

Happy New Year!

2008

SUNDAY
December 30, 2007

Observer

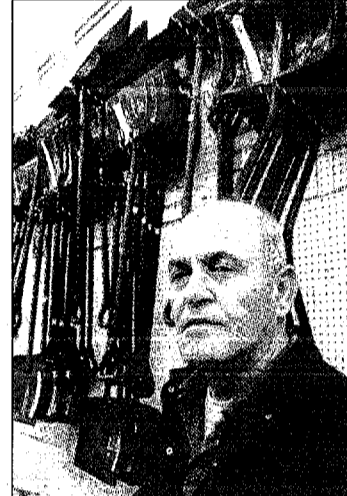
Dear Readers,
We hope you enjoy today's "holiday version" of your Observer. It offers a wider view of the area's news, sports and features. Your hometown Observer returns Sunday, Jan. 6. I welcome your comments. Happy New Year!
Susan M. Rosiek,
executive editor
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Local merchants bank on good holiday season

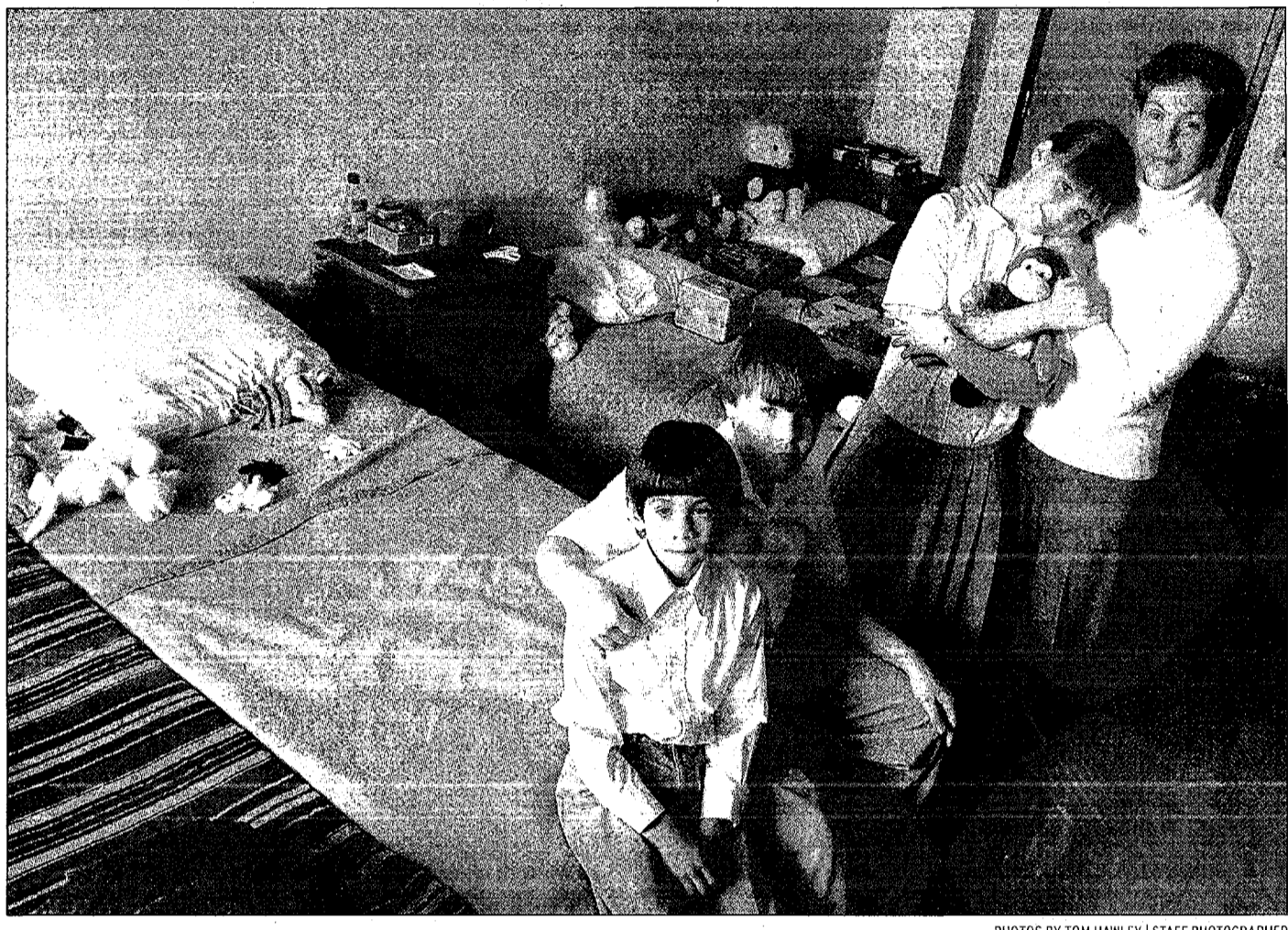
BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

While major retailers nationwide are reporting holiday sales short of expectations, many local merchants used the Christmas season to showcase their unique products, competitive prices and extraordinary customer service to keep up with their big-box counterparts and push their year-end ledgers into the black.
"We did gangbusters in December, up about 8 percent from last year," said Matt Macchiarolo, who along with his wife, Linda, owns Town Peddler Craft & Antique Mall on Plymouth Road in Livonia. "We haven't been part of the bad news."
Town Peddler consists of about 450 vendors who sell their antiques and collectibles under one roof. Macchiarolo said the key was assembling new vendors and products for the Christmas season.
"With new dealers and new products, that translates into new sales," said Macchiarolo, who has owned Town Peddler for 14 years. "People to go Target for hot items. For something they can't find anywhere else, they come to our store."
"Gift cards were really popular this year," he said. "The week before Christmas we broke our



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Jerry Seman of Township Hardware in Redford, says he's "spent an extra day in church on our knees hoping it snows" in hopes of boosting sales.

record in gift card sales."
Larry Bird, owner of Gabriela's on Main Street in downtown Plymouth, said his 8 percent boost in holiday sales over last year was fueled by Webkinz, plush pets that come with a secret code which allow children to care for their virtual pet online.
"Webkinz is what were really driving sales," said Bird of the stuffed animals sold mainly in
Please see **MERCHANTS, A4**



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
After losing her job, homeless mother Deborah Rush is living in the Wayne County Family Center with her three children, Chris, 8, (from left) Sean, 13, and Angela, 10.

'It will always get better'

Homeless find warmth and hope in Wayne Family Center

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Unemployed and living in a Westland homeless shelter, Deborah Rush didn't get what she desperately needed for Christmas — a new job and a place to call home for her three children, Chris, 8, Angela, 10, and Sean, 13.
"I've taught my kids that no matter how bad things are, it will always get better,"

Rush, 44, said, sitting inside the Wayne County Family Center on Michigan Avenue. "I just want our own place with a stable income — the American dream, if there is such a thing anymore."
Nearly two months after moving her children to the shelter run by Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, Rush hasn't given up hope. She is desperately trying to find work
Please see **HOMELESS, A7**



Sean Rush, 13, made this fireplace to brighten up the room of a homeless center where his family lives.

Online shopping ends with arrest

A Westland man was surprised when he received a call from a salesman regarding a 2001 BMW 540i that was being shipped to him from Texas. It turns out someone had stolen his identity to buy the car.
Inkster resident Michael Shelman, who owns Universal Video in Westland, is in jail in lieu of \$100,000 cash bond after being charged with receiving stolen property. A not guilty plea was entered on his behalf.
"It's unknown how he came across the complainant's personal information — he had his driver's license number, Social Security number and a copy of his credit report," said Westland Police Sgt. Thad Nelson. "I interviewed the suspect for two hours. He told me he was having financial problems and needed a car badly."
The BMW was being offered for sale online through eBay, Nelson said, but the would-be buyer kept coming up with excuses for not being able to complete the pur-

chase online.
The credit application for the car, about \$20,000 with the shipping costs added, received a tentative approval, so the car was sent to Michigan, Nelson said. Then the bank apparently detected a problem and rejected the loan.
At that point, Nelson said the salesman tracked down the victim and spoke to him by telephone only to discover his identity had been stolen. But the suspect, using the victim's identity, already had taken delivery of the car.
"The suspect was talking to the salesman about some paperwork he still needed and asked him to fax it to Kinko's on Plymouth Road (in Livonia)," said Nelson. "I asked the salesman to call Livonia police and they asked Kinko's to call them, if the suspect showed up."
When the suspect showed up to collect his paperwork, police were contacted and a Livonia officer arrested him nearby after a traffic stop. The suspect was driving the BMW when he was arrested.

Family mourns teenager 'with hope'

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
STAFF WRITER

As he stood beside the casket of his second-born child, David Dougherty wrapped his left arm around his wife and held her as she wiped tears from her eyes.
"She was a rare gem," Dougherty said of his 13-year-old daughter, Clare Mei Dougherty, who died in a skiing accident on Christmas Day at Schuss Mountain, a Shanty Creek Resort near Traverse City. "She had a wonderful life while she was here but all of that pales in comparison to where she is now."
As family and friends filed into the Neely-Turowski Funeral Home in Canton on Friday, they were greeted by a memorial in the foyer that featured Clare's Pioneer Middle School sweat shirt, one of her paintings, her recorder and her green messenger bag that read "Work for the people" in red Chinese letters.
"I think I need you more than you need me," a family friend sobbed while holding Clare's mother, Qiliang "Lucy" Dougherty, in a tight embrace.



Clare Dougherty

While David and Qiliang continued to speak with supporters, Clare's sister and brother, Renae, 10 and Miles, 9, sat at the opposite end of the chapel and watched a slide show featuring their big sister. They often giggled throughout the montage as light-hearted images of Clare, shown throughout her whole life, played across the screen.
In addition to Clare, Renae and Miles, the Doughertys have another daughter, Grace, 15. "I've told all of them that it's OK to mourn but that we mourn with hope," David Dougherty said.
Described as a "science girl," Clare was a fun-loving, gentle tomboy who had a passion for God and loved pasta, horseback riding, downloading songs on her iPod and being with her siblings. She had also learned to speak Chinese and French and enjoyed traveling.

The eighth-grader was baptized last April at Chinese Bible Church in Farmington Hills and was a member of the church's youth group. David Dougherty said his family is thankful for the support of their church, as well as the community.
"Our faith has very much sustained us and our church has been phenomenal," he said.
On Christmas Day, shortly before the Doughertys planned to wrap up their vacation at the ski resort, Clare decided to get in a few more runs with her brother. She was killed when she went off a slope and struck a retaining wall.
If anything good can come out of this "unfortunate accident," Antrim County Sheriff Terry Johnson said he would like it to be that more skiers wear helmets. Clare was not wearing one at the time of the accident.
"Clare's faith was central to her life and we understand that our lives here are temporary," David Dougherty said. "Clare was looking forward to eternity and we are, too."
tlparks@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700



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INSIDE:

Automotive	C9	Hometownlife	C1	Opinion	A11
Crossword Puzzle	D4	Jobs	C10	Real Estate	D2
Health	B5	Obituaries	C4	Sports	B1

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PLYMOUTH CANTON NORTHVILLE NOVI

Court delays hearing on gas station murder charges

Plymouth - The 35th District Court preliminary exam for an employee of the Scott Correctional Center accused of gunning down his supervisor at a gas station across from the state prison at Five Mile and Beck roads in Plymouth Township has been postponed until Feb. 8.

The hearing was delayed because Darren Johnson, 44, of Redford Township remains hospitalized from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the chest, which he suffered hours after allegedly fatally shooting Joseph Candie, 39, of Detroit several times during an argument at the gas station Dec. 19.

Thief caught 2nd time around

A Plymouth woman is expected to be charged for stealing nearly \$400 in items from the Home Sweet Home antiques and fine furnishings store on Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth.

Owner Carol Uber said surveillance tapes caught the woman stealing some of the items on Dec. 17.

"Three days later we recognized her because of the video, wearing the exact same outfit," Uber said. "We called the police, who came in minutes."

Among the items reportedly stolen were several small clocks,

iron hangars, a picture frame and rhinestone bracelet.

"She was released pending further investigation," said Det. Lt. Al Cox.

Charity money stolen

Plymouth police are investigating the theft of at least two money canisters from McDonald's on Ann Arbor Road on Christmas morning.

"Someone smashed the drive-thru window, climbed through and stole the money being collected for the Ronald McDonald House," said Cox. "The company said they usually collect \$100-\$200 a month, though it could have been more because of holiday giving."

Purse snatching

Westland - A Detroit man has been charged with robbery after snatching an elderly woman's purse Dec. 22. The victim, an 85-year-old Livonia resident, was walking through the parking lot at CVS Pharmacy on Joy at Merriman, when a man driving by reached out of the vehicle window to grab her purse.

"She was holding on to the purse. She was being dragged and had to let it go. She was dragged five or six feet, then fell to the ground," said Westland Police Sgt. Thad Nelson.

"She received minor injuries - cuts and abrasions."

The suspect drove away heading east on Joy. After a bulletin, including the description of the vehicle, was issued, Redford Township Police spotted the suspect's car and arrested the man at

Joy and Telegraph.

On parole since 2006 for a previous charges, including unarmed robbery, Grady Elerson, 44, was arraigned on a charge of strong arm robbery and is being held in lieu of a \$200,000 cash bond. A not guilty plea was entered for him.

Sex offender arrested

Canton - A Canton police officer arrested a 49-year-old man Monday after learning that he had failed to update his address as a registered sex offender since Oct. 2006.

When questioned, the man told the officer that he was confident he had updated his status a couple months back but couldn't give an exact date or say whether he'd been given written verification.

The officer told the man he had failed to register in January, April, July and October.

The man said he had moved into a motel room on the 39000 block of Michigan Avenue last week because he had lost his home. His previous registered address was in Detroit.

After his arrest, the man was scheduled to report to 35th District Court on Jan. 22.

Selling to minors

Canton - The Canton Police Department's Special Enforcement Unit conducted alcohol and tobacco sales checks and ticketed a number of businesses during the month of December.

Decoy minors attempted to purchase either alcohol or tobacco at 18 businesses in Canton - staff at 11 sold to the minor decoy, while seven refused the sale.

Ticketed for selling alcohol to a minor include Mexican Fiesta, 44401 Ford, Pinetree Market, 42444 Ford, Don Pablos, 39895 Ford, Texas Coral, 43750 Ford, 7-Eleven, 7171 N. Canton Center, Four Friends, 44282 Warren, Tryst Nightclub, 8663 N. Lilley and Crow's Nest, 6166 N. Canton Center. Ticketed for selling tobacco to a minor were the Speedway Gas, 5596 N. Lilley, and Valero Gas, 41350 Ford.

Break-ins

Garden City - On Dec. 21, a resident in the 30000 block of Dawson told police she returned home to find someone had climbed through the kitchen window and ransacked the house. While gifts placed around the Christmas tree had been unwrapped, she said none were missing.

Items reported stolen from the house included \$100 in \$20 bills, six rolls of quarters, \$50 in assorted coins mainly half dollars, a PlayStation II, a DVD player, diamond earrings valued at \$2,000, two loose one-carat diamonds and three loose Topaz stones.

The owner also told police the television had been turned on. That fact, plus the amount of searching indicated the suspect had been in the house for some time, police indicated.

Police dog Deuce followed a track from the house to Dillon Street where the police said it was likely the suspect got into a vehicle.

Also on Dec. 21, a resident in the 30000 block of John Hawk told police he returned from work to find a door standing open and a window smashed. There had been what was described as "severe ransacking" of the entire home, including the attic.

Among the items reported stolen were a plasma screen television, a computer, a laptop computer, 10 watches, three jars of loose coins, a bag of old coins, an heirloom gold watch, two digital cameras and a printer. The loss was estimated at more than \$12,370.

Larceny from a vehicle

Garden City - A Livonia man told police that he and his wife were at the Golden Feather, 29633 Ford, on Dec. 23 when a window on his vehicle was smashed and items taken from inside.

Missing from under the vehicle seat were a digital camera, valued at \$500, along with a \$150 GPS system and some unspecified other gifts.

Bar break-in

Redford Township - Nothing was reported stolen in an apparent break-in at the Bullfrog Bar, on Telegraph north of Five Mile, early Wednesday.

Officers responding to an alarm at the bar shortly before 1 a.m. discovered a door ajar and a window on the door broken, a Redford Police Department report said.

Police checked the building with a tracking dog and found no one inside, and the owner reported nothing stolen.

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Man shot during family disturbance

BY LEANNE ROGERS STAFF WRITER

A family dispute over sexual molestation allegations resulted in one man being shot and a second man being assaulted at a home in Westland on Dec. 23.

The incident began just after 1:30 a.m. when a masked man was reported to have forced his way into a home on Alberta at Palmer, west of Venoy.

"A male forced his way inside and began beating one of the

occupants with a blunt object," said Sgt. Ed Price. "Other occupants of the home came to his assistance."

One of the other occupants fired a handgun at the intruder, shooting him in the lower arm.

"He was hit below the elbow and an artery was severed," said Price.

"The suspect fled to his vehicle and was driven to Oakwood Annapolis Hospital by a second person."

The intruder, identified

as a 39-year-old Dearborn Heights resident, was airlifted to the University of Michigan Hospital for treatment. He was subsequently released.

The beating victim, 55, was treated at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital and released. The Dearborn Heights man is the nephew of the 55-year-old man. Also in the home were the 55-year-old's sister, her husband and their son.

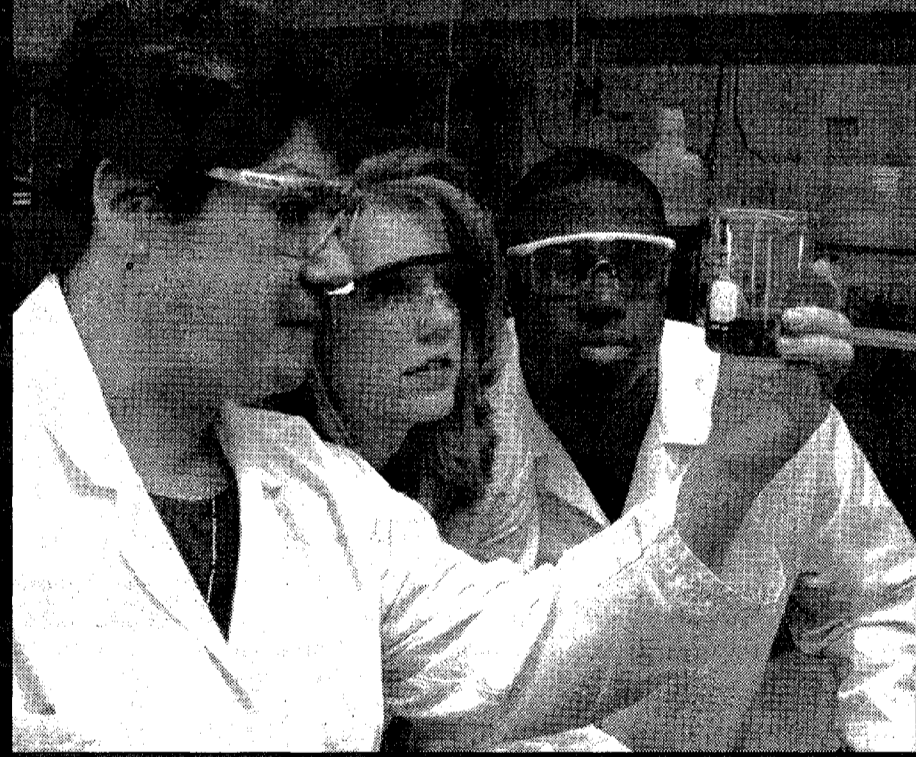
"He (the Dearborn Heights man) said that he had been

molested by his uncle years ago and had learned of other molestations of family members," said Price, which the suspect cited as spurring the attack.

A warrant request has been submitted to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office. The Dearborn Heights man isn't in custody, and Price said he doesn't expect a decision on charges for a couple of weeks.

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ALIEN VS. PREDATOR: REQUIEM (R)
11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50
FRISAT LS 12:00

NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG)
11:00, 12:30, 2:00, 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, 8:00, 9:30
FRISAT LS 11:45

CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R)
12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:25, 9:40
FRISAT LS 11:55

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG)
11:10, 1:20, 3:25, 5:35, 7:45, 9:55
FRISAT LS 12:00

I AM LEGEND (PG-13)
11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
FRISAT LS 12:00

THE GOLDEN COMPASS (PG-13)
4:00, 9:10
FRISAT LS 11:40

ENCHANTED (PG)
11:15, 1:40, 6:45

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Hannah Montana ticket package raffle to help Salvation Army

The Salvation Army's effort to help the needy, including those in Livonia, Redford and Garden City, should get a boost, courtesy of the Hannah Montana frenzy.

That's the hope of Patrick Mifsud, owner of Entertainment Express limousine on Telegraph near Warren.

He's donating four tickets to the pop star's Jan. 11 show and a free limousine ride for a raffle, with all the proceeds going to the Dearborn Heights Citadel of the Salvation Army.

Tickets for a chance to win are \$10 and will be sold until the raffle is held at 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10.

With reports that kettle donations to the Salvation Army down this year, Mifsud hopes young fans might also consider the charitable aspects of giving back.

"It's good to get the kids involved, especially at an early age," Mifsud said.

Tickets can be purchased



The winner of the ticket raffle will get to the Hannah Montana concert in this specially decorated limousine.

at Entertainment Express, 6986 Telegraph, near Warren, in Dearborn Heights. They can also be purchased via mail — send checks made out to the Salvation Army to Entertainment Express, along with a self-addressed stamped envelope. For more details, visit the Entertainment Express Web site at www.ee-mi.com or call (313) 534-0684.

A second prize offers four floor seats to a Detroit Pistons game with a limo ride to and from the game. The third prize is four tickets to a Pistons game.

Money raised will help Salvation Army, which provides a food pantry, emergency assistance (such as utility bills) and sports and character-building camps and programs.

New Year's Eve reservations filling fast

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

There's still time to plan a first date for 2008.

Thousands of people will toast the new year at ball rooms and restaurants. Some tickets for inclusive dinner parties are still available. Most require reservations that can be made through Monday afternoon.

■ Laurel Manor in Livonia celebrates its 20th anniversary with an elegant sit-down dinner, a band that never likes to see the dance floor empty and a partnership with the Marriott Courtyard to chauffeur guests safely away after the ball drops.

"We opened Laurel Manor with New Year's Eve 20 years ago," said Deirdre Stemmelen, general manager in charge of sales. Tickets, at \$80 each, can be purchased over the phone by calling (734) 462-0770. More than 400 have been sold. The band is Ultra Violet.

■ 1 Under Bar & Grill on Five Mile in Livonia will be ringing in its first new year. The party

includes a buffet dinner, DJ, two drink tickets and balloon drop at midnight. Tickets are \$34.95 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Reservations are required. Call (734) 464-5555 by 2 p.m. Monday.

■ Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland brings in the band Rare Earth. Dinner includes prime rib and a premium bar; pizza follows the midnight champagne toast. Tickets are \$65 each. Call (734) 525-3550.

■ Hawthorne Valley Country Club, also in Westland, offers a full dinner menu until 10 p.m. or an all-inclusive party that lasts until 2 a.m. For reservations, call (734) 422-3440.

■ Roma Banquets in Garden City hosts a party from 7:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. with buffet dinner and the band Channel 6. Tickets, \$95 per couple, are available until 4 p.m. New Year's Eve. Call (734) 422-4550.

■ The Livonia Italian American Club will say goodbye to 2007 with a "Shaken, not Stirred" 007 theme party with more than 400 guests. The band, Gino's Market, will

play Italian American music. Tickets are \$80 for members, \$90 for nonmembers. Call (734) 953-1137 by Sunday; tickets are going fast, said general manager Linda Stoyanovich.

■ Albert's on the Alley in Garden City will celebrate the New Year by staying open until 4 a.m. The regular dinner and drink menu is available and prizes will be included in the balloon drop at midnight. Reservations not required.

■ Four Friends in Canton has a party with the band Freelance and no cover charge. For information, call (734) 416-0880.

Other places taking New Year's Eve reservations include:

- Farwell & Friends in Westland - call (734) 421-6990.
- Andiamo Livonia, call (734) 953-3200.
- Timber Wolf Tavern in Redford is open for dinner. Call (313) 937-1218
- G. Subu Leather Bottle in Livonia will have live music and stay open for dinner until 10 p.m. Call (248) 474-2420.

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Warming center opens doors

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

A local warming center is ready to open its doors so homeless people can escape the chill of a cold winter's night.

Lighthouse Home Missions will operate its warming center 7 p.m. to 8 a.m. seven days a week, beginning Tuesday, at the Full Gospel Temple, 34033 Palmer, east of Wayne Road, in Westland.

"We don't know what to expect when we open the warming center this year," said outreach coordinator Thelma Ivey. "We expect there will be more families coming in."

Lighthouse Home Mission relies on the support of five churches and volunteers to operate the warming center which can sleep up to 50 homeless individuals.

Ivey has put out a call for volunteers to work at the center, especially late at night. Two shifts are available. The 6-11 p.m. shift gets the center ready for the people who come there to get out of the cold. The 11 p.m. to 8 a.m.

shift serve as watchmen while they sleep.

"We're looking for churches or individuals to oversee a night or so at the center," the Garden City resident said. "Whatever night they're available, I'll take them. I'm in desperate need of volunteers for the late shift."

The need doesn't end there. The center is in need of pillows with plastic, or sanitary covers, blankets, white tube socks and warm clothing for men, women and children.

"And men's blue jeans ... we can't keep them on hand," said Ivey.

In addition to the warming center, Lighthouse Home Missions also operates a soup kitchen 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. It serves donated food, including soup from Leon's Restaurant in Garden City. According to Ivey, demand is up at the soup kitchen.

"We're seeing more families with children coming in," she said.

Soup that is left from lunch is served as an evening meal in the warming center, but more is needed. The center doesn't have the facilities to

prepare food, so it relies on donations of prepared food or leftovers from restaurants or church groups.

Clothing and food pantries open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays by appointment and referrals for assistance are handled 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Pull Gospel Temple and Lighthouse Home Missions also have formed Churches United Against Hunger in an effort to get more help for the needy. So far, 16 churches have signed on.

"The idea is that if you're needy, you can go to a church and seek the help you need," Ivey said. "We've targeted every church to reach out and help those in need."

People interested in volunteering at the warming center can fax their information to Ivey at (734) 721-2423. Churches interested in becoming a member of Churches United Against Hunger should contact Lighthouse Home Missions Pastor Ruby Beneteau at (734) 326-3333.

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

WAYNE NEWS BRIEFS

Office closings

City and township offices and courtrooms around Wayne County will be closed Monday and Tuesday for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

There will be no curbside trash and recyclables collection on Tuesday. Pickups, delayed by one day for the rest of the week, will resume on Wednesday.

There is one exception. Plymouth Township Treasurer's Office will be open Dec. 31.

King breakfast

St. Valentine Catholic Church will host a prayer breakfast on Monday, Jan. 21, in honor of Martin Luther King Jr., the civil rights pioneer who was assassinated in 1968. The events starts at 7 a.m. at the St. Valentine gymnasium. It is sponsored by Supervisor R. Miles Handy II and the Redford Ministerial Alliance.

New life for 'peanuts'

A Livonia store hopes people are interested in recycling those packaging "peanuts" used to soften the blow in shipping holiday packages. "Rather than filling the trash can and creating more landfill, why not recycle them?" said David Holt, owner of PostalAnnex+ of Livonia.

Holt invites folks to bring in whatever peanuts they've got and the PostalAnnex+ store, at 33523 Eight Mile Road, will issue a \$2 voucher good toward the customer's next UPS or FedEx shipment. PostalAnnex+ is a one-stop business service center, offering UPS, FedEx and USPS shipping. Contact the store at (248) 471-4144.

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Membership Open to all who live, work or worship in Westland, Detroit, Southfield and Lathrup Village.

MERCHANTS

FROM PAGE A1

specialty shops. "Every day we sold from 100-400 of them. When the moms were in buying Webkinz, they would walk around the store and buy other things."

Bird said the success of his store depends on continuously changing merchandise.

"Our inventory mix has changed, we don't see people spending money like they once had," said Bird. "Because we are a specialty retailer, we can raise our customer service up a couple of notches. The big guys (retailers) can't do that."

TRAFFIC GOOD

Retail success during the holidays can be measured in many ways, and not always at the cash register: Orin Mazzoni Jr., owner of Orin Jewelers in Garden City, said while traffic was "very, very good," his store will most likely finish the busiest shopping period of the year down a bit from last year.

"I would have to say it was successful from the standpoint people were out buying, but the price points were a bit lower this year because people weren't spending as much as they have in the past," Mazzoni said. "As far as being successful dollar-wise, we weren't as

successful as we wanted to be."

Unlike many other goods, luxury items aren't as conducive to sales during a slow economy.

"Whenever the economy gets more difficult, the first thing people will do is cut luxury goods," Mazzoni said. "We just have to work harder to make sure people are happy with their purchases and feel they are getting good value. We tried hard to find items in lower price points that were still high quality."

To help bring in sales, Orin Jewelers sent out \$50 gift cards to loyal customers, with no requirement to spend more.

"Sometimes when things are more difficult, like the economy is right now, you need to do something for the people who helped us get to where we are today," Mazzoni said. "Maybe we make a little less, but overall everybody is happy."

WEATHER FACTOR

Not only did the economy hurt sales in December at Redford Township Hardware, owner Jerry Seman said the fairly mild weather has cut into any chance of selling snow shovels and driveway salt.

"We had two good days, the day it snowed and the day after," said Seman of the snowstorm that dumped 8-10 inches of snow on Dec. 16. "We spent an extra day

in church on our knees hoping it snows."

In fact, the poor Michigan economy and lack of snow dropped sales by double-digits this holiday season at the Tru Value store.

"We probably did about 15-20 percent less (in December)," Seman said. "We were hoping to do 10 percent better than last year. "It's no secret people are being laid off, they have no money and gas prices keep going up. People have to cut."

Seman said in a down economic year, the family-owned business does have one advantage.

"It's a family operation, so we make things work any way we can," said Seman.

"If we have to work 24 hours a day, that's what we have to do so it's not as costly to operate. We'll just hope for a better spring with gardening, which is good business for us. We'll survive until better days come."

All retailers have one thing in common, sales in November and December are key to operating in the black for the entire year.

"Those two months we make about 40 percent of our entire year in sales," said Steve Marulis, owner of Michigan Made in Plymouth. "If we had a bust in November and December, we literally wouldn't be able to pay the bills."

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Take cash deal over promissory note

Q: Dear Rick: I have a small business that I am selling. I've been offered two deals. The first is an all cash deal, the second is for about 10 percent more and requires me to take a promissory note for five years. The interest on the note is 8 percent. My wife wants me to take the cash. I like the idea of taking the extra 10 percent and getting 8 percent of my money. What do you think?

A: Take the cash. The 10 percent premium does not seem enough to offset the additional risk you assume by taking paper.

One issue to consider is whether you will be repaid. Who is issuing the note? What is his or her financial stability? What is her or her ability to repay?

Another issue is security. Are you receiving a lien on equipment or a building? Or, is the only security that you receive the business back, if the debt is not paid? That is not much security because if you end up taking the business back, how much would the business be worth and what damage could have been done?

One last note. Many people say by taking paper you can



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

delay the tax consequences. To me, this argument makes no sense.

Whenever you let the tax tail wag the dog, bad things happen. After all, it's not like you will avoid the tax, you

would only delay it and in the long run that is not worth much.

Q: Dear Rick: I am 25 years old and my parents showed me your column about using a Roth 401(k) versus a traditional 401(k). I did a calculation myself and it appears if I use a traditional 401(k) it will save me about \$500 in taxes. Don't you think \$500 in taxes is enough to consider using a traditional IRA versus a Roth IRA?

A: As I always say, money looks better in your pocket than it does anywhere else. I am not cavalier with the \$500 number because you are not saving \$500 in taxes but rather, you are deferring the payment.

When you make a contribution to a traditional 401(k) you invest pre-tax money. When you invest in a Roth 401(k) you deposit post-tax money. That is where the \$500 difference comes in because you will pay income taxes on the money invested in the Roth 401(k).

The real advantage comes down the road. When you withdraw money from your traditional 401(k) plan, all the money withdrawn is subject to tax at your ordinary income bracket. When you withdraw money from a Roth 401(k) all the distributions are tax free.

Taking a short-term hit today, which in your situation is \$500, you're getting a tremendous advantage. The longer someone leaves money in the 401(k) plan the more advantageous using a Roth option becomes.

If you meet the income requirements, which most people do, in addition to your 401(k) contribution you can contribute to a Roth. You have until April 15, 2008, to make a 2007 Roth IRA contribution.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Submit questions at money@hometownlife.com.

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Baby Talk - Part I

So you just found out you're pregnant. Congratulations! That is wonderful! What is even more amazing is that your baby already has a spine, most of the body organs, arms and legs beginning to form, and its own nervous

system. And it's only 5 weeks old! Miraculous! In order for your baby to develop normally, it has two basic needs: One is proper nutrition and the other is a normally operating nervous system.

Let's cover nutrition first.

At the risk of insulting my readers, some people operate under the impression that as long as they are not hungry, they eat well. Not true! As a mom, you must be aware of the fact that **everything** you eat and drink affects your baby. Everything! Generally the baby will take from the mother whatever it needs in terms of nutrition and I have met many mothers in my practice who are literally undernourished as a result. As a mom, you must remember that you are *eating*

for two. Simply "filling up" is not the answer. Your baby has very specific needs as it is growing and developing. Its rate of growth is seven times faster than its three-year-old brother. Much like feeding a baby elephant some may say!

The baby will take as much as it can from mom so it is important that mother provides proper fuel for all that rapid growth. So the following are essential for normal development of your baby:

1. **Iron.** Mom requires at least 800 mg daily. This is crucial for the development of red blood cells in your baby and is contained in most dark leafy veggies. If you must, you can obtain a liquid iron supplement from a health food store. The nicest way of getting iron is from a tablespoon of dark molasses in a glass of milk three times a day. What a way to treat your baby! Taking Vitamin C will help in the absorption of Iron from your digestive tract.

2. **Folic Acid.** This is very important in the normal development of the nervous system and cannot be omitted. You are lucky though, Folic Acid is contained in most foods which contain iron so it's a

cinch to get. If you really want to get fancy, Oysters are loaded with Folic Acid. They are also a known aphrodisiac and that may be why you are reading this, but that is another topic!

3. **Calcium.** Our friend! Mom and baby need at least 1200 mg daily. The molasses treat is a good way, or you may try raw almonds if you are not into dairy. Vitamin D helps in the absorption of Calcium from the digestive tract. This can be tricky because Vitamin D can also cause nausea and "morning sickness" @. I found that the easiest way of getting Vitamin D is from a careful suntan.

I want to wish everybody a healthy and happy New Year. A special thanks goes out to all of my patients and staff for their charitable donations to the "adopt a family" program run by Sister Marie and St. Luke church.

For more information please feel very welcome to call me personally at 248-615-1533 or www.ASFwellness.com

- Dr. Gregory Kramer

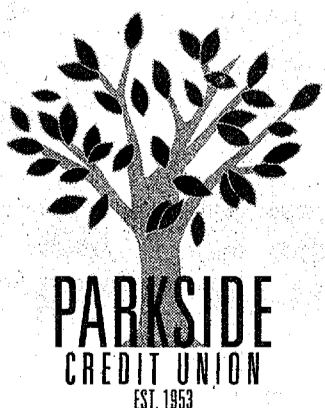
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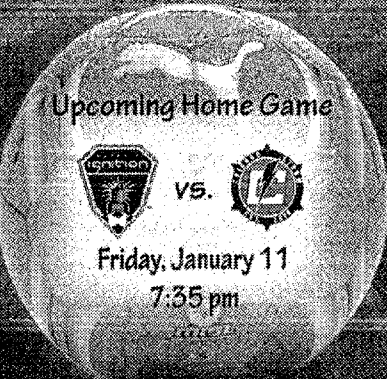


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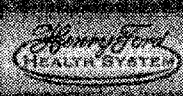



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Greek Salad - Made with lettuce, tomato, beets, olives, pepperoncini and Feta cheese..... \$6.49

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Antipasto Salad - Made with lettuce, tomato, Salami, shredded cheddar cheese and shredded Mozzarella cheese..... \$6.49

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Beef Brisket.....	\$6.99
Breaded Chicken.....	\$5.99
Hot Dog.....	\$1.50
Red Hot Hot Dog.....	\$2.79

SANDWICH COMBOS

Burger, side, pop.....	\$6.49
Chicken Sandwich, side, pop.....	\$7.49
Sandwich, side, pop.....	\$8.49

DESSERTS

Cheesecake.....	\$3.99
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Family dinner combos include choice of 4 side dishes and 1 dinner salad.

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Whole Slab.....	\$16.99
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Carolina Pulled Pork.....	\$8.99 lb.
Texas Beef Brisket.....	\$12.99 lb.
Turkey Breast.....	\$9.99 lb.
Whole Smoked Turkey.....	Call Ahead

SIDES

Sides (1/2 pan for 15-20 people).....	\$19.99 ea.
Sides (full pan for 40-50 people).....	\$38.99 ea.
Muffins.....	6 for \$2.99...12 for \$5.49

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HOMELESS
FROM PAGE A1

after losing her job as a retail assistant manager, a position that paid \$10 an hour plus commission. "I'm setting up interviews left and right," she said quietly, "but it's tough."

Divorced seven years ago and without child support, Rush said her old job had kept her and her children in a two-bedroom apartment in Lincoln Park. Now, the family shares one room with four beds, but they've made the best of their situation.

For Christmas, young Sean drew a large fireplace, cut it out, taped it to the wall and colored in the flames. He decorated it with four paper stockings, including one labeled for Mom. The telltale signs of children could be seen in the room — stuffed animals, dolls, school books, crayons, drawings that decorate the walls.

The Rush family can only watch television during certain times in a room down the hallway. They have to share a bathroom with other residents, and they eat their meals in a community dining room. They have to be in their room by 9 p.m., and they have a door that locks to give them some semblance of having their own place.

For the holidays, they decorated their door with wrapping paper and a large stocking filled with stuffed animals.

They are warm. They have shelter from the Michigan winter.

BETTER THAN STREETS

Carol Eddy, the family center's administrator, knows how important that is.

"It's not like a hotel here, but it definitely beats being on the street or living out of a car," she said.

Wayne County opened the shelter in 1991 in a building on the old Eloise property, once a sprawling hospital complex. The 22-employee center can house up to 113 homeless people in 24 families. Residents must have a minor child to live there, but a pregnant woman qualifies, too.

In 2006, the center helped 573 people in 150 families, including 195 adults and 378 children. At any given time, two-thirds of the residents are children. The shelter serves 93,000 to 98,000 meals a year.

Eddy, a Redford resident, has noticed a change in the faces of the homeless. Some are two-parent families who don't make enough money at minimum-wage jobs to keep a home. Occasionally, a grandparent needs a place to stay with grandchildren. Eddy cited many reasons why families end up in the center — evictions, domestic violence, job losses, foreclosures, a move here from another state, illnesses that leave people broke.

Rush and other residents receive help from case managers as they try to regain their independence. They get help finding housing assistance, and they have an employment coordinator who helps them with job resumés and interview skills.

The center's residents have a laundry room, and they have licensed day care so they can look for jobs. The shelter has two 15-passenger vans used for doctor's appointments, job interviews and the ultimate goal of finding housing. Children can receive after-school tutoring on site. They also have a library, and they participate in activities like movie nights and arts and crafts classes.

Doctors and interns from the University of Michigan and Wayne State University volunteer their time to visit the family center's on-site medical clinic to provide routine health care. The center works with school districts to get children to and from school.

Two of Rush's children, third-grader Chris and fifth-grader Angela, attend Baylor-Woodson Elementary in Inkster Public Schools. Eighth-grader Sean goes to Blanchette Middle School in the same district. All of the children wear school uniforms.

Rush has an older son who is on his own. She also has parents, but she didn't feel they had the home space to accommodate her family, much less provide the basic services they need.

"I couldn't do that to them," she said.

Aside from their academic studies, Angela studies ballet, Chris takes tap-dancing and Sean works on the school newspaper. Angela said the shelter can get boring, but she and Sean said they're glad for activities like movies and arts and crafts projects. Chris, the youngest, is mostly quiet.

"He's my little mouse," Rush said, rubbing her son's head. "He doesn't say much."

FUNDING CHALLENGES

The center has 5,300 square feet of space on one floor, and it



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Carol Eddy, administrator of the Wayne County Family Center, walks past a nature mural that she says is one of her favorite spots in the homeless shelter.

has an annual budget of \$918,000. Eddy writes numerous grant proposals to secure funding, and help also comes from such sources as Wayne County, local communities that earmark Community Development Block Grant dollars, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and area churches.

Agencies like United Way also help, and Eddy said contributions of beds, laundry detergent, baby wipes, washing machines and clothes dryers come from businesses such as North Brothers Ford.

Wayne County provides the building and utilities, and it contracts with Lutheran Social Services of Michigan to run the program.

Some residents use the shelter on an emergency basis for 90 days. Others have to stay longer as they try to find jobs or finish a school program. All residents have to save 85 percent of whatever income they have, even if it's Social Security dollars, as they strive to become independent.

As of late this year, hundreds of people had called the family center who can't yet get in. Many times, Eddy and others are forced to refer people to other shelters. The center gives priority

to residents from cities that help out with block grant dollars — Westland, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Taylor and Lincoln Park. However, the shelter takes in the homeless from across Wayne County. Eddy cited a list of items the center could use — diapers, baby wipes, hygiene supplies, food, monetary donations. To help, call (734) 721-0590.

Residents have to abide by strict rules. They have to be in the center by 8 p.m. unless they're working or attending classes, and they can be kicked out for problems ranging from violence to drugs. Everyone who lives at the shelter also has a chore, whether it be washing dishes, cleaning bathrooms or clearing the dining room.

When families manage to make a new start on their own, they receive six months of follow-up care from the center's case managers. Like any mother who wants a home for her children, Rush is eager for that day.

"They say a lot of people are just one paycheck away from los-

ing their home, but this has been a culture shock," she said. "It's been an experience that we never would have expected to be in. When I leave here, I want to be stable and be able to pay the bills. I don't want to leave too early and have to come back."

Even so, she's grateful for what

the Wayne County Family Center has given her and her children — shelter, beds, food, their one room, hope, and the knowledge that someone cares as she tries to piece together her share of the American dream.

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Parade leaders from left in 1982 are the late Ed McNamara (then mayor of Livonia) with Mike Sullivan and Archdiocese of Detroit Cardinal Edmond Szoka.

Party marks 50 years of St. Patrick parades

Although the holiday is still months away, those who celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Detroit have a lot to celebrate in January.

Organizers say 2008 will mark the 50th year of the St. Patrick's Parade in Detroit.

The United Irish Societies will host a black-tie optional dinner dance to mark that anniversary at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, at the Dearborn Inn. The event takes the parade back to its roots, since the first St. Patrick's Day Parade was in Dearborn.

The event will include plenty of music including Detroit signer Brian Bonner, local harpist Siobhan McKinney, and Andy Cooney and his Irish Band (of New York) playing Irish dance music.

Video and pictorial displays of



Parade watchers pack the street in Detroit for the St. Patrick's Day march in 1961.

the parade's history on the walls. Tickets for the event are \$110 per person can be purchased by contacting Peggy Walsh at (313) 882-8163. Tables of up to 10 can be reserved.

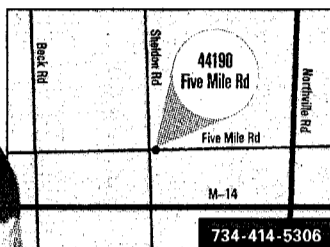
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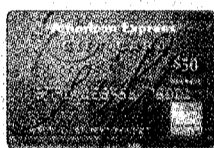
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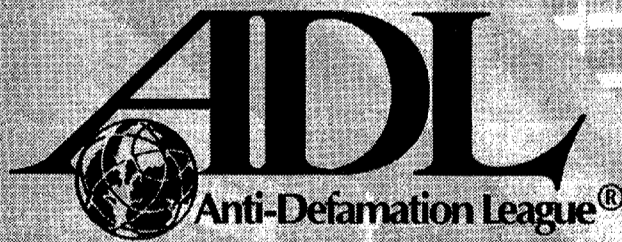
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The cost of the series - \$10.00 per program or \$35.00 for the entire series. To RSVP or for more information please call the ADL at 248-353-7553

First event of the series:

A Community Divided: Segregation in Metropolitan Detroit

Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at 7:00 pm
Lawrence Technological University, Southfield, Michigan

Kurt Metzger:

Demographer and Research Director for United Way of Southeast Michigan.

Thomas Sugrue:

Professor of History and Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania and author of *The Origins of the Urban Crisis: Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit*

Additional series events:

Dispelling Myths and Stereotypes of Muslim and Arab Communities

Tuesday, February 12th, 2008 at 7:00 pm
Lawrence Technological University, Southfield

A Conversation with Abraham H. Foxman: Evolving Trends of Anti-Semitism

Wednesday, March 26th, 2008 at 7:00 pm
Birmingham

Immigration Today:

Balancing Our Security, Humanitarian and Economic Interests
Tuesday, April 29th, 2008, 7:00 pm
Lawrence Technological University, Southfield

Impact of a Community Divided:

Moving Forward
Thursday, May 29th, 2008 at 7:00 pm
Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit

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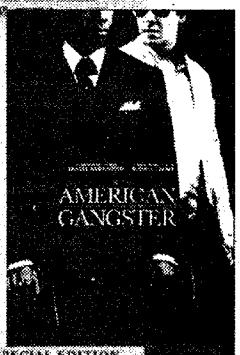
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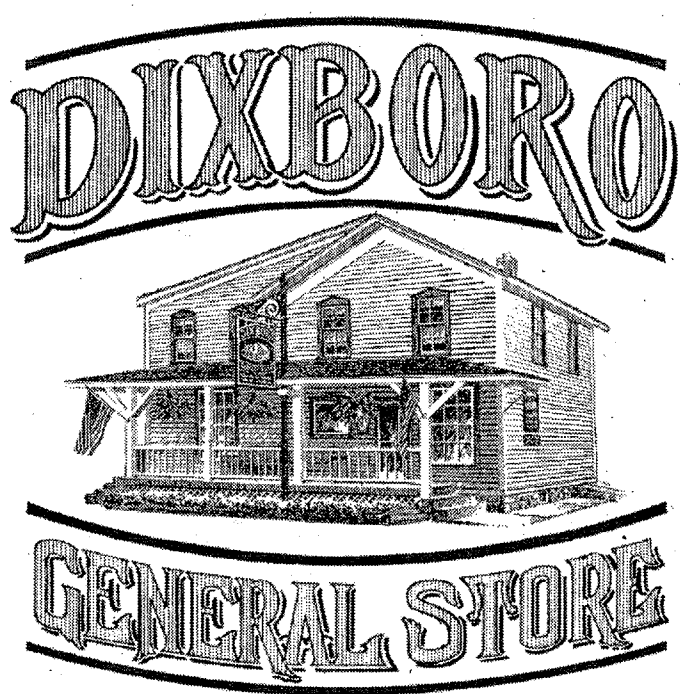
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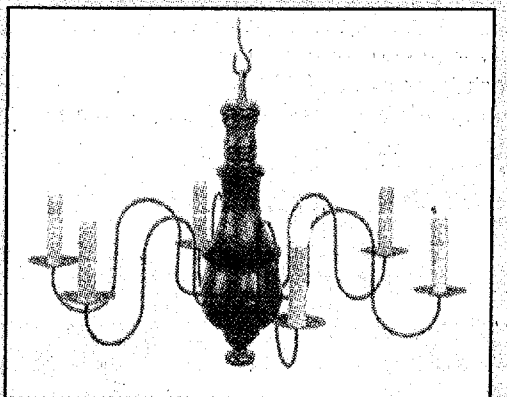
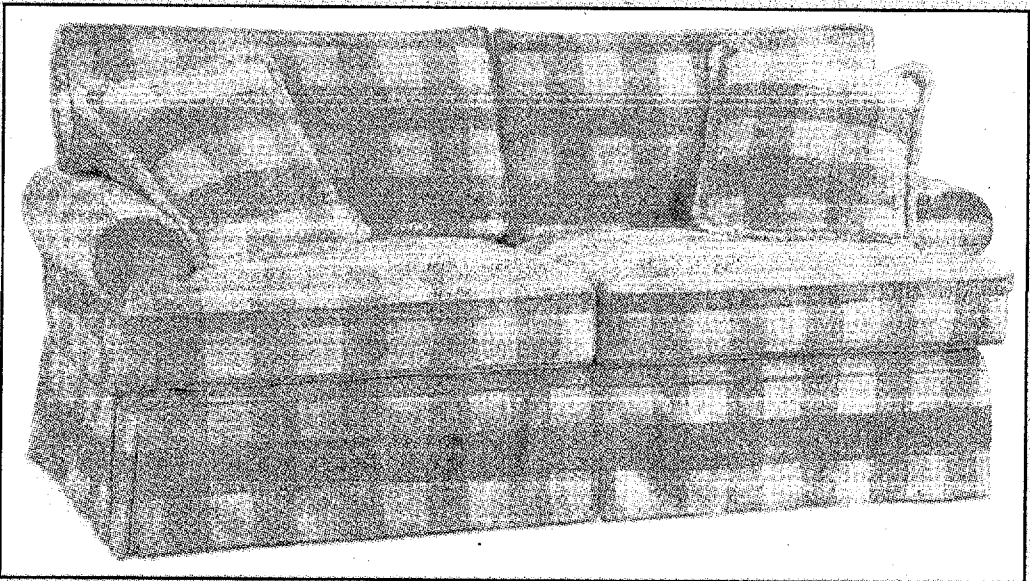
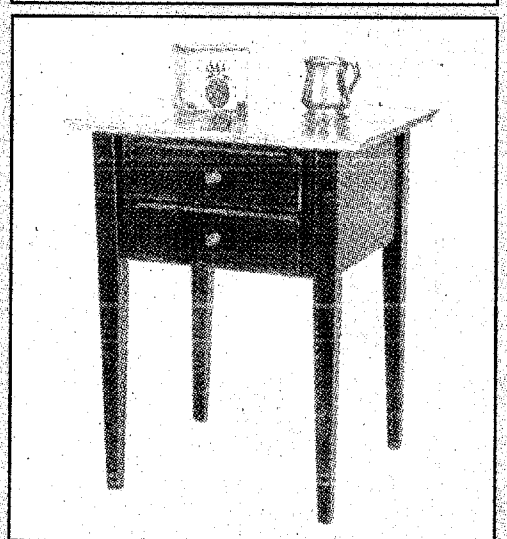
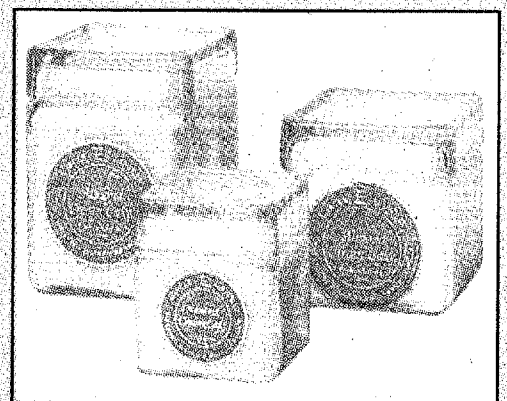
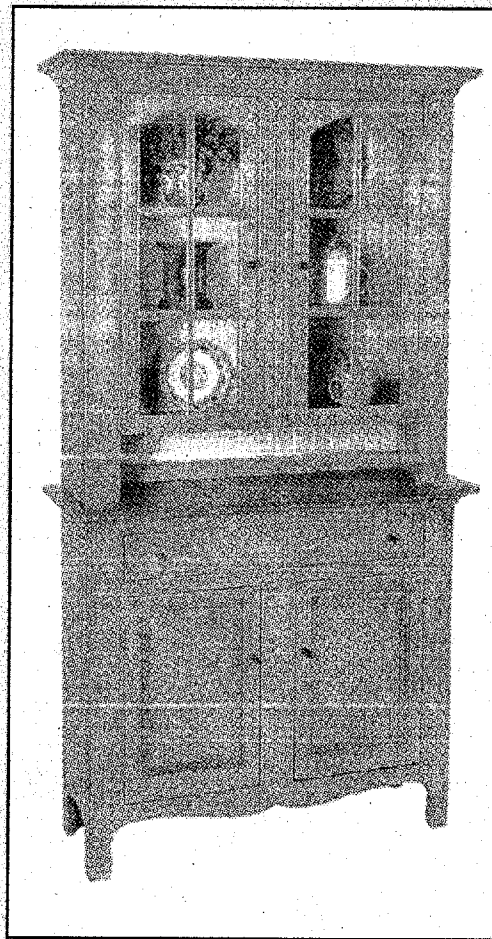
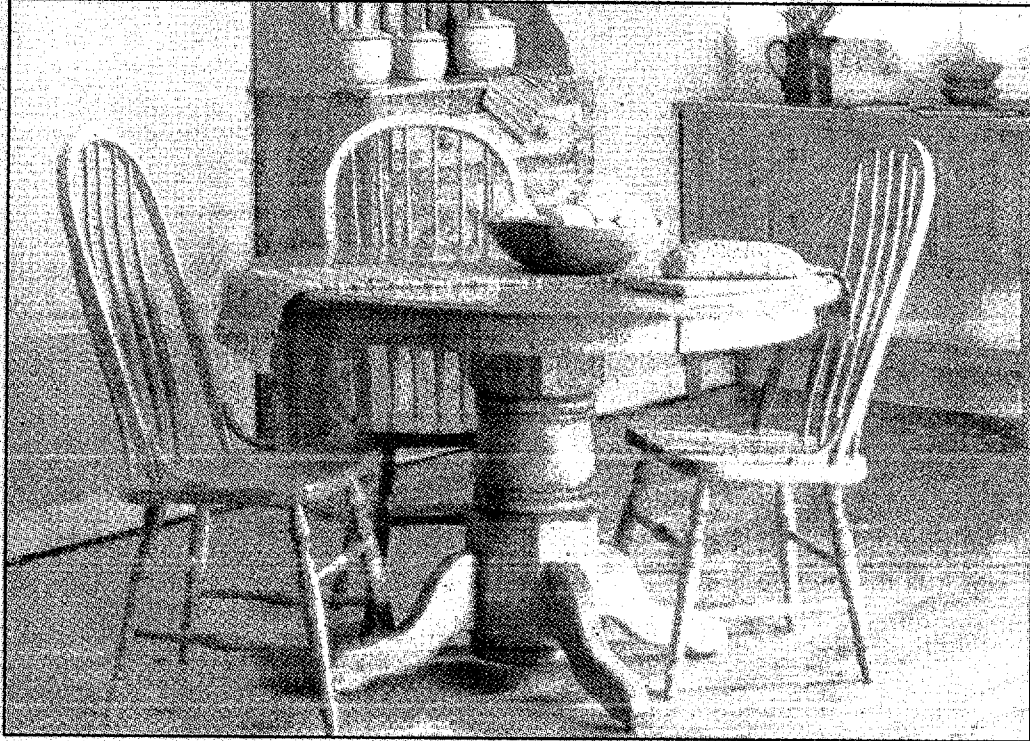
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OUR VIEWS

For auld lang syne, don't drink, drive

This year, we will be especially happy to say goodbye to 2007 and welcome 2008 and a promise of better things to come.

Unfortunately, all too many of us choose to celebrate the New Year with too much alcohol. We may begin with a drink to lighten our hearts or loosen our tongues. We may believe we have everything under control after a couple drinks to make us merry. But soon the mind becomes fuzzy, the motor skills become impaired, the emotions become volatile and some will make the terrible decision to get behind the wheel of an automobile. The alcohol combined with the usually perilous weather conditions of New Year's Eve set the stage for tragedy.

As a newspaper, we are all too familiar with the consequences of that terrible decision. Every year we report on the deadly aftermath of a drunken driver's bad decision. Quite often the dead are innocent people who came in the path of a drunken driver, who would at any other time be considered a solid citizen. One foolish moment often destroys many lives.

The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments offers these, we hope, sobering facts:

- Impaired driving is the most frequently committed violent crime, randomly killing someone in America every 30 minutes.

- Crashes involving drinking tend to be more serious than nondrinking crashes. A fatality in a crash is 11 times more likely when alcohol is involved.

- In Southeast Michigan, alcohol was involved in 31 percent of all traffic deaths in 2006. Alcohol was a factor in 123 deaths and more than 2,800 injuries in 2006 (131 deaths in 2005).

- In Michigan, alcohol was involved in 35 percent of all fatal crashes in 2006. Alcohol-related crashes accounted for 383 deaths.

- In the United States, 17,602 people were killed (or 41 percent of all fatalities) in 2006 in crashes involving alcohol.

Though it's been said many times, many ways, don't drink and drive.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Do you plan to make a New Year's resolution?



"No, because I never would follow it, so there's no sense trying. I have no willpower."

Gina Alexander Redford



"I'm not making one this year. They're usually broken in a week or two, so my resolution is to not make one."

Steve Baker Redford



"Mine's to get a 3.0 grade point average in school this semester."

John Iltis Redford



"Yeah, it's to make some changes in my life."

Karla Cushinberry Detroit

LETTERS

Beware of China's threat

Warning to U.S. citizens: China is stealing your jobs, your health, your independence, even your No. 1 status as a super military power.

Extra low wage scales make China a magnet for elite industrialists who have no conscience or sense of patriotism to the United States or its middle class. China's slipshod manufacturing standards have resulted in historic recalls of toys you buy for your children. Your children, for heaven's sake! What others are there that have not yet been found?

The U.S. owes China almost \$3 trillion in borrowed revenue not to mention the trade deficit the U.S. has with China. U.S. citizens will be paying this for generations not born yet.

U.S. industrialists have sold out the citizens of America for cheap labor. Industrialists have given China secrets of all sorts. Technology was given away for cheap products, labor, and the root of evil, more money for stocks.

Unpatriotic industrialists have no concern for the U.S. citizen or the health of the U.S. itself. They won't do what is right for this country. Their concern is the company's

bottom line and their own out-of-proportion bonuses.

When outsourcing everything to other countries, who will make our war needs when the U.S. becomes weak and cannot produce for itself? Who will make the rifles and the bullets when it has been outsourced?

The U.S. government has knowledge of China's spending on war materials that include ships, missiles, troops and other military needs. Just recently the Chinese refused the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk permission to port where the relatives of sailors were waiting to see their loved ones. Suspicious if you ask me. Then just a few days later, China refused safe harbor to two U.S. military ships during a storm at sea. Again, seems suspicious, don't you think?

China is not a good friend to the U.S. After all the U.S. has done for China in past history, they treat us as an enemy when U.S. politicals and industrialists grovel at China's feet. They call this globalization.

Making the U.S. middle class unable to work at a living growing wage or killing the middle class altogether will also kill the largest consumer market in the world.

Larry G. Blair Westland

Breakup of nation

Recent actions in Congress, when viewed in their totality, indicate a slow, but steady drift of our political system into a state of totalitarian rule. If this drift continues, it will endanger the survival of our democratic system and ultimately the breakup of our nation.

Congress should reverse this suicidal course before the point of no return is reached.

Steven Lukacs Livonia

Response is humbling

Life through e-mail has been a Christmas blessing this year for families who are less fortunate. One e-mail, requesting help for needy families, sent to friends and family of a Westwood Community School District employee, made its way throughout the state in a moment's notice. People shared the e-mail with their friends and family and soon it became an example of the "pay it forward" experience.

Many families in the Thorne Elementary School community had

food and gifts for Christmas that they would not have enjoyed without the thoughtful and generous donations of people from all over the metro Detroit area. A special thanks to the following institutions and businesses along with all of the individual donors who received the e-mail request and responded in kind:

The University of Michigan-Dearborn, University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor, University of Michigan Risk Management Department, members of St. Michael Parish, Sorella's Bakery, Henry Ford Village Retirement Community and Girl Scouts NSU #28.

In addition to the humbling response to a single e-mail, the children of Thorne School will be protected from the winter weather thanks to an abundance of brand new coats donated by the Share A Smile Foundation, supported by Flagstar Bank.

We send a heartwarming thank you to all who embraced an opportunity to help the less fortunate.

Maureen Molloy principal
Jean Schoenberger principal

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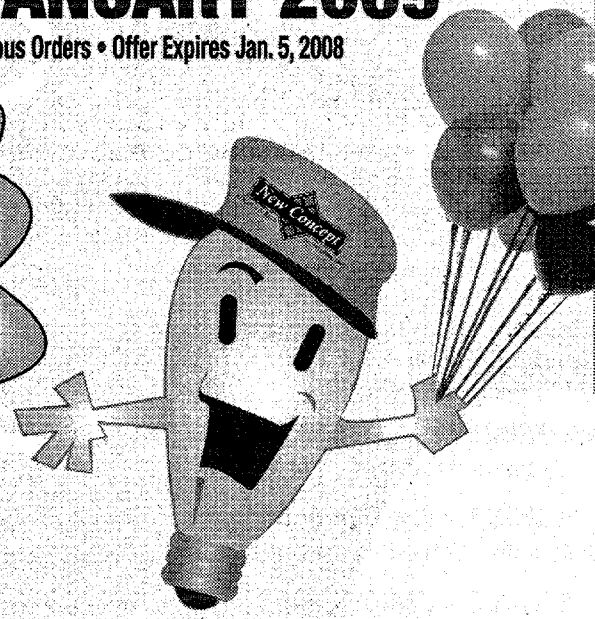
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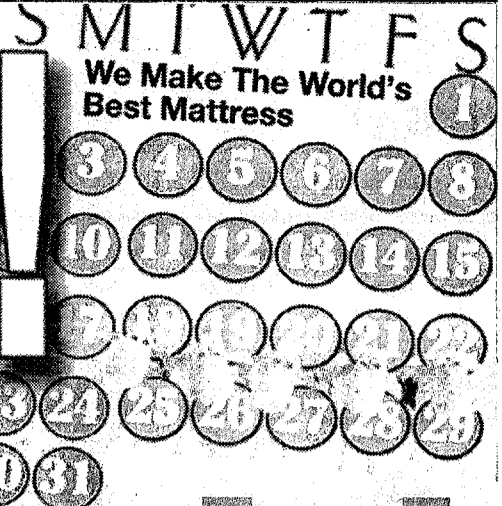
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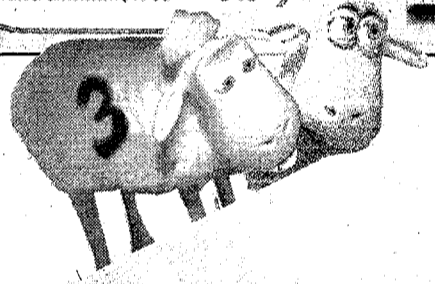
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SPORTS

B

Sunday, December 30, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Brad Emons, editor . (734) 953-2123 . bemons@hometownlife.com

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Beard-led Panthers slow down Titans

PREP HOOPS

Just because Redford Union and Southgate Anderson aren't in the same division any more doesn't make the Panthers' 43-32 victory over the Titans Thursday night any less sweet.

Led by senior point guard Terrell Beard's 14 points, RU posted a satisfying 11-point triumph over Southgate in the opening round of the Grosse Ile Holiday Tournament. The win earned coach Brett Steele's cagers a berth in Friday night's championship contest against the host Red Devils.

"This was a great win for us," said Steele, whose team improved to 3-3. "Last year, Southgate Anderson and us tied for the division championship, but we were moved into different divisions this year. The rivalry is still a good one, though."

Joining Beard in the high-productivity department for the winners were junior center Leonard Wernet-Leff, who netted 10 points and seven rebounds; and Jake Hedner, who tallied seven boards.

Leading the 5-1 Titans was Phil Carr, who twined 11 points.

Redford Covenant 83, Macomb Christian 42: On Thursday in the Immaculate Conception Holiday Tournament, Covenant was led by a trio of players who hit for double figures: Kenny Jones (16), Ben Kill (15) and Lawrence Ridgell, who added 14 points and five rebounds.

Ian Ridgell registered a double-double for the winners with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Macomb was led by Joel Battjes, who recorded 24 points and 11 rebounds.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Chris Terry looks for room to maneuver between Saginaw's Nick Crawford (4), T.J. Brodie (25) and Joe Pleckaitis (15) during Thursday's 4-2 loss to the Spirit. Terry picked up a late-game assist.

SPIRITED SHOWDOWN

Saginaw doubles up Whalers on Kids' Day

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

There was plenty of mascot meeting, hot dog eating and face painting during the Plymouth Whalers' "Kids' Day" matinee game against visiting Saginaw Thursday afternoon at Compuware Arena.

Unfortunately for the Whalers, there wasn't nearly enough lamp lighting.

Playing before a sellout crowd of 3,510, Saginaw goalie Ryan Daniels redirected 27-of-29 shots to lead the suddenly resurgent Spirit to a

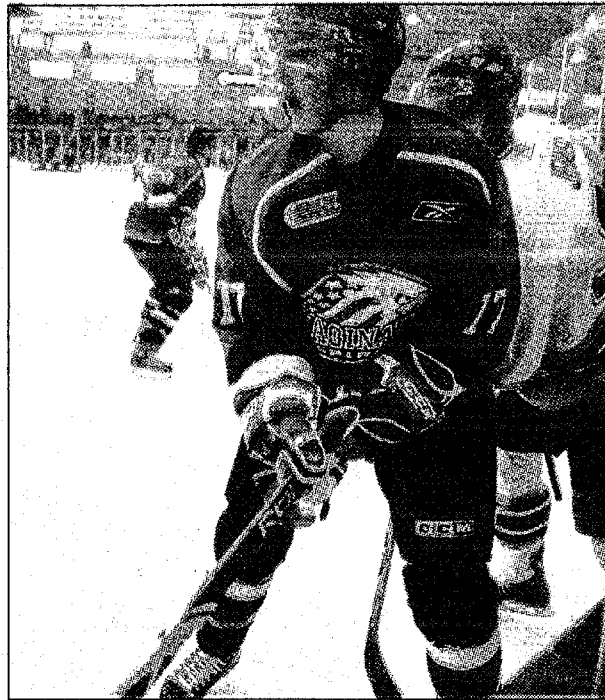
4-2 road victory. The fourth-straight triumph boosted the winners' record to 15-14-3-1 while the Whalers slipped to 19-10-2-2.

Plymouth won't have to wait long for redemption as the two teams are slated to face off again Saturday at 7:11 p.m. in Saginaw.

Both teams showed signs of the rustiness that can develop when you don't play for 12 days and practice just once in two weeks.

"It's disappointing losing at home coming off

Please see **WHALERS, B3**



Canton resident Joe Underwood played a strong game for Saginaw Thursday afternoon against Plymouth. Underwood was acquired by the Spirit earlier this month in a trade with Guelph.

Warriors' Brown drops 40 on Salem cagers

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

If you think Santa Claus made efficient use of his time the other night, you should have seen Woodhaven's Willie Brown deliver against Salem Thursday evening in the opening game of the Allen Park Christmas Tournament.

Despite spending most of the fourth quarter on the Warriors' bench, the 6-foot-2 senior swingman filled the stockings, er, nets for 40 points in Woodhaven's 76-64 triumph over the slow-starting Rocks.

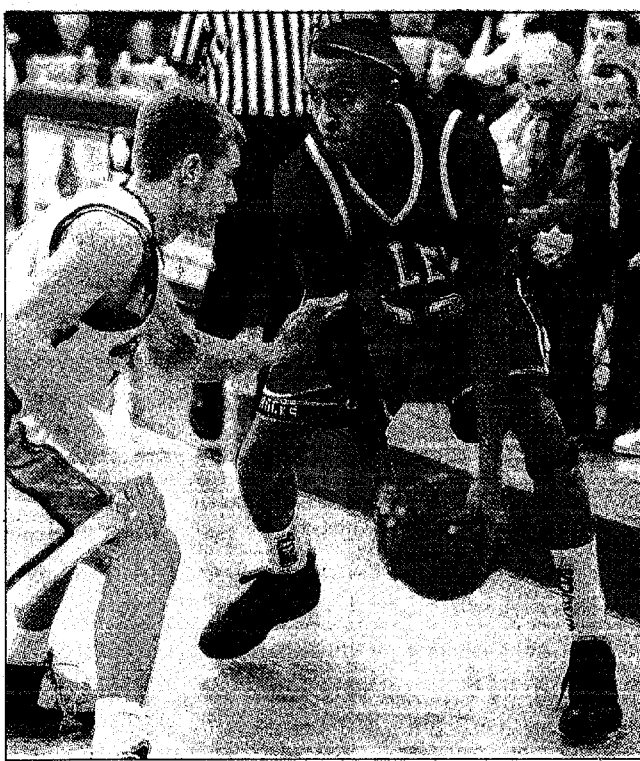
Brown hit from everywhere except the North Pole, draining triples, driving

layups, mid-range jumpers and fastbreak finger rolls with stunning regularity.

"We knew going into the game he'd be a load, and he was," lamented Salem coach Bob Brodie, whose team slipped to 1-4 heading into Friday night's consolation game against the loser of Thursday's Carleton Airport-Allen Park semifinal. "He's a senior, so he's been there a while. He's a very versatile player. He can score from outside and he's very quick when he goes to the basket."

Following Thursday's setback, there's a clear-cut No. 1 item atop Brodie's list of basketball-related New Year's

Please see **CAGERS, B3**



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Grant Stone, pictured above in a game earlier this season, scored 32 points in the Rocks' 76-64 loss to Woodhaven Thursday night.

Omitted Spartans recognized

The photos of Livonia Stevenson head football coach Tim Gabel and the Spartans' starting quarterback, Mitchell White, were inadvertently not published along with the rest of the 2007 All-Observer football team that ran in Thursday's paper.

Gabel was honored as the Observerland Coach of the Year after leading Stevenson to a 13-1 record that culminated with a loss to Macomb Dakota in the Division 1 state championship game at Ford Field.

White engineered a Stevenson offense that was second to none in the area.



Tim Gabel
Stevenson
Coach



Mitchell White
Stevenson

Observerland prep sports coaches are encouraged to report their team's results to their respective city's sports editor.

Plymouth/Canton Editor Ed Wright can be reached at (734) 953-2108 or ewright@hometownlife.com; Livonia/Westland Sports Editor Brad Emons can be reached at (734) 953-2123 or bemons@hometownlife.com; and Redford/Garden City Sports Editor Tim Smith can be reached at (734) 953-2106 or tsmith@hometownlife.com.

The deadline for Sunday editions is Friday at 11 p.m.; the deadline for Thursday editions is Tuesday at 11 p.m.

Pat Milliken

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Redford Unified skaters tie Kearsley, 4-4

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

A power-play goal with 26 seconds left on Dec. 22 enabled Redford Unified to skate to a 4-4 draw with host Flint Kearsley.

Tim Hall netted the equalizer, firing a sharp-angle blast into the Kearsley goal from short range. Hall took a perfect centering feed from Sean Phillipart, while Maxx Scicluna also assisted.

"It was good for the kids to come back," said Unified head coach Bob Murray, whose varsity hockey team has struggled throughout December, largely because of injuries and some players remaining ineligible. "We now have three set lines and two sets of 'D,' so that's good."

Also good was the goal-tending of Nick Smith (16 shots, 13 saves) over two periods and freshman Josh Marlow (seven shots, five saves) in the third.

It was Marlow's high school debut, and despite twice giving up the go-ahead goal he did stop a partial breakaway and earned praise from his coach.

"He (Marlow) played pretty well for his first time in net," said Murray, add-

ing that another goalie, Tim Buckley, hopefully will also see his season debut in the near future.

Unified got off to a quick start. At the 13-second mark of the contest, Phillipart scored on a play set up by Hall and Larry Marlow.

The Redford squad again took the lead at 2-1 in the second frame, thanks to Bob Trotter's tally. Murray said defenseman Scott Bunzeluk "pinched in on the play, and got the puck over to Bobby Trotter who let it go from the point."

But Kearsley again evened the score before the end of the frame and then went up 3-2 early in the third against new netminder Josh Marlow.

Not to be denied, Trotter's second goal (from Larry Marlow and Hall) evened things up at 3-3 only to have Kearsley score with 1:43 remaining.

In the final minute, Murray pulled his goalie to get an extra attacker on the ice and the advantage turned into a 6-4 edge thanks to a penalty against Kearsley.

Soon thereafter, Hall (one goal, two assists) ripped his shot into the net to secure the tie and allow for the long bus ride home from Flint to be more enjoyable.



Trot for Toys

Pictured (from left) are Livonia Ladywood cross country runners Laura Bou-Maroun, Jordan Collins and Karlee Sipiński, who helped deliver toys to Mott Children's Hospital Pediatric Oncology Unit at the University of Michigan Healthcare System in Ann Arbor recently. The toys were collected at the first Ladywood cross country Mott Trot For Toys. The 5k run and post-race party were held Dec. 1 at George Murphy's. One-hundred-and-twenty runners braved the frigid weather conditions for the event, which concluded at Bicentennial Park. Random drawing prizes were donated by Mizuno Running, Brooks Running, Running Fit, George Murphy's, Caribou Coffee, Bravos, Max and Erma's, DelSol Design and Starbucks. The grand-prize drawing — an iPod Touch — was donated by Tom Kenyon, owner of Sir Speedy Printing in Livonia.

John Glenn's Marken triples his pleasure against Detroit Denby

By the time Westland John Glenn senior guard Stefan Marken got Detroit Denby's attention Thursday night, it was too late for the Tars.

While Denby focused on double-teaming Earl Hardison — the Rockets' top inside threat — Marken took advantage of the open space on the perimeter to drain six triples in John Glenn's 73-50 triumph in the opening-round game of the Detroit Renaissance Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament.

Marken finished with 22 points to lead the winners to their fifth consecutive victory to open the 2007-08 campaign. Denby slipped to 2-5.

Also shining for the Rockets were senior

guard Keshawn Martin (18 points), Austin Anderson (10 points) and Hardison, who pulled down 10 boards to go with his six points. Marken also grabbed 10 cars for the winners.

Angelo Summers paced Denby with 15 points. Derrick Barden added 13 for the Tars.

John Glenn led 13-12 after one quarter before blowing the game open with a 23-point second quarter to extend its halftime advantage to 36-22. The Rockets led 53-36 with eight minutes to play and were never threatened in the anti-climactic fourth quarter.

The Rockets, who played host Renaissance on Saturday night, drained 11-of-12 free throws. The Tars struggled from the stripe, connecting on just 9-of-21 attempts.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday, Jan. 4
Stevenson at Churchill, 7 p.m.
W.L. Western at Franklin, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Canton, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at F.H. Harrison, 7 p.m.
Northville at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
W.L. Central at Salem, 7 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Friday, Jan. 4
Melvindale at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Churchill at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Franklin at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.
W.L. Northern at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Cantua at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.
Plymouth at Northville, 7 p.m.
Salem at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY
Friday, Jan. 4
Franklin vs. Stevenson at Edgar Arena, 8 p.m.
Churchill vs. A.A. Pioneer at Veterans Arena, 7:45 p.m.
W.L. Central at Salem at Plymouth Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m.
Canton at W.L. Northern at Lakeland Ice Arena, 8:20 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 5
Ladywood at Port Huron (McCann), 4 p.m.
Franklin vs. Lakeland at Lakeland Ice Arena, 8 p.m.
A.A. Pioneer Invitational, TBA
Plymouth at W.L. Western at Lakeland Ice Arena, 3:20 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING
Saturday, Jan. 5
Fordson Invitational, 8 a.m.
L'Anse Creuse Invitational, 9 a.m.
Wyandotte Invitational, 9:30 a.m.
Troy Invitational, 10 a.m.

BOYS SWIMMING
Thursday, Jan. 3
U-D Jesuit, Salfine at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 5
West Bloomfield Invitational, 1 p.m.
Plymouth at Tecumseh Kiwanis Invitational, 10 a.m.

GYMNASTICS
Saturday, Jan. 5
Salem Invitational at Plymouth H.S., TBA
Canton at Rockford Invitational, 8 p.m.

PREP BOWLING
Saturday, Jan. 5
Ladywood Tournament at Woodland Lanes, noon.
W.L. Central Invitational at Wonderland Lanes, 1 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Jan. 5
Madonna at Indiana Tech, 3 p.m.
Schoolcraft at Macomb CC, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Jan. 5
Indiana Tech at Madonna, 1 p.m.
Schoolcraft at Macomb CC, 1 p.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Thursday, Jan. 3
Whalers at Windsor Spitfires, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 4
Whalers at S.S. Marie Greyhounds, 7:30 p.m.

MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE
Monday, Dec. 31
Detroit Ignition at Milwaukee Wave, 2 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 4
Det. Ignition vs. California Cougars at Compuware Arena, 7:35 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 5
Det. Ignition at N.J. Ironmen, 7:30 p.m.
TBA — time to be announced.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing for taxing authorities only will be held before the Westland City Council on Monday, January 7, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Westland City Hall, 2nd floor, 36601 Ford Road, Westland.

The hearing is being held regarding the application of U.S. Farathane for an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption for the property located at 39201 Ford Road, Westland, MI.

EILEEN DEHART
Westland City Clerk

Publish: December 30, 2007

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2008

The Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Redford has scheduled a public hearing for Thursday, January 3, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Redford Township Hall Board Room, 15145 Beech Daly Road, to consider the following:

A request for rezoning of the following property from M-1, Light Industrial and R-1, Single Family Residential to C-2, General Commercial: Parcel I.D. No. 005-01-0128-002, Property more commonly known as 26802 W. Seven Mile Road, and, Parcel I.D. No. 005-02-0001-004, Vacant Parcel.

THE LAW REQUIRES THAT OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS OF PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN 300 FEET OF THIS PROPERTY BE NOTIFIED OF THIS REQUEST IN WRITING. THIS IS YOUR NOTIFICATION.

It is further given that a copy of the plan may be examined at the Public Services building, 12200 Beech Daly Rd., from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Phone (313) 387-2680.

PATRICK A. MCRAE, Chairman
Planning Commission
Charter Township of Redford

The Charter Township of Redford, Township (P.C., ZBA, Board of Trustees, etc.) 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 or public hearing, upon seven (7) days notice to the (P.C., ZBA, Board of Trustees, etc.). Further, individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Clerk by writing to 15145 Five Mile Road, Redford, MI 48239, or by calling (313) 387-2750.

Publish: December 30, 2007

HUGE AUCTION SALE - CASH ONLY

Notice: January 14, 2008, at or after 9:30 am
Location: Simply Self Storage, 11960 Farmington Rd., Livonia, MI 48150, 734-425-9610

U # 635	Carol Clare	Tower speakers, tools, vacuum cleaner
U # 208	Jane Kinjorski	Boxes, cabinets, luggage
U # 439A	Jane Kinjorski	Dressers, desk, chairs
U # 845A	Michael Henderson	Mattress, dresser
U # 431B	Suzanne Costello	Couch, chairs, boxes
U # 759 A&B	Michael Strauss	Kitchen table, chairs, curio cabinet
U # 424	Virginia McCandless	Files, luggage
U # 426	George Keller III	Fridge, vacuum, dressers
U # 233	Ricky Newstead	Trailer, Chevy S-10

Published: December 23 & 30, 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

Published: December 23, 27 & 30, 2007

CITY OF GARDEN CITY FINAL DETERMINATION PUBLIC NOTICE

On December 17, 2007 the City Council of the City of Garden City, following a duly noticed public hearing, determined to submit the following projects for funding pursuant to the 2008-2009 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program subject to the county of Wayne's administration of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) CDBG Program.

LOCATION	PROJECTS	ACTIVITY	ESTIMATED AMOUNTS
City-Wide	\$ 25,000	Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 50,000
		City Park / Buildings ADA Compliance	
City-Wide	\$ 30,080	Improvements to Senior Center	\$ 30,080
City-Wide		Public Service Activity	
Senior Center			
Coordinator Salary			\$ 28,120
Administration			\$ 14,800
TOTAL			\$148,000

Note: Program income in the amount of \$5,000 is estimated to be the approximate amount to be received from repayment of existing CDBG deferred loan liens. Program income received will be used for Housing Rehabilitation. There is, in addition an annual appropriation of \$30,000 for housing rehabilitation that is separate from the Community Housing Rehabilitation funding listed above.

Further information is available by contacting Paul C. Zelenak, Community Development Director, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, MI 48135 or by calling (734) 793-1663.

Published: December 30, 2007

PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 14, 2008 in the **First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.** on the following proposed special land use request as provided in Section 27.03 of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance:

SCHOOLHOUSE MONTESSORI SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR CHILD CARE CENTER AS REQUIRED IN SECTIONS 20.02B.6 FOR PARCEL NO. 095 99 0002 000 (1675 HAGGERTY S.). Property is located north of Palmer and east of Haggerty Road.

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, January 10, 2008 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Vic Gustafson, Chairman

Schoolhouse Montessori Academy 095-SLU-064

Published: December 30, 2007

PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 14, 2008 in the **First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.** on the following proposed special land use request as provided in Section 27.03 of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance:

WAL-MART SPECIAL LAND USE AMENDMENT - CONSIDER REQUEST TO AMEND THE SPECIAL LAND USE CONDITION TO ALLOW FOR RETAIL EXPANSION IN THE CORPORATE OVERLAY DISTRICT FOR PARCEL NO. 048 99 0022 708 AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 6.08D.19. Property is located north of Ford Road and east of Lotz Road.

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, January 10, 2008 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Vic Gustafson, Chairman

Wal-Mart Expansion 048-SLU-056B

Published: December 30, 2007

WHALERS

FROM PAGE B1

the break, but I know we'll bounce back and we're only going to get better," said Whalers head coach Greg Stefan, who's just four games into his tenure. "Right now I'm still trying to get to know some of these kids and we're trying to put a little bit of a twist on what we want to do. Whenever you're coming off the time off that we had, you never know what you're going to get.

"Our start wasn't too bad, but then we had some defensive lapses and our penalty kill got running around a little bit. After they scored, we had some power-play opportunities of our own, but we couldn't cash in."

The afternoon was a homecoming of sorts for a couple of the visitors — Spirit coach Todd Watson, who served as an assistant coach for Plymouth before being hired by Saginaw during the off-season; and Saginaw defenseman Joe Underwood, a 17-year-old Canton resident who was traded from Guelph to Saginaw earlier this month.

"It was a little awkward at first coaching on the other side, especially because I have so many great memories here," said Watson. "But this was my second game (with Saginaw) coaching here, so you get used to it."

"Today's game was a little sloppy all around I thought. I know Stef's not happy with his team and we're not over-ecstatic with the way we played. I know they're a better team than they showed and I think we can play better, too."

Watson is high on Underwood, a steady 6-foot-1, 183-pound defenseman who logged several productive shifts Thursday and nearly scored on a whistling third-period shot from the blue line that was redirected by Whaler goalie Matt Hackett.

"He's the type of defenseman who's a stay-at-home, solid player," said Watson.



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"I thought he had a very solid game today. Joe should help us a lot."

The story of the day for the Whalers was the promising play of goalie Matt Hackett, who was filling in for usual starter Jeremy Smith, Plymouth's OHL Goaltender of the Year candidate who is currently playing for the United States in the World Junior Championships in the Czech Republic.

Hackett stymied 38-of-42 shots — two of the Spirit's goals were power plays — including a trio of breakaway stops that Smith would have been proud of.

"I thought our young goalie played very well," said Stefan, who starred as a Detroit Red Wings' net-minder throughout the 1980s. "It's the first time I've seen him play and I thought he made some very good saves. We'll evaluate him tomorrow and take it from there."

The Spirit broke open a scoreless contest with three second-period goals and never looked back. Jordan Szwarz opened the scoring 4:41 into the second stanza when he deposited a rebound shot past

Hackett just 10 seconds after the Whalers were whistled for a penalty. Thomas Zaborsky and Jack Combs assisted on the lamp lighter.

Saginaw doubled its lead to 2-0 six minutes later when Combs found the back of the net, this time just 22 seconds after a Plymouth infraction.

Chris Chappell's even-strength net-finder made it 3-0 with 6:24 left in the period.

A.J. Jenks lased a slap shot past Daniels with 1:54 left in the second period to bring Plymouth to within 3-1, but Ryan McDonough tipped a Chappell pass past Hackett at 9:44 of the third to stretch the visitors' lead out to 4-1.

Plymouth's Wes Cunningham scored the game's final goal off assists from Andrew Fournier and Chris Terry with 5:51 left.

ewright@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2108

CAGERS

FROM PAGE B1

resolutions.

"We have to start playing better defense," he said. "We're giving up way too many easy baskets off offensive rebounds and we're gambling too much. When you give up 76 points like we did tonight, you're not going to win many games."

The veteran coach said poor defense can lead to shoddy execution at the other end of the court.

"When you fall behind like we did tonight (Salem trailed 12-0 after the first four minutes), you struggle offensively because you're in panic mode," Brodie said. "You want to try to get everything back real quick."

Salem senior forward Grant Stone nearly matched Brown's production as he tallied 32 points and eight rebounds. Fellow Rock Ross Davis posted a double-double (12 points and 11 boards) although he was mired in foul trouble throughout the game.

Senior guard Tyler Jeleniewski added seven points for Salem while junior forward Joe Posler chipped in with six.

After tumbling into a 19-4 first-quarter abyss, the Rocks displayed some resilience by piecing together an

8-0 run to end the stanza.

An inside hoop by Stone with 6:40 left in the second quarter brought Salem to within 23-16, however, Woodhaven answered with a 9-0 streak to surge ahead 32-16.

A steal-and-layup by Jeleniewski made it 35-25 Woodhaven at the intermission.

The pivotal point of the game unfolded early in the third quarter when the Warriors reeled off a 9-0 run to extend their advantage to 46-29 with 4:40 left in the period.

The closest Salem got in the final eight minutes was 66-55 thanks to a pair of Posler free throws with 3:10 left.

Brown was far from a one-man show for the 5-1 Warriors. Others making major contributions were senior guard Josh Satterfield (16 points); and senior forward Richard Sutherlin and Marquis Barnett, who both netted nine points.

Salem committed 20 turnovers against Woodhaven's trapping pressure-cooker defense.

The Rocks shined from the line, sinking 18-of-21 free throw attempts.

The Warriors were good on 8-of-14 from the charity stripe.

ewright@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2108

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST



A public accuracy test will be conducted at the time and location listed, for the purpose of testing the accuracy of the tabulating equipment, and programs which will be used to record and tabulate voted ballots for the Presidential Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2008 in Garden City, Wayne County, Michigan.

Location: Civic Center (City Hall)
6000 Middlebelt
Garden City, Michigan 48135

Date: January 9, 2008
Wednesday

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Contact: Allyson M. Bettis
City Clerk
734-793-1620

Publish: December 30, 2007

CE0857400-2x3

Simply Self Storage

Notice is hereby given that on January 15th, 2008 on or after 9:30 a.m. that Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien Process by Public Auction the following units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. Terms of the sale are cash only. Simply Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: 34333 E Michigan Ave. Wayne MI. 48184. 734-728-8204.

Keyanna Jackson	B102	glass table, tv's, leather sofa, mattress, boxes
Letrica Freshley	E156	washer, dryer
Robert Bagley	D102	clothes, carpet, vhs tapes
John Cheney	A402	totes, appliances, boxes
Dona Cunningham	A203	mattresses, tables, tv
Eddie Toplin	D105	mattress, exercise equip., sofa
Latesha Davis	C191	mattress, sofa, electronics
Ronald Alexander	D113	tv, furnace, water heater

Publish: December 27 & 30, 2007

MEDICARE NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that on January 4, 2008 the agreement between Walter P Reuther Psychiatric Hospital, Westland, Michigan and the Secretary of Health and Human Services as a hospital in the Medicare program will be terminated.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has determined that Walter P Reuther Psychiatric Hospital is not in compliance with the following Medicare Condition of Participation for a hospital:

42 CFR 482.61 Special Medical Record Requirements for Psychiatric Hospitals

The Medicare program will not make payment for inpatient hospital services furnished to patients admitted on or after January 4, 2008. For patients admitted prior to January 4, 2008, payment may continue to be made for up to 30 days of covered services furnished on or after January 4, 2008.

Ilia Villanueva
Branch Manager
Non-Long Term Care Certification and Enforcement Branch
Division of Survey and Certification

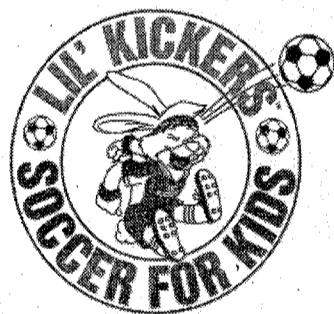
Publish: December 30, 2007

CE0857606-2x3



46245 Michigan Ave.
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NEWSPAPERS



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Ages: 18 months--9 years old

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(734) HV-SPORT 46245 Michigan Ave. hvsports.com

BE A PART OF THE PISTONS' 200th SELLOUT

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT 3:30 PM



CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE PALACE
4 TICKETS, 4 HOT DOGS, 4 SODAS PLUS A PISTONS GRAB BAG FOR ONLY \$89

TOMORROW • 3:30 PM VS. BUCKS
• Pistons Rookie Poster to first 7,500 fans courtesy of Bud Light



JANUARY GAMES AT THE PALACE

SAT, 1/5 • 7:30 PM VS. CELTICS
• Joe Dumars Commemorative Poster to first 7,500 fans courtesy of Rock Financial



LADIES' NIGHT OUT - 2 Tickets, 2 Passes to Pistons Player Autograph Signing, 2 Pistons Martinj Glasses
+ a \$20 Palace Gift Card for \$59

TUE, 1/15 • 7:30 PM VS. RAPTORS
• Rip Hamilton Poster to first 10,000 fans courtesy of Belle Tire

GUYS' NIGHT OUT - 2 Tickets, 2 Passes to Automation Autograph Signing, 2 Pistons Pin Glasses
+ a \$20 Palace Gift Card for \$59

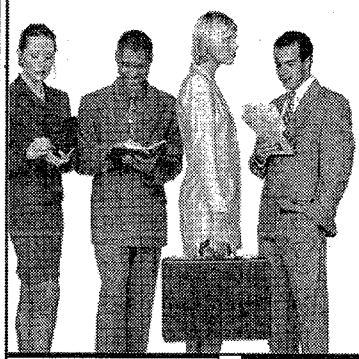
FRI, 1/18 • 8:00 PM VS. KINGS
• Vinnie Johnson Commemorative Poster to first 7,500 fans courtesy of ABC Warehouse

FRI, 1/25 • 7:00 PM VS. MAGIC
• Pistons 50 Seasons Commemorative T-shirt to first 7,500 fans courtesy of My TV20



THU, 1/31 • 7:30 PM VS. LAKERS
• Pistons Travel Coffee Mug to first 8,500 fans courtesy of BIGGBY Coffee

FOR TICKETS, CALL 248-377-0100, VISIT THE PALACE BOX OFFICE ANY TICKETMASTER LOCATION OR LOG ON TO PISTONS.COM



Guide to Employment

To place your ad here contact us at careers@hometownlife.com or call 734-953-2079



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ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR
Are you looking to make a difference? Do you enjoy working with a diverse population including at-risk youth, persons with disabilities, underemployed workers, or persons with criminal backgrounds? WSC is hiring for our Brighton office. Includes: intake, case mgmt, vocational counseling & assessment services. Requires: MA degree in Rehabilitation Counseling or Counseling, CRC completed or willing to obtain, strong communication & writing skills. Visit: www.wskills.com. Submit resume & salary req. to: kellyb@wskills.com or Fax 810-227-1344 EOE

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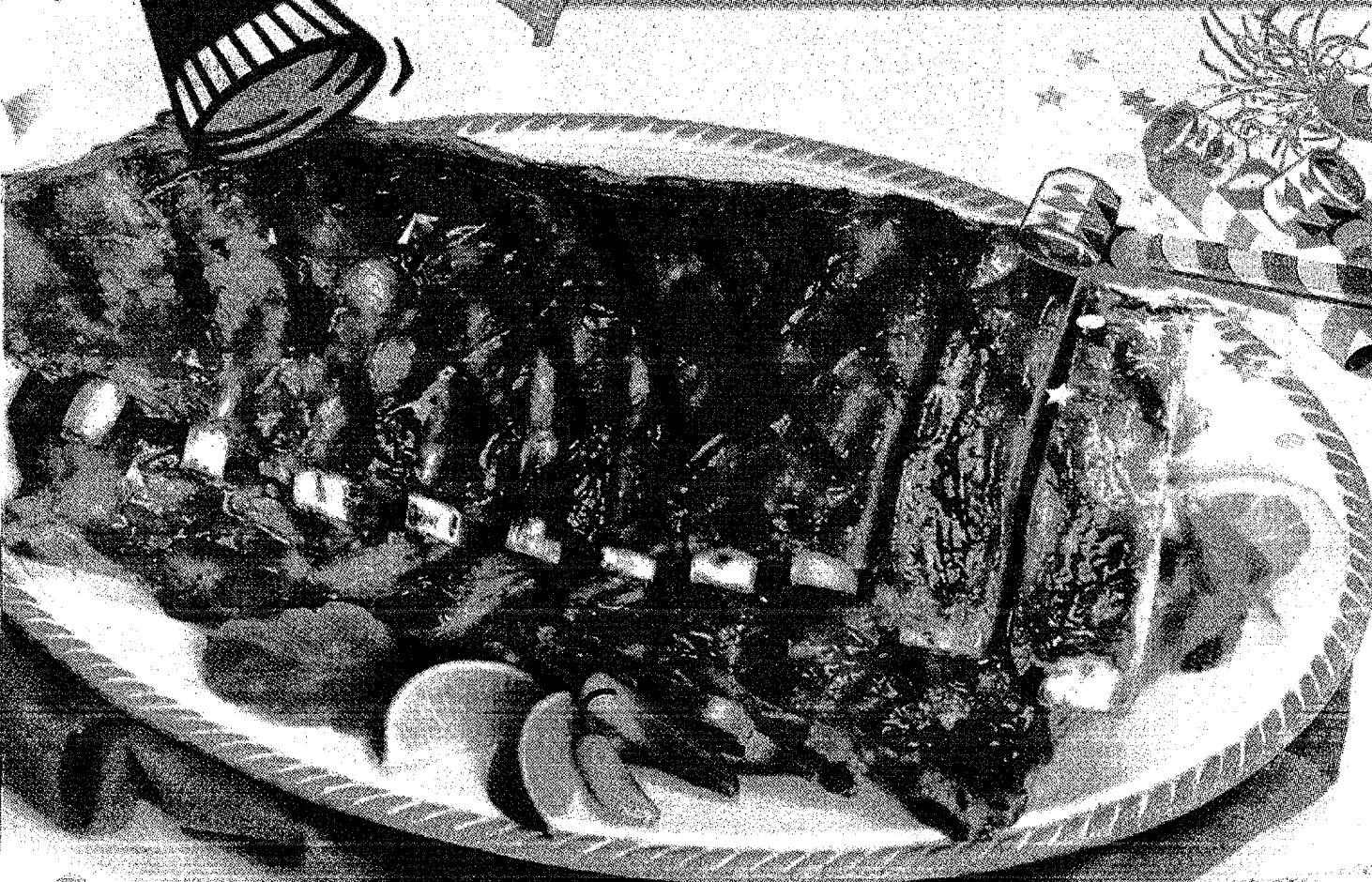
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Work with your child to build up trust

I recently found out that my 11-year-old daughter shoplifted an item from the store while I was with her. I found it when we got home and confronted her about it. To her credit, she admitted to doing this and said that she had never done anything like this before. But I'm not sure if I can believe her. I am so angry and embarrassed. How could she do this? I raised her better than this. How can I make sure that she doesn't do this again?

As serious as this is, it is not all that uncommon. It does not mean that your daughter is a hardened criminal or that you've done a bad job as a parent. It means that your daughter made a poor decision and that she needs to face some consequences for her actions. You can handle that.

The first thing that I would recommend is that you take your daughter back to the store with the stolen item. Make her explain to the store personnel what she did. The store may ask her to make restitution or they may simply talk with her and explain that this is stealing and that in the future the police may need to be called. Either way, your daughter is made to realize that she acted inappropriately and any such actions in the future may result in more serious penalties.

Secondly, I would take this opportunity to address how her actions have hurt the trust between the two of you. Explain that you are having difficulty trusting her to make the right decisions and that you will need her to regain this through her best efforts. Tell her that she will need to remain beside you at all times while you are in stores until you are convinced that she will not steal again.

It is important that you recognize that this does not mean that she is a bad person and she should not be made to feel this way. She needs to understand that it is the behavior that is unwanted and not her. Remind her that you love her and that she will always be a person that you are proud of but that she needs to learn how to avoid these kinds of problems by making appropriate choices. Explain to her that if she wants something she should talk to you about ways to earn it.

Once she has demonstrated that she has learned her lesson, let her know that she has regained your trust and that you are proud of her efforts. Help her to realize that it is not always easy to admit to making a mistake but that when you do, you can usually avoid making similar mistakes in the future.

I have a friend that gives her son everything that he asks for. I mean it ... EVERYTHING! If he mentions something in passing, she writes it down to get for him. Her house looks like a toy store. I've tried to explain to her that this is not a good thing and that she may actually be hurting him in the long run but she disagrees with me. She feels that this makes her a good mother and that if I was a good mother I would do this for my own daughters. I don't know if this matters, but my friend is a single mother and her son's father is really not in the picture at all. Anyway, I know that she reads your column and that she respects what you say. So what do you think? Is she being a good mom or just a spoiling one?

I think that your friend is a good mother that is spoiling her son. The two things are not mutually exclusive. A parent can be both. And I really think that your friend is trying to be the best mother possible. Unfortunately, in at least one respect, she is going about it in a less than successful way.

Most parents want to give their kids things. It makes us feel good to make our children happy. The problem is that if we give too much and too often, it loses its value and becomes expected rather than appreciated as something special.

It sounds as if your friend may be trying to assuage some feelings of guilt with material goods. She may feel that she has to pick up the slack created by a less than present father or that she is lacking as a mother in some way. Whatever her motivation, she does not realize that she is establishing impossible standards for herself and their relationship. Unless she is extremely wealthy, how can she keep this up? What will happen when she can't give him what he wants?

By telling our children "no" we are teaching them to make good decisions and deal with disappointments. If they never hear this word, they never learn these lessons. And as anyone with experience in the real world will tell you, these lessons are essential for leading a happy and successful life.

Continue to model the appropriate behaviors for your friend but avoid coming across as if you are criticizing her parenting. This will only put her on the defensive. It may be better for you if you allow her to come to you with concerns rather than have you raise them. After all, your friend is a good mother and she will need to face the consequences of her current actions at some point. When she does, she will be more receptive to your input and suggestions.

Terry Wilamowski is a clinical therapist specializing in the treatment of children, adolescents, and their families at Heron Ridge Associates in Plymouth. Questions or comments can be sent to terrywilamowski@yahoo.com.

Computer gaming center offers variety

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

A steady stream of shoppers stop in to investigate the spacious playing arena featuring 20 Xbox 360s and two Nintendo Wiis. Unleashed Gaming opened in early October at Westland Mall with nearly 50 titles, including Halo 3, Call of Duty 4, and Guitar Hero III. Gamers can not only challenge themselves, but play against their friends, or people from around the world, by linking to Xbox Live.

"It's all about having fun," said Mike Fawaz, who co-owns the computer gaming center with Chuck Kallil of Canton. "This is something they could set up at home, but people like doing it because it's a social friendly environment. We're trying to persuade people to get out of their room and play here."

Fawaz and Kallil decided to open the gaming center after noticing kids walking aimlessly around Wireless Giant, where Fawaz was assistant manager, and a jewelry kiosk Kallil operated in the mall. Fawaz, 20, grew up playing games. He's been working since age 14 and first gained management experience at his father's gas station in Fraser. Kallil, 34, earned a bachelor's degree in marketing from the University of Kentucky, then spent seven years as a sales rep for Leggett & Platt, a Fortune 500 company in Florida. Even though they're still paying off the equipment, the two think the gaming center will be financially profitable once the word spreads. As of yet they have not advertised. They're relying on word of mouth.

"We saw potential for something for the kids to do in the mall," Kallil said. "We have anyone from kids to grandparents coming in with their grandsons. We have an older crowd in their 20s instead of going out to the bar will come over here."

Unleashed gaming



Thomas Thornton, 14, of Westland, plays Madden NFL 2008.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Ryan Ritondale, 14, of Westland plays Skate.

Rock Band, costs \$180 and includes guitars and drum pads that actually teach up to four amateur musicians to play.

"My kids are here all the time, every chance they get," Kallil said. "They say, 'Dad can I come to work with you?'"

MATCHMAKING

"Xbox Live finds players and hooks you up in a match," Kallil said. "You're not playing against a computer or program. You're playing against somebody. You're linked to the same game."

Travis Graves was on Xbox Live playing Call of Duty 4. The 19-year-old Southfield man is unable to play games at home.

"This is brand new, just came out," Graves said. "I get to play with people all over the world. That's the neat part about it. I love it. I stay as long as I can."

Unleashed Gaming draws players from as far away as Lansing and Battle Creek for tournaments. The regular crowd comes from Livonia, Plymouth and the surrounding communities.

but we're not responsible for them leaving, and we're very strict on the rating of games. 'M' is for age 17 with parents of younger kids signing a form or we won't allow them to play. 'T' is for teens. 'E' is for everyone."

Kallil's children, Chase, 12, and Hannah, 8, love the place. The father of two estimates it would cost him \$3,000-plus to have the same setup at home. Xbox alone is priced at \$350, a TV with high definition around \$700, and the games \$60 each, plus \$50 for the Xbox Live subscription.

One of the newest games,

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Think Michigan first catching on with consumers

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Forget about making a resolution to lose weight this new year. Lisa Diggs is asking everyone to take the pledge to buy Michigan goods and services starting Jan. 1.

Think Michigan First — the words seem to automatically come out of Diggs' mouth during conversation. The Livonia woman became a cheerleader for the state after business travels opened her eyes to the progress being made in other parts of the country.

Diggs' consulting business, the Catalyst Company, helps organizations attain and sustain success so it was only natural she came up with a solution to turn around the economy in Michigan. Diggs just never



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lisa Diggs' new Web site, www.buymichigannow.com promotes the state's products and businesses.

dreamed the Web site, www.buymichigannow.com, would require her attention seven days a week. Since going online the day after Thanksgiving, the Web site's lists have grown thanks to suggestions from friends and family. Diggs is

hoping in the future companies will self-report so she can expand the categories for Michigan based retail chains, restaurants and brands like Better Made potato chips.

Right now the Web site features Michigan owned compa-

nies but is eventually going to include businesses, that while not Michigan owned, make their products here, supporting workers in the state.

"Almost all my work comes from outside the state. I would like to be helping businesses here," said Diggs, 42. "I thought what can I do to make a bigger contribution? Could I buy from a local business?"

"I want to give people something to do. All of us can go to a locally owned store or restaurant and read labels to see if it came from a Michigan business. I changed my buying habits. If you would have looked in my refrigerator two months ago 20 to 30 percent of the products were Michigan made. Now it's 70 percent — dairy products, most of my produce although

Please see MICHIGAN, C2



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Irish to celebrate 50 years of St. Patrick's Parade history

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

No, it's not a fund-raiser, says Bridie Flynn. The St. Patrick's Parade dinner/dance is simply meant to celebrate 50 years of history on Jan. 12, at The Dearborn Inn.

Why The Dearborn Inn? The city hosted the first parade in the Detroit area to honor Ireland's patron saint.

"We've been working on this for 15 months. It's going to be a big celebration sponsored by United Irish Societies," said event chairwoman Flynn of Livonia. "It's black tie optional with dinner and dancing to the music of Andy Cooney, an Irish band from New York. It's going to be a fun party."

The celebration is just the beginning of the festivities surrounding the parade which is actually being held Sunday, March 17, in 2008.

Usually the parade takes place the Sunday prior to St. Patrick's Day. The Grand Marshal is Pat O'Hara who's active in the Irish community and Irish Cultural Forum.

"We have the Maid of Erin

lead the parade," said Flynn, who for many years led the search for the young Irish woman (ages 17-23) judged on poise, appearance, presentation, speaking ability, and knowledge of Irish culture.

"The Maid of Erin has to be of Irish descent. When she is chosen she gets a scholarship of \$700, \$300 for first runner-up from the United Irish Societies."

For more information, call Ann Poppe at (586) 790-2566.

A second pageant selects St. Bridgid's Court. It is held by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Rose Kennedy division. For details, call Maureen Kelly at (734) 632-0334. The criteria for age and descent are the same. The winners of both pageants will be announced at the Grand Marshal's brunch March 14, and is open to the public.

"We have different divisions of United Irish Societies consisting of 30 organizations in Michigan including the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Knights of Equity, Gaelic League, Friendly Sons of St. Patrick,

the Dearborn Gales," said Flynn, who left Ireland for the U.S. in 1960.

"Martin Fleming of Dearborn was the key organizer of the first parade in 1959. He was also Irish born. In 1985 the decision was made for the parade to be on the Michigan Avenue route in Corktown, Detroit's historic old Irish neighborhood. In 2008 we'll have the Painting of the Shamrock (on Michigan Avenue) fund-raiser the Friday before on March 7."

Each year's parade has a different theme. When the event steps off at 2 p.m., parade goers can expect to see Irish units "honoring the past, marching into our future."

But before the big day, there will be a fund-raiser Feb. 24, at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Farmington Road in Livonia.

"This parade costs a lot of money so that's why we have a lot of fund-raisers," said Flynn.

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MICHIGAN

FROM PAGE C2

it gets tougher in winter. Now I buy Big Chief sugar. In my work I schedule a lot of meetings. Instead of a national chain, I'll go to a local or Michigan-based restaurant like Beaners."

Diggs isn't asking consumers to simply buy Michigan, she wants everyone to speak positively about the state, and take the pledge on the Buy Michigan Now Web site.

"Let's stop complaining and waiting to do something," said Diggs. "Make a pledge to think Michigan first to choose a product that fits my families needs and if I have a choice I'll

choose Michigan. If you can change one product and put that money into our economy. Also there's the ecological aspect. If you buy an apple from Washington state it had to get on a truck. Stuff made in China used all that fuel to get here."

Diggs believes every Michigan resident can make a difference. She not only used a local company to build the Web site but features photographs taken by her father, Lawrence Diggs, a Livonia lensman. Her idea seems to be catching on. So far, Diggs has invested her own money in the project, but plans to start taking sponsors because of the response to the Web site.

"We had 6,000 hits in the

first month," said Diggs. "It shows how much people are excited about this idea. We together are going to make this change. People from 12 different states have taken the pledge and want to support the state with online shopping. If you have a choice of buying online or going down the street, go down the street. That supports Michigan workers or at least get them from the store. We need to think about that we're all in this together. Shop locally, but in this sense can mean on the west side of the state to put money in the tax pool."

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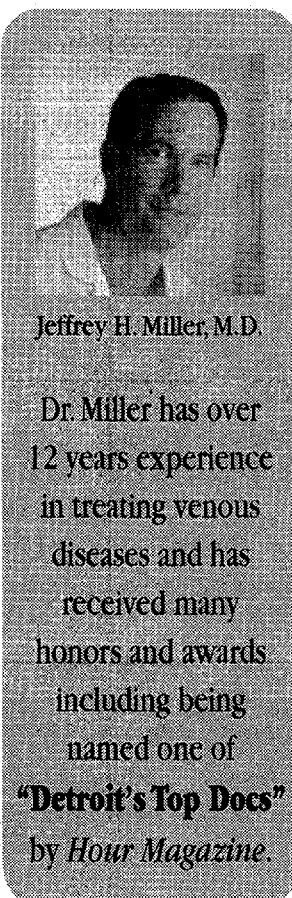


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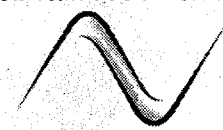


Jeffrey H. Miller, M.D.

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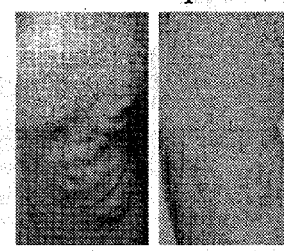
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Author's 1st novel: 'dark, urban fantasy'

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Vampires, shrinks ... They don't seem to go together.

But they do for Lynda Hilburn whose first print novel, *The Vampire Shrink*, is the story of a therapist's young client who wants to be a vampire.

But before you pick it up to read, understand it's not quite a horror story, paranormal romance or a new tale of Count Dracula.

According to Hilburn, the novel "crosses genres, it's a little of this, a little of that."

"People look at the cover and say it must be a horror story and if you see the cover, it sort of looks like it, but it's not," said Hilburn. "It's a dark urban fantasy with lots of romance, sex, mystery and lots of humor."

The book is the first in a series of heroine stories Hilburn plans to write and draws from her experience as psychotherapist, licensed hypnotherapist and founder/director of SoulWorks Hypnotherapy Training School in Boulder, Colo.

It's based in part on a mother who came to Hilburn, looking for help her daughter who was acting out in Goth and wanting to be a vampire. The main character also is "an idealized version" of the author.

"I've always been fascinated by the strangest of human nature," she said. "I like lifting up the stone to see what's underneath."

A Garden City resident, Hilburn spent two years writing the book which was released in October by Medallion Press. During the

process, she discovered that writing fiction is far more difficult than nonfiction and found that she "had to throw out a lot of versions" in the process.

Another discovery was the time it took to find an agent and then work out a book deal. In the end, it was Medallion Press which "was extremely excited about the book from the first reading."

"I had a junior agent who I think lost interest when it didn't sell right away, but Medallion Press wanted to buy it and he did a great job for me negotiating a contract," she said.

Hilburn's roots trace back to Detroit where she lived until her family moved to Garden City. She was 13 years old and admits the shift from urban to suburban was a culture shock.

She graduated from Garden City West High School in 1969 and stayed in the area until 1977 when she moved to Colorado. She later returned to complete her undergraduate studies in psychology at Michigan State University in 1987 and went on to get a master's degree in transpersonal counseling and psychology from the Naropa Institute.

As an author she has discovered writing is a time-consuming process. She now works part time as a counselor and spends her off hours working on her second novel, due to the publisher by tomorrow (Dec. 31). It has a working title of *Dark Harvest* and has an October 2008 release date.

"I'm spending a lot of time writing, it's the quiet time of the year for my practices,"



A happy Lynda Hilburn shows off a copy of her first print novel, 'The Vampire Shrink,' during a recent book signing in Boulder, Colo.

said Hilburn. "I'm focusing entirely on sitting in my bathrobe writing. It seems kind of isolated and weird to be locked in a writer's cage."

You can read excerpts from Hilburn's *The Vampire Shrink* online

at www.lyndahilburn.com. The book also is available online through e-booksellers www.barnesandnoble.com and www.amazon.com.

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

REUNIONS

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1969

Planning a reunion. Please contact Kathy Misun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kaynini@att.net or Kathy.Snoebriidge@Klvingston@nu-core.com.

Detroit Christ the King Elementary Class of 1963

A 45-year reunion is being planned for 2008. Searching for classmates. The reunion date has not been set. Contact Dennis Place at (734)354-0223 or e-mail denplace@bigfoot.com.

Garden City High School Class of 1960

Mini-Reunion Luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Anyone interested in more information can call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com.

Class of 1989

Need classmates to register online with names, addresses and e-mail addresses to Paula at gch-1989reunion@hotmail.com and check out web site at www.myspace.com/gch20threunion. The reunion date has not been set yet.

Grosse Pointe North Class of 1991

Call (800) 677-7800, visit www.taylorreunions.com or e-mail: info@taylorreunions.com.

Lincoln Park High School

Looking for members of Lincoln Park High School class of 1958 for 50 year reunion. Contact: Nancy 313-535-877 or nc6897@sbccglobal.net

Livonia Franklin Class of 1969

A reunion is in the pre-planning stages. For more information, contact Kathy Misun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kaynini@att.net.

Plymouth High School Class of 1968

Searching for classmates for a 40th reunion on July 19, 2008. Only about 63 percent of the class have been located. Contact Sue (Keith) Johnson at (734)451-1048 or contact johns40threunion@charter.net.

Plymouth-Canton high schools

Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem classes of 1988 20-year reunion will be held on Saturday, Aug. 2, at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Contact cepclassof1988@yahoo.com for more information.

GET TO KNOW THE ROUGE

If you've ever been interested in learning more about the health of the Rouge River, Friends of the Rouge and the communities in the Rouge watershed are offering the perfect opportunity. They are co-sponsoring a benthic macro-invertebrate sampling program, in which volunteers will search various sites in the watershed for aquatic insects, which are an indicator of the river's health. The program takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26.

Volunteers will meet at the Environmental Interpretive Center at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. They will be assigned into teams prior to their arrival. Teams will be led by trained volunteers and travel to different sites in the headwaters of the Rouge River Watershed. Volunteers sort through samples collected from the stream by team leaders for stoneflies.

Registration is required by Jan. 18 by calling (313) 792-9621 or e-mailing picoordinator@therouge.org. No experience is necessary. Children are welcome when accompanied by one adult per child.

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EXERCISE
You cannot hear a discussion on good health without someone bringing up the important role of exercise. There is little controversy on that point. A more difficult question to answer is: what is the best exercise? Your activity should be one that is convenient and comfortable for you, but not too comfortable. After all, what you are doing is called a workout.
For more people walking or jogging is the most straightforward way to exercise. You can walk in a neighborhood, mall, or gym. With equipment you can ambulate at any speed in your home. You must be careful about equipment. For instance, step master offers excellent exercise, but the repetition of steps means the same muscles, bones and ligaments of your feet are under repetitious strain. In contrast, when you are walking on the street no two steps are the same. Your feet are spared the traumatic effect of repeated pounding.
Another aspect of exercise is its extent and duration. If you are over age 60, you should exercise at least a half hour a day, six days a week. The older you become, the more you need exercise. The aging process requires you to do more to maintain the same level of stamina and strength. That means if you are seventy, you should probably exercise an hour a day and in that regimen include working with weights or sit-ups and push-ups.
The trick is to remain active but not to extreme and to undertake a variety of paces, lengths and laps to avoid making daily activity a boring chore.
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All wrapped up

Members of Girl Scout Troop 813 gave last-minute shoppers a helping hand by wrapping their presents before leaving Westland Shopping Center. Girl Scouts staffed a gift wrapping booth in the north entrance to Kohl's as a fund-raiser for the Metro Detroit Girl Scouts. Ready to wrap it for shoppers were Scouts Jennifer Ferrante, Jennie Sharp, Jenna Brackett, Mikenzie Frost and Beth Walker and leaders Pam Sharpe and Chris Yee. At right, taking advantage of the gift wrapping service were Gena Wasko of Westland and her grandson, Brendan Zarem of Canton.



WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

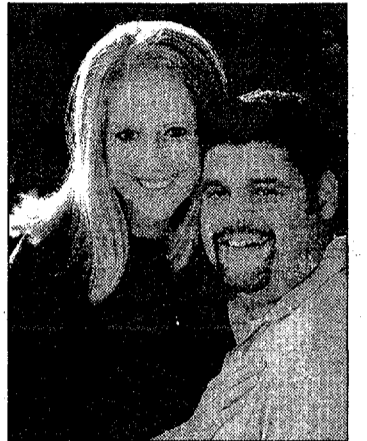
Marske-Sharp

Susan Marske of Rapid City, S.D., joins with Bob and Eileen Sharp of Livonia in announcing the engagement of Erica Marie Marske and Robert Lee Sharp, both of Bullhead City, Arizona. The wedding will take place in February 2008 in Laughlin, Nev. Erica graduated from South Dakota State University. She is a Fox Creek Middle School teacher. Robert graduated from Eastern Michigan University. He is a teacher and coach at Fox Creek Middle School.



Root-DiPonio

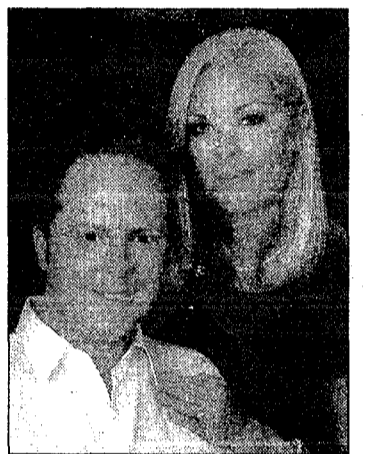
Norm and Maureen Root of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Colleen Marie, to John Thomas DiPonio of Livonia. Colleen is a graduate of Ladywood High School and obtained a bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University and will complete coursework at Madonna University toward obtaining a teaching certificate in December 2007. She is currently completing her student teaching at her alma mater, St. Michael's Elementary School in Livonia. John is the son of Reinee and Thomas DiPonio of Livonia. He is a graduate of Stevenson High School and Lawrence Tech. He is employed as a senior engineer at J.D. Construction.



A winter 2008 wedding is being planned at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church in the historic Corktown Irish section of Detroit with a reception at The Dearborn Inn.

Root-Peters

Norm and Maureen Root Jr. of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Amy Teresa, to Robert Lawrence Peters III of Livonia. Amy is a graduate of Ladywood High School and obtained her bachelor's and master's degrees from Michigan State University. She is a teacher in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools district. Rob is the son of Nancy and Robert Peters of Livonia. He is a graduate of Stevenson High School. He is employed by PMA Consultants LLC. A summer 2008 wedding is being planned at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Otisville, Mich.,



with a reception at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth. The couple will make their home in Livonia.

DREAM CIRCLE

Mystical Resources, in Farmington is creating a multi-sensory space for peaceful inspiration to commemorate the passing of the old year and begin the new. There will be a candlelit setting with music, prayers of gratitude and words of inspiration, then meditation. After silent contemplation, participants may share their thoughts. This is known as the Mystical Dream Circle, a space to create your role in bringing peace to the planet. The Dream Circle will be held 7:30-9:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 31, at Mystical Resources, 232425 Grand River, behind the Ram's Horn restaurant in Farmington. Call (248) 442-2525 for more information.

ART CLASSES START JAN. 3

The Visual Arts Association of Livonia will begin winter art classes on Jan. 3. Classes and workshops in all media will be offered. Classes are taught for all levels. VAAL is happy to offer a new workshop in pastel with Jerry Power, nationally known artist and member of the Pastel Society of America. The VAAL classroom is located at The Dickinson Center, Room 14, 18000 Newburgh in Livonia. To receive a free winter schedule of classes or for more information, call (734) 838-1204

Herrera-Jendrusik

Marisol Herrera and Joseph Jendrusik were joined in marriage on Dec. 1, 2007, at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church by Rev. Denis Theroux. The bride is the daughter of Emilio and Guadalupe Herrera of Westland. She graduated from Franklin High School in Livonia in 1998 and from Eastern Michigan University in 2004. She works in human resources at GreenPath, Inc. The groom is the son of Don and Sue Jendrusik of Livonia. He graduated from Franklin High School in 2000 and from Eastern Michigan University in 2005. He is a project manager at JC Beal Construction. Attendants were Jerred and Raena Short of Livonia; Lori and Jeff Coyle of Westland; Bob and Julia Roscoe of Taylor; Clemente and Elena Herrera of Wisconsin; Maren Paquette and Brad Cauchi of Redford and Westland; Tracy Wantin and Mike Boza of Westland and Farmington Hills; Lisa Macdonald and Rich Dege of Livonia and Garden City; Sarah Studt and Aaron Patyna of Dearborn Heights and Redford, and Erica Hammar and John Nagle of Redford

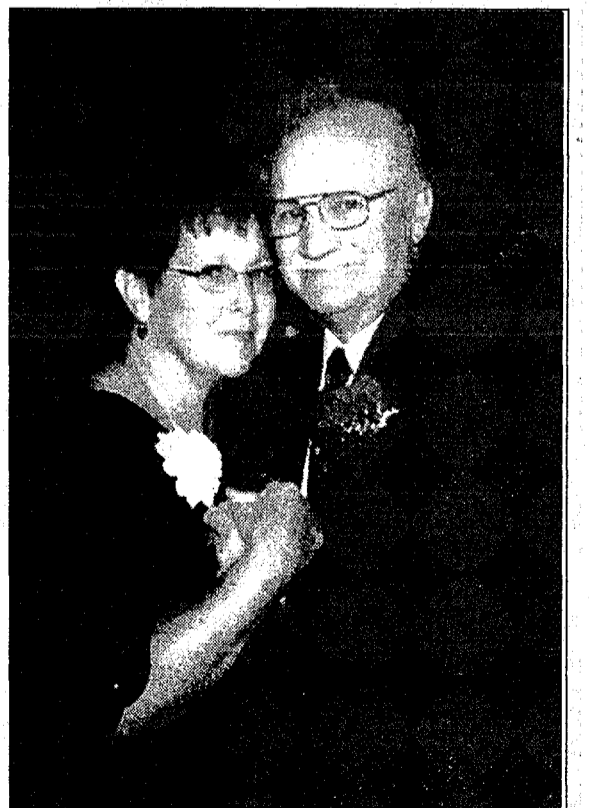


and Livonia. All are Franklin High School alumni. Junior bridesmaids were Anessia Herrera of Westland, and Alisha and Samantha Drews of Farmington Hills. Ring bearers were Antonio and Alex Herrera of Westland. Alaina Herrera of Westland was the flower girl. The reception was at Joy Manor in Westland. The couple honeymooned in Key West, Fla. They make their home in Westland.

ANNIVERSARY

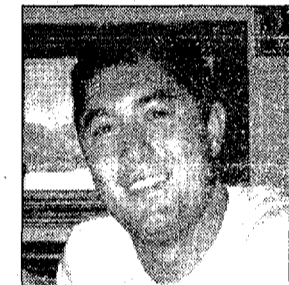
Richardses celebrate 50th anniversary

Ronald and Elizabeth (Betsy) Richards of Plymouth plan to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a family brunch at Fox Hills Golf Club on Sunday, Dec. 30. The couple were married Dec. 28, 1957, at Nativity Lutheran Church in Detroit. Both Ron and Betsy are Detroit natives. They have three children: Susan (Kerry McCue) of Canton; Ronald, Jr. (Kathy), Plymouth, and Robert (Amy), Plymouth. They have seven grandchildren: Ronald, Laura, Jonathan, Ronald, Justin, Daniel and Joseph, and one great-grandchild, Gianna, with a second great-grandchild on the way. Ronald is retired from Ford Motor Co. Betsy is retired from Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. The Richardses love to spend as much time as possible with their grandchildren and travel to their summer cottage on Long Lake near Ludington.



Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances
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JOHN M. COOPER

Age 29 of Grand Rapids passed away in his sleep December 22, 2007. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife Shannon Cooper, parents, Ralph and Joan Cooper, brothers; William Cooper, Matt (Jean) Cooper, sister Amy (Wick) Thomas, father and mother-in-law, Den and Mary Ketelaar, sister and brother-in-laws, Darcy Ketelaar, Michael Ketelaar, nieces and nephews; Lauren, Brady, Riley Jane Cooper and Charley, Cooper Thomas, Godmother, Bettie Rappleyea and their dog Alice. John graduated from Northwood University. He was a person who could light up a room when he entered. John was loved by all and will be deeply missed. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Thursday, December 27, 2007 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. For those who wish memorials can be made to Salvation Army or a charity of ones choice. To leave a tribute please log onto: www.mem.com.



ROBERT PETER CROTEAU

Passed away quietly in his home, per his wishes, on December 26 2007 in Plymouth MI, after a long battle with cancer. He worked for Laurel Park Office Buildings in Livonia until February 2007. Bob was born in Keene, NH on February 26, 1946. He was a fire fighter in Keene, NH for many years until he moved to Michigan in the 1970s. He was an avid Nascar fan. Tony Stewart (#20) was his favorite. He was survived by his wife, Michele; brother, Larry of NH; sister, Pat of MA; daughter, Cheri of KY; son, Jay of MI; grandchildren, Steve of MI, Chelsea of MI, and Brian of KY, and many nieces and nephews. Private services have been held.

GEORGE WEBSTER DECLARK

Age 103, December 24, 2007. Beloved husband of the late Dorothy (11-17-1991). Cherished father of Rose Mary (Donald) Miller and David F. (Debbie) DeClark. Dear grandfather of Jennifer Bullion, Deborah Noble, Daniel DeClark, Christopher Miller, Dawn DeClark and Beth Chapman. Loving great grandfather of Sarah Chapman, Emma Noble, Thomas Chapman, Madalyn Noble and Owen Miller. Services were held December 28, 2007, at Fisher Funeral Home, Redford Twp. followed by interment at Roseland Park Cemetery, Berkley. Memorial contributions to Leader Dog for the Blind, Rochester, Redford Lions Club, Detroit Opera House or Detroit Symphony would be appreciated.

MARGARET E. HALL
Of Plymouth, age 91, passed away on December 21, 2007. She came to the Plymouth community in 1945 and was a registered nurse at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. She was a member of Ward Presbyterian Church of Northville. Beloved wife of the late Walter A. Hall. Dear mother of Larry (Josephine) Hall. Grandmother of Stephanie and Gregory Hall. Visitation Friday, January 4, 2008 from 5pm-9pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. A memorial service will be held Saturday, January 5, 2008 at 11am at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 West Six Mile Rd., Northville. Contributions suggested to the Deacon's Fund for the church. Share memories at schrader-howell.com.

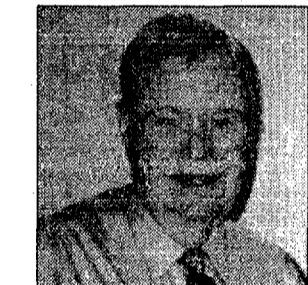
ANNA LOCKWOOD

Age 92 of Redford, formerly of Livonia, died December 25, 2007. Born December 12, 1915 outside of Konigsberg, East Germany, she was the youngest of eleven children. Anna came to the United States on June 13, 1935 on the "Europa" and settled in Detroit for a short while. Beloved wife of Willard "Sunshine" Lockwood, whom she married on July 11, 1940, preceded her in death in 1979. Devoted Mother to Patsy (Joe) Goupie of Westland, Butch (Bart) Goupie of South Lyon and Susan Wess of Westland. Proud grandmother of 9 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. Anna and Sunshine Lockwood owned Sunshine Greenhouses and Produce in Plymouth and later in Livonia. During the slow seasons, Anna worked at Kresge's in downtown Plymouth creating their gift baskets and holiday displays - her Christmas bows were amazing! Anna believed a daily spoonful of Jaegermeister was the key to a long life. She will be lovingly remembered for her boisterous laugh, feisty spirit and whispering "goose it" when riding in a fast car. A memorial service will be held January 12, 2008, 1pm at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth, MI. Friends may visit 12noon until service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia 48154.



THERESA J. WILSON

Dec. 25, 2007, age 69 of Canton. Dear wife of Carlton. Loving mother of Jeanne Kassem and Gary (Valerie). Proud grandma of Kevin and Anna Wilson. Dear sister of Joan (Edward) Dereniewski. Retired from Kmart Corp. as a human resources manager after 25 years of service. Longtime member of M.E.N.S.A. Visitation was held at Veremeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth. A Funeral Mass was held at St. John Neumann Catholic Church 44800 Warren Rd., Canton on Saturday. Memorials may be directed to Angela Hospice 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154. To view obituary and share a memory with the family please visit www.veremeulenfuneralhome.com



CHARLES E. WILSON, JR.

of Holt, MI formerly of Troy, MI passed away December 19, 2007 at the age of 81. He was a veteran of WWII, serving in the Pacific and was considered a pioneer in the television industry, working at WXYZ-TV, as an engineer, for 39 years. Other interests were Toastmasters, Boys and Girls Club, Judson Center Homes, American Red Cross, and AARP. Surviving him are his wife of 59 years, Barbara (Southern) Wilson; children: Kevan (Diane) of Ann Arbor; Kimberly (Daniel) Smeak of Fort Collins, CO and Kipling (Deborah) of Okemos; grandchildren: Jason Smeak of Chicago, IL, Samantha Smeak of Columbus, OH, Ashley Wilson of Lake Forest, CA and Alex Wilson of Bellingham, WA; sister, Georgia Hibbs of Lansing. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Saturday, January 5, at Gorsline-Runciman Funeral Homes, 1730 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. Condolences may be left at in lieu of flowers, those desiring may make contributions to Prestige Way Assisted Living, 4300 Keller Road, Holt, MI 48842, who tenderly cared for him in the last year of his life.



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YOUR DENTAL HEALTH

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

OTHER FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO GUM DISEASE

You should know that there are factors other than brushing and flossing that affect your oral health. In fact, research shows that smoking is the leading factor independently associated with the progression of gum disease. According to one study, more than 41% of the study subjects with progressive periodontal (gum) disease were smokers. You may also be interested to know that the second most important factor is sleep. Researchers found that subjects who slept seven to eight hours of sleep per night, had less progressive periodontal disease than those who had less than six hours of sleep nightly. It was also found that high stress levels and daily alcohol consumption had a significant impact on the progression of gum disease.

There is no magic to avoiding gum disease and achieving optimal dental hygiene success. Almost everyone can do it with a modest amount of time invested daily. Keeping up with home dental care as well as scheduling periodic cleanings and wellness exams are two important steps toward accomplishing the goal of a healthy mouth. For full-service dental care for all members of your family, please call 734-453-9413 for an appointment at 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth, (1 block E. of Kellogg Park).

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<p>BUDWEISER & BUD LIGHT \$15.99 24 Pack Cans + Tax & Dep.</p>	<p>6 FOOT SUB Ham, Turkey, Salami, Provolone, American, Lettuce, Tomato, Dressing and Hot Pepper Rings \$44.95 24 Hour Notice Please!</p>	<p>SWISS CHEESE \$3.99 lb. With coupon • Expires 1-5-08</p>
<p>BUDWEISER & BUD LIGHT 99¢ 24 oz. Can + Tax & Dep.</p>	<p>KOWALSKI Grandma K's Honey & Spice SPIRAL SLICED HAM \$3.49 lb.</p>	<p>AMERICAN CHEESE \$3.49 lb. With coupon • Expires 1-5-08</p>
<p>MILLER LIGHT & GENUINE DRAFT \$15.99 24 Pack Cans + Tax & Dep.</p>		<p>BOILED HAM \$1.99 lb. With coupon • Expires 1-5-08</p>
		<p>ROAST BEEF \$3.99 lb. With coupon • Expires 1-5-08</p>

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Open New Years Day 10-4 W-Sat. 8-9

<p>Holiday Special! Sea Mazz Cooked Shrimp \$6.99 lb. Atlantic Salmon \$6.99 lb.</p>	<p>Holiday Special! King Crab \$8.99 lb.</p>	<p>Holiday Special! KOWALSKI Holiday Sausage \$4.99 lb. Kielbasa \$4.99 lb. Smoked or Fresh</p>
<p>Holiday Special! KRAKUS Polish Ham \$3.99 lb. OLD TYME Hard Salami \$2.49 lb.</p>	<p>Holiday Special! Filet Mignon \$7.99 lb. Prime Rib \$6.99 lb.</p>	<p>Holiday Special! Old Tyme Swiss Cheese \$3.99 lb. American Cheese \$2.99 lb.</p>

OE08577847

New Year's Eve Gala

8:00 pm-2:30 am

Great Food
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Live Music by Eden
DJ and Dancing
Champagne Toast at Midnight
Pizza Station at 12:30 am

Single: \$70 Couple: \$135

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50% Off*



All Used Products:

50% Off*



New CDs and DVDs:

25% Off*

Canton Location ONLY! previous sales excluded

(734)-981-7530

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WE BUY USED CDs, DVDs, AND LPs!

We have a large collection of rock memorabilia including t-shirts, posters, hats, etc.

313-561-1000

NEW YEAR'S EVE EVENTS

New Year's Eve performance

Celebrate the start of 2008 with The Wonder Merchants, a humor troupe, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton on New Year's Eve. Doors open at The Village Theater, located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, at 8:30 p.m., with the main stage performance starting at 9 p.m. A buffet follows, along with music by the Terry Stevenson Trio. Enjoy a champagne toast and balloon-drop at midnight and dance until 12:30 a.m. A cash bar is also available. Tickets are \$45. Visit www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater or call 734-394-5460.

Celebrate with 'celebrities'

Ring in the New Year at a party, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Monday, Dec. 31, at the Wayne Ford Civic League, 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland. The festivities include performances by Neil Diamond, Rod Stewart and Blues Brothers impersonators. Tickets are \$50; \$85 per couple; or a table of eight for \$320. Tickets include an all-you-can-eat buffet dinner, with open bar and a champagne toast at midnight. Designated Drivers available. Contact Laurie at (734) 637-5553 or lbarra@comcast.net, or the hall staff at (734) 728-5010 or vbarra@comcast.net.

New Year's party at AMVETS hall

A New Year's Eve party will be held Monday, Dec. 31, at AMVETS Post 171 Hall, 1217 Merriman, Westland. Tickets are \$25 each and include dinner, open bar and dancing. For tickets, call (734) 721-9440.

New Year's Eve, the Finnish way

The Finnish Club of America will hold a Finnish New Year's Eve celebration starting with cocktails at 4 p.m. Dec. 31 at the club's center, 35200 Eight Mile Road. Tickets are \$25. For more information, contact the club at (248) 478-6939.

UPCOMING

Peace talk set

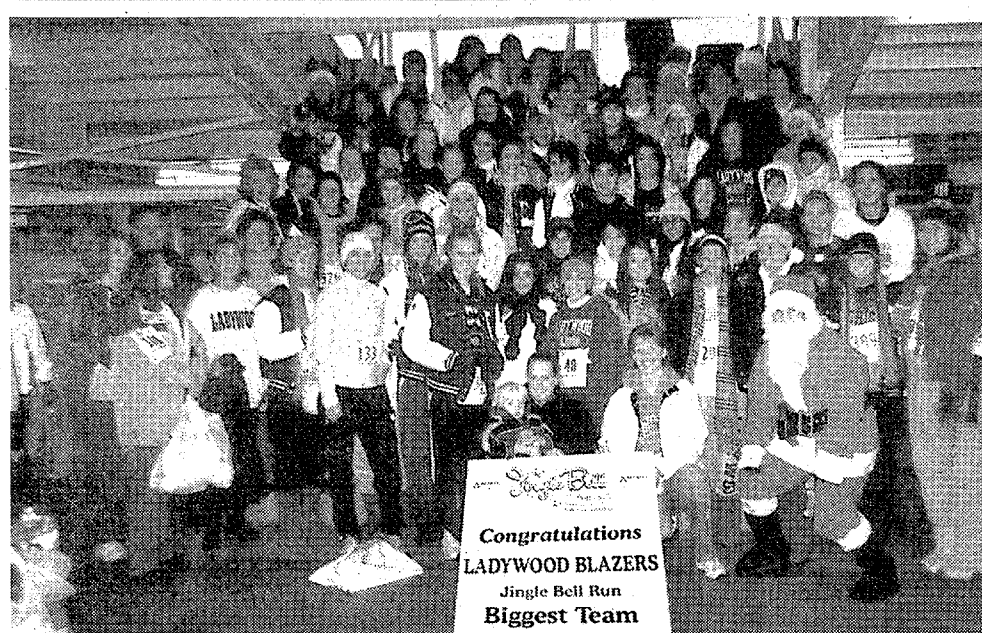
Citizens for Peace, which covers the 11th District, will host Rudy Simons, a songwriter and music publisher based in Southfield, discussing his recent visit to Iran, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile. (734) 425-0079. Visitors are invited to join the nonprofit group, which promotes nonviolence.

The Dreamers' Concert

A benefit concert starring Guy Louis will be held from 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 5, at the Penn Theatre in Plymouth. It's presented by the Plymouth A.M. Rotary and will benefit Tanger School Playground and other projects. Tickets are \$5; children pay \$3. Debra Madonna, (734) 377-0914 or www.plymouthrotaryam.org

McCotter staff visits

The staff of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, will hold district office hours to discuss federal issues. On Thursday, Jan. 3, it's set for 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Summit Senior Center and 1-2 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library. On Tuesday, Jan. 8, staff will be available from 9-10 a.m. at the Civic Park Senior Center in Livonia, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Redford Community Center and 1-2 p.m. at the Maplewood



Jingling for a cause

Ladywood High School's team was the largest group for the fifth straight year in the Jingle Bell Run/Walk for the Arthritis Foundation on Dec. 2. The 120 members raised \$4,725 for the cause. The seven-student committee responsible for recruiting team members included Marissa Antosiewicz, Natalie Berry, Meredith Houska, Maria Quaglia, Alex Serowoky, Meredith Stasa and Megan Vitale.

Community Center in Garden City. Contact McCotter's office at (734) 632-0314.

Learn to skate

Livonia's parks and Recreation Department begins walk-in registration for its learn to skate and hockey skills classes on Wednesday, Jan. 2. The six-week classes begin the week of Jan. 6, with times and days based

on ages of participants. Fees are \$47 for Livonia residents; \$57 for non-residents. (734) 466-2412.

Join a basketball league

Men and women can sign up for winter basketball leagues, offered through the Westland Parks and Recreation department, through Monday, Dec. 31. A minimum of six teams in each division are needed;

each team may sign up to 15 players. Non-resident fees are \$10 per player, capped at \$100 per team. Registration fee is \$350 per team, and each team is responsible for official fees, which are \$25 per game. The season begins Jan. 16 for women, Jan. 18 for men. (734) 722-7620.

New Year's Dream Circle

Mystical Resources is creating a

multi-sensory space for peaceful inspiration to commemorate the passing of the old year and begin the new. There will be a candle-lit setting with music, prayers of gratitude and words of inspiration, then meditation - a time to focus on visions of the new year. After silent contemplation, participants may share their thoughts. It will be 7:30-9:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 31, at Mystical Resources, 232425 Grand River, behind the Ram's Horn restaurant in Farmington. (248) 442-2525.

Skate-athon

The Garden City Figure Skating Club will hold its fifth annual skate-athon 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26, at the Civic Arena in Garden City Park, Merriman at Cherry Hill. Admission is \$5 with skate rentals available for \$2. Proceeds will benefit the Michigan Humane Society. For more information, call Brian Schenk at (734) 237-4593.

Cat show

The Midwest Persian Tabby Fanciers Inc. will present its 39th annual all breed and household pet cat show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 26-27, at the Wayne Ford Civic League, 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Pedigree felines as well as household pets will be featured at the show. Food also will be available. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens and \$3 for children. The Midwest Persian Tabby Fanciers is affiliated with the Cat Fanciers Association, the world's largest registry of pedigreed cats.

Get on the ball. Read today's SPORTS coverage!

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Appeal 07-14: Elmer Lucky, of 16731 Norborne, Redford MI 48240, Lot Number 1331 & 1332 of the B.E. Taylor's Golf & Country Club Subdivision No. 3 located north Lola Drive and south of Grove Avenue.

The applicant is requesting to construct a 30' wide x 32' deep detached accessory structure located in the rear yard of the property. This proposal would require (3) variances before a permit can be obtained.

1. Per Ordinance 152N, Section 3.11(a), detached accessory structures are prohibited from having second stories, therefore a variance would be required for the upper level.
2. Per Ordinance 152N, Section 3.11(D.1), the maximum allowable square footage for a detached accessory structure is 800 square feet. The applicant has proposed 960 square feet, therefore, a variance of 160 square feet would be required.
3. Per Ordinance 152N, Section 3.11(D), only one private garage is allowed per resident lot. The primary residence has an attached private garage and the applicant is proposing to construct a second garage structure.

THE LAW REQUIRES THAT OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS OF PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN 300 FEET OF THIS PROPERTY BE NOTIFIED OF THIS REQUEST IN WRITING. THIS IS YOUR NOTIFICATION.

This appeal will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Redford Township Hall board room, 15145 Beech Daly Road, on **Wednesday, January 09, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.** Written comments must indicate the above appeal number and will be accepted no later than 4:30 p.m. **January 09, 2008. No comments will be accepted over the telephone.**

Gregory Morgan, Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals

The Charter Township of Redford, Township (PC, ZBA, Board of Trustees, etc.) 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 or public hearing, upon seven (7) days notice to the (PC, ZBA, Board of Trustees, etc.). Further, individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Clerk by writing to 15145 Five Mile Road, Redford MI 48239, or by calling (313) 387-2750.

Publish: December 30, 2007

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSAL CITY OF LIVONIA 33000 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Livonia, Michigan as owner, until 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 10, 2008 at the City Clerk's Office at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, at which time said proposals will be opened and publicly read.

REQUEST FOR BIDS TO REMARCIATE THE CITY OF LIVONIA'S COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER'S LEISURE POOL

REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR TOWEL SERVICE FOR THE CITY OF LIVONIA'S COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

Proposals must be submitted on forms furnished by the Director of Finance of the City of Livonia. Instructions to Bidders and Specifications for items required may be obtained at the Office of the Director of Finance, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan. All proposals shall be sealed in opaque envelopes, plainly marked with the name of the material bid upon, name of bidder, and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

The City of Livonia reserves the right to reject or accept any or all proposals in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein.

Jack Engbretson
Mayor
City of Livonia

Publish: December 30, 2007

CITY OF PLYMOUTH ACCURACY TESTING FOR VOTING EQUIPMENT

The City of Plymouth will be conducting the accuracy testing for the optical scan voting equipment for the Presidential Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2008. The test is scheduled for Thursday, January 3, 2008 at 11:30 a.m. at City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth.

This is an open session and any interested person is encouraged to attend. Miller Consultations & Elections will be conducting the testing to assure that the voting equipment has been programmed appropriately.

If there are any questions, please direct them to the City Clerk's office at 734-453-1234, ext. 234. City Hall is in compliance with the American Disabilities Act and is handicapped accessible.

Linda Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: December 30, 2007



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OPEN Wednesday Jan 2nd until 8pm


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Save up to \$10,000!
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2008 CHEVROLET MALIBU
NOW IN STOCK
STARTING AT **\$18,684***



2008 CHEVROLET COBALT
ZERO DOWN \$0 SEC. DEP.
Protection Package, Rear Spoiler, Air, stereo & much more.
GM EMPLOYEE 39 mo/39,000 mile lease. Total due \$223.
\$223 PER MO
NOW EVERYBODY PURCHASE \$14,311 - \$2000 REBATE
\$12,311*



2008 IMPALA
OnStar, side head curtain airbags, power windows & locks, tilt, cruise, power seat, stereo CD, rear def. #8C9186
\$229 DOWN **\$229 PER MO.**
39 Mo/32,500 miles lease, no security deposit required. Total due \$458.



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2008 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER LT 1

Power windows, power lock, tilt, cruise, air conditioning, deep tinted glass, locking differential, sunroof, OnStar, AM/FM stereo CD, auto overdrive trans, much more!



2008 CHEVROLET AVEO

LOADED! Look at this Car

***** CRASH RATING
AM/FM CD MP3, 6 prem. speakers, cruise, auto overdrive trans, delay wipers, air tilt, digital clock, split fold rear seat, remote trunk release, power rack & pinion steering, disc brakes, stainless steel exhaust, front & side impact air bags, daytime running lamps, fold away body colored dual mirrors, tire pressure monitoring system, halogen headlights, front & rear floor mats, rear defogger, recline lumbar adj. seats, visor vanity mirrors, front & rear pass. assist handles. Stock #8C9086.
Was \$14,195 • Everyone \$13,671
Rebate - \$1500
ALL THIS PLUS UP TO 38 MPG and 5 Year 100,000 Mile GM Warranty!
NOW \$12,171*
GM employees save additional \$600



2008 SILVERADO
EXT. CAB

OUT THE DOOR PRICING! Includes tax!

Power package, trailer tow, locking diff., power windows & locks, tilt, cruise, air, LT 1 package, auto overdrive. Example #8T4019
39 Mo/32,500 miles lease \$3000 down \$184 1st payment, \$200 sec. \$251 sales tax, \$103 title trans & doc fee. Total due \$3761.
\$195 PER MO.

\$1000 REBATES ON SILVERADO TAHOE & AVALANCHE



	REAR WHEEL DRIVE 8T3887				4 WHEEL DRIVE 8T3866			
	Down	10,000 Miles	12,000 Miles	15,000 Miles	Down	10,000 Miles	12,000 Miles	15,000 Miles
GM Employee 39 Month Lease	\$3000	\$179	\$191	\$211	\$3000	\$204	\$218	\$239
	\$2000	\$206	\$220	\$240	\$2000	\$232	\$246	\$268
	\$1000	\$235	\$248	\$268	\$1000	\$261	\$275	\$296
	\$0	\$263	\$277	\$314	\$0	\$289	\$303	\$325
Non Employee 39 Month Lease	\$3000	\$211	\$225	\$245	\$3000	\$239	\$254	\$275
	\$2000	\$240	\$253	\$274	\$2000	\$268	\$282	\$304
	\$1000	\$268	\$281	\$301	\$1000	\$296	\$311	\$332
	\$0	\$296	\$310	\$330	\$0	\$325	\$339	\$382

***1st payment, sec. dep & down pmt due at delivery. See box below for total due.
36 PAYMENTS UNDER \$300

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Lou LaRiche
CHEVROLET



	***Total Due Rear Wheel			***Total Due 4 Wheel		
	Down	10,000 Miles	12,000 Miles	Down	10,000 Miles	12,000 Miles
GM Employee 39 Month Lease	\$3000	\$3404	\$3416	\$3000	\$3429	\$3468
	\$2000	\$2456	\$2470	\$2000	\$2507	\$2546
	\$1000	\$1510	\$1548	\$1000	\$1561	\$1600
	\$0	\$563	\$602	\$0	\$639	\$653
Non Employee 39 Month Lease	\$3000	\$3461	\$3500	\$3000	\$3514	\$3554
	\$2000	\$2540	\$2553	\$2000	\$2593	\$2607
	\$1000	\$1593	\$1606	\$1000	\$1646	\$1661
	\$0	\$646	\$660	\$0	\$700	\$739

*Prices include applicable rebates plus destination. GM employee purchase. **Lease with option to purchase at term for pre-determined amount. Net incentives plus tax & lic. Excess miles @ 25¢ per mile. Lessee responsible for damage, wear & tear. Sale ends 1-2-08.

0.9% APR Plus \$3000 on select models to qualified buyers

NORTH BROTHERS

REBATES UP TO \$7000 on select models

All Incentives End Wed. Jan. 2 at 6pm

Last Chance to Save Thousands on remaining 2007 Models!

GET \$500 CASH

All Sign & Drive Leases*

OPEN MONDAY DECEMBER 31ST
8:30 am - 5:00 pm

2008 FUSION SE

2.3L I4 engine, 5-speed automatic transmission, P205/60R16 all season and more. Stock #8C8104 Was \$20,295
NOW \$16,819*

24 MONTH LEASE
SIGN & DRIVE **\$259** PER MO. **\$2000 DOWN \$137** PER MO.
GET \$500 CASH BACK! \$2447.07 Due at Signing!



2008 FOCUS SES 4 DOOR

2.0L DOHC eng. auto trans, P195/60R15 BSW tires, Sirius satellite radio & much more. Stock #8C9033 Was \$17,005
NOW \$14,964*

24 MONTH LEASE
SIGN & DRIVE **\$263** PER MO. **\$2000 DOWN \$156** PER MO.
GET \$100 CASH BACK! \$2611.91 Due at Signing!



2008 TAURUS AWD • LTD

3.5L V-6 Duratec engine, 6 speed auto trans, P225/55R18 BSW tires and much more. Stock #8C7059 Was \$29,445
NOW \$24,420*

24 MONTH LEASE
SIGN & DRIVE **\$334** PER MO. **\$2000 DOWN \$204** PER MO.
GET \$500 CASH BACK! \$2623.55 Due at Signing!



2008 F150 4x4 XLT • SC

5.4L FFV V-8, elec 4 spd auto O/D, P255/70R17 OWL all-terrain, 3.55 ratio lim. slip axle, 7150F GWRB pkg., elec. shift-on-fly, trailer tow pkg. 17" Mach alum. w/pain accents. Stock #8T6017 Was \$33,475
NOW \$25,129*

24 MONTH LEASE
SIGN & DRIVE **\$334** PER MO. **\$2000 DOWN \$205** PER MO.
GET \$500 CASH BACK! \$2639.14 Due at Signing!



2008 EDGE FWD SE

Automatic O/D trans, 3.5L V6 eng, 17" painted alum wheels, P235/65R17 BSW tires & more. Stock #8T3035 Was \$26,004
NOW \$22,589*

24 MONTH LEASE
SIGN & DRIVE **\$336** PER MO. **\$2000 DOWN \$210** PER MO.
GET \$500 CASH BACK! \$2556.34 Due at Signing!



2008 ESCAPE XLT

Auto, air, fog lamps, power driver's seat, privacy glass, safety canopy, com. pkg and more. Stock #8T9170 Was \$23,020
NOW \$19,259*

24 MONTH LEASE
SIGN & DRIVE **\$337** PER MO. **\$2000 DOWN \$209** PER MO.
GET \$500 CASH BACK! \$2524.43 Due at Signing!



2008 EXPLORER XLT 4 DR • 4X2

Air, illum. visors, 4.0L SOHC V6 eng, 5 spd auto trans w/ O/D, P245/65R17 A/S tires, 17" cast alum whls. Stock #8T5005 Was \$27,710
NOW \$21,004*

24 MONTH LEASE
SIGN & DRIVE **\$338** PER MO. **\$2000 DOWN \$210** PER MO.
GET \$500 CASH BACK! \$2700.47 Due at Signing!



2008 TAURUS X FWD • LTD

3.5L V-6 Duratec engine, 6 speed auto transmission, 60/40 2nd row 3-passenger bench seat. Stock #8T0300 Was \$30,700
NOW \$25,603*

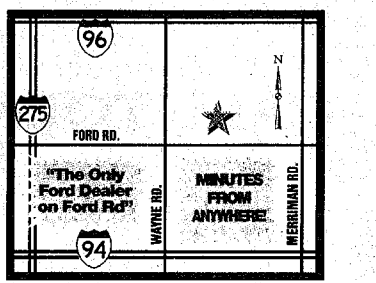
24 MONTH LEASE
SIGN & DRIVE **\$366** PER MO. **\$2000 DOWN \$236** PER MO.
GET \$500 CASH BACK! \$2656.34 Due at Signing!



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OPEN WEDNESDAY JAN 2ND UNTIL 6PM
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2008 Fusion SE
Buy For **\$16,093⁺**
\$1000 Down Sign & Drive
\$178^{}** 36 MOS. **\$214^{**}** 36 MOS.
\$1295 due at delivery
Automatic transmission, air conditioning, power windows & locks, speed control



2008 Focus Coupe SE
Buy For **\$13,468⁺**
\$1000 Down Sign & Drive
\$156^{}** 36 MOS. **\$192^{**}** 36 MOS.
\$1271 due at delivery
Auto trans, A/C, power windows & locks, keyless entry, AM/FM, CD/MP3, audio input jack, side air bags



2008 Explorer XLT
Buy For **\$20,178⁺**
\$1000 Down Sign & Drive
\$247^{}** 36 MOS. **\$289^{**}** 36 MOS.
\$1531 due at delivery
Moon roof, Sirius radio, running boards, power windows, locks & drivers seat, speed control, tilt wheel

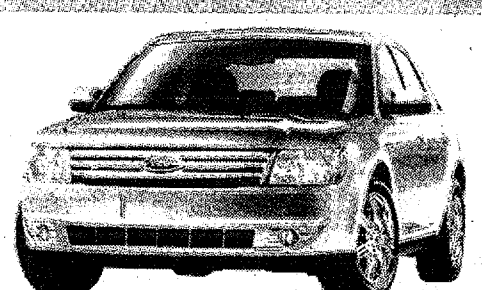


2008 Taurus X
Buy For **\$24,853⁺**
\$1000 Down Sign & Drive
\$304^{}** 36 MOS. **\$348^{**}** 36 MOS.
\$1533 due at delivery
Leather seating, power windows & locks, heated power seats, AM/FM, CD/MP3, audiophile w/sub woofer

Happy New Year from your friends at Bill Brown Ford!

\$500^{\$}
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For Your Trade

ONLY VALID AT BILL BROWN FORD, 32222 PLYMOUTH ROAD, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN. NO CASH VALUE. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OFFERS. YOU MUST PRESENT THIS COUPON. ONE COUPON PER CUSTOMER. EXPIRES ON JANUARY 2, 2008.



2008 Taurus
Buy For **\$22,394⁺**
\$1000 Down Sign & Drive
\$265^{}** 36 MOS. **\$307^{**}** 36 MOS.
\$1492 due at delivery
Sync leather tilt wheel, pwr wndws & locks, heated pwr seats, AM/FM, CDX6/MP3, audiophile w/subwoofer



2008 Escape XLT
Buy For **\$18,594⁺**
\$1000 Down Sign & Drive
\$240^{}** 36 MOS. **\$279^{**}** 36 MOS.
\$1375 due at delivery
Moonroof, auto trans, AM/FM/CD w/Sirius radio, power windows, locks & seat, speed control, tilt wheel

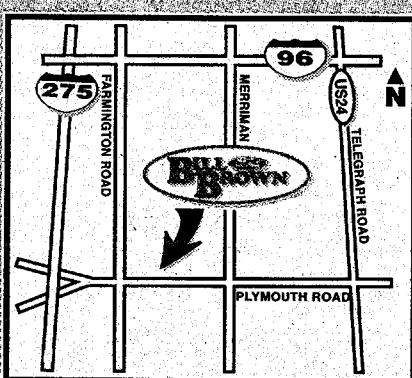


2008 F150 4x4 XLT Supercab
Buy For **\$23,379⁺**
\$1000 Down Sign & Drive
\$225^{}** 24 MOS. **\$287^{**}** 24 MOS.
\$1501 due at delivery
FREE Tow & Go, electronic shift on the fly, sliding rear window, PW, PL, speed, tilt & more.



2008 Edge SE
Buy For **\$21,884⁺**
\$1000 Down Sign & Drive
\$263^{}** 36 MOS. **\$303^{**}** 36 MOS.
\$1415 due at delivery
A/C, power windows A& locks, speed control, AM/FM, CDX6/MP3 sound system, convenience group

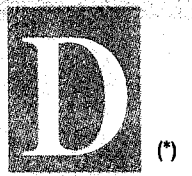
We will waive your Last Two Payments!
Leases due through October 1, 2008 are eligible for up to 2 payments!



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*All payments and buy prices for qualifying A/Z planners, for qualifying non A/Z planners an additional \$1700 would be required to keep the payments or price the same. All payments include acquisition fee, exclude tax and license fees. 10,000 miles per year. Buy for price add tax, title, doc and destination fee. Subject to availability. All rebates assigned to dealer. Pictures may not represent actual vehicle. Payments and prices per program in effect at publication and are subject to change. Owner loyalty rebate included where applicable. All offers expire 01-02-08.

New Homes



Sunday, December 30, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Noble Fir design ideal if you love entertaining

Families who enjoy time together and with friends will appreciate the multiplicity of gathering spaces in the Noble Fir (333-250). Options range from the relaxed and cozy sun drenched nook, to the formal living room and dining room, to the state-of-the-art family theater.

Windowed on four sides, the bayed nook is richly illuminated with natural light.

More light streams in through a garden window in front of the sink. Kitchen amenities include: an eating bar, a step-in pantry, raised dishwasher, built-in oven, microwave and range.

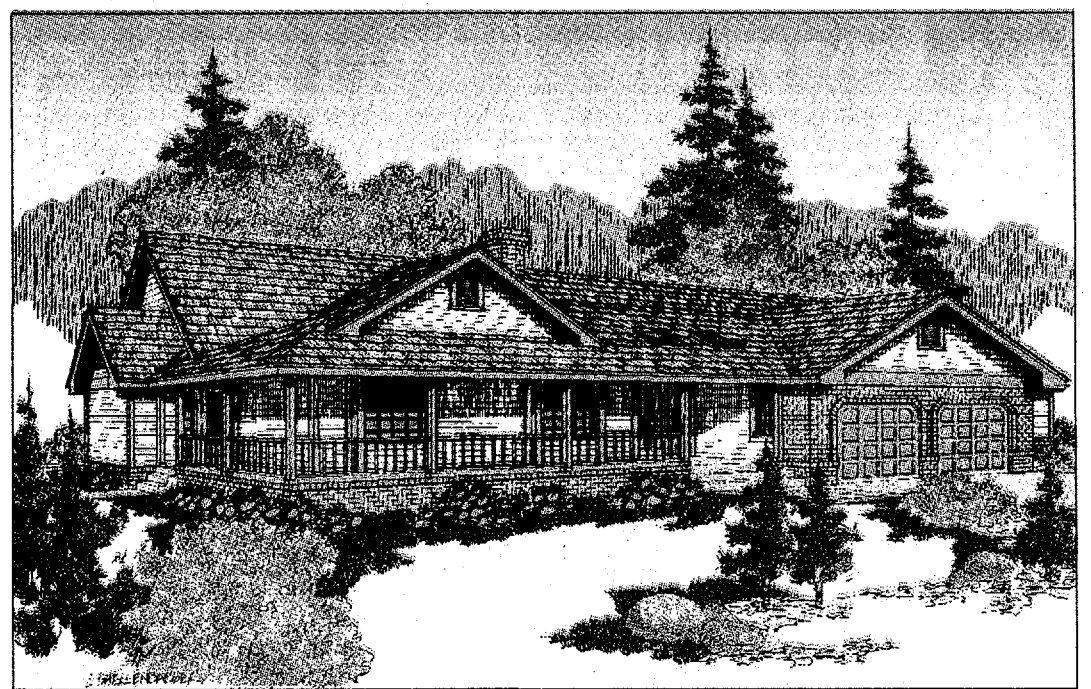
A large utility room is just around the corner. It is outfitted with pull-down ironing board, overhead cabinets, and a counter for folding clothes. Garage access and steps to the

basement are right outside the door. The two-car garage has a shop and storage space of f to the side.

Multi-paned windows flank the front door, suffusing the vaulted entry with light. On the covered porch, skylights create a spotlight effect directly in front of the door. The railed country style porch wraps around to the left where a door enters the family theater and steps descend to the side yard.

Vaulted dining room and living room flow together. Windows fill most of the rear wall and French doors at the center open onto a rambling deck. A fireplace, tucked into the corner furthest from the windows, provides warmth and color when skies are gray.

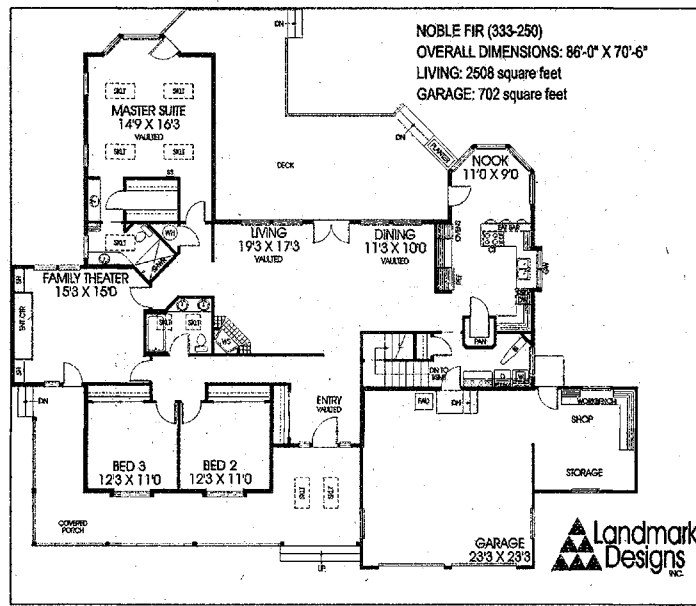
Outfitted with a large-screen television and quadraphonic sound system, the family room becomes a family theater. Shelves and cabinets house equipment, videotapes, albums and the like. Doors on three sides allow entry from the porch, the bedrooms and the living room.



Five skylights and the bayed sitting area brighten the sumptuous master suite. Luxuries here include a walk-in closet, oversized shower, and a second vanity outside the bathroom. The bathroom that serves the secondary bedrooms also has skylights and dual sinks.

For a study plan of the NOBLE FIR (333-250), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to

help you search our portfolio for your dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.lidiplans.com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (LOE48) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.



BRIEFS

Appraising and Sales

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

BIA

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. 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 Remodelers 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 Remodeler (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 Remodelers 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.reiaofaokland.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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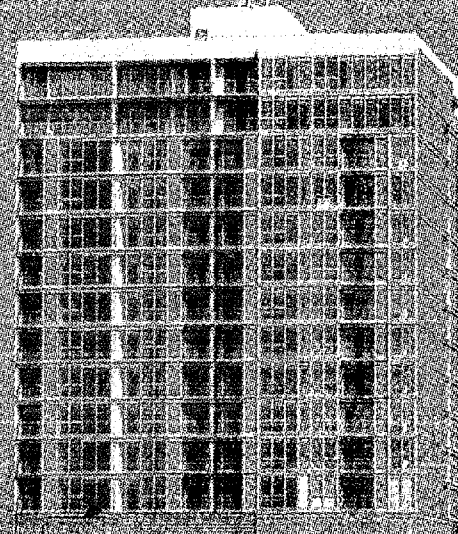
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\$2000 TOTAL DUE	\$1000 TOTAL DUE	\$0 DUE
\$217*	\$258*	\$274*
24 Mo. LEASE	24 Mo. LEASE	39 Mo. LEASE

ALL NEW 2008 ESCAPE XLT

Moonroof, Satellite Radio, auto, air. ALL NEW DESIGN!

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\$226*	\$248*	\$273*
24 Mo. LEASE	36 Mo. LEASE	39 Mo. LEASE

ALL NEW 2008 FOCUS SE

Auto, air, pwr windows/locks, tilt, cruise, front, side & canopy air bags and much more!

\$2000 TOTAL DUE	\$1000 TOTAL DUE	\$0 DUE
\$133*	\$161*	\$189*
24 Mo. LEASE	36 Mo. LEASE	39 Mo. LEASE

ALL NEW 2008 FUSION SE

ABS, PW/PL, 6-airbag protection, 6-disc CD/MP3, pwr seats, steering wheel radio control.

\$2000 TOTAL DUE	\$1000 TOTAL DUE	\$0 DUE
\$150*	\$199*	\$207*
24 Mo. LEASE	24 Mo. LEASE	39 Mo. LEASE

NEW 2008 TAURUS SEL

ABS, side air bags, traction control, V6, safety canopy system.

\$2000 TOTAL DUE	\$1000 TOTAL DUE	\$0 DUE
\$199*	\$239*	\$271*
24 Mo. LEASE	24 Mo. LEASE	39 Mo. LEASE

NEW 2008 EDGE SE

Front, side & canopy air bags, MP3 ready, V6, pwr windows/locks, 17" alum wheels, tilt, cruise.

\$2000 TOTAL DUE	\$1000 TOTAL DUE	\$0 DUE
\$229*	\$269*	\$313*
24 Mo. LEASE	24 Mo. LEASE	24 Mo. LEASE

NEW 2008 F150 SC 4X4 XLT

Trailer tow pkg, stereo CD, FULL POWER! Americas Work Horse!

\$2000 TOTAL DUE	\$1000 TOTAL DUE	\$0 DUE
\$199*	\$239*	\$279*
24 Mo. LEASE	24 Mo. LEASE	24 Mo. LEASE

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'06 F250 CREW CAB DIESEL ONLY \$26,950	'07 FREESTAR SEL LOADED! Leather, FACTORY WARRANTY! ONLY \$14,950	Manager's Special! '07 TAURUS SE ONLY \$9,950
		'05 MERCEDES BENZ C230 Leather, moonroof, LOADED! ONLY \$21,950

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Sunday PUZZLE CORNER

Challenging fun for ALL ages

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Mouse alert
 - 4 Contract
 - 8 The skinny
 - 12 Apply a jimmy
 - 13 World's fair
 - 14 Year-end tune
 - 15 Hearing aid?
 - 16 Complain
 - 17 Whetstone
 - 18 Knickknack stand
 - 20 Oblong fruit
 - 21 Catch a crook
 - 22 "Futureworld" name
 - 23 Erupt, as lava
 - 26 Sweet wine
 - 30 Ill-mannered one
 - 31 Energy
 - 32 No gentleman
 - 33 Not affected
 - 36 Criticize
 - 38 Flutter, as eyelashes
 - 39 Take by unlawful force

- DOWN**
- 1 Thrust-and-parry sword
 - 2 Latin I verb
 - 3 Actress
 - 4 Beat
 - 5 Bedroom community
 - 6 Domed recess
 - 7 Part of UCLA
 - 8 Fill the lungs

Answer to Previous Puzzle

P	Y	R	E	N	I	B	S	Y	E	N
R	O	A	D	I	R	A	N	V	I	A
O	W	E	D	N	E	M	O	E	R	G
C	A	M	E	O	P	A	P	A	S	E
O	N	E	S	W	A	D	H	E	E	D
V	O	N	E	H	I	D	C	R	O	
E	N	D	S	A	L	S	F	R	A	N
G	A	L	L	O	B	U	S			
R	H	O	N	O	T	A	S	O	B	S
I	O	N	I	R	I	S	I	H	O	P
D	Y	E	C	O	P	E	L	O	G	Y

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13						14		
15			16						17		
18		19							20		
23	24	25		26			27	28	29		
30			31						32		
33		34	35				36	37			
40	41	42				43			44	45	46
47						48			49		
50						51			52		
53						54			55		

SUDOKU

			7			5		3	
								9	
	6			2	5				
2	7	6		3					
	9			6					
4			2	8	9	7	5		
	4		3		1	8	6		
			7	6			4	1	5
			8			2	3		

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

- CAT CHEETAH COUGAR JAGUAR LEOPARD LION LYNX PANTHER TIGER

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

I P O R T Y A J P W
A T S C A D N A M C
L I O N C O U G A R
R G E K P L I U P O
L E O P A R D A W I
Y R I S N A X R V R
N E R T T U I O L M
X B C E H D A S R T
W C H E E T A H O J
P L V D R E U M N D

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

SUDOKU

6	7	8	2	5	4	8	1	9
9	1	7	8	6	9	2	3	8
2	9	8	1	7	8	6	4	5
9	5	2	6	8	2	1	8	7
4	8	2	7	4	1	9	6	8
1	8	6	7	9	8	9	7	2
8	4	1	9	2	6	8	9	7
7	6	9	8	4	8	2	9	1
5	2	3	6	7	1	8	4	9

SEEK AND FIND

D	N	M	I	R	D	L	F
P	L	E	B	R	U	M	P
I	O	H	V	A	L	E	F
L	R	V	S	H	C	B	X
M	T	O	I	U	L	N	Y
L	A	O	X	V	N	S	I
I	A	W	D	E	O	P	A
P	O	P	L	I	L	I	R
C	A	R	O	C	A	V	A
A	L	S	O	N	G	O	I
L	I	C	O	N	A	M	C
I	P	O	R	T	Y	A	J

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 <p>2008 LINCOLN MKZ 3.5L V6 Duratec eng, 6 speed automatic transmission, fog lamps, message center, side air curtain, wood trim, leather, SYNC media and more. Stock #81034</p> <p>\$262** Per Mo. \$2500 due at signing</p> <p>24 Month Lease</p>	 <p>2008 LINCOLN MKX 3.5L V6 engine, auto trans, ultimate pkg. includes 18" chrome-clad alum wheels, adaptive headlamps, power liftgate, reverse sensing system, SYNC voice activated system, more. Stock #81131</p> <p>\$313** Per Mo. \$2500 due at signing</p> <p>24 Month Lease</p>	 <p>2008 LINCOLN MARK LT Pref. equip. pkg., rear def., elec. auto. temp. control, Audiophile/6-disc CD changer, sat. radio, 5.4L EFI V8, auto O/D, chrome running boards & box rail bars, 20" chrome alum. whls, too much to list! Stock #81056</p> <p>\$359** Per Mo. \$2500 due at signing</p> <p>24 Month Lease</p>



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