mercy stormed back to seize a 28-24 advantage heading into the fourth quarter.

Tracy Whalen paced the Marlins with 11 points and eight rebounds. Jordan Mueller chipped in with 10 points.

"We weren't happy with the energy level during our last game, which is something we talked about at practice on Wednesday," said Mercy coach Gary Morris, whose team dropped to 3-1. "Tonight, playing against a very good team, I felt the girls were competitive and didn't back off at all."

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

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: December 9 & 13, 2007

0608574834

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE JANUARY 15, 2008 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that **DECEMBER 17, 2007**, is the last day registrations can be accepted in order to be eligible to vote in the above stated election to be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2008. Registrations will be accepted at the Township Clerks Office, 1150 South Canton Center Road, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Registration can also be made at any Secretary of State Office or State Designated Agency. Persons with special needs who are unable to register in the above mentioned manner are urged to contact the Clerk's Office at 734-394-5120. Mail-in registration postmarked by **December 17, 2007** will also be accepted.

Terry G. Bennett
Clerk

Publish: December 9 & 13, 2007

0608574851-2 x 3

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its REGULAR December meeting Tuesday, December 18, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tape of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary
Plymouth District Library
223 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
734-453-0750
X217

Publish: December 9, 2007

0608601991

EXTRA SPACE STORAGE

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, December 17, 2007 Tate & Co. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: EXTRA SPACE STORAGE, 6729 N. CANTON CENTER RD., CANTON, MI 48187 AT 12:30 P.M.

Tijuana Williams Unit A004 Auto - Speaker & Booster (4ft. x 1 ft.), Household speaker, Household Audio Booster, 2 Vacuum cleaners, Bag with PS2 controllers in it, Small Microwave, RCA Television 11", Home Satellite Dish & Mount, Digital Camera, 16+ Boxes, Bags & Totes of misc. household goods.

Elite Media Unit I 325 18 Coin Operated News Stands, 1 Colman Cooler, 1 Door and Jamb, 8 Industrial Grade Palettes, 2 Plastic Industrial Grade Palettes, 3 partitions for office cubicles, 10+ Misc. wire magazine/newspaper holders.

Tijuana Williams Unit H300 1+ Full Bed Mattress/Box Spring Set, 1 Cream faux leather sofa, matching loveseat & chair, 1 Chest of drawers and matching night stand, 1 Ab lounge, 1 shrink-wrapped buffet or dining table, 1 3x3x3.5 upright freezer, 2 Superman fishing rods, 1 Hot Pink fishing rod, 2 Coffee tables, 35+ Boxes, bags & totes of misc. household goods, 1 Black leather love seat, matching lounge chair & ottoman, 4 Dining table chairs, 2+ Bed frames, 1+ plastic chairs & many other misc. household goods.

Publish: December 2 & 9, 2007

0608673478-2 x 5

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CHANGE REGULAR ELECTION DATE

Please take notice that pursuant to the provisions of the Consolidated Election Law, as amended, the Board of Education of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan will conduct a public hearing on the establishment of a new regular election date pursuant to law. The school district currently holds its regular election annually in May.

School districts that currently elect their board positions on dates other than the odd-year November election date can reestablish their regular election date on any of the following dates:

- Odd Year May election date
- Odd Year November election date
- Even Year November election date
- Annually on the November election date

The School Board is examining the establishment of the School District's regular election date on one of the above four options.

Establishment of one of the four above options will result in the term of office of current school board members being extended to fit the new election cycle.

The hearing will be held in the EJ McClendon Educational Center at 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan at 7:00 o'clock in the p.m. on the 11th day of December, 2007.

If the Board of Education fails to approve the tentative election date or any other date authorized by law, the regular election will continue to be held at the May general election annually, continuing with May 2008.

The Board of Education is authorized by law to adopt a resolution setting the regular election date immediately subsequent to the public hearing.

Publish: December 9, 2007

0608571129-2 x 5.5

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a **Bid for Site-work at Starkweather, Canton, and Salem High Schools**. Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Associates, Inc.** will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith Inc.**, 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI, 48335 or (248) 427-8400; FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit; and the Builders Exchange, Lansing.

There will be a pre-bid meeting at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at the site office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, located at Salem High School, 46181 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187. The site trailer is located behind the school. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the bidding requirements, schedule, project scopes of work, and to answer any question that bidders may have. **Bidders are strongly encouraged to attend.** This Bid Package will consist of separate sealed bids for the following Bid Divisions:

- 102: Asphalt Paving / Exterior Concrete
- 107: Steel Rails
- 143: Electrical
- 148: Landscaping

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Security in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to the Plymouth Canton Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract. Bid securities may be in the form of a Bid Bond or Certified Check.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith Inc.** with the corresponding bid division identified on the outside of the envelope. All submissions should include 1 original and 1 copy and the Proposal Execution Form provides a space for the bidder to disclose any familial relationship as required by the State of Michigan and this form must be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted. **Bids are due to the PCCS E.J. McClendon Educational Center on or before 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 19, 2007 where they will be opened and read publicly.** These projects are to be bid and the work performed at the Prevailing Wage Rates. For additional information, phone Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
Steven Sneiderman, Secretary

Publish: December 9 & 16, 2007

0608673329-2 x 7



ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth will accept sealed bids until 2:00 PM, EDT on Wednesday, December 19, 2007, at 201 South Main Street, at which time all proposals received shall be publicly opened and read aloud for:

Air/Grease/Oil Reels

Specifications, bid documents, and proposal forms may be obtained from office of the Purchasing Agent during regular office hours.

The City Commission reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole, or in part, and to waive any irregularities.

Address bids to:

LINDA LANGMESSER, CMC/AAE
PLYMOUTH CITY CLERK
201 SOUTH MAIN STREET
PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

In a sealed envelope bearing the inscription:

Air/Grease/Oil Reels For Opening: Wednesday, December 19, 2007

If you have any questions or if you would like to view the existing equipment, please contact:

Gary Lindsay
Chief Mechanic
Municipal Services Department
(734) 453-7737

Publish: 12-9-07

060857446-2 x 5

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a **Bid for Site-work at Field Elementary School**. Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Associates, Inc.** will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith Inc.**, 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI, 48335 or (248) 427-8400; FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit; and the Builders Exchange, Lansing.

There will be a pre-bid meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 4, 2007 at the main office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.** at the location above. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the bidding requirements, schedule, project scopes of work, and to answer any question that bidders may have. **Bidders are strongly encouraged to attend.** This Bid Package will consist of separate sealed bids for the following Bid Divisions:

- 101: Earthwork / Site Utilities
- 102: Asphalt Paving / Exterior Concrete
- 143: Electrical
- 148: Landscaping

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Security in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to the Plymouth Canton Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract. Bid securities may be in the form of a Bid Bond or Certified Check.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith Inc.** with the corresponding bid division identified on the outside of the envelope. All submissions should include 1 original and 1 copy and the Proposal Execution Form provides a space for the bidder to disclose any familial relationship as required by the State of Michigan and this form must be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted. **Bids are due to the PCCS E.J. McClendon Educational Center on or before 2:00 p.m., Thursday, December 13, 2007 where they will be opened and read publicly.** These projects are to be bid and the work performed at the Prevailing Wage Rates. For additional information, phone Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
Steven Sneiderman, Secretary

Publish: December 2 & 9, 2007

0608673144-2 x 7.5

'Miss Volleyball' Abron spearheads multi-talented group

FIRST TEAM
OH/MH - KYNDRA ABRON SR, LIVONIA CHURCHILL: Abron's "Miss Volleyball" title says it all about how outstanding the powerful front-row player was in 2007. Chargers coach Mark Grenier rightfully described Abron as the state's most-dominant player and Churchill volleyball's "most accomplished athlete."

The statistics and accolades speak for themselves. Abron tallied 800 kills to finish her career with 2,020 (eighth in state history) and amassed 37 kills in her final match of the year (third all-time in the state).

The Michigan State-bound Abron earned first-team All-State honors for the second consecutive year, was selected to the MIVCA Region 18 team and made the Western Lakes All-Conference team for the third time. During her Churchill career, the Chargers went 109-15, with Abron's play a major factor.

S - CHRISTINA SEWARD, SR, GARDEN CITY: The senior added to her school career record in assists with 1,154 (surpassing the 4,000 total) and she was instrumental in the Cougars excellent regular season and district championship win over Westland John Glenn.

Cougars head coach John Pace described Seward as "the heart and soul of our offense" the past four seasons.

"She leaves an enormous pair of shoes to fill and leaves a legacy of what is now expected of a setter at Garden City."

Seward capped off her excellent prep career with selection to the All-Mega Red and All-Region 18 teams.

MH - BECCA REFENES, JR., LUTHERAN WESTLAND: Refenes collected 406 kills, 114 solo blocks, 274 digs and 52 aces, showing her versatility.

"Becca is an outstanding all-around player who can change the flow of any game," said head coach Kevin Wade. "She is a great leader and a great team player."

Not only did Refenes impress Wade, she made a positive impact with enough volleyball people to earn conference MVP, Region 18 and first-team All-State honors.

OH - JORDAN KIELTY, SOPH., CANTON: The 10th-grader enjoyed a phenomenal season, registering a team high 333 kills, a 22.3 kill percentage, 31 blocks, 224 digs and 59 service aces. She earned All-WLAA and All-Region accolades.

"Jordan is an outstanding all-around player — you'd never know she was a sophomore," said Canton coach Jen Barnes. "She works hard every day and was a major contributor to our success this season. We look forward to the next two years with her growing as a player and being a leader on the court."

2007 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

FIRST TEAM

OH/MH - Kyndra Abron, Sr., Liv. Churchill
 S - Christina Seward, Sr., Garden City
 MH - Becca Refenes, Jr., Luth. Westland
 OH - Jordan Kielty, Soph., Canton
 MB - Marie Martin, Sr., Canton
 L - Lindsey Graciak, Jr., Liv. Churchill
 MH - Brittany Holbrook, Jr., John Glenn
 S - Jansan Falcusan, Jr., Salem
 OH - Rachel Heaton, Sr., Plymouth
 L - Shadedha Greeley, Sr., Redford Union
 OH - Katey Ramthun, Jr., Luth. Westland
 OH - Kristen Nalezcz, Jr., Churchill
 DS/L - Shannon Pietruszka, Jr., Garden City
 MH - Catherine Phillips, Sr., Liv. Ladywood

SECOND TEAM

MH - Meg Infrate, Jr., Liv. Stevenson
 S - Briana Beyer, Jr., Plymouth
 OH - Loran Stenzel, Jr., Redford Union
 OH - Stephanie Stevens, Soph., Garden City
 OH - Kelly MacDonald, Jr., Salem
 S - Kacy Moran, Jr., Canton
 OH - Kirstin Kirk, Sr., John Glenn
 OH - Jill Stabey, Sr., Salem
 S - Allison Patra, Sr., Redford Union

THIRD TEAM

DS - Jordan Kerr, Sr., Liv. Churchill
 S - Julie Rhodes, Sr., Liv. Ladywood
 OH - Amanda Quartz, Jr., Garden City
 S - Sara Ross, Sr., Ply. Christian
 MH - Ashley Price, Sr., Liv. Franklin

S - Megan Schulz, Sr., Red. Thurston
 OH - Lauren Adlof, Sr., Huron Valley Lutheran
 OH/S - Amanda Moody, Sr., Clarenceville
 OH - Kaylee McGrath, Jr., Liv. Stevenson
 OH - Mandi McManus, Sr., Plymouth

COACH OF THE YEAR
 Jen Barnes, Canton

HONORABLE MENTION
 Garden City: Danielle Campbell, Kellyn O'Brady, Danielle Sweeney.
 Redford Union: Brittany Dupree, Sarah Sanders, Mirabuz.
 Thurston: Bobbie DeBoit, Kelli Mages.
 Ladywood: Ashley Hines, Rachael Fuller, Alendra Mirabuz.

John Glenn: Aranda Phare, Stacey Truskowski, Churchill: Jackie Griebek, Shannon Warner, Jessica Stroud.
Franklin: Brianna Taylor, Brittany Taylor, Liz Holloway.
Stevenson: Natalie Fenech.
Clarenceville: Katie Blacker, Amber Mills.
Lutheran Westland: Julie Jongsma, Lauren Gieschen, Allyson Yankee.
Huron Valley Lutheran: Emily Helwig, Sarah Schaffer, Kayla Stockdale.
Plymouth: Kate Spangler, Lindsay Jewett, Ashley Beczsko.
Canton: Hannah Mills, Lauren McPartlin, Ellie Kenny.
Salem: Alyssa Matchette, Kerry MacDonald, Nicole Mergel.
Plymouth Christian: Miriam Monroe.

MB - MARIE MARTIN, SR., CANTON: The senior, who is headed to Madonna University with a scholarship to play volleyball, broke her own school record for blocks in a season with 111. She notched 234 kills and served at a 92.6 percent success rate. Martin earned All-WLAA and All-Region honors. "Marie was a huge asset for us in the front row," said Barnes. "She was great on the quick attacks and her blocking was even better. Marie has been a wonderful varsity player for the past four years. She will truly be missed."

L - LINDSEY GRACIAK, JR., CHURCHILL: The Chargers' offense usually featured Abron at the end of the line. But Graciak's strong passing and defense usually had a lot to do with Abron getting those opportunities to score. "One of the reasons why we had so much success this season was because of what Lindsey could do passing and playing defense," said Churchill coach Grenier. "Our offense ran through Lindsey's ability to transition from serve-serve and defense into offense."

Named to the WLAA all-conference and Region 18 teams, she serve-received over 680 balls at a staggering 94 percent pace and averaged 4.5 digs per game. Graciak also ranks third all-time at Churchill in digs with 579.

MH - BRITTANY HOLBROOK, JR., JOHN GLENN: Called a "triple threat" by her coach for how well she hits, serves and defends, Holbrook nearly stole the district final from Garden City with her brilliant performance.

Holbrook had an excellent season throughout, too, with 462 kills, 77 serving aces and an average of five digs per game. Postseason honors included team MVP, WLAA-All

Conference and Region 18 selections. "She is our 'go-to' girl and has carried the load for (John Glenn) on offense all season long," said Rockets head coach Julian Wargo. "I expect her to only get better as a senior."

S - JANSAN FALCUSAN, JR., SALEM: A three-year varsity player, Falcusan has earned the distinction as one of the best setters in the state. She rarely left the court for the Rocks and often hit the floor in search of scintillating digs. A two-time All-WLAA performer, she was voted the team's most valuable player.

"Jansan has just been a great athlete for our team the past three years," said Salem coach Amanda Suder. "She's one of the best setters in the state of Michigan. She's very athletic and can play anywhere we need her on the floor. She did a great job of running the team this year."

OH - RACHEL HEATON, SR., PLYMOUTH: Heaton had a sensational senior year for the Wildcats as she was a fixture on the court. She was as effective in the back row finishing off kills as she was digging out would-be kills.

"Rachel was our best all-around player and the one we looked to when we needed a big play," said Plymouth coach Kelly McCausland. "She performed well wherever she played and was a major reason for a lot of the success we had this year."

L - SHAHEDA GREELEY, SR., REDFORD UNION: Aggressive and dependable at libero all season was Greeley, who keyed RU's co-title in the Mega White.

She earned team MVP honors as well as selection to the All-Mega White squad and Region 18 team after tallying 821 defensive digs, along with 930 serve-serve passes and 80 serving aces. "Shaheda is what you look for in a

libero," said RU head coach Rachel Clor. "She is quick to get to the ball and is great at reading a hitter. She was key to starting our offense (by) making great defensive and serve-serve passes."

OH - KATEY RAMTHUN, JR., LUTHERAN WESTLAND: Consistently solid all season, Ramthun helped the cause with 169 kills, 42 solo blocks, 270 digs and 58 aces. Her efforts earned her all-conference first-team and Region 18 honors. "Katey is a great complement to Becca (Refenes) in the middle," Wade said. "Just when the other team exhales as Becca goes to the back row, Katey comes in and takes advantage of their lax approach."

OH - KRISTEN NALECZ, JR., CHURCHILL: Strong and athletic, Nalezcz emerged this season with 1,065 attacks, 426 kills and selection to the WLAA-Lakes and Region 18 teams.

"Kristen is very strong, she jumps extremely well and has developed a couple of great shots," said Chargers coach Grenier, who expects more of the same from her in 2008.

DS/L - SHANNON PIETRUSZKA, JR. GARDEN CITY: Almost spectacular in the back row against opponents heavy hitters, Pietruszka made just 61 errors in 963 serve-serve opportunities (93.6 percent) and averaged nearly seven digs per contest (with a total of 876). Pietruszka received selection to the All-Mega Red and Region 18 teams.

"Shannon is the most-aggressive defensive player I have ever coached," said Cougars coach Pace. "She covers more floor and is not afraid to sacrifice her body to make the dig."

MH - CATHERINE PHILLIPS, SR. LIVONIA LADYWOOD: The hard-hitting Phillips averaged three kills per game and was solid in all phases of her play, said Blazers head coach Erin Craggs.

"Catherine was our most-consistent attacker all year," Craggs said. "She was an all-around player (and) we relied on her to make big plays."

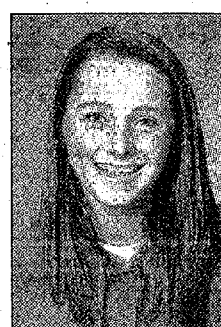
For her efforts, Phillips was named to the Region 18 squad.

COACH OF THE YEAR
JEN BARNES, CANTON: In only her second year as the head varsity coach, Barnes led the Chiefs to a spectacular season, which included a Western Lakes Activities Association Western Division crown. Her leadership helped the team perform admirably in several talent-laden tournaments throughout the course of the season.

"We worked very hard last year with our workouts at Velocity Sports and with individual training at practice," said Barnes. "A lot of our success was due to the efforts of my assistant coaches — Rob Barnes (Jen's husband) and Mary Kryska — and the girls worked hard to learn our new offense and defense."



Kyndra Abron Churchill



Christina Seward Garden City



Becca Refenes Lutheran Westland



Jordan Kielty Canton



Marie Martin Canton



Lindsay Graciak Churchill



Brittany Holbrook John Glenn



Jansan Falcusan Salem



Rachel Heaton Plymouth



Shaheda Greeley Redford Union



Katey Ramthun Lutheran Westland



Kristen Nalezcz Churchill




Shannon Pietruszka Garden City



Catherine Phillips Livonia Ladywood




Jen Barnes Canton Coach



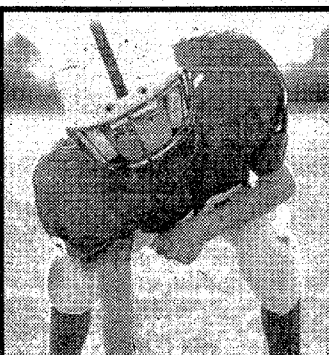
WINTER 2

January 2 - February 29
 Registration Deadline: December 16



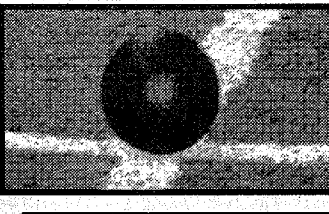
Indoor Soccer

Team Fee: \$950
 Free Agent Fee: \$95
 Team Fee (Under 5-Under 8): \$600
 Free Agent Fee (Under 5-Under 8): \$65




Flag Football

Team Fee: \$950
 Free Agent Fee: \$95
 Elementary, Middle, High School and Adult Leagues



Dodge Ball

Team Fee: \$450






DETROIT IGNITION FUTSAL

U8-U19 Boys and Girls TOURNAMENT: December 16th
 Team Fee: \$200
 U8-U19 Boys and Girls LEAGUES: Start January 2nd
 Team Fee: \$750
 4 Players + a Goalie

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 Professional Indoor Soccer

What Ignites You?


vs. La Raza de Monterrey

Saturday, December 15 7:35 pm



Bring a non-perishable food item to the game to be donated to Gleaners Food Bank.

After the game, join Ignition players, coaches, dancers and staff members at Ginger Restaurant (8465 N. Lilley Road in Canton - Inside Golden Gate Shopping Center)




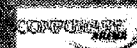


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Plymouth's perimeter skills could give teams headaches

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

BOYS PREP HOOP PREVIEW

Students aren't allowed to bring cell phones into Plymouth High School, but members of the Wildcats boys basketball team will still be dialing long distance frequently during the next four months.

A roster stocked with talented perimeter shooters should make coach Tom Van Wagoner's quick and athletic squad a threat to stretch opposing defenses beyond the three-point arc this season.

"Our biggest strength right now is that we can shoot the three, really well," said Van Wagoner, who is ready to embark on his fourth season as mentor of the Wildcats' varsity program. "It's amazing how well we've been shooting so far in scrimmages and in practice."

"This team seems to have good chemistry. The boys have been meshing together really well. I'm looking forward to the season."

Plymouth endured an up-and-down 2006-07 campaign during which they compiled a 7-13 record. Ten of the 20 games were decided

by four or less points.

Eight players return from last year's roster, most notably three-year varsity point guard Brandon Roberts, a 6-foot-1 senior co-captain who averaged 14 points per contest last year and was voted onto the Western Lakes Activities Association's All-Western Division team. Roberts likes to have the ball in his hands during crunchtime, which was evident last year when he hit a pair of buzzer-beating, game-winning triples — one from the deep corner against Livonia Franklin.

The Wildcats' other co-captain is 6-1 senior David Harvey, who offers baseline-to-baseline hustle, above-average defensive skills and valuable leadership abilities.

Six more seniors will provide Van Wagoner with skill and depth: 5-10 guard Dan Jeong, who averaged over 13 points during the final four games last year; 6-4 swingman Navraj Sandhu, who "brings double-digit firepower to the mix," according to Van Wagoner; 6-0 senior guard Chris Daniels; 6-4

forward Mike Hanchett, who is probably the team's most notable threat in the post; 6-1 guard Andy Price; and 6-1 forward Garrett Rebin.

Among the squad's talented newcomers include senior Gage Cuppetilli, a 6-1 leaper; and juniors Brad Lineberry, a 6-1 guard who looked impressive during a late-season call up last winter; Michael Rose (6-2), Jordan Jones (5-10); Eric Wilhelm (6-2); and junior transfers Jordan Jones (5-10) and Zack Hamed (6-2). As usual, the Wildcats' pre-WLAA schedule will be challenging.

"We start the season with three teams — Southgate Anderson, Dexter and Redford Thurston — that won 18 games last season, so it will be a difficult early schedule," said Van Wagoner. "Conference play should also be interesting with more league-wide balance. John Glenn is the team to beat in the Lakes while Wayne Memorial — with speedy Mike Lee and 6-10 Jeremy Lovelady — the favorite in the West."

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

Chiefs hope to offset graduation losses with daily improvement

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

BOYS PREP HOOP PREVIEW

Canton's boys basketball team has some big Nikes to fill this season — 10 pair to be exact.

That's how many seniors graduated from last year's highly accomplished squad that captured the school's second straight Class A District title and a first-place showing in the Western Lakes Activities Association conference tournament.

The mass exodus of quality players — including three-year varsity standouts Steve Paye and Ryan Waidmann — will be offset to some degree by the return of 6-foot-4 senior swingman Neil Sharma, who was one of the top players in the Western Lakes Activities Association during the final month of the 2006-07 season, and a crop of returning players who may lack varsity playing experience but not the talent that could keep the Chiefs in contention for a third straight District championship.

"Our goal this year is to improve every practice and get better in every game," said first-year Canton coach Dan Colligan, who served as the Chiefs' junior varsity strategist for four years prior to being hired in May. "We have great team chemistry — this is a great group of kids. I feel privileged to be a part of this program and I'm looking forward to the season."

Sharma was one of the primary reasons the Chiefs managed to register an impres-

sive 17-7 record last year following a rough 0-4 start. He blended his post-player size with guard-like ball-handling skills to average 18 points and nine rebounds during the post season last year. He also shot a blistering 83 percent from the free-throw line.

"Neil's a three-year varsity player, so he's very smart and he's a great leader," said Colligan. "Neil's not only a very skilled player, but he's a fierce competitor. He's listed as a forward, but we'll move him around a lot depending on the situation."

Sharma will be joined in the starting line-up by a pair of seniors — 6-5 forward Will Tidwell and 6-0 shooting guard Brody Coplai, both of whom served as reserves on last year's title-winning unit.

"I'm expecting a very good year out of Will," said Colligan. "He's really stepped up and is a lot stronger, and he has a good jumper."

"Brody is a team leader who is a good shooter and a good defensive player."

A pair of athletic 5-11 seniors — Ryan Seely and Chris Bailey — are battling for the starting small-forward slot, according to Colligan.

"Both Ryan and Chris are very aggressive players who have a lot of offensive skills," the first-year coach said.

"Ryan's very good around the basket and Chris is a good offensive rebounder who has a way of finding his way to the

basket."

The point-guard duties will be shared — at least early in the season — by a pair of juniors: 6-0 Kyle Biega and 5-10 Marlan Glenn, who transferred to Canton from Belleville.

"Kyle is a great passer while Marlan has more of an attacking style," Colligan noted.

The Chiefs' reserve unit will be led by juniors Dan Stoney, a 6-2 forward, and Sherif Hassanien, a 6-0 guard.

"Dan is a high-energy player who plays hard all the time," said Colligan. "Sherif can shoot and handle the ball."

Other key reserves include senior Donald Haron, a 6-0 guard who transferred from Wayne Memorial; 6-5 junior forward Joel Schwiebert, a proven rebounder; 5-11 junior guard Zach Deloy, one of the most improved players on the Chiefs' roster, in Colligan's estimation; and 6-2 junior forward George Muresan, a top-notch defender in the paint.

Colligan listed Westland John Glenn and Northville as teams he expects to be tough in the WLAA this season.

"John Glenn was very good last year and they have quite a few returning players," he said. "And in our division, you have to start with Northville. They won 20 games last year and they have a lot of talented guys back."

The Chiefs open their home slate Friday when they host Monroe. The opening tip is set for 7 p.m.

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CANTON

FROM PAGE B1

with a lot of passion tonight."

Bailey's most jaw-dropping play of the night came with 2:34 left in the third quarter when he converted a driving layup with Monroe's Aaron Bowman literally hanging on his back. He then canned the ensuing free throw to expand his team's lead to 42-34. Monroe never got closer the rest of the evening. Canton led 11-10 after one quarter, 32-26 at the half and 47-34 with eight minutes left.

"We're getting better every day, which is our main goal right now," said Colligan. "Some of the things we didn't do very well in our opener against Pioneer on Tuesday we did well tonight."

Monroe, which dropped its opener 60-36 on Tuesday to Saline, was led by Doug Schorer's 13 points and Mike Basanak's 10.

The Trojans hit just 16-of-55 field goals (29 percent), which

wasn't close to getting it done against the red-hot shooting Chiefs, who found the bottom of the net on 22-of-47 attempts (46 percent) from the floor.

Led by Bailey's 8-of-9 effort, the Chiefs sparked from the line as well, hitting 13-of-16 (81 percent). Monroe ripped the nets on 8-of-13 free throws. Ryan Seely added six points to Canton's cause while Kyle Biega chipped in with five.

DEXTER 59, PLYMOUTH 44: On Friday at Dexter, the Dreadnaughts jumped to a 35-18 halftime lead and were never threatened in the second half thanks to sharp-shooting guard T.J. Fenske, who registered 26 points. The Wildcats slipped to 0-2. The game was the season opener for Dexter.

"They shot so well — they were 20-for-41 from the floor — and we had a hard time locating on the perimeter," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. "They did a good job of finding space for Fenske and he kept sticking his jumpers."

"We were only 5-of-25 from

threes, which didn't help us."

Plymouth outscored the Dreadnaughts, 26-24, in the second half, but it was too little, too late. Senior guard Brandon Roberts paced the 'Cats with 12 points. Senior forward Navraj Sandhu and junior guard Brad Lineberry both registered seven.

The Wildcats sizzled from the three throw line, canning 11-of-13 attempts (84 percent) while Dexter sank 12-of-19 attempts.

PARKWAY CHRISTIAN 49, CANTON AGAPE 37: On Friday in Sterling Heights, the hosts outscored the Wolverines 19-6 in the decisive fourth quarter to pull out the victory. The setback dropped Agape to 0-2 following Tuesday's 66-47 loss to Redford Covenant. The Wolverines were hampered by cold shooting from the floor as they managed to connect on just 10-of-51 field goals (19 percent). They shined from the free throw line, however, sinking 16-of-20 (80 percent).

"Parkway is an excellent defensive team," noted Agape coach Keith Anleitner.

Talented Rocks strive for consistency

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

BOYS PREP HOOP PREVIEW

Dazzling, athletic and explosive — all three adjectives fit the Salem boys basketball team's profile heading into the 2007-08 campaign.

Unfortunately, another word creeps into the conversation occasionally when Rocks coach Bob Brodie discusses this season's contingent — inconsistent.

"Sometimes we look like one of the best teams I've ever coached," Brodie said, "but they'll be other times when we don't look that good. We'll show flashes of brilliance, then we'll get careless with the ball. We're a little inconsistent right now, but this is a very athletic team with good size and we have some experience returning."

The Rocks lost six seniors from last year's 10-11 squad, including key role players J.P. Truesdell, Kevin Burleigh, Mike Marek and Brian Baumgart. However, their top two point producers — 6-4 All-Conference swing forward Grant Stone and 6-4 leaper/sharp shooter Ross Davis — are back along with starting point guard Anthony Mullins, an exciting 6-0 junior.

"Grant's a very versatile player — he can play inside and out," said Brodie. "He's good at getting to the basket and he can hit the outside shot."

"Ross averaged 10 points a game last year and he was our best rebounder (9.0 a contest), but we need a little more consistency out of him. He's really come ready to play so far this year. If he does that all season, he'll be a force for us."

Mullins, who was the Salem football team's top running back this fall, is a threat at both ends of the court.

"Anthony is a very strong, take-charge type of guard," said Brodie. "He started last year as a sophomore, so that experience will help him this season."

A pair of seniors will round out the Rocks' starting five: 6-5 forward Matt Dybas and 5-10 guard Tyler Jeleniewski.

"Matt is a very strong, solid, smart inside player who has a nice shooting touch," said Brodie. "Tyler is the steady quarterback of the team. He's a good floor leader who has a good shooting touch."

Among the first players off the bench will be 6-1 junior

guard Heath Parling and 6-8 post player Courtney Frazier, who may have the widest wing span in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"Heath is a very competitive player who has a lot of moxie," said Brodie. "He's been the starting varsity quarterback for the past two seasons, so not much fazes him."

"Courtney is strong, quick and is a good leaper. Once he figures out this game, he could be a dominating player."

The Rocks' reserve unit will also be bolstered by 6-2 junior forwards Joe Posler and Jim Dexter, both of whom played instrumental roles in last year's JV squad's 15-5 season; senior Jesse Pointer, a 6-3 post player with good shooting range; 6-0 junior swing forward Alex Murray; and 6-2 junior forward Jugdeep Singh.

Brodie's squad will be looking to unseat last year's Lakes Division champ Westland John Glenn, which like Salem returns a strong nucleus of players.

"Every year this conference seems to get better and better from top to bottom," the veteran mentor said. "There aren't any teams you can take lightly."

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WHO'S YOUR TIGER?

Drug helps prevent bone loss

Denise from Orchard Lake e-mails asking about her elderly mother. Is there anything she can do to help her mom live longer.

First, make sure your mother is getting some physical activity each day and

that she is eating right. She may also want to ask her doctor about the osteoporosis drug Reclast. Researchers studied more than 2,000 people from all over the world. Their average age was 74. They found those who were treated once a year with the bone drug saw a 28 percent lower death rate and 35 percent fewer hip fractures.

More than 300,000 hip fractures occur in the United States each year. One in five elderly victims die within one year of breaking their hip.

Jennifer from Bloomfield Hills e-mails saying her son does not want to go to bed at night. She is worried he is not getting enough sleep. Should she be concerned?

Jennifer, sleep is very important for everybody, but for kids, the lack of sleep may actually cause them to gain weight.

A study at the University of Michigan found for every additional hour per night a third-grader spends sleeping, reduces the child's risk of obesity by 40 percent. Researchers say the magic number is nine hours and 45 minutes. And if children slept more than that it lowered their risk of obesity significantly. Parents, turn off the television and computer, get up and exercise with your children, and make sure they are eating healthy snacks and meals. And get them to bed early tonight!

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



Peter's Principles

Peter Nielsen

Emergency preparedness

Surgeon trains to treat mass casualties

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Jeffrey Schock seemed less concerned about his safety than the materials found inside a rocket that landed near the road he was taking into the Israeli city of Sderot in early November. Until then his intense training in emergency and disaster management had consisted only of trauma simulations. The explosive device was real and could have been used by terrorists in Israel or the U.S.

"We pulled over to get a first-hand look at what was happening, the police and military securing off the area. What was interesting there were fragments of the rockets, all kinds of screws and nuts," said Schock of Farmington Hills. "They put all sorts of shrapnel inside so when it explodes it's a population killer as well as a military weapon."

This was one of the harshest lessons Schock learned during the five-day course in emergency and disaster preparedness organized by the Israeli Ministry of Health, the Medical Corps of the Israel Defense Force, and the American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel. Men, women and children live with the threat of death and bodily harm every minute of every day in Sderot.

As a physician Schock knew nothing about the practices of Israeli first responders until he and 33 other American and Canadian physicians and health care professionals participated in drills for non-conventional warfare, visited hospitals and medical centers equipped for emergencies, and listened to lectures which not only taught them how to care for victims of terrorist attacks in Israel, but prepare for emergencies back home. Schock is a urologic surgeon at Garden City Hospital and Botsford Hospital, and sees patients at Tri-County Urologists in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. He is also vice chairman of urology at Botsford Hospital.

"We need in the United States to have a greater awareness and not forget the lessons of 9/11 and realize we have to have a constant state of preparedness for a mass casualty event," said Schock. "There are improvements we can make in the United States for hospital preparedness. One concept is scoop and run. Visualize if you're the first responder to a mass casualty event. You don't treat on the scene because there is often a second explosive device intended for hospital personnel. You get them on an ambulance and take them to a hospital or medical center. Here first responders attempt to resuscitate the patient to some degree."

From 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Schock went from hospital to hospital, region to region for extensive courses with paramedics, military and hospital coordinators, and volunteers of Magen David Adom (the Israeli equivalent of the American Red Cross), and visited a military base where they train to handle mass casualties caused by rocket attacks and biological and chemical warfare. He plans to share this knowledge with the staffs at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills and Henry Ford Macomb Hospital in Warren.

"We trained in suits for chemical warfare in case there's a chemical agent used like mustard gas it provides you a degree of protection with oxygen circulating," said Schock. "It's very challenging treating a patient with those heavy materials with a protection suit on and not just treat a chemical attack or anthrax, but recognize there's always a possibility. One patient I was talking to him and noticed he had a little rash consistent with botulism poisoning where the body becomes paralyzed."

Besides medical simulations, physicians and health care professionals were briefed on psychological effects.

"We had the opportunity to speak to the population," said Schock. "It's the psychological trauma on



This chemical warfare suit with circulating oxygen would protect Dr. Jeffrey Schock in case of a nerve gas attack.

children, parents and society as a whole. We were able to interview some of them. One lady's house was destroyed and (she) lives in a shelter. We visited a school. What was amazing is life goes on as normal, but you don't know what goes on inside, how do they cope with the threat of rocket attacks.

"What I saw when I landed in Tel Aviv Ben Gurion Airport was that it's a very modern society living as if everything is normal. They conduct their lives very similar to the way we do in the United States with the knowledge that they could become involved in a terrorist activity."

By quarter after 7 last Monday morning Schock was introducing himself to the patient being prepped for surgery and giving direction to the team he'd be working with in the OR at Garden City Hospital. As a surgeon Schock said the course helped him to be able to immediately respond while treating patients back home. Still he hasn't forgotten

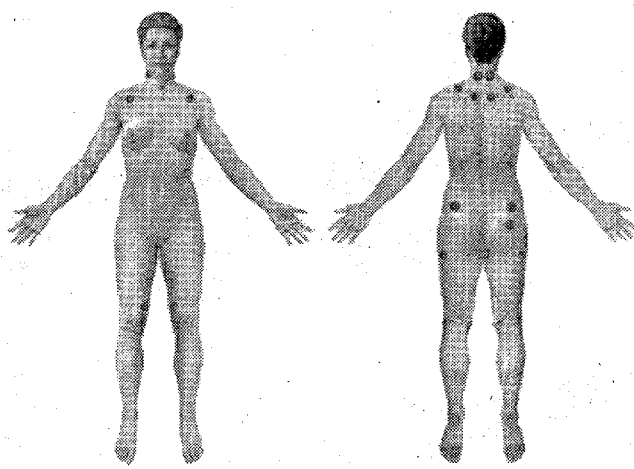
Israel where rocket attacks continue to devastate lives. He's planning on returning in June for two weeks to volunteer in one of the southern region hospitals where he'll see patients and perform surgery using the latest urological procedures for pelvic pain, incontinence, sexual dysfunction as well as cancer.

"I'd like to see other professionals participate," said Schock. "The course is designed so they're able to call me up when they need help treating mass casualties. It's not only designed for that but to help to prepare you as an American physician in the event of a 9/11."

For more information, visit afimed.org. The American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel is an organization dedicated to training Israeli physicians and healthcare professionals, and nurturing ties between the American and Israeli healthcare communities.

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- Anxiety/Depression

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- Often Misdiagnosed or Underdiagnosed
- FMS/CFS is a REAL Disease

FMS/CFS CAUSES

- Central Nervous System Dysfunction of Pain Signals
- Triggered by Infection or Trauma

FMS/CFS DIAGNOSIS

- Diagnosed by a Physician Experienced in Recognizing Symptoms and Its Variations
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- Address Any Other Aggravating Conditions
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FMS/CFS TREATMENT

- Sleep Regulation (with medication and/or alternative methods)
- Physical/Manual Therapy
- Stress Management, Cognitive Therapy, Biofeedback
- Trigger Point Injections
- Nutritional & Supplement Guidance
- Lifestyle Modifications
- Exercise, Yoga/Meditation



Left to Right: Rande Berson, Lisa Becker, Irene Metro, MD, Jennifer Teed, Jingfei Huang, Chris Griffin, Jeffery Allen

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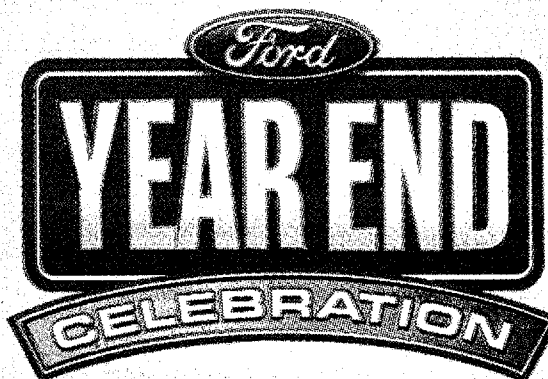
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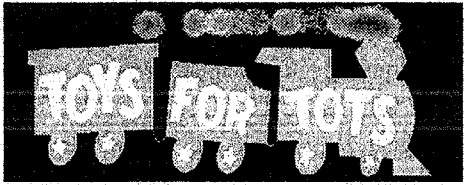
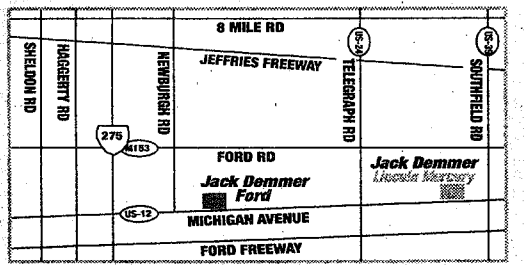
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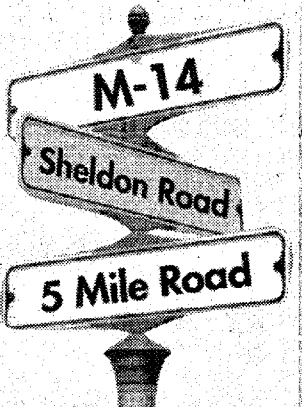
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A time for giving

This is a tough year for nonprofits which help the poor in our communities. Not only have they seen an increased need for food, clothing and services due to job losses and foreclosures, but giving is down for those same reasons.

JA'NOAH HOUSE

Still, Audrey Mattson is hopeful she'll be able to fill the wishes of children in the Brightmoor, Cass Corridor, Brewster Projects and Norwayne area of Westland. Although Mattson's husband Carl died earlier this year, their family is helping carry on the work of the couple's Ja'Noah House in Livonia. Call (734) 522-5077 if you can lend a hand or donate.

"We especially need clothes for boys and girls up to age 10, and especially gloves, even adult gloves to give to the homeless," said Mattson, who's also hoping to brighten the Christmas of girls and boys by including little extras like dolls, cars and trucks.

CAPUCHIN SOUP KITCHENS

Sister Nancyann Turner needs warm socks for the children in the Rosa Parks tutoring and art program at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen on Conner. Call (313) 822-8606, ext. 21, if you can contribute. Turner said while people are looking hard for jobs, they're hard to find these days.

"People never think of socks, hats and mittens or if people want to give grocery store and gas cards, anything that's an educational game and jigsaw puzzles less than 200 pieces," said Turner, a Dominican nun from Livonia. "Or sweat-shirts. It helps keep them warm when the heat's down. And kits that include tape and plastic for sealing windows for weatherizing."

Brother Vincent Reyes could use caps, gloves and coats for kids at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen on Meldrum. The items will be distributed Thursday-Friday, Dec. 20-21. The Capuchins hope to give coats to at least 2300 children. To help, call (313) 579-2100, ext. 203.

"It's unusually cold for this time of year," Reyes said. "When they come into the soup kitchen, they have time to be warmed, but when they leave they're on their own."

FIRST STEP

Theresa Bizoe doesn't want to sound crass, but First Step needs cash donations to help women and children affected by domestic violence and sexual assault. To help or if you're in need of help, call (888) 453-5900 or visit www.firststep-mi.org.

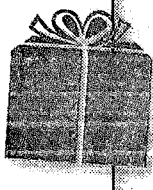
"We encourage people to give gift cards so moms can pick out gifts for their kids. Sometimes we have teenage kids and there may be nothing for a 14-year-old, or to buy things for the shelter, or grocery store cards to buy formula for a baby with special needs, or they could donate gas cards. Lots of times we have to transport

Please see GIVING, C3

Special childhood memories sought

Do you still think about the toy train you received one year as a kid or a doll house your dad made? *The Observer Newspapers* wants to hear about the special gift you received as a child for Christmas.

On Dec. 23, the Hometownlife section will feature our readers' memories. Send your story to hgallagher@hometownlife.com or *The Observer Newspapers*, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, Attn: Hugh Gallagher. The deadline for receipt is Monday, Dec. 17.



Holiday magic

Picture books delight children of all ages

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

It's a magical time of year when the latest children's books tell stories about magic beads and cats who share their Christmas lists. These Michigan authors, illustrators and publishers offer a treasure of tales for the holiday gift giving season.

'RACHEL AND THE MAGIC BEADS'

Beth Conway never dreamed of writing a children's book. She was only trying to help ease a young boy's pain over a recent move when she sat down with Johnny Buchanan to bring to life the story of his sister, *Rachel and the Magic Beads*. While the authors reveal Rachel is a very special girl, the reader has no idea she has Down syndrome until the last page. Conway said she was trying to show that Rachel was just like any other 12-year-old girl.

"It's a very sweet story. These are magic beads. When you're sad, you shake them," said Beth Conway of Livonia.

Conway could have used magic beads to find Virginia Bosak to illustrate the book. For 18 months, the story languished until one day Conway met the Livonia artist while she was hanging a show. The two decided to self-publish the book, which was printed in Canada by Friesens. They'll sign copies 3-6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, at Avalon Faire, 195 W. Nine Mile, Suite B2 in Ferndale; 20 percent of the proceeds will be donated to the Belle Center in Chicago, which supports the

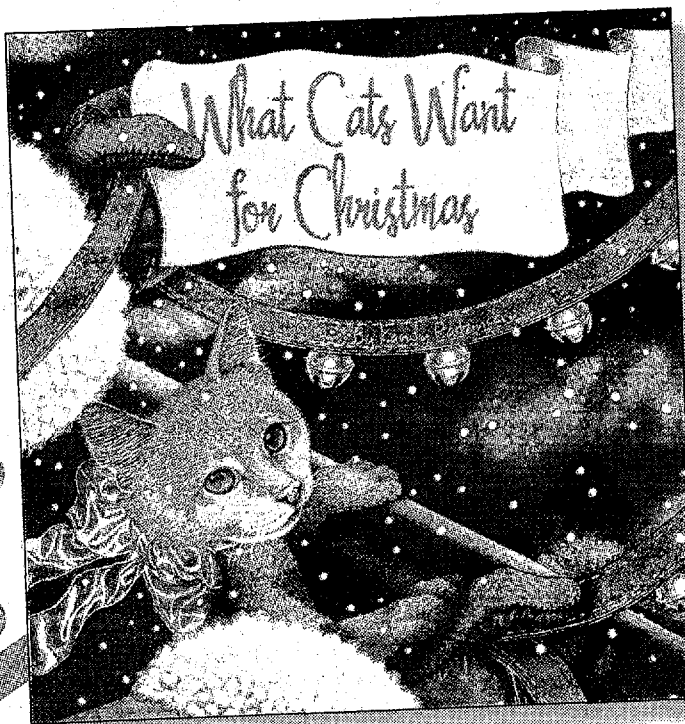
rights of all children to be fully integrated in the community. Rachel has been mainstreamed throughout her school years. For more information, visit www.rachelandthemagicbeads.com. The book costs \$7.99 and comes with green beads.

"I love the book," Bosak said. "Everybody who reads it is touched by it."

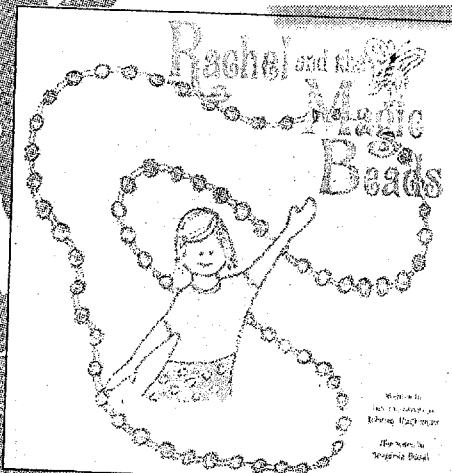
'WHAT CATS WANT FOR CHRISTMAS'

Even though Kandy Radzinski lives with two Scottie dogs, her latest book whimsically reveals *What Cats Want for Christmas* through a cast of feline characters, including one that wants a big silver dish

Please see BOOKS, C2



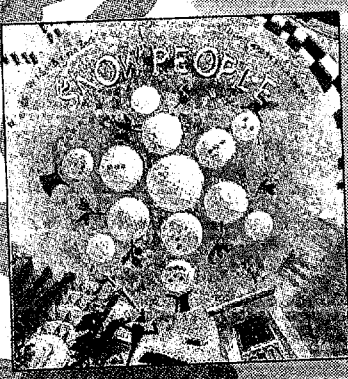
What Cats Want for Christmas by Kandy Radzinski



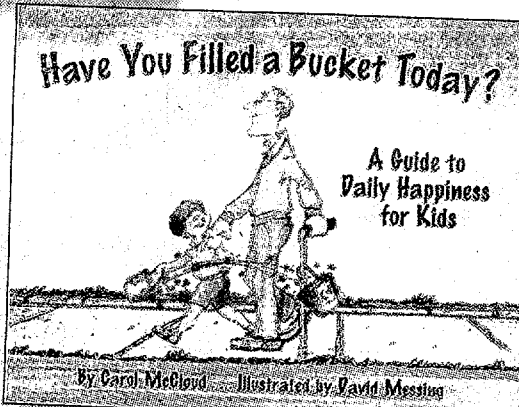
Rachel and the Magic Beads by Beth Conway and Johnny Buchanan with illustrations by Virginia Bosak



The Christmas Boot by Lisa Wheeler with illustrations by Michael Glenn Monroe



Snowpeople by Rick and Ryan Zeeb with illustrations by Trish Burgio



Have You Filled a Bucket Today? by Carol McCloud with illustrations by David Messing

Finnish American Singers go home for the holidays

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

The smell of fresh baked cookies is sure to put the audience in the holiday mood for the Finnish American Singers Dec. 16 concert at the Finnish Cultural Center. The goodies go on sale before the concert and are followed by a smorgasbord of Finnish food so the community can experience a taste of Finnish culture. The audience can then settle back to hear Finnish carols.

Ilene Yanke orchestrated the afternoon. She is president of the choral group which hopes to raise funds so that they all can go on singing. Yanke has baked up Finnish prune tarts along with Dee Aebersold of Beverly Hills.

Aebersold has been a member since the

A FINNISH CHRISTMAS

What: Finnish American Singers perform a concert featuring Finnish carols as well as classical music
When: 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16
Where: Finnish Cultural Center, 35200 W. Eight Mile, between Newburgh and Gill, Farmington Hills
Tickets: \$10. For information, call (248) 478-6939.

group was known as the Loon Lake Singers back in the 1980s.

"I remember when members only sang in Finnish except for *The Star-Spangled Banner*," said Dee Aebersold, who is proud of being 100-percent Finnish.

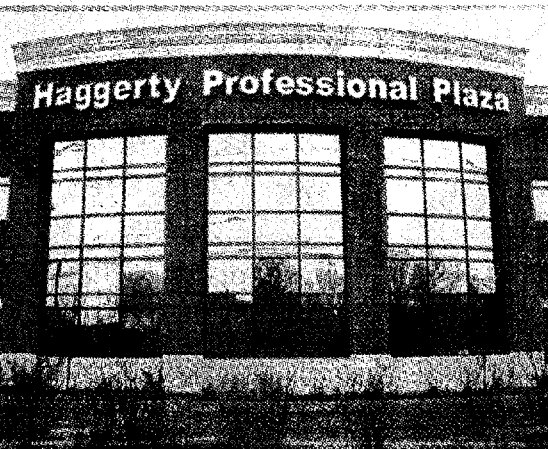
Aebersold learned to bake Finnish

Please see FINNISH, C3



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Members of the Finnish American Singers, from left, Maire Vint, Ilene Yanke, Diana Haefelan, Dee Aebersold, and Birgit Kuck hold a sample of some of the Finnish baked goods that will be available at their upcoming concert.



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Elizabeth Druckery and Arienne Baugh of Faith Lutheran Church display one of the blankets the church group sewed for the Soldiers Angels organization.

Piece Makers become Soldiers Angels by sewing blankets

Women of Faith Lutheran Church in Livonia sewed and constructed 15 blankets that were shipped to Soldiers Angels in California.

Soldiers Angels is an organization started by a military mom whose son told her that some soldiers/Marines do not get mail so she created Soldiers Angels and set up a Web site (soldierangels.org) with information on all the ways people can help.

When the blankets arrive at Soldiers Angels in California they are put in a first response back pack which consists of a change of clothes, underwear, sweatshirt, calling card, toiletries, and blanket of Hope that go out directly to the combat support hospitals on the ground

in Iraq and Afghanistan. The addition of the blankets make it personalized and are the highlight of the back packs.

The women of Faith Church attached a note to each blanket stating their name, Piece Makers of Faith Lutheran Church, address and e-mail address so the soldier/Marine can relate to a person or group.

The Sunday before the blankets were shipped Pastor Robert Carr offered a prayer asking that the blankets bring love and comfort to those receiving them.

Materials for the project were provided by members of the congregation and through a grant from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, a Fraternal Organization.

BOOKS

FROM PAGE C1

filled with little silver fish. Radzinski just finished painting a watercolor of a Scottie for next year's *What Dogs Want for Christmas* to give her canine housemates equal time since her book, *The Twelve Cats of Christmas*, was also about those independent creatures.

"I think I chose cats because they're pretty and they happened to be in my head at time," said Radzinski, who lives in Oklahoma.

Sleeping Bear Press (www.sleepingbearpress.com) in Chelsea published the book.

'WINTER'S GIFT'

Jane Monroe Donovan's book, *Winter's Gift*, was released three years ago, but continues to be a best seller in the Sleeping Bear Press catalog. It is the first book Donovan's written, although she's illustrated five others.

"I think it remains popular because it's not about materialism. *Winter's Gift* is a different message — it's relationships that are really important," said Donovan, of Pinckney. "My grandparents were the models. They had a good marriage."

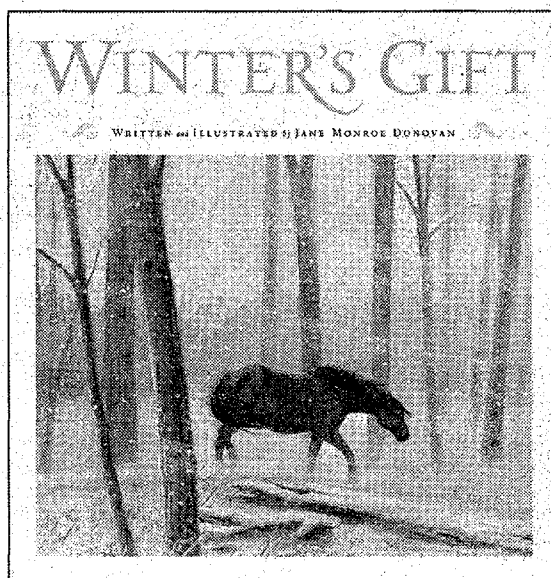
Donovan said her ideas "came in bits and pieces" for the book about resuming life after the death of a loved one.

"I was sitting at an ice rink with my son. You can really imagine being cold, what the horse felt," Donovan said. "It's as much for adults as children. I think maybe older people get one thing out of it if they've lost somebody in their life, it's the idea of having hope. When I read the story to young kids, they're more concerned with the horse being OK, although they do seem to get the connection with the star."

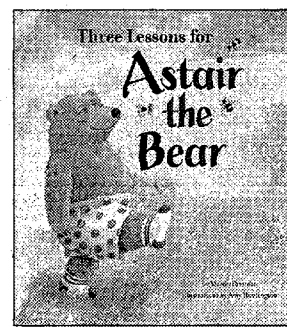
'THE CHRISTMAS BOOT'

The message for Lisa Wheeler's book, *The Christmas Boot*, came to her while working at a toy store. Illustrated by Michael Glenns Monroe, *The Christmas Boot* is the 24th book Wheeler's written. It was published by Mitten Press in Ann Arbor (www.mittenpress.com). The story is about a woman who finds a magic boot that answers all her wishes, until one day an old man appears to take it all back.

"You see so much materialism and it's so sad," said Wheeler, of Trenton. "Here was a woman who was given all this and she



Winter's Gift by Jane Monroe Donovan



Three Lessons for Astair the Bear by Martin Brennan with illustrations by Amy Huntington

didn't need it. She needed someone. All she wanted was someone to talk, someone who could love her back." It's no surprise, since Wheeler is a "huge dog lover," that the woman in the story finds love in the eyes of a puppy.

'THREE LESSONS FOR ASTAIR THE BEAR'

Martin Brennan hopes readers have as much fun as he did rhyming all the lines in *Three Lessons for Astair the Bear* from Mitten Press (www.mittenpress.com). The book was illustrated by Amy Huntington.

"The book came from the words themselves," said Brennan, of Howell. "I had the beginning in my head — "There was once was a bear named Astair who woke up and said I don't care." I wanted it to have some humor and conflict. I hope they laugh a little bit, if they scratch their head and reflect on what happens with anger or if it can raise some questions at the very least that they find it entertaining."

'FIRST SNOW IN THE WOODS'

Carl R. Sams II and Jean Stoick thought they were working on a book about fall when suddenly they came across a photograph of a fawn they'd followed through the first snow in Kensington Metropark a couple of years ago. The husband and wife team have taken more than 400,000 images of wildlife, so narrowing a storyline down isn't always easy. Their third book in a series about animals in the woods is about that fawn. For more information, visit www.carlsams.com and click on books.

"We're trying to teach lessons about nature to kids," said Sams, of Milford, who's won many awards with Stoick for their books *Stranger in the Woods* and *Lost in the Woods*. "The great grey owl generally winters in Canada, but when winters are too harsh, he comes down. The fawn has observed everybody preparing. He gets caught in the blizzard and thinks he's not prepared. The animals listen to that voice in their head. He learns to follow his heart."

'SNOWPEOPLE'

It was easy for Rick and Ryan Zeeb to write about *Snowpeople*, so when Saks Fifth Avenue contacted them the two brothers simply called on their childhoods in Michigan.

Although their careers later took them to southern California, they never forgot the winters.

Their story about snowpeople deals with diversity. The book, illustrated by Trish Burgio, is available at all Saks Fifth Avenue Stores and at www.saks.com. A portion of the proceeds go to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

"Saks has put out children's books before. They wanted it to be about snowflakes and snowpeople. We are musicians and have written a lot of songs together. I hope there is a message to be yourself," said Rick Zeeb, a cartographer (map maker).

'HAVE YOU FILLED A BUCKET TODAY?'

Carol McCloud's book on bucket filling continues to win awards for inspiring children and adults to do nice things for others. The latest honor was the 2007 Writer's Digest International Self-Published Book Awards. For more information, visit www.bucketfillers101.com.

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Bernard Kulas Jr C109 – tools, pressure washer, lawn equipment
Theresa Skowronski D104 – couch, dresser, table
Neakia Perry B128 – household items
Trina Haskins E134 – aquarium, big screen tv, household appliances
Gwendolyn Hill A273 – Household appliances; Totes, boxes

Publish: December 2 & 9, 2007

Arthritis Today

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The reason for remission is because of its cause. Rheumatoid arthritis results from the body making antibodies against itself. In rheumatoid arthritis these antibodies are directed against joints and their lining cells. If either medication, a change in the antibody producing cells, or some other event stops the production of antibodies, the arthritis will cease. Joint pain and swelling ends; the arthritis resolves; the need for medication stops.

This change is different from describing the arthritis as "endstage." When physicians use that term, they mean that the joints are so devastated there is nothing left for the arthritis to attack. In this case the doctor stops medication, but now the reason is because there are no joints left to save.

The possibility of remission in rheumatoid arthritis distinguishes this condition from osteoarthritis. Once a person experiences loss of cartilage, the hall mark of osteoarthritis, no way exists to restore the joint or reverse the course of further wear.

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PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Finnish American Singers rehearse for their upcoming holiday concert.

FINNISH

FROM PAGE C1

treats as a girl "when everything was made from scratch."

Like Aebersold, Charlotte Lytikainen's parents came from Finland. She has fond memories of the carols she heard at home.

"Singing Finnish songs is easy for me," said Lytikainen, who like Aebersold speaks Finnish. The 83-year-old Farmington Hills resident is baking Finnish cardamom cookies for the bake sale before the concert.

Director Henry Naasko is planning to bake Finnish cardamom cookies as well. He's especially excited about this year's concert.

"The theme is bells and almost all the songs have bells," said Naasko, who's of Finnish descent. "And this year for the first time in many years we have new members."

Diana Haefelin joined the singers about 18 months ago. She baked her first coconut hill (cocos makronen) in Germany. Although named the Finnish American Singers, several of the members come from various countries. Although Haefelin and Birgit Kuck were born in Germany, they met after joining the Finnish American Singers. Today, both live in Farmington Hills.

"I start baking before the first Sunday in December," said Haefelin, who sang in two choirs in Germany. She sings her first solo, *Christmas Tree*, at the Dec. 16 concert. "On Christmas Eve we get presents and the next day visit our families."

Maire Vint was born in Finland but grew up in Australia. She made gingerbread cookies in Scandinavian style. Like Haefelin and Kuck she celebrates on Christmas Eve.

"We have a candlelight dinner with Christmas carols playing the background," said Vint of Canton, "then gather around the Christmas tree."



Henry Naasko leads the Finnish American Singers through a song as the group rehearses at the Finnish Cultural Center in Farmington Hills.



A sampling of the Finnish baked goods that will be available at the Finnish American Singers upcoming concert.

Bill Gramzow experienced some of the Finnish traditions when he visited Finland with Yanke who stayed in the homes of her seven cousins there. The Ypsilanti pianist is inviting the community to taste the food and listen to the music as he accompanies the singers in concert.

"It's impossible to separate a Finn from their culture," said Gramzow, who grew up in Detroit and Redford. "The Finns live their culture. They want you to experience the food. They absolutely love their music."

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

GIVING

FROM PAGE C1

people to court," said Bizoe, associate director of First Step.

Bizoe says the shelter is almost always full, so it's crucial to keep it open to provide a safe haven. A couple of weeks ago, there were 30 children and their mothers staying at the undisclosed location.

Two upcoming benefits give the community an opportunity to have fun while helping others. On Wednesday, Dec. 12, IKEA in Canton opens its doors for a discounted shopping day (10 a.m. to 9 p.m.). The cost is \$10 at the door. All proceeds go to First Step. In return, shoppers receive a 10-percent discount.

Brian Duggan holds his 18th Charity Dance and casino night from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, Feb. 8, at Burton Manor in Livonia. Tickets are \$45. The dance is usually sold out, so Bizoe encourages supporters to buy tickets early at www.firststepcharitydance.org.

"Our counselors are looking for white noise machines to help block so other people can't hear the counseling going on, and a list of books we give to clients from our lending library," Bizoe said.

Linda Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact her at (734) 953-2145 or lchomin@hometownlife.com.

Volunteer a day of service

Beginning in January, a Day of Service and Spirituality will be made available by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center.

"This is an opportunity to examine one's faith," Brother Jerry, executive director of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, said. "Jesus gave us instructions on how to treat others. Due to busy schedules, individuals don't always have the opportunity to directly serve others or perhaps they don't know where to start. This is a good starting point. The purpose of the day is to serve, to meet, and to have one's faith grow."

The Day of Service and Spirituality allows groups to help at the Capuchin Services Center and dine with the guests at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. A tour of the Earth Works urban garden, which provides six tons of produce each season, will also be made available. The day concludes with a self-guided tour of the Solanus

Casey Center, a spirituality center dedicated to the Capuchin friar who is credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. Today, work is underway seeking sainthood for Father Solanus.

"This is an opportunity for a group to provide much needed help. It also provides an opportunity to put a face and a name to those they are helping. Everyone has their own story and something to share. This is an excellent opportunity to share and to listen to those who are often times ignored," said Brother Jerry.

The minimum age is 7th grade and the maximum size of the group is 30. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. There is no cost. Lunch is included. For more information, send e-mail to cerane@thecapuchins.org.

To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit www.cskdetroit.org.

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BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

When Robert Mazur's grandmother began having problems opening medication for her arthritis, the Ann Arbor man began toying around with ideas and came up with an opener. Mazur decided to appeal to cat and dog lovers by designing the device in the shape of these pet animals. After developing eight prototypes and receiving a student business grant from the University of Michigan, Mazur with the help of his brothers Michael and Jerry started a company, B.A. Maze, Inc. (Be Amazing!) based in Canton.

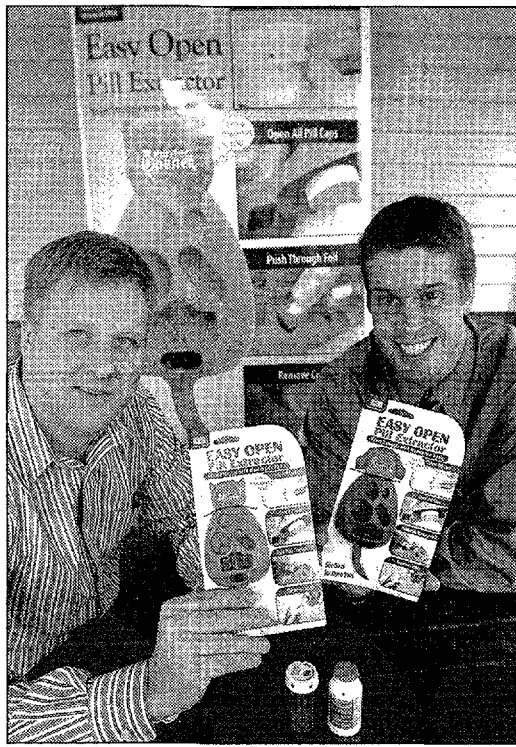
Today, the DogGone and PurrFect openers are available at all Meijer stores and cost under \$10. For information, visit www.purrfectopener.com or call (800) 708-6736.

Manufactured in Allendale near Grand Rapids, the product is shipped to Mazur who does all of the packaging with the help of friends and family.

"After the Tylenol scare of 80s they put all this packaging on that made it difficult to open," said Mazur, the 36-year old inventor and president of the company. "Our focus is health care products for independent living, to keep them independent in the home."

In addition to introducing a PurrFect Gripper during the first quarter of 2008, Mazur is working on expanding the flat area on the opener so companies can use the space for advertising.

"We filed three patents this year," said Mazur who received his mechanical engineering degree from Lawrence Technological University then worked in the automotive business. "We're trying to give them more of a selection. Any money



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Brace and Robert Mazur with the PurrFect and Dog Gone child-proof bottle openers.

we've made we've poured back into the company. We're not profitable yet because we're investing so much in research and development."

The company is taking a new direction with advertising as well by hiring Mike Brace as vice president of marketing and sales. Most recently Mazur and Brace have been out on the road approaching veterinarians and pet supply businesses with the hope of attracting animal lovers, but they still attend trade shows for groups such as occupational therapists.

"It's a new adventure," said Mike Brace, 37 of Plymouth. "It's for people with limited hand mobility."

WEDDING



Rzepka-Krass
Amy Marie Rzepka and Robert William Krass were married Oct. 26, 2007, at St. Edith Catholic Church in Livonia with Monsignor Michael LeFevre officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Colleen and Jerry Rzepka of Livonia. She is a 1999 graduate of Ladywood High School and a 2003 graduate of Albion College.

The groom is the son of Chris and Bob Krass of South Lyon. He is a 1998 graduate of Brighton High School and a 2002 graduate of Michigan State University.

The bride was attended by her sister, Erin Rzepka, who was the maid of honor, and her other sister, Kathy Rzepka, and her cousin, Kristin Vela.

The groom's brother, Jeff Krass, was the best man and his friends, Phinney Masoner and Ryan Stowers were the groomsmen.

A reception was held at St. Mary's Cultural and Banquet Center in Livonia. The couple will honeymoon in Kamalame Cay Island in January and make their home in Chicago.

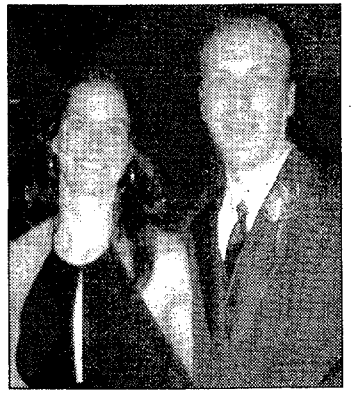
ENGAGEMENTS

Abraham-Hill

Bill and Karen Abraham of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Amanda Karen Abraham, to Michael Scott Hill.

Amanda is a 1998 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School. She earned a bachelor's degree in economics/accounting from the College Holy Cross in 2002 and a masters in teaching from Wayne State University in 2007. She currently teaches at Divine Child High School.

Michael is the son of John and Elaine Hill of Clinton Township. He graduated from Notre Dame High School in 1996. He earned a bachelor science degree in mechanical engineering from the



University of Michigan in 2000. He is currently an engineer at General Motors.

An August 2008 wedding is planned at St. Kenneth Church in Plymouth followed by a reception at the Mayflower Meeting House Grand Ballroom.

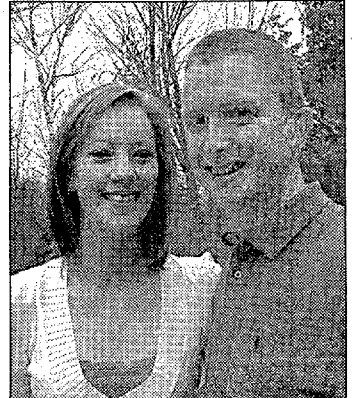
Lindgren-Kirby

Donald Lindgren of Farmington Hills and Laura Lindgren of Livonia join Michael and Karen Kirby of Gladwin in announcing the marriage of Amy Lindgren and Steve Kirby.

The nuptials will take place on Dec. 29 at The Silver Garden in Southfield.

Amy graduated from Farmington Harrison High School in 1999. She is a graduate of Western Michigan University and is now in her third year at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

Steve graduated from Frankenmuth High School in 1999 and is a graduate of



Western Michigan University. Steve received his master's degree from Marquette University in Wisconsin and is currently a lieutenant jg in the U.S. Navy stationed in Gulfport, Ms.

ANNIVERSARIES

Cassars celebrate 25th

Reno and Mary Cassar of Livonia celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Nov. 13.

In 1982, they were married at All Saints Church in southwest Detroit by the Rev. Richard Hartmann and honeymooned in Hawaii.

Reno works for GM Powertrain in Ypsilanti and Mary is employed by Gluski and Young in Dearborn Heights.

They have lived in Livonia for 21 years.

The Cassars have four children: Amanda, a student at



Western Michigan University; Paul, a student at Northwood University; Margaret, a senior at Stevenson High School; and Ila, a freshman at Stevenson.

A small celebratory dinner, including entertainment and karaoke was held at O'Mally's Bar and Grill in Livonia with their parents, Frank and Giovanna Cassar of



Woodhaven and Mike and Ila Mae Lancendorfer of Detroit, additional family members and close friends.

Bittingers celebrate 25th anniversary

Lee and Noel Bittinger of Canton are celebrating their 25th anniversary.

They were married Dec. 28, 1982.

The couple met at Ford Motor Co. when Lee hired Noel as a part-time engineering student. After a few months, Lee laid off the engineering students, including Noel. They dated for several years.

Lee says, "I hired her, then I fired her, then I felt sorry for her and took her in."

They received their real estate licenses in 1983 and have been in the real estate business ever since.

Lee and Noel love to travel and go on hiking trips. Last year they hiked to the Grand Canyon. Lee is an avid reader and history and archeology student. Noel loves adventure trips



and recently completed two marathons. The couple have no children but two Maltese dogs, Niles and Daphne. The couple will celebrate their 25th anniversary on a Nile cruise in Egypt with family and friends.

Celebration recalls Celtic traditions

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Mick Gavin fondly remembers decorating their home in Ireland with berry holly and wants to share the country's traditions so he's holding a Celtic Christmas Saturday, Dec. 15, at Monaghan K of C Hall in Livonia. Gavin feels a lot of folks have forgotten the original intent of the holiday to celebrate the birth of Christ.

"I feel it will bring in a lot of children into the Christian heritage. We hope to have a priest and revive some of the traditions," said Mick Gavin, a Redford fiddler who regularly produces Irish music and dance events.

"We'll have liturgical music, and nondenominational, a lot of Irish Catholics and Irish Protestants participating, Scottish songs and hymns. We have a Celtic cousin relationship with the Scots."

The evening's special musical guest is Wallace Hood of the Irish Rovers. Gavin and the 10-piece Crossroads Ceili Band play songs like The Bells of Belfast, Christmas in Killarney and Codaíl a Linbh (Sleep O Child).

"We'll have a Gaelic singer singing Silent Night and also have sheets of paper with the songs for a sing-a-long with the band," said Gavin.



Kelsey Lutz of Ann Arbor and Siobhan McKinney, Madison Heights perform at the Celtic Christmas on Saturday in Livonia.

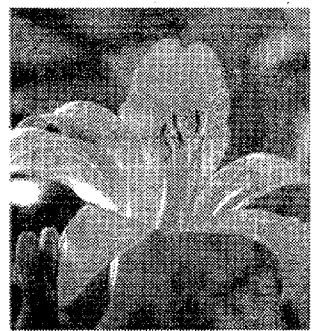
Along with Irish step and set dancing, instructors John and Kitty Heinzmann will teach the basics to anyone interested in taking a lesson. Proceeds from the \$10 sale of tickets at the door goes to the Heinzmann School of Dance and Comhaltas Irish School of Music which brings in teachers for master classes with students. Gavin said he "arranges these parties for the youngsters to perform."

"We'll have Irish Christmas cake from The Irish Baker in Livonia, and potato leek soup, beef stew, Mulligatawny soup, and Scottish brides and pies," said Gavin.

While the food and open bar

cost extra, Gavin will share his memories for free. "There were traditions like unlocking of the door and lighting of the candle (to welcome Mary and Joseph), and decorating the homes with berry holly," said Gavin who came to America in 1974. "When I was 12 and 14 I would sell it for a shilling a bundle. People in the city would love kids going around door to door. I remember seeing a huge berry holly tree one year but when we went back with our horse and buggy to cut it down the tree was gone. Someone beat us to it."

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Sister Mary Susan Duffy, RSM

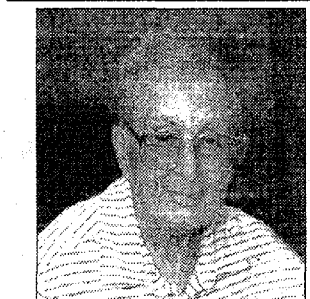
Sister of Mercy, Physician

(Farmington Hills, MI) - Sister Mary Susan Duffy, RSM, a Sister of Mercy for 43 years, died on December 7, 2007 at McAuley Retirement Center in Farmington Hills. She was 60. She was born to Patrick and Mary Mildred (Freund) Duffy on December 26, 1946 in Dubuque, Iowa. She joined the Sisters of Mercy in 1964 at the Provincial House at Mercy College of Detroit, where she received the name, Sister Jude Mary. She professed perpetual vows on August 6, 1971. Sister Susan (she returned to her baptismal name in 1969) earned a bachelor's degree from Mercy College of Detroit, Michigan, and taught junior and senior high science classes in schools sponsored or staffed by the Sisters of Mercy in Michigan. She received a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Michigan in 1978. After completing her residency at Henry Ford Hospital and becoming board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Susan practiced in Michigan, and for many years in Ohio, serving in Toledo, Bedford Heights, Cleveland, and until her death, in Logan, a small community where the Appalachian Trail begins. In response to the question on her application form for entrance to the congregation: "What are your motives for becoming a religious?" Susan wrote: "To attain salvation by helping others as a Sister of Mercy." And that is exactly what she did. She became single-minded, actually single-hearted, about providing service especially to those women and children pushed to society's margins. For most of her professional life Susan worked difficult shifts and volunteered to cover holidays so that her colleagues would be able to spend that time with their families. Sister Susan is survived by her mother, Mrs. Mildred Duffy and her four sisters Jean, Kit, Colleen, and Maggie, and by the members of her Mercy community. A welcoming service will take place on Sunday, December 9, 2007 at 3 pm at McAuley Center, 28750 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, followed by a vigil and remembrance service at 7 pm. The Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated in McAuley Center's Sacred Heart Chapel on December 10, 2007 at 10 am, with burial in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield, Michigan. McCabe Funeral Home, Farmington Hills, is in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of Mercy McAuley Center Fund, 29000 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336.



MARY M. FORAN

December 4, 2007, age 81. Survived by her daughter, Linda; grandchildren, Danielle, Chip, Jessica, Katie and Richard; a brother, Theodore A. (Elsie) Urban; nieces Connie, Carol, Cathy and Lynnette; nephews Teddy, Mike and Craig; sister-in-law, Nanette (Thomas) Held; and granddog, Peeka. Mary's family is celebrating her reunion with her beloved Husband, Richard and son, Jeff (Jane). The Family would like to thank dear caregivers Dianne, Karon, Amanda and Christi and acknowledge the support of Dave Armstrong, Chris and Kathy. Services were entrusted to McCabe Funeral Home with interment at Glen Eden Cemetery. Memorial donations can be made to Farmington Hills Parks & Recreation.



EDWARD (Ted) GREGG

Of Deerfield Beach, FL passed away on December 1, 2007. He was admitted to the hospital on November 15th, after a fall and developed complications after successful surgery. Mr. Gregg was born in the United Kingdom and came to this country as a child. He served in the U.S. Army in WWII in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater. He was transferred to Ft. Devens, MA, where he met his loving wife of 61 years, Rita (Palermo) Gregg, from Lawrence, MA. He was a member of Veteran's of Foreign Wars, Post 345. He spent most of his working years in the auto industry at Nash-Kelvinator, American Motors and, until his retirement in September of 1979, as Supervisor of Special Studies, in the Marketing Representation Dept. of Chrysler Corporation. He had a wonderful sense of humor and enjoyed playing tennis, golf and bowling with his friends, traveling and attending all sports in Detroit. It was a thrill for him to have the pleasure of meeting the legendary Ted Williams and hockey great, Gordie Howe. He is survived by his brother, Herbert Gregg of Venice, FL; nephews, Larry Gregg and his wife, Miriam; Lynn Gregg and his wife, Lynn, their son, Christopher, daughter, Kelly of Canton, MI; niece Carol Kelly and husband, Mike, their daughters, Lindsay and Lauren, and son, Shane, of Southlake, TX and many nieces and nephews on his wife's side. Cremation at Kraefer-Becker Funeral Home in Deerfield Beach, FL. Service will be private.

GLORIA ANN JENKINS

Age 81, of Almont passed away Tuesday, December 4, 2007. She was born in Missouri on September 8, 1926, the daughter of Cecil and Hazel Jenkins. She has a masters Degree in Counseling and was retired from Birmingham Public Schools. She was a teacher at Covington Middle School. She has traveled every continent in the world. Gloria was an amazing friend to many she considered family. She is survived by her brother-in-law William Hoffman, nieces Susan and Diane Weaver, Janet and Nancy Gilbert, and many good friends including Ed & Angie Isaacs, Rosalie Allie, Nel Melnik, and Delphine Patnales. She is preceded in death by her parents and sister Marie Hoffman. A memorial luncheon will be held 12pm on December 17, 2007 at Rivercrest Banquet Center in Rochester. Arrangements were entrusted to Muir Brothers Funeral Home in Almont, MI.

WILFRID F. NAEL

Age 88, 12-5-07. Wife, Josephine; son, Patrick (Sabrina). L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Westland, MI 734-522-9400

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

OBITUARY POLICY

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

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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For more information call:
Charlotte Wilson 734-953-2070
or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067
or toll free 866-818-7653
ask for Char or Liz



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AROUND TOWN

42nd Street

The Detroit School of Arts presents "42nd Street," the Warner Bros. musical, at the DSA Ford Theater, 123 Selden near Woodward on the campus of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Performances are Friday and Saturday, Dec. 7-8, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 9, at 2 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$7 for senior citizens and students. Call (313) 494-6000 for ticket information.

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.2go2@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 and 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.gardenersnorthville-novi.org

Travel clinics

When traveling to a foreign country, a vaccination and travel consultation can be just as important as a passport. From diseases you may have already heard of such as hepatitis, to the more exotic illnesses like Japanese encephalitis, Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's

TravelWise Travel Clinic can provide the vaccinations and information you need to consider. This new service from VNA provides inoculations for many common diseases including influenza, pneumonia, meningitis, tetanus and diphtheria, in addition to vaccinations specific to your travel destinations such as hepatitis A and B and typhoid. Additionally, VNA is a certified provider of the yellow fever vaccine. In order to prepare for VNA's travel consultation, individuals should bring their anticipated travel dates, itinerary and lodging plans. Past immunization records and a list of allergies and current medications will also help. For appointments, cost, on-site clinics and general information, contact the VNA TravelWise Travel Clinic at (248) 967-8755 or visit www.vna.org.

Heartland Hospice

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

Card party/luncheon

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

Hospice training

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

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

Literacy Council tutors

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

Toastmasters meet

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

Grief support

New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach and resource center located in Northville. Age appropriate groups for widows and widowers are provided in various locations in southeastern Michigan including groups for young widows and widowers and their chil-

dren 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.newhopecenter.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

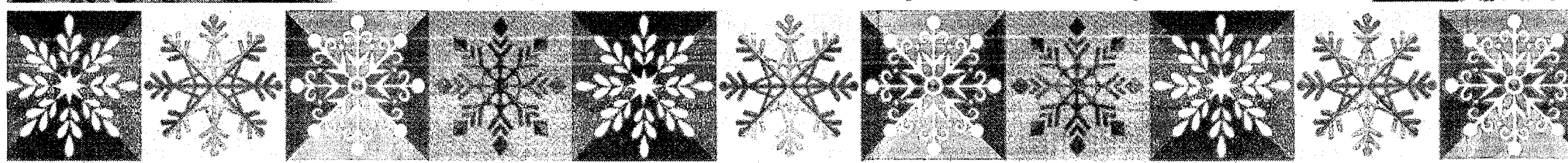
Rotary A.M.

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 and 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

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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 Lombari

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 Standafer, 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.

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.

Paid Advertisement



Buddy Standafer wearing driving telescopes

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EMAIL..... oeads@hometownlife.com

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

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

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All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591-0900. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspaper sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

7000-7780 Merchandise

Antiques/Collectibles 7020
ANTIQUE CURVED GLASS CHINA CABINET
Oak. Excellent condition.
\$850. 248-626-2235

Moving Sales 7130
WEST BLOOMFIELD ESTATE/MOVING SALE
Bdrm furniture, kitchen table set, glassware, dishes, clothing, collectibles, antique crystal, hand painted Italian china, antique dining rm table, extra dressers, 40 year old train set, tools, new generator, 4881 Faircourt, corner of Farmington & Walnut Lk. Dec. 14, 12-4p. Dec. 15-16, 9-4p.

Baby & Children Items 7150
HIGH CHAIR
Graco Easy Chair, safety belt, excel cond. \$25.
Call: (248) 661-5903

Household Goods 7160
BED - \$75 QUEEN PILLOW TOP
Mattress Set. NEW in Plastic. Can Deliver 734-891-8481

7200's Merchandise
BED - \$225 KING PILLOW TOP
Mattress Set. NEW in bag. Can deliver. 734-328-0030

7310's Merchandise
BED - \$65 - 1 ABSOLUTE ALL BRAND NEW PILLOW-TOP Queen Mattress in plastic. Can deliver 734-231-6622

Box spring & mattress king size \$100, dryer \$65, freezer \$75, refrigerator \$100, stove \$100. (248) 465-0262

CHINA - Bavarian hand-painted china "Heinrich Golden Harvest", service for 12, 5 pc. place setting. (248) 661-5903

FLEX STEEL SOFA & LOVE SEAT
Neutral, excel cond, \$350. Call: (734) 416-9039

KENMORE Heavy duty washer, 70 series, \$75. Kincaid Queen Anne solid cherry dining set, seats 6, china cabinet/buffet, \$2,300. 734-934-0081

MISC Washer, microwave w/table, electric fireplace w/log, safe, 4 1/2" tires, sewing machine w/case. 734-237-4059

Household Goods 7160

Place those unwanted household items for only **\$28*** for 30 days with the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers! Call Us Today: 1-866-818-7653

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

SOFA SLEEPER (full size) w/matching chair-\$300; Oak Pedestal table w/4 chairs-\$100. 734-464-1516

Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs 7190
HOT TUB 8x8 Cal Spa, 1g capacity, cover & lifter. Exc. cond. Must sell. \$1700 w/delivery. 734-674-4707

Exercise/Fitness Equipment 7215
Online Auction
Complete Curves Facility www.bacbid.com

Computers 7320
COMPAQ PRESARIO 4000
Without monitor, incl keyboard, mouse and USB cable, exc cond, \$100. 248-852-0302

Place those unwanted household items for only **\$28*** for 30 days with the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers! Call Us Today: 1-866-818-7653

Hospital/Medical Equipment 7460
HOSPITAL BED- Homecare Shaft Bed, w/ mattress & pull chain. Almost new. \$950/best offer. Call: 734-956-5860

Miscellaneous For Sale 7500
ARE YOU FRUSTRATED WITH DIAL-UP INTERNET? HughesNet, Leading provider of high-speed satellite, reliable Broadband service available in your area! \$0.00 upfront costs. Call now: 1-800-961-3639 schedule your installation today! Promocode: coconut

DISNEY AREA STAY - 7 day, 6 night, 2 adult Disney tickets, paid \$750, sacrifice \$249. Good for 1 year. 734-226-0511

MEMORY FOAM THERAPEUTIC NASA-VISCO MATTRESS WHOLESALE! As seen on TV. Twin \$299, Full \$349, Queen \$399, King \$499. All sizes available! Dormi-Comfortaire Electric adjustable \$799.00 FREE DELIVERY. 25-Year Warranty. 60 night trial. 1-800-ATSLLEEP (1-800-287-5337) www.mattressdr.com

REDUCE YOUR CABLE BILL! Get a 4-room all-digital satellite system installed for FREE and programming starting under \$20. FREE digital video recorders to new callers, SO CALL NOW. 1-800-699-7159

TEACH LIFELONG LESSONS Through personalized kids downloads! Three delightful titles. Satisfaction guaranteed! Order now! Only \$4.95 ea. Fast! Easy! Your child's name mentioned throughout! Download fantastic children's gift NOW! Ages 2-8. Christmas, Estem-building, Birthday! www.cakeandcandle.com/music

Musical Instruments 7510
DRUM SET- 5 PIECES
Silvertone, like new, 2 skins need to be replaced. \$450. (734) 261-2921

ORGAN - LOWREY JUBILEE
Double keyboard, 32 rhythm styles, Beautiful instrument! Loaded w/extras! \$3000. (734) 722-3233

PIANO - STEINWAY GRAND
Model L, Ebony Satin. Half the price of new. Exec. Cond. \$22,000/best. (248) 425-4562

PIANO - USED CONSOLE
Grinnell Piano with bench, walnut finish, good cond. \$1000. Call: (734) 425-8729

STARCK CONSOLE PIANO
Medium Brown. Sheet music incl. Exc. cond. Northville. \$500/best. Call for appt. 313-505-9660.

Sporting Goods 7520
POOL TABLE (Fisher)
1 inch slate, all accessories & light & cover. \$425. Exc. cond. (Home) 313-531-8598 (Cell) 313-318-7300.

Tools 7525
Place those unwanted household items for only **\$28*** for 30 days with the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers! Call Us Today: 1-866-818-7653

Wanted to Buy 7540
BUYING Old and newer hunting, fishing, gear and tackle. Lures, rods traps, decoys any type hunting related items. (517) 552-1352

Cats 7830
CAT- black & white, very cute & gentle, abandoned by owner, needs good home. 734-421-5895

Dogs 7840
BEAGLE PUPS
8 weeks old, \$125/each. 3 males. (313) 299-8906

BICHON PUPPIES - AKC
Non-shed white beauties. Ready for Christmas. Taking deposits. \$600. 248-693-6979

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPI!
Sable or Black & Tan. 1st shots given & ready for loving homes. Great family pets. \$400. 248-763-4524

MINI DACHSHUND Ready for Christmas! Longhair, smooth, Back/Tan, Red, home raised, shots, wormed & health guaranteed. 6.5 to 12 lbs. \$375 & \$425. 734-453-2018

POMERANIAN PUPPIES AKC, FRIENDLY & LOVING
18 Weeks, 2 males & 2 females. 1st & 2nd shots & wormed. 6.5 to 12 lbs. \$375 & \$425. 734-453-2018

PUG PUPPIES
3 Females, \$450 each. 6 weeks old. (313) 729-7835 (Garden City area.)

Dogs 7840
SHEPHERD/HUSKY MIX
White, female, 4 yrs old, all shots, very docile, loyal, hus-bans, allergic. Looking for good home. (248) 730-3910

TOY YORKIES AKC
Registered. Just in time for Christmas. Tiny Babies. 734-417-4198

YORKIE PUPPIES (Small)
AKC. Ready to go! 1 male, 1 female left. \$1000 & up! www.ironcreekranch.com 517-673-7229

Household Pets 7880
LIZARDS - 2, Bearded Dragon & Uromastick, 50 gal tank, all of the environment incl, heat lamps. \$199. (734) 455-6158

Westland Petland
Many popular breeds including: Boxer, Bug, Buggle, Bull-Dogs, Bull Mastiff, Cavashon, Chihuahua, Dachshunds, Designer Mixes, Min Pins, Morkie, Papillon, Pekingese, Schnauzer, Shiba Inu, Yorkies, etc.
Himalayan Kittens Parrots

AMAZING PUPPY SALE
6 MONTHS* SAME AS CASH**
**Petland Credit Card & Purchases over \$199
*Limited Time Offer

Petland
Across from Westland Mall (734) 367-9906 www.petland.com

Lost - Pets 7930
FOUND Young male kitty, (approx. 6 mos. old), around Thanksgiving on Delaware St. in Redford. White with brown/grey tabby patches. Very loving & misses his family or needs a new family. Call: 248-761-7716

"It's All About Results"
1-800-579-SELL (7355)

ALL MAKES/ALL MODELS YOU'LL FIND IT HERE IN YOUR OBSERVER AND ECCENTRIC AUTOMOTIVE CLASSIFIEDS

1-800-579-SELL

6000-6980 Announcements
LOOK HERE

Personals 6000

Advertise Nationally to approximately 12 million households in North America's best suburbs! Place your classified ad in over 900 suburban newspapers just like this one. Call the Suburban Classified Advertising Network at 888-486-2466. www.suburban-news.org/scan

SENIOR COLLEGE STUDENT
Attending 4 year institution needed for research project. Paid. Call: 248-661-5903

7000's Merchandise

7000... Absolutely Free
7010... Nickel & Dime
7015... Party-Events
7020... Antiques/Collectibles
7040... Arts & Crafts
7060... Auction Sales
7080... Rummage Sale/Flea Market
7100... Estate Sales
7110... Garage Sales
7130... Moving Sales
7140... Clothing
7150... Baby & Children Items
7160... Household Goods
7180... Appliances
7190... Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs
7200... Bargain Buys
7210... Bicycles
7215... Exercise/Fitness Equipment
7220... Building Materials
7230... Budget Lumber
7240... Business & Office Equipment
7260... Office Supplies
7280... Cameras & Supplies
7300... Commercial/Industrial Restaurant Equipment

7310... Commercial/Industrial Machinery For Sale
7320... Computers
7340... Electronics/Audio/Video
7360... Video Games, Tapes, Movies
7380... Farm Equipment
7400... Farm Produce-Flowers, Plants
7410... I-Picks
7415... Hay, Grain, Seed
7420... Christmas Trees
7440... Firewood-Merchandise
7450... Hobbies-Coins, Stamps
7460... Hospital/Medical Equipment
7470... Jewelry
7480... Lawn, Garden & Snow Equipment
7490... Lawn, Garden Material
7495... Tree Sales
7500... Miscellaneous For Sale
7510... Musical Instruments
7520... Sporting Goods
7525... Tools
7530... Trade Or Sell
7540... Wanted To Buy
7550... Playground Equipment

Are you in need of a new car?

Look in The Observer & Eccentric Classifieds for a great deal!

DeCar

It's all about RESULTS!
Find us on the internet at: www.hometownlife.com
Call us at: 800-579-SELL (7355)

7800-7930 Animals/Pets

1-800-579-SELL

Auction Sales 7080

7800... Animal Services
7810... Breeder Directory
7820... Birds & Fish
7830... Cats
7840... Dogs
7850... Farm Animals/Livestock
7860... Horses & Equipment

7870... Horse Boarding-Commercial
7880... Household Pets-Others
7890... Pet Grooming & Boarding
7900... Pet Services
7905... Pet Memoriam
7910... Pet Supplies
7920... Pets Wanted
7930... Lost & Found-Pets

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COMPLETE CURVES FACILITY
Woodhaven, MI
Exercise Equip., Tanning Beds, Office, Etc.
Inspection: 12/13/07 11:00am - 3:00pm
Auction Ends: 12/18/07
800-754-4430
www.bacbid.com

Christmas With Our Pets

Your pets already think they're the stars of the family...now let them see it in print. Place your pets photo on a special page designed just for them. This page will run in our papers on December 23rd.

Just \$15*
Deadline is December 14th
Send picture and info to:
"Christmas With Your Pet"
Classified Dept. 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150
or email to:
oeads@hometownlife.com

Just \$15 Per Buy:
BUY 1- Livonia, Garden City, Canton, Plymouth, Redford, Westland
BUY 2- Birmingham, West Bloomfield, Troy, Southfield, Rochester, Farmington
BUY 3- Berkley, Clawson, Royal Oak, Huntington Woods, Ferndale, Pleasant Ridge

THE Observer & Eccentric AND Mirror NEWSPAPERS
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

*6 line maximum. Must be prepaid. We accept all major credit cards. Photos may be mailed or emailed but must be received by 12/14/07. No photos will be returned.

Baby's First Christmas!

A perfect addition to baby's scrapbook! Place your baby's photo in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for Christmas. This special page of "cuties" will run in our papers on December 23rd.

Just \$20*
Deadline is December 14th
Send picture and info to:
"Baby's First Christmas"
Classified Dept. 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150
or email to:
oeads@hometownlife.com

Just \$20 Per Buy:
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BUY 2- Birmingham, West Bloomfield, Troy, Southfield, Rochester, Farmington
BUY 3- Berkley, Clawson, Royal Oak, Huntington Woods, Ferndale, Pleasant Ridge

Elizabeth Smith Mommy's Little Angel
Born 12/29/06
Proud Parents John & Sue Livonia, MI

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HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

*6 line maximum. Must be prepaid. We accept all major credit cards. Photos may be mailed or emailed but must be received by 12/14/07. No photos will be returned.

Families have found some of the best things in our Classified Ads. Now you can visit us at.....

www.hometownlife.com



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- 8000... Airplanes
- 8010... Jet Skis
- 8020... Boats/Motors
- 8030... Canoe/Kayak/Sales/Rental
- 8040... Boat Parts
- 8050... Equipment/Service
- 8060... Boat Docks/Marinas
- 8070... Boat/Vehicle Storage
- 8080... Insurance, Motor
- 8090... Motorcycles/Mini Bikes/Go-Karts
- 8100... Motorcycles-Parts & Service
- 8110... Off Road Vehicles
- 8120... Recreational Vehicles
- 8130... Snowmobiles
- 8140... Campers/Motor Homes/Trailers
- 8150... RV-Motor Home Rental
- 8160... Construction, Heavy Equipment
- 8170... Auto Misc.
- 8180... Auto/Truck-Parts & Service
- 8190... Auto Rentals/Leasing
- 8200... Autos Wanted
- 8210... Junk Cars Wanted
- 8220... Junk Cars Wanted
- 8230... Junk Cars Wanted
- 8240... Trucks For Sale
- 8250... Mini-Vans
- 8260... Vans
- 8270... A Wrecked
- 8280... Sports Utility
- 8290... Sports & Imported

1-800-579-SELL

8000-8780
Automotive Recreational Vehicles

WRECKED & JUNK CARS WANTED!
(734) 282-1700

Auto Auctions 8145

THINK SPRING, 1999 Like new! Travel Trailer 25', extras, hitch assembly, just reduced, \$7,800. 734-673-8465

Trucks for Sale 8220

SAVANA 1999 Starcraft conversion, silver, only \$11,995.

Auto Misc. 8150

SCRAP BATTERIES
We Buy Scrap Batteries \$7.00 Automotive, \$9.00 Lt. Com., \$16.00 Heavy com. Quantities of 25 or more. We will pick up. Michigan Battery Equip. 1-800-356-9151

Auto Financing 8180

SAVANA 1999 Starcraft conversion, silver, only \$11,995.

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Automotive

Observer & Eccentric
HOMETOWNlife.com

Trucks for Sale 8220

FORD F250 1999 Extended cab long bed, power options, liner, alloys, 55K, \$10,995.
RedHoban
(734) 721-1144

FORD RANGER XLT 2004 Flareside, mint cond, extra clean, \$8,995.
1st time buyer program
COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

GMC 2006 16' box truck, work ready, \$18,860. Stk# 712002A
NORTH BROTHERS FORD
(734) 524-1264

GMC SIERRA 1999 Extended cab, auto, air, burgundy, \$4,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

GMC SIERRA SLE 1999, reg cab, 8' box, flame red, V-8, auto, low miles, only \$8,995.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet
888-372-9836

GMC SIERRA Z71 2003 Extended cab, black, \$12,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

RANGER 2002 - Extended cab, fully loaded, exc. cond. \$5500 for this dark red beauty.
TYME (734) 455-5566

Mini-Vans 8240

BUICK TERRAZA CXL 2005 leather, DVD, 3rd seat, loaded, \$16,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

CHEVY ASTRO LS 2000, low miles, quad seats, 8 passenger, loaded, save, \$7,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

CHEVY VENTURE 1998 Excellent cond, completely loaded, runs great, good gas mileage, \$4895/best.
SOLD

CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY 1997, leather, loaded, \$4,495.
COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY LTD 2002, loaded, bright silver metallic, price to sell, \$7,995.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet
888-372-9836

CHEVY S-10 2000 Xtreme pickup, \$6,495.
1st time buyer program
COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

CHEVY S10 LS 2001 Extended cab, auto, air, sharp! Only \$7,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

CHEVY S10 LS 2001 Extended cab, V-6, auto, arctic white, low miles, \$12,995.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet
888-372-9836

CHEVY SILVERADO 2002 Extended cab, 73K, silver, \$11,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
(734) 453-2500

CHEVY SILVERADO 3500 reg cab, 8' bed, 69K, \$6,995. A ton of fun.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet
888-372-9836

DODGE RAM SLT 2001 Reg cab, V-8, silver, power options, alloys, only \$6,995.
RedHoban
(734) 721-1144

FORD F150 SUPERCAB XLT 2003 4x2, \$8,995.
Good credit, bad credit, no credit OK
COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

FORD F150 XLT 2000 Super cab, low miles, fully loaded, \$12,495.
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

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CHEVY S-10 2000 Xtreme pickup, \$6,495.
1st time buyer program
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American-made Camry still a big hit

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CAReport



By Kevin Koloian
Avanti News Features

The all-new Toyota Camry was completely redesigned for 2007, with bold styling lines that hint at the deceptive power that's available beneath its aerodynamic-looking hood.

The new Camry has been thoroughly retooled and upgraded from the rubber to the roof -- an overhaul five years in the making. The engines and transmissions are new and with enough available combinations of both to make you dizzy. Better yet, no matter which combo you decide on, every model is more fuel efficient than before.

And if fuel economy is your main concern, the brand new Camry Hybrid will be hard to pass up. With a combination electric motor/gasoline engine fitted with a new, super-efficient, continuously variable transmission, the Hybrid is estimated to get 40 miles per gallon in city and 38 mpg highway by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Since its debut in the U.S. 23 years ago, the Camry has been known as a high-quality and reliable choice for middle-class car buyers. And for eight of the past nine years, the people have spoken with their pocketbooks, making the Camry the best-selling car in America. Today, the Toyota Camry defines the midsize sedan with competitors constantly being compared to it.

The Toyota Camry comes in 4 trim levels; the CE, LE, SE, and XLE plus the new Hybrid model with a plethora of options across the board depending on the trim. All are five-passenger sedans with every trim coming standard with a 158-horsepower 4-cylinder engine. A 268-horsepower V6 is optional for the LE, SE, and XLE.

The entry-level \$18,470 Camry CE comes standard with air conditioning with pollen filter, cruise control, tilt-and-telescope steering wheel, six-way adjustable driver's seat, power doors, windows and mirrors, a multi-function driver information display, a 160-watt, AM/FM/CD/MP3 stereo with six speakers and 16-inch wheels.

The CE is powered by a 4-cylinder engine mated to a 5-speed manual transmission with a 5-speed automatic optional. The LE adds an eight-way power driver's seat, remote keyless entry and, when equipped with a V6, chrome tips on the dual exhaust. Options include a premium, 140-watt JBL sound system with a six-disc, in-dash CD changer; eight speakers and Bluetooth capability; power tilt/slide moonroof; alloy wheels; and an auto-dimming rearview mirror with compass.

The LE comes standard with the 4-cylinder engine and manual trans but can be upgraded with the 5-speed automatic or to the V6 with the 6-speed automatic.

The sporty SE comes with a firmer, performance-tuned suspension and 17-inch aluminum alloy wheels. Available options on the SE includes leather interior trim with heated front seats, a power moonroof with rear seat reading lamps, programmable remote opener system, a DVD-based navigation system with touch screen integrated into a JBL sound system with a 4-disc, in-dash CD changer and all-season tires.

The SE comes with the 4-cylinder and manual, with the 5-speed automatic optional. The V6 with 6-speed automatic is also available.

The premium XLE, which starts at \$28,000, includes dual-



The Toyota Camry is available in enough different configurations to please even the pickiest car buyer. It will take a lot for rivals such as Nissan Altima and Mazda 6 to knock the Camry off of its throne.

zone climate control, engine immobilizer with alarm, Bluetooth-capable stereo with steering wheel-mounted controls, eight-way power driver's seat and 4-way power front passenger's seat, heated outside mirrors, power moonroof, rear seat reading lamps and reclining rear seats, manual rear window sunshade, cargo net, fog lamps and 16-inch alloy wheels.

Leather interior trim is standard with the V6 and optional with the 4 cylinder. Also optional are the programmable remote opener system, heated front seats, the navigation system and, exclusive to the XLE with the V6, the Smart entry system with keyless entry and push-button start.

The XLE comes standard with the 4-cylinder engine and the five-speed automatic; the V6 with 6-speed automatic is optional. The Camry Hybrid starts off at \$26,200 and comes with the most complete list of features.

Other than the optional power moonroof, the navigation system, the leather interior and the heated front seats, its loaded with just about everything the XLE has.

Safety features on all models include frontal airbags, upper body-protecting side-impact airbags for the front seats, head-protecting side air curtains for front and rear seats, and a driver's knee airbag. Standard are a tire pressure monitoring system, anti-lock brakes, Brake Assist, which applies the brakes more quickly when it senses an emergency stop, and electronic brake-force distribution, which balances brake pressure between the front and rear wheels for optimal stopping distance.

Vehicle Stability Control and Traction Control are optional on the CE, LE, SE and XLE.

While the outside of the Camry has been given a sharp, bold look, the Toyota designers tried to paint its interior with a touch of elegance. However, it comes off as a poor man's Lexus. This is not necessarily a bad thing, though, when you consider the car's affordable price.

The cabin is trimmed in a brushed metallic finish in the CE, LE, SE and Hybrid, while the XLE gets the faux-wood grain treatment -- something that supposed to exude luxury but makes me chuckle cheesy under my breath.

And the fuzzy, silk-like material of the inside door panel may give the interior some class, but it gave me a bad static electricity

shock. Probably my fault, though, I forgot to add the fabric softener when I threw my clothes in the dryer.

More important than the interior look is how driver-friendly the Camry is. The instrument gauges are large enough to get your bearings at a glance, and the audio and climate controls are so easy to use you'll get them down as soon as you sit down.

The Camry's interior is very functional as well. There are enough cubbies and compartments for CDs, cell phones and sunglasses scattered throughout the Camry's cabin to keep any pack rat happy.

There's also a covered storage bin in the fold-down center armrest in the rear seat which doubles as cup holders. A down size to this arrangement is that the bulky armrest protrudes a little, which can play havoc on the middle passenger's back on a long-road trip. The 4-cylinder engine LE version that I drove doesn't have enough horsepower for the Camry's weight. I was reminded of this every time I took off from a dead stop. If you have to slam the pedal before a car kicks into second gear you know the engine is outweighed by the body.

So, opting for the V6 is a no-brainer unless you don't need the same kind of get up and go a defensive driver like myself needs. In my opinion, Toyota should've strictly offered the Camry as a V6, but it's no surprise they didn't when you think of how much rising gas prices influence people's car buying decisions.

When you see that the 4-cylinder automatic LE is listed as getting 24 mpg city and 33 on the highway, this set up speaks for itself at the pump.

With a longer wheelbase, larger wheels and a new V6 engine that makes 78 more horsepower than the outgoing 6-cylinder 2006 model, you'll see this isn't your father's Camry.

Kevin Koloian covers the auto beat for Avanti News Features. Write him at kevenkoloian@excite.com. Distributed by the Fracassa News Group. ©2007, Fracassa Communications.

Toyota Camry
Vehicle class: Midsize sedan.
Power: 4-cylinder engine.
Mileage: 24 city / 33 highway.
Where built: Georgetown, Ky.
Price as tested: \$22,079.

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\$1000	\$1510	\$1548	\$1593	\$1000	\$1561	\$1600	\$1646
\$0	\$563	\$602	\$689	\$0	\$639	\$653	\$700
\$3000	\$3461	\$3500	\$3545	\$3000	\$3514	\$3554	\$3600
\$2000	\$2540	\$2553	\$2598	\$2000	\$2593	\$2607	\$2654
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MAKING MORE MONEY IN MIDDLE AGE



WORKWISE
by
Mildred L. Culp

Many middle-aged people talk about wanting to make more money, but they don't take the necessary steps. Two of the most popular approaches to solving the problem are diversifying and

changing your mindset. At 50-plus, the first can take time, because it requires you to:

- find patterns in your work history and interests;
- research new avenues to capitalize on them; and
- stop everything (almost) to get relevant training and credentials.

The second, very different approach, becomes clear in Barbara Stanny's *Overcoming Underearning: Overcome Your Money Fears and Earn What You Deserve* (Collins, \$24.95). The book seeks to use psychological tactics to overcome money problems.

MARKET SHIFT

People who are middle-aged can remember what work was like without the Internet. Markets were broader, less well-defined or niche-oriented, and

competition wasn't as keen. Our world seemed more expansive. The Internet changed all of that. Its developing venue brought major challenges.

Over the last 25 years, John Sundlof of John Sundlof Photography Ltd., in Chicago, has been shooting photographs for Fortune 500 companies and top-ranked magazines. Specializing in photographing people, he places his work in annual reports, marketing brochures and wide-ranging print publications. As the Web grew in complexity and importance, he observed the diminishing requirements/importance of photography in that medium.

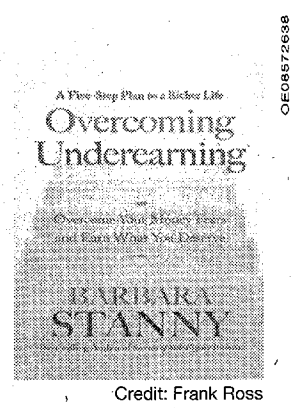
If that weren't enough, he also noted the consolidation of print media, which brought a changed business model in photo usage, where a photographer is paid for one use of his work, while the entity reproduces it as many times as it wishes. This new business model cuts into the profit for a freelancer, such as Sundlof. In addition, bylines are less prominent, if non-existent. In the past, if you didn't get a byline, he explains, you'd get double or triple your rate. But professional values are no longer in sync with the industry. Ad agencies understand this and expect to pay for it. Picture agencies understand it and charge (their customers) but don't pay their freelancers.

Sundlof knows that his industry has changed irrevocably, but you don't see him leaving it. Instead, he's capitalizing on one of his lifelong interests -- real estate -- by taking courses in real estate appraisal. I looked a long time at a bunch of different options, he says. He'll continue his photography business as an income stream as he pursues real estate investment.

INNER-DIRECTEDNESS

In contrast to diversifying, Stanny, of *Overcoming Underearning*, uses insight into psychology to help herself and others achieve financial independence. She differentiates between an underearner and a person with soul-satisfying work whose income is adequate: Underearning is a condition of DEPRIVATION in which your emotional and/or physical needs are not being met. Her book explores the financial symptoms of depression, where, she writes, underearning, like overspending, can be an unconscious attempt to numb the hurt. The source of that hurt, she maintains, may be abuse or childhood trauma. Shift(ing) my thinking led to new behaviors that led to new income in her new mission to help others achieve financial independence. Psychology is to money what an engine is to a car, she writes. Whenever you're stalled, that's the first place to look.

Oh? Although the book is filled with inspiring anecdotes of people who embraced her method and



Barbara Stanny, author of "Overcoming Underearning," learned through personal experience that income rises if you change certain habits of thought and behavior. She teaches workshops to help people get unstuck.

made their incomes grow substantially, there is no statistic about the total numbers of people who took her workshops or the numbers who became successful through her approach. Moreover, it's difficult to imagine how a person who absolutely loved his work could use her method and leave it behind. But if you're not committed to your current work, or if you're depressed, *Overcoming Underearning* might offer you a way out.

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



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SEASONAL MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
McKinley Inc., a national leader in the apartment housing industry, has exciting opportunities available for enthusiastic and flexible people to work at our beautiful Aspen Chase apartment community! Excellent pay! We are currently hiring for seasonal maintenance professionals dedicated to providing great customer service to our residents. Apply online at www.mckinley.com or email resume to hr@mckinley.com EOE

SNOW PLOW & LOADER DRIVERS - Exp. only
References, valid driver's license, Ann Arbor, Unique Landscaping - 734-389-2400

SNOW PLOW DRIVERS
Snow Busters Snow Removal, is looking for exp. drivers with own plow trucks. Earn \$45-\$60/hr. with assigned route. Call Jim 734-427-9353.

SNOW PLOW TRUCK DRIVER
Valid drivers license with minimum 2 yrs. experience. FT/Seasonal. 248-669-1980

SNOW REMOVAL
Part time. Must have good driving record. Fax resume: 248-474-8630

STAFFING MANAGER
Action Associates is seeking an exp. Staffing Manager to oversee Brighton operations & assist with new business development. Previous supervisory exp. in the temporary staffing industry required. Email resume tina@wskills.com or FAX 810-227-1344 EOE

SUPERVISOR
JVS has a full-time position with benefits available in Southfield. HS diploma required. Experience with disabilities in community based settings required. Two years mobile care, enclave and janitorial experience, supervision of personnel, and ASL preferred. Please send resume with salary requirements to: JVS Human Resources 29699 Southfield Rd. Southfield, MI 48076 FAX: 248-552-7097 HR@jvsdet.org EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000

TAX PREPARER
Part time. Experienced, computer skills a must, for business and personal. Fax resumes to: 734-522-0203

Teacher DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
Sylvan Learning Center, the nation's leader in supplemental education is seeking a Director of Education in Livonia. Certification req'd. math a plus. Email resume to: sylvanlv@aol.com Or Fax 734-462-2825

TEAM LEADER - ELECTRONIC ASSEMBLY
An excellent opportunity for an experienced working group leader with a strong electrical and electronic exp., and the proven ability to assist in coordinating the manufacture of high quality electrical panels and electronic PCB assemblies. The successful candidate must be able to handle multiple priorities in a fast paced environment and be willing to help guide the production team while actively participating in the manufacturing process. This position offers potential for growth with a very stable, high-technology, non-automotive company. Starting wage, \$12 to \$16 per hour based on exp. Full Benefits. Fax/email to: 248-300-5268 anathan@natsco.net

TELEMARKETER
Cash paid telephoning from home. Email: rwagge2000@yahoo.com

TRUCK PAINTER
Heavy duty truck exp. required. Call: (313) 292-3090

Help Wanted-Office 5020

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
Oakland County law firm seeks an ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT. The qualified candidate must be a self starter with accounts receivable, billing & office management exp. Computer knowledge required. Prior law firm experience & college degree a plus. We offer compensation commensurate with experience, exc. benefit & pleasant working conditions. Resume and compensation requirements: Box 1640 O&E Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 oesumes@hometownlife.com (Code 1640)

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
PT, Mon-Fri. Construction firm. Exp'd. Word & Excel. Some accounting helpful. Call: 313-274-7801 Fax resume: 313-274-7804

Biller NEW CAR BILLER
Metro GM dealer has an IMMEDIATE opening for New Car Biller. Dealership experience is REQUIRED. Must be familiar with schedule cleaning, posting and typing deals, title processing. Excellent pay, medical, dental, 401k. Must want to be part of a team. Email resume to: billert@latrelles.com

CLERK TYPIST
City of Farmington Hills. Part-time in Police Dept. Type, file, answer phones. Req. 45 wpm, Microsoft Office, good customer service skills. H.S. grad. or equiv. \$13 per hr. 24 hrs/wk. Mon., Wed., Fri. See application & posting @ www.fhgov.com Apply by: 12-21-07 Human Resources Dept. 31555 W. 11 Mile Raod Farmington Hills, MI 48336

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CALL ANYTIME
24 hr Voice Mail available 248-583-1661

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Immediate FT work for Bi-lingual (English/Spanish) speaking person. Data entry/phone service. \$8/hr. to start. Hours: 9-11PM.
Ask for Joe: 248-406-4050

Financial Coordinator
Immediate FT work for Bi-lingual (English/Spanish) speaking person. Make/reverse payments. \$8/start. Hrs 3-11PM.
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Adult Carriers Needed

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Previous experience preferred. Must be available on Thursday and Saturday evening/Sunday morning. Reliable transportation. Possible earnings of \$40.00-\$80.00 per delivery.

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E.O.E. M/F/H

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Of Plymouth seeking house cleaners. No nights or weekends. Earn \$35+ per week. Car required. 734-455-4570

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Rough Carpenters, Siding Installers, and Roofers, plus other home construction tradesmen. Starting salary minimum \$20/hr. plus health benefits. Must travel. Call (734) 765-4566 or email succes@carlosanderson.info

CUSTODIAN
Canton area school is looking for PT custodians. Hrs: Mon-Fri. 4-8pm. No felony/misdemeanor allowed.
Interested parties please fax resume to: 866-536-9391

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Property & Casualty Insurance experienced only for independent insurance agency. Livonia area. 248-471-3500

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Do work you enjoy. Assist special population adults. \$7.50 plus good benefits. Livonia 248-474-0283, 734-953-8911, 734-425-8334

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Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations, many shifts! If you are at least 18 years old, have a valid Michigan's Driver's License & are CLIA, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, or

DIRECTOR OF QUALITY ASSURANCE and FOOD SAFETY
This position is responsible to provide expert guidance and execution of all research and development of food products and food safety for the commissary operation as directed by government requirements and corporate goals. This position offers competitive wages, generous health care benefit package, paid vacation, and 401k w/ employer match. Resumes may be forwarded to dmurphy@bigboy.com

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Restaurant delivery service. Apply in person at: King Office Plaza, 4897 Rochester Rd., Troy, Mon-Fri. 9:30-1pm, or 29425 Six Mile Rd., Livonia Mon-Thurs 2-4pm.

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Experienced for transportation co. Full/Part-Time. All Shifts. Will drive taxi cabs, sedans & vans for personal, corporate & package delivery service. Good driving record, professional attitude & appearance required. (734) 591-3888

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A VERY SUCCESSFUL ENERGY CO. has limited openings for Gas Registration Agents (Average \$25.00/hr.) No prior experience necessary Ms. Diamond, 248-594-2341

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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Afternoon shift - 3-30 pm to midnight. Requires knowledge of shop math and ability to work with fractions and decimals. Will work with very small parts, and therefore requires manual dexterity and close vision required. Attention to detail and organizational skills required. Machine Shop experience helpful. Rate of pay is \$9.10 to start plus full benefits package. EOE.
Send resume by 5 pm, Wednesday, 12-12-07 to HR@acccontrols.com or FAX 248-426-5631

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Earn up to \$550 per week part-time. We train. May work from home. 888-695-3473

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Must have own vehicle. All seasons. Benefits. Toll-Free 8am-4pm: (877) 836-1992

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FLAT WORK
Some Construction Labor experience required. Metro Detroit area. All seasons. Benefits. Competitive pay. 313-836-1992

SAD?
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 Institute for Health Studies at 1-877-908-CARE. Ask about compensation available for participation.

SALES AND KEYHOLDERS
PT, flex hrs, paid wkly, plus mo., sales bonus, 40% off employee discount. Apply at: Lover's Lane, 2020 N. Wayne Rd., Westland, MI

SEASONAL MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
McKinley Inc., a national leader in the apartment housing industry, has exciting opportunities available for enthusiastic and flexible people to work at our beautiful Aspen Chase apartment community! Excellent pay! We are currently hiring for seasonal maintenance professionals dedicated to providing great customer service to our residents. Apply online at www.mckinley.com or email resume to hr@mckinley.com EOE

SNOW PLOW & LOADER DRIVERS - Exp. only
References, valid driver's license, Ann Arbor, Unique Landscaping - 734-389-2400

SNOW PLOW DRIVERS
Snow Busters Snow Removal, is looking for exp. drivers with own plow trucks. Earn \$45-\$60/hr. with assigned route. Call Jim 734-427-9353.

SNOW PLOW TRUCK DRIVER
Valid drivers license with minimum 2 yrs. experience. FT/Seasonal. 248-669-1980

SNOW REMOVAL
Part time. Must have good driving record. Fax resume: 248-474-8630

STAFFING MANAGER
Action



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Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

General Administrative Positions:
Needed for well-established, cutting tool manufacturer. Responsibilities include processing incoming faxes & e-mails, order entry, logging/routing RFQ's and purchase orders, general clerical and administrative functions. Must have minimum of 2 years office experience and be proficient in MS Office. Must be a motivated, self-starter with a positive attitude and ability to work efficiently in a fast paced environment. Comprehensive benefit package included. Please send resume and salary requirements to 23461 Industrial Park Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48335-2855 Attn: Inside Sales Manager or email to hr@starcutter.com. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

LEGAL SECRETARY
For Southfield Plaintiff PI law firm. Great opportunity. Medical Malpractice & Litigation experience necessary. Immediate opening. Includes salary and benefits. Send resume to oeresome@hometownlife.com (Code 1641)

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Full or Part-Time. Must be familiar with Word. Prior exp. a must. Call: 734-276-3974

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Counseling practice. Filing, reception, varied duties, 10-20hrs per/week. Some evenings. \$8-\$10 per/hr Fax resume to 734-453-5621

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OFFICE PERSON: Word, Excel, Power Point a plus. Pay commensurate with exp. References req. 10/Grandriver. Fax resume: (248) 478-4026 or Call: (248) 478-6700

RECEPTIONIST
For Northville law firm, full time. Candidate must possess professional telephone/typing skills: ability to multi task and attention to detail. Please list salary req.. Send or fax resume to: Callie A Demski Morello Law Group P.C. 41000 W 7 Mile Rd., Ste 200 Northville, MI 48167 (248) 347-2999

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

RECEPTIONIST
FT for doctor's office in Westland. Call: 734-728-8200 Fax resume: 734-728-5470

RECEPTIONIST PART TIME
Busy real estate office looking for responsible individual for entry level part-time (weekends & evenings) Receptionist position. Must have pleasant, professional manner, and some computer knowledge. Email or fax your resume to: Real Estate One, Inc. Plymouth@realestateone.com Fax 734-455-3375 Attn: HR Dept.

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

BILLER
Exp'd. Full-Time. Needed for a fast paced dental office. Great Benefits & Friendly Staff! Email resume: exceptionaldentoffice@yahoo.com

DENTAL ASSISTANT
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DENTAL ASSISTANT
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DENTAL ASSISTANT
Dental office seeking P/T qualified Asst. \$12-\$16 per hr. w/ incentive pkg. Health insurance available. Computer skills desired. Call Janice, 734-434-6020

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time for Livonia specialty office (Tues. & Thurs). Exp. preferred. (734) 522-7313

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Plymouth Endodontic office. 2 days/wk. Exp'd w/x-ray cert. Fax resume: 734-459-8281

DENTAL ASSISTANT
We are looking for a self-motivated, energetic Full-Time Dental Assistant with exp. Please call: 517-930-3696

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Experienced, friendly, motivated person needed to join our periodontal team. Full-Time. Some Saturdays. Farmington Hills/Milford. Call Karen (248) 851-1034

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Full or part time for quality-oriented Birmingham practice. Mature, motivated, dependable, cheerful, and energetic. Minimum 5 years dental front office experience. Dentrix a plus. Excellent communication, marketing, and people skills. Must be experienced in dental insurance. Please fax resume to 248-647-1804

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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

ATTN: NURSES
Contingent work available! Flexible schedules and great pay! Fax resume to Tiffany: 248-745-9763

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The Rehabilitation Assistant is responsible for providing direct patient care to our clients. Primary duties include providing support to rehabilitation professionals, passing medications, routine reporting, and assisting the clients with therapeutic programs and activities of daily living such as patient bathing, grooming, transferring, feeding, checking vitals, attending physician appointments, general health monitoring and other duties as assigned.

This position requires a desire to work with people, proof of a valid driver's license and excellent driving record. Previous experience and/or CMA certification is preferred, but is not required. \$9.00-\$10.00 to start and training is provided. Rainbow offers benefits and excellent advancement opportunities. Apply online at or in person at either of our office locations 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday:

Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers
NeuroRehab Campus 25911 Middlebelt Rd. Farmington Hills, MI 48336 (on the corner of 11 Mile and Middlebelt)

OR

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Drug-free workplace. EOE.

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

CLINICAL THERAPIST
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MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Needed for busy Livonia Internal Medicine practice, with 2 yrs. experience. Must know X-rays, EKG & labs. Full-time position. Please fax resume Attn: Dawn to: 734-513-1623

Medical Assistant/Receptionist: Full-Time. Exp'd. for general surgeon's practice in Dearborn. Fax resume to: 313-565-8754

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Great salaries! 2+ yrs. exp. req'd. Multiple Locations: Receptionists, Billers, CMAs, Office & Billing Managers. Resume:kelli@harperjobs.com Fax: 248-932-1214 Kelli's phone: 248-932-1204 Harper Associates www.harperjobs.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

MEDICAL ASSISTANTS, EMTs, & PARAMEDICS
P/T, NO WEEKENDS! Work one-on-one with physicians & patients. Driving required, car supplied. Must know Phlebotomy, ECGs, at least 6 months experience. Fax resumes Attn: Cathy 248-557-5580

MEDICAL OFFICE OPENINGS
IHA's Associates in Internal Medicine- Cherry Hill is seeking candidates for two full-time positions. **Medical Records** position responsible for retrieval and filing in electronic medical records; previous medical training required. **Receptionist**, to greet and assist our patients, answer phones and check-in/out patients. Insurance knowledge preferred. Both positions require prior medical experience, excellent customer service skills and solid computer skills.

We offer a competitive salary with an excellent benefits package, including paid time off, medical, life, disability insurance, 401(k) and tuition assistance along with optional dental. Please e-mail your resume to: employment@ihacares.com fax to 866-282-8067 or apply online at www.ihacares.com

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EXPERIENCED for busy oncology office in Novi. Fax resume: 248-324-2444

Nursing

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Brookdale Senior Living is an industry-leading operator of Assisted Living communities & the nation's largest provider of Alzheimer's and dementia communities. We presently have an opportunity for an experienced Registered Nurse at the Wyndwood of Northville.

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Duties include overseeing the daily operations of the clinical dept, managing the nursing staff, and ensuring quality of care our residents receive. Senior housing exp & working with the memory impaired preferred. We offer a competitive compensation and benefits package as well as advancement opportunities. For consideration, please apply online at: www.careersincaring.com Job ID: HCCM110730 EOE M/F/D/V

PATIENT CARE COORDINATOR
Busy wellness center needs front desk dynamic, multi-tasker w/ good PR & computer skills. Insurance exp. helpful. Fax: 734-207-7786

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

Nursing Professionals: RNs and LPNs
Maxim has part time and full time positions available, all shifts. Please call or email a recruiter today! (800) 876-1906 or detroitstaffing@maxhealth.com

PHLEBOTOMISTS
Livonia, Novi and Warren

Quest Diagnostics seeks experienced phlebotomists who have a minimum of 6 months of venipuncture work experience and a high school diploma/GED. For immediate consideration apply online to each job that matches your skill level at: www.questdiagnostics.com/careers and be sure to watch your email for next steps. Quest Diagnostics has been proudly recognized as a "Best Place to Work" in NJ, TX, NY, OH, Mid-East PA and AZ and our employees throughout the U.S. would agree. EOE.

PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION
Saturday accelerated class beginning in Jan. \$850. Call us at: (313) 382-3857

PHYSICIAN Gastroenterologist
Immediate opening for degreed and experienced Physician in the Detroit Metro area. Competitive benefits and wages. Reference Code 104750 Submit resume to: Henry Ford website: http://careers.peopleflow.com/hfcareers/index.aspx Reference above Job Code

HENRY FORD HEALTH SYSTEM
1 Ford Place Detroit, Michigan 48202

RADIOLOGY CLERK
Experience in radiology terminology, scheduling, Word & Excel, insurance billing. Strong demand for accuracy and excellent customer service skills. Mon-Fri, days. Fax resume & salary requirement in confidence: 248-723-5225

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (Postdoctoral)
Wayne State University has an available position of Research Associate (Postdoctoral) in Detroit, MI. The position requires an individual with a Ph.D. degree in Pathogen Biology. The position also requires: 1) Professional publication or work experience in which individual performed survival surgery & explants on small animals. Job duties: Conduct research on the effect of hypoxia on proliferation & cell death of ovarian cancer. Train Obstetrics & Gynecology fellows & residents in utilization of state-of-the-art molecular biological techniques. Perform animal survival surgery on small animals. Perform tissue explants. Publish results of research in peer-reviewed journals.

Qualified candidates should apply through the WSU Online Hiring System for posting # 034839 at: https://jobs@wayne.edu Or send resume to Ms. Maria Cusenza, Human Resource Generalist, Wayne State University School of Medicine, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, 3750 Woodward, Suite 200 A, Detroit, MI 48201. Wayne State University is an equal opportunity employer. **WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY**

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National company, has 4 immediate openings. We will train the right person. Ambition is more important than a resume. We provide company car, bonus, benefits, 90% repeat business. NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED For personal interview. Call office btwn 8:30-3p, (734) 464-0115 (office) or (248) 921-8566 (cell) Ask for Al

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Experienced. Expanding co. needs 4 positions filled. Pay ranging from \$800 to \$1200 weekly. Phone: 1-800-926-5443 cablesales@COMCAST.net

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RETAIL JEWELRY SALES SEASONAL UP TO \$20/HR
Fun-Bonus-Training 714-542-9000 x146 Fax: 714-542-1891 jobs@jewelryexchange.com

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Seeking full time and contingent Physical Therapists, and contingent RNs, Speech Therapists, CNAs, Home Health Aides, companions and Homemakers to make home visits. Join our exceptional team to experience a rewarding work environment, flexible schedule and competitive salary.

RN, LPN or MA
With Experience, needed for GROWING dermatology practice in Ann Arbor/Plymouth area. Full-Time, excellent pay & benefits.

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RN/LPN
Part time for busy Bingham Farms Pediatric office. Benefits. Exp. preferred. Becky or Lynne: 248-642-7701

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

SWIM COACHES - for large Brighton Swim Club. experience preferred, pay negotiable. Call 810-299-4146 or e-mail mcinnit@qwise.bas.k12.mi.us

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

Cooks, Grill Cooks, Prep, Cashiers, and Catering Attendant/Server
needed for cafe in Southfield. Mon-Fri., full and part time available. Fax resume to 586-268-3856 or email CSiresume@continentalserv.com

MAX & ERMA'S
Now Hiring **PM COOKS**
Energetic Personality & passion for food a must. Flexible schedules. FT & PT avail: Apply in person corner of 5 Mile & Beck Restaurant **Bahama Breeze** NOW HIRING SERVERS!!! Please Apply In Person: 2-4pm Mon-Fri Bahama Breeze 19600 Haggerty Road Livonia, MI 48152 Or send resume to: dgreer@bahamabreeze.com 6 mos. full-service exp. req'd. Minimum age 18 years. Benefits include: Paid Vacations, Weekly Pay, Day One Health Benefits, 401K, & Meal Discount. EOE

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Phone Sales Rep. Hourly + commission. Ideal for retiree. Spanish a plus. 248-766-6183

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START \$49,000

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

SWIM COACHES - for large Brighton Swim Club. experience preferred, pay negotiable. Call 810-299-4146 or e-mail mcinnit@qwise.bas.k12.mi.us

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

LIVE-IN CAREGIVER
Livonia, for elderly man. Room & board plus pay. References, background check. (231) 330-5505

SR. CAREGIVER/COMPANION
Sit with elderly woman. Some exp. in caregiving helpful. References req. Part/full time. Hourly wage. Call 248-486-4153.

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Childcare/Baby-Sitting Services 5370

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THE BIGGEST EVENT
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2008 FUSION SE
2.3L I4 engine, 5-speed automatic transmission, P235/60R16 all-season and more.
Stock #9C6104 Was \$20,295
NOW \$16,819*

\$137** PER MO.
\$2000 Down \$2447.07 DUE AT SIGNING

2008 FOCUS SES 4 DOOR
2.0L DOHC engine, automatic transaxle, P195/60R15 BSW tires, Sirius satellite radio and much more.
Stock #9C9353 Was \$17,005
NOW \$14,964*

\$156** PER MO.
\$2000 Down \$2811.91 DUE AT SIGNING

MANAGER'S SPECIAL

2007 EDGE SEL
18" aluminum wheels, roof rails, reverse sensing, keyless entry, Sirius satellite radio and much more.
Stock #7T3316 Was \$28,950
NOW \$22,567*

\$192** PER MO.
\$2000 Down \$2850.22 DUE AT SIGNING
GIFT WRAPPED at no extra charge!

2008 TAURUS AWD LIMITED
3.5L V-6 Duratec engine, 6 speed automatic transmission, P225/55R18 BSW tires and much more.
Stock #9C7059 Was \$29,445
NOW \$24,420*

\$204** PER MO.
\$2000 Down \$2823.55 DUE AT SIGNING

2008 F150 4x4 XLT SUPERCAB
5.4L FFV V-8, electronic 4 spd auto O/D, P255/70R17 OWL all-terrain, 3.55 ratio lim, slip axle, 7150# GVWR pkg, sliding rear window, elec. shift-on-fly, trailer tow pkg, 17" Mach alum w/pain accents.
Stock #816517 Was \$33,475
NOW \$25,129*

\$205** PER MO.
\$2000 Down \$2839.14 DUE AT SIGNING

2008 EXPLORER XLT 4 DOOR 4X2
Air, alum. wheels, 4.0L DOHC V6 engine, 5 speed auto trans w/O/D, P245/65R17 A/S tires, 3.73 ratio rear axle, running boards, trailer tow, 17" cast alum white convenience group, elec. mirror, auto lamp headlights, keypad and more.
Stock #815045 Was \$27,710
NOW \$21,004*

\$206** PER MO.
\$2000 Down \$2700.47 DUE AT SIGNING

2008 ESCAPE XLT Powermoon • Sat. Radio
Automatic, air, fog lamps, power driver's seat, privacy glass, safety canopy, convenience package and more.
Stock #879171 Was \$23,020
NOW \$19,259*

\$209** PER MO.
\$2000 Down \$2524.43 DUE AT SIGNING

2008 EDGE FWD SE
Automatic overdrive transmission, 3.5L V6 engine, 17" painted aluminum wheels, P235/65R17 BSW tires and more.
Stock #873035 Was \$26,094
NOW \$22,589*

\$210** PER MO.
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2008 TAURUS X FWD LTD
3.5L V-6 Duratec engine, 6 speed automatic transmission, 60/40 2nd row 3-passenger bench seat.
Stock #813300 Was \$30,700
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\$236** PER MO.
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2005 FORD CREW 4X4 FX 4 \$20,960	2006 FORD EXPLORER 4X4 - XLT \$21,340	2003 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR Loaded! \$22,500	2003 FORD F350 DUALY 4X4 LARIAT \$28,140

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\$21.95
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Inspect brake friction material, caliper operation, rotors, drums, hoses and connections. Inspect parking brake for damage and proper operation. Rotate and inspect four tires. Dual-rear-wheel vehicles extra.

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\$89.95
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Inspect radiator for leaks. Check hoses, clamps and belts. Pressure test system for leaks. Drain and refill radiator. Includes up to one gallon of coolant. Disposal fee extra, if applicable. See service Advisor for details.

Offer valid with coupon. Taxes extra. No other discounts apply. Offer expires 12/31/07. **Quick Lane** TIRE & AUTO CENTER

\$89.95
automatic transmission service
Change up to five quarts of automatic transmission/transaxle fluid. Inspect and lubricate linkage and controls (where applicable). Road test. Offer valid on most vehicles. Disposal fee extra, if applicable.

Offer valid with coupon. Taxes extra. No other discounts apply. Offer expires 12/31/07. **Quick Lane** TIRE & AUTO CENTER

\$99.95
four-wheel alignment
Check and adjust camber and toe. Additional parts and labor may be required on some vehicles.

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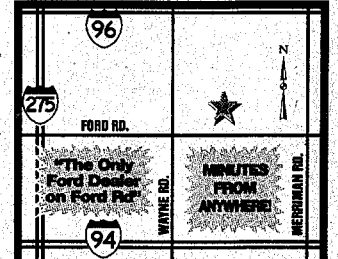
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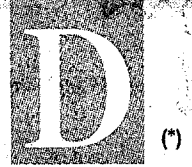
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New Homes



Sunday, December 9, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Family affair: Andrea Lynne suits those with young kids

The Andrea Lynne (405-25) is perfectly designed for the family with young children that need to be close to their parents at night. The sleeping area for the entire family is located at the rear of this 1,526-square-foot home with the master suite in the middle.

The master suite has a large walk-in closet that can be closed off from the rest of the room by a pocket door. There is a counter containing "his" and "her" sinks. This area is separate from the tub and toilet area. Next to the master bath is the other bathroom for

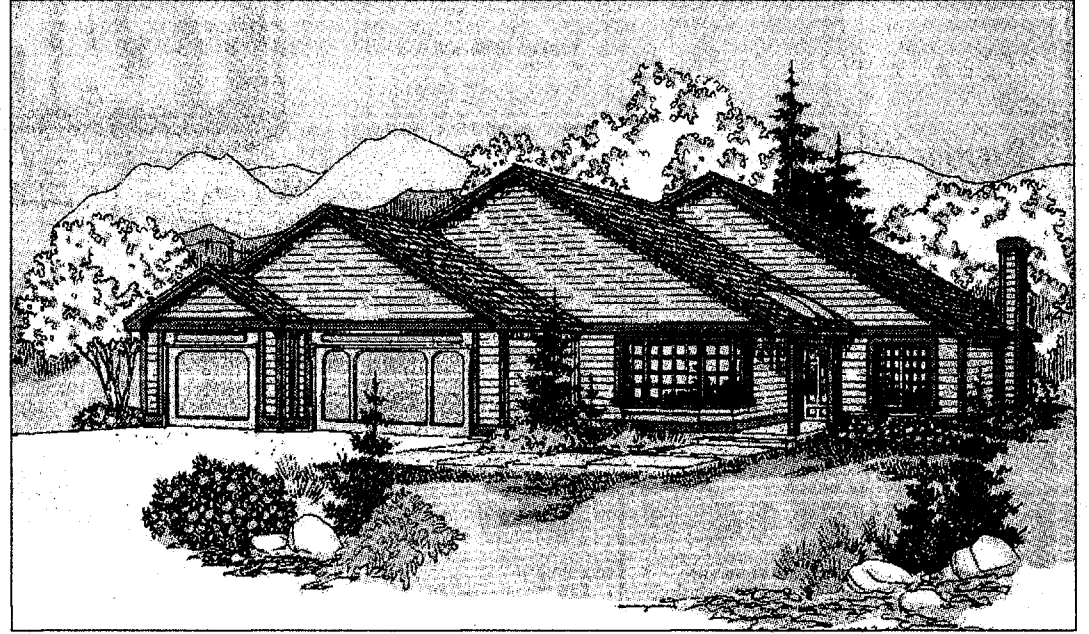
the rest of the home. It also has a tub, sink and toilet.

The two bedrooms, one on each side of the master suite, have wall closets. The utility room with the washer and dryer are located beside the bedrooms to make laundry easier. There is also a door off the utility room to the garage.

The living room and the dining room are completely open, leaving the area to the imagination of the owners. It could be a great room, a family room, or any combinations. This large room comes with vaulted ceilings. It has a fireplace designed into the wall with windows on either side. There are patio doors opening out onto a circular patio area.

Storage is vital with young children. In order to help with this problem, a large storage closet has been located in the hall on the wall next to the pantry. The door to the pantry is around the corner in the kitchen area. The kitchen has been set up built-in appliances and plenty of counter space.

On the front of the house,



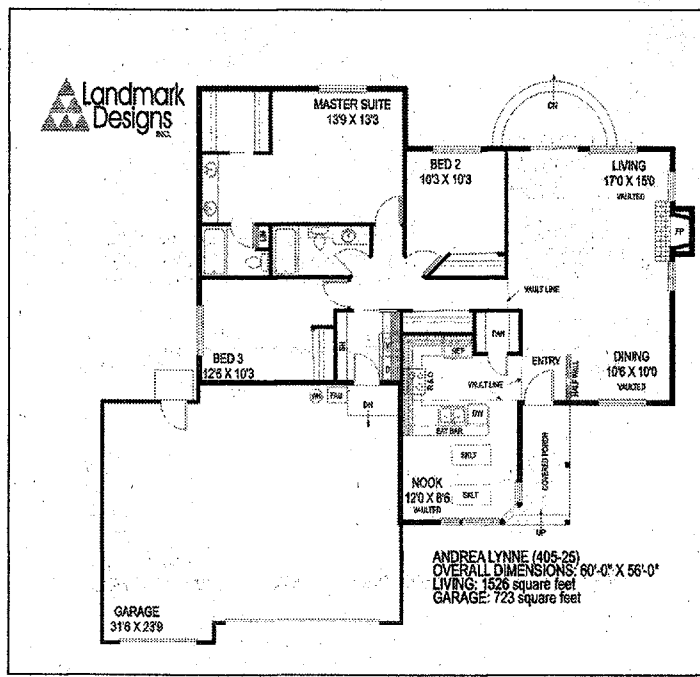
with numerous windows overlooking the front yard, is the breakfast nook. It has skylights for added lighting. It is an area that welcomes the morning person looking for that first hot cup of coffee.

The garage is a three-car unit, deep enough to have a workbench in the rear or down the side. Storage of

bikes, tricycles, toys, and sports equipment is easily handled when there is this much area.

For a study plan of the ANDREA LYNNE (405-25), 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

Buying in Rochester

For the first time ever, the community of Rochester Realtors is joining together to host more than 35 open houses featuring homes \$188,400 and under, which qualify for a new Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) funding program. The goal is to help first-time buyers and others to afford homes at exceptional financing.

The program allows qualified buyers to purchase with

\$0 down and 100 percent financing, at 5.375 per cent. Targeted areas may receive interest rates as low as 4.375 percent. These funds will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis until they're depleted, and won't be offered again for some time.

Buyers who qualify will be those who have not owned a home within the last three years, or are first-time buyers. Income cannot exceed \$60,500 for a one- or two-person household, or \$62,800

for a three-or-more household. Credit rating will not be a consideration.

The event will take place Sunday, Dec. 9, and will run 1-4 p.m. Participants are Weir Manual Realtors, Century 21 Sakmar & Associates, Century 21 Town & Country, GMAC The Kee Group, GMAC Great Lakes, and Real Estate One/Max Brook.

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.

Speaker

The Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland will meet 5:30/9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, at the MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Hear Stephen Piazza discussing the state of the mortgage industry after

one of the most tumultuous years in its history. Piazza has more than 20 years experience in the mortgage and real estate industry. Seminar free to members, \$20 non-members. Call (800) 747 6742 (www.REIAofOakland.com).

BIA

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will sponsor a builder's license preparation course on Friday, Dec. 14, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at

BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. Presented by NCI Associates, the course is designed to prepare students for the Michigan Residential Builder's License Examination. Material covered will include topics on the exam, laws and rules, building practices and procedures, sample test questions and test-taking strategies. Registration fees are \$200 per person. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

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3140...Dearborn
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attached garage. \$139,000
(27198939)
(248) 647-8888
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Waterford 3423

WATERFORD TWP
3 bdrm, 2.5 bath Arlington
model offers great room
w/cathedral ceiling, island bar
kitchen, 1st floor laundry,
master suite, large deck & 2
car attached garage. \$169,900
(27142152)
(248) 647-8888
CENTURY 21 TODAY

West Bloomfield 3440

BUILT 2001,
faces golf course, over 2,064
sq. ft., great room w/fireplace.
Finished daylight bsmt.
\$349,900 MLS 27119114
(734) 462-9800
CENTURY 21 TODAY

West Bloomfield 3440

FOUR BDRM, 2.5 BATH
updated colonial. Marble
entry, dining room, family
room, w/fireplace, updated
kitchen, master suite w/etted
bath. First floor laundry + full
bsmt. 2 car attached garage.
\$279,000 MLS 27188767
(313) 538-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

UP-NORTH LIKE

3,100 sq. ft. elegance Upper
Strait's Lake privileges, gated
beach & park. Finished walk-
out, large upper deck
accessed from living, dining
rooms & kitchen. Vaulted
ceilings, 1st floor master, neutral
decor. \$320,000 #27130217
(248) 360-9100
CENTURY 21 TODAY

WEST BLOOMFIELD TWP

Spectacular 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath
home on waterfront lot.
Amazing views from every
window. Hardwood floors,
gourmet kitchen, formal dining
room and 2 story great room.
\$480,000 MLS 27136250
(248) 673-2211
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Westland 3445

LIVONIA SCHOOLS
Large custom Kitchen, 1.5
baths, Finished Bsmt., 2
Car Garage, \$139,900.
GORGEOUS RANCH
Updated Kitchen, Florida
Room, finished Bsmt. 1.5
baths, 2 Car Garage, \$169,900.
Century 21-Castelli
734-525-7900

White Lake 3450

BEAUTIFUL 3 BDRM
3 bath ranch. Gourmet island
kitchen. Professional finished
day light bsmt, huge family
room, game room, full bath.
Great room, fireplace. Luxury
master suite. 3 car garage.
Premium landscaped lot, cus-
tom deck. \$275,000
#27120443
(248) 360-9100
CENTURY 21 TODAY

White Lake 3450

CEDAR ISLAND
lakefront ranch home. Great
view & 100 ft. frontage. 34
bdrm, spacious family room
& kitchen, lakeside patio, nice
beach, sprinklers. Great place
to live or rebuild for your per-
fect lake retreat. \$319,000
#27125529
(248) 360-9100
CENTURY 21 TODAY

White Lake TWP 3450

CONTEMPORARY MAIN
lakefront. Private all sports
lake. 2 story, spectacular mas-
ter suite, 20x13 bdrm, vaulted
ceiling, brick fireplace. 167 ft.
lake frontage. Quiet location,
dead end street. 3 bdrm, 3 full
baths. \$379,000 #27193252
(248) 360-9100
CENTURY 21 TODAY

White Lake TWP 3450

CUTE AS CAN BE!
Huge master! Remodeled in
2005. Hardwood floors, new
furnace, new roof, freshly
painted & decorated.
Fabulous newer kitchen. Huge
lot. All this & lake privileges
too! A real doll house.
\$169,900 #27098373
(248) 360-9100
CENTURY 21 TODAY

White Lake TWP 3450

WHITE LAKE TWP
3 bdrm, 2.5 bath brick home
in Walled Lake school district
Double lot on quiet cul-de-
sac. Large kitchen, library
w/doorwalk to deck and a fin-
ished bsmt. \$239,900 MLS
27153277
(248) 673-2211
CENTURY 21 TODAY

White Lake TWP 3450

WHITE LAKE TWP
Beautiful 3 bdrm home locat-
ed on all sports lake. Family
room w/fireplace, door walk to
deck and formal dining room
w/picture windows to the lake.
\$349,000 MLS 27196956
(248) 673-2211
CENTURY 21 TODAY

White Lake TWP 3450

WHITE LAKE TWP
Beautiful 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath
home located in Holly school
district. Custom designed
hardwood floors, gourmet
kitchen, 2 story foyer and in-
law quarters. \$374,900 MLS
27206754
(248) 673-2211
CENTURY 21 TODAY

White Lake TWP 3450

WHITE LAKE TWP
Entertain in style in this 3
bdrm, 2.5 bath brick ranch.
Cherry hardwood floors
throughout, cathedral ceilings,
a great room w/doorwalk
leading to deck. \$206,000
MLS 27170316
(248) 673-2211
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Oakland County 3540

ROSE TWP
Beautiful 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath
home on almost 1 acre. Great
room w/ floor to ceiling
stone fireplace. Hardwood
floors throughout and a walk
out bsmt. \$300,000
MLS 27168636
(248) 673-2211
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Wayne County 3570

TAYLOR
3 bdrm, 2 bath. New oak
kitchen & counters. New car-
peting & Pergo. Never win-
dows, new furnace, CA, hot
water heater. All appliances
included. Great deck for
entertaining. \$134,900
MLS 27179109
(734) 462-9800
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Real Estate Services 3640

DISTRESS SALE
Bank Foreclosures
Free list with pics
www.WayneCounty.com
BankForeclosures.com
or Free recorded mess.
1-800-884-9575 Id#1042
Remenia Realty
19254 Newburgh Rd.

Condos 3720

BIRMINGHAM - DOWNTOWN
Luxury 2 bdrm, 2 bath, bal-
cony, stunning views, garage.
5th floor \$414,000, 9th floor
\$464,000. Call: 248-613-7747

Condos 3720

CANTON TWP
Beautiful end unit condo fea-
turing 2 bdrm & 2.5 baths!
Finished lower level, great rec
room for entertaining. Kitchen
has built-ins & all appliances
stay. Private deck off of dining
area. \$125,000 MLS 27189823
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Livonia Merrivale Park 3720

LIVONIA MERRIVALE PARK
Ranch condo, 2 Bdrm., 2 bath,
first floor laundry, full bsmt. 2
car attached. By appt. only. No
realtors please! 734-266-1308

Northville 3810

NORTHVILLE
GIANT CHRISTMAS
OPEN HOUSE
SUN. 1-4 PM.
COUNTRY CLUB
VILLAGE CONDOS
Enter from W. of Haggerty
Rd. or Country Knoll - S. of
6 Mile. All styles and floor
plans. Prices from
\$229,900-\$359,900.
Rosemary Firestone
Re/Max 100
734-420-9600

Northville 3810

NORTHVILLE
condominium shows like a model! Kitchen
has light wood cabinets,
snack bar, ceramic tile floors
& counter tops. 3 bdrm
updated 1.5 baths. Finished
bsmt, family room. \$139,000
MLS 27190922
(734) 462-9800
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Ypsilanti 3490

YPSILANTI TWP
3 bdrm, 2.5 bath two story,
built in 2004! Oak kitchen
w/islnd. Hardwood floors.
Many upgrades! Family room,
dining room, living room, loft.
2 car attached garage.
\$239,900 (27148661)
(248) 647-8888
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Macomb County 3530

WASHINGTON TWP
Nearly new & in move in con-
dition. This 4 bdrm colonial
offers a 1st floor master suite,
two story foyer, library & two
story great room. Large
kitchen & dining space w/lots
of storage. \$269,000
MLS 27164494
(248) 855-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Oakland County 3540

INDEPENDENCE TWP
Vacation all year long in this
wooded hilltop home
w/breathtaking views. Deluxe
bathroom w/Jacuzzi, private
balcony w/hot tub & new car-
pet. Finished lower level walk-
out. All appliances stay.
\$244,900 MLS 27152029
(248) 855-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Condos 3720

SOUTH LYON - Senior
Community 2 br., 1.5 bath,
C/A, finished bsmt., 3-season
room, clubhouse, in-ground
pool. Completely remodeled!
\$52,900 810-459-2111

Duplexes & Townhouses 3730

WATERFORD
Renovated town home. Brand
new top to bottom, includes:
solid oak floors, kitchen coun-
ters, ceramic tile back splash,
stainless steel appliances.
Features: toilet-vanity/sink in
1/2 bath. Crown molding,
marble surround gas fire-
place. \$104,500 #27116696
(248) 360-9100
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Manufactured Homes 3740

Make Your Best Deal in PLYMOUTH!!!
More than 15 new and
used homes available for
immediate occupancy!
SAVE UP TO 75% off
retail NOW!
Call Dorris @ (734) 454-4660
or Hal @ (734) 658-5148

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\$ CASH \$
UP TO \$20,000 CASH
For Mobile Homes
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office, \$1,200 mo. or
\$120,000. 1,100 sq. ft. +
1,100' bsmt.
Tapee Realty
734-453-7000
TomGoebel@comcast.net

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Costa Rica Ocean, river and
mountain view estate lots.
Affordable paradise starting at
\$60K. Call today for more info
or for an appointment with a
representative in your area.
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Southern Property 3810

TEXAS LAND LIQUIDATION!!
20-acre, near booming El
Paso. Good road access.
ONLY \$14,900 \$200/down
\$145 per/mo. Money back
guarantee. No credit checks.
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www.sunstranches.com

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WASHTENAW COUNTY
WOODED 2.5 ACRE LOT
In existing community.
Easy terms. J.A. Bloch & Co.
248-559-7430

Time Share 3830

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

Money To Loan/Borrow 3860

Business Owners
Accepting Visa/Mastercard
Get up to \$300K funding!
97% approval. Bad credit!
OK. 5 minute application.
Funding in 10 days or less.
Apply now toll-free:
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3935...Industrial & Warehouse For Lease

3940...Industrial & Warehouse For Sale
3950...Office Business For Lease
3955...Office Space For Sale
3960...Commercial & Industrial For Lease
3970...Investment Property For Lease
3980...Land

1-800-579-SELL

Continued From The PREVIOUS SECTION

3000-3890 Real Estate For Sale

BIRMINGHAM OPEN SUNDAY 1-3

420 Northfield Avenue
Sun off Maple
Enchanting French farmhouse in
Quarant Lake Estates. This
home has been lovingly main-
tained & updated. Delightful
custom details: leaded glass
windows, arched limestone
fireplace, curved walls,
dormer windows, exposed
beams & balcony. Cherry
kitchen w/new Sub Zero &
copper counter opens to fam-
ily room & breakfast. 4 bdrm,
2.1 bath. \$725,000 27126206
SKBK Sotheby's Int'l
248-644-7000

It's all here!

1-800-579-SELL
www.hometownlife.com

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 1-4

35220 Pinetree • Livonia
Well maintained ranch close to park and school. Updated
throughout. Sunroom and fin low lev. \$183,000
C21 Town & Country (734)455-5600 Janie Clemons

11419 Ingram • Livonia
Desirable Rosedale Garden 3 bdrm, 2 updated bth, fin bsmt.
\$239,900. C21 Town & Country (734)455-5600 Jim Ford

Bloomfield 3055

BEAUTIFUL HILLTOP LOT
Walnut Lake access.
Neighborhood of Million
dollar plus homes. Active
area w/lakes, streams, trees
& natural beauty for walkers
& bikers. 1941 Cragin
Dr. \$260,000.
Pete: 248-321-7330
Keller-Williams Realty
30500 Northwest Hwy

Bloomfield Hills 3055

BLOOMFIELD HILLS
INVESTMENT
OPPORTUNITY!
121 Denbar, S off Long
Lake on Barden, E on
Denbar. 3 bdrm ranch
priced way below appraised
value. Motivated seller!
Bring all offers! \$485,000.
Pete Kirsh: 248-321-7330
Keller Williams Realty
30500 Northwest Hwy

Bloomfield TWP 3055

BLOOMFIELD TWP.
Cozy 3 bdrm, 2 bath ranch.
Foyer w/skylight. Oak kitchen.
All appliances. Deck wraps
around side & back of home!
2 car attached garage.
\$229,900 (27107927)
(248) 647-8888
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Bloomfield Hills 3115

THREE BDRM, 1.5
brick ranch in Crestwood
school district. Updated doors
& windows. CA. Partially fin-
ished bsmt w/half bath, 2 car
garage. Patio. \$109,900
MLS 27173002
(313) 538-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Well Maintained 3115

3 bdrm brick ranch w/newer
roof, windows and furnace.
Large eat-in kitchen w/door
walk to patio. Spacious open
bsmt. All appliances are
included. 1035 sq. ft.
\$150,000 MLS 27186451
(248) 855-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Farmington 3140

DOWNTOWN HISTORIC
district home w/2600 sq. ft.
w/4 bdrm, 2 full baths, 1 half
bath. Updated kitchen, huge
family room w/fireplace, 1st
floor master suite. Formal
dining room. 3 car garage.
\$299,900 MLS 2700947
(734) 462-9800
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Lovely 3 BDRM 3140

2 bath ranch. Wood floors.
Maple kitchen. Many updates!
Finished bsmt. Privacy fence.
Home warranty. 2 car attached
garage. \$194,900 (27196748)
(248) 647-8888
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Farmington Hills 3145

WELL MAINTAINED
Tudor in gated community on
a large lot. Very large bdrms,
kitchen w/newer granite coun-
ters & door walk to deck. Huge
family room w/fireplace.
Master w/walk-in-closet & private
bath. Updated windows &
CA. \$299,900 MLS 27173122
(248) 855-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Commerce 3105

COMMERCIAL TWP
4 bdrm, 2 bath home on gor-
geous wooded lot. Brick paver
walkway. Maple wood floors.
Family room w/fireplace. 2
lvs. Master suite w/etted tub.
Daylight bsmt. (27202158)
(248) 647-8888
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Over 1800 SQ. FT. 3105

3 spacious bdrm. Large lot, 2
car attached garage, great
location. Lake access on
Lower Straits Lake. Swimming
& boating privileges. Award
winning Walled Lake schools.
\$172,900 #27085050
(248) 360-9100
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Dearborn Hgts 3115

THREE BDRM, 1.5
brick ranch in Crestwood
school district. Updated doors
& windows. CA. Partially fin-
ished bsmt w/half bath, 2 car
garage. Patio. \$109,900
MLS 27173002
(313) 538-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Well Maintained 3115

3 bdrm brick ranch w/newer
roof, windows and furnace.
Large eat-in kitchen w/door
walk to patio. Spacious open
bsmt. All appliances are
included. 1035 sq. ft.
\$150,000 MLS 27186451
(248) 855-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Farmington 3140

DOWNTOWN HISTORIC
district home w/2600 sq. ft.
w/4 bdrm, 2 full baths, 1 half
bath. Updated kitchen, huge
family room w/fireplace, 1st
floor master suite. Formal
dining room. 3 car garage.
\$299,900 MLS 2700947
(734) 462-9800
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Lovely 3 BDRM 3140

2 bath ranch. Wood floors.
Maple kitchen. Many updates!
Finished bsmt. Privacy fence.
Home warranty. 2 car attached
garage. \$194,900 (27196748)
(248) 647-8888
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Farmington Hills 3145

WELL MAINTAINED
Tudor in gated community on
a large lot. Very large bdrms,
kitchen w/newer granite coun-
ters & door walk to deck. Huge
family room w/fireplace.
Master w/walk-in-closet & private
bath. Updated windows &
CA. \$299,900 MLS 27173122
(248) 855-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Novi 3290

COLONIAL IN
Meadowbrook Glens sub w/4
bdrm, 2 bath. Newer kitchen
w/cherry cabinets, 1st floor
master w/updated master
bath. Family room w/fireplace.
New furnace & CA. \$249,900
MLS 27181791
(734) 462-9800
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Plymouth 3347

CUTE 800 sq. ft. 2 bdrm home
located on spacious, 100 x
200 ft. lot. 2 min from town.
Walking distance to schools.
\$162,000. No Agents Please.
734-649-9110, 517-404-6507

OWNER FINANCE - Stated

income, self employed okay,
5% down, \$340,000. 3 bdrm,
4th & finished lower level
walkout. Call: (734) 786-6840

Plymouth 3347

PLYMOUTH
\$110K + updates in last 3 yrs!
Custom kitchen w/granite,
updated roof, plumbing &
electric. Newer furnace, CA &
floors. Great room w/fireplace.
Fantastic master suite retreat.
\$324,500 MLS 27209559
(734) 462-9800
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Redford 3350

UPDATED & EXTRAS
in this beautiful 1100 sq. ft.
brick ranch. 3 bdrm, 1.5 baths
& fully finished carpeted bsmt.
All appliances stay. Newer roof
& furnace. 2 car garage. Patio.
\$129,900 MLS 2709245
(313) 538-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Well Kept 3 BDRM 3350

brick bungalow in quiet neigh-
borhood. New furnace & CA.
Newer windows, roof & glass
block windows in bsmt.
\$94,000 MLS 27097712
(248) 855-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

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

Waterford 3423

WATERFORD TWP
3 bdrm, 2.5 bath Arlington
model offers great room
w/cathedral ceiling, island bar
kitchen, 1st floor laundry,
master suite, large deck & 2
car attached garage. \$169,900
(27142152)
(248) 647-8888
CENTURY 21 TODAY

West Bloomfield 3440

BUILT 2001,
faces golf course, over 2,064
sq. ft., great room w/fireplace.
Finished daylight bsmt.
\$349,900 MLS 27119114
(734) 462-9800
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Four BDRM, 2.5 Bath 3440

updated colonial. Marble
entry, dining room, family
room, w/fireplace, updated
kitchen, master suite w/etted
bath. First floor laundry + full
bsmt. 2 car attached garage.
\$279,000 MLS 27188767
(313) 538-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

UP-NORTH LIKE 3440

3,100 sq. ft. elegance Upper
Strait's Lake privileges, gated
beach & park. Finished walk-
out, large upper deck
accessed from living, dining
rooms & kitchen. Vaulted
ceilings, 1st floor master, neutral
decor. \$320,000 #27130217
(248) 360-9100
CENTURY 21 TODAY

WEST BLOOMFIELD TWP 3440

Spectacular 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath
home on waterfront lot.
Amazing views from every
window. Hardwood floors,
gourmet kitchen, formal dining
room and 2 story great room.
\$480,000 MLS 27136250
(248) 673-2211
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Ypsilanti 3490

YPSILANTI TWP
3 bdrm, 2.5 bath two story,
built in 2004! Oak kitchen
w/islnd. Hardwood floors.
Many upgrades! Family room,
dining room, living room, loft.
2 car attached garage.
\$239,900 (27148661)
(248) 647-8888
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Macomb County 3530

WASHINGTON TWP
Nearly new & in move in con-
dition. This 4 bdrm colonial
offers a 1st floor master suite,
two story foyer, library & two
story great room. Large
kitchen & dining space w/lots
of storage. \$269,000
MLS 27164494
(248) 855-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Oakland County 3540

INDEPENDENCE TWP
Vacation all year long in this
wooded hilltop home
w/breathtaking views. Deluxe
bathroom w/Jacuzzi, private
balcony w/hot tub & new car-
pet. Finished lower level walk-
out. All appliances stay.
\$244,900 MLS 27152029
(248) 855-2000
CENTURY 21 TODAY

By Owner 3530

Plymouth 'DAISY SQUARE'
RANCH CONDO - \$222,900
2 bdrm, 2 bath, 1250 sq. ft.,
1 car attached garage, pri-
vate patio. Short walk to
downtown.
Call 734-756-1860
for an appt.

Redford 3540

ROYAL OAK
Lovingly cared for 2 bdrm,
1.5 bath condo. Newer win-
dows, furnace, CA, electrical,
carpet. Hardwood floors.
Living room w/gas fireplace.
Patio. \$129,900 (27199410)
(248) 647-8888
CENTURY 21 TODAY

Oakland County 3540

ROYAL OAK
Professionally designed unit
w/hardwood floors in main
living area, gorgeous balcony,

Apartments

4000's Real Estate For Lease

- | | |
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| 4000.....Apartments/Unfurnished | 4220.....Office/Retail Space |
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• Bloomfield Hills schools
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Apartments/Unfurnished 4000

FARMINGTON HILLS
Luxury Updated Apartments from \$699
Private Entrance
• Farmington Hills schools.
Free Carpets
Creekside Apts.
248-474-4400. E.H.O.

Farmington Hills MAPLE RIDGE
\$200 Sec. deposit w/50% off 1st 3 mos. rent w/ approved credit.
23078 Middlebelt Spacious 1 bdrm. C/A. Carpet avail.
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FARMINGTON HILLS ANNIE APTS.
FREE HEAT! 1 bedroom \$505. 9 Mile Middlebelt
248-478-7489

FARMINGTON HILLS ANNIE APTS.
FREE HEAT! 1 bedroom \$505. 9 Mile Middlebelt
248-478-7489

FARMINGTON HILLS FREEDOM VILLAGE APTS.
CALL FOR SPECIALS! Luxury 1 & 2 bdrm. Laundry in unit. Water & carpet incl. Low sec. dep w/good credit. \$545-\$700. (586) 254-9511

FARMINGTON HILLS
Spacious 1 bdrm, updated kitchen, walk in closet, blinds, carpet incl. \$610/mo. The Woodhues, 30250 West 12 Mile. Call: (248) 763-4729

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Deluxe studio & 1 bedroom, carpet, starting at \$475. 248-888-0868

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1 & 2 Bedrooms Seniors, Specials
248-521-1978

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

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GARDEN CITY
2 bdrm apt., heat & water incl. \$650/mo. Mint cond. 313-645-0348

GARDEN CITY Very nice 1 & 2 bedroom avail. \$500-\$600/mo. 1 mo. Free! 31075 Krauter. (313) 805-1480

GARDEN CITY - A ZERO MOVE-IN! Ford & Merriman. Large 1 bdrm. Free heat & water. \$545/mo. 734-459-1180

GARDEN CITY - One/Two bdrm. Newly decorated. Heat, water, appl. incl. \$560 & \$600 + sec. 734-464-3847/734-513-4965

Apartments/Unfurnished 4000

KEEGO HARBOR/WEST BLOOMFIELD
Large studio, 1 & 2 bedroom apts. in small, quiet complex, next to park. West Bloomfield schools. Rents from \$550 includes water. Furnished apts. also available.
248-681-8309

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Deluxe 1 & 2 bedrooms. Starting at \$399 a month. Quiet, private balcony, storage, laundry, ceiling fans w/ lights & blinds.
313-386-6720

NORTHVILLE

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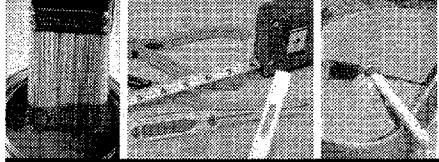
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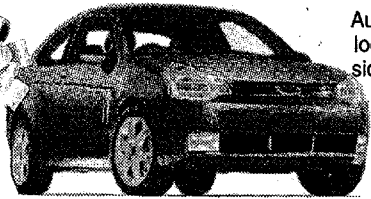


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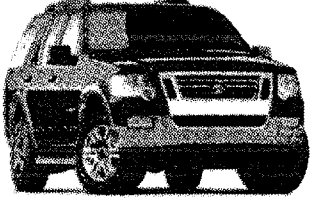


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