All-Area Girls Swimming - B5

Latest 'Dining' winner lunches with Florine Mark Page A8

More holiday films

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THURSDAY December 13, 2007

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Township board approves raises

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees agreed Tuesday to grant pay raises each of the next two years to the township's three full-time elected officials — Supervisor Richard Reaume, Clerk Marilyn Massengill and Treasurer Ron Edwards.

The raises were recommended by the township's Compensation Commission, which meets in odd-numbered years to consider compensation for the township's seven elected officials. The commission, chaired by Jack Dempsey, recommended a 4-percent hike in 2008 and a 5-percent raise in 2009. The commission recommended leaving salaries for the four trustees where they are.

Under the plan, Reaume will earn \$93,760 next year, \$98,454 in 2009; Edwards and Massengill rise to \$87,027 next year, \$91,378 in 2009. Trustees remain at \$11,400 per year.

No Compensation Commission members attended Tuesday's meeting. According to information contained in their resolution. commission members considered the salaries of elected officials in nine different comparable communities, including Canton, Northville, Commerce, Waterford and Ypsilanti, and the salaries of non-elected department heads in those communities, including 16 nonelected workers in Plymouth Township. The discussion, primarily led by trustees Charles Curmi and Steve Mann, centered around whether the raises were warranted given difficult economic times. Edwards said the fulltime electeds deserved the raises.

Shining the light

Candlelight vigil remembers children lost too soon

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of people braved dropping temperatures and a sleeting drizzle Sunday to attend the annual Compassionate Friends Candlelight Vigil in Plymouth's Kellogg Park, all with the same goal in mind.

Paying tribute to the children they've lost too soon.

The event, sponsored by The Compassionate Friends-Western Wayne County (Livonia) Chapter, included the dedication of a tree decorated with ornaments with the children's names, the candlelight vigil, a reading of the children's names, poetry and songs.

This year, nearly 400 names were read.

"If that's not the most we've ever read, it's close," said Gail Lafferty, a Compassionate Friends member who co-chairs the vigil. "They just seem to keep coming."

Dave and Kim Blackwell of Westland were there Sunday to remember Amy Louise Blackwell, Dave's sister, who died in an apart-



A tree in Kellogg Park held ornaments and photos bearing the names of children honored at the candlelight vigil.



District switches election schedule

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education voted Tuesday to move the annual May school board election to every other year — beginning in 2009 — which will save the district tens of thousands of dollars.

Trustees did not seriously consider an option of holding school board elections in even-year November — on ballots with state and federal races — that would have eliminated all costs.

According to a school board analysis of costs for holding elections in various combinations involving annual and bi-annual May and November elections, the current cycle of May annual elections costs the district \$100,000, with a 50-percent savings every odd year when costs are shared with Schoolcraft College. Under the new format, elections will cost Plymouth-Canton \$50,000 every two years as it continues to split the cost with Schoolcraft.

"This board puts tremendous pressure on the administration to find cuts and savings ... and run this township," Edwards said. "You have to start respecting what we do here ... this is hard work."

Mann reiterated a position he took a few months ago, when he recommended the board leave positions on the Compensation Commission vacant and not let the commission meet.

"I thought it was best to hold off this year and wait until the new board is elected next year and let them deal with it," said Mann, who created the commission in 2000 while he was supervisor. "I think the salaries are sufficient (before the raises)."

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

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should the Plymouth Township board have approved raises for its members? E-mail your opinion to bkadrich@ hometownlife.com. ment fire seven years ago. Seven years later, the pain is still evident. "She was my host find " Dave

"She was my best friend," Dave said of Amy. "We *have* to come (to the vigil)."

Claudia Schmitt isn't among those who have lost children, but she felt compelled to be at the vigil anyway, to support a friend who had lost a brother. The weather apparently kept the friend away, but Schmitt was touched by the ceremony just the same.

"I wanted to be here for her," she said of her friend. "I'm going to take a candle to her."

Compassionate Friend Pat O'Donnell, who lost his son, reminded the audience what they already knew.

"We loved our children yesterday, we loved them today and we'll love them tomorrow," O'Donnell said. "Death can't kill that which lasts forever."

Greg and Donna Blackwood of Commerce light candles to honor Amy Louise Blackwood at the Compassionate Friends Candlelight Vigil in Kellogg Park Sunday. Please see ELECTIONS, A5

COST OF ELECTIONS

		ials estimate it would ns, with and without
Schoolcraft C	ollege as a pa	irtner:
With	Without	
Schoolcraft	Schoolcraft	Election
\$75,000	\$100,000	Annually in May
\$25,000	\$50,000	Odd-years May
\$21,000	\$42,000	Every November
\$21,000	\$42,000	Odd-year November
\$0	\$0	Even-year November

Hopes fading, search stopped for missing man

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Rescuers in Mauna Kea, Hawaii, have ended their search for a 67-year-old Salem Township man who had been hiking a Mauna Kea trail and may have been caught in a blizzard Wednesday, Dec. 5, that dropped nearly a foot of snow and recorded winds in excess of 70 miles per hour.

As a result, hope is fading for his two daughters who live in Canton Township and Kalamazoo.

"We've terminated the search for now," said Clint Coloma, battalion chief with special operations for the Hawaii Fire Department. "We could resume in a couple of days if the snow melts.

'We normally search for five days, but the

family called the fire chief and we searched an additional day," Coloma said. "The side of the mountain is all lava field and footing is unsecure and uneven with loose rocks and very steep terrain."

After the six days of searching, Coloma wasn't too optimistic Murphy will be found alive.

"Realistically, I think the chances are very low," Coloma said. "He hasn't made any response to our communication while searching for him. I'm thinking he may be hurt and can't respond.

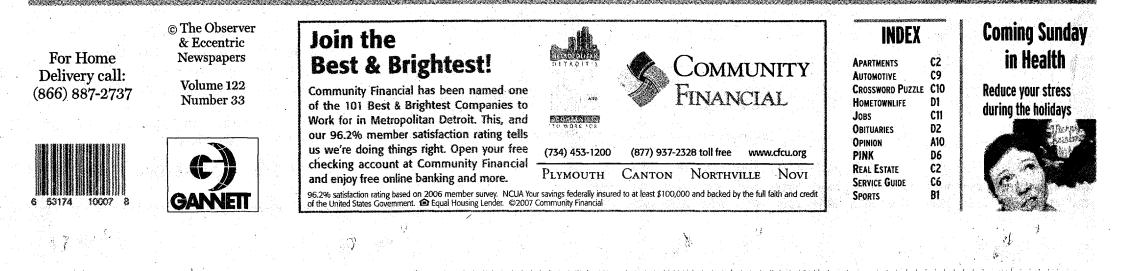
"Unfortunately, for the family it's frustrating because they know he's up there," he said. "The family is seeking closure, and we're doing our best to locate Mr. Murphy."

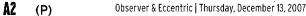
Family members in Michigan can only wait.

Please see MISSING, A5



Officials have suspended the search for Brian Murphy, here with daughter Kelly (Murphy) Seelbinder, who's been missing in Hawaii for more than a week.





SHOWROOM OF

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PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

Christmas concert

The St. John's Episcopal Church Youth Choir presents a Christmas concert/ carol sing for the residents of Independence Village in Plymouth Township 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 15.

This program is free and will feature youth singers and instrumentalists. Independence Village is located at 14707 Northville Road.

For more information, contact Scott Elsholz, St. John's Minister of Music, at (734) 453-0190, Ext. 16.

Sounds of the season

The award-winning Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Choirs, under the direction of Jennifer L. Kopp, will present their annual holiday concert, Sounds of the Season, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18, in the Salem High School Auditorium.

Tickets are on sale now from all P-CEP Choir students or from the Choir Office (Room 1603 in Salem High School). Tickets are \$4 presale and \$5 at the door while they last. This concert is very popular and typically sells out before the night of the performance.

The PCEP Choirs consist of six choral ensembles comprised of more than 250 students in grades 9-12 from Plymouth, Salem and Canton High Schools, under the direction of Jennifer L. Kopp.

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.



ALL DIGITAL SOUND

ALL STADIUM SEATING

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

Book signing

Steve Martin, a 1981 graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School, will sign copies of his book, "All 50" noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Book Cellar & Cafe in downtown Plymouth.

The book is a fill-in-theblank journal for friends, family, or yourself - anyone who's wanted to see all 50 states. Take it with you on your travels filling in the details of your vacations, trips or adventures. Discover interesting and quirky facts about the states vou visit.

Martin is a former member of the greater Plymouth, Canton, Livonia and Westland communities. He was active in marching band and acted as a drum line instructor from 1983-85. One of Martin's first jobs was at the old Burger Chef on Main St. He also worked at the other end of Main St, as a mortgage originator. During his school years, he could often be found at Cloverdales, the Penn Theatre, Daileys, and at the Fall and Ice Festivals.

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"

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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", Algadoon by Henry Purcell, Trepak from the Nutcracker, and will be playing "Believe" from the Polar Express sideby-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.

Javcee 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 acros 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.).

December 13-December 24

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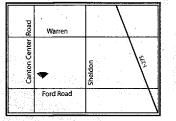
Thursday, December 13- Men's & Women's Watches Friday, December 14- Bridal Jewelry Saturday, December 15- Three Diamond Jewelry Sunday, December 16- Diamond Pendants Monday, December 17 - Diamond Bracelets **Tuesday, December 18-** Silver Jewelry Wednesday, December 19- Birthstone Jewelry Thursday, December 20- Pearl Jewelry Friday, December 21- Wedding & Anniversary Bands Saturday, December 22- Journey & Circle of Life Sunday, December 23- Diamond Earrings Monday, December 24- Gold Jewelry

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John C. Stewart Attorney and Counselor at Law





LOCAL NEWS

Detroit splashes 'burbs with water rate hike

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF.WRITER

www.hometownlife.com

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said he's "not delighted" about a 12.3-percent water rate increase proposed by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department for 2008, but at least it's not the 29-percent shock the DWSD passed on to the township this year.

"We'd like to be more toward the average, which this year was just over 8 percent," said Reaume. We would like to see rate increases that are similar to other utilities, which are generally consistent and moderate. These wild fluctuations do no one any good."

Earlier this year, Plymouth Township trustees passed on an 18-percent water rate hike to residents, using township funds to pay for the remainder of the township hike. Reaume said township trustees won't discuss how much of the 2008 increase will be passed on to residents until next summer.

The City of Plymouth has been notified of a 5.2 percent increase, compared to this year when the city didn't get an increase from DWSD and rates for residents remained unchanged. In 2006, the rate hike was 2.1 percent, with increases the previous two years 4.1 percent and 10.6 percent.

City Manager Paul Sincock said the administration recommendation to the city commission will be to pass the increase on to residents in July.

"That's in line with past policies of the city com-

mission," Sincock said. "To artificially not deal with those costs would impact the overall sustainability of the water and sewer fund, and at some we'll have to pass it along, and will be compounded."

That situation occurred in 1999, when after 10 years of failing to raise water rates to keep up with increased costs from the DWSD the city commission raised rates by 43 percent, despite the recommendation by auditors for an 86 percent hike to offset a \$500,000 deficit in the water fund.

The DWSD bases its increases on a water usage reading from one day throughout the year, measuring spikes of usage during peak times. Township officials lodged written and oral complaints to the DWSD board of commissioners in an attempt to get this year's 29 percent rate hike lowered, but to no avail.

Reaume said he's confident increases, though not so high, are needed to improve the DWSD infrastructure to deliver water to suburban communities.

"For years they did nothing, but under the new director they've implemented cost savings and cost cutting programs," he said. "They're evaluating their system and maintaining infrastructure improvements that are necessary."

Rate increases in neighboring communities included Northville's 29.9 percent, Northville Township at 18.5 percent and Canton Township up only .7 percent.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Activist's death 'a huge loss for a lot of people'

BY MATT JACHMAN STAFF WRITER

Fonda Gnacke, a longtime Redford Township activist whose volunteer work spanned from Detroit to Mexico to hurricane-stricken Louisiana, died Saturday as a result of a Dec. 3 freeway accident.

Gnacke, who turned 50 last month, was struck by a semitruck on eastbound I-96 near Outer Drive in Detroit. The accident remains under investigation; Gnacke's husband, John Gnacke, said she may have been prompted by a dashboard warning to get out of the car she was driving to check one of its tires.

"Our world is a little bit sadder today because she's not here. She's done so much for so many," John Gnacke said.

"It's a huge loss to a lot of people," said Andrea Baier, a close friend.

"I've never run into anyone who was as big a booster of Redford Township. She just really loved this place," Baier added.

Family visitation and a memorial service are planned

for today, Thursday, Dec. 13, at the Funeral Home. Fonda

at Madonna University in Livonia, coordinating student involvement in the AmeriCorps*VISTA national

husband, to Louisiana to help 2005 hurricanes Katrina and

"They went down with lots of enthusiasm and the youthful energy of the kids who went with them," Baier said. "She was just so excited at the work they were able to do and the people they met down there."

Madonna and Fonda Gnacke also "adopted" a hurricane-displaced family and helped it settle in Detroit temporarily.

In another "alternative spring break," John Gnacke said, his wife, who spoke Spanish, taught in Mexico - and indulged her love for monarch butterflies when she visited one of their winter habitats.

was involved in Habitat for Humanity and in projects that benefited inner-city children, her husband said. In Redford, she had been a teaching assistant at Keeler Elementary

"Fonda's passion, absolute passion in this world was help-

In 2002, Fonda Gnacke, along with Baier and Arlene Funke, founded the Cultural Coalition of Redford, which sponsors programs to teach people about cultures around the world.

a welcoming community for everyone," Kelley said.

(P)

A3

John Gnacke said his wife was strongly influenced by a trip to Spain and Morocco she took as a girl, and by her experience as an 11thgrade exchange student in Venezuela.

"That was the beginning of her roots, of starting her love for international people,

people of color, different origins," he said. His wife had a degree in Spanish from Madonna.

Fonda Gnacke grew up in Plymouth and graduated from Plymouth Salem High School. She had John had been married for 28 years. Other survivors include two daughters, Rianne and Lindsay.

A memorial visitation is 3-9 p.m. today, Dec. 13, at the Step Funeral Home, 18425 Beech Daly, Redford. A memorial service is planned for 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

A scholarship fund in Fonda Gnacke's name is being started at Madonna University.

mjachman@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2115

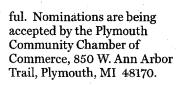
Chamber accepting Hall nominations

The Plymouth Evening Kiwanis Club and the **Plymouth Community** Chamber of Commerce are accepting nominations for the Plymouth Community Hall of Fame.

More than 100 community supporters attended the April 2007 Hall of Fame Banquet inducting Don Massey, Margaret Slezak and Robert Thompson.

The program was first started in 1980 and has elected 40 people. To be eligible, a candidate must have been. a resident of the Plymouth community for at least 10 years, be at least 30 years old and made a recognizable contribution to the community in terms of time and effort in the building or rebuilding of the well-being of the community.

The deadline for nominations is Dec. 31. Background information to support each nomination is help-



The Plymouth Wall of Fame is presently located at the Cultural Center showing the 40 prominent Plymouth Hall of Famers.





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THINKING ABOUT ...

Charles R. Step Gnacke worked in the Office

School for 13 years.

ing children," her husband said.

ed in reaching out to people of

different cultures," said Funke. a good voice for the town-

diversity. "She wanted it to be

Mrs. Gnacke of Service Learning

In the Detroit area, she

"She was very, very interest-

Former Redford Supervisor Kevin Kelley said Gnacke was ship and valued its increasing

service program. During spring break earlier this year, she led a group of volunteers, including her rebuild in the wake of the Rita.



LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 13, 2007

Foreclosure help doesn't lessen the responsibility of borrowers

[®]he residential real estate market is going through a difficult period in southeast Michigan and throughout the country. The number of

M4

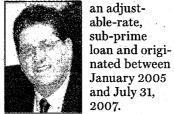
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foreclosures has skyrocketed. There are a variety of reasons for the high foreclosure rate. The news media has extensively covered stories

about adjustable-rate mortgages resetting interest rates and thus causing the problem. Although this is part of the problem, it is not the entire



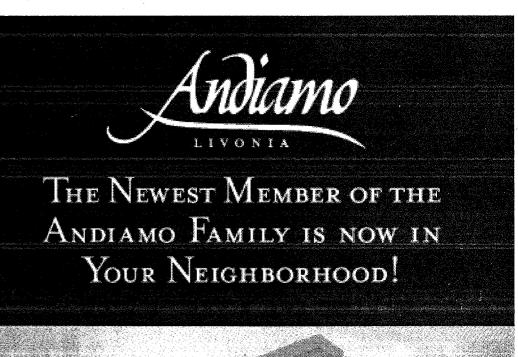
problem. Part of the problem also is people who were fiscally irresponsible when they purchased homes they could not afford. There also are individuals who are losing their houses through no



For those in desperate financial situation - whether you qualify for this program or not – contact your lender and discuss your options. Mortgage companies know that in many cases they took your credit, however, there is a great benefit to gain by getting

with your home, you must take

adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers You can hear Rick from noon to 3 p.m.



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Even if they made the trek to Mauna Kea, the terrain wouldn't allow for inexperienced hikers to assist in the search.

"Part of the problem is some of the huge bushes are 15 feet high and 15 feet in diameter, so they actually have to get inside, which slowed them down," said Bridget Wallman, 43, of Canton Township, one of Murphy's two daughters. "They told us they covered three square miles by foot with search dogs and on ATVs, and 10 times that by air with two helicopters. They told me the fog was so thick the day he went missing that you could barely see your feet.'

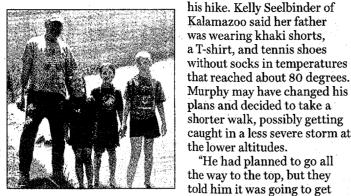
Coloma said an average 15 people a day searched for Murphy – with the numbers

FROM PAGE AI

The election shift means three current board members will have their terms extended one year. The terms of board President Judy Mardigian, Vice President Barry Simescu and Trustee John Jackson were scheduled to expire in May 2008. And, with board Treasurer Tom Wysocki's fouryear term to expire in 2009, there will be four seats up for grabs.

Trustees voted 6-1 to realign the election. "We've been told by many

people we need to save money, and this is an area where the board can do something



Brian Murphy, here with his grandchildren, is a former track coach at Garden City East High School.

increasing to about 50 on the weekend - by foot, in all-terrain vehicles and helicopters.

Early indications were Murphy planned to hike to the summit of Mauna Kea, which is 13,796 feet. However, he may have been discouraged to do so when he checked into the Mauna Kea Visitor Information Station before

directly to save the district money," Mardigian said. "Saving \$200,000 over four years is a lot.

"I always had an uneasiness about November, and when the state clerk's association expressed concern about even-November (elections) and voter fatigue - some estimates say only 10 percent of the voters make it to the end of the ballot and there's a higher rate of spoiled ballots - that was enough to convince me," she added.

Trustee Steven Sneideman said he chose May over November to keep school board elections from becoming political.

"I believe that even-year

CONTINUED FROM A1

"He had planned to go all

stormy and that he shouldn't

1985 graduate of Canton High

go," said Seelbinder, 40, a.

School. "But we found out

(Sunday) he told the people

at the visitor's station he only

planned to go on a short walk

on the trails, only about two-

three hours, and had warmer

clothes in the car. In the car

they found a map open to the

The blizzard hit about two

hours after Murphy was last

seen at the visitor's station.

November is a very highly

political time, and I'd like

Plymouth Township resi-

speaker at the public hearing,

needed to involve more people

said November elections are

in the voting process.

"The only option that

involves the public is to have

a November election," Martin

said. "There are over 70,000

(registered) voters in this dis-

at least a 50-percent turnout

for a November election.'

trict, and only 10 percent go out

for a May election. You'd expect

Former school board presi-

dent Mark Horvath of Canton

Township, whose online peti-

dent Larry Martin, the lone

to stav away from there."

Sneideman said.

trails close by."

His unlocked rental car was found in the parking lot.

"It was probably still cold and snowy where he was headed, but it wouldn't have been as much snow," Seelbinder said. "The search and rescue people told me that you can hardly see anything on the caught in a less severe storm at trails when a storm hits. We're hoping that if he fell, he took cover in the bushes.'

> Coloma said the total distance from the visitor's station at about 9,000 feet to the top of the mountain is about seven miles. He said is has continued to snow, with temperatures dipping below freezing.

Seelbinder said Murphy and a female companion recently traveled to Hawaii, and had gone their separate ways for the day. She said it wasn't unusual for her father to go hiking.

"He loves the outdoors," Seelbinder said. "In the sum-

tion for a November election to reduce costs collected 650 signatures, said trustees saved only half as much as they could have by continuing May elections

"I think it's amazing that a public group can think they were successful when they saved half as much as they could have and reduced the amount of public input to every other year," Horvath said. "Only a group of people that's spending the public's money would consider that a success.

Simescu, who voted in favor of the change, said his concern now is with possible major changes in the board after the next election.

mertime he was always out early in the morning until late at night. He loves to work in the garden, yard work, sports. He's an active person and lives life to the fullest.

"We used to go up in the mountains to ski, and he never got cold," she said. "He's very smart, and super positive ... a total optimist. If anyone could survive this, it would be him."

Murphy, a retired safety engineer who was contracted to work on the new MGM Grand Casino in Detroit, now manages rental properties. He's the oldest of six children who grew up in Milwaukee. He later moved to Livonia, where the girls mainly grew up and went to school, before moving to the 14-acre parcel in Salem Township and attended Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

The daughters are hopeful because their father is in relatively good physical

"We're looking at a new superintendent and within the first year that superintendent could be faced with an entire change of the majority of the school board," Simescu said.

Wysocki was the lone vote against moving the current election cycle at all.

"I believe we should try to encourage people to vote more often," Wysocki said. "Odd-year elections, with the number of seats on the ballot - either three or four — could allow special interest groups

shape, having been invited to the 1968 Olympic trials to compete in the decathlon, was track and cross country coach at the old Garden City East High School in the 1970s, and was a ski instructor and avid downhill skier.

"He was not a person who would panic, and wouldn't be upset by the cold," said Wallman

Wallman said the hardest part is being so far away from and not being able to help find her father.

"I know it's expansive, that's the frustrating thing," she said. "It's like trying to find a needle in a haystack.

"I'm so appreciative for everyone and everything they've done," said Wallman of the rescue teams "I know it's very treacherou dangerous, and they're ut there risking their lives to find him."

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to come in and completely take over the board in one election."

There's no guarantee the next P-CCS board election will actually be held in May 2009.

"I don't think this is the last move we're going to make," Mardigian said. "I think next year the state (Legislature) will get its act together and they will give us a date we need to work with or give us different options. I think the board, next year, will have to revisit this."

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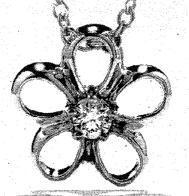




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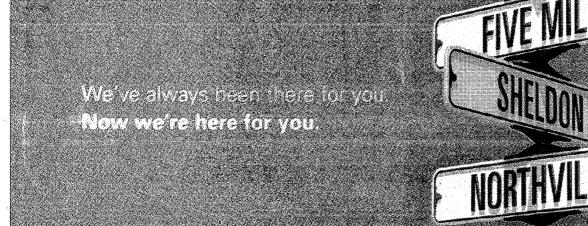
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LOCAL NEWS

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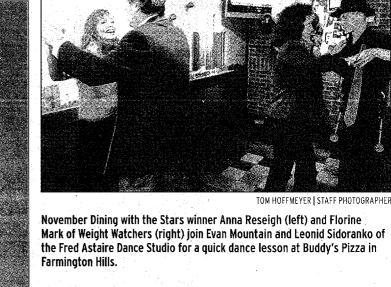
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Melanie Duquesnel **Business Banker**

Kim Renko Bank Office Manager



Dining winner and Florine Mark 'party' at Buddy's Pizza

Anna Reseigh of Rochester Hills and Florine Mark of Weight Watchers ate healthy, talked, danced and got the recent lunch crowd at Buddy's in Farmington Hills in a party mood.

Reseigh was the November winner of The Observer & Eccentric and Mirror Newspapers "Dining With the Stars." Reseigh was treated to a limo ride, courtesy of All Class Transportation, makeover by Utopia Salon & Spa on Main Street in Northville (hair by Sebastian and makeup by ILSE), a \$100 gift certificate to the Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield and a dance exhibition courtesy of Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

"Florine Mark is a remarkable woman and I would be deeply honored to dine with her," wrote Reseigh in her email entry. "She has shared her life with us, with its ups and downs, so that we may meet the challenges we face and be the best that we can be. Her strength and positive attitude is an inspiration to me and many women. I would be thrilled to meet her.'

Reseigh got her wish. "Lunch was great. The winner, Anna Reseigh of Rochester Hills is a beautiful very thin woman. She had a wonderful time with Florine," said Marcy Brontman of Buddy's who organized the "Dining With the Stars" program.

"Both Florine and Anna

danced. Florine danced with Leonid Sidoranko (the male dancer who took part in the exhibition) and Anna danced with Evan Mountain, owner of Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills. Florine can dance," said Brontman. "The other customers at Buddy's got into the fun as well."

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Reseigh said she had a great time and "loved her makeover."

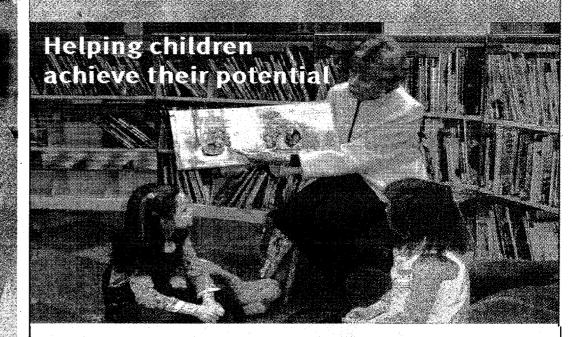
Robert Jacobs, owner of Buddy's presented Mark with a \$500 check for the ALS Association, the charity of her choice. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) is a motor neuron disease, Lou Gehrig first brought national and international attention to the disease in 1939 when he abruptly retired from baseball after being diagnosed with ALS.

Reseigh was among six finalists in the November competition. Mark is known throughout metro Detroit as a successful businesswoman and philanthropist.

Mark has a "healthy" pizza named after her on the Buddy's menu. It's "The Florine Mark Pizza" with brick/fat-free cheese blend, spinach, mushrooms, diced tomatoes, garlic and black olives.

Buddy's Pizza reviews all entries for "Dining With The Stars" and selects the top four to five "fan" letters. The stars featured for the month make the final selection.

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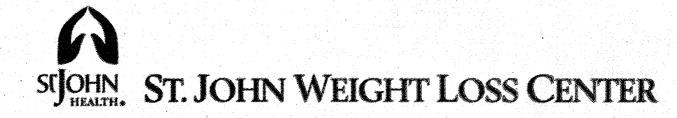
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OUR VIEWS Commission needs further review

For the fourth time since its inception, the Plymouth Township Compensation Commission recommended raises for at least three of the seven members of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees.

For the fourth time, a resolution to reject the raises failed Tuesday when the motion, brought by Trustee Charles Curmi, failed by a 4-2 vote, meaning the 4percent and 5-percent raises the supervisor, clerk and treasurer will receive the next two years, respectively, went into effect (trustee pay was held at \$11,400 per year).

And, for the fourth time, some board members hid behind "respect for the commission" as reason for accepting the pay raises.

A few months ago, Clerk Marilyn Massengill suggested board members return to figuring out their own compensation, without the commission, essentially espousing a "damned if we do, damned if we don't" attitude.

Trustee Steve Mann, under whose stint as supervisor the commission was created, tried to get board members to leave positions on the commission vacant, citing the condition of the economy as a prime reason. The move would have essentially shelved the commission.

We agree with Mann and Massengill. It's time for the township board to stop hiding behind the compensation commission.

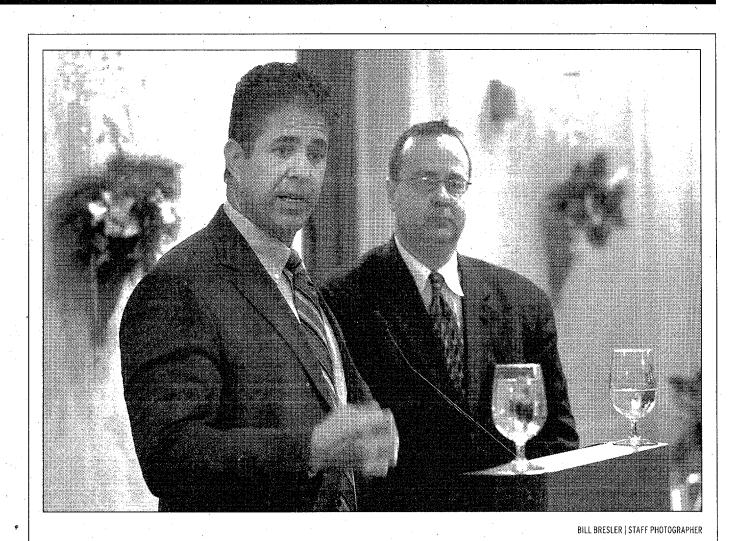
Commission members put in a number of volunteer hours and effort, but their existence also allows board members cover for accepting raises. It's simply too easy to hide behind the commission. "They do all this research, put in all this effort, and then you want us to reject their work? That's not fair to them," goes the cry.

If board members believe they deserve the raises and in this economy, it might be a difficult argument to sell to residents suffering the pinch — they should stand up and say so, as Treasurer Ron Edwards did in a loud dispute with Curmi.

Edwards was wrong to try to make an issue of Curmi's private-sector earnings, and the post-meeting brouhaha that erupted was childish. But Edwards argued the full-time electeds work hard and deserve the raises, then stood behind it.

Government service isn't a "get-rich-quick" scheme, and elected officials are frequently criticized for taking pay raises, particularly in these kind of economic times. Massengill is right; they're damned if they do and damned if they don't. Without the commission to hide behind, at least they'll be damned for their own decisions.

Legislators can do better at reaching compromise



A rough year

State Rep. Paul Condino, D-Southfield, (right) and Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, spoke at the Observer & Eccentric's annual Journalist of the Year program. They discussed the often contentious partisan disagreements during the Legislature's prolonged budget negotiations.

Spending out of control

I don't get it. If every business kept more employees on with the anticipation of more business we'd go broke. The case loads right now are down, so what they're telling us is, we are paying judges just to sit around? Believe me, I don't know of one judge that is overworked, just overpaid.

Why keep an extra judge on? We can, if needed, always put one in place at a later date.

This is a perfect example of careless spending by the government, when they should be cutting back, not adding on, not anticipating more business.

The city cries about not having any money, here's a chance to save \$215,000, and put it where it is peoded

and put it where it is needed. Government spending is out of control, LETTERS

ses, and also laid the groundwork for the social movements of the 1960s.

However, since that time, despite the efforts of traveling brigades like "Up With People" and their crusaders (of whom, I'm sure Tom Bodett is a progeny), we've regressed. There is no common good in our excessively political world.

We see this cynicism when our president announces he will "rehabilitate his image" by proposing domestic policies in his final year to address the disasters intentionally created by his administration. We see it again when our elected officials in Lansing lack the conviction to complete even the most basic task of state government: presenting a budget to the governor. Notwithstanding their collusive attempt to brand voters in Michigan's primary this year, an election that, I'm proud to say, will not see my vote. But Tom's article hinted that our malaise might be deeper than politics. Warner Herzog made a film in 1974 entitled Every Man for Himself and God Against All about a man named Bruno S. who enters society as an adult after being locked in a windowless room his entire life.

The Board of Education needs to use funds from the Capital Improvement Fund to assist the Plymouth A.M. Rotary and Tanger staff and families to make this necessity a reality!

> Richard Ham-Kucharski Canton

McCotter needs focus

Could someone please ask Thaddeus McCotter to please stop trying to reshape the world and focus on issues that are more important to his constituents. We need help with soaring medical, energy and grocery costs. People are hurting in his district. Is anybody in Washington listening?

Can his Liberty Alliance help us with these issues?

Canton

Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, and Rep. Paul Condino, D-Southfield, were the guest speakers Dec. 7 at the Observer \mathfrak{S} Eccentric Newspapers annual Journalist of the Year program.

They discussed the long, contentious battle over completing the 2007-08 budget. The wrangling has been blamed by some on the inexperience of legislators because of term limits. Others are demanding that Michigan move to a part-time Legislature. Still others suggest that the stalled action is part of a national partisan polarization that makes it difficult if not impossible for legislators to move beyond narrow partisan positions.

Bishop and Condino both acknowledged the process was ugly and neither is particularly happy with the final outcome. Condino, however, was upbeat about the cooperation between the legislators of both parties who crafted the Michigan Business Tax that replaced the Single Business Tax.

"We did a good job of coming together in creating the new business tax," he said.

But for Bishop, compromise on the Republican no tax mantra was clearly a failure.

"It felt like I was at the Alamo, but I wasn't willing to give in to the pressure of going with the easy solution," he said.

Bishop acknowledged that those on the other side were also fighting for what they believed to be right.

The truth is, both sides can read the same statistics and come to equally valid and opposite points of view. But good legislators understand the fine art of compromising through give and take and respect for the core values of their opponents.

We don't think "no taxes ever" or "tax and spend" are core values. We believe both parties can find a way toward more efficient, cost-effective government that serves the needs of all residents, whether business leaders or those who are economically and socially vulnerable.

We hope for better in the future.

OperationSusan RosiekPeter NeillBrad Kadrich
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however as long as we the taxpayer fund it why do they care what they spend? I have lived in the Plymouth area for almost thirty years, and have not seen one single cut in city or township spending with regards to cutting back on employees. Where are the cutbacks, and the lowering of taxes? Did the township need a \$15 million township hall? Did the city need an \$8.5 million dollar courthouse?

I'm not saying we don't need improvements. These improvements far exceed our needs.

> Keith Martin Plymouth

Applauding Watkins

I'm writing to applaud Tom Watkins' recent article on Michigan's foreclosure crisis. We all read the papers, so we know Michigan is experiencing an unprecedented foreclosure crisis, along with the rest of the nation. But, too often the public discussion focuses on housing markets, Wall Street, mortgage lenders and their financiers, macroeconomic theories and whichever government response is necessary to mitigate the freefall.

We almost never publicly discuss the human costs of what Alan Greenspan calls our "irrational exuberance," even though we all feel these costs, whether we believe the crisis impacts us directly or not.

While I was reading Tom's article, I was reminded of the question posed by a famous, Michigan-born documentarian in his latest film about our health care system: Who are we? Are we truly a culture of people who abandon our friends, neighbors and their families during hard times? What ever happened to the moral directive, "there but for the grace of God go I?"

In Tom Brokaw's book *The Greatest Generation* he talked about how the Great Depression and World War II instilled a tremendous sense of camaraderie in that generation, probably unseen before and since. This unity of purpose propelled the country through those criWhat's the result? Well, you'll have to watch the movie. However, the title presents a compelling choice: either unite in a common effort because of our common vulnerability, or face certain alienation and despair.

Michigan — and America — is at its defining moment. And I wonder, like Tom, if we possess the courage to see Bruno S. in all of us, or if our innate fear will foreclose the opportunity for growth.

Joe Hawver Portage

Former Plymouth Township resident

Tanger needs playground

Santa was there, as he is every year, and the kids were so excited! Yes, it was another wonderful holiday party at Tanger Center, the PCCS Special Education Preschool!

Kids were playing, telling Santa their deepest holiday wishes, having holiday snacks. Smiles abound!

And there is only one thing I wish for this holiday: For these kids to have a playground they can actually use! Yes, Tanger has been a special education preschool for over 30 years in this district, but it still does not have the basic necessities which make education fun and functional for all kids ... a playground that works!

I give my many thanks to the Plymouth A.M. Rotary, Visteon, and the many other groups and companies that have helped provide the classroom tools necessary to help these extraordinary kids become Tanger graduates!

Now Tanger needs the district's help to build a new playground, with accessible play equipment, wide solid paths for wheelchairs, strollers, and walkers, and wonderful natural scapes for all to enjoy and learn about the world around them!

QUOTABLE

"(Authorities) told us they only will search for five days unless we can give them some reason to search longer ... They told us they covered three square miles by foot with search dogs and on ATVs, and 10 times that by air with two helicopters. Part of the problem is some of the huge bushes are 15 feet high and 15 feet in diameter, so they actually have to get inside, which is slowing them down."

- Bridget Wallman of Canton, one of four daughters of Brian Murphy, the Salem Township man missing in Hawaii

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

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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OTHER OPINIONS

Building bridges – from the Great Lakes to the Great Wall

f the current and two former Michigan governors, and top governmental, business, political, labor and educational leaders told you to pay attention, that what you are about to hear and see is going to impact our state, our communities, families and your children and grandchildren - would you? Well, you'd better.

At 11 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, WWJ-TV will premiere a three-part series that examines



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Michigan's economy and future and their potential connections with China in Building Bridges: From the Great Lakes to the Great Wall. (Part two airs 6-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18. The series wraps up 6-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19.) This show, in which I assisted as a consultant for WWJ-TV, is a wake-up

call to everyone in Michigan. It

Tom Watkins

tells us that the world we once had is now gone. There are 1.3 billion new consumers/capitalists that are going to challenge and engage us at every turn - in business, education, innovation and creativity.

This TV special, Building Bridges, is shot in stunning high-definition and hosted by Carol Cain, community affairs and editorial director of WWJ-TV. It leads us on a journey to see how the Chinese have built one of the most explosive economies on the planet and how the economic growth in China could help position Michigan for future growth.

Rick Wagoner, CEO of General Motors, said it this way: "Twenty years from now, the only markets that will really matter will be the U.S. and China." If it were not for the profits being made in China, GM would be in much tougher financial shape than it is today. While the U.S. auto market is stagnant, the growth of sales in China is growing by leaps and bounds. This should not surprise anyone who understands that the ability to own a private car is a phenomenon that is less than 20 years old in this country that is home to one-fifth of the world's humanity!

Cain interviewed a number of experts to offer the most comprehensive, eye-opening report on those who are building bridges and attempting to develop opportunities for Michigan residents. She and WWJ-TV award-winning videographer Paul Pytlowany captured the sights and sounds of China from the majestic city of Shanghai teeming with its 20 million residents, to the sunrise over the Great Wall of China and the scenic beauty of the habitat of perhaps one of the most beloved animals in the world, the Giant Panda.

Building Bridges features exclusive interviews with virtually every local business leader and decision-maker who will play a part in Michigan's economic expansion. From government officials to business CEOs, automotive executives to union leaders, Cain leads a very balanced discussion on this important topic.

A number of experts were tapped to offer the most comprehensive, eye-opening report to date on this issue. Cain traveled extensively how bold pioneers in business and education are laying the groundwork for future prosperity in Michigan. A partial list of her guests includes: Jennifer Granholm, governor of Michigan; John Engler and Jim Blanchard, former governors of Michigan; Phil Spender, Ford China COO; Audie Wong, Amway China; Zhou Wenzhong, Chinese ambassador to the United States; Mary Sue Coleman, University of Michigan president; Kenneth Lieberthal, University of Michigan China expert; C. Peter Theut, partner, Butzel Long, Global Business Advisory Council; Karolo Chen, CEO of Motown Travel; Mark Brewer, Michigan Democratic Party chairman; Mark Gaffney, Michigan AFL-CIO president; Lou Dobbs, CNN anchor; and two students from a local high school who are traveling in China.

Jim Epolito, president and CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, gives this advice: "There is a need to change the mindset of all Michigan companies, regardless of size. In today's economy, where goods and services move across time zones and international borders seamlessly, ALL business is global, regardless if you want it to be or not."

Building solid relationships, or "guanxi," is critical to long-term success in China. Two local political leaders, L. Brooks Patterson, Oakland County executive, and Robert Ficano, Wayne County executive, are working overtime to build the relationships that will pay dividends back here in the Southeast Michigan region. Both of them and their staffs have made numerous, grueling transcontinental flights in an effort to develop the guanxi and "bring home the bacon" or in this case the jobs, for their constituents.

Patterson has both long and short term strategies to help prepare his county for the transformational global wave that has been heading our way for some time. He understands that our children will not be competing against the children in the school district or state next door - they will be competing against the children of the world. He has called for, and the Oakland schools have embraced, the teaching of Mandarin Chinese (the most spoken language on the planet) in all schools in Oakland County. His call has been heard in China by educators and business leaders alike as a visionary educational effort and one that will make Oakland County and all of Southeast Michigan an economic magnet for Chinese investment.

Clearly, the 21st century will be driven by leadership, innovation, talent, creativity, knowledge, change and China. Watch this special, Building Bridges: From the Great Lakes to the Great Wall, with your entire family - it will help you understand that change and China are coming our way.

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as state superintendent of schools for the state of Michigan from 2001-05 and as president and CEO of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, Fla., 1996 to 2001. He has a long-standing interest in China and has traveled there many times. Read his internationally recognized report (now translated into Chinese): The New Education (R)evolution at www.nacol.org. He can be reached at tdwat-

Michigan Colleges Foundation leader's retirement offers a time to reflect

t the end of this month, Madonna University will bid farewell to a great friend and advocate. After 16 years as president of the Michigan Colleges Foundation (MCF), Bill Liebold has decided to retire. He leaves a lasting legacy of successful service to independent higher education in Michigan.

MCF is a not-for-profit organization that



serves as a vital link between Madonna University and Michigan's corporate and foundation communities. Its mission is to provide students the opportunity for a valuesbased, high quality education at its 14 member four-year, liberal arts colleges by secur-

ing financial resources from the private sector. Madonna University has been a mem-

ber of MCF since 1952, and due to Bill's hard work and innovative thinking, we are a beneficiary of its success, receiving almost \$4 million in financial support over 50 years.

What has Bill taught us about the importance of Michigan's independent colleges like Madonna University?

First, the state's independent colleges and universities strengthen Michigan by preserving student choice and supplying a talented, diverse and well-educated workforce. Michigan businesses, corporations and foundations appreciate the quality, independence and tradition of private higher education and the graduates it produces. The fact that more than 96 percent of the alumni from MCF's member institutions currently are employed demonstrates how highly Michigan employers value the preparation provided by a liberal arts education.

Second, students benefit from the individualized attention they receive at MCF schools. The educational experience focuses on critical thinking, problem solving, communication, community service and personal values, such as integrity and a strong work ethic; qualities also highly valued by Michigan employers.

Finally, our state benefits from the significant economic impact of Michigan's independent colleges and universities, valued at \$6.1 billion annually. MCF institutions are responsible for approximately one-third of this impressive figure.

Under Bill's leadership and as a result of his vision, we have strategically and aggressively marketed minority scholarships to companies prevented by Proposal 2 from using this tool. This means that our state's employers still can meet their corporate diversity initiatives and goals by providing minority scholarships to students attending MCF member institutions and by recruiting successful graduates for employment. Under Bill's tenure as president,

Under Bill's leadership and as a result of his vision, we have strategically and aggressively marketed minority scholarships to companies prevented by Proposal 2 from using this tool. This means that our state's employers still can meet their corporate diversity initiatives and goals by providing minority scholarships to students attending MCF member institutions and by recruiting successful graduates for employment.

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MCF has awarded more than 4,500 named scholarships to students.

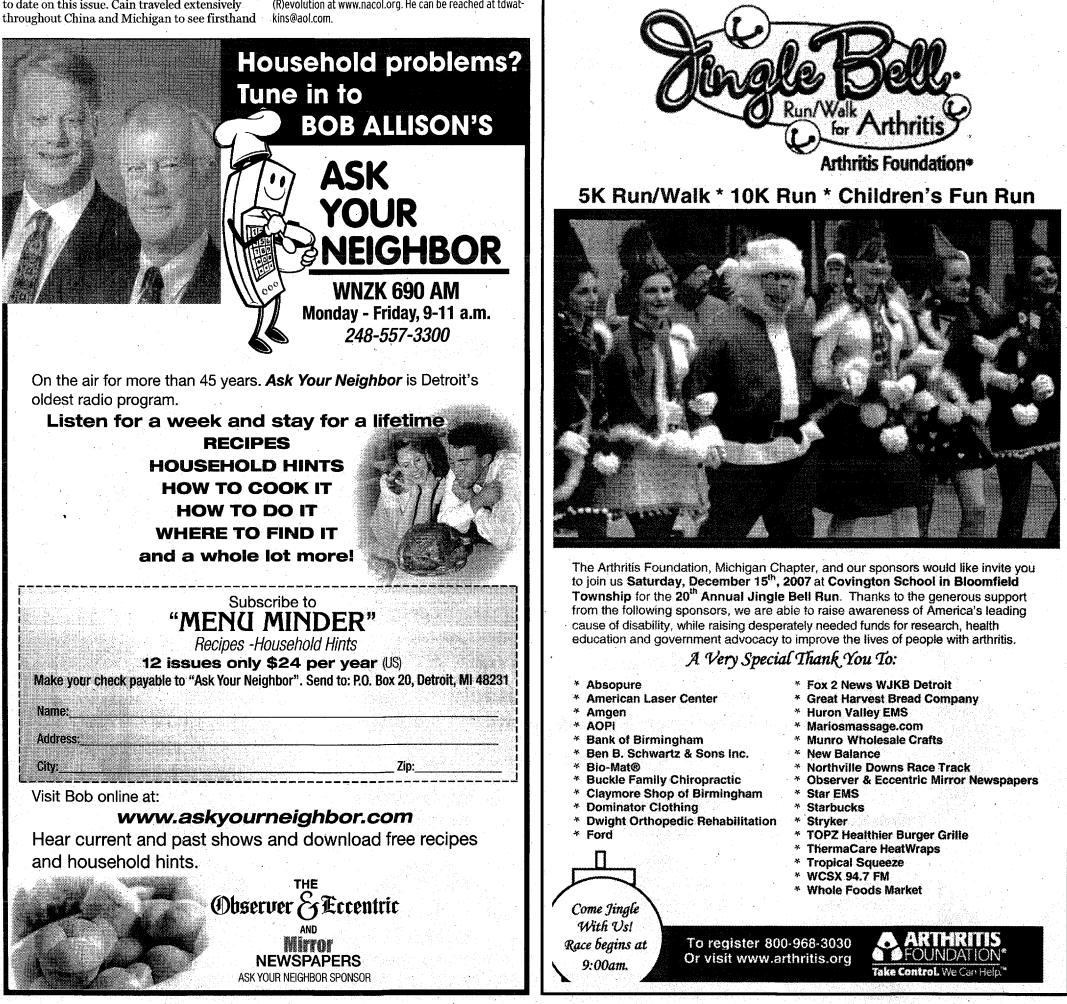
Most recently, Bill launched the Detroit Bridge Program, an innovative pre-college program to boost urban high school graduation rates and help MCF's member institutions enhance diversity in enrollment. The program engages first-generation, lowincome, Detroit area students in mapping a pathway to college through year-round academic enrichment as well as college preparation and leadership development programs hosted on MCF campuses. A similar initiative, to be launched in 2008, is being planned by business leaders in West Michigan.

Originally conceived solely as a joint fundraising organization, under Bill's leadership MCF has developed collaborative projects among its member institutions, and Bill has inspired Madonna University to be a proud participant. Since its inception in 2003, the Collaborative Ventures Initiative has saved MCF's member institutions in excess of \$5 million. The spirit of cooperation developed under Bill's leadership is directly responsible for these projects that reduce costs, improve quality and increase resources for students.

We will honor Bill's legacy by continuing to pool the resources of our member colleges to address the academic and economic issues of concern to corporations and other funders. We will further honor his legacy by continuing to offer students an independent higher education option, and by empowering them with a quality academic foundation, an appropriate set of values, leadership skills and lifelong desire for learning. Finally, we honor Bill by establishing the William H. Liebold, II Scholarship, to which I am a proud contributor.

We salute Bill Liebold and all that he has done for our students, for our independent colleges and universities and for our state. We wish him all the best in the future.

Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, C.S.S.F., Ph.D., is the president of Madonna University.



Sister Rose Marie Kujawa





Stefan replaces Vellucci behind Whalers' bench

Mike Vellucci still holds three titles following a shuffling of the Plymouth Whalers' hierarchy Tuesday, but head coach is not one of them.

Vellucci was promoted to governor of the thriving Ontario Hockey League franchise by Compuware CEO and team owner Peter Karmanos, Jr. He will retain his president and general manager duties while former Detroit Red Wing goalie Greg Stefan will take over as the team's head coach.

Stefan resigned his position as an assistant coach with the Carolina Hurricanes on Tuesday to rejoin the Whalers for the third time in his coaching career.

Joe Stefan, Greg's younger brother, will remain the team's assistant coach.

"Mike's had tremendous success as a head coach, while balancing the demands of three different jobs," said Karmanos. "He's created stability and has built a winning environment within the organization. He has taken our on-ice performance in Plymouth to another level. I'm proud of the fact that Mike was able to bring home a championship to Plymouth. Mike will now have an opportunity to focus his energies toward running Compuware Arena and the Whalers without the day-to-day restraints of coaching.

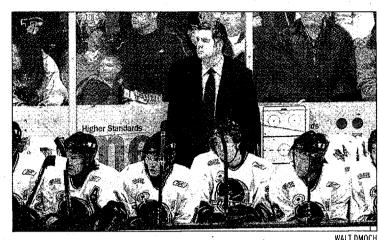
After losing to Barrie in the

OHL Rogers Championship Series in 2000 and in 2001 to Ottawa, Vellucci went behind the bench in the summer of 2001 and led Plymouth to the franchise's second championship last season.

Vellucci recently became the winningest coach in Plymouth history, compiling a record of 246-132-37-22, which is good for a .630 winning percentage. Vellucci became the first American-born coach to win the OHL's Matt Leyden Award (Coach of the Year) last season.

Plymouth won four West Division titles and never finished lower than second during

Please see VELLUCCI, B3



Mike Vellucci won't be standing behind the Plymouth Whalers' bench beginning with tonight's game at Petersborough. Vellucci handed the coaching reins to Greg Stefan on Tuesday after being promoted to the position of governor of the OHL franchise. Vellucci will retain his president and general manager duties.

Chiefs break into win column with rally against Stevenson

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson's girls basketball team got a front-row seat to the "Baylee & Kaylie" show Tuesday night in the Canton Phase III gymnasium.

The Spartans probably weren't thrilled with the result – a 42-35 setback to the host Chiefs - butyou couldn't blame them if they were at least a little impressed with the play of Canton standouts Baylee Hollowell and Kaylie Martin.

Canton's first victory in four games was paced by Hollowell, a senior forward who registered her fourth double-double of the season (10 points and 12 rebounds) and Martin, a sophomore guard who added nine points, including a clutch triple in the third quarter that sparked a game-altering 10-0

The loss dropped the Spartans

the third quarter when Kaylie hit

Brian Samulski. "That seemed to

a big three," recalled Canton coach

"Stevenson was up 24-18 early in

run.

to 3-2.

12-7 over the final eight minutes. Hollowell and Martin were just two components of turned out to be a very balanced Canton attack. Freshman forward Mel Pickert added 7 points; freshman forward Kayla Bridges added six points and eight rebounds; and junior guard Leslie Weisz chipped in with six points and some air-tight defense for the winners.

"Leslie did a great job defensively on the ball," said Samulski.

Sarah Smith led Stevenson with 10 points.

Canton led 9-8 after one quarter before the Spartans stormed back to secure a 19-18 lead. Stevenson tallied the first five points of the second half before the Chiefs mounted their game-winning rally.

The 1-3 Chiefs struggled from the charity stripe, draining just 13-



PCEP skaters shine

The Plymouth-**Canton Educational** Park figure-skating team opened its 2007-08 season Saturday at the Plymouth Cultural Center by placing first in both the Level A and Level C competitions and fourth in Level B.

The A team placed first in jumps and moves; and third in spins, while the B team finished ninth in jumps, first in moves and fifth in spins.

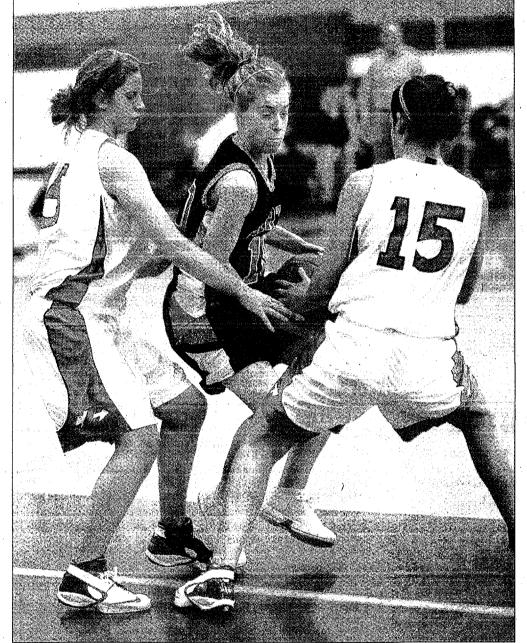
The C team placed third in jumps, and first in both moves and spins..

PCEP competed against the following teams: Northville, Lakeland/Milford, Ann Arbor Huron, Farmington United, Walled Lake, Hartland, Mercy, Ladywood and Novi.

Baseball clinic

The Velocity Sports Performance Baseball Academy will be hosting a Preseason Hitting & Pitching Camp Dec. 26-28 at its facility located in the Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton.

The three-day camp, which will consist of three-hour daily sessions, will focus on player skill and athletic development. Instructors include **Cleveland Indians hit**ting instructor Bruce Fields and Los Angeles Dodgers bullpen coach



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Leslie Weisz (left) and Melanie Pickert (right) put the defensive clamps on Livonia Stevenson's Julia Schroeder during Tuesday night's WLAA cross-over game. The Chiefs won, 42-35.

GCYBSA sign-ups approaching

Registration for the Greater Canton Youth **Baseball & Softball** Association's (GCYBSA) 2008 season is right around the corner.

Area baseball and softball players ages 4-18 who reside in Plymouth or Canton, or attend any school in the Plymouth-Canton School District, are eligible to participate.

Online registration will begin Jan. 10 at www.gcybsa. com. Walk-in registration is also available at the Canton Sports Center, which is located at 46555 W. Michigan Ave. daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Prospective registrants can also visit the Summit on the Park, which is located at 46000 Summit Parkway to pick up a form.

Last year, 2,600 players and 750 volunteers combined to make the season a resounding success.

The mission of the GCYBSA is to work in cooperation with local government and committed volunteers to provide opportunities for community youth to develop socially, emotionally and physically through excellent instructional, recreational and competitive baseball and softball activities.

Participating parents and coaches also teach skills, the value of teamwork and the rewards of sportsmanship. With 162 recreational teams, 10 fastpitch softball travel teams, and 10 travel baseball teams, the GCYBSA offers a wide range of progressive play from T-ball through travel leagues.

Player evaluations and roster requests will take on a new format for the 2008 leagues, so players' parents are encouraged to visit the above-listed Web site for upto-date registration information and upcoming coaches and player clinics.

propel us and get us rolling for the rest of the game." Canton went on to reel off seven consecutive points following Martin's long-range swisher to build a 28-24 advantage. The Chiefs turned back any thoughts Stevenson had of pulling off a late comeback by outscoring their foes

of-25 attempts. The Spartans con nected on 8-of-10 free throws. Canton committed a season-low

10 turnovers.

SALEM 49, NORTHVILLE 40: On Tuesday night at Salem, the Rocks improved to 4-0 with an impressive triumph over the visiting Mustangs in a Western Lakes Activities Association cross-over contest.

Salem built a 16-8 first-quarter lead then turned back every threat Northville threw at it by outscoring the Mustangs 33-32 over the final three quarters.

Please see HOOPS, B3



DETROIT IGNITION PHOTO

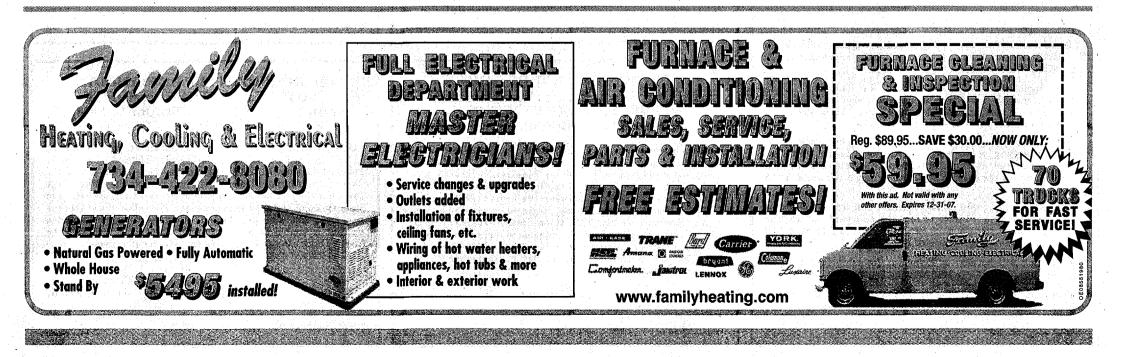
it left off

Saturday at 7:35 p.m. at the Compuware Sports Arena. The Ignition improved to 5-2 last Saturday when it throttled Baltimore, 19-11.

Ken Howell. The two camps one for kids 10-13 years old: the other for 14-18 year olds - will be limited to 15 athletes each. For more information, call (734) 485-2561 or visit www. velocitysp.com/canton.

Callahan lauded

For the second time this season, Detroit Ignition defender Droo Callahan was named the Major Indoor Soccer League's "Defensive Player of the Week" after posting four blocks against the Baltimore Blast in a 19-11 victory on Saturday. Callahan also notched two unassisted goals, a two-point tally and a three-point score. Callahan has recorded 16 blocks so far this season.



LOCAL SPORTS

Rock grapplers 2nd PCEP wrestling teams pin hopes on talent, depth

at own tournament

Salem's wrestling team turned in a solid effort at Saturday's Salem Team Tournament as the Rocks placed second in the seventeam event with 186 points. Sterling Heights captured first with 216.5 points while

B2 (CP)

Adrian racked up a third-place showing with 163.5 points. Salem's Kevin Hayter

earned Most Valuable Wrestler honors for the lower weights when he won the 130-pound weight class. Adrian's Rafael Rodriguez was the MVP of the upper weights after going unbeaten at 152.

In addition to Hayter, the following Salem grapplers also took the title in their respective weight classes: Jeremy Epley (160), Austin Root (171), Kevin Bennett (125) and Alex Kemp (140)

12TH ANNUAL SALEM TEAM TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY AT SALEM FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Sterling Heights, 216.5; 2. Salem, 186; 3. Adrian, 163.5; 4. New Boston Huron, 162.5; 5. Ypsilanti Lincoln, 104; 6. Walled Lake Western, 94; 7. Dearborn Uwishte Grantward U Heights Crestwood, 91. **152 pounds:** 1. Rodrieguez (A) def. Koch (NBH), 5-3; 3. Freeman (YL) def. Boyd (SH),

160: 1. Epley (S) pinned Moosa (SH) in 15; 3. Goette (YL) def. Verner (A), 6-0.

5:35: 3. Goette (YL) det. Verner (A), 6-0. 171: 1.Root (S) def. Koszykowski (NBH), 13-5; 3. Turner (SH) pinned Baydoun (C) in 2:38. 189: 1. Banas (NBH) def. Lepper (S), 17-5; 3. Altaweel (SH) pinned Abbey (S) in 1:54. 215: 1. Mackey (NBH) def. Folden (SH), 8-2; 3. Hoffman (A) pinned Campbell (WLW) in 3:47

HVY: 1. Mandelka (C) pinned Coleman (A) in 49 seconds; 3. Alverson (WLW) pinned Tallo (SH) in 4:29.

(SH) in 4:29. **103:** 1. Hanni (SH) pinned Devin Stratton (S) in 1:17; 3. Romano (NBH) won by forfeit

over Al-Homoudi (C). 112: 1. Cristobal (SH) def. Farrell (YL), 7-5; Sutter (A) pinned Yezbick (WLW) in 2:59. **119:** 1. Batarseh (SH) def. Bail (A), 11-1; 3.

DeWitt (S) pinned Polocoser (C) in 4:16. 125: 1. Bennett (S) pinned Al-Hussein (C)

3:02; 3. Galvan (A) pinned Shen (S) in 2:52. **130:** 1. Hayter (S) def. Mann (NBH), 13-10<u>;</u> 3.

Lutren (WLW) def. Lauderman (SH), 7-5. 135: 1. Williams (SH) pinned Butler (WLW) 3:28; 3. Polocoser (C) def. Monday (A), 7-5. **140:** 1. Kemp (S) def. Olind (S), 9-2; 3.

Engle (A) def. Romanski (NBH), 3-2. **145:** 1. Farrell (YL) def. Verner (A), 4-2; 3. Kane (S) def. Schultz (X), 6-5.

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

The wrestling mats at the three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park high schools will once again serve as proving grounds for some of the area's most-promising grapplers as the 2007-08 campaign kicks off.

Last season was an up-anddown season collectively for Canton, Salem and Plymouth. Led by 140-pound state champion Corey Phillips, the Chiefs collected the most accolades, sending four wrestlers to the Division 1 individual state meet at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Canton missed a second straight trip to the D1 team state meet in Battle Creek when it was nipped by 1 point by Novi Catholic Central at the Regional meet in Novi.

Meanwhile, the Rocks and Wildcats will be looking to rebound from a season in which both teams failed to send a single performer to the Palace. While it was the first time Salem had been shut out in several years, the prognosis is much-improved for both teams as they return an abundance of stellar, experienced matmen.

Following is a look ahead to the Ponow 2007-08 season. CANTON

The Chiefs will be in reload mode under sixth-year coach Casey Randolph as a number of proven wrestlers return from last year's 27-5 team that racked up a District title for the third consecutive season.

Among the key losses to graduation were Phillips, who is currently a freshman contributor for Eastern Michigan University's mat squad; heavyweight standout Donnie Laramie; and Kiel Price, who anchored the middle weights for the Chiefs.

"We have a young, athletic group, so I'm excited heading into this season," said Randolph. "This team has a lot of potential. We have a very demanding schedule, so it may take awhile to develop for some of the younger wrestlers, but they have good work ethics."

The Chiefs head into the season with only four seniors, the heaviest being 140-pounder Steve Cox.

Sophomore Waleed Faraj has earned the call at the 103-pound slot. The younger brother of former state qualifier Marwan Faraj, Waleed enjoyed a stellar campaign at the junior varsity

PREP WRESTLING PREVIEW

last year, has a headlock on the 119 weight class. "Carl's a tough kid and one

of the leaders in our wrestling room," said Randolph.

Sophomore Donnie.Watkins has bulked up to 125 after qualifying for the state meet at 103 as a freshman last season. Watkins finished fourth in the state - the highest finish ever for a freshman Chief — with a stellar 52-4 mark. Sophomore Mitch Wolski should also see time at 119 and 125, according to Randolph.

A pair of juniors - Phil Rollinger and Jeremy Filipelli will man the 130 and 135 spots, respectively. Randolph is pleased with the work both 11th-graders put in during the long off-season. Cox was a Regional qualifier last year and he competed for

Team Michigan during the summer. "We wrestled non-stop this

summer for Team Michigan and is ranked third in the state at 135," said Randolph. He's a very tough kid."

Shavne Wilson and Tim Koelzer will provide depth at 130 and 135.

Sophomores Brent Winekoff and Keith Zech give the Chiefs a solid middle-of-the-order line-up. Winekoff was a Regional qualifier as a freshman and also competed for Team Michigan, while Zech gained a measure of valuable varsity experience as a ninthgrader in 2006-07. Freshmen Braden Price and Anthony Abro; and sophomore Fawzi Zeidan will provide Randolph with depth at 152 and 160.

A pair of juniors – Mitch Kuchenberg and Pat Durocher - are battling it out for the 160pound starting spot while two seniors - Rodger Kropp and Adam Powers - have locks on the 171 and 189 slots, respectively.

"Rodger really hit the weights over the summer and had a solid football season this past fall," said Randolph. He's definitely one of our senior leaders.

"Adam is a returning captain and he's a lot bigger and stronger than he was last year. He's a great leader who commands respect from his teammates."

Senior Dan Wanshon, an All-WLAA linebacker, will wrestle at 215 while sophomore Dakota Dark-Bird, Junior Luke Konsitzke and sophomore Tyler Bourcier will try to fill the big

SALEM

The Rocks will be motivated somewhat by the fact that last vear's team was the first since 1991 to not send a single wrestler to the individual state meet.

We have a good, solid group of seniors leading us into this season," said Salem coach Greg Woochuk, noting the return of upper-classmen Kevin Bennett, Kevin Hayter, Jeremy Epley, Justin Kane and Alex Kemp. "It's a good group of dedicated wrestlers who, hopefully, will lead us to good things when March rolls around.

The Rocks' lighter weight classes will be bolstered by sophomore Carl Allen (112), a first-year wrestler; junior Ben DeWitt, who saw some gained some valuable varsity time as a sophomore; and 125-pound seniors Bennett and Steve Shen.

"Kevin had an excellent season last year with over 35 wins," said Woochuk. "He's a third-year varsity wrestler and a captain."

Hayter will double as a 130pound standout and captain while Kemp has looked solid at 135, Woochuk said.

"Alex is a hard worker and I'm expecting a lot out of him this season," said the veteran coach.

The mid-section of the Rocks' line-up will be filled by junior Johannes Olind (140), senior captain Kane (145) and 152-pounders Robbie Schultz (junior) and Colin Gross, a sophomore.

Senior captain Jeremy Epley will be out to cap a spectacular career at 160. Austin Root is also slotted to see time at 160 when Epley moves up to 171.

"Jeremy is another wrestler who had over 35 wins last year, so we're expecting a lot out of him this year," said Woochuk.

Junior Sam Lepper will wrestle at 171 with sophomore Blake Abbey slated to compete at 189. Sophomore A.J. Smith has been the Rocks' most-impressive performer at 215 while Chase Moore has looked solid so far at heavyweight.

PLYMOUTH

Second-year coach Jay Helm has reason to be optimistic as he enters the 2007-08 season armed with a solid nucleus of returning grapplers.

"While we want to win, one of our primary goals is to get the kids to become closer as a group and to be there for each other," said Helm. a former standout

The Wildcats' lighter weights will be dominated by freshmen: Nick Conroy is set at 103, Jimmy Ahearn and Brett Echols are dueling for the No. 1 spot at 112; while Nick Rizzo has earned the early nod at 119.

www.hometownlife.com

Plymouth's premier lightweight performer is senior Steve D'Annunzio, who was 3-1 with three pins in his team's first four matches.

"Steve has tremendous potential," said Helm. "He's very explosive and he's strong. He's a hard-nosed, in-your-face kind of competitor who never quits.

Helm also had high praise for 130-pound junior Dylan Spicher.

"Dylan had a pretty good year last year when he saw a lot of varsity action," said Helm. "The experience he got last year will make him better this year. He went to some camps over the summer and he was at all of our open rooms, so he's a hard worker who wants to get better."

Junior Matt Traitses opens the season as the Wildcats' top performer at 135. Three under-classmen – freshmen Tony Rhodes and Alex Saunders; and sophomore John Kelly - give the team loads of depth at 140.

One of the Wildcats' leading returners is senior Andrew Saunders, who will battle at 145.

"Andrew is a great kid and a hard worker," said Helm. "He's very scrappy and very intelligent. He started 5-1 this season, so he's doing a nice job."

Junior Sceo Rizzo has also started 5-1 at 160.

"Sceo has a lot of raw talent and natural ability," Helm said. Junior Derek Davey will bolster the upper-weight classes at 171. He's started the season 4-2.

"Derek is definitely a determined young man," said Helm. "He has a lot of heart and he's relentless in his pursuit to beat his opponents."

The Wildcats' top returner is 189-pound senior Vince Darolfi, a four-year letter-winner who was a standout on the Wildcats' football team.

He's off to a spectacular start. going 6-0 with six pins.

"Vince is definitely one of our leaders," said Helm. "He's a leader by example. Of his six pins, none went more than 1:10.

Senior Brian Chandler is the Wildcats' 215-pounder while Anthony Pomerson could prove to be one of the area's premier heavyweights based on his early 7-0 start. "Anthony's doing well and he had a very good summer," said Helm.

ANN ARBOR HURON 124 CANTON 62 THURSDAY AT CANTON

THURSDAY AT CANTON 200-yard medley refay: 1. Huron (Raymond Viviano, Michael Swain, Chris Berloth, Vinayak Nikam), 1:47.14; 2. Huron, 1:49.42; 3. Canton, 1:52.59, 200 freestyle: 1. Richard Zhang (C), 1:53.57; 2. Charlie Zhang (AAH), 2:00.77; 3. Keeley Maher (AAH), 2:01.27; 200 IM: 1. Chris Berloth (AAH), 2:03.46; 2. Kevin Karlinski (C), 2:15.48; 3. Leopold Chen (AAH), 2:23.44.

(AAH), 2:23.44

50 freestyle: 1. Dan Thurston (AAH), 22.67; 2. Chris McGinnis (C), 24.47; 3. Vinayak Nikam (AAH), 24.62.

1-meter diving: 1. Thomas Jahanian (AAH), 177.45 points; 2. Jeff Camalo (AAH),

15; 3. Matt Figlewicz (C), 133.95. 100 butterfly: 1. Dylan Wood (AAH), 58.83; 2. Michael Toner (AAH), 59.20; 3. Pat Richardson (AAH), 1.00.40. 100 freestyle: 1. Michael Swain (AAH), 51.23; 2. Richard Zhang (C), 51.59; 3. Vinayak (AAH), 52.80.

(AAH), 52.80. **500 freestyle**: 1. Dan Thurston (AAH), 4:48.09; 2. Nick Clyde (AAH), 5:28.77; 3. Michael Everett (AAH), 5:35.76. **200 freestyle relay:** 1. Huron (Pierce Theisen, Sam Nam, Ronald Conn, Pat Richardson), 1:37.13; 2. Canton, 1:41.33; 3. Huron, 1:46.90

100 backstroke: 1. Michael Toner (AAH), 57.74; 2. Raymond Viviano (AAH), 1:03.15; 3. Leopold Chen (AAH), 1:04.32.

Leopold Cherry Ann, EU4-32.
100 breaststroke: 1. Michael Swain (AAH), 1:01.33; 2. Kevin Karlinski (C), 1:08.05;
3. Keeley Maher (AAH), 1:11.59.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (Chris McGingle, Cherry Mathematica, Edditional Cherry Mathematica)

McGinnis, Chris Marinica, Eddie Koelzer, Richard Zhang), 3:43.55; 2. Canton, 4:03.74; 3. Huron, 4:10.69.

OE08575145 2x2

QE08574834

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

SWIM RESULTS

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS. Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 41889 Joy Rd Canton MI 48187 (734)254-0243 on 12/28/07 at 11:00 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of: 1006 - Ray Miller - Air Conditioner, 5 Boxes, Misc Items 2030 – Mary Owens – Couch, Washer, Dryer 3069 - Archie Mcgill - Bedframe, Endtable, Dresser 4001 - Robert Kozak - Vacuum, 10 tool boxes, Misc Items 4044 – Christopher Barnett – Couch, 12 Totes, Misc Items 9154 – Daphani Dent – 10 Boxes, Couch, Love Seat Publish: December 13 and 20, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: December 9 & 13, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

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

SPONSORSHIP AND ADVERTISING SALES FOR CANTON LEISURE SERVICES

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

Publish: 12/13/2007

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK OE08575414-2x3

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS **THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2008** 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 3, 2008 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

- Application 1452, 14300 Beck Rd: The applicant is requesting a variance in allowable sign square footage from a maximum of 60 sq ft to 70.68 sq ft. Requested variance is 10.68 square feet.
- Application 1453, 12285 Wendover: The applicant is requesting a variance in required distance between residential dwelling units; required distance is 16 feet, proposed distance is 12.5 feet, variance requested is 3.5 feet.
- Application 1454, 15255 Sheldon Rd: The applicant is requesting a variance to required rear yard setback. The minimum setback is 20 feet, the proposed setback is 14.9 feet, the variance requested is 5.10 feet.

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

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

Publish: December 13, 2007 OE08575821 - 2x4 level as a freshman. A pair of sophomores ----

Connor Johnson and Jon Dugan - are battle for the right to start at 112 pounds. Junior Carl Lucke, who was a state qualifier at 112

shoes left by the graduation of Laramie.

"Dan won quite a few matches as a junior and he is looking really good during the pre-season," said Randolph.

OE08575141 - 2 x 2.5

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 2500 S Industrial Hwy Ann Arbor, MI 48104-6130 (734)973-5584 on 12/27/07 at 2:00 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of: 2006 – Jerrell Steele – Microwave, 8 Boxes, Misc Items 2017 – William Armstead Jr – Dresser, TV, Mattress 3033 – William Denning 4018 – Joan Wright – 5 Bags, 4 Boxes, Misc Items 6006 - Bernice Holman - 4 Boxes, 5 Bags, Misc Items 8032 - Kimberly Barnet - Misc Items, Clothes, 8 Boxes

Publish: December 13 & 20, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, January 3, 2008 for the following:

LAYOUT, DESIGN, PRINTING, SORTING & MAILING OF THE DISCOVER CANTON BROCHURE

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

OE08575349-2x3

OE08574851 - 2 x 3

Publish: 12/13/2007

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

wrestler at Detroit Catholic Central. "We're a young team we had four freshmen wrestle in our first match - but we have some solid, experienced kids back, too.

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

OE08575146-2x2.5

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or** Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 45229 Michigan Ave Canton MI 48188 (734)397-0082 on 12/28/07 at 12:30 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

- 2037 Shawn Booth Mattress, Bike, 5 Totes 3006 B & B Builders Lawn Mower, Fan, Snow Blower

- 4024 Amy Lynn Feister 2 Bikes, 10 Totes, Chest 4127 Ron Miller 6 Totes, 3 Toolboxes, Endtables 4155 Toni Venturella 7 Totes, 10 Boxes, Misc Items
- 4168 Janneth Williams TV, 3 Totes, 2 Mattresses
- 4222 Terry Brown Microwave, Endtable, Chair
- 4226 Toni Venturella Washer, Mattress, 12 Boxes Publish: December 13 and 20, 2007

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 2101 Haggerty Rd Canton MI 48187 (734)981-0303 on 12/28/07 at 12:00 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of: 2026 - Carin Malley - Washer, Dryer, Dresser 3030 - Herman Glass - TV, VCR, 10 Bags 3042 – Dianne Croskey – Couch, 10 Boxes, 5 Bags 3047 - Cann Malley - Entertainment Center, 2 Kids Bikes, Microwave 4212 - Brooke Forquer - Table, 4 Boxes, Misc Items 4267 - Alina Lafleche - China Cabinet, 4 Chairs, 2 Totes 4294 – Diane Jacobs – 5 Boxes, 10 Totes, Misc Items 5029 - Cleopatra Peck - 4 Bikes, Lawn Mower, Refrigerator 5202 - Donald Reardon - 5 Totes, TV, Trunk 5240 - Debra Charnoske - Keyboard, Tool Chest, Air Compressor 6011 - Mark Allen Mayo - Microwave, Keyboard, 10 Totes 9054 - Karen Luna - Headboard, Sofa, Mattress Publish: December 13 & 20, 2007 OE08575144 - 2 x 3

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that December 17, 2007, is the last date to register for the Presidential Primary Election scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2008. Registration for electors within the Charter Township of Plymouth will be taken at the Office of the Township Clerk, 9955 N. Haggerty Road or at any Secretary of State Office or state designated agency. The office of the Clerk is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. If a resident is unable to register during those hours, a call to the Clerk's Office can set up a convenient time for the resident. Phone 734-354-3224.

> Marilyn Massengill, CMC Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: December 13, 2007

www.hometownlife.com

- B3

(CP)

Jenny Grodus (from Caccevelli

and Coleman) scored for PCS.

On Dec. 4, PCS notched a

recorded her first career shut-

out. Amy Coleman scored both

goals — the first was assisted

by her younger sister, Sarah;

the second was unassisted.

The Penguins dropped a

hard-fought 4-2 decision to

Livonia Ladywood on Dec. 1

despite goals from Nikkila and

Jessie Hazlett. Sarah Coleman

was credited with an assist on

Mazorowicz and Kurt Driscoll

all added one goal to the Salem

Rocks, stopping 17-of-20 shots

Mark Barkoff was solid

between the pipes for the

"Mark got stronger as

the game went along," said

be fighting the puck a little

Ossenmacher. "He seemed to

bit early on, which is expected

few weeks. But I thought he did

Mott dropped to 2-4 with

when you haven't played in a

in his season debuť.

a nice job overall."

the setback.

Hazlett's net-finder.

attack

2-0 win over visiting Walled

Lake Unified as Shaffer

FROM PAGE B

Senior guard Alava Mitchell led all scorers with 15 points. Other standouts for the Rocks were Chelsea Davis (14 points and 10 rebounds), Victoria Brotz (eight points), Sara Stone (seven points and a game-high 12 rebounds) and Brett deBear, who scored five points.

Sarah Stern led Northville with 14 points. 'We really had a great first quarter," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "We made some shots - Alaya had three baskets, Chelsea Davis had two and Brett deBear hit a big triple.

"Northville made a run at us late in the third quarter when they cut our lead down to six, but the girls responded well with a couple of baskets. It was a really nice effort by the girls tonight. They really played hard.'

The Rocks will host cross-campus rival Plymouth Friday night in a WLAA cross-over clash. The opening tip-off is set for approximately 7 p.m. in the Salem gym.

PLYMOUTH 53, LIVONIA CHURCHILL 39: On Tuesday at Churchill, the Wildcats rode the hot shooting touch of junior Kelsi Robinson to a decisive road victory over the Chargers.

Robinson buried four three-point shots in the first quarter alone on the way to an 18-point night. Thanks to Robinson's perimeter explosion, the 'Cats (2-3) led 18-11 after one quarter and 30-20 at the half. Churchill cut its deficit to 39-30 after three, but Plymouth responded by outscoring its hosts 14-9 over the final eight minutes.

Junior center Shaakira Haywood was as productive inside for Plymouth as Robinson was outside as she finished with 17 points, most of which came in the paint. Sophomore forward Stacey Klonowski also shined for the winners, netting nine points and a team-high 11 rebounds.

"Churchill came out in a zone but Kelsi made all four of her three-point shots in the first quarter to get us off to a great start," said Plymouth coach Richelle Reilly. "It was a good win for this team after starting the season with three losses against some very good competition

"We took a big step tonight because we were challenged by a good team and we hung on and won. We had a couple of freshmen - Alex Roberts and Katie Moss - who stepped up in the fourth quarter and made some big free throws.

Roberts sank 5-of-7 freebies in the game's waning moments while Moss buried both of her charity tosses to help seal the deal. Overall, Plymouth made 15-of-22 free throws.

The Wildcats will take on cross-campus rival Salem Friday at 7 p.m. on the Rocks' court. PCA 49, FRANKLIN ROAD 29: On Tuesday



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Baylee Hollowell and Stevenson's Julia Schroeder hit the floor for a loose ball during Tuesday night's WLAA crossover game. Canton rallied for a 42-35 victory.

at Plymouth Christian Academy, the Eagles soared to a one-sided triumph thanks to solid defense and a balanced scoring attack.

The win improved PCA to 3-1 while the Warriors slipped to 2-2.

Senior guard Meghan Polera sparked the victory with 10 points. Also making major contributions were Allyson DeKruyter (eight points), Autumn McKenzie (eight) and Jessica Murphy (six)

Courtney Mucklin led Franklin Road with 15. The Eagles put the game away with a dominating first half when they built a 23-5 advantage. The Warriors chopped their deficit to 33-20 after three quarters but PCA closed it out with a 16-point fourth quarter.

"We did a nice job rebounding and getting out on the fast-break," said PCA coach Carol Gerulis. "Our defense was very good tonight, too. We mixed it up between man-to-man and zone and we were able to put a lot of pressure on them."

Neither team sparkled from the free-throw line: PCA canned 7-of-15 uncontested shots while the Warriors hit 7-of-18 from the stripe.

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Sizzling Chief cagers outrun Howell

BOYS PREP HOOP

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Canton's boys basketball

Thurston was led by Jarmel Bloodsaw and Delmichael Youngblood, both of whom netleft off in the second. The two ted 16 points.

Penguins nip Regina, 3-2

notched the equalizer when

Kelsey Nikkila scored off an

on an unassisted Coleman

goal. Seven minutes later

Jenny Fedon found the back

Brooke Caccevelli to make it

3-1. Regina cut the gap to 3-2

with 1:57 left, but PCS goalie

Michelle Shaffer slammed the

door shut the rest of the way.

PCS outshot Regina 32-27.

dropped a 9-2 decision to Ann

On Dec. 5, the Penguins

Arbor Unified. Coleman and

of the net off a helper from

assist from Lauren Smith. The

Penguins grabbed the lead for

good with 11:22 left in the third

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team improved its record to 2-6 Tuesday night with an exciting 3-2 come-from-behind triumph over Warren Regina at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena.

We fell behind 1-0 in the first period, but the girls did a nice job of staying in the game and not getting down on themselves," said PCS coach Lori Callahan. "Amy Coleman played really well for us. She had a couple nice rushes that led to goals."

Trailing 1-0 early in the second period, the Penguins

Salem icers stick it to Mott

Salem's hockey team continued to put its sluggish start to the season in the rear-view mirror Tuesday night by outskating Waterford Mott, 5-3, in a non-conference game played at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

The Rocks' second straight victory improved their record to 3-3.

"Overall, we've been playing more consistently than we were our first few games," said first-year Salem coach Rvan Ossenmacher. "We're not taking as many shifts off as we

FROM PAGE BI

Vellucci's tenure behind the bench.

The Whalers are currently 18-8-1-2 and in third place in the ultra-competitive OHL West, eight points behind the first-place Windsor Spitfires and seven behind second-place Sault Ste. Marie.

Greg Stefan, 46, worked as an assistant for the Whalers from 1993-98 and rejoined the team from 2003-05 before moving to the Hurricanes the year they won the Stanley Cup in 2006.

Stefan played in the OHL

were before. We still have a long way to go to get to where we want to be, but we're playing much more consistently.

Salem led 3-2 after one period and 4-2 after two. Mott sliced its deficit to 4-3 in the third before the Rocks sealed the deal with a late-game lamp-lighter.

Senior captain Joel Cheesman paced the winners with two goals and two assists. "Joel played well at both

ends of the ice tonight," said Ossenmacher.

Steve Haburne, Eddie

as a goaltender with Oshawa

Generals from 1978-81 before

being selected in the seventh

round of the 1981 NHL Entry

Wings. Stefan turned to coach-

ing after retiring as a player in

"I've worked closely with

Greg for a long time and he has

been loyal to the organization,'

Vellucci said. "He deserves

this opportunity to become

a head coach. I am confident

he will develop our players for

the next level and continue our

winning tradition. He knows

what it takes to make it to the

National Hockey League, both

as a player and a coach."

Draft by the Detroit Red

1991.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Bowling for Baseball

The Canton Chiefs baseball teams are hosting the inaugural Canton Chiefs Bowling Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 15 at Super Bowl Lanes in Canton. Tickets are \$25 and include

two games of bowling, shoes, pizza and pop.

Reservations may be made for five-person teams or for individuals.

This event will help raise funds to make necessary improvements to the Canton Chiefs baseball facility.

For more information, contact Susan Stoney at (734) 459-9415 or stoneyfamily@msn.com.

team passed the "hot hand" like a 400-meter Olympic relay team passes a baton during Tuesday night's game at Howell.

When it was over, the Chiefs had secured a "relay" impressive 49-26 road victory over the Highlanders to improve their record to 2-1. Howell slipped to 0-2.

Senior guard Brody Coplai ignited the Canton attack with nine first-quarter points. He then handed off to senior Chris Bailey, who poured in nine second-quarter points to lead the Chiefs to a commanding 28-16 halftime advantage.

Seniors Neil Sharma and Ryan Seely picked up in the second half where Coplai and Bailey left off as the Chiefs outscored their hosts, 21-10, over the final 16 minutes.

Sharma finished with 11 points while Seely contributed six.

"Brody came out on fire in the first quarter and hit three three-point shots," said Canton coach Dan Colligan. "Then Chris picked up where Brody

seniors had an outstanding first half. Neil was pretty consistent the whole way through. "We got a lot of deflections

on defense, which is something we've been working on. Offensively, we took care of the ball."

Canton canned 7-of-10 free throws. Howell made one and missed one from the stripe.

The Chiefs return to action Friday when they host South Lyon.

REDFORD THURSTON 59, PLYMOUTH 30: On Tuesday at Plymouth, The Wildcats slipped to 0-3 after committing 27 turnovers against the Eagles' relentless full-court pressing defense.

Thurston led 12-5 after one quarter, 25-14 at the half and 45-23 with eight minutes to play.

Senior guard Brandon Roberts paced Plymouth with nine points. Michael Rose added six points and seven rebounds.

Garrett Rebain had a solid night, too, adding two points and nine rebounds.

'We didn't do a good job of handling their pressure and we didn't shoot the ball very well tonight," concluded Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner.

CANTON AGAPE 53, CALVARY CHRISTIAN 40: On Tuesday at Calvary Christian, the Wolverines notched their first victory of the season thanks to •strong efforts from Ty Majeski (17 points), Mark Mullett (15) and Terrell Pierce (11). John Wiedman led Calvary

with 10.

"We pressed pretty much the entire game - both full-court and half court," said Agape coach Keith Anleitner. "The boys did a nice job defensively. This is our first step toward our goal of winning the MIAC Red.'

Agape (1-2) led 12-9 after one quarter, 25-20 at the half and 40-29 with eight minutes to play.

The Wolverines travel to Plymouth Christian on Friday to take on the Eagles. The opening tip is set for 8:30 p.m.

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Profile of a Paw Print Inn Guest

NAME: Cody **FAVORITE TOY:** Squeaky frog

FAVORITE PASTIME: Chasing cats **FAVORITE HOLIDAY DESTINATION:** The Paw Print Inn



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ALL-OBSERVER SWIMMING

Strokes of genius: Local swimmers set an All-State pace

Monica Blaesser

Ashley Sells

John Glenn

Salem

Canton

FIRST-TEAM INDIVIDUAL ALLISON SCHMITT, SR., CANTON (200-YARD FREE-

STYLE): The two-time All-State performer etched a place in Michigan high school swimming history with a career that was lined with a pool-ful of records and state championships. This season she won Division 1 state titles in the 200yard freestyle (1:46.25) and 500 freestyle (4:47.46), setting pool and state records at the same time. She also placed first in the 50 freestyle (24.16) and 100 freestyle (51.49 - meet and pool record) at the Western Lakes Activities Association meet in November.

"Allison has been a tremendous asset to our team, both in and out of the water." said Canton assistant coach Ed Weber. "Her positive attitude and nevergive-up personality define who she is. I do not see any limit for this great athlete. I wish her the best as she prepares for this summer's Olympic Trials, and continues her swimming at the University of Georgia.

ASHLEY GORDON, SOPH., LIV. STEVENSON (200 IM): The sophomore placed fourth in the 100 backstroke (1:00.63) and 11th in the 200 IM (2:12.99 during the prelims) at the Division 1 state meet.

She also was co-champion in the 100 backstroke runner-up in the 200 IM at the WLAA meet.

"Ashley is a very hard worker and did a very good job this year qualifying for 'state' in five individual events," Stevenson coach Greg Phill said. KATIE GORMAN, SR., SALEM (50 FREESTYLE): The

senior captain posted the area's third best clocking (26.28 during the prelims) en route to a sixth-place finish at the WLAA meet.

Gorman also added a seventh in the 100 butterfly.

She is a four-time All-WLAA and All-Area pick, along with a four-time state qualifier.

"Katie has had an outstanding high school career and has the talent to compete in any stroke or distance, and do what is expected by her teammates," Salem coach Chuck Olson said of the Coaches Award winner.

CARLA MCNAMARA, SOPH., LIV. STEVENSON (DIVING): The sophomore earned a 10th-place finish at the state meet with an 11-dive total of 335.45 points.

McNamara captured the Western Lakes title with a total of 342.70.

"Carla just missed qualifying for 'state' as a freshman and came back to take fourth at the regionals," Phill said. ASHLEY SELLS, JR., WESTLAND GLENN (100 BUT-

TERFLY): The junior placed fifth in the state meet (58.71), won the WLAA and broke her own school record in the 100 butterfly.

Sells also added 12th in the 200 IM (2:14.13) at the state meet and was fourth in the WLAA.

"Ashley is the hardest worker on our team, she has become a great leader in that regard," Glenn coach Randy Ferguson said of the three-time All-Area pick and captain elect for 2008. "If I can get more swimmers to step up and keep up with her in practice, we'll have a much better team next year.

LAURA TIMSON, SR., LIV. STEVENSON (100 FREESTYLE): The senior captain and four-year performer placed fifth in the 500 freestyle

2007 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING TEAM INDIVIDUAL EVENTS 200 freestyle: 1. Allison Schmitt, Sr., Canton: 2. Monica Blaesser, Sr., Canton. 200 individual medley 1. Ashley Gordon, Soph, Livonia Stevenson, 2. Maggie Carlson, Soph, Canton, 50 freestyle: 1. Kalie Gorman, Sr. Salem, Alyssa Llakos, Sr., Plymouth, I-meter diving: 1. Carla McNamara, Soph., Stevenson; 2. Katie Koetting, Jr.,

Salem. 100 butterfly: 1. Ashley Sells, Jr., Westland John Glenn; 2. Megan Hølycross, Sr., Stevenson. 100 freestyle: 1. Laura Timson, Sr. evenson, 2. Jordan Burgess, Jr., John

500 freestyle: 1. Savannah Hatt, Fr., Stevenson; 2. Kaylee Dolinski, Fr. 100 backstroke: 1. Whitney Aumiller, Salem: 2. Kayla Douglas, Fr., Livonia nklin.

100 breaststroke: 1. Brynn Marecki Sr., Stevenson: 2. Elle Palczynski, Jr. Plymouth.

RELAY EVENTS 200 medley: 1 Stevenson (Ashley Gordon, Soph.; Megan Holvcross, Sr., Brynn Marecki, Sr.; Laura Timson, Sr.); 2. John Gienn (Jordan Burgess, Jr., Khiry Sparks, Fr., Ashley Sells, Jr.; Casey Peterson, Soph.) 200 freestyle: 1. Canton (Monica Biaesser, Sr.; Maggie Carlson, Soph.; Karl Schmitt, Fr.; Allson Schmitt, Sr.); 2. Stevenson (Biake Holtz, Sr.; Kaylee Dolinski, Fr.; Savannah Hatt, Fr.; Laura Timson, Sr.); **RELAY EVENTS**

Timson, Sr.). 400 freestyle: 1. Stevenson (Laura Timson, Sr., Ashiey Gordon, Soph.; Savannah Hatt, Fr., Brynn Marecki, Sr.). 2. Canton (Monica Blaesser, Sr.; Maggle Carlson, Soph.; Karl Schmitt, Fr.; Allison Schmitt, Sr.). COACH OF THE YEAR Greg Phill, Livonia Stevenson

best of 2:06.09).

In the WLAA meet, Marecki captured the 200 freestyle (1:55.35) and 100 breaststroke. She was also MISCA champion in the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke.

Marecki, three-time MVP for the Spartans, broke three pool records at Stevenson. She recently signed with the

University of Buffalo. FIRST-TEAM RELAYS

200 MEDLEY - STEVENSON (ASHLEY GORDON, SOPH; MEGAN HOLYCROSS, SOPH.; BRYNN MARECKI, SR.; LAURA TIMSON, SR.): The Division 1 state runnersup went 1:49.54 during the prelims.

"This relay swam together for the first time at the state meet," Phill said. "The girls had two great swims to finish second in the state and earn All-American honors.

200 FREESTYLE - CANTON (MONICA BLAESSER, SR.; MAGGIE CARLSON, SOPH.; KARI SCHMITT, FR.; ALLISON SCHMITT, SR.): This foursome set a school record in the event and earned All-State honors at the Division 1 state meet at Eastern Michigan University by placing

seventh in 1:40.62 400 FREESTYLE - STEVENSON (LAURA TIMSON, SR.; ASHLEY GORDON, SOPH.; SAVANNAH HATT, FR.; BRYNN MARECKI, SR.): The Spartans took fourth in the Division 1 state meet with a seasonbest 3:37.05.

"These four girls really came together when it counted and had two great swims at the state meet," Phill said. SECOND-TEAM INDIVIDUAL

MONICA BLAESSER, SR., CANTON (200 FREESTYLE): d for the Division ior qualifi



Allison Schmitt Canton



Katie Koetting Salem



Kavlee Dolinski Stevenson

Koetting carries a 3.3 GPA.

MEGAN HOLYCROSS, SR., LIV. STEVENSON (100 BUTTERFLY): The senior captain and fourthyear swimmer qualified for the state meet in the 100 backstroke by taking 24th overall (1:03.52). She also finished fifth in

the butterfly (1:03.04 during the prelims) and added a sixth in the 100 backstroke at the WLAA meet. **Casey Peterson** "Megan did a great job

John Glenn for us at the end of the season qualifying for the backstroke and swimming the fastest 50 butterfly split that we've had in 14

years," Phill said. JORDAN BURGESS, JR., WESTLAND GLENN (100 FREESTYLE): The junior posted a seasonbest time of 56.58 in Glenn's final dual meet of the season and added a 50 freestyle split of 25.7 as the anchor of the Rockets 200 freestyle relay team.

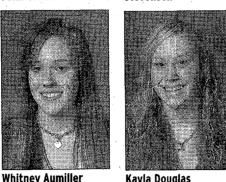
At the WLAA meet, Burgess took sixth in the 500 freestyle and 12th in the 200 freestyle. She also took 35th in the 500 freestyle and 39th in the 200

freestyle at the state meet. n is talented and





Megan Holycross Stevenson



Kayla Douglas Franklin



ELLE PALCZYNSKI, JR., PLYMOUTH (100 BREAST-STROKE): The junior captain enjoyed a stellar season, earning a berth at the Division state meet in the 100 breaststroke. She's the first Plymouth swimmer - boys and girls - to advance to the second day of the state meet.

breaststroke before her freshman year,



Maggie Carlson Canton

Laura Timson

Stevenson



Salem





B5

(*)

Alyssa Liakos Plymouth



Jordan Burgess John Glenn



Plymouth

Stevenson

Brynn Marecki Stevenson



Stevenson

as a junior really speaks to how well she's learned to swim the stroke and how quickly she's evolved as a swimmer. She's an extremely kind young lady who does a great job mentoring a lot of our younger swimmers. SECOND-TEAM RELAYS

200 MEDLEY - JOHN GLENN (JORDAN BURGESS, JR.; KHIRY SPARKS, FR.; ASHLEY SELLS, JR.; CASEY PETERSON, SOPH): This quartet took a third at the Western Lakes meet in 1:57.22. then turned in a season-best at the







Khiry Sparks John Glenn

Division 1 state meet in 1:56.25. With all four girls returning next season, look for the Rockets to improve on their 19thplace state meet finish.

200 FREESTYLE - STEVENSON (BLAKE HOLTZ, SR.; KAYLEE DOLINSKI, FR.; SAVANNAH HATT, FR.; LAURA TIMSON, SR.): This foursome earned a third-place finish at the WLAA meet with a season-best clocking of

1:44.09. "With only one real sprinter among the four, and with Dolinski, Hatt and Timson coming out of the 500

freestyle, these four girls did a great job to swim what they did," Phill said. 400 FREESTYLE - ALLISON SCHMITT, SR.; MAGGIE

CARLSON, SOPH.; MONICA BLAESSER, SR.; KARI SCHMITT FR): The Chiefs set a school records in the 400 freestyle event this season; earning All-State honors at the Division 1 state meet at Eastern Michigan University with a sixth-place showing in 3:39.87.



Canton

"Elle started as a very raw breaststroker," said Plymouth coach Doug Schade. "She hadn't swum the 100 so to make the state meet and qualify

(5:08.21) and eighth in the 200 IM (2:09.58 in the prelims) at the state meet. In the Western Lakes meet, Timson

won the 200 IM and 500 freestyle. "Basically Laura swam wherever we needed her and qualified for the state meet in every individual event," Phill

SAVANNAH HATT, FR., LIV. STEVENSON (500 FREE-STYLE): The first-year performer made quite an impact with a sixth in the 500 freestyle along with an 11th in the 200 freestyle at the state finals.

Hatt was runner-up in the 200 freestyle (season-best 1:57.83) and 500 freestyle (season-best 5:08.66) at the Western Lakes meet.

"She did an outstanding job for the team this year," Phill said. "I really look forward to the next three years. They should be terrific.'

WHITNEY AUMILLER, JR., SALEM (100 BACKSTROKE): The junior earned a third-place finish at the Division 1 state finals with a time

of1:00.35 At the WLAA meet, Aumiller took third in the 100 freestyle (57.04) and sixth in the 200 freestyle (1:59.71 in the prelims).

She has been selected Salem's MVP and captain for 2008.

Whitney has had a great three years at Salem and has shown improvement in all her times," Olson said. "Whitney has a determination of always doing her best

 everyday in practice or in competition." BRYNN MARECKI, SR., LIV. STEVENSON (100 BREAST-STROKE): The senior captain and four-year swimmer capped off stellar career with Division 1 state titles in the 100 breaststroke (1:05.13) and 200 IM (lifetime

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY

Livonia Stevenson 1:48.93 Westland John Glenn 1:56.25

Salem 1:58.36

Canton 1:58.53 Livonia Ladywood 2:00.61 200 FREESTYLE

Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:46.25

Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 1:55.35

Savannah Hatt (Stevenson) 1:57.83

Kaylee Dolinski (Stevenson) 1:58.87

Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:58.94

Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:59.71

Monica Blaesser (Canton) 2:01.29

Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 2:01.90

Natalie Cote' (Franklin) 2:02.60

Maggie Carlson (Canton) 2:04.58

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 2:06.09 Allison Schmitt (Canton) 2:07.77

Laura Timson (Stevenson) 2:09.58 Ashley Gordon (Stevenson) 2:12.99

Ashlev Sells (John Glenn) 2:14.13

Maggie Carlson (Canton) 2:14.74 Emily Nelson (Salem) 2:18.00 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 2:20.83

Catherine Irwin (Canton) 2:21.29 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 2:21.74 50 FREESTYLE

Allison Schmitt (Canton) 24.16 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 25.25

Katie Gorman (Salem) 26.28 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 25.56

Alyssa Liakos (Plymouth) 26.46 Blake Holtz (Stevenson) 26.48

Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 26.52 Khiry Sparks (Stevenson) 26.57

Monica Blaesser (Canton) 26.62 Natalie Cote' (Franklin) 26.75

1 state meet three straight years and is was a pivotal member of two of the school's record-setting relay teams.

"Monica is a natural leader and hard worker," said Weber. "We'll miss her dedication to the team and boundless energy at practice. I want to wish her the best next year as she plans to swim in college

MAGGIE CARLSON, SOPH., CANTON (200 IM): The sophomore qualified for the Division 1 state meet in both the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke for two consecutive seasons. She's a member of two of the Chiefs' school-record relay teams.

"Maggie is an energetic individual who demonstrates her love for the sport every time she enters the water. Canton is lucky to have her on its side, and I look forward to her accomplishments in the seasons to come.

ALYSSA LIAKOS, SR., PLYMOUTH (50 FREESTYLE): The senior posted the fifth-best time (26.46) in Observerland this fall in the 50-yard freestyle. She was a valuable member of the Wildcats' swimmingand-diving team for the past four sea sons, providing both in-the-water skills and out-of-the-pool leadership qualities. KATIE KOETTING, JR., SALEM (DIVING): The

junior was runner-up in the WLAA meet (337.00 points) and is a two-time Division 1 state qualifier.

The three-time All-WLAA honoree will be a captain next season for the Rocks

"Katie has shown she is one of the best divers in the conference, area and state," Olson said. "Katie is an athlete that enjoys practice almost as much as the competition."

being able to swim both sprint and distance events," Ferguson said. "She swam every event for us this year and qualified for the state for the first time in the 200 and 500 freestyle. When we need her to win a sprint in our dual meets, or lead off our medley relay at big meets, we knew we could count on

her to step up and perform well." KAYLEE DOLINSKI, FR., LIV. STEVENSON (500 FREESTYLE): The first-year swimmer wound up 15th overall in the Division 1 state finals (5:15.20 in the prelims) and placed third in the Western Lakes meet.

She also added a fourth in the WLAA meet in the 200 freestyle. Her best time in the 200 free was 1:58.87. "Kaylee is another first-year freshman that has been a privilege to coach,"

Phill said. "And again, being a freshman that scored at the state meet, the next three years will be a lot of fun." KAYLA DOUGLAS, FR., LIV. FRANKLIN (100 BACK-

STROKE): The ninth-grader was co-champion in the Western Lakes meet with a time of 1:01.04 and followed up with a seventh-place finish in the Division 1 state meet with a season-best 1:00.37 during the prelims. She also added a sixth in the 100 but-terfly at the WLAA meet (1:04.35 in the prelims).

"Kayla has a tremendous amount of natural ability," Franklin coach Kevin Hafner said of the school-record holder. "If she puts in the time needed to excel. she should improve over the next three years and look to place higher at the state championship meet in multiple events.

2007 OBSERVERLAND GIRLS BEST SWIM TIMES

1-METER DIVING (11 DIVES) Carla McNamara (Stevenson) 357.00 Katie Koetting (Salem) 337.00 Katina St. Pierre (Churchill) 293.70 Desiree Clenney (John Glenn) 282.80 Robyn Piwowar (Canton) 255.40 Kailea Stancer (Churchill) 242.45 Allison Spitzley (Ladywood) 310.85 Jennie Humbach (John Glenn) 222.50 Katy Harris (John Glenn) 221.10 Tara Mylnarek (Churchill) 209.70 100 BUTTERFLY Allison Schmitt (Canton) 57.28

Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 58.71 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:01.69 Megan Holycross (Stevenson) 1:03.04 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 1:03.45 Kayla Douglas (Franklin) 1:04.35 Catherine Irwin (Canton) 1:05.19 Katie Gorman (Salem) 1:05.47 Khiry Sparks (John Glenn) 1:06.15 Emily Bair (Salem) 1:06.27 **100 FREESTYLE**

Allison Schmitt (Canton) 50.46 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 53.67 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 53.92 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 56.58 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 57.04 Michelle Chang (Plymouth) 57.16 Kari Schmitt (Canton) 57.29 Blake Holtz (Stevenson) 57.48 Katie Gorman (Salem) 57.46 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 57.56 500 FREESTYLE

Allison Schmitt (Canton) 4:47.46 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 5:08.21 Savannah Hatt (Stevenson) 5:08.66 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 5:11.13 Kaylee Dolinski (Stevenson) 5:15.20 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 5:25.49 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 5:26.08 Sijia Hao (Plymouth) 5:27.46 Natalie Cote' (Franklin) 5:27.89 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 5:28.16 200 FREESTYLE RELAY Canton 1:40.62 Livonia Stevenson 1:44.09 Salem 1:45.53 Plymouth 1:45.79 Livonia Franklin 1:46.67 100 BACKSTROKE Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:00.35 Kayla Douglas (Franklin) 1:00.37

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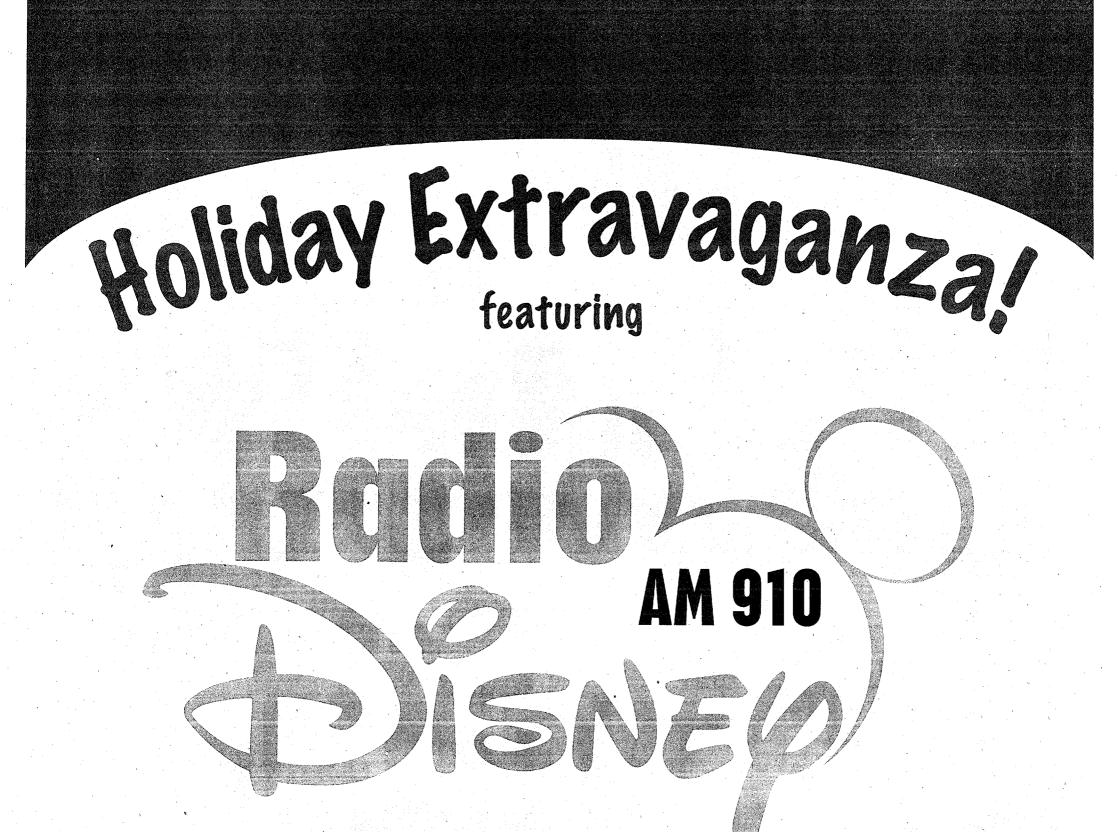
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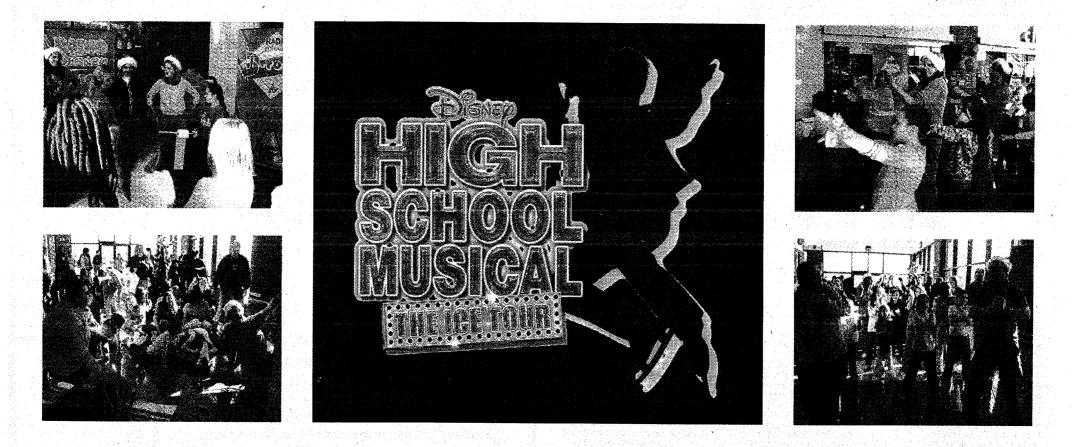
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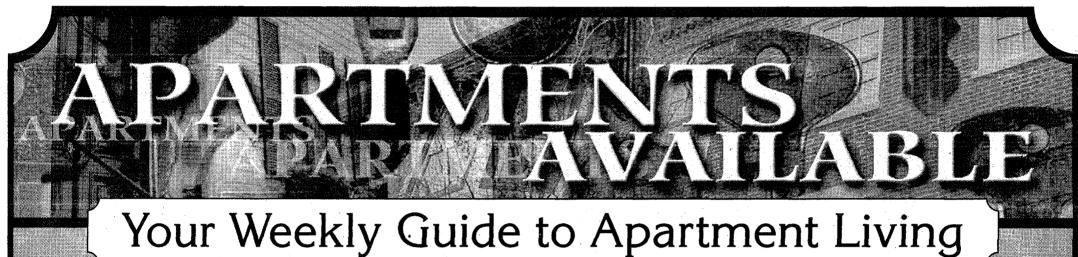
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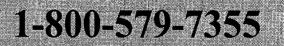
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BRIEFS

include topics on the exam, laws and rules, building practices and procedures, sample test questions and test-taking strategies. Registration fees are \$200 per person. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) presents Green Built Training from 9-10:20 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, at 879 Benjamin in Troy, in a Green Built certified home built by Wake-Pratt Construction Co. In this first of five trainings, Chris Pratt of Wake-Pratt Construction discusses the technical and sales aspects of Building Green using materials and methods that result in Green Built certification. Building Green offers a change from selling cost per square foot to making an environmental statement.

The training is free for BIA members. Advance registration is required. For registration information, call (248) 862-1008.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) kicks off the Sales and Marketing Council (SMC) programs for 2008 with a Roundtable Discussion, "You're At A Networking Event ... Now What?" on Wednesday, Jan. 30, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

Kirk Armstrong of Gerry Weinberg & Associates will lead the discussion focused on how to get a conversation transitioned into your business without appearing needy or offensive by using proven, systematic techniques.

Registration fees are \$10 for

SMC members, \$20 for BIA members and \$45 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and its Remodelors Council (RC) will present a Negotiating Skills seminar, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills on Thursday, Jan. 31, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The seminar is part of the Certified Graduate Remodelor (CGR) series and counts toward CGR, Certified Graduate Associate (CGA) and Graduate Master Builder (GMB) designations.

Chuck Breidenstein, CAPS, of Builder Professional Services Group Inc. will present methods and strategies to negotiate with customers, employees, subcontractors, suppliers and government officials. Participants will gain confidence in these skills through role-playing following lectures and exercises.

Registration fees are \$155 for Remodelors Council members, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

Real Estate Investors

Real Estate Investors of Oakland will meet Thursday, Jan. 10, at the Michigan State University-Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. There will be a buffet dinner (reservations needed) 5:30-6:30 p.m., early bird session 6:15-7 p.m. and general membership meeting 7:15-9:30 p.m. RSVP for dinner by Jan. 4 to www. reiaofoakland.com/ dinner. html.

Speaker will be attorney David Nykanen discussing strategies for appealing tax assessments. Admission free for members, \$20 for guests.



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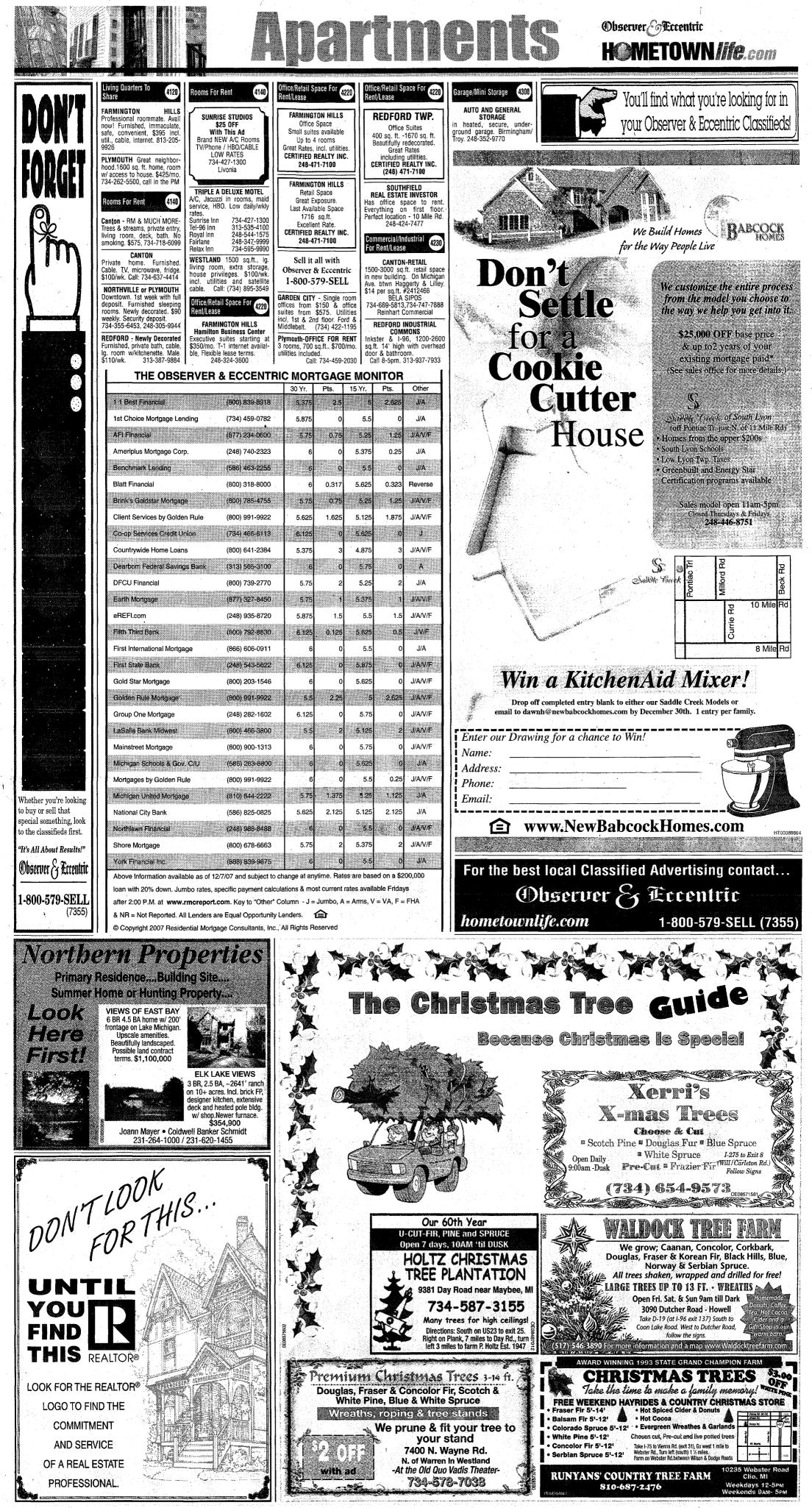
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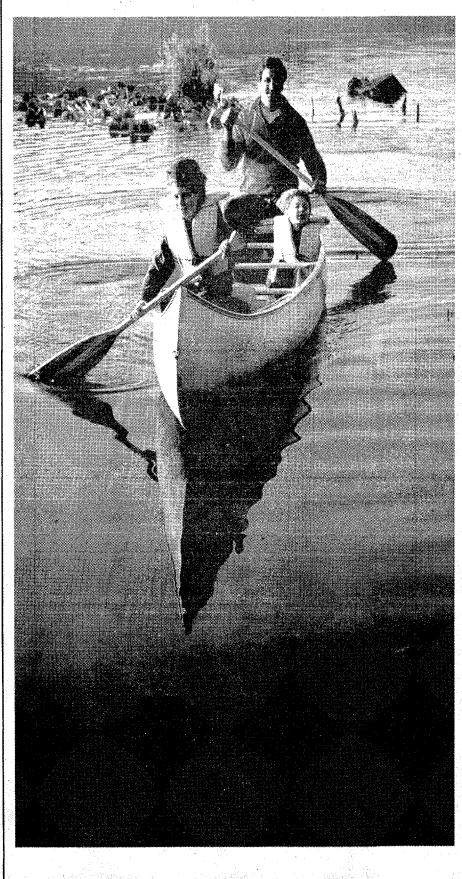


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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

SINCERE ONLY SBF, 36, feminine, beautiful, sexy, seeks con-fident, similar lady to share nights on the town, good talks and simple fun. Will it be you? Friendship first, possibly more, \$210970

Friendship first, possibly more. \$\frac{1}{27210970} AWAITING YOUR CALL Honest, attractive SBF, 25, 6'2'', 150lbs, mother, employed, caring, looking to meet outgoing, child-friendly, respectful Christian man to enjoy dinner dates, good talks, family, friendship and fun. \$\frac{1}{27237322} TAKE A CHANCE SWF, 25, 5'2'', medium build, athletic, enjoys sports, working on cars, bowling, pool, Italian tood, music, my dogs, having fun. Seeking outgoing, fun-loving guy to get to know, share fun. \$\frac{1}{272328} CI ASS ACT & GOOD CATCH

CLASS ACT & GOOD CATCH

Free kitten to good home. Affectionate, attrac-tive intelligent DWPF, 5'8'', N/S, upbeat with class, warmth and sense of humor, seeks LTR with monogamous, romantic gentleman, 55-69. Make me purr. 27238978

YOUR SOULMATE IS WAITING SBF, 27, 5'4", chocolate complexion, pretty brown eyes, dimples, thick build, looking for SBM, 28-60, for friendship and possibly more. T226022

ARE YOU SEEKING? DWF, 63, 5'2", Italian, brunette, attractive, well-dressed, sincere, loving, optimistic, likes, theater, travel, dining, fitness. Wishing to meet N/S WM, 58-70, financially secure, easygoing, good mor-als, loves family, for dating. 2630808 BUSY GIRL Vex gite Asyracr.dt SWE could easily pass for

wanted. 40-year-old SBF, 5'8' looking for handsome, fun, older Italian or Sicilian Male, 40-55 years old. I like shopping, movies, and cooking. 12218623

PERSONABLE AND SPECIAL PERSONABLE AND SPECIAL SWF, retired, tatented, fun-loving, attractive, 132lbs, 5'5", blonde, seeks well-groomed gentleman, 65+, to share life and enjoy each other's company. 7891247

SEARCHING FOR A MAN 40-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 46-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. **3**2962317 LET'S HAVE FUN

SWF, likes camping, fishing, hiking, motor-cycles, seeking a SWM, 36-63, who enjoys the same, for friendship first, possible LTR. 1ne same, 12244983

COULD U BE THE ONE 4 ME? Active SWF, 5'2", blonde, fun-loving, nurse likes boating, traveling, sports, dancing and dining, seeking a SWM, 70-78, who enjoys the same, for friendship, maybe more. 2231724

HELLO OUT THERE SWF, 39 years young, seeks SWM, who enjoys lifes simple pleasures. I enjoys dining out, com-puters, movies, the parks walks, travel and life in general. Friendship first. 2241298

WILD AND SOPHISTICATD Ebony woman desires shared love relation-

CLASSY LADY SBF, 36, 5'3", N/S, seeking a SBM, 35-49, who enjoys sports, dining, traveling and movies, for friendship first, maybe more. **2** 192050

DO-WOP TO CLASSICS DWF, 56, 5'4", N/S, with traditional values, shapely blond, enjoys concerts, dining, classic cars, the lake, dancing. ISO christian a+, N/S, gentleman, 50+, for dating, open to new activi-ties. Rochester. **1**225822

SWEET SEXY LADY WANTS. SWEET SEXY LADY WANTS... to be swept off my feet! Very pretty SWF, 42, brunette, 5'6", 133lbs, N/S, seeks good-look-ing, tall SWM, 40-45, honest, cosmetic sur-geon, college-educated, romantic, sensual, for friendship first, possible LTR. 2235306

READ THIS AD! SWF, 61, N/S, homebody, enjoys cuddling, scary movies and antiques, searching for a SWM, 52+, with various interest and qualities. **2**164114

HIDDEN TREASURE I'm the needle in the haystack, and there you will find true love. Seeking SM, 65+. 2212790

LOOKING FOR ME? SBF, 46, 58", dark complexion, slim, cute, looking for tall, attractive, sweet guy, kind and understanding to share all the good things life offers. \$216297

LOOKING FOR ME?

SBF, 37, attractive, trustworthy, down-to-earth, with grown son likes walks, movies, dinners, park, music. Seeking BM, 36-55, for friend-ship, possible romance. 2220303

Adventurous, energetic, handsome, laid-back SWM, 48, looks younger, 5'11", N/S, enjoys traveling, dining out. Seeking fit, energetic, pretty woman, 28-59, N/S, with same qualities, and interests, for LTR. 2218526

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL Attractive SWF, 50s, 5'7", 125lbs, loves all life, animals, arts, family, nature, spirituality. Masters helping professional. Seeking big-hearted, financially/emotionally secure, intelnt DPM, 48-68, for fun, friendship, depth, etc. 2892242

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND SBF, 19, full-figured, 5/4", caramel complexion looking for a good man to enjoy talks, hang out with and just get to know. 2230300

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU WIWF, 57, homeowner, independent, a little lonely, dog owner, enjoys quiet times, good talks and togethemess. Seeking a kind man to share these. 2211330

BEAUTIFUL MAKEUP ARTIST Sincere, kind SWF, 53, proportionate, 5'6", 124lbs, professional, attractive, intelligent and educated, loves music, dancing, motor-cycles, outdoors, movies and creative pur-suits. Seeking attractive gentleman, 42-53, with like interests/qualities, for friendship/LTR. **2**230791

POSSIBLE LTR SWPF, 58, 5'7", attractive, slender, athletic, N/S, enjoys sports, concerts, dining out, seeks SWPM, 55-62, N/S, college degreed, healthy, SOH, possible LTH. **17** 993381

HELLO DWF, 57, 5'4", 180lbs, size 16, attractive redhead, retired RN, homeowner, smoker, loves cooking, movies, good company, conversation and travel. Give me a call. All call returned **T**229066 HOW ARE YOU?

SBF, 29, mom of 2, N/S, fun-loving, caring, compassionate, likes cooking, painting, walks, beaches, family times. Seeking a nice guy with zest for life, to share a little happiness. 2200770

SEEKING MR. RIGHT Classy SBF, hoping to meet mature SBM, 45-60, I'm a very passionate, affectionate, loving person, who enjoys a variety of activities. If you're seeking your soulmate, why not try

me? 2985794 NURSE

Attractive SWF, 64, 5', 135lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, fair skin, looking for N/S, honest gentle-man, 60-70, who has numerous interests including history, traveling, and home life.

WHY NOT CALL? SBF, full-figured, seeks a SM, 37-80, for friend-ship, possible LTR. Call me, let's get together and get to know each other. **12**:217234

LET'S TALK SF, 31, 5'9', brown/blue, Pisces, enjoys romantic dinners, movies, nice talks, quiet walks, simple fun. Looking for a nice, easygo-ing, simple guy to share friendship and fun. 2213820

LOOKING FOR AN EXPLORER LOOKING FOR AN EXPLOHER SBF, 56, looking for a cultural man who enjoys restaurants, cafes, the Arts, French culture, stimulating conversations, reading, cooking and more. Let's meet and see if we connect. \$\vec{a}226494

UNAFRAID OF A LITTLE ... strangeness. Quirky, compassionate SF, 27, mother with 11 month old who is my world, loves reading, friends, animals, and explor-ing life. Seeking someone compassionate to share a friends first relationship. T2235616 HEV CUIVS snare a triends tirst relationship. 1235616 HEY GUYS SBF, 20, 5'9", slim, long black hair, enjoys movies, concerts, and just having fun, look-ing for a nice, respectful man, to enjoy talks, casual dates, and see what happens next. 1735410

2235810 LADY IN THE WOODS

SWF 50, looks younger, nice smile, blonde/ hazel, 5'5", average build, employed, edu-cated, homeowner, dog lover, seeking com-patible, outdoorsy, rugged, good-hearted male to share the good things in life. Livingston county. \$210247

CLASSY LADY CLASSY LADY SBF, middle-aged, attractive, enjoys dining, movies, plays and bowling, seeks a SM, 48-69, N/S, good sense of humor and good values/morals. 2207254

READY FOR A FRESH START? DWF, 47, 55°, 12016s, long blonde/blue, well-proportioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SWM, 45-57, 6'1*+, 2261bs-t, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adventurer, manly gentle-man. 2692549

I NEED A LOVE. to keep me happy. Attractive, classy, delightful, charming WF, 49, no kids, seeks SWM, 45+, no kids, N/S, fun, loving, caring. \$568059 COULD YOU BE THE ONE?

SBF, 27, self-sufficient, up front and real seeks employed, respectful, nice man independent

Ready to meet great new people?

ISO MY COUNTERPART

and interests, for LTR. 1218526 BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED SBM, early 40s, seeks attractive, younger lady, 28-45, for romance, companionship, must be independent and shapely. Serious replies only. 12684501 HOPE ABOUT A CALL? Loving, real separated BM, 28, business owner, father, looking for genuine, sexy, sweet, child-friendly SWF, goal-oriented and affectionate who knows how to have a good time in II6. 1720443

CALL THIS MAN! Easygoing, expressive DWM, 43, nice looks, no kids, enjoys traveling, outdoors, romantic eve-nings. Seeks warm-hearted SWF. 2112288

DON'T HESITATE ...

call for a date! SWM, 55, happy, healthy, N/S, enjoys reading, cooking, home life, road trips, seeks SWF, 40-59, for companionship, maybe more. 27992956

more. 2992956 LETS GET GOING! SWM 40s, attractive, good shape, great lis-tener, enjoys good conversation, friendship, spontaneous fun, and laughter, seeks person-able SWF for dating and more. 2128302

HI LADIES! DHM, 48, kind, hard-worker, N/S, seeks a H/WF, 37-57, N/S, for sharing of conversa-tions, dates, fun and more. Possible LTR.

WORTH A SHOT Nice, affectionate, fun SWM, 36, 6', 230lbs, substitute teacher, muscular build enjoys fit-ness, dining, dancing, movies, and more. Seeking similar SF, to share the good times, friendship and maybe more. T243485

Thendship and maybe more. 22/243485 COULD IT BE YOU? SBM, 48, 62°, brown complexion, wavy hair, mustache/goatee, employed, mature, intel-ligent, hard-working, enjoys soulfood, good company, romance. ISO very attractive, intel-ligent, down-to-earth and independent lady, for ife and love. 27 189723 EASYGOING

EASYGOING EASTGUING Sharp, sociable SWM, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fishing, motor sports etc. WLTM SWF, for dat-ing and fun times. T 187614

Ing and tun times. \$18/614 SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED SBM, 46, looking for that special persona for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cudding at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. \$1692418 A TERDIFIC CUV

A TERRIFIC GUY SWM, 45, 6', blue/brown, 200lbs, N/D, little on the shy side, enjoys quiet times, classic cars, bowling, more. Seeking SWF, N/D, trustwor-thy, 35-55, in good shape, w/similar interests. Possible LTR, 2224408

WORTH A SHOT

Easygoing honest, fun-loving guy, 36, 6'2", 250/bs, former Marine, father of 2, ISO roman-tic, outdoorsy, sensitive, sweet, child-friendly lady who can make me laugh and smile. is it you? 17:237256

MAN WITH CUTE DIMPLES
Friendly, affectionate, warm, respectful BM, 43, NS, in search of a easygoing, honest, active woman, with God in her heart, hwp, for friendship, romance and more. No head games/drama. To 156436
WANT TO JOIN ME?
SWM, 38, social drinker, smoker, electrician by trade, looking for an outgoing, honest, fun lady with like interests. I enjoy biking, hiking, snowmobiling, outdoor activities, quiet times. To 20127

BOATER SEEKS 1ST MATE SWM, 35, N/S, good-looking, trustworthy, enjoys boating, good music, working out. Seeking very attractive SF, 28-40, race unim-portant, for friendship leading to possible LTR. 205048

HOPE TO FIND U SOON

2200127

time in life. 2240443

tions, date 216527

LONELY & READY SWM, 49, average build, Italian, heart of gold, Virgo, N/S, seeks WF, 45-55, with a nice build, ready for LTR. Serious replies only. Redford Area. **27**860305

VANILLA SEEKING CHOCOLATE Call me if you desire a nice shape, SWM, blue-eyed blonde, 50-year-old, 180lbs, desires SBF for friendship and definitely romance. 27777324

ENJOYS GOING TO CHURCH SBM, 28, 6', 173lbs, N/D, N/kids, slim build, brown complexion, glasses, likes movies, long walks, Jesus, cooking, music, bowling, mexican food, shyness, seeks SB/HF, 25-28, N/S, for friendship, possible romance. TP80453

HEY LADIES SBM, 22, 6'2", brown complexion, brown eyes, 175lbs, looking for sexy, thick, shapely ladies to kick it with and have a good time. 240995

Ally adventures: 1462/9 ARE YOU MY LADY? SBM, 54, N/S, loves R&B, jazz, simple times, romance and time with someone special. Seeking a loving lady, medium build/full-figured, to share all lifes simple pleasures. 3210024 NICE GUY

SWPM is looking for a companion, SWF, 50-65, to enjoy each other's company. I like mov-ies, sports, and other things. I'm 68, 155lbs, 5'6'', and an active professional. **27**/08126 <u>16''</u>, **Company**, **Company**

it starts! SWM, 62, enjoys meting new people, trying new things, laughter and living life to the fullest. Seeking active, happy lady who feels the same. Friendship, fun, LTR? 2228516

LOOKING FOR YOU SBM, 20, 6', full-time student, enjoys singing and song writing. Seeking creative, lovely lady, beautiful inside/out, with a warm heart, big smile, and passion for music, to share life. \$235228

WORTH IT

WOHTH IT Loving, retired senior, former educator, wish-ing to meet a youthful, active SF, 59-72, who loves movies, dancing, romance and laughter. Could it be you? \$236410

Searching For You Searching For You Affectionate DWM, 65, brown hair, N/S, D/D-free, enjoys craft shows, flea markets, mov-ies, dining, camping, The Red Wings. ISO a special lady, 48-59, to share friendship, dates, possible LTR, 920969

LET'S TALK SWM, 6'3", 240lbs, italian, blue eyes, easygo-ing, blue-jean type of guy, looking for a petite woman, 50-60, easygoing, laidback, who likes dining, shows, gardening, 2991273 BRUNETTES ARE BETTER SWMM 5'8", blooptdylue masculine, build

SWM, 5'8", blonde/blue, masculine build, seeking a SWF, 22-35, with good values, who enjoys the outdoors, movies, dining, travel-ing and shopping, brunette a+, smokers ok. ing and sm 203186

WORTH IT

SM, 52, brown/brown, 225lbs, 5'9", work-ing construction, student, enjoys driving, the outdoors, fitness, biking, good company, nice talks. Seeking honest, trustworthy, respectful woman to share all life offers. **2**212923

SBM, 34, 5'6", ISO SF, race open, 18-27, who wants to talk, share good times and juts have some fun. 2215278 ATTRACTIVE

WILL IT BE YOU? Sociable, happy, romantic SM, 61, 61", 205lbs, caramel complexion, passion for dancing, concerts, music, romance, good company and laughter. Looking for a kind, classy lady to share these. 2215554

LET'S HAVE FUN SM, 18, enjoys working on cars, painting, seeks a SF, 18-22, for movies, fishing and having fun. 12/17/283 HOPE TO FIND U SOON SBM, S111, 1701bs, black/brown, brown com-plexion, enjoys playing chess, walks, concerts, plays, more, Looking for drama-free, romantic, kind tady, good-natured and tun-loving to share the good things in life. 3216113 HILADIES HILADIES Simple, honest SM, 35; 5'6", brown/hazel, medium build, seeks nice, kind-hearted, non-judgmental woman to share talks dates, fun and more, 2217053

LOCKING FOR A FRIEND SM, 20s, 6'1", likes comedy, and suspense films, fitness, romantic times with someone special. ISO genuine, nice lady, good-looking, intelligent, to get to know, share a little fun and romance. T217356

SBM, 18, 140lbs, tatos, piercings, father, looking for a cool, sweet lady who likes chil-dren, sports and just having fun, to kick it with. 2221658 WORTH YOUR CALL SM, 53, employed, outgoing, enjoys times at home, movies In/out, (westerns, classics) good



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Very cute 48-year-old SWF, could easily pass for 35, 5', 115lbs, long brown wavy hair, tooking for someone to spice up my life. 2230116 ITALIAN/SICILIAN MAN... wated downarded SPE, 51% illoking for

Free Ads: Free ads placed in this section are not guaranteed- to run every week. Be sure to renew your ad frequently to keep it fresh. Guidelines: Personals are for adults 18 or over seeking monogamous relationships. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses and have first meetings occur in a public place. This publication reserves the right to edit, revise, or reject any advertisement at any time at its sole discretion and assumes no responsibility for the content of or replies to any ad. Not all ads have corresponding voice messages. To review our complete guidelines, call (617) 425-2636

SINGLES LINGO: A-Asian B-African American/Black C-Christian D-Divorced F-Female H-Hispanic J-Jewish M-Male N/S-Non-smoker N/D-Non Drinker N/Drugs- No Drugs P-Professional S-Single W-White LTR-Long Term Relationship

SEEKING ERIENDSHIP

SEEKING FRIENDSHIP SBF, young 60s, wigood morals, caring, nice-looking, 5'3", 156lbs, N/S, N/D, N/Drugs, clean, honest living, parly retired, enjoys art, card playing, casinos, and movies. Seeking honest man 50-60, race open. **2**134425

nonesc man bu-bu, race open. **±1**34425 IN THIS BOX U CAN FIND... a 42-year-old SWF, ISO SWM, 38-45, for friendship and possibly more. I'm sociable, affectionate 57", 120lbs, long dark curty hair, N/D, N/S, D/D-free, never married, no chil-dren. Interested? Call! **±2**24748 COULD IT BE YOU?

COULD IT BE YOU? SBF, 44, professional, hard-working, independent,enjoys church, shopping, more, Looking for a SPM, 44, employed, open-minded, warm-hearted and considerate, to share all life has to offer, \$235988

A GOOD IRISH GIRL SWF, 25, enjoys intelligent conversations, cuddling, movies, art and relaxing at home sometimes. Searching for a SM, 21-45, who enjoys the same, to get to know, friendship, maybe more. \$252375

TRY THIS ONE Loving, sincere SBF, 58, easygoing, looking for a good-hearted, Christian gentleman with The Lord In his heart to share life, laughter, happiness and possible LTR, \$242234

COULD YOU BE THE ONE Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 46, educator, outgo-ing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. 2230694

LET'S TALK SOMETIME SBCF, 38, 5'6", 120lbs, smoker, loves jazz. Seeking BF, 30-45, smoker, for dining out and movies. for friendship, possible romance. \$152399

BF SEEKING MR. RIGHT SBF, 38 mother, N/S, seeking WM ,40-60, N/S, for a friendship that could turn into something rriore. I enjoy life, reading, travel, camping, fishing and trying new things. \$232181 GET TO KNOW ME Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attrac-

tive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR. 2963760

Tossible LIH. 17963760 LOOKING FOR A COMPANION Tall, attractive WIWF, 60s, enjoys good con-versation, walks, playing board/card games, antiques and more. Looking for honest gentle-man, 64-80, with a wide verity of interest to share all life offers. 17236416 DO VOU EVICE

DO YOU EXIST? DWF, 58, 5'7", slender, very attractive, col-lege-educated, enjoys movies, theater, sports, concerts, dining and travel. Seeking widowed/ divorced WPM, 55-63, athletic, healthy, tal, N/S, D/D-free, with good sense of humor. N/S, D/D-II 200296

VERY CUTE SBF, 56, 5'3", 122lbs, interested in fit, good-tooking, confident male, 45-58, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. @113196 HERE I AM GUYS Loving, sexy SBF, 34, caramel complex-ion, 5'5", 156lbs,brown eyes, independent,

employed, secure, Seeking warm-hearted intelligent, commitment-minded man who intelligent, commitment-minded man who wants to share something real. \$238307 and not about games, to get to know and have a good time. 2231868 HEY GUYS

SBF, 28, mother of 3, dark complexion, 5'4", 120lbs, red/brown, likes chilling at home, hanging with friends. Looking for a loving SM, to get to know. 27234678

MEN SEEKING WOMEN HANDSOME & FUN-LOVING

Sincere, fun-loving, down-to-earth SBM, 44, ISO romantic, honest, intelligent BF, 25-55, with great SOH, for companionship, possible LTR. 27968147

HOPE TO FIND YOU

SM, 41, wishing to meet loving, respectful lady, 26-50, not about games, to share hap-piness, special times, laughter and possibly piness, special love. 2241700

GOOD BETTER BEST! SWM, 49, 5'9", 195lbs, is nuts about nature, enjoys the outdoors, fishing, etc. Seeks com-patible SWF, to have and hold. \$\$992943

A SPECIAL GUY DWM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks/ honest S/DWF, w/sense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight dinners, plays, dancing, concerts, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible LTR. 2269646

SBM, 6'1", 250bs, likes walks on the beach, casinos and movies. Searching for a H/AF, 18+, 4'11"+, attractive, caring, 22/212428

WHAT'S GOOD Simple, cool, genuine SBM, 25, 6', athletic, seeks outgoing lady who knows how to have fun. 2231020

TRY ME LADIES

TRY ME LADIES SBM, 25, 5'8", 165lbs, caramel complexión, black hair, N/S, N/D, independent, self-employed, seeking a SF, 18-30, active, kind, who's ready for a committed relation-the Traceoce ship. 2243066

HID: 4 243060 HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU SM, 29, 6', 195lbs, attractive, employed, seeks SF, 21-31, kind-hearted, sweet, fit and active, to share dinner dates, theater nights, sporting events, romance and lots more, 3244899

LAUGH WITH ME DWM, 48, 5'10", 170lbs, physically fit, smoker, recovering alcoholic, skilled tradesman, quit drinking not laughing. Loves cooking, movies and much more. ISO SF 35-50, HWP, laugh-ter and honesty a must. **12**244639

COUGAR LOVER Some things do get better with age. Blue-eyed, handsome SM, mid 40s, physically fit, laid-back, good sense of humor, seeks woman, with like qualities, who likes travel, music, exercising, etc. 2244260

TALL, ATHLETIC TALL, ATHLETIC SWM, 48, 6°2", 2010bs, part-time personal trainer, brown/blue, degreed, outgoing per-sonality, enjoys outdoors, working out, new activities, seeking friendly SF, age/ocation open. **1**531308

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE! YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE! Handsome, mature gent SWM, 50, tradi-tional values, romantic, and thoughtful, enjoys cultural events, antiquing, short trips, etc. Seeking SWF for friendship and companion-ship. 2176497 and more. \$217053 WORTH YOUR TIME Attractive, clean-cut SM, 46, 5'11", 155lbs, self-employed, respectful, open-minded, enjoys cooking, music, movies, comedy shows. ISO attractive, pleasant SWF, 28-42, D/D-free, slender-medium build, classy, kind, compassionate and caring, for friend-ship/LTR? \$217334 TRY THIS ONE

Loving, young-looking SM, 36, 5'9", 200lbs, well-groomed, health-conscious, likes action and horror films, seeking, a nice, cool, honest lady who knows what she wants in life, for friendships and fun. **12**219704

LOOKING FOR ME? SWM, 36, 6', 240lbs, brown/brown, muscular, attractive, well-built, likes movies, dining out, travel, trying new things. ISO attractive, fit, honest, fun SF, to share the good times in life. Friendship/LTR. 2222019

ANOTHER STATE OF MIND SWM, 35, enjoys action/adventure films, day trips, weekend getaways, music(punk/indie). Seeking sociable, fun-loving, creative SF, with interested in art, indie music, exploring life and new adventures. \$23363

ASIAN PRINCESS ASIAN PRINCESS WM, 37, enjoys travel, clubbing, walks, video-games, and concerts. Seeks 18-45 AF for LTR. 2220954

YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED Attractive SWM, 5'8", 165lbs, muscular, look-ing for attractive, down-to-earth woman, fit and open-minded, to get to know and share good times. 2227318 WHAT HAVE U GOT TO LOSE?

SM, 44, creative, fun, independent film maker, looking for a good-humored, nice, easygoing lady who's down-to-earth and fun; to share all the good things in life. **2**228696

LATIN FEMALE DESIRED Attractive WM, 38, 6'3", great SOH, enjoys concerts, sports, movies. Seeks latin or his-panic female from South America. Age open. 2228720

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND

Outgoing, honest, spontaneous man, 43, father, looking for easygoing, fun-loving, affec-tionate woman, 25-49, for dating, fun times and see where it goes. 2229056

ENJOY THE VIEW Romantic, thoughtful SWM, 39, is looking for love, enjoys hugs, kisses and cuddling, seeks kind, attractive SWF, age and area open. kind, attrac 22113835

DOWN-TO-EARTH SBM, young looking 48, N/S, 6', 250lbs, laid-back, family-oriented, likes bowling, dinner, travel. Seeking a SF, 30-45, race open, N/S, who's caring, honest and laid-back with sense of humor. T221121

MUSCULAR AND ATHLETIC Tall, athletic SWM, 48, 62°, 2001bs, brown/ blue, never married, no dependents, college-educated, clean-cut, good sense of humor, outgoing, seeks friendly SF, for fun. Age/loca-tion open. **37**587540

MOTORCYCLES AND FUN DWM, 53, 6', average build, likes bowling, concerts, movies and motorcycling. Seeking a lady, 40-55, that can enjoy my things and have you add your fun things to the mix. 2243739

CUTE, CUDDLY COWBOY Wise and kind SWM, 46, enjoys simplic-ity, art fairs, flea markets, festivals. Seeking the company of a lady with similar interests To 20050 **2**200459

ROMANCE & HONESTY WM, 50, 5'9', 173lbs, loves Nascar, fishing, camping, quiet times, spontaneity, seeks com-patible caring, special lady to share friendship and possible LTR. \$242175

food, good company. ISO a good woman to share the fun times, happiness and possible

WHAT'S UP LADIES? Fun-loving, genuine SBM, 30, 5'5", brown complexion, good-looking cool, fun, looking for a lovely, sexy lady to kick it with 1 like cooking, board games, nights out, more. Call me. 2222957

HOW ABOUT THIS ONE

HOW ABOUT THIS ONE Sociable SM, 57, 57%, graying brown/blue, mustache, loves music, cooking, Italian food, reading, writing action and romance films, quality conversation nd romance. ISo good-hearted, creative, nice lady to share these. heaneo, or 223744

LOCKING FOR YOU SWM, 50, 5'11", 185lbs, seeks SWF, 35-52, who enjoys Backgammon/Chess, dancing, working out at Bally's, piano bars, comedy clubs, coffee houses, art galleries. Must be social drinker, N/S, HW proportionate. \$218827

HW proportionate. 2218827 TAKE A CHANCE SBM, 27, 61", 238lbs, brown complexion, brown eyes, dark hair, employed, independent, seeking sexy, intelligent, sophisticated SB/WF, 21+, to share a little romance. I enjoy bowling, movies, pool, dining, more. 2225588 HI LADIES SBM, 30, no kids, employed, independent, 5'7', medium complexion, braids, looking to meet a sweet, cool lady level-headed and real to share all the good things in life. 2225791 SEEKING SOMETHING REAL Sociable, active SM, 25, 6'3", 225lbs, brown/

SEEKING SOMETHING HEAL Sociable, active SM, 25, 6'3", 225list, brown/ hazel, strong, affectionate, lovable, loves camping, cuddling, trying new things, nice talks. Seeking toving, family-oriented, outdoorsy SF, to share lifes little pleasures and adventures. to share in 2227126

SEARCHING FOR A MUSE

32-year-old renaissance man, artist, confident and true of heart, ISO inspiring friendship. Race open. 2227497

WORTH YOUR CALL SM, 27, easygoing, fun, 6'2", dark brown complexion and eves, clean-cut, well-groomed, likes occasional nights out, quiet times in life, simple fun. Seeking similar lady for friendship, dates and more? 2229192

LET'S TALK Simple, easygoing SBM, 18, looking for a pretty, sweet and sincere lady, open-minded and down-to-earth, who knows how to enjoy

TRY THIS ONE SBM, 33, 5'9", 175ibs, brown complexion, mustache/goatee, attractive and sweet, seeks sexy lady to share the good things in life. T2231030

GOOD NEWS/BAD NEWS Cool, classy, attractive SWM 50s, HIV+ seeks special lady for dating and possible LTR. 2235509

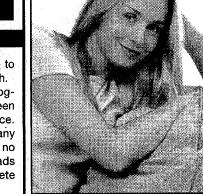
VANILLA SEEKING CHOCOLATE Call me if you desire a nice shape, SWM, blue-eyed blonde, 50-year-old, 180lbs, desires SBF for friendship and definitely romance. \$672855

PLAY YOUR SONG? PLAY YOUR SONG? DWM, 52, D/D-free, east area, great SOH, interested in music, outdoors, pets, gardening, romantic evenings by my fireplace. ISO WF, 35-55, with similar interests, for friendship, possible LTR. \$202143

My ad was exciting enough for you to call - now excite me with your message! Too many of you just leave a name and number. Would you call back if you were me? Try telling me what you look like, what you enjoy and what kind of date you'd like us to have!

I'm worth the time!

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 13, 2007 (*) C

Classifieds inside

To place an ad call toll free 1-800-579-SELL (7355) Fax: (734) 953-2232

Observer & Eccentric Mirror NEWSPAPERS AUTOMONOCLIVG

3 INNOVATIONS FROM DETROIT EXCITE AUTO BUYERS

Advertising Feature





By Dale Buss

The traditional Big Three are doing more and more things that genuinely excite American auto buyers. They're fully demonstrating a renewed ability to innovate that will end up being their salvation if General Motors, Ford and Chrysler are going to be able to recover any of the U.S. market share they've lost against the rest of the world over the last generation.

Each automaker has produced a very current case in point: Ford, with the popularity of its new SYNC electronics technology; Chrysler, with its immediate-hit new Dodge Challenger; and GM, whose new Cadillac CTS has just been recognized by Motor Trend magazine as its Car of the Year.

Ford's new SYNC in-vehicle electronics technology already is proving to be a powerful lure to buyers of the 12 Ford, Lincoln and Mercury models equipped with the Microsoft-powered system.

Overall in November, when volume sales of SYNC-equipped vehicles began, dealers required an average of 27 days to turn over a unit that included SYNC compared with an overall average of 52 days to turn over the same models including vehicles without SYNC, Ford said. For the Ford Focus, days-to-turn was 21 with SYNC-equipped models versus 25 days overall.

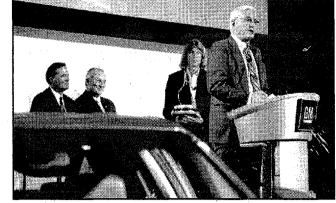
Consumers also are reporting high levels of satisfaction with SYNC, which features voice-activated, hands-free mobile-phone calling, uninterrupted connections from the vehicle to a Bluetooth phone, audible text messages, voice-activated music and other mobile-communications features.

"Nearly 90% of new owners indicate that this is a technology they would recommend to a friend," says Ford spokesman Mark Schirmer. About 80% of SYNC owners so far say that it "exceeds" or "greatly exceeds" their expectations, Schirmer adds.

"That's significant, because one of the things we did to prepare is a lot of work at the dealership level trying to get dealerships up to speed in terms of how to use this system – and how to make sure during the handoff process that customers are getting comfortable with it before they leave the dealership," Schirmer says.

More than 80% of consumer respondents report that dealership personnel did a good job demonstrating SYNC.

Among the models including SYNC as standard are highend versions of Lincoln MKX and Ford Edge crossovers, and Ford Focus compact, while SYNC is optional in models including the Focus SE and the Focus S. It will be available on nearly all Ford, Lincoln and Mercury products – standard or as a



So far, Chrysler has realized photos only of tantalizing details of the hot new Dodge Challenger.

\$395 option - within two years.

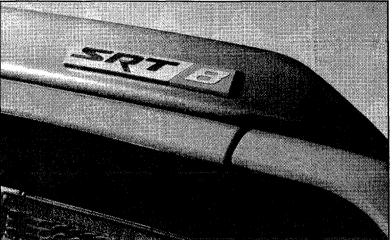
Ford began installing SYNC at the factory in September and started advertising the feature in mid-October.

The company began putting more marketing muscle behind SYNC last week with the launch in Cincinnati of a partnership with Jive Recording star Chris Brown, through Ford's sponsorship of his tour, *Up Close & Personal Holiday Exclusive Tour Powered by SYNC.*

The promotion features Brown in radio and TV advertisements featuring SYNC and a new web site devoted to the partnership. Ford said in a news release that it will "ultimately integrate some of the key features of the technology into the tour" but wasn't more specific.

"It's the first time that Ford has ever aligned itself with someone who is promoting a specific technology (feature) versus promoting a particular vehicle model," notes Ford spokeswoman Michelle Matthews.

Meanwhile, Dodge was swamped last week with 6,600 orders for the 2008 version of the new Challenger muscle car in the three days since its dealers began taking orders on Monday. The breathtaking surge in initial orders already raised questions about whether Chrysler was going to be willing to build enough of the vehicles to satisfy demand. GM Vice Chairman Robert Lutz addresses employees after Motor Trend named the Cadillac CTS the magazine's 2008 Car of the Year



"We have not said what we are going to build," Kathy Graham, Dodge Challenger public relations specialist, told Edmunds.com, disputing the 5,000 volume number that keeps popping up in the media and on blogs. "We haven't decided yet. It will be less than 10,000."

Dodge said the new Challenger will be shown publicly for the first time on February 6 at the 2008 Chicago Auto Show. Chrysler will kick off production with the top-of-the-line SRT8 model only as a Limited Edition model, which goes on sale in the spring.

The two-door coupe will be available in black, silver or Hemi Orange. More than half of the orders taken thus far are for the Hemi Orange spec. The Challenger SRT8 is powered by a 6.1-liter Hemi V8 and features a numbered dash plaque, plus dual "carbon fiber" hood stripes. Dodge has priced the car at \$37,995, including a \$675 destination fee.

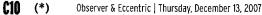
Over at GM the new CTS was named 2008 Motor Trend Car of the Year.

"It's ... really gratifying to see the development team, the engineers, the designers and all of Cadillac, to have their work recognized and appreciated for the achievement it is," GM Vice Chairman Bob Lutz wrote on his FastLane blog on GM.com.



Observer Eccentric











<u>HOMETOWN</u>

Mary Klemic, editor . (248) 901-2569 . mklemic@hometownlife.com

Rachael Ray's cookbook comes JUSIMING TOTOTOTOS



Rachel Ray will sign copies of her new book next Thursday at Borders Birmingham.



achael Ray earned her stripes in the kitchen and became a household name showing off her culinary skills on such Food Network favorites as 30 Minute Meals and \$40 a Day.

The Emmy-award winner now hosts her own syndicated talk show, Rachael Ray, and has successfully launched the magazine Every Day with Rachael Ray. She continues to host two Food Network series, the aforementioned 30 Minute Meals and Rachael Ray's Tasty Travels.

Over the years Ray has written a series of cookbooks based on her well-honed 30 Minute concept for people on the go. Her latest book marks a slight departure from that idea.

Just in Time offers super-simple recipes for those who have even a little time to cook, as well as some double duty dishes for days when it's possible to spend more time in the kitchen. Fans will notice plenty of Rachael-isms in Just in Time. From healthy doses of her musthave ingredient EVOO (extra virgin olive oil), to soups so thick and hearty she calls them "choup."

We've included a few of the more mouth-watering moments from the book in anticipation of Ray's Birmingham book signing, and just in time for the holidays. By Stephanie A. Casola

Fifteen minutes

GNOCCHI WITH SPINACH AND GORGONZOLA 2 (10-ounce) boxes frozen chopped spinach Salt

- 2 (14- to 16-ounce) packages fresh gnocchi ½ cup chopped walnuts
- ¼ cup EVOO (extra-virgin olive oil), 4 times around the pan
- 3 to 4 garlic cloves, grated or finely chopped Black pepper
- 1 cup chicken stock
- 8 ounces Gorgonzola cheese, crumbled

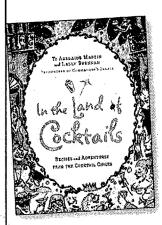
To defrost the spinach, place it on a plate and microwave on high for 5 minutes. Wring it dry in a clean kitchen towel and set aside.

Bring a large pot of water to a boil for the gnocchi and season it liberally with salt. Cut open the gnocchi packages and set aside. Place the walnuts in a small skillet and toss over medium-low heat for 3 to 4 minutes until toasted and fragrant.



The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Thursday, December 13, 2007



AN EGGNOG TO REMEMBER

Need ideas for your cocktail lineup this holiday season? Check out Ti Adelaide Martin and Lally Brennan's "In the Land of Cocktails," an amusing collection of recipes and stories from the family that gave us New Orleans' famous Commander's Palace restaurant.

This eggnog recipe packs serious punch; you might start with ¹/₄ cup of Southern Comfort, then add more according to your taste.

EGGNOG COUPE DE MILIEU

Start to finish: 2 hours (10 minutes active) Serves 6-8.

2 medium eggs 1 cup heavy cream

Pinch ground cinnamon

½ cup Southern Comfort

% teaspoon vanilla extract

Grated nutmeg, for garnish

Bring about an inch of

While the water heats.

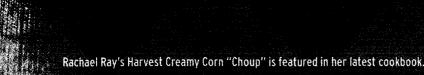
in the top half of the boiler combine the eggs,

heavy cream, sugar and cinnamon. Place the top half over the simmering

water to a simmer in the bottom half of a double

% cup sugar

boiler.



MEET RACHAEL RAY

What: Meet Emmy-award winning TV personality and author Rachael Ray, host of her own talk show and the Food Network series "30 Minute Meals" and "Rachael Ray's Tasty Travels." She'll autograph her latest book, "Just in Time."

When: 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20. Where: Borders Books & Music, 34300 Woodward Ave., Birmingham

More information: To secure a place in line be sure to get a wristband from a Borders staff member. They will begin handing wristbands out at 8 a.m. on Dec. 20. Call (248) 203-0005.

In a deep skillet, heat the EVOO over medium heat. Add the garlic to the warm oil, then add the spinach, separating the clumps as you add it to the garlic oil. Season the spinach with salt and pepper, add the stock, and bring to a bubble over medium heat. Add the Gorgonzola to the spinach and stir until it melts.

While the spinach heats, cook the gnocchi in the boiling water for 2 to 3 minutes, or until they float to the surface. Drain, then add to the spinach and toss for 1 minute to coat, then adjust the seasonings. Serve the gnocchi topped with the toasted walnuts.

Thirty minute meals

GREEK MIXED GRILL KEBABS AND PINE NUT ORZO SALAD

Salt

- ½ pound orzo pasta
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 fresh oregano sprigs, leaves stripped and
- finely chopped 6 fresh rosemary sprigs, leaves stripped and
- finely chopped
- ½ cup green olive tapenade
- 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- zest and juice of 2 lemons
- ½ cup plus 14 cup of extra virgin olive oil (EVOO)
- 1½ pound firm white-fleshed fish, like halibut or

Please see RECIPES, D4

water and whisk until thick and frothy, about 6 to 8 minutes. Pour the mixture through a mesh strained into a bowl. Refrigerate until chilled like custard, about 2 hours. When cold, whisk in the Southern Comfort and vanilla. Divide among chilled shot glasses and garnish with freshly grated nutmeg.

Compiled by AP Food Writer J.M. Hirsch; Recipe from Ti Adelaide Martin and Lally Brennan's "In the Land of Cocktails," William Morrow, 2007, \$19.95.

Three more gadgets to end 2007 on a happy note

till can't find the perfect gift for the gadget lover in your life? Perhaps you've got some gift cards burn-ing a hole in your pocket. Whatever the case, check out this final batch of 2007 hardware from my happy holiday closet. Wow, there's some good stuff in there.



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

Try Rachael's Greek Mixed

in Time."

Grill Kebobs, featured in "Just

THE \$99 VIDEO PHONE

Okay, not really a video phone, but rather a webcam, which can accomplish more or less the same thing. Specifically, webcams allow you make Jetsonian video phone calls to faraway friends and relatives. The camera mounts atop your desk or monitor; software connects you to the other party (who will also need a webcam, of course, along with a broadband Internet connection).

I recently tested webcams from five different manufacturers, including Creative and Microsoft. They all worked reasonably well, but there was definitely a standout: the Logitech QuickCam Pro 9000.

Though priced on the high side at \$99, it produced far and away the highest-quality video of the five webcams. I also found it admirably easy to use, with smartly designed software and some fun video effects.

It comes with a built-in microphone, of course, so you really can have two-way video chats with your loved ones. I highly recommend using SightSpeed (sightspeed. com), a free program that makes video calling grandmafriendly.

THE \$150 MP3 PLAYER

Okay, so you've got \$150 to spend on a new MP3 player. Three choices: the Apple iPod Nano (\$149), Creative Zen (\$129.99), or Microsoft Zune (\$149.99).

They're all great players, all equipped with 4GB of storage space (enough to hold about 1,000 songs) and bright color screens. You really can't go wrong with any of them.

That said, I have a favorite. It's not the Nano: Much as I love its elegant, wafer-thin design, it falls short in the feature department. Microsoft's new Zune is longer and a bit thicker than the Nano, but still thin and pretty, and stocked with extras like FM radio and Wi-Fi for syncing and song sharing. Unfortunately, Microsoft still doesn't offer TV shows or movies, so the beautiful screen goes largely to

Please see BROIDA, D4

The Logitech **QuickCam Pro** 9000 delivers top-quality video, making it the perfect webcam for video chats with far-flung friends and relatives.

BELIEFS AND VALUES

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 13, 2007



D2

(*)

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BETTY JANE FELKER

Age 85, formerly of Farmington, MI. Passed December 7, 2007. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

DANIEL C. MCKENZIE

Age 68, formerly of Detroit, MI. Passed December 8, 2007. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI



DONAT RENE LECLAIR

"Don", beloved husband, father, grandfather, greatgrandfather and friend, died peacefully at home on Saturday, December 8, 2007 with his family, at the age of 88. He was a resident of Fairfield Glade, TN and an active member of the St Francis of Assisi parish community. Donat was preceded in death by his parents, Donat and Marie (Gelinas) Leclair and nine siblings, all from New Bedford, MA, where Don lived as a child. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Barbara (Mealiff), originally of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, their two sons, Donat Jr (fiancée Barbara) of Plymouth, MI and Stephen (Genji) of Chicago, IL, and their three daughters, Lappin (Robert) of burg, MD, Christine leanne Gaithersburg, MD, Christine Corriveau (Thomas) of Orland Park, IL and Elizabeth Leclair of Marlton, New Jersey. Mr. Leclair will also be missed by his eighteen grandchildren and four great- grandchildren that he leaves behind. Don was a veteran of World War II serving in the US Army Air Corp as a Lt and navigator; his plane was shot down and he became a POW in Roumania. Later, after returning home from the war, he attended and graduated from Georgetown University, Washington, D. C. A for-mer resident of Plymouth, MI, Mr. Leclair retired from the Ford Motor Company in 1980. A mass of The Resurrection will be held at St. Francis on Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 10 a.m. In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Hospice of Cumberland County, 30 E. Adams St., Crossville 38555.

FREDERICK CHARLES, (FRITZ) GRAUNSTADT



JOHN KAPANOWSKI 1947-2002

It's been five years since you left us. We still love & miss you every day! Judy, daughter Shannon & grandson Josh & Nick

KARIN E. CLANCY

Age 83, of Northville Twp, MI. Passed December 7, 2007. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI



MARILYN B. JOHNSON

December 9, 2007. Loving wife of Paul H. Loving mother of Colleen (Drew) Wolford, Kevin and Karen (Scott) Melby. Sister of Virginia (Frank) Leeds. Also survived by 14 grandchildren. Marilyn was an active member of the Highland Park Baptist Church of Southfield, where she served the Lord in many volunteer capacities, including as the church librarian for many years. She was a dedicated genealogist. She and her husband made over 20 trips to England, tracing her ancestry to the year 1065. She is a descendant of King Henry II. She was also an active member of the Birmingham chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She will be remembered as a gourmet cook and gracious host-ess. Her entire life has been one of service, first to the Lord, then to her husband, children and grandchildren. A Funeral Service was held on Wednesday at Highland Park Baptist Church. Visitation was at A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home in Royal Oak with R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions may be directed to Moody Bible Institute, 820 N. LaSalle Blvd., Chicago, IL 60610. Please sign the online guestbook at www.rggrharris.com. For further information please call 734-422-6720.



MARY ANN DuBAY

of Troy, Michigan, passed away on December 7, 2007. Beloved wife of Dennis. Dear and proud mother of Michael (Sarah), Karen Holt (Brian) and Anne Healy (Thomas). Loving grandmother of Brendan, Lauren and Daniel Holt; Catherine and Charlotte DuBay and Thomas Healy. Dear sister of Robert Sweeney (Joyce), Susan Steele (Art), Frank Sweeney (Carol), Kathleen Bulger (Michael), Maureen MacGillivray and Margaret Fellinger (Jamie). Dear sister-in-law of Terry (\$ue), Mark DuBay (Margie) DuBay Candy DuBay, Connie Peterson (Jim) and Philip DuBay (Sue). Mary Ann is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews and her many dear friends. Mary Ann always shared her joyous enthusiasm for life with all who knew her. Her exuberance, sparkling personality and warm sense of humor will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her. Mary Ann was born to Robert and Marie Sweeney on June 14, 1946 in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. After graduating from Sacred Hear Academy, she attended Aquinas College from which she graduated with honors in 1968. She married Dennis on August 10, 1968 and taught at St. Francis in Ann Arbor for three years before moving to Troy in 1972. Mary Ann was active in many volunteer organizations and served as President of the Troy Junior Women and the Marian Mothers'Club. Mary Ann was an avid tennis player and especially enjoyed golf. Mary Ann coached girls' soccer in the Troy Youth Soccer League for many years and her travel teams won three Michigan State Cup Championships. She loved to travel and especially enjoyed her trips to Greece and Ireland. Mary Ann cherished being with her family and friends and enjoyed being at the family cottage, playing the piano, singing and dancing. A Funeral Mass was held on Tuesday, December 11 at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Troy. Memorials may be sent to The Mary Ann DuBay Scholarship Fund at Marian High School, 7225 Lahser Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48301 or to The Karmanos Cancer Institute, Development Office, 4100 John R, Detroit, Michigan 48201. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com RUTH M. "DOLLY"

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

DECEMBER

Single Place

Make It, Bake It, Fix It, Sew It Holiday Silent Auction Thursday, Dec. 13, proceeds go to Single Place Ministry at First Presbyterian Church, 200 East Main Street, Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Bring in items between 6-6:30 p.m. for auction at 7 p.m. Items may include crafts, artwork, woodworking projects, baked good, or donations such as handyman or homemaking skills or home cooked meals. No admission. Questions, call Nancy at (734) 459-7235.

Activities continue Dec. 20 with dinner, caroling and Afterglow beginning with dinner 6 p.m. in the St. Mary Mercy Hospital cafeteria in Livonia. Meet in a room off the cafeteria to practice at 6:45 p.m. To sign up, call (248) 349-0911 or at Single Place at the church. Old Fashioned Hootenanny concert with Bob Allwine Thursday, Dec. 27. Single Place meets Thursdays at the church, 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program.

Cost is \$5 per person. **Reformed Protestant services** The doctrines and teachings of Reformed Protestantism will be preached 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, at a worship service of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing) at the Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge, Canton, Rev. Sean Humby of Ohio will preach. For more information, call Margaret Waldecker at (313) 530-6170 or Humby at (937) 252-1156, or visit www. westminsterconfession.org. Weekly Sunday services will begin on Jan. 6. Cookie walk and bake sale 10 a.m. till sold out Saturday, Dec. 15, at

Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Christmas cookies of all varieties will be available for sale by the pound along with various bake sale items

Boar's Head Festival of Music Ancient processional celebrating Epiphany presented by Cherry Hills Presbyterian Church with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra and Dearborn High School's Choral Group 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, and 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at the church, 24110 Cherry Hill at Telegraph, Dearborn. Tickets are free but a free will offering will be accepted. Advance tickets are recommended. Call (313) 563-4800. The interdenominational experience features the Christmas story, the Yule procession and trimming of the hall.

Stranger in the Manger

The Jesus Jammers Choir performs a

RELIGION CALENDAR

8828 Wormer, Redford. Everyone is welcome. Call (313) 537-7480. A Christmas flourish

A celebration of the season featuring a concert by the Birmingham Concert band and the choir of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, in the sanctuary of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple, Birmingham. No charge but donations to the Band's Music Scholarship Fund are appreciated.

New schedule

9 a.m. Sunday school for all ages and Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion and nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Sic Mile, Livonia. All visitors welcome. For more information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia. org.

Christmas Eve services

4:30 p.m. Family Service Candlelight, and 7:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. Candlelight Service Monday, Dec. 24, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holvcrosslivonia. ога

Christmas Eve service

The Anglican Church of Livonia will hold a Christmas Eve service 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24, at the Livonia YMCA, 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive.

Christmas Eve worship

5 p.m. Children/Family service, 7 p.m. Lessons & Carols and Candlelight, and 11 p.m. Festival Worship and Candlelight Monday, Dec. 24, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call (734) 422-0149.

Candlelight service

A special service of singing and worship 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24, at Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, north of I-96, Livonia. For information, call (734) 522-3570. Christmas Eve service

7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. 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. The purpose of the day is to serve, to meet, and to have one's faith grow. The day allows groups to help at the Capuchin Services Center and dine with 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. 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 included. For more information, send e-mail to ccrane@ thecapuchins.org. To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit www.cskdetroit.org.

www.hometownlife.com

Forum, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. All visitors welcome. Visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Sunday worship

11 a.m. Sunday worship service, 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Rd. at Hunter, Westland, For information, call (734) 721-0800.

Worship services

10 a.m. Sundays Divine Liturgy followed by a fellowship/coffee time, at Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, between Newburgh and Wayne roads, Livonia. Church school for children and adults begins at 9 a.m. Sunday. Vespers are celebrated 5 p.m. Saturdays, Visitors are always welcome. For more information, call (248) 476-3432 (church), (248) 477-4712 (rectory) or Web site at www.orthodoxlivonia.org.

Singers wanted

Riverside Park Church of God is looking for voices to join their choir. For more information, call (734) 464-0990. Pancake breakfasts

The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continue, their 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts on the third Sunday of each month from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The breakfasts are served in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road. Adults, \$5; children ages 4-11, \$3; children under age 3, free; and family (2 adults and all children), \$15.

Everyone is welcome. Men's breakfast

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

MOPS meetings

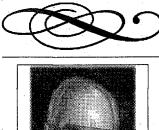
The Hosanna-Tabor Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group began meeting this fall at a new time at the Lutheran church, 9600 Leverne, Redford. Meetings continue the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. Join in for teaching, discussion, creative projects and presentations. For more information,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

Bible studies

Regular Bible Study program continues at 7 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month, focus is on St. Paul's Letters to the Romans, at St. Michael's Catholic Church on the corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200. **MOPS** groups

Mothers of Preschoolers meets on the first and third Friday mornings or first and third Wednesday evenings at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. For information, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4, or send e-mail to cbcwomensministries@hotmail.com. **LOGOS Youth Club** Calling all youth grades 4-12 to join the LOGOS Youth Club at Northville First United Methodist Church. Recreation, dinner, Bible study and music Wednesdays, 5:15-8:15 p.m. began Wednesday, Sept. 26. For information or registration, visit www.fumcnorthville. org or call (248) 349-1144.

Of Westland, December 10, 2007. Age 76. Beloved husband of 55 years to Delores. Devoted father of Ron (Cheryl), Michael (Julie) and Linda (Richard) Blaszczyk. Loving Papa to Andrea, Tracy and Erica Graunstadt, Emily (Joe) Viger and Laura Graunstadt, Audrey, Joey and Lucas Blaszczyk. Dearest great-grandfather to Michael Joseph Viger. Survived by one sister, Mae Ristau, several brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law and many nieces and nephews. Visitation at L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Rd., Westland, MI Wednesday, Family hour 4pm and general visitation from 5 - 9pm. Thursday, Visitation noon - to 9pm. Friday, Funeral Service 11am in L.J. Griffin Chapel. Private interment at White Chapel Cemetery.





JAMES M. KENDALL

Of Birmingham age 84 December 7, 2007. Beloved husband of Dorothy "Dottie". Devoted father of Laurie Kendall, James II (Leslie), Amy (Mark) Flanagan and Beth Kendall. Cherished grandfather of James III "Mac", Jacqueline, Jennifer, Isabelle and Erinn. Brother of Jeanne Cartwright. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Memorial Service at North Congregational Church, 36520 W. Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Saturday 11am. Visitation at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 1368 N. Crooks Rd. (between 14-15 Mile Rds) Thursday 2-9pm. Memorials appreciated to North Congregational Church or Cambridge North Nursing Home, 535 N. Main Street, Clawson, MI 48017.

Obituary and condolences at lynchfuneraldirectors.com



ROBERT A. VAN DYKE, JR. TRAVERSE CITY - Robert A. "Rob" VanDyke, Jr., 47, of Traverse City, formerly of Livonia, died unexpectedly December 10, 2007. Rob is survived by his wife Ann (Dreves); his sons, Scott and Paul; his mother, Joan VanDyke; sisters, Lea (Gary) Wood and Gair Van Dyke; his mother and father in law, Carl and Lorraine Dreves and the entire Dreves family, along with many nieces and nephews. Visitation will take place from 6 until 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13 at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home, Traverse City. Services will be held Friday, Dec. 14 at 11 a.m. at Immanuel Baptist Church, 1027 McRea Hill Road, Traverse City. Rather than flowers, the family would ask that a more lasting memorial would be The VanDyke Children College Fund, c/o Members Credit Union, 3745 N. US 31 South, Traverse City, Michigan 49684.



TODD R. SUMMERS

Of Howell, formerly of Redford passed suddenly, December 8, 2007, age 45. Survived by Michael, Kate, ex-wife Amy, and his parents: Beloved son of Janice (of Redford) and Robert (of Howell), and much-loved brother of Cyndi (Rick Neilson) and Jim. Born June 27, 1962, Todd was a warm and witty man who worked hard to build a business and provide for his family, whom he loved deeply. Also survived by many good friends. Funeral services were held at MacDonald's Funeral Home, 315 North Michigan Ave., Howell, 48843. Donations to the family in lieu of flowers.

RUDNIK

Age 97, December 7, 2007. Wife of the late Stanley. Mother of Barbara (Don) Harp. Grandmother of Laura (Dean) Fordham, Susan (Dr. Robert) Anderson and Janis (Robert) Evans Great grandmother of Ryan (Karen) Fordham, Staci Fordham, Nicole and Ben Russell. Great great grandmother of Marisa Fordham. Memorials may be made in Dolly's honor to the charity of the donor's choice.



S. **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



866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz 0E08518962 ____

Dr. Seuss style musical about the birth of Jesus 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. Advent services

6 p.m. Sunday evenings in December at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org Worship

Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship Service with nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for tots through high school and Adult Faith Forum at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org. Visitors welcome.

Caroling Join us 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, to go to

Heartland University for caroling. We will then meet back at the church for a Hot Soup Buffet and more caroling at the church, Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, north of I-96, Livonia. For information, call (734) 522-3570.

Messiah

A special presentation of Messiah by G.F. Handel under the direction of Tim Schoenherr, 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills. Concert features The Orchard United Methodist Church Chancel Choir accompanied by local musicians in a full Baroque orchestra and solo vocalists from the University of Michigan School of Music, Theater, and Dance. The presentation includes favorite choruses from the Christmas portion, such as "And the Glory of the Lord" and "For Unto Us A Child Is Born", and concludes with "Hallelujah," a gospel version of the Hallelujah Chorus. For more information, call (248) 626-3620. Everyone is invited to join in this

Sing Out is scheduled for 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, on Warren Rd. in Canton. The concert features selections by two parish chorales as well as skits performed by St. John Neumann volunteers (the SJN Players). There will also be singalongs for the audience.

Victory Voices Choir performs Christmas musical 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at Memorial Church of Christ; 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. Choir cantata

Mt. Vernon Baptist Church presents a Christmas choir cantata, One Small Child, 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at the church,

UPCOMING

ENDOW

Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women sessions 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 17 to March 6. (explores Pope John Paul II's Mulieris Dignitatem-On the Dignity and Vocation of Women), in Bixmal Hall church building at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Second session begins 7-9 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 14, to March 3, (explores Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women), in conference room in parish office. Registration required for both sessions. \$60 for materials for each session. Contact Michele Schmidt at (734) 367-0353 or send email to mtschmidt@sbcglobal.net.

ONGOING

Sunday worship

The early service for the Anglican Church of Livonia is at 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road and next to Stevenson High School, Livonia. The 10 a.m. service (with Sunday School) will continue to be at the Livonia YMCA at 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive.

Worship service

10:45 a.m. Sundays, Adult Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship, Youth Group 5-7 p.m. and Catechism for Grownups 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Trinity Church of Livonia, 34500 Six Mile. For information, call (734) 425-2800.

Upper Room Ministries

Meets 6 p.m. Sundays, in Room 111 in Our Lady of Loretto School on Beech Daly and Six Mile in Redford. Upper Room Ministries is a spirit filled, charismatic ministry sponsored by Living Water Church in Livonia. All faiths welcome to attend. For information, call Pastor Luke Willis at (734) 425-6360, or Bishop Dan Strength at (734) 812-1099.

F.I.R.E. ministries

With theme scripture, He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire (Luke 3:16), is organizing in Livonia at Living Water Church, 11663 Arcola in the Inkster and Plymouth roads area at 7 p.m. Fridays under the leadership of Luke Willis. F.I.R.E. Ministries. For more information, call (734) 425-6360.

New worship schedule Regular church service 10 a.m. Sundays with Communion and Nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and Faith

HeartCry

The support group provides hope and help for mothers of prodigals at 7 p.m. on the second, fourth and fifth Wednesdays of each month, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. The group is using the book, The Hope of a Homecoming, by O'Rourke and Sauer (\$12). For information or to register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4.

Women of the word

Bible study meets 9:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. Tuesdays, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. Choose from Covenant, a Precept Upon Precept class, or The Truth Project (new from Focus on the Family). To register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4 or visit www.vchurches. com/cbcwomen.

Bible study

Get a new life, study Scripture 9-10:30 a.m. Saturdays at Blessed Sacrament Monastery on the northwest corner of 13 Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. Focus of study is Romans. Come once or more often. Call (248) 626-8253 for more information.

Fellowship Dinners

6 p.m. Thursdays. Dinner catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro. \$6. At St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313)534-7730. Thrift Shop

9:30-11:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford, Registration

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early Childhood Center is now taking registrations for the fall program at 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. It is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Loving and caring programs are offered for toddler, preschool, pre-K, and child care. Call (734) 513-8413.

Morning prayers

7:30 a.m. Tuesday-Friday, at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware, corner of Puritan, Redford. Please join in as participants start day with prayer. Call (313) 255-6330.

Please see RELIGION, D3





or toll free

celebration. Christmas concert

Mystery of the Manger

www.hometownlife.com



J.O.Y. meeting

The J.O.Y. Builders (Just Older Youth, ages 50 plus) meet 11:30 a.m. the third Thursday of the month for lunch, fellowship and fun, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth roads, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990. All are welcome to join in. There is no charge, although organizers ask that you bring a luncheon dish to share.

Higher Rock Cafe

Second and fourth Friday of the month, doors open at 7:30 p.m., live bands begin at 8 p.m. presented by Salvation Army of Wayne/Westland, 2300 S. Venoy, between Michigan Avenue and Palmer. For information, call (734) 722-3660 or visit www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com.

Uplifting church services

Want a unique church experience? Join in Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service. An open discus-

sion 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Classes available for all ages, child to adult. Riverside Park Church of God is at 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth Road), Livonia. Call-(734) 464-0990.

Worship service

10 a.m. Sundays, at The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. Sunday School for children. For information, call (734) 728-3440. Youth wanted

Tweens and teens age 12 and up are invited to join in various youth activities held at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road (corner of Plymouth), Livonia. Come to one of the regular classes on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. or Wednesdays at 7 p.m. For details, call (734) 464-0990.

A healthy you

Join with others as you discover ways to keep minds and bodies healthy through a four-week class that is open to the public and free of charge at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road (corner of Plymouth), Livonia. Day and night classes available. To register, call (734) 464-0990. Sunday worship

BELIEFS AND VALUES

10 a.m. at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. For information, call (734) 728-3440. Sunday services

Pastor Dan Strength leads services at Living Water Church (Pentecostal Church of God), 11663 Arcola, one block west of Inkster Road on Plymouth Road. Sunday School is 10 a.m. followed by worship at 11 a.m. Bible study 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Call (734) 425-6360.

Farmington Women Aglow

Meets the second Monday of each month 7-9:30 p.m. at the Longacre . House on Farmington road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Call Vikki for more information at (248) 497-7755. Farmington Aglow is a Christian women's groups.

Worship services

Sunday worship services are at 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary), at Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. For more information, call (734) 637-8160. Sunday school and Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study series: Heaven Can't Wait

Worship services

Praise and worship 10 a.m. Sunday, at Westwood Community Church, 6500 Wayne Road and Hunter, Westland, Contemporary music and casual dress. Children church and nursery. Call (734) 254-0093. Doughnuts and coffee served. **Celebrate Recovery**

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville launches Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from their hurts, habits and hangups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday evening for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www. celebraterecovery.com and www. wardchurch.org/celebrate. Sunday service

All are welcome to attend wor-

ship service at 10 a.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470. Worship service

At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New

Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan; Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from I Peter. Call (313) 255-6330.

Adult literacy classes

Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those wishing to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to adults age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening. For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you. Personal ministry

Due Season Christian Church is a nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

Scripture studies

From 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000. TOPS

Stands for Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday evening at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. It is a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight and keep it off. Call Margaret at (734) 838-0322.

Learner's Bible study

At 7 p.m. Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

Your Anaitation To MAR Morship LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

BAPTIST

33640 Michigan Ave. • Wavne, MI **NEW HOPE** (Between Wavne Rd. & Merriman Rd.) BAPTIST (734) 728-2180 CHURCH Virgil Humes, Pastor

Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m. e Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Children, Youth and Adult Bible St



UNITED METHODIST

Clarenceville United Methodist 20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia 248-474-3444 Pastor Beth Librande Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Nursery Provided

Redford Aldersgate 2 blocks South of 10000 Beech Daly Plymouth 937-3170 9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch. 11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship www.redfordaldersgate.org

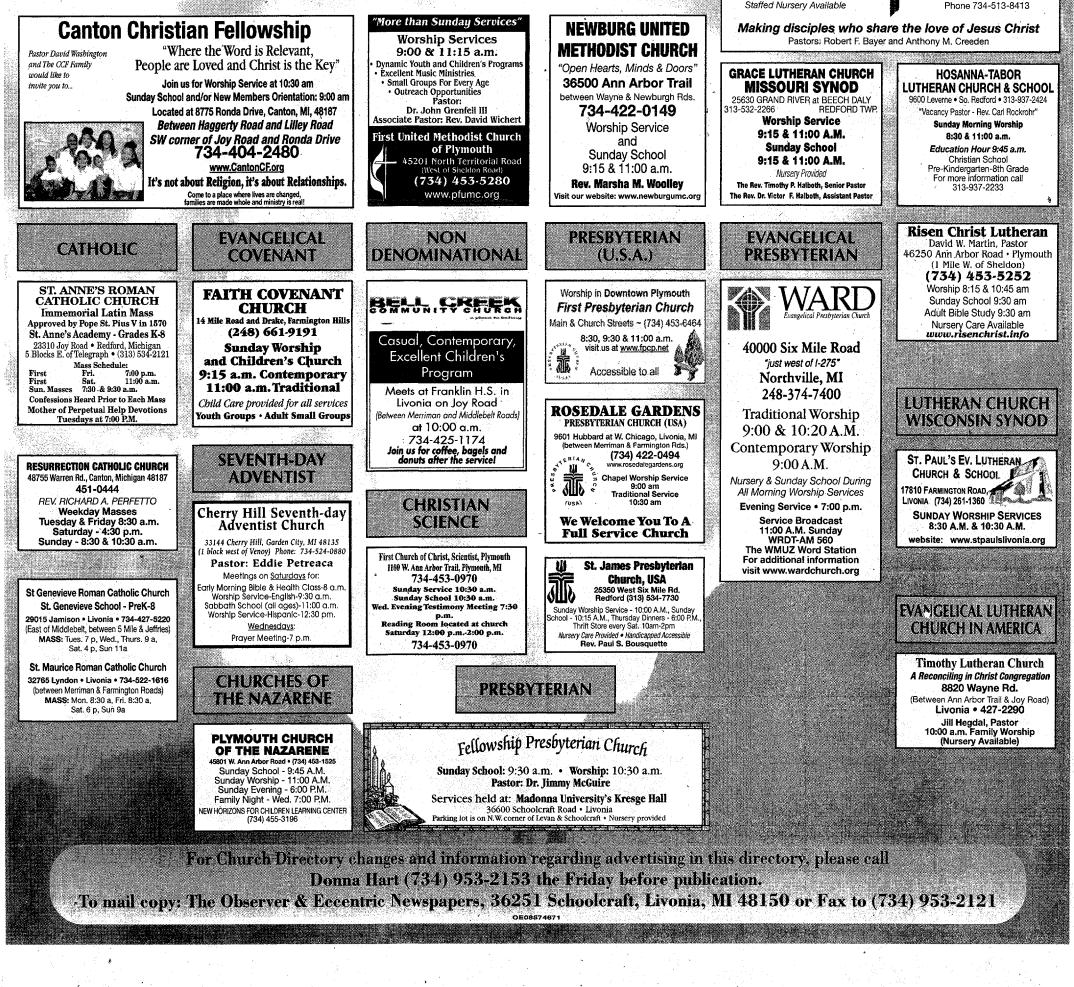
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830 Sunday Worshin Sundav/Bible Class 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional

9:45 am Early Childhood Center

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 13, 2007

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 13, 2007

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swordfish cut into 12 2-inch chunks 2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breast cut into 12 2-inch chunks Black pepper

1 small red onion, finely chopped ½ cup fresh flat-leafed parsley, finely chopped

1 cup feta cheese crumbles

½ cup kalamata olives, chopped

2 tomatoes, diced

½ seedless cucumber, diced ¼ cup pine nuts, lightly toasted in dry skil-

let 3 to 4 minutes Preheat grill pan or outdoor grill

to medium high. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Salt the water. Add orzo and cook al dente. While pasta works, combine the

garlic, oregano, rosemary, tapenade, red pepper flakes, 1 tablespoon lemon zest and the juice of one lemon with ¹/₂ cup EVOO in a small bowl. Place the fish and chicken in separate shallow dishes or bowls and season with salt and pepper. Divide the dressing between the bowls and turn the fish and chicken to coat evenly. Skewer the fish and chicken on metal skewers. Grill the fish for 6 to 8 minutes and the chicken for 10 to 12 minutes or until firm and juices run clear, turning the kebabs frequently. Drain the orzo and combine in a mixing bowl with the onions, parsley, feta, olives, tomatoes, cucumbers, pine nuts, the juice of 1 lemon, ¼ cup EVOO, and the salt and pepper. Serve the orzo salad with three pieces each of chicken and fish alongside. Garnish each plate with a couple of hot peppers.

HARVEST CREAMY CORN "CHOUP"

4 to 5 large ears of corn, cut off the cob

1 medium or 2 small zucchini, chopped 1 pound small potatoes, chopped

1 bay leaf

5 to 6 fresh thyme sprigs

1 quart chicken stock

1 cup milk

generous handfuls chopped

Oyster crackers or white cheddar pop-

Heat the EVOO in a medium soup pot over medium high heat.

Add the bacon to the hot oil and

cook until crisp at the edges, 2 to 3 minutes. Add the onions, corn, zucchini, potatoes, and bell pepper as you get them chopped. Add the bay leaf, thyme sprigs, paprika, and salt and pepper to taste. Cook for 7 to 8 minutes until the vegetables begin to soften. Sprinkle flour around the pot and stir and cook for 1 minute. Then stir in the stock and bring it up to a bubble. When it thickens up a bit, stir in the cream, milk and parsley and simmer for 5 minutes. Turn off the heat and discard the bay leaf. Season the choup with salt, pepper, and hot sauce to taste and serve with crackers or popcorn to float on top.

Sixty minutes

OVEN-ROASTED CIOPPINO

4 celery ribs, sliced on a long angle 1 large fennel bulb, cored and thinly sliced, 1/4 cup fennel fronds reserved 2 medium onions, thinly sliced 4 large garlic cloves, chopped 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes 1 cup fresh flat-leaf parsley leaves Salt and black pepper 1/2 cup EVOO (extra-virgin olive oil) 1 cup dry white wine 1 cup seafood stock or chicken stock 1 (28-ounce) can crushed tomatoes 2 pounds fresh cod, cut into 2-inch chunks

12 jumbo shrimp, peeled or not, as you prefer

1 loaf crusty bread

Zest of 1 orange

In a large roaster or casserole combine the celery, fennel, onions, garlic, red pepper flakes, and a couple of handfuls of the parsley. Dress the vegetables with salt and pepper and about 1/4 cup of the EVOO. Add the wine, stock, and crushed tomatoes. Season the seafood with salt and pepper; nestle the fish, scallops, and shrimp among the vegetables; and pour the remaining ¼ cup of EVOO over the top. Roast uncovered until the cod is cooked through, 40 to 45 minutes. At the midway point, ladle some of the liquids over the seafood to keep the top moist.

Cut or tear the bread into large chunks. Place them on a baking sheet and toast in the oven until lightly charred, 8 minutes or so.

the remaining parsley together with the orange zest and reserved fennel fronds to create a gremolata garnish. Serve the cioppino in large bowls topped with the gremolata, with the charred bread chunks for dunking.

Recipes from "Just in Time" are courtesy of The Crown Publishing Group/Random House, Inc.



waste.

The clear winner here is the Zen, which includes the largest screen of the three (2.5 inches), an SD slot for adding more storage, an FM tuner, support for TV and movie downloads, and compatibility with several music-subscription services. All this for \$20 less than the competition. No contest.

THE \$1,199 HOME THEATER

What's better than a 50-inch plasma? How about a screen that spans 10 feet? The Epson MovieMate 72 turns just about any room of the house into a giant-screen home theater.

It's an HD projector with a built-in DVD player and speakers. Plug it in, point it at an empty wall, and pop some popcorn. Sorry if I sound like a marketing brochure; it's only because this thing is such a delight to have in the house.

The MovieMate can churn out 720p video when connected to a high-definition source (like your cable box). Alas, its DVD. player doesn't support Blu-ray or HD-DVD discs, but it does "upconvert" standard DVDs.

In other words, it makes your old movies look much better than they would if you watched them on an ordinary DVD player.

The projector features an HDMI interface for connecting a cable box, TiVo HD, Xbox 360, or just about any other high-end video source. It also has analog inputs for other sources, like older TiVos and Xboxes.

Videogames, movies, TV shows-everything looks phenomenal. I can't wait to use the projector this summer for backyard "drive-in" movies.

Epson's MovieMate 72 hometheater projector features four built-in speakers and a slotloading DVD player. It also displays high-definition video.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including How to Do Everything with Your Palm Powered Device, Sixth Edition. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail. com

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2 tablespoons EVOO 4 bacon slices, chopped 1 onion, chopped or 110-ounce box frozen corn

½ red bell pepper, seeded and chopped

1 teaspoon paprika

Salt and black pepper

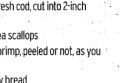
3 tablespoons all purpose flour

1 cup heavy cream

½ cup fresh flat-leaf parsley, a couple of

a few dashes of hot sauce, to taste

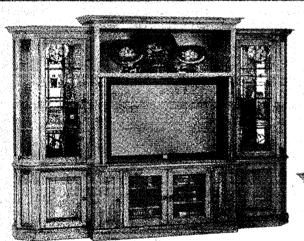
corn to pass at the table

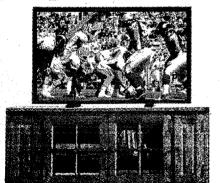


12 jumbo sea scallops Preheat the oven to 425°F.

While the bread is toasting, chop

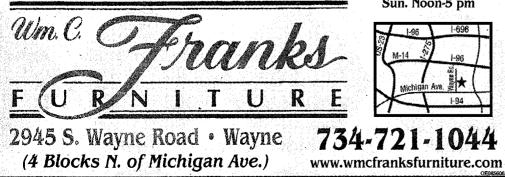
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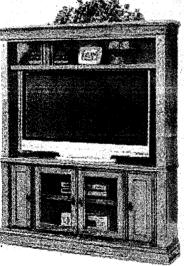




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Bruno Paillard – the man and his Champagne

hampagne Bruno Paillard is the youngest producer in the Champagne region.

In 1981, at the age of 27, Paillard began to raise the capital to begin his new company. This is amazing since there had not been a new



www.hometownlife.com

Focus on Wine attempts to do

Ray & Eleanor Heald

producer source grapes when it would seem that all available fruit is already under contract? We posed this question to Alice Paillard, Bruno's 25-yearold daughter.

As it turns out, Bruno is not exactly new to the Champagne region. His family has been growing grapes and brokering Champagne since 1704 -- over 300 years. Obviously, the Paillard family knows everyone in the region. In

1975, Bruno also became a broker and six years later decided to start his own Champagne House.

SMALL BUT PRESTIGIOUS

By 1988, Bruno Paillard Champagnes had met with great success and Hugh Johnson, the noted English wine journalist, complimented the wines of the "small but prestigious young Champagne house." By 1990, Paillard needed a larger production facility and built a modern glass and stainless steel building with a cellar temperature controlled at 51 degrees F and low light intensity, perfect for aging champagne during the second fermentation in the bottle.

Paillard acquired his first sevenacre vineyard in 1994, which has gradually expanded to 62 acres, of which half are located in Grand Crus villages. These vineyards satisfy about one third of his needs, the remainder of the fruit is purchased from independent growers in more than 30 different villages. Today, Paillard produces 45,000 cases of wine, 70 percent of which is exported to other European countries, Asia and North America.

With so many different champagnes available, why would you seek out the wines of Bruno Paillard?

Paillard champagnes are produced exclusively from first pressed juice. The harder the press, the lower the quality and delicacy of the juice. This might also be termed "free run" juice that requires minimal pressure to extract. Grapes from each cru (village) are fermented separately to permit better selection when blended.

percent reserve wines in order to maintain consistent quality and capture the elegance in each bottling

bottle is two to three times longer than required. The wines are always made in a Brut (dry) style. After disgorging, the wines are further aged for three to four months before release.

fact that Paillard puts the month and year of disgorging (this is not a sell-by date) on every bottle. Current released wines were dis-

Alice explains that "disgorging

is like a second birth for the wine. It begins a new aging process that gradually changes aromas from fruit and flowers to spice. It deepens the color to golden and the taste becomes more complex."

WHAT TO BUY

Bruno Paillard Brut Premiere Cuvee Champagne \$50 comes across fresh and crisp with notes of toast, apples and cherries. The wine is made from all three allowed grape varieties: 22 percent pinot meunier, 33 percent chardonnay, and 45 percent pinot noir. Two thirds black grapes provide a creamy complexity and body while the chardonnay gives structure. Twenty five percent reserve wines add depth.

Bruno Paillard Blanc de Blancs Reserve Privee Champagne \$65. As the name implies, this wine is 100 percent chardonnay, grown on the famous Cotes des Blancs and Cote de Sezanne. Four years on the yeast lees results in a pleasant bread dough aroma with citrus notes and a very creamy palate

impression. Bruno Paillard Brut Rose Premiere Cuvee Champagne \$75 with a delicate peach skin color is

WINE PICKS

If you seek elegance and delicacy in a champagne, another house to consider in addition to Bruno Paillard is Champagne Henriot.

Henriot Brut Souverain Non-Vintage \$48. A large percentage of chardonnay gives this champagne both structure and finesse.

Henriot Blanc Souverain \$54. This cuvee is 100 percent chardonnay from the best sites in the Cotes des Blancs. Lively and subtle.

Henriot Rose \$60 has a delicate pink hue and an extended, most pleasant finish.

Great holiday gifts: Purely outside the bottle but giving you a peek inside is the best book yet on Michigan wineries and travel to Michigan wine regions. "From the Vine: Exploring Michigan Wineries" by Sharon Kegerreis and Lorri Hathaway, \$34.95, is available online through www.michi

full yet crisp with cherry and red berry flavors due to 85 percent pinot noir. It delivers great flavors through to its long, finesseful finish.

The Healds are contributing editors for

danvine.com. The classy book explores the unique beauty of Michigan's wine regions with terrific photography and captures the passion of Michigan vintners in words.

D5

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Spirits lovers will thank you if you gift them with a bottle of either The Macallan Sherry Oak 18 Years Old, a classic single malt Scotch \$130 or The Macallan Fine Oak 15 Years Old \$80 with its rich chocolate impression. Cabernet lovers will praise your good taste when you give them a bottle of the seductive 2004 Joseph Phelps Insignia, Napa Valley \$200. Ice wines from 2006 in 375mL from Inniskillin on the Niagara Peninsula, Ontario, Canada: Riesling \$75; Vidal \$65; Cabernet Franc \$95 and a rare Sparkling \$75 - all lush and lovely.

If a retailer does not stock a specific wine we recommend, ask that it be ordered from the distributor or order it direct from the winery if it's domestic.

the internationally respected "Quarterly Review of Wines" and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the "Observer & Eccentric Newspapers." Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@ aol.com.



Advertising Correction Notice

The Lowe's tab in this week's newspaper contains an error. An incorrect image was displayed on the Front Cover for the SKIL 14.4-Volt Single Speed Cordless Drill/Driver Kit (#278341). The image displayed a 14.4-Volt SKIL drill with a Lithium Ion battery and the advertised Special Value is for a 14.4-Volt SKIL drill with a Nickel Cad battery.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this error may cause to you, our valued customer.

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D6

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

Don't sweat it? How to take care of your sweaters

BY JENNIFER FARRAR ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

of summer and bring on the sweaters.

You can pretty much pick your pleasure this fall: Stores are filled with chunky cardigans (the freshest have a slight trapeze shape), loose-knit drapey cowlnecks, proper cashmere crewnecks and boldly striped pullovers.

And after you get it home, take good care of it so it can still keep you warm next year. Here's how:

DON'T THROW IT ON THE FLOOR

Most sweaters are best stored flat or gently folded. Never stuff them into crowded drawers.

To fold a sweater to reduce wrinkles and minimize bulk, Real Simple Magazine recommends that you lay the sweater face down and fold each arm straight across the back of the garment. Fold over one side to the middle, then the other, so the sleeve edges meet in the center.

Then fold the bottom up to the top once or twice, depending on the length and bulk of the sweater.

If you've worn the sweater to a stinky place, or have packed sweaters in a suitcase, you'll also need to air them out before putting away.

Shake out the sweater, then lay flat on a bed, or use padded hangers after buttoning or zipping all closures to maintain the shape. Hang dry sweaters in a steamy bathroom to remove wrinkles, but remove delicate sweaters from hangers as soon as the wrinkles are out. Remove spots and stains promptly. For getting food or alcohol out of wool, the American Sheep Industry Association recommends placing a towel under the stain and gently rubbing it with carbonated water toward the center of the spot. For red wine, immerse it in cold water. For lipstick, rub the stain with white bread.

READ THE LABEL

It seems obvious, but many a sweater has been ruined by being tossed in the laundry bin and accidentaly run through the spin cycle with socks and underwear.

Read the label and plan accordingly _keeping in mind that "Dry Clean Only" doesn't always mean what it says.

You can put a wool, cashmere or fine cotton garment in the washer with some precautions, according to Real Simple. Be sure to use a protective pillowcase or mesh bag, pick the delicate cycle, and wash with cold water only. You can even add a couple of capfuls of distilled white vinegar in the rinse cycle to make your sweater softer and fluffier.

Never put a sweater in the dryer, unless the manufacturer's label specifically indicates it is safe to do so. In that case, use a low dryer heat to avoid shrinkage. Otherwise, lay your sweater flat on a towel to dry.

HAND-WASHING HINTS

For best hand-washing results, you may want to use a dedicated plastic basin instead of your sink, which might have cleanser or toothpaste residue that could ruin your sweater.

Use a small amount of fine-washables detergent. Soak your sweater in cold water; use lukewarm only if the label specifies it, and never use hot water.

Do not wring or twist a sweater when washing it. Just gently squeeze the suds through the garment, or swirl it around in the water for a couple of minutes. Rinse thoroughly in cool water by refilling your basin a few times, as running water could stretch delicate fabrics.

Roll your sweater in a towel to absorb extra water, then dry flat, preferably on a towel laid over a drying rack for good air circulation. Avoid drying too near to a heat source. And you shouldn't over-

Wear-Itt .

The Jaw Coney zip up hoodie at Moosejaw

DON'T Wear It! Chunky Snowpants

Kick Itl Sue London ballet flats at Martin + Osa

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Reusable canvas totes from brownbagit.com (based in Farmington Hills)

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HOLIDAYlist

MAGIC OF BIRMINGHAM

From 6-8 p.m. tonight and next Thursday, Dec. 20, shoppers will be stopped at random to receive gifts as part of the first-ever "Magic of Birmingham" promotion. Merchants have donated gifts with a combined value of over \$20,000, including leather wallets, soaps, restaurant gift certificates and more. Top prizes include a piece of jewelry from **Astrein's Creative Jewelers** valued over \$1,000; and a weekend at the Townsend Hotel. Downtown Birmingham's Santa House also is open for business, while carolers and free horse drawn carriage rides add to the

the Walter P. Chrysler Museum hosts "Cars, Trees & Traditions" through Dec. 30. The exhibit features evergreen trees accurately decorated in holiday fashion, paired with Chrysler vehicles of similar eras, nostalgic images and text. For details, visit www.chryslerheritage.com or call (888) 456-1924.

OLD FASHION HOLIDAY

Holiday Nights in Greenfield Village brings back traditions of Christmas past. The event includes live music, Model T and horse-drawn carriage rides, ice skating, visits with Santa and live reindeer, sing-alongs and fireworks. Historic Eagle Tavern offers dinner packages with an authentic holiday meals and live period music. Holiday Nights takes place Dec. 14-16 and 19-23. Tickets are \$12.75 for members, \$8.50 for children; \$15 for non-members, \$10 for children; four and under free. Call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.thehenryford.org.

wash your sweaters, according to clothing retailer Lands' End, because the fiber loosens a bit with each washing.

For more information on caring for sweaters visit Real Simple, www.realsimple.com; and the American Wool Council, www. sheepusa.org.

BBAC HOLIDAY SHOP

Shop for a cause the last weekend of BBAC Holiday Shop. On Dec. 13-14, 10 percent of sales proceeds will benefit **Birmingham Public Schools arts** programs and Lighthouse of Oakland County. Holiday Shop offers hand-crafted, one-of-akind pieces from a variety of artists. Holiday Shop is open through Dec. 16, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday to Saturday, noon-4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. The BBAC is located at 1516 S. Cranbrook. Call (248) 644-0866 or visit www.BBArtCenter. orq.

CARS, TREES & TRADITIONS Take a look back at holiday

celebrations from the early 1900s through the 1980s, as

AANM HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

The Arab American National Museum will host its 2nd annual International Holiday Marketplace & Fashion Show 6-9 p.m. tonight. The free event includes a variety of multicultural merchandise, complimentary refreshments, music and a live fashion show featuring culturally inspired apparel. Call (313) 624-0216 for details or to receive a registration form. Space is limited.

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Key to the season's luscious lips

BY AMANDA ABUKHADER CONTRIBUTING WRITER

COURTESY OF MARSHALL'S

Fall's hottest makeup trends include sultry red lips and elegant liquid eyeliner. It's safe to say that it is the classiest modern day look around ... but not so easy to pull off. Finding the right shade of red? Forget it! Applying the perfect stroke in liquid liner? Not unless you're a professional. Thankfully, the editors of Marie Claire are here to help with their new ultimate guide to makeup. The Marie Claire Makeup book is filled with fabulous close-ups, high-gloss pages, and most importantly helpful tips to keep the modern day fashionista sane. Can the techniques stand up to close-ups of the polished models that grace each page? We say yes.

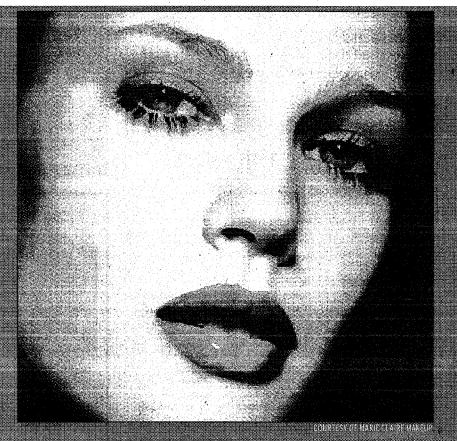
Just listen to what Marie Claire Makeup has to say about applying a perfect even coat of lipstick:

1. Like your skin, your mouth also needs to rid itself of dead cells from time to time. For silky lips choose a very soft facial exfoliate and gently clean away with a soft, supple toothbrush (reserved exclusively for this purpose).

2. Generously apply an ultra-rich, creamy lip balm (or even Vaseline) for several minutes to nourish your lips. Wipe away with a cotton swab when you're done.

3. Think of your lip liner as your lips' guardrails.

It should be the same color as your lipstick, but one shade lighter. Nude tones will suit paler complexions and will yield a



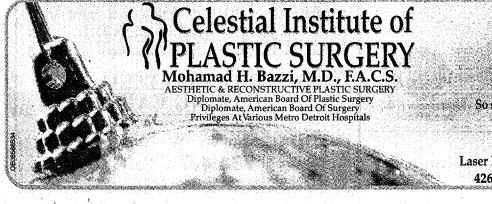
flattering effect of increased volume. 4. Coat both sides of the brush with lipstick and start applying from the inside of your lips, moving upward in small strokes until you reach the outer edges.

5. Lip gloss will help bring it all together: a single dollop in the middle of your

lips will create a three-dimensional effect. Of course you can also spread it across your whole lip for a full on shine.

— Source: Marie Claire Makeup, from the Editors of Marie Claire (Hearst, \$19.95)





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Manilow's Vegas show Young voices sing

Vincent Gallo's spontaneous collective Make your entertainment plans

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Saturday, December 22 8 pm • \$40 Movin' Out's Michael Cavanaugh in Concert

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Inside this week's



HOMETOWN*life.com*

C)GANNETT

MUSIC - 4 MGM Grand Detroit hosts Earth, Wind & Fire.

COVER – 6

Check out these movies to be released Dec. 21 and Christmas Day.

LIVE – 6

Barry Manilow brings his music and passion (and his Vegas show by the same name) to The Palace of Auburn Hills Saturday.

TEENS ROCK - 7

Just Another Shooter blends punk and metal in hardcore material.



TABLE HOPPING -8 1 Under Bar & Grill in Livonia

opened with a new name. new owners, a new look and a new menu.

GET OUT - 10

See what's happening in Detroit and beyond this weekend and throughout the holidays.

ON STAGE - 11

The Michigan Opera Theater Children's Choir debuts at "A Winter's Fantasy."

PURE PICKS - 13

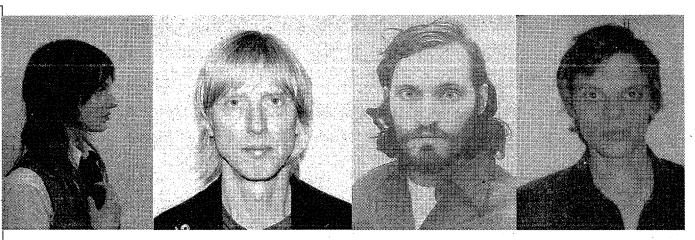
Check out what the Filter staff suggests for your entertainment world this week.

Observer & Eccentric

Marty Carry Ken Abramczyk Editor Lana Mini Dan Dean Staff Writer Design Editor **Susan Rosiek Stephanie Angelyn Executive Editor** Casola Staff Writer Peter Neill General Manager



Jenna Fischer and John C Reilly star in "Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story."



Rebecca Casabian, Eric Erlandson, Vincent Gallo and Nikolas Haas are the nearly unpronounceable RRIICCEE.

RRIICCEE: See what a spontaneous collective sounds like Hot

*o be completely honest, L haven't heard RRIICCEE. Not many people have.

The LA-based band's own publicist hasn't seen them perform yet. And most of what I'd found written about this shiny new project was pulled straight from a press release.



Noise Patrol

Stephanie

Casola

And so my curiosity keeps compounding. Here we have Vincent Gallo, a filmmaker and musician known for movies like Buffalo 66 and The Brown Bunny

and for musical collaborations that involved Jean-Michel Basquiat. Then there's Eric

Erlandson - best known as guitarist of Hole, featuring Courtney Love. Add in a girl they met randomly and the younger brother of actor Lukas Haas and you've got this unpronounceable mysterious project that just has to be seen to be heard.

RRIICCEE is considered a spontaneous collective. It isn't bound by genre. The band hasn't recorded as of yet. But according to Gallo - who called in as he and his bandmates packed up a van to head out on tour Friday - the time was just right.

"Eric and I have sort of seen each other around town for a few years," said Gallo. "We were not really friendly, other than peripheral contact.'

That is to say they'd seen each other in nightclubs, dated a couple of girls who were friends and

RRIICCEE

What: A new musical project featuring Vincent Gallo, ex-Hole guitarist Eric Erlandson, Rebecca Casabian and Nikolas Haas.

When: 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14 Where: Museum of Contemporary . Art-Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

Who: All ages welcome.

Tickets: \$15, available in advance through the Crofoot. Visit ticketweb. com.

More information: Call MOCAD at (313) 832-6622.

eventually forged themselves a sort of friendship.

A year ago Gallo ran into Erlandson again, this time in a health food store. He asked Erlandson what he'd been working on "in a way I hate people chatting with me," said Gallo. "He snarled and said 'I don't want to be part of that problem.' I knew exactly what he meant. It was so deep and significant and so exactly where $\tilde{\mathbf{I}}$ was it prompted me to call him and ask him to play music.

We wanted to move past the cliches we were stuck in and really grow in a real way.'

So they embarked on something completely new, something they hoped would be "more interesting than the people who created it." And they sought a couple accomplices.

"About a month later we decided to go to a social event and we would do so with the hopes of finding someone we thought

looked interesting," said Gallo. "If we felt a really strong feeling, we would ask them to play

music with us." Enter Rebecca

Casabian. It was as simple as saying hello, asking her to play music with them and mentioning Gallo's e-mail address. "The exchange was very subtle," he recalled. "I felt she had nonchalanted us."

But she was interested after all and contacted Gallo days later. Nikolas Haas also joined on. He's the younger brother of Lukas Haas, an actor who briefly played music with Gallo years ago. "Nik came as a natural progression," said Gallo. "That's where we're at now.

RRIICCEE played publicly only twice before heading out on tour. Without any recorded music to speak of, the band has a natural mystique surrounding it. "It's not a contrary gesture," Gallo noted. "All we're doing is trying to remain open."

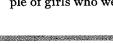
That's not to say the band won't record in the future. The possibility is still there. But their focus is set on performance. "We're sort of composing," Gallo said. "We're grabbing onto this thing that's there in the room but also being entertained."

In playing prepared music, he said, musicians tend to connect with the past. RRIICCEE is concerned with the present.

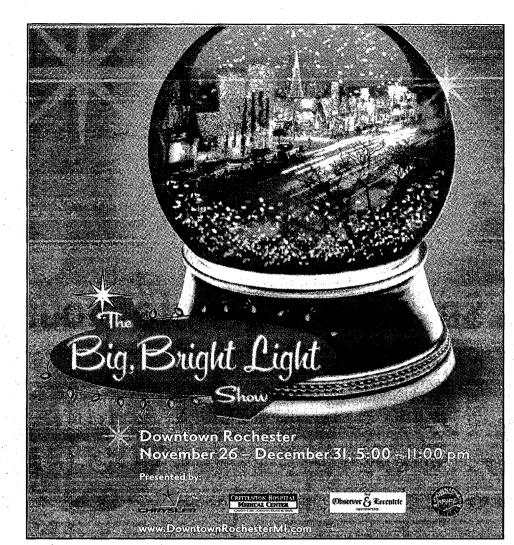
'If I did not tell you we were

Please see MOCAD, E7

www.hometownlife.com



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 13, 2007 • (OF*) E3



Bigger names coming to MGM

Earth Wind & Fire plays MGM Grand Detroit

MGM Grand Detroit is starting to carve its name in the live music world as it brings in Grammy winning musicians Earth, Wind & Fire to its Grand Ballroom on Thursday, Dec. 13.

One of the most commercially popular R & B bands of the 70s, Earth, Wind and Fire brings their signature mix of funk, jazz, R&B, gospel, pop and rock 'n' roll to Detroit for one night.

- The band has won multiple Grammys and American Music Awards in a career that spans more than 35

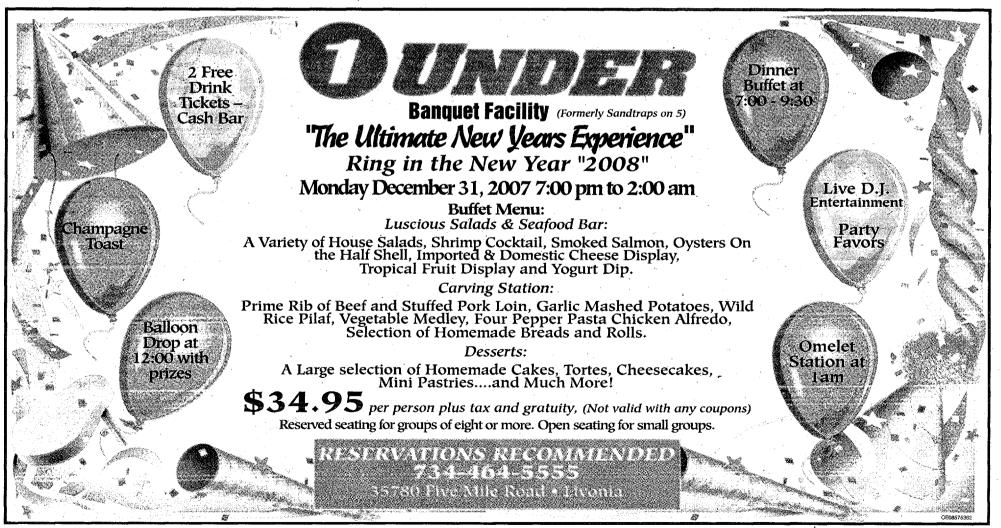
years.

Many of the band's albums went gold, platinum and double platinum, and the band was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 2001.

The band performs at 8 p.m., doors

open at 7 p.m., at MGM Grand Detroit's Grand Ballroom, 1777 Third Street, Detroit. Ticket prices are \$150, \$175 and \$200 on sale at all Ticketmaster locations (www.ticketmaster.com). Cash bar.

Lana Mini



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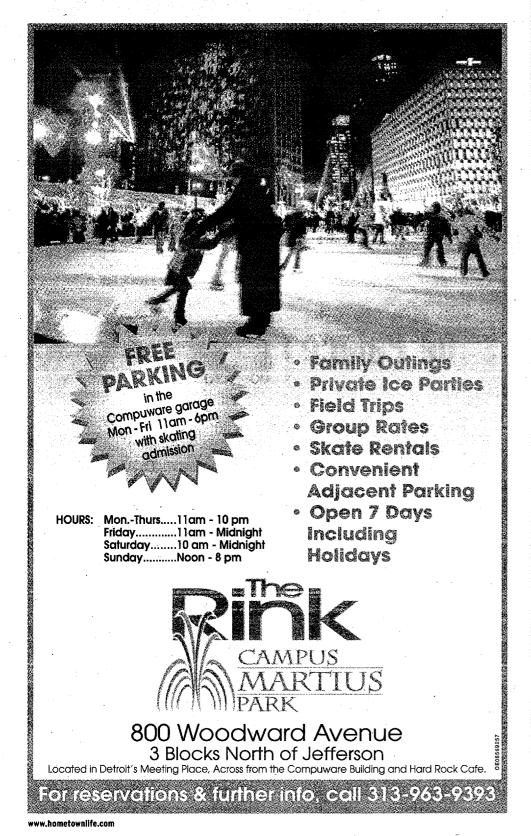
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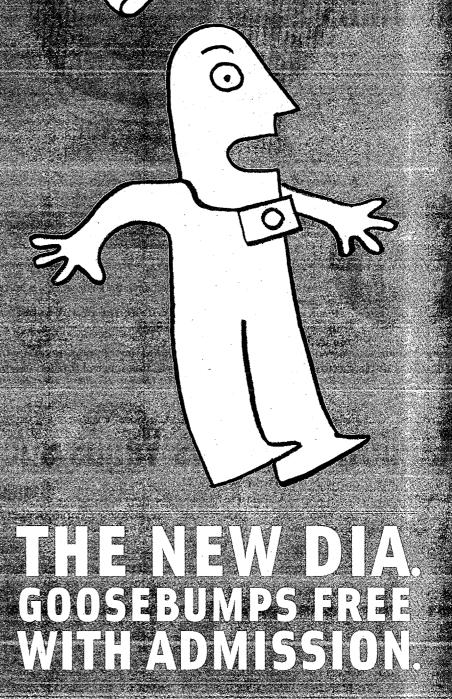
Share your holiday plans with Filter

How will you spend New Year's Eve?

What's your idea of a fun way to ring in 2008 - a quiet night at home? Dancing with thousands at a big nightclub? What will you do and who will you spend it with? Share your plans with us and we'll print it in an upcoming issue. E-mail to lmini@hometowrflife.com

with "New Year's Eve" in the subject line. Please include your name, telephone number and the city where you live. Happy Holidays!





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 $(D \mathbf{\bar{A}})^{\text{out}}$

lot yourself go

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 13, 2007 • (OF*) E5

Holiday season brings big films

Hollywood releases several holiday movies for film fans to enjoy from now through the end of the year. Here are summaries of some of them:

Dec. 21 WALK HARD: THE DEWEY COX STORY A parody of musician

biopics like *Ray* and *Walk the Line*, *Walk Hard* follows the life journey of fictional music legend Dewey Cox. Starring John C. Reilly, Jenna Fischer, Kristen Wig, Tim Maedows

Wiig, Tim Maedows. Written by Jake Kasdan and Judd Apatow, directed by Jake Kasdan. (Columbia Pictures) Rated R.



"The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep" is the story of a young boy who brings home a magical egg and soon finds himself raising an amazing creature, Crusoe (pictured), the mythical "water horse" of Scottish lore.

SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET

The adaptation of Stephen Sondheim's award-winning musical thriller *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*.

Depp stars in the title role as a man unjustly sent to prison who vows revenge, not only for that cruel punishment, but for the devastating consequences of what happened to his wife and daughter. When he returns to reopen his barber shop, Sweeney Todd becomes the Demon Barber of Fleet Street who "shaved the faces of gentlemen who never thereafter were heard again". Johnny Depp, Helena

Please see FILMS, E15

Manilow performs Vegas show at The Palace

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

1110

When Barry Manilow performed on ABC's hit series, *Dancing With the Stars* a couple of months ago, he was on a tiny platform with a group of dancers flitting about the stage.

Manilow will have no such confinement issues Saturday when he brings his expansive Las Vegas show, Manilow: An Evening of Music and Passion, to the stage at The Palace of Auburn Hills. The 8 p.m. concert, part of a 10show series of one-nighters, not only helps Manilow fill a winter void in his Vegas show but

also scratches an itch for the 64-year-old entertainer.

"I'm based in Vegas (at the Hilton) now, and I'm having a great time doing that, but I do miss these big arena shows," said Manilow, who recently sold out three nights at New York's Madison Square Garden. "I'd forgotten how exciting that was. I miss all the people out there."

When producers approached Manilow about doing these one-nighters, Manilow agreed. He's quick to point out it's not a tour - "I just fly in, do the show and fly back ... I'm done touring," he said - but simply a way to get back in front of the masses. Detroit, he said, was a natural site for that kind of show.

"I miss that exciting feeling about playing a big arena," said Manilow, who learned to read music when his family

strapped an accordion on him at age 11. "I've had a long history with

Detroit. These people have been great to me, so it's exciting to come back."

Being headquartered in Las Vegas hasn't kept Manilow out of the spotlight. He worked with a couple of seasons' worth of

American Idol contestants - "I just loved working with young people; I could have worked for hours at a time with each of them" - and had his gig on Dancing with the Stars - "It was difficult to do ... I'm standing there on a little stage and in front of me these people are throwing themselves around like a tossed salad. It was just very difficult to do because they're working so hard."

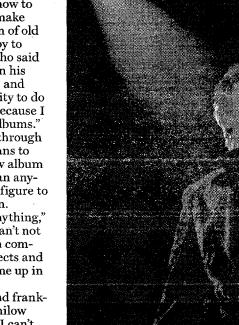
He's also done "cover" albums of songs from the 1950s, '60s and '70s and recently released his third Christmas CD, something he said he had a "great time" doing. "I don't know why, but I know how to make a Christmas album that'll make people feel good and remind them of old Christmas songs from Bing Crosby to Andy Williams," said Manilow, who said he has mostly classical and jazz on his iPod. "I just know how to do that, and whenever I'm given the opportunity to do a Christmas album, I jump at it because I have a great time making those albums."

While his Vegas contract runs through 2008, Manilow said he has no plans to slow down. He's working on a new album he said is "more rock-oriented than anything I've ever done," and doesn't figure to stop what he's doing anytime soon.

"I don't think I do it to prove anything," Manilow said. "I do it because I can't not do it. I can't stop these ideas from coming. I can't stop the ideas for projects and songs, and TV shows ... it wakes me up in the middle of the night.

"I have nothing left to prove, and frankly I've never done it for that," Manilow said. "I've always done it because I can't not do it. That's my life. They'll be carrying me out on a stretcher and I'll be yelling 'Hey, I've got one more idea, man, don't do it, don't stop now."

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



Barry Manilow brings "An Evening of Music and Passion" to The Palace of Auburn Hills Saturday.

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www.hometownlife.com

Local band plays melodic hardcore

BY LANA MINI STAFF WRITER

eens

rock

Just Another Shooter isn't just another teenage band that plans to come and go. The band's members, all 13

and 14 years old, of Rochester, already play two shows a month at various metro Detroit locations, design their own t-shirts and write original hardcore material, a blend of punk and metal.

The band members are: Brett Ullmann, 14, drums and backing vocals; Capelle Gabriel, 14, lead vocals; Austin Knott, 14, lead guitar; Vince Navarolli, 14, bass player; all of Adams High school and Anthony Maldanando, 13, guitar "and screams," of West Middle School.

We are very energetic live and love to play and just rock

ont, ? Ullmann said "We have completed writing one of our own songs, but know over 20 songs by various artists."

Ullman has been playing drums for three years and guitar for one. While Just Another Shooter predominately

prefers hardcore, they also keep their ears open in order to grow musically - listening also to classic rock and techno. "Aaron Gillespie, (the drummer for Underoath) is

my personal hero," Ullmann said. "I'm influenced by Underaoth, Paramore, The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus, The Used, Escape The Fate, Chiodos, Story of the Year and The Almost. All have loved music since

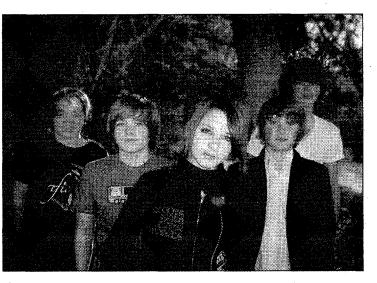
childhood. "We are constantly looking

for new artists that we like,'

Ullmann said. The goal's of each musician:

"To do well in school, keep grades up ... and the band! Just Another Shooter performs Saturday, Jan. 26 at the

Blue Note Cafe, 7 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac. Admission is \$6 at the door. Hear them at myspace.com/justanother-



Just Another Shooter isn't just another teen band.

shooter.

If you would like your teen band profiled in Filter, send an e-mail, along with your name, the city where you reside, phone number and the band's name to: lmini@hometownlife.com subject line: Teens that Řock.

FROM PAGE E3

doing spontaneous composition, I don't think you would know that ever. It doesn't sound that way. In composing, we organize things. We move them. It's not self-indulgent.

This is not a jam band.

Performances are meant to give a glimpse into the processes of crafting music, of the exchange of ideas between these four musicians. It's about creative expression. "It's the greatest thing I've ever done in my life," said Gallo. He likened the freeform experience to those anxious moments just before a date. It's a collaboration he considers "very dynamic."

Though most of the dates on RRIICCEE's tour itinerary feature rock clubs, the band will perform locally at the Museum of Contemporary Art-Detroit. Gallo just hopes it isn't going to snow.

Snow is my only worry," said the Buffalo native.

Don't ask Stephanie Angelyn Casola exactly how to pronounce RRIICCEE. She's on the fence. She writes about pop culture for the **Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and can be** reached at (248) 901-2567 or scasola@hometownlife.com.



www.hometownlife.com

1 Under Bar & Grill Sleek look graces new restaurant

Table

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFE WRITER

One of Livonia's newest restaurants isn't in a strip mall, located along Haggerty Road, or a franchise group, working its way into western Wayne County.

Tucked away next to a golf course on Five Mile Road, east of Levan on the site of the former Sandtraps on Five is 1 Under Bar & Grill.

But it isn't similar to Sandtraps anymore. The new owners (George Radulovic, Russ Kempker and Brian Tominna) gutted the restaurant and bar areas, removed old plaster, installed a new bar, and added a new heating and cooling system. The room's sleek new black chairs complement the gray finished floors and maroon walls.

CHASING A DREAM

The restaurant was created after the three partners decided to open their own place to

pursue a dream of ownership. We all worked for someone and we really wanted something that was our own,"

> ideas and make them come into fruition in the restaurant. We found out about a good location at a golf course and we knew what

What they have is a 211-seat Honding capacity in the bar/restaurant area, but they also have the added bonus of a 220-seat banquet facility upstairs. That room can be split into two.

> the business partners wanted, using the talents of Chef Sean Hughes, former chef at the Walnut Creek Country Club, where Kempker also worked. Kempker spent 20 years in the hotel and banquet business, Radulovic has financial background, while Tominna worked in merchandising.

The menu has some unique items - Tenderloin Chili (with chunks of beef ten-

Please see GRILL, E9

Radulovic said. "We wanted to develop our we wanted to do with it." The menu is a compilation of what

A sampling of entrees at the 1 Under Bar and Grill in Livonia include the Shrimp Salad (foreground), 12ounce Delmonico Steak (left). Flagstick Shrimp (back) and Lake Perch.





Newly Remodeled GRECIAN ODEN DURS Family Restaurant A TASTE OF GREEKTOWN AND SO MUCH MORE IN PLYMOUTH 413 N. Main Street Pull Carry-Ourt Service Available 734-455-7887 CLOSED 3 P.M. SUN. to 6 A.M. MON. 19.841 ANY ALEAL Mon.-Fri. • 6-10 a.m. **Buy 1 Dinner** 10% off Eggs, 3 Pieces of Meat Entree, Get the im, bacon or sausage) Your 2nd Dinner Entree Hash Browns, Toast & Jelly 50% off **Entire Bill** \$1.99 With this coupon. Not valid with any other offer. With this coupon. Not valid With this coupon with any other offer. Expires 1-3-08 Expires 1-3-08 Expires 1-3-08 www.hometownlife.com

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derloin), Flagstick Shrimp (five large shrimp, Cajun marinated and wrapped in wontons, then deep fried and served with a Thai chili sauce) and Signature Dinners, namely the Fairway Pecan Chicken (pecan-encrusted chicken breast with whole grain honey mustard cream sauce), Lemon Chicken (with artichoke hearts, sun-dried tomatoes, spinach and green onions in a light lemon sauce) and Ribs (baby backs with a tangy barbecue sauce).

The Signature Burger is a big seller, said Radulovic. "We make them here every morning," he said. "These aren't frozen, they are fresh 100 percent Angus beef. Everything we serve has top quality items - the perch, salmon and deli meats are all top quality."

MORE MENU CHOICES

Other popular items include Quesadillas, Artichoke Dip, Nachos, Greek Chicken Salad, Chicken Fajita, Clubhouse Sandwich, PGA Combo (1/2 soup and 1/2 salad), Perch, Sirloin, Pasta Alfredo and Fish and Chips.

The restaurant serves up daily soup specials, such as Minestrone or Chicken Dumpling, along with daily specials, including 25 cent wings and \$5 domestic beer pitchers during specified hours on Sunday and Monday. Kids eat free off the kids menu on Sundays. On Fridays, it's all you can eat fish and chips, and Saturday is Prime Rib Night.

Desserts feature large portions of Bananas

1 UNDER BAR & GRILL

35780 Five Mile Rd., Livonia (734) 464-5555

Hours: Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sunday noon-midnight. Dinner served until 10 p.m., late appetizers served until midnight. Menu: Burgers, steaks, sandwiches, chicken, ribs, pasta, fish, soups, salads, dessert, \$4,95-\$18,95. Upcoming events: Breakfast with Santa, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Dec. 15 and 16, adults \$15.95, seniors \$14.95, children 4-12 \$9.95, under 3 free; buffet, child's meal includes photo with Santa and gift. New Year's Eve: 7 p.m.-2 a.m. Monday, Dec. 31; dinner buffet, 7-9:30 p.m., champagne toast, balloon drop, party favors, two free drink tickets, cash bar, omelet station at 1 a.m., reserved seating for groups of eight or more, \$34.95 per person.

Foster Cheesecake, Brownie Sundae and Chocolate Raspberry Torte.

Nine 42-inch televisions line the walls for patrons to watch sports, news or other events. The owners expect to add entertainment on Friday and/or Saturday evenings.

We wanted to bring (restaurants) back to a personal level," Radulovic said. "Everything is franchised now. You go into these places and the owners aren't there. We wanted to be here and have a good quality meal here."

"We're very moderately priced," Kempker added.

kabramcz@hometownlife.com (248) 901-2591

Personal holiday meals offered

Nick Secchia, executive chef at The Henry Ford, will be offering once again to go to people's homes and prepare a six-course meal this holiday season. Secchia offered to be a "holiday personal chef" last year, and spent more than 12 evenings preparing meals at homes HI

Secchia chooses six courses, prepares them in the customer's kitchen in his or her home, and then serves the guests at the dinner table.

The meal is \$1,500 and includes services for up to 10, including menu consultation and Secchia's wine recommendations.

Other holiday packages include a cocktail party (\$1,500) with service for 14 of small plate and grazing style foods, and a New Year soiree for \$4,000 with wine and champagne. Call (800) 343-1929 for more information or to order these custom dinners or parties.

TASSOS ADDS PERSONAL MEALS

Tassos Epicurean Cuisine of Novi now offers more than just products you might find at your favorite gourmet markets, the company also

offers a specialized culinary - Table Du Chef - right in your own kitchen.

Executive chefs Christopher Bozadzis and Andrea George, who is also a graduate of le Cordon Bleu Paris, will personally prepare

a luxurious evening of culinary pampering for you and your guests (parties of 6-14 guests, please).

If the host prefers, each event can begin with a professional culinary demonstration and continue with a meal.

One may choose from a list of Tassos own menu selections, or create a special theme for which the chefs will design a custom menu. Relax and be entertained by personal chefs in your own home or office.

Since 1991, Tassos Epicurean Cuisine has offered specialty food products to markets, restaurant and hotels across the United States.

Their products include Hors D'oeuvres, Seafood Specialties, Gourmet Spreads and Dips, as well as their famous Twice-Baked Potatoes.

Visit www.tassoscuisine.com for information.



Send, fax or e-mail items for consideration in Get Out! at least two weeks in advance to Ken Abramczyk, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, fax (248) 644-1314 or e-mail kabramcz@hometownlife.com. Be sure to include a short summary with details of the event, address of the event location, date and time, a phone number and/or Web site that members of the public can contact for more information.

ART EXHIBITS

Cranbrook Art Museum: Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future, North American premiere of Saarinen's work at Cranbrook, and collection of furniture, photographs, drawings and models, through March 30, \$10 adults; \$5 teens and full-time students with ID; children 12 and under are admitted free with adult admission, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, call 1-877-GO-CRANBrook (1-877-462-7262) or visit www.cranbrook. edu

Flint Institute of Arts: "Art of Collecting" exhibition, through Dec. 30, more than 200 paintings, prints, drawings and sculptures on consignment from galleries in Detroit, Chicago and New York, Ilve and silent auction, starting at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 7, \$35 tickets for auction, \$7 for regular museum admission, 1120 E. Kearsley, Flint (810) 234-1695.

Okland University: New Paintings by Dennis Michael Jones, exhibit through Dec. 23, 208 Wilson Hall, Rochester, www.oakland. edu/ouag, (248) 370-3005. Southfield Public Library: Early American Toys,

Southfield Public Library: Early American Toys, Tower Lobby; Witness for the Nameless; photography and poetry by Edna Garte and Norman Dubin, Bookends Cafe; Holiday Magic, collection of holiday-themed dolls from the collection of Alan Toubeaux, WOW Wall, First Level; South Africa, photography by David Doolittle, Second Level, Gallery Wall; Glass Display, Third Level; writers' display, Third Level, Southfield Municipal Complex, 26300 Evergreen, www.sfldlib. org, (248) 796-4224.

ART GALLERIES

Ariana Gallery: "Steeped in Tradition, 20th Annual Teapot Exhibition," featuring over 30 artists, through Dec. 15, 119 S. Main, Royal Oak (248) 546-8810, www.arianagallery.com.

D & M Art Studios: "Surviving Deployment," portraits by Erin Dillenbeck, many of her fiance Ryan Keesey, is on active duty in Iraq, through Dec. 31, show runs through Dec. 31, 8691 N. Lilley, Canton (734) 453-3710.

Farmington Hills City Gallery: "Remembrance," a mixed media collection by Carolynne Miller, Dec. 13-Jan. 31, Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, (248) 473-1856

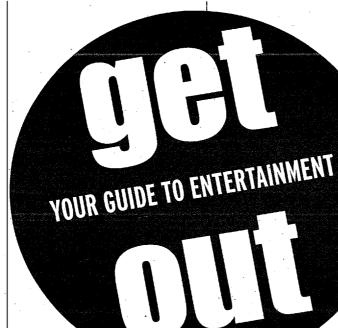
Hilberry Gallery: "50/50 Paintings" by Ivin Ballen, exhibit through Jan. 5, 700 Livernois, Ferndale (248) 541-4700. Hill Gallery: Dennis Oppenheim, through Jan. 12, 407 W. Brown, Birmingham, (248) 540-9288.

Kingswood Lower Gallery: Takafumi Yato's "Jump and Blue," through Dec. 18, Cranbrook Schools-Kingswood Campus, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. (248) 931-1219.

Lawrence Street Gallery: "Little Things Mean a Lot," through Dec. 28, opening reception, Dec. 7; 22620 Woodward, Ferndale (248) 544-0394, www.lawrencestreetgallery.com. Lemberg Gallery: "Thinking in Color," through Jan. 5, 23241 Woodward, Ferndale (248) 591-6623, www.lemberggallery.com. PaulKotulaProjects: Iris Eichenberg's "Elizabeth," through Jan. 5, 23255 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3020. Paint Creek Center for the Arts: "Object, Inc.," group show with nine Michigan artists, 407 Pine, Rochester, (248) 651-4110, www. pccart.org.

The Print Gallery: Joyce Lieberman, oil paintings, through Jan. 18, 29173 Northwestern

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Hwy., Southfield www.EverythingArt.com, (248) 356-5454. Sherrus Gallery: 133 W. Main St., Suite 210, Northville, (248) 380-0470, www.sherrusgallery.com.

ART, ETC.

Touch of Light: Glassblowing demonstrations, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Dec. 15 and 22, part of Holiday Glass Show, through Dec. 29, 23426 Woodward (1/2 mile south of I-696), Ferndale (248) 543-1868.

Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center: Holiday Shop, gifts from 160 artists, through Dec. 16; 1516 S. Cranbrook (between 14 and 15 Mile roads), Birmingham, www.BBArtCenter.org, (248) 644-0866.

BOOKS

Barnes & Noble: Lee Thomas, author of "Turning White: A Memoir of Change," 7 p.m. Dec. 21, 500 S. Main, Royal Oak (248) 336-9490.

CHORAL

Farmington Hills Youth Choir: with Farmington Community Chorus, Holiday Concert, 8 p.m. Dec. 14 and 15, \$15 at door, Mercy High School Auditorium, 11 Mile and Middlebelt, Farmington Hills.

CLASSICAL

Avon Players: "The Barons of Brass in Concert," 8 p.m. Dec. 14, \$20, 1185 Washington Rd., Rochester Hills, (248) 608-9077, for information on the quintet, visit www.baronsofbrass.com. Chamber Music Society of Detroit: Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, with Kirsten Johnson, viola, Dec. 15, including premiere of Richard Danielpour's "The Book of Hours," 8 p.m. Dec. 15, Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 W. 13 -Mile Rd. (at the corner Lahser and 13 Mile roads) on the campus of Detroit Country Day School in Beverly Hills, www ComeHearCMSD.org, (248) 855-6070. Birmingham Concert Band: with the choir of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, "A Christmas Flourish," 3:30 p.m. Dec. 16, 1800 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham, www.birminghamconcertband.com.

Celebration Youth Orchestra: winter concert, 7 p.m. Dec. 18, Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton \$6, (734) 394-5460 for tickets, http://www.cantonmi.org, for information, call (734) 451-2112. Motor City Brass Band: Sounds of the Season, with Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir, 3 p.m. Dec. 16, \$15, Ford Community and Performing Arts Center's Michael A. Guido Theater, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn (313) 943-2354.

CLUBS

Celtic Door Lounge: 2nd Annual Evening of Stupid Christmas Songs, Dog Latin and Friends, 8 p.m. Dec. 14, 32905 Grand River, Farmington, (248) 462-1199. Crofoot: A John Waters Christmas, Dec. 13, 1 S. Saginaw, Pontiac, (248) 858-9333. Eden Nightclub & Ultralounge: Friday night party with DJ Ryan Richards, 10 p.m. guest celebrity hosts and DJs; DJ Urban Chris in the Garden Room, DJ Pannos in the Ultralounge accompanied by percussionist Jared Sykes, 10 p.m. Saturday, 22061 Woodward Ave, Ferndale (248) 541-7674. Fillmore-Detroit: Wu-Tang Clan, Dec. 14, \$40, (248) 645-6666. Edison's: Larry Lee, Dec. 13; Close Call,

Dec. 14-15; Aaron Vaughn, Dec. 20; Code Blue. Dec. 21-22; Rick Stel Project, Dec. 27; The Randy Brock Group, Dec. 28-29; The Snakes, Dec. 31; 220 Merrill, Birmingham (248) 645-2150. The Magic Stick: Fiery Furnaces, Dec. 13,

Detroit, (313) 833-9700.

COMEDY

Historic Holly Hotel Comedy Club: Steve Bills, Dec. 14-15; Warren B. Hall, Dec. 21-22; Chrissy Burns, Dec. 28-31; 110 Battle Alley, Holly (248) 634-5208.

The Second City: The Best of Second City-Detroit, on Sundays, (Mondays and Tuesdays for group booking); The Second City's Dysfunctional Holiday Revue, shows throughout December, 42705 Grand River Avenue in Novi, (248) 348-4448, www. secondcity.com

Second City.com. Second City Adult Winter Training: Registration open through Dec. 14 for comedy writing and improvisation, eight-week course, \$200, www.secondcity.com, (248) 348-

4448

CONCERTS

The Fillmore-Detroit: Omarion with Ja Rule and Trey Songz, Dec. 30; G Love and Special Sauce, Jan. 18; The Green 17 Tour with Flogging Molly, Feb. 9; Angels and Airwaves with Meg and Dia, The Color Fred, Ace Enders, Feb. 23; Jann Arden, Feb. 26, 2115 Woodward, Detroit. Call (248) 645-6666. Joe Louis Arena: Ozzy Osbourne and Rob Zombie, Dec. 18; R. Kelly with Neyo, Keyshia Cole and J. Holiday, Dec. 22; Linkin Park with Coheed and Cambria, Feb. 16; Foo Fighters, Feb. 24, (248) 645-6666, www. ticketmaster.com, OlympiaEntertainment. com.

The Palace: Barry Manilow, Dec. 15: Trans Siberian Orchestra, Dec. 26; The Dodlebops Live, Jan. 20; Matchbox Twenty with Alanis Morissette and MUTEMATH, 6:30 p.m. Feb.2; The Spice Girls, Feb. 16; Bon Jovi with Daughtry, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20; Avril Lavigne with Boys Like Girls, March 22, (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com. MGM Grand Detroit: Earth, Wind & Fire, Dec. 13, call (248) 645-6666. Ford Community & Performing Arts Center: A

Yora community a Performing arts Center: A Valentine's Rock 'N' Roll Spectacular with Sonny Turner (former lead singer of the Platters); The Vogues, The Diamonds, The Reflections, Jack Scott, Lou Christie, Bill Haley's Original Comets, Little Peggy March, The Marcels, 5 and 8 p.m. Feb. 16, \$27-\$67, 15801 Michigan, Dearborn (313) 943-2354 Ext. 1. **St. Andrews Hall:** The Verve Pipe, Dec. 21;

St. Andrews Hall: The Verve Pipe, Dec. 21; Rusted Root, 8 p.m. Dec. 29; Necro with Psycho Realm and Danny Diablo, Jan. 11; The Mars Volta, Jan. 23; The Editors, Jan. 26; Matt Nathanson, Feb. 5; 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.

DANCE

Farmington Hills Ballroom Dance: 8-11 p.m. Dec. 21, Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, \$10. Joe Louis Arena: Dancing With the Stars Tour, Jan. 5, Detroit, \$52.50-\$168, (248) 645-6666.

FAMILY

Michigan Historical Museum: Winterfest, family-friendly activities, including choirs, dancers, arts and crafts, winter sports, music, Dec. 15; inside the Michigan Library and Historical Center at 702 W. Kalamazoo St., two blocks west of the State Capitol in downtown Lansing, www.michiganhistory. org, (517) 373-3559.

FILM

Northville District Library: Foreign Film series, "The Sea Inside," a Spanish film on ship mechanic left quadriplegic after a diving accident, Dec. 17; 212 W. Cady, Northville, free, call (248) 349-3020 for reservations.

FUND-RAISERS

Christus Victor Lutheran Church: Sounds of the Season, holiday concert to benefit Toys for Tots, performed by the American Liberty Pops Singers and the Children of Liberty, admission is monetary donation or toy for Toys for Tots, 7 p.m. Dec. 15, 25535 Ford Rd. (east of Beech Daly), Dearborn Heights. Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center: Annual Holiday Shop, 10 percent of proceeds on Dec. 13-14 benefit Lighthouse of Oakland County and Birmingham Education Foundation arts programs in Birmingham schools, shop is open through Dec. 16, 1516 S. Cranbrook (between 14 and 15 Mile roads), Birmingham, www.BBArtCenter.org, (248) 644-0866. Power Center for the Performing Arts: Red Kettle Benefit Concert to help Salvation Army of Washtenaw County's Red Kettle Campaign.

Washfeliaw County's Red Kettle Campaign, with Plymouth-Canton Homeschool Band, Oakland County Homeschool Band and others, 7 p.m. Dec. 19, \$10 (advance), \$12 (door), tickets available at Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson Blvd., Ann Arbor, for information, call (734) 995-1205.

HOLIDAY SHOWS Greenfield Village: Holiday Nights, Dec. 14-16 and 19-23, The Henry Ford, Dearborn, \$8.50-\$12.75, (313) 982-6001 or www.thehenryford.org.

Home for the Holidays: This 5th annual showcase supports local animal shelters Almost Home and Cinder Fund. Pat O'Brien, Scott Kinson, J. Graves, Elise McCoy, Arementa Hesselrode, Jeff Cox and Matt Hughes will perform 9 p.m. Dec. 21, 313.jac/Jacoby's, 624 Bfush Street, Detroit, 18 and older. (313) 962-7067.

The Fox Theatre: Cedric the Entertainer,

9 p.m. Dec. 31, OlympiaEntertainment. com, the Fox Theatre and Joe Louis Arena box offices, Hockeytown Authentics in Troy (without service charge) and at all Ticketmaster locations, including Macy's and Ticketmaster.com. To charge tickets by phone, call (248) 433-1515. **Orchard Lake Philharmonic Society:** See the

Orchard Lake Philharmonic Society: See the Community Orchestra's premiere performance 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, at the Shrine Chapel on the campus of. St. Mary's Prep School, 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake. Music by Holst, Grieg, Boyce, Faure and Mozart. Tickets S10, S7 for seniors (60 and over) and free for students. Visit www. OL PSmusic org.

Pointsettia Soiree: Visit the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory, Belle Isle for a free stroll, 5-8 p.m. Dec. 14. Cider and donuts provided. (313) 331-7760. Rochester: Big, Bright Light Show every night through Dec. 31, Main Street north of Avon Road, www.DowntownRochesterMI. com.

Sounds of the Season: Motor City Brass Band presents annual holiday showcase 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center's Michael A. Guido Theater, 15801 Michigan Ave.,

Dearborn. Tickets \$15 adults, \$12 seniors and students, and free for children 12 & under, call (313) 943-2354. Old Fashioned Christmas: Rochester Hills

Museum at Van Hoosen Farm celebrates the past 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15 with a Christmas Pageant at the Stoney Creek Schoolhouse, tractor-pulled hayrides, chestnuts roasting on an open fire, games, old-time movies, music, readings of "Twas the Night Before Christmas," and makeand-take holiday crafts. Admission \$3-8, call (248) 656-4663.

Plymouth Symphony Orchestra: Home for the Holidays concert, 7 p.m. Dec. 20, Penn Theatre, \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors, and \$10 for children, (734) 451-2112, www. plymouthsymphony.org, or in person at 470 Forest Avenue, Suite 18, Plymouth. Fox Theatre: Too Hot to Handel, featuring Rackham Symphony Choir, 2 and 8 p.m. Dec. 22, \$21-\$78, OlympiaEntertainment. com, the Fox Theatre and Joe Louis Arena box offices, Hockeytown Authentics in Troy (without service charge) and at all Ticketmaster.com. To charge tickets by phone, call (248) 433-1515.

JAZZ

Jazz Cafe at Music Hall: Ron English Jazz Quartet, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Dec. 15, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit, (313) 887-8532 or e-mail jazzcafe@musichall.org for additional information.

Pi Restaurant: Sandra Bomar, Dec. 14-15; D-Lee and Deb Alane, Dec. 21-22; Sheila Landis, Dec. 28-29; 28875 Franklin (southwest corner of 12 Mile and Northwestern Hwy.), Southfield (248) 208-7500, www. piofsouthfield.com.

Detroit Windsor Jazz Club: Saturdays at Shield's (1-4 p.m.), Paul Kellery Sextet, Dec. 15; Chuck Moss and the Paint Creek Jazz Band, Jan. 5; Ray Heitger and the Cakewalkin' Jazz Band, Jan. 19; Kerry Price and Friends, Feb. 2; Rick Bryant, Feb. 16; S10 cover, 25101 Telegraph, Southfield (248) 356-2720.

Please see GET OUT, E11

Young voices join Michigan Opera Theatre

SPELC

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA STAFF WRITER

Forming a Children's Chorus at the Michigan Opera Theatre wasn't a new idea. After all, each time a production came along that required a children's choir, young singers auditioned for the opera and performed on stage at the Detroit Opera House.

But this year, chorus master Suzanne Mallare Acton and conductor Dianna Hochella envisioned a more permanent group - one that would participate in the appropriate productions but also stage their own. A grant from the Mandell L. and Madeleine H. Berman Foundation is

making that possible. They delved into the process of creating just such a choir in February, then held auditions in August and September. By October, the young singers began preparing for their Michigan Opera Theatre debut. Currently 40 singers have been accepted into the chorus. "They come from all over metro Detroit," Acton said.

This month, the group is set to perform in A Winter Fantasy, a holiday-inspired

A WINTER FANTASY

What: The Michigan Opera Theatre's Children's Chorus makes its debut at this fund-raising event. An ongoing reception and silent auction begins at 6 p.m. in the General Director's Circle

> Lounge. When: 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17. Where: Marlene L. Boll Hall at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit.

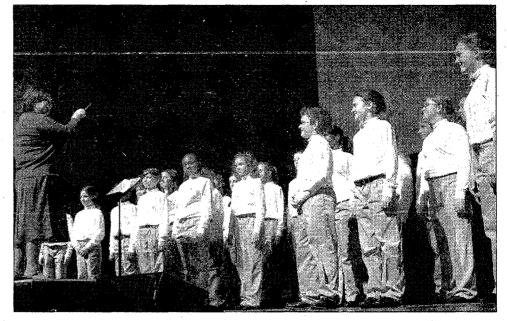
Tickets: \$15, call (313) 237-3261 or e-mail mlandry@motopera.org.

Proceeds benefit the Michigan Opera Theatre Children's Chorus. A limited number of tickets will be sold at the door.

production that will double as a fund-raising event to support the purchase of uniforms and supplies.

Those in attendance Dec. 17 will hear classic holiday fare paired with three scenes from Hansel and Gretel. The program will begin with a silent auction. Then, two hourlong performances will follow.

We knew we wanted to have somewhat



The Michigan Opera Theatre has established a Children's Chorus. See the group perform in "A Winter Fantasy" at the Detroit Opera House.

of a showcase," said Acton.

And the group decided the holidays were the perfect time to do so. Participants in the Children's Choir are between the ages of 10 and 16.

The group is still auditioning for participants, though the Chorus will be capped at 50 singers. When MOT productions require a children's choir in the future, singers will be chosen solely from this group. "It is no longer open to anyone," said Acton.

The group's mission, she said, is to "provide exceptional choral music training in a professional environment." She said

members of the Children's Chorus will be exposed to all the activities at the Detroit Opera House. They meet performers and conductors and learn about the entire process of putting a production together. In addition to performing in concerts, the group plans to stage its first "opera just for children" this spring, Acton said. The production will be The Maker of Illusions by Seymour Barab, whom Acton called the 'dean" of children's operas.

"It's been a whirlwind," she said.

scasola@hometownlife.com | (248) 901-2567

Two 'Home For The Holidays' shows: one classical, the other rocks

BY LANA MINI STAFF WRITER

If you're a fan of singer-songwriter rock, you may want to head to 313. jac/Jacoby's in Detroit on Friday, Dec. 21 for a concert that benefits local homeless shelters, animals and also

lower income children in the art world. Or, if the symphony

is more your style, the **Plymouth Symphony** Orchestra will perform Christmas carols on Thursday, Dec. 20 for some family sing-along fun.

Both shows are very different, but they have one thing in common: they share the same title: Home for the Holidays.

In Detroit, the 313. Jac event is in its fifth year where local singersongwriters and former Detroit musicians, who are home for the hol-

iday season, perform. You can bring food to benefit homeless animals. Those donations will be distributed to Almost Home (almosthomeanimalrescue.org) and Cinder Fund (cinderfund.org).

And, you can also bring an old musical instrument.

Charity Music, a nonprofit group, will distribute them to kids in need (www.charitymusic.

com). Performing artists at 313.jac are Pat O'Brien, Scott Kinson, J. Graves, Elise McCoy, Armenta Hesselrode and Jeff Cox with Matt Hughes.

313.jac/Jacoby's is upstairs from Jacoby's, located at 624 Brush. Call (313) 962-7067.

The show is 18 and over only and admission is \$5 with a can of pet food or a musical instrument or \$6 at the door.

For details visit www.staticrecords.com. Doors open at 9 p.m.

PLYMOUTH

In the classical world, The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, under award-winning music director and conductor Nan Washburn, hosts its first holiday concert at the Penn Theatre at 7 p.m.

There the Livonia Youth Choir will join the PSO to perform holiday favorites including *White Christmas*, Winter Wonderland, Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas The Christmas Song, and Leroy Anderson's Sleigh Ride. Ending the event is a classic Christmas carol sing-along.

The Penn Theatre is located at 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth (734) 453-0870. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors, and \$10 for children. Call (734) 451-2112, or visit www.plymouthsymphony.org,

MORE MUSIC

AJ's Cafe: Alex Winston, Dec. 28, 240 W. Nine Mile, Ferndale, (248) 399-3946. Detroit Institute of Arts: SSM 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Jan. 4, admission \$8, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit (313) 833-7900.

The Museum of Contemporary Art-Detroit: RRIICCEE, a new musical project with Vincent Gallo and Eric Erlandson, 8 p.m. Dec. 14, 4454 Woodward, Detroit (313) 832-6622. www.mocad.org.

Hill Auditorium: Mos Def and the Mos Def Big Band (hip hop), 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21, 825 N. University Ave., Ann Arbor \$25-\$45, (734) 764-2538, ums.org. Dakland Community College's Performing Arts Program: IIIrd Tyme Out, Jan. 25, Williams and

Clark Expedition, April II; Rhonda Vincent and the Rage, May 2, performances at 7:30 p.m. Student Center Arena, Highland Lakes Campus in Waterford except for Vincent, which will be at the Orchard Ridge campus, \$20; (248) 341-2270

Music Hall Center for Performing Arts: Amel Larrieux and Dwele, Jan. 31, 350 Madison, Detroit, \$35-\$55, Ticketmaster, (313) 887-8500, www.musichall.org. First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak: Caberet with Sunny Wilkinson, Feb. 1; Detroit Dance

Collective, 529 Hendrie Blvd., Royal Oak (248) 541-0108. Trinity House Theatre: Whit Hall and John Latini, Dec. 14, \$15; Jennifer Daniels with Rachele Eve, Dec. 15, \$12; 38840 W. Six Mile Rd., Livonia (734) 464-6302, www.trinitvhouse.org.

Nardin Park Music Series: Brandon and Rich Ridenour, trumpet and piano, 2 p.m. Jan. 27, Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills (248) 476-8860 for information.

MUSEUMS

The Henry Ford: "Best of Friends: Buckminster Fuller and Isamu Noguchi," through Jan. 15, at 20900 Oakwood Blvd., west of the Southfield Freeway and south of Michigan Avenue, Dearborn. Additional charges and varying hours for entry to Greenfield Village, Ford Rouge Factory Tour and IMAX Theatre. Call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.

Plymouth Historical Museum: A Red Ryder Christmas Story, also Santa Claus appears Saturdays through Dec. 22, 1-4 p.m.

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GET OUT

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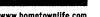


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PURE PICKS DEC. 14-18

Holiday music! The Farmington Hills Youth Choir will give its debut performance, joining with the Farmington Community Chorus at its annual Holiday Concert at Mercy High School Auditorium at 8 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday, Dec. 14 and 15. Located at 29300 W. Eleven Mile Rd., Farmington Hills (248) 476-8026. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

If you're single, why not be more social this season? Social breakfast meeting for singles at 9:30 a.m. at Leon's Family Dining, 30149 Ford Road, Garden City. All divorced, separated and singles are invited to share ideas and meet new people. For details, call (734) 513-9479.

Sing We Now Of Christmas by the Birmingham-First Chamber Choir at 7 p.m., at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Rd., Northville. The show is carols and songs from around the world. The songs will accompanied by harp, oboe, bells, flute and percussion. Admission is free and presented by Many Voices...One Song, a non-profit group committed to sharing music to build community. Call (248) 540-9124.

Northville District Library presents its Foreign Film series, *The Sea Inside*, a Spanish film about



Ozzy Osbourne, the Prince of Darkness.

a ship mechanic who is left quadriplegic after a diving accident, Located at 212 W. Cady, Northville. Tickets are free. Call (248) 349-3020 for reservations.

Ozzy Osbourne and Rob Zombie play the Joe Louis Arena at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$39 - \$90. Call (248) 645-6666 or visit www.ticketmaster.com.

Lana Mini



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Bonham Carter, Timothy Spall and Sacha⁺ Baron Cohen. Directed by Tim Burton.

Christmas Day ALIENS VS. PREDATOR-REQUIEM

In this follow-up to the hit Alien vs. Predator, the iconic monsters wage a brutal battle in an unsuspecting Colorado town. Starring Reiko Aylesworth, Steven Pasquale, John Ortiz, Shareeka Epps, Johnny Lewis and Sam Trammell. Directed by The Brothers Strause. (20th Century Fox) Rated R.

CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR

The true story of how a playboy congressman, a renegade CIA agent and a beautiful Houston socialite joined forces to lead the largest and most successful covert operation in history. Their efforts contributed to the fall of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War, with consequences that reverberate throughout the world today. Tom Hanks, Julia Roberts and Philip Seymour Hoffman team with director Mike Nichols and screenwriter Aaron Sorkin to bring George Crile's best-selling book to the screen. (Universal Pictures)

THE GREAT DEBATERS

Inspired by a true story, the film chronicles the journey of Professor Melvin Tolson, a brilliant but volatile debate team coach who uses the power of words to shape a group of underdog students from a small African American college in the deep south into a historically elite debate team. Directed by Denzel Washington and stars Washington, Forest Whitaker, Jurnee Smollett, Nate Parker, Denzel Whitaker and Kimberly Elise. Written by Robert Eisele and Tom Epperson and produced by Todd Black, Kate Forte, Oprah Winfrey and Joe Roth. (The Weinstein Company) This film is not yet rated.

THE WATERHORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP

The Academy Award-winning producer and special-effects team behind *The Lord of the Rings* join with Revolution Studios, Walden Media (*The Chronicles of Narnia*) and Beacon Pictures. The story begins with an enchanted egg... and what hatches will set in motion an adventure that will take a young boy on the unforgettable journey of a lifetime. (Columbia/ Revolution) Rated PG.

Lana Mini





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