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Lawyer: Polygraph casts doubt on ID

Accused killer passed test about hardware store presence

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Accused killer Alexander Letkemann took and passed a polygraph test the results of which his attorney believes proves he was never in a Canton hardware store two days

before the murder of 26-year-old Daniel Sorensen.

Letkemann, 18, of Westland and 17-year-old Jean Pierre Orlewicz of Plymouth Township are accused of luring Sorensen, an acquaintance of theirs from River Rouge, to a Canton Township garage and killing him

Nov. 7. Prosecutors say the pair then beheaded Sorensen and burned his body in an attempt to impede identi-

Orlewicz, a Canton High School student, and Letkemann, a former Livonia Churchill student, face an April 7 trial date on charges of firstdegree murder, mutilation of a corpse and felony murder. The latter charge, originally dismissed by 35th District Court Judge Michael Gerou at the preliminary hearing, was reinstated by Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Annette Berry, who called it a

"matter for the jury to decide." At their preliminary hearing in

35th District Court in November, Lucy Heenan, the store manager at a Canton ACO Hardware store, identified Letkemann as someone she saw in the aisle containing hatchets and torches.

According to police reports, Heenan told Canton police she "couldn't be 100 percent sure" it was Letkemann she saw in the store, and later admitted she may have recognized him from media accounts of the crime.

At the preliminary exam, Heenan denied making those statements. In a motion asking Berry to suppress Heenan's testimony, Raymond Cassar, Letkemann's attorney, called Heenan's identification "suspect" and asked Berry to suppress it, based on Heenan's statements and the results of the

private polygraph test adminis-

tered by Leonard West of West

Polygraph and Consulting in

Farmington.

Please see POLYGRAPH, A4

Growing business from the inside

New chamber head eyes 'hometown heroes'

BY TONY BRUSCATO **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

As the incoming executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, Wes Graff said he's looking for the next home-grown superstars to locate their businesses in the Plymouth community.

In Michigan, the communities that will be successful are those that will be able to grow their own businesses," said Graff, 43, from his downtown Plymouth office. "I'm impressed by the research and technology firms in the industrial parks, and while we'll be able to attract some business there, we've got to grow our own hometown heroes. They are the next superstars, and those who will be the most

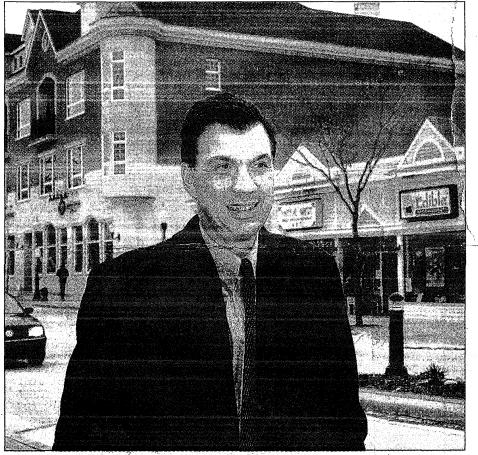
Plymouth says goodbye to Toney, A4.

loyal to the community going forward.

"We know a lot of businesses won't make it," added Graff. "But, if you get a group of them, then you'll have new success stories and new business leaders in your community."

While he had most recently been director of marketing for a Garden City catering company, Graff has extensive experience in chamber work. From April 2003 to September 2006 he was president of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce. He left Livonia for a similar job at the Greater Mankato (Minn.) chamber, but left after seven months to return home to family and friends. Graff's

Please see CHAMBER, A4



New Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce director Wes Graff takes a walk around the streets of downtown Plymouth.



Shoveling out

Scott Dwojak usually spends his workday washing dishes at Plymouth's Box Bar and Grill. Thanks to Friday's snowstorm he got to put down the dishrag for a while and pick up a snow shovel. Dwojak lives in Livonia.

Board closes in on new leader

BY TONY BRUSCATO OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A contract in principle has been reached with Craig Fiegel, the finalist from suburban Chicago the school board is considering hiring as Plymouth-Canton's next schools superintendent.

And, unless something dramatic occurs on Wednesday, when five of the seven Plymouth-Canton trustees make a oneday visit to Fiegel's current district in Evergreen Park, Ill., it appears Fiegel will be hired to succeed Jim Ryan, who retired

We talked to him (Fiegel) and we talked to the board about parameters (of a contract)," said PCCS board President Judy Mardigian. "Our goal is to approve his contract at our March II meeting. It's all progressing."

Trustees have scheduled an executive session concerning contract negotiations after Tuesday night's budget workshop.

Fiegel earns \$180,000 as superintendent of the 1,900-student Evergreen Park Elementary School District 124. While Mardigian acknowledged that

none of the candidates interviewed by the board would come to Plymouth-Canton without a pay increase, she declined to discuss details of Fiegel's 'concept" contract.

"The market has gotten a lot tighter, and it's definitely a shrinking market," she said. "Candidates definitely can command a higher wage than they could six years ago." Ryan earned an annual salary of \$161,000.

Mardigian said board members will meet with employee groups, parents and people in the Evergreen Park community to find out more about Fiegel.

Fiegel cautioned board members not to expect too much from his elementary-only school district.

"They need to be realistic, they won't see anything like to Plymouth-Canton," Fiegel said. "I'll show them our schools, and I'll take them into the classroom to see some real quality education."

Fiegel said if he's hired by Plymouth-Canton, he'll start July 1 as his contract in Evergreen Park runs through June 30.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Taxes rising despite decline in home values

BY TONY BRUSCATO OSBERVER STAFF WRITER

Michigan's notoriety as a state with one of the highest home foreclosure rates and slumping home sales is now rearing its ugly head on area homeowners in the form of increased property taxes even as residentiai property assessments drop dra matically.

Because of Proposal A, which was passed in 1994, most homeowners will still experience an increase in property taxes in spite of decreasing home values. That's because property taxes are tied to the rate of inflation, which this year — as dictated by the State of Michigan - is 2.3 percent.

"It's the first time I've seen property values decline in this fashion," said Aaron Powers of Wayne County Assessing, which contracts with Plymouth and Plymouth Township. "Occasionally you'll have some market conditions that don't increase as fast as others. But, in most communities we're seeing a widespread reduction in assessments.

"The volume of home sales are down about 50 percent compared to prior years, and the homes are selling for less," added Powers. "When do I think it will be over? I don't have a clue."

Powers said the average residential assessment decreased by 6.7 percent in Plymouth and 6.9 percent in Plymouth Township. That compares to reductions in Canton Township of 10.3 percent, Northville Township 7.5 percent, the portion of Northville in Wayne County 2.9 percent and Livonia 9.1 percent.

The two figures listed on the assessment received recently by homeowners in the mail are the State Equalized Value and the taxable value. The SEV is typically half the market value of the home, based on comparable home sales. The taxable value is used to calculate property taxes and is normally lower than the SEV, unless the property recently changed owners.

For years, increases in SEVs have been higher than the increases in taxable values, which are capped at the annual rate of inflation or 5 percent, whichever is less. SEVs have typically increased by 5-8 percent, creating a gap between the figures.

For the first time, this year's assessed value is based on a one-year sales study instead of a two-year study, which offers a better reflection of the area's housing slump than in past years.

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Coming Thursday 🔻 🕖 in **filter**

Rochester resident and Olympics champ Todd Eldredge returns home in the Smucker's Stars on Ice competition at the Palace of **Auburn Hills**



Former PCA teacher seeking reduced sentence from judge

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Stephanie Ann Stein will be back in court later this month asking a Third Circuit Court judge if he would reduce her jail sentence if she pleads guilty to four charges stemming from her alleged relationship with a 15-year-old boy.

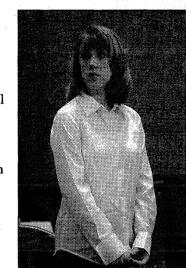
Stein, 32, a former Plymouth Christian Academy teacher who once taught the student, is accused of having a sexual relationship with the boy from February 2007 to September.

Her attorney, Todd Flood of Royal Oak, has requested that Judge David Groner make a Cobbs ruling in the case, which would offer a glimpse at a possible lower sentence if the Canton woman pleads guilty to two counts of third-degree criminal sexual conduct, each a 15-year felony; one count of using the Internet to communicate with a minor to commit a crime, a four-year felony; and one count of distributing obscene material of a sexual nature to a minor, a two-year felony.

In order to lower state sentencing guidelines, Flood must show that Stein, a mother of two, has substantial and compelling circumstances that would justify a lighter sentence.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Lora Weingarden said there are no such circumstances with Stein, who allegedly had sex with the teen at his house, her mother's house and at a hotel.

"I cannot object to the defense requesting a Cobbs ruling so we have to go along



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stephanie Stein wants her sentenced reduced in exchange for a guilty plea.

with it," said Weingarden, adding that she feels the case is moving along slowly. "There was a deal on the table that dragged on and on for months and when we gave them a deadline, they rejected it. They are counting on the judge doing less than the 30 months (the state offered)."

Flood could not be reached for comment.

In the deal the state offered, Stein would have received 30 months to 15 years in prison if she pleaded guilty to one count of third-degree criminal sexual conduct.

According to state sentencing guidelines, Stein could be sentenced to nearly five years to almost eight years if she pleads guilty to all the charges Weingarden said.

Stein's relationship with the teen unraveled when the boy's mother caught them at her home during the summer.

At the preliminary hearing in September, the boy testified that he had to convince his former teacher to be intimate with him.

"She said she probably

shouldn't do it." he said.

The boy, who said that he loved Stein, admitted to being untruthful about aspects of his relationship with his former teacher and that he put a virus on her computer, so he could monitor its use. He also asked

his cell phone and she complied. Stein resigned from her parttime teaching position at the academy on Joy Road in June.

his former teacher to send him

an explicit picture of herself to

Preschool parade

Area parents who are looking for preschool options for their children should plan on attending the Preschool Parade at the Plymouth District Library 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 4.

More than twenty area preschools will share information about their individual schools, philosophies, enrollment procedures, tuition costs and class sizes. The Library will provide door prizes - parents should register for this free event by calling (734) 453-0750, Ext. 5.

Child seat clinic

The Plymouth Township Police Department hosts a free Child Safety Seat clinic 10 a.m. Saturday, March 8, at the Plymouth Township Police Department, located at 9955 N. Haggerty.

The inspections will be by "appointment only," and limited space is available. If you would like to have your child's seat inspected by a national certified Child Passenger Safety Technician, make an appointment by calling Officer Jamie Senkbeil at (734) 354-3232.

LWV scholarship

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County will award a \$1,500 scholarship in June to a qualified United States citizen, male or female, college undergraduate. Applicants need to meet the following criteria: Reside in Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, Wayne or Westland; attend a Michigan college or university; major in government, political science or public policy; and be entering the third year of undergraduate studies.

Additional information can be found, and the application can be downloaded, from the league's Web site at www. lwvnww.org. Click on 2008 Scholarship Application.

Applications must be postmarked by April 18.

Music boosters craft show

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters hosts its annual Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble Saturday, March 15. The juried art event is produced each year by the PCMB to assist the music programs at the Plymouth-Canton **Education Park**

Artists and crafters who are interested in applying for consideration to exhibit should visit www.pcmb.net/ arteraft to download an application. Only 100 exhibitors will be permitted to exhibit at this artistic event. Last year, over 1500 attendees vis-

PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

Michigan Humanities Council presents



Hearing Hemingway

The Plymouth District Library was recently awarded a Michigan Humanities Council grant to participate in The Great Michigan Read, a one-book, one-state reading initiative. In partnership with other local organizations, a number of programs will take place this spring. The Great Michigan Read seeks to increase the reading of literature by focusing on 'The Nick Adams Stories' by Ernest Hemingway. These stories are a coming of age tale inspired by the author's boyhood experiences in Northern Michigan. Plymouth joins more than 100 communities participating in The Great Michigan Read. Additional information is available at www.greatmichiganread.org.

ited the Spring Arts & Crafts Ensemble.

Plymouth High School is located at 8400 Beck Road in Canton, Mich. The Arts & Craft Ensemble will be held 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. In addition to over 100 exhibits, there will be food, baked goods, a raffle, and entertainment by local musicians and artists throughout the day. Admission is \$2.

'Black Coffee' auditions

Barefoot Productions of Plymouth conducts Auditions for the group's Spring mystery, Agatha Christie's Black Coffee, 7-9 p.m. March 3-4 at The Book Cellar & Cafe, 840 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth.

Roles are available for nine males and three females, with character ages ranging from late 20s to early 60s. Auditioners should bring a resume/headshot and a prepared monologue (if available). There will be cold readings from the script.

For more information call Craig at (734) 582-9688 or check out the Barefoot Productions Web site at www. justgobarefoot.com

Performance dates are Mother's Day weekend, May

Historical walking tour

The Plymouth Historical Museum and the Plymouth Preservation Network host an historical walking tour of the Shattuck-Garlett House 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 8. Peter Fralick originally built

this structure as his harness shop on Penniman in 1841. Join us for a tour of one of Plymouth's oldest buildings and learn about it's travels before it settled in its current location on Church Street.

Cost is \$10 per person for members of the museum. \$15 per person for non-members; limit of 12 people on tour. Tickets available at the Plymouth Historical Museum or through PayPal on the museum's web site at www. plymouthhistory.org/walkingtours.html. Contact the museum for more information at (734) 455-8940. The museum is open 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Council on Aging

■ The Plymouth Council on Aging will host Sanford Burr, president of the Plymouth Historical Society, who will deliver a presentation on "The History of Plymouth," 1:30 p.m. Monday, March 10 at the

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Plymouth Cultural Center. Refreshments will be served. Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236

for more information. ■ On Friday, March 14, from 10-11:30 a.m. the Plymouth Council on Aging will host "Oil Painting by Sharon Dillenbeck," who will present a demonstration using oil and water colors.

This demonstration takes place at the Plymouth Cultural Center. Refreshments will be served. Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 to register for this free demonstration. Space is limited.

DAR meets

The Daughters of the American Revolution, Northville/Plymouth chapter, meet Monday, March 19, for a noon sandwich luncheon at the Northville District Library.

The program will be on the DAR American Indians Committee and Indians of Southeast Michigan.

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

Newcomers' craft party

Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors hosts a kids craft party 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 15 at Michael's Crafts on Ford Road in Canton.

Kids will enjoy a snack, beverage and treats while creating an Easter craft to bring home. The cost is \$12 per child payable at the event in form of cash or check (payable to Plymouth Newcomers). This fee includes the non-refundable room charge and supplies.

This event is suitable for kids 4 years and older. Parents are welcome to stay and join in the fun. Please note that Family Fun event volunteers will not be responsible for items left behind.

RSVP to Amy Hoover before March 8 at info@plymouthnewcomers.com or visit the Web site at www.plymouthnewcomers.com.

McCotter staff

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

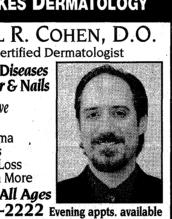
Congressman McCotter's staff will be available Thursday, March 6, from a.m. at the Canton Summit Senior Center and 1-2 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library.

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











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Members of the cast of 'Snow White' include Kathleen Sharpe of Plymouth as Happy (bottom row, from left), Sandra lannucci of Plymouth as Sneezy, Mickey Edell of Canton as Doc, Michelle Rogers of Novi as Grumpy (top row, from left) and Melissa Mosquera of Livonia as Snow White.

AAUW ready to present 'Snow White'

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

As an eighth-grade drama teacher, Melissa Mosquera requires her students to see a play, and she's made it easy for them to do so by inviting them to see her in the Plymouth-Canton AAUW's production of Snow White next weekend.

"The boys are groaning and complaining, but I told them if their teacher is going to get up on stage and perform, they can be there to watch," said Mosquera.

The Livonia resident is playing Snow White in the play which will be presented at Garden City High School's O'Leary Auditorium Thursday-Saturday, March

Mosquera is excited to play the role of Snow White. It was one of two roles — the other was Happy — she auditioned for last fall. She admits she's nervous about playing the lead role, especially since it's a step up from a "minor role" she had in last year's production. But it gives her the opportunity to create her own version of the

fairy tale character. "I've decided Snow White is

"I'm trying to go through her lines with a naiveté like when the woodsman tells he's taking her to the woods to kill her. She thinks it's a joke.

Monica Nick of Plymouth also is stepping out of the supporting cast to play Snow White's nemesis, Queen Braggamore. This is her third production and has had roles as a candlestick seller in Jack and the Bean Stalk and a playing card in Alice in Wonderland. She tried out for the part because she thought "it would be neat to be a queen and wear a crown." She admits now she didn't realize the queen has the most lines in the

play.
"I've been studying my lines doing this because it's creative and challenging, the role is the opposite of what I see myself

This is the 48th year the Plymouth-Canton American Association of University Women has presented live children's theater. The organization, with members from Plymouth, Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Ann Arbor, Novi, Northville and

Cinderella and crafts hourlong AAUW versions. Its first production was Hansel and Gretel. It now has a repertoire of seven plays that are rotated through and updated every few years.

"We took out some older lines that the dwarves say," said Becky Copenhaver, who is sharing directing duties with Kay Paupore, Diana Wilcox and Shirley Zaetta. "In the palace scene, when they talk about Prince Michael, they talk about seeing him on myspace. We make it a fairy tale, but update it for the

The play will be presented at 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 6-7, and 10 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at the high school at 6500 Middlebelt north of Ford.

Presale tickets cost \$5 and are available at Fanatic U, 30409 Ford, Garden City, call (734) 266-0893; The Book Cellar, 840 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, call (734) 455-2665; and Perkos Shoes, 33426 Five Mile, Livonia, call (734) 427-3477. They also will be available at the door on performance dates at \$6 each.

Ficano pushes Cobo plan in State of County speech

BY HUGH GALLAGHER **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano used his annual State of the County address Wednesday to continue his embattled fight for an expanded Cobo Convention Center.

"The expansion of Cobo is not about headlines. It's about real people and real jobs," he told a standing-room-only audience at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History.

Ficano has proposed a 120,000-square-foot expansion of Cobo at a cost of \$323 million. Legislation has been introduced to extend a threecounty (Wayne, Oakland and Macomb) hotel and statewide liquor tax for seven years to pay for the expansion. Legislation has also been introduced to create a convention center authority and to make Cobo a tax-free zone.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson has been a steady vocal critic of Ficano's plan, challenging Ficano's financing arrangements. Recently, Detroit political leaders have criticized the plan for creating an authority that would take ownership of the hall away from the city.

On Feb. 22, Gov. Jennifer Granholm met with representatives from the three counties and the city of Detroit to begin preliminary discussions about their differences.

On Wednesday, Ficano recognized several supporters from Oakland and Macomb, whom he said would benefit from the expansion.

An opening film and several slides shown while Ficano spoke showed Ficano and Patterson enjoying each other's company.

"We're fighting to preserve our crown jewel and will not



sit by waiting to see what happens," he said. "We're going to make something happen for the good of our region and state."

Ficano and others argue that if Cobo is not expanded, the city would lose the annual North American International Auto Show.

"This show is worth nearly \$600 million to this region each year — the equivalent of five Super Bowls or 40 World Series games," he said.

Wednesday's speech did not contain the usual laundry list of new initiatives that spotlighted Ficano's five previous State of the County addresses. He used the language of change and can-do optimism to describe the area's future in spite of recent hard times. He congratulated county AFSCME union employees on reaching a tentative four-year agreement, though some members were picketing outside the museum.

Accomplishments cited included the deal to buy the Guardian Building as the new County Building and ongoing discussions about purchasing the historic County Building, which the county leases from a private owner.

He also touted the county's TURBO program which . provides incentives for redeveloping residential and business property throughout the county.

"Thanks to TURBO, we have: new retail projects in Highland Park and Detroit; manufacturing facilities in Van Buren Township and Livonia; hotels in Romulus; and food service facilities in Canton Township and Taylor,' he said.

Among those recognized by Ficano, were Deborah Rush and her three children, Shawn, Chris and Angela. The Rush family were the subjects of a story by Observer reporter Darrell Clem on the Wayne County Family Center in Westland during the holidays. Following the story, many area people came to the support of the family. They were also recognized by Ficano.

New initiatives by county government and private developments in the county included:

■ Creation of the Second Chance Through Expungment Program (STEP). Residents who have only one, nonviolent conviction and have lived a clean life for at least five years will be eligible to set aside the past conviction.

■ IAV Automotive Engineering, a German-based company, will locate its North American headquarters in Northville Township this year. IAV will build a \$16.5 million R&D facility that would create 65 engineering jobs and 180 total jobs over five years.

A proposal before the county commission to create a Job Creation Fund to offer financial incentives to bring jobs to the county.

■ Next month, the county will begin construction of a mile and a half long sewer extension for the Pinnacle Aeropark near Metro Airport.

"This will be the first major infrastructure improvement at Pinnacle and it paves the way for businesses to locate there as part of the aerotropolis,' Ficano said.

■ Alternegy, a Delaware company, is building a 25,000square-foot biodiesel fuels production plant in Romulus.

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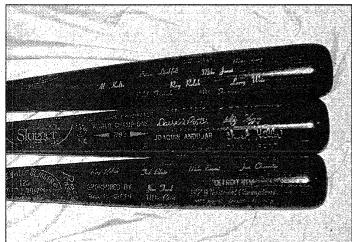


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The Black Bat Trophies will be part of the discussion during a lecture on baseball at the Plymouth Historical Museum.

Lecture celebrates national pastime

The Detroit metro communities have had a strong tradition of baseball excellence including, National Championships with perennial powerhouses Detroit ITM and Troy Jet Box.

On Thursday, March 13, 2008 at 7 p.m., baseball will be celebrated with a free lecture at the Plymouth Historical Museum located in downtown

The lecture, sponsored by the Plymouth Historical Society, will feature two former baseball players with chronicled and humorous stories to share. Raymond Rolak will be talking on the "Mystery of the Black Bat Trophy" and Bill Zepp, former University of Michigan pitcher, will be speaking on the history of town baseball.

Also, the museum's director, Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, will be on hand to answer questions on the preservation and conservation of baseball collectables.

Another Northwest Airlines Captain, Bill Janney, will be available to youth coaches to explain the successful model for travel teams. Janney has been a longtime travel team coach in Northville.

The presentation will coincide with the museum's new exhibit, "Batter Up-Generations of Baseball,"

<u>Got Game?</u>

Yep, got scores, too.

running through June 1, 2008. Some of the highlights of the display include memorabilia from Ilitch Holdings and the Detroit Tigers

Baseball Club. Of special interest, will be rare photos of bandleader Lawrence Welk celebrating with the 1959 Little League World Series Champions from Hamtramck. Also of note is the interesting story of the local players who helped win the 1959 American Legion National Championship for Detroit Edison Post.

Zepp, who pitched for the Minnesota Twins will also recall the 1953 and 1962 U-M NCAA Baseball National Champions. Players from those two Wolverine squads received the Black Bat Trophies also.

Zepp will also talk about former Michigan teammate and retired Plymouth educator, Dick Schryer.

The exhibits, which are open during museum hours, will also feature rare baseball toys and old collegiate baseball photos. Furthermore, artifacts from the All-American Girls Baseball League and the old Negro Leagues will be on dis-

For group tours and exhibit hours, call (734) 455-7797 or for more information www. plymouthhistory.org

POLYGRAPH

During that test, West asked Letkemann if he had driven Orlewicz to the ACO and whether he had himself gone into the store. Letkemann, according to Cassar, answered "no" to all questions.

In a letter to Cassar, West wrote, "It is the opinion of this examiner, based upon the examination given, that the subject told the TRUTH to the above relevant questions."

Cassar wouldn't comment on the test because of the gag order continued by Berry on attorneys and law enforcement officials.

However, in his brief to support the motion, Cassar wrote, "Ms. Heenan's identification of (Letkemann) was suspect at best due to the statements she made during her identification."

Prosecutors reportedly declined to administer a polygraph of their own to Letkemann, and Berry denied the motion to suppress Heenan's identification.

While the polygraph does nothing to determine Letkemann's guilt in the murder, it could be used, sources say, to refute premeditation on Letkemann's part.

Brian Stacey, a lawyer from Plymouth, said Friday he'dnever seen a polygraph used in such a manner.

"I've never seen a polygraph used in that fashion, unless it was an ultimate determination of guilt or innocence," Stacey said. "I've had many cases that were not pursued because my client took a polygraph with the prosecutor's office and passed it. Of course, every case is different, and I don't know enough of the details of this case.

Berry also denied motions to suppress evidence found in the Canton garage belonging to Orlewicz's grandfather, where the murder took place, and to prohibit the use of the term "thrill kill," originally used by Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy to describe the crime, although she will require prosecutors using the term to back it up with evidence.

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



Fran Toney (right), shown here welcoming Santa to Plymouth, retires this month after 17 years on the job.

Friends bid retiring Toney farewell

BY TONY BRUSCATO ORSERVER STAFF WRITER

Dozens of business and community leaders stopped by one last time Thursday to say goodbye to retiring Plymouth Community Chamber of **Commerce Executive Director** Fran Toney.

Toney will be retiring March 14 from the post she's held for 17 years. Toney said "Frantastic," the chamber's annual dinner and auction in November which this year honored Toney, was "the best night of my whole life." However, getting a chance to meet casually with her friends before she retires was "fantastic."

"They've said such nice things, things that you don't even realize you did for somebody," said Toney, 65. "This has been the job of a lifetime."

Sandy Mustonen of Graphic Visions in Northville, who designed the caricature of Toney for the auction party, said she'll be missed.

"Fran's very well-loved," said Mustonen. "She works very hard and people will miss that. She always has a smile on her

Plymouth Township builder Walt Menard said he's sorry to see Toney leave.

"It's going to be very hard for anybody to fill her shoes," said Menard. "I don't think you could find anybody more pro-Plymouth than Fran."

Toney said she hopes her legacy includes the development of a chamber that brings "unity in the community."

"If you work on a chamber committee that helps the community, and at the same time you're having fun and meeting new people and doing something good for your community," she said, "what could be better than to know that I played a role in that."

FROM PAGE A1

experience also includes 10 years at the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce and three years at the Detroit Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Because the housing market in Michigan kept him from selling his Livonia home, Graff, his wife and two daughters ere able to move bac the short stint in Minnesota.

"Let's say we now have a greater appreciation from where we're from," Graff said.

Of course, having lived in Livonia for several years, Plymouth isn't unfamiliar territory to Graff.

THE GRAFF FILE

- Name: Wes Graff Position: Plymouth Community
- Chamber of Commerce director ■ Age: 43
- Family: Wife, Patty; daughters Amanda and Hannah
- Experience: Livonia Chamber of Commerce, April 2003 to September 2006; also worked at the Mankato (Minn.) Chamber of Commerce.

"With all the downtown festivals, retail shops, the ice show and the ambience, downtown Plymouth certainly has an identity," said Graff. "From a regional perspective, the Plymouth area is facing the same kinds of issues as when I worked in Livonia."

Graff sees the Plymouth chamber as having two main functions.

"The macro side is looking at public policy issues to make systematic changes to create a good business climate, economic development and community promotion," said Graff. "On the micro side, you're looking at direct things members can get from us like developing business leads, attracting new business, promotional programs and activities, like the downtown festivals."

Graff said he'd like to see the Plymouth chamber "do some really great things" to grow and create economic vitality in the region.

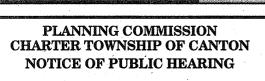
"One of the first things we have to address as a chamber is our Web site, and how we turn it into a promotional tool for the community," Graff said. "We need to beef up our site so we can present an image that the Plymouth community is the place you want your business to be.

"I love the idea we're helpopportunities for people to see their business grow," added Graff. "Contributing to society by creating jobs and economic opportunities, that's our goal."

At the annual State of the Chamber breakfast, Graff challenged local leaders to become ambassadors for the Plymouth community and the State of Michigan.

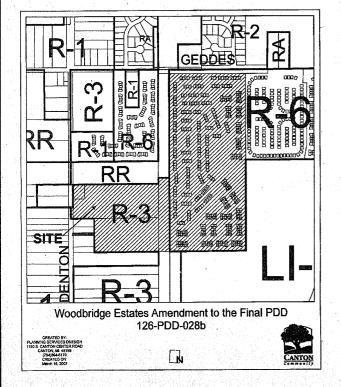
"We need to talk about and emphasize the good things, and not spend a lot of time on the negative," said Graff. "While we can't be flippant about the poor economy and pretend it doesn't exist, we need to deal with it, appreciate what we have and tell the rest of the world about it.

'We have so much more than so many others," he said. "We just need to realize it."



PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY,

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, March 17, 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 amendment to the Zoning Ordinance.



WOODBRIDGE ESTATES PDD AMENDMENT - CONSIDER REQUEST TO AMEND THE FINAL PDD AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NO(S). 126 99 0011 000 (4555 DENTON), 126 99 0013 003 (4711 DENTON), PART OF 126 99 0006 000 (48903 GEDDES) AND 126 02 0001 000 THROUGH 126 02 0476 000. Property is located south of Geddes and east of Denton Road.

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, March 13, 2008 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Vic Gustafson. Chairman

Publish: March 2, 2008

Observer

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NOTICE

PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the Plymouth Charter Township Department of Public Works within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered. Notice should be mailed to Plymouth Charter Township, Department of Public Works, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Failure to provide the written notice will prevent recovery of damages. Contact the Department of Public Works, 734-354-3270, Extension 3, for assistance immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup. PLYMOUTH CHÂRTER TOWNSHIP

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

MARILYN MASSENGILL, CMC Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: March 2 & 6, 2008

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS**

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

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

Publish: March 2 & 6, 2008

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, March 17th, 2008 @ 12:00PM (Noon), Tate & Co. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: EXTRA SPACE STORAGE, 6729 N. CANTON CENTER RD.,

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CANTON, MI 48187 AT 12:00 PM.

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Publish: March 2 and 9, 2008

Reporting agencies must make credit histories available

Dear Rick: Is it true that you can get a free credit report? I see all these ads on the internet for free credit reports and I am somewhat

leery. Yes, you can receive a free copy of your credit report. There are three major credit reporting agencies, Equifax, TransUnion and Experian. Each is now required to provide customers, upon request, a copy of their credit. report every 12 months. The key is you must request a report. To receive a free credit report go to www. annualcreditreport.com or call (877) 322-8228. These are the only places you can go to get a free report without strings

attached. There are many others that advertise free credit reports. Unfortunately, most of these so-called free offers have strings attached and in many cases hidden fees.

In the old days, credit

Money Matters

Rick Bloom

by potential employers. The bottom line is credit reports are used in situations that have nothing to do with credit and that is why it is important to make sure your report is

obtain credit.

Today, credit

reports are

insurance

companies

fact, credit

reports are also used

to determine

premiums. In

used by auto

If you find your credit is inaccurate, take steps to correct it. The Fair Credit Reporting Act outlines an individual's rights under the can save you a substantial amount of money.

One other frustration. A report can be accurate at one company and inaccurate at the other two companies. So it is important to review reports from all three companies. Do not request your credit reports all at the same time but rather stagger them throughout the year.

Dear Rick: I'm giving advice to my daughter who is 23 and has been employed full time since last year. Last year, on my recommendation, she opened a Roth IRA. This year her employer plans to offer a 401(k) and there will be no employer match. There are about 10 fund options for the new employees. My recommendation for her is to max out her Roth IRA first. What do you think?

additional money, then use the 401(k) plan.

My advice would only be slightly different if she

had a matching program through work. In that case, I recommend funding the 401(k) Plan up to the match and then use the Roth IRA.

The advantage of funding the Roth before the 401(k) is having her money grow taxfree vs. tax-deferred. When your daughter eventually retires and begins to withdraw money from her Roth, the money can be withdrawn taxfree. Money in a traditional 401(k) is taxed at the ordinary income tax bracket. Typically, your ordinary income tax bracket is the highest bracket.

The one downside of the Roth you are investing post-tax money. In a 401(k) plan, you By funding the Roth IRA future benefit.

Roth IRAs, however, are not subject to required minimum distributions. Typically, when someone turns 701/2 they must begin taking required minimum distributions from their retirement accounts. Roth IRAs grow tax-free for as long as you choose.

Take advantage of a Roth IRA. It's not too late to make a 2007 Roth IRA contribution.

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

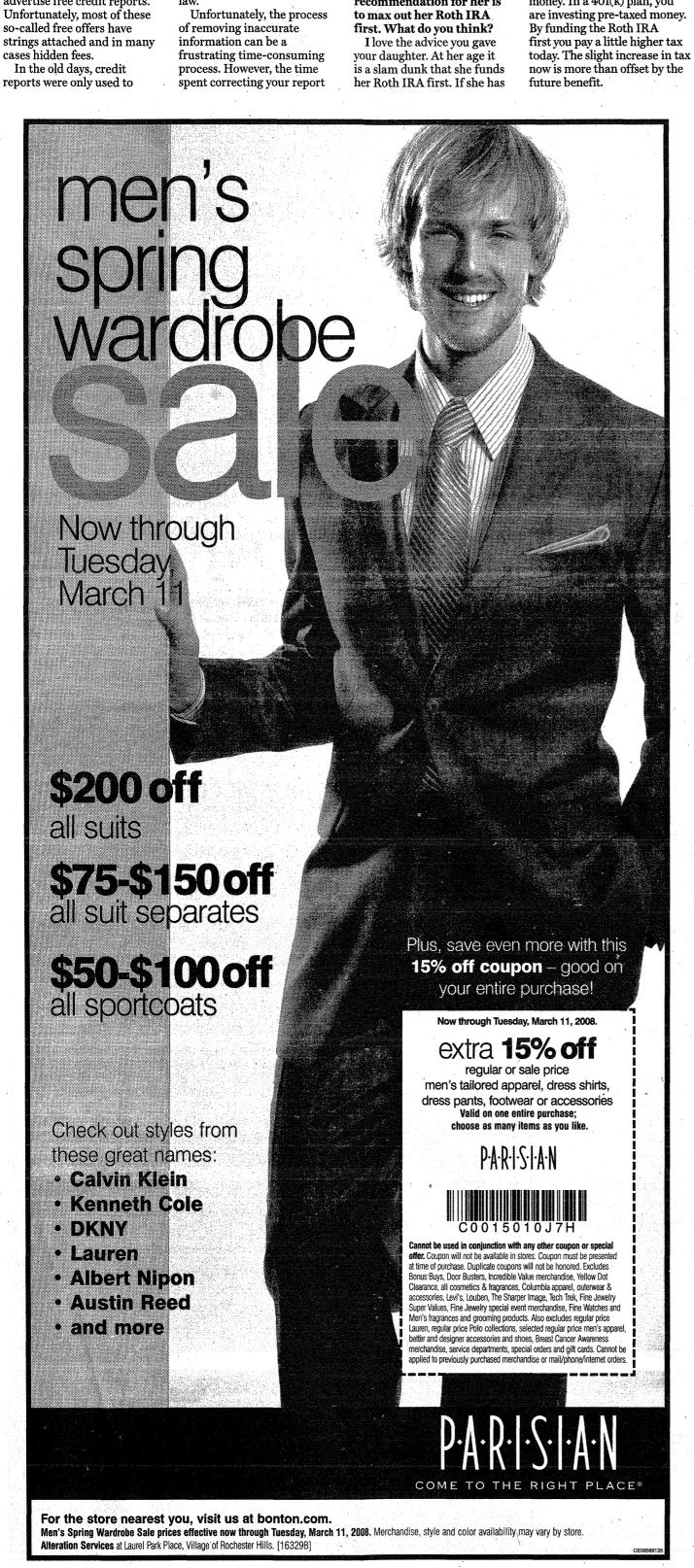


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Teens win symphony's Youth Artist honors

Five students shared some \$1,200 in cash prizes when the Plymouth Symphony Society announced the winners of its annual Youth Artist Competition.

The competition is an annual concerto competition for piano and orchestra students in Grades 7–12. Students compete for up to \$1,500 in cash prizes and an opportunity to perform with either the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra or Orchestra Canton.

The winners will be presented their awards at the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra's season finale, "American Romance," April 5 at 8 p.m. at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville.

This year, Ashley Harris of Livonia (flute) and Erica

Qiao of Novi (bassoon) shared first prize for the "Senior Instrumental" division, winning \$350 apiece. Violinist Nika Zhang of Northville won first place and \$250 in the "Junior Combined" division.

Kelly Kaiser and Amy Sun, both violinists from Canton, were awarded honorable mentions, with cash awards of \$150 each.

PCCS officials said the Youth Artist Competition is possible "because of the generous support" of Evola Music, Plymouth Rotary Foundation, Optimist Club of Plymouth, Plymouth Kiwanis Foundation, and the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

"PCSS and its Board of

Directors have always been interested in increasing the musical opportunities available to young people, and presenting special children's concerts to contribute to their education and exposure to the arts," said Jennifer Philpott-Munson, the symphony's executive director. "With five outstanding Youth Outreach programs currently serving young people in Western Wayne, Eastern Washtenaw and Southern Oakland Counties, the PCSS is proud to be known regionally as the "music education symphony."

For more information on the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society programs, concerts and events visit the symphony's Web site at www.plymouthsymphony.org or call (734) 451-2112.

TSA accepts signups for holiday meal

The Senior Alliance
Holiday Meals program is
gearing up to provide hot,
festive meals to homebound
seniors in the 34 southern
and western Wayne County
communities on Easter
Sunday. And it's still not too
late for individuals to sign up.

Seniors interested in receiving the meal must be homebound, age 60 years and older, or disabled and be home alone and without a meal on the holiday. Current recipients of home delivered meals are eligible for the holiday meal.

TSA has a meal request form available at senior centers in its service area that can be mailed to The Senior Alliance, 3850 Second St., Suite 201, Wayne, MI 48184. Meal request forms can also be obtained by calling Lori Tooles-Carrington at (734) On the forms, the individual or individuals must indicate if they will alone on Easter Sunday. They must include their names, address and telephone number and name of apartment complex where applicable, as well as

their age and if the receive

home delivered meals. One

With Easter on the hori-

meal will be given to each eligible person.

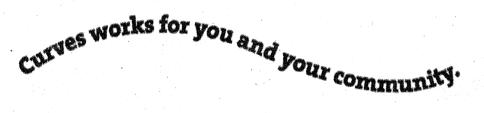
727-2063.

zon, Pete the Fuzzy Peep is back again to help The Senior Alliance raise money to serve even more homebound seniors this Easter holiday. Peeps are sold for \$5, which covers the cost of the meal for a homebound senior. Watch for the Peeps sale Friday, March 14, when TSA volunteers who will be at many neighborhood banks, credit

unions, and grocery stores raising funds for the Easter holiday meals.

The holiday meals program serves dinners on Easter, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas, however, there are 12 holidays throughout the year that holiday meals are not served due to lack of funding. There is no state or federal funding for holiday meals; its existence is entirely dependent upon the generosity of individual donors. Anyone interested in contributing toward the program can make a check, payable to The Senior Alliance Holiday Meals, or "SAHM" in the memo area.

People who would like to volunteer to help or make a contribution, call Jaclyn Kochis at (734) 727-2060 or by e-mail at kochis@tsalink.org.





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Sunday, March 2, 2008

The Kilpatrick scandal is far more than just bad publicity

wame Kilpatrick has really mucked it up this time. There's no need to rehash the details of the mess he is in. By now even the Martians are talking about it. But this is far from over, and who knows what the repercus-

sions ultimately will be.
For all of Michigan this is
an embarrassment, but for the
folks who live south of Eight
Mile Road, there could be
consequences far beyond bad
publicity.

Let's set aside the real crime here, that the mayor of Detroit apparently tried to destroy the careers of two good cops who were just doing their jobs, and look at what impact this sordid mess can have on the rest of the city.

For the past few years Detroit has been on a remarkable rebound. I've been watching it on the streets, where it really matters. Housing developments are going up all over the place. Condos, apartments, lofts — for heaven's sake — even a bed and breakfast - have been built. New businesses are beginning to creep into areas of Detroit, like the lower Cass Corridor, which I assumed were thoroughly dead. Ghastly ruins of deserted houses were being cleared.

This kind of redevelopment is as important, if not more so, than the much more highly visible showcase pieces like Riverfront Walk and the new casinos.

A few blocks from where I live there is an abandoned hospital that was being systematically stripped of every scrap of metal inside. Hookers and crack dealers were using it. We held a community meeting, which was attended by Detroit City Council President Ken Cockrel Jr., and pleaded with the city of Detroit to remove the barriers that were preventing a potential new owner



Greg Kowalski

from buying the building. He wanted to renovate it and turn it into a charter school but was blocked by Detroit and Wayne County

bureaucracy.
After that meeting Cockrel
met with the key parties
involved to get the roadblocks
removed.

He did.

Now the building is in the process of being completely restored. It's not an overstatement to say the neighborhood is being saved. I suspect there are more such stories in other areas of Detroit.

But now everything is being overshadowed by the scandal in Detroit city hall.

It is yet to be seen if major investors interested in Detroit are going to be put off by the continuing story. But what company wants to be associated with the Kilpatrick administration now?

Who wants to invest in the laughing stock of the nation, which is what Detroit is becoming? If the revitalization of Detroit does stall because of this horrendous story Mayor Kilpatrick should be held fully accountable.

It's a shame. I like Kwame Kilpatrick. He's extremely bright, personable and energetic. In another reality he might have ended up being one of Detroit's greatest mayors—the man who engineered the city's rebirth.

But now he should resign and be left as no more than a footnote in Detroit's history. Too bad. Too, too bad.

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

Thanks, Dr. Ryan

The trustees of the Educational Excellence Foundation offer our sincere gratitude to Dr. James Ryan for his service to our community. Dr. Ryan has been Superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Schools for the past six years. PCCS was fortunate indeed to have such a wonderful man at the helm to help steer our schools in the direction they needed to go.

Dr. Ryan also served on the Educational Excellence Foundation Board as an ex-officio trustee, where he provided background and guidance regarding the District's status and needs. He kept us apprised in a genuine, but formidable manner, never passing the buck. We always felt well-informed because we knew that Dr. Ryan was an honest and forthright man.

Dr. Ryan has been instrumental in the growth of The Educational Excellence Foundation during his tenure. His support of our fund-raising ventures contributed to the foundation being able to provide over \$500,000 in the form of teacher grants and funding for the Summer Skills Academy. He participated in every one of our events during his term, and we will truly miss his jolly demeanor and wonderful personality.

Dr. Ryan has been an active player in the wider community as well. He has the ability to make those around him comfortable, and was always approachable.

Send correspondence to P.O. Box 30013, Lansing,

7858. The fax number is (517) 335-6863.

State Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton

State Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville

at MarcCorriveau@house.mi.gov.

Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer

MI 48909, or call Constituent Services at (517) 335-

Contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI,

262-7307; or by e-mail at senbpatterson@senate.

Contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI

48909-7514; by phone at (517) 373-3816; or by e-mail

Call him through City Hall at (734) 453-1234 or send an

e-mail via the city Web site at www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

48909; by phone at (517) 373-7350; toll-free at (866)

Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm

michigan.gov.

LETTERS

He continuously and successfully endeavored to make this district better. He will be missed by many, but especially by the trustees of the Educational Excellence Foundation.

Sharon Belobraidich

chair, Educational Excellence Foundation

Who's kidding whom?

One must wonder how disappointed the old-time Republicans must feel about how low their party has descended.

As if the present administration in Washington with its disastrous war, coming recession, unbelievable deficits and attacks on the environment and the Constitution were not enough, we have just as bad a group in the Michigan Republican party.

In order to regain house seats lost to Democrats recently, they have targeted three Democrat representatives, including our Marc Corriveau, for a recall on the ground that they voted an increase of the Michigan income tax of less than one-half of one percent.

For most taxpayers, after deductions on their adjusted gross income, it will mean a little more than the cost of a Red Wing ticket and a pizza dinner. Those with low income or unemployed will be paying even less or nothing. For the State of Michigan, it is much-needed money to cover the deficit.

Who do these right-wingers think they

are kidding when they claim they are doing it for our benefit? Well, thank you so much, but I am not happy with your using my tax money for a special election a few months before November to help you win back those House seats.

I am not easily bought by your vulgar appeal to my pocketbook and although I am in my 80s, I strongly recommend that when you send your signature-gatherer to my door, he better be wearing his running shoes

Irene Piccone Northville

What good is Kennedy's support?

Are you kidding me? Obama sought out the support of Ted Kennedy? The same Ted Kennedy who is a serial adulterer, an alcoholic and arguably responsible for at minimum the negligent homicide if not outright homicide involving Mary Jo Kopechne?

If you don't recall, note that he purportedly crashed his car at 12:40 a.m. and did not report it to the police until after spending the night in his hotel room as well as after he found out the body had been discovered around 8 a.m. the next morning.

If this is the sort of person's support that you seek out to help you win the presidency, why would I vote for you?

> **Ed Johnson** Royal Oak

GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume

Send correspondence to him at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty, Plymouth, MI 48170. Call his office at (734) 354-3200. E-mails can be sent via the township's Web site at www.plymouthtwp.org.

U.S. Sen. Carl Levin

His Washington, D.C. mailing address is 269 Russell Office Building, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-2202. Call him at (202) 224-6221. The fax number is (202) 224-1388. He also has offices in Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Ave., Room 1860, in Detroit. The local phone number is (313) 226-6020, TTY (800) 851-0030 and fax at (313) 226-6948. He also has a Web site - levin.senate.gov.

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow

In Washington, D.C., the address is 133 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Call her there at (202) 224,4822, TTY (202) 224-2066, or e-mail her at senator@stabenow.senate.gov. In Detroit, her office is at 243 W. Congress, Suite 550. Call (313) 961-4330. She also has a Web site - stabenow.senate.gov.

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter

His Washington, D.C., mailing address is 1632 Longworth House Office Building, Washington D.C. 20515. Call him at (202) 225-8171 or send a fax by dialing (202) 225-2667. His district office is at 17197 N. Laurel Park Drive, Suite 161, Livonia, MI 48152. Call him at (734) 632-0314 or send a fax at (734) 632-0373. He also has an Web site - mccotter.house.gov.

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Canton grapplers battle Davison to the end

BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Canton's wrestling team didn't beat Davison Friday night in a Division 1 state 27-8. quarterfinal match, but the Chiefs sure did make the state's No. 1-ranked team

Canton trailed the highly-touted Cardinals just 32-21 with two matches left before dropping a 41-21 decision in front of a packed house at Kellogg Arena, which is located in the heart of downtown Battle Creek.

Canton, which looked anything but intimidated by Davison's 31-1 record and **DIVISION 1 TEAM WRESTLING FINALS**

trophy case-ful of state titles, finished

It was the Chiefs' second appearance at the Team Wrestling Finals in the past three years. They lost to eventual champion Rockford in 2006.

"I think we turned a lot of heads and proved that we're a legit team," said Canton senior captain Rodger Kropp, who registered a pin over Kyle Thick at 171 pounds. "We prepared to beat them and we're all disappointed that we

Judging by the postings on state-wide internet chat boards, the Chiefs would have been lucky to reach a double-digit point total against their powerhouse opponent.

Canton interim coach Mike Pantaleo said that sentiment proved to be a motivating factor for his team.

"One of the key things for us tonight was gaining respect," said Pantaleo, who was filling in for suspended coach Casey Randolph. "No one gave us credit for even being here — we weren't even a blip on a lot of people's radar screens - and the kids were inspired by that. We knew we deserved to be here and we knew we

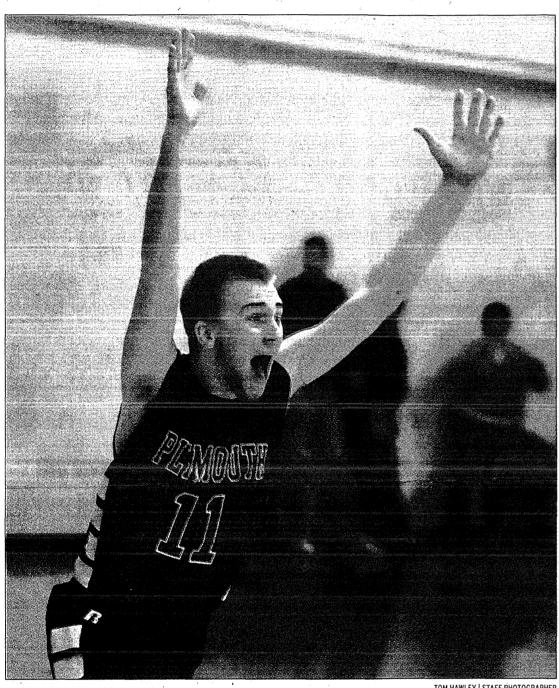
were going to wrestle these guys tough. "If we had a few matches swing back our way, it might have been a different story. The name Canton is going to be synonymous with Battle Creek - that's what we're working for."

The Cardinals jumped to a 6-0 lead when Bryan Rickard pinned Canton's Carl Lucke in 1:16, but the Chiefs rebounded to deadlock the score at 6all on identical 4-2 victories by Donnie Watkins at 125 and Jeremy Filippelli at

Davison built a 23-9 lead by winning

Please see WRESTLING, B3

Class D District Basketball Finals



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Christian senior co-captain Trevor Zinn lets his feelings be known after the final buzzer sounded following the Eagles' dramatic 58-55 victory over Lutheran Westland in Friday night's Class D District final at PCA.

Eagles complete an improbable journey to District championship

BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

"Rocky", "Rudy" and "The Little Engine That Could" have nothing on the Plymouth Christian Academy boys basketball team.

Not after the Eagles pulled off an amazing week-long underdog performance that was capped with Friday night's Class D District title-clinching 58-55 victory over Lutheran Westland.

On the heels of a 4-16 regular season, the Eagles captured their first District championship since 2000 in spectacular fashion when they overcame a nine-point halftime deficit against the Warriors to win with clutch, last-minute freethrow shooting and air-tight defense.

When the final buzzer sounded, the black-clad PCA student cheering sec tion stormed the floor and embraced their conquering

"At no time this week did we ever talk about turning in our uniforms - we stayed optimistic and the boys did an amazing thing by pulling together like they did," said first-year PCA coach Mike Doyle. "We lost a lot of close games this year. It seems like we'd play really well for three quarters

and not very well for one. We'd run out of gas.

'Playing at home in front of a large crowd was huge for us. Our fans came out in force tonight. They kept us energized with their support."

With the game knotted at 55-all and less than a minute to play, the Eagles' Spencer Wiard stole the ball at mid-court and was fouled while going in for a layup at the other end.

He made one of two free throws to give PCA a 56-55

Following a missed Lutheran Westland shot, senior guard Trevor Zinn snared the rebound, was fouled and made one of two free throws, giving the Eagles a 57-55 advantage.

Reid Barber added another late rebound and free throw with 2.5 seconds remaining before the Warriors' Sam Ahlsmeyer missed a last-second heave at the buzzer.

History was not on the Eagles' side heading into the tournament, Dovle noted.

"Redford Covenant, who we beat last night, beat us 64-30 last year," he said. "But the guys staved upbeat and it showed."

Brent Zinn led a super-balanced PCA scoring ledger with 15 points. Trevor Zinn, Brent's older brother, added 13, Ross

Please see PCA, B6

Miller, Mullett lead Agape to 1st District crown

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Extreme pressure turns coal into dia-

On Friday night at Wyandotte Mt. Carmel, it helped the Canton Agape boys basketball team earn a gem of an accom-

Playing against Allen Park Inter-City Baptist's full-court, in-your-face pressure defense, the Wolverines stayed calm, cool and collected while collecting a monumental 55-40 Class D District final victory. It is the school's first boys basketball District crown since it joined the MHSAA in 1993.

The Wolverines will take their 17-6

record — and a gym-ful of momentum into Monday night's Regional semifinal contest against Sterling Heights Parkway Christian at Birmingham Roeper High School. The time of the game was not

determined as of Friday night's deadline. The Chargers' season ended with a 15-8

"Tonight fulfilled a lifelong dream for me," said Agape coach Keith Anleitner, who started the school's sports program in 1987. "We've been affiliated with the MHSAA for the past 14 years and this is our first boys District basketball title. It's a landmark for the school and all the guys on the team are to be congratulated.

"They pressured us the whole game. Mark Mullett, our point guard dribbled right through them so many times and he tonight, so the fact that we were still in never turned the ball over."

Anleitner also had high praise for senior center Jared Miller, who netted 19 points and 15 rebounds despite feeling under the weather.

"Jared played an incredible game," Anleitner said. "He even blocked a couple of shots against Nick Packwood, their 6-5 All-State center. He was playing sick tonight — he had a sore throat and he was coughing like crazy - but he showed a lot of courage."

Agape led 12-10 after one quarter but trailed 23-21 at the half.

"I told the guys at halftime that we were right where we wanted to be," said Anleitner. "We were the big underdogs

the game at that point was huge.

"They play in the MIAC Blue, which is the higher division, and they'd beaten us in the past by 20, 25 points."

The Wolverines sealed their historic accomplishment by outscoring the Chargers 14-2 in the third quarter and 20-15 over the final eight minutes, which featured several trips to the free-throw line by the winners.

Mullett finished with 16 points and Ty Majeski added nine.

Garrett Daniel led Inter-City with 19 points and Packwood closed his stellar high school career with 12.

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Plymouth's Pitts wears 'C' with pride

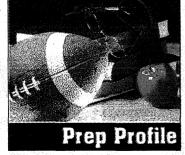
'Cats nipped by Falcons in Regional final. See story, Page B2.

> BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

How did the senior-year conversion from elite-level travel hockey to the high school version of the sport pan out for Plymouth's Jerry Pitts? About as well as it worked out

for the Wildcats — splendidly. Both Pitts and Plymouth's hockey team thrived this year as

the former was instrumental in helping the latter rack up a school



record 15 victories before bowing out in Friday night's Division 2 Regional final to once-beaten Farmington Unified, 6-3.

The addition of Pitts and two

other long-time hockey standouts but first-year high school skaters - Colin Rolfe and Jake Jossey - proved to be invaluable to first-year Plymouth coach Paul Fassbender.

"Jerry's been a team leader from the start," said Fassbender. "He helped bring the team together at the beginning of the season and he's helped everyone keep their focus throughout the season."

Important 'C'hoice

Few decisions are more pivotal

Please see PITTS, B3



Senior Jerry Pitts played a huge role — both on the ice and in a leadership capacity - in Plymouth's record-breaking season.

Softball Showcase

The Paramount Scouting Bureau and National Scouting Report will host the **Motor City Showcase** Friday, July 4, as part of the Paramount Softball Showcase Series.

The showcase, which begins at 10 a.m., will be held at Victory Park in Canton.

Professional scouts will rate all players with the top players receiving invitations to play in a national showcase.

A college recruiting session will follow the showcase.

For more information, contact Steve LaMay at (248) 249-0129 or slamay@nsrinc.com.

Diesels tryouts

The Detroit Diesels, a minor league football team, will be holding tryouts March 8 and March 15 - both Saturdays — from 2-5 p.m. at High Velocity Sports, which is located at 46245 Michigan Ave.

Tryouts are for men 18 years old and older. The fee is \$35, which includes a T-shirt.

For more information, call (313) 299-1277 or visit www. dieselsfootball.homestead.com.

Ignition honors

The Detroit Ignition's Major Indoor Soccer League team swept MISL Player of the Week honors last week.

Danny Waltman was named Goalkeeper of the Week after stopping 22-of-26 shots against Baltimore on Sunday. Included in the saves was Waltman's 1,000th career stop.

Droo Callahan earned Defensive Player of the Week honors after posting five blocks in the Ignition's 19-8 win over the Blast.

He also registered a pair of assists.

Ricardinho was named Offensive Player of the Week after scoring seven points on three goals against Baltimore.

His second goal of the night marked the mid-fielder's 50th MISL career goal.

Coaches needed The Christian

Football League of Michigan is looking for high school and middle school coaches for a new team in the Plymouth/ Canton/Livonia area. Interested coaches should download the coaching application and background check available at www.cfl-mi.com. The Christian

Football League of Michigan is set to begin play this fall.

Plymouth skaters give Farmington all it can handle before falling

BY DAN O'MEARA **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 2, 2008

Farmington coach Mark Vellucci has often talked about his hockey team's conditioning level and third-period effectiveness throughout the season.

The Falcons certainly needed it Friday night to overcome an upsetminded Plymouth squad in a Division 2 regional final at Novi Ice Arena, 6-3.

With the score tied after two periods, 3-3, senior forward Andy Hall scored the first two goals of the third to give Farmington the winning advantage.

"We're all real proud of the third period," Hall said. "It was a good thing for the team to play a tough game. We won't underestimate anyone else, because we can see what could hap-

Hall scored the game-winner at 9:51 in the third from D.J. Vandercook,

who had three assists. Hall, who has knack for being in the right place at the right time, was there to knock in the

His insurance goal came at 6:19 on a power play with assists going to Mike O'Neill and Vandercook.

"Our power play consists of me sitting in front of the net and screening the goalie," Hall said. "We have other players moving the puck. I set up for the rebound if it doesn't go in on the first shot.

"It's always a thrill to score, but scoring in the playoffs makes it that much

Plymouth killed another Farmington power play at 3:05 before Topher Gendron added an empty-netter for his second goal of the game with 1:21 remaining.

After being outplayed in the first period and fighting to keep pace with the Wildcats in the second, the Falcons owned the third period.

In its second season as a singleschool team, Farmington (25-1-1) won its first regional championship and the first for any city team.

The Falcons move on to the Division 2 quarterfinals to play either Walled Lake Northern or Hartland 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Novi Ice Arena.

Plymouth (15-10-2) carried the play to Farmington at the start of the game and had two early power plays, which the Falcons managed to survive.

In the final minute of the first period, Farmington goalie Chris Newton stopped a breakaway by Jake Jossey, and Colin Costello got behind the Plymouth defense but didn't have the right angle for a shot.

"A 0-0 tie against a team with one loss in the first period? I'll take it," Wildcats coach Paul Fassbender said. "Then the gas tank started running

"I think we got tired (in the third period). The heart was there; the emotion was there. We just ran out of gas."

Fassbender compared Farmington being cast as a heavy favorite and Plymouth trying to pull an upset to an

egg sitting on a counter. "That team didn't expect to lose," he

said. "They weren't scared of us. If we get a couple early goals, maybe we can get the egg to crack. Maybe they start panicking. "Honestly, I think they overlooked

us. Nobody expected us to get this far. We're a young team. We rely on a lot of sophomores to carry the bulk of the load."

The Wildcats were first to score at 14:48 in the second period with Jossey's goal from goalie Christian Blick. Farmington's Ian Ellis tied the score at 11:23.

The Falcons took a 2-1 lead with Ethan Range's unassisted goal following a takeaway in front of the Plymouth net at 9:12. It was the Wildcats' turn to tie when Jerry Pitts scored off a scramble in front of the net at 7:42.

Richard Cigile gave Plymouth a 3-2 lead with a power-play goal at 4:35, and Farmington's Gendron created another stalemate with his shot from 20 feet at 3:07.

Connor Dresser had two assists for the Wildcats; Plymouth's Luke Merandi and Pitts and Farmington's Matt Scott, Zach Jugan, Range and Joe Ramirez had one assist apiece.

Plymouth was minus one of its top players, Colin Rolfe, who had to sit out the final after he was ejected from the previous game.

"Anytime you have a guy like Colin and you give him a breakaway, it's in the net," Fassbender said. "We had two or three in the first period. Maybe we capitalize (and the game goes differ-



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Plymouth icers dominate Pats, 4-0

STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's hockey team skated into the school's record books Wednesday night with style, flair and — most importantly — a grip on its first-ever pre-Regional title.

The Wildcats thoroughly dominated Livonia Franklin, 4 0, in a Division 2 pre-Regional final played at Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia.

The victory propelled the winners into Friday night's 6:30 p.m. Regional final against 24-1-1 Farmington

Friday night's game will be played at the Novi Ice Arena, which is located on Novi Rd.

between 9 and 10 mile. Wednesday night's win upped Plymouth's record to 15-9-2 a record number of victories for the surging Wildcats.

Franklin closed its season with a 9-14-2 mark.

"I feel great for these guys - they've worked really hard all year," said first-year Plymouth coach Paul Fassbender. "They started the season in the shadows of the players on last year's team who a lot of people said

were bigger and better, but this year's team went out and got the most victories ever by a Plymouth team.

The kids played smart tonight and got the puck out of our zone when they needed to. They didn't take too many chances, stayed out of the penalty box and kept their compo-

The Wildcats outshot the Patriots 33-8 over the final two periods. Only a stellar performance by Franklin senior net-minder Austin Messler prevented a more lop-sided final

Leading the Plymouth charge were seniors Jake Jossey, a 5foot-10, 180-pound forward, and Christian Blick, a 5-10, 180-pound goalie.

Jossey scored the winners' first three goals while Blick - a late-season sensation between the pipes — stopped all 17 shots he faced.

"Jake always plays hard and has a nose for the net," said Fassbender. "He's really picked it up the past two or three games for us.

"Christian is an outstanding leader. He's very vocal and communicates very well with his

coaches and teammates. He's a great guy to have back there."

Jossey staked the Wildcats to a 1-0 lead 2:34 into the game with a goal assisted by Evan Swieczkowski.

He doubled Plymouth's lead to 2-0 with 2:6 to play in the second period when he rifled his team's 17th shot of the period past Messler. Swieczkowski and Noel Aspenwall assisted. Jossey completed his natural

hat trick when he controlled a pass from senior captain Jerry Pitts and deposited the puck into the back of the net top shelf. Colin Rolfe also earned an assist on the goal.

Aspenwall added an insurance lamp-lighter with 8:04 left when he scored on a rebound shot with the Wildcats two players down.

Franklin coach Scott Wirgau said the game was a disappointing ending to a season that saw the Patriots triple their win total from a year ago.

"I think Plymouth came out and expected us to play better than we did and we expected to play better than we did," said Wirgau, a first-year coach. "We were a lot flatter than they were and they seemed to want it

MARCH / APRIL

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more than we did.

"We wanted Plymouth. We felt we matched up well against Plymouth and we came in on an emotional high. We had a really good game last Saturday and we had a great practice yesterday, so we were confident. Maybe overconfident."

Wirgau praised Messler, who stopped 43-of-47 shots.

"He keeps us in every game we play," Wirgau said. "We're really going to miss him next

A scary incident marred the final minute of the game. Franklin's Carson Gurski was checked head-first into the boards behind the Wildcats' net. He laid on the ice for approximately five minutes before getting assisted off by a pair of teammates.

Wirgau said Gurski had suffered possible thumb, collarbone and back injuries. An ambulance arrived at Edgar Arena a short time after the game's conclusion.

Rolfe was disqualified for the hit and cannot play in the Wildcats' Regional final contest Friday night.

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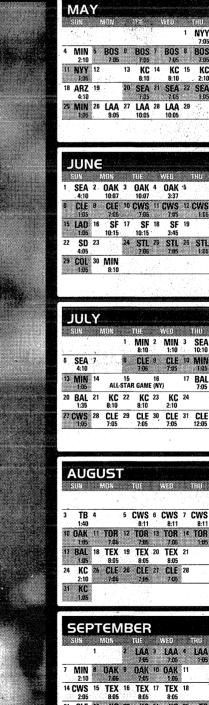
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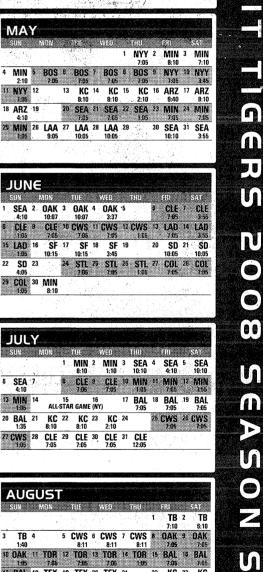
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HOME AWAY

four of the next five matches. The lone Canton victory in the stretch was Brent Winekoff's 9-4 decision over James Hyatt

"Brent's wrestling really well," said Pantaleo of Winekoff, who improved to 46-4. "I expect him to go deep in the individual state meet next week.'

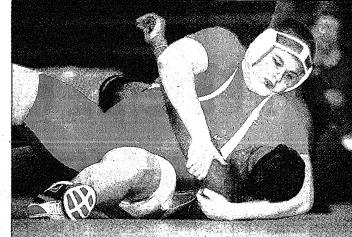
Kropp's fall over Thick brought the Chiefs to within 23-15, however, Davison's Josh Connell won a hard-fought 9-6 battle over Adam Powers at 189 to extend the cushion to 26-15.

When Davison's Richard Kirksey notched a 1:04 pin over Dan Wanshon in the 215 contest, the Chiefs needed to record pins in the final three matches to stay alive.

Heavyweight Luke Konsitzke did his part when — while facing a 4-2 deficit in the third period — he put 30-6 Jared Cowan on his back and finished the pin at the 4:21 mark to make it 32-21.

"Luke battled all the way through to the end there," said Pantaleo. "He stayed in the match against a really good kid and once that big heavyweight gets on top of you, it's tough to roll back off.

"I told him, 'Put everything you have into it, Luke, and just



Canton heavyweight Luke Konsitzke, pictured above in a match earlier this season, notched a pin in the Chiefs' guarterfinal match against Davison Friday night. The junior finished the season with a 29-16 record.

hold him there' and he picked up a big win. That's something he can build on for next year." FRIDAY AT KELLOGG ARENA

Davison clinched the victory one match later when Dakota Thronson edged Waleed Faraj, 7-6, in an entertaining 10-3 pound encounter. Faraj appeared to tie the match with a late escape, but the referee ruled the move came after the final horn.

Randolph was not allowed to be in Kellogg Arena Friday night due to a 2007 infraction, however, his spirit was present, according to Kropp

"Coach Randolph's always with us," he said. "His training is always going to help us on the mat, whether he's here or not. I think we all wrestled for him tonight."

DAVISON 41 CANTON 21

119 pounds: Bryan Rickard (D) pinned Carl Lucke in 1:16; 125: Donnie Watkins (C) decisioned Zach

Davis, 4-2; 130: Jeremy Filippelli (C) dec. Ryan

McKenna, 4-2; 135: Zach LaBelle (D) dec. Steve Cox, 11-8;

140: Justin McDermitt (D) won by technical fall over Anthony Abro, 25-10; 145: Brent Winekoff (C) dec. James Hyatt,

152: Reyes Saldana (D) dec. Braden Price, 160: Nick Boan (D) pinned Keith Zech

171: Rodger Kropp (C) pinned Kyle Thick 189: Josh Connell (D) dec. Adam Powers,

215: Richard Kirksey (D) pinned Dan / Wanshon in 1:04;

285: Luke Konsitzke (C) pinned Jared Cowan in 4:19; 103: Dakota Thronson (D) dec. Waleed

112: Cody Robbins (D) pinned Connor

RECORDS: Canton, 27-8; Davison, 32-1.

for a first-year coach than whom he selects to serve as his team's captain. After careful consideration, Fassbender chose Pitts - a move that turned out to be golden.

"Since I was new to the program and didn't know everybody, I watched all the kids' demeanor the first couple weeks of practice," he said. "I wanted to see how everyone carried themselves and how they interacted with the rest of the team. That's when I picked Jerry to serve as captain.

"On the ice, he's not the fastest skater on our team, but he's always in the right position and he can play physically if we need him to. He has a very good shot and he makes up for what he

lacks in speed with positioning and aggressiveness."

Born to lead

The leadership role was a natural one for Pitts, who had served as a captain on numerous occasions throughout his youthleague years.

"Playing high school hockey this year has exceeded all of my expectations," said Pitts, who finished the year with 13 goals and 12 assists. "Even though we had a lot of new players join the team, our chemistry was good because I used to play travel hockey with Colin and I had played against Jake, so I knew what he could do.

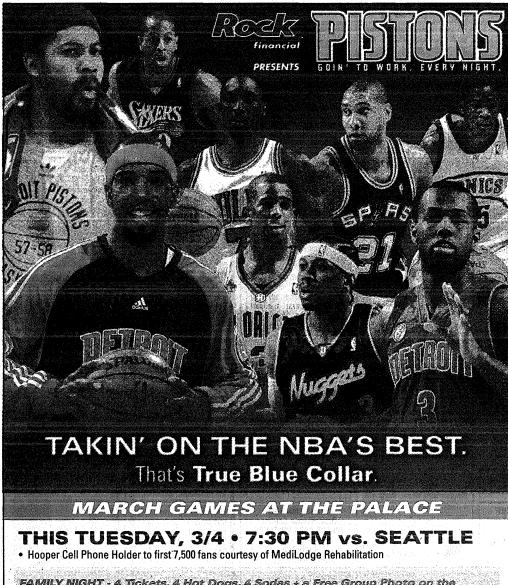
"I think our success this year was due to good coaching and the fact that we played as a team. It's been fun."

Pitts said the large, enthusiastic crowds were a welcome bonus. "It was fun playing in front of a lot of my friends," he said. "The people at school really got into the hockey team. Kids would congratulate me in the hallway after we won a big game."

Never a dull moment

When Pitts is not immersed in hockey — he's played virtually year-round for as long as he can remember — he enjoys riding his dirt bike on his family's 40-acre spread near Jackson and working at Mickey Shorr's, where he installs stereos and sound equipment into cars.

"I'm going to go to Schoolcraft for two years and then to Grand Valley," Pitts said, referring to his post-high school plans. "I'd like to major in business and maybe become a sales rep or some-



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Assistant

EEOC

5010)

5020

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your email.

Warehouse

Order Selector-

Clerks

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Canton & Westland, Comfo

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Ability to balance invoices/cash, Tues. - Fri. 3-9pm (no public contact). Previous cash handling, computer & balanc-ing experience needed. Must be able to work independently and have initiative to solve problems. Salary negotiable based on experience. Near 175 Please send resume along with salary requirements to: Mail Human Resources

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Charter Township of Redford

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the purpose of establishing

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Current salary \$33,386 -\$42,645. High School

diploma or equivalent is

required. Applicants must be able to type accurately

30 words per minute and successfully pass written

Must have the ability handle

emergency phone calls and

dispatch emergency vehi-

cles for the Police and Fire

Applications must be picked up at the City of Wayne, 3355 S. Wayne Rd.,

Wayne, MI 48184. An appli

cation form is also available

www.ci.wayne.mi.us

Application must be com

pleted in its entirety and on file in the Personnel

Department by 4:00 p.m. on

or e-mailed applications will

be accepted. No resumes will be accepted without

The City of Wayne does not

discriminate on the basis of

sex, religion, age or disabil

ity in employment or the provision of services.

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Seeking candidate for Executive/ Personal Assistant

Degree in one of the related

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Experience needed for commercial real estate company; full time/benefits/pay based on exp; valid drivers license & clean driving record a must; certifications beneficial. Fax 248-258-6213 or email to: laurencelle@ laurencelleproperties.com

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN candidate

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Must have experience with vendors that provide drug testing, counseling, and or treatment services. Pay range \$46,809 - 59,296. Submit \$46,809 - 59,296. application and resume to Livingston County Human Resources, 304 E. Grand River Ave. Ste MI 48843 EOE Ste 205, Howell,

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established church in Progressive, Protestant Birmingham seeks part-time K-5 Sunday School Teacher Will involve 4-5 hours pe week including Sunday morn ings during the school year Experience with teaching elementary age children, along with Christian education training and education degree are preferred. referred. Compensatior egotiable. Please fax replies to 248-644-0559, or email to liphillips1@comcast.net

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Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or Business preferred. 2 years experience in Purchasing preferred. Working knowledge of business and finance soft-ware, knowledge of principles of school finance eting, financial reporting accounting, staff management, and sound purchas ing practices. Salary \$63,011 - \$83,152 (07/08 school year). Open until filled. Submit an application online at:

http://wwcsd.net or call 734-419-2026 Wayne Westland Community Schools 36745 Marquette and, MI 48185 EOE

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http://wwcsd.net WAYNE WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS 36745 Marquette Westland, MI 48185

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This position is an on-call casual which pays \$13.23 hourly. Warehouse located in Belleville. Qualified candiand organize job cost information necessary to do billing prepare invoices from documentation gathered, con-tributes to team effort by dates, please call Kory at 734-397-3600 ext 5721 accomplishing related tasks as 248-669-4984

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DATA ENTRY CLERK Farmington Hills technical society seeks highly organized individual to process seminar registrations and publications, and routine database maintenance. Must be detail orient ed, have excellent data entry skills, and be proficient in Word, Excel, and the Internet. Send resume and salary requirements to: Director, H.R. - REG

P.O. Box 9060 Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9060 FAX: 248.848.3771 EMAIL: barh chevne@concrete.org FRONT DESK

FT for medical administrative

LEGAL ASSISTANT Plymouth firm. Manage deadlines, run errands to court, word processing, phones. Fax resume: 734-414-6232

EXP'D. PT, 10-15 hrs/wk: Very flexible. Southfield area.

Full or Part-Time. Must be familiar with Word. Prior exp. a must. Call: 734-326-2889 OFFICE ASSISTANT

sonality. Great com-munication skills, ability to multi task and have telephone and computer experience. Quickbooks a plus. Please send resume to 734-729-4813 or send to PO Box 51155, Livonia, MI 48151

Part time receptionist for Private Country Club. Must work weekends. Wed-Sun, 9-2. Fax resume 248-356-5255

staff & visitors, assist with Exc. computer skills including Microsoft office. Resume to: jobs@teamaircenter.com No phone calls please.

Low to mid \$20's. Email resume: adminassist farmington@gmail.com

SECRETARY Duties to include but not limited to general office & cleri-Microsoft applications. Fax resume to: 734-354-4225

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Sales Engineer Send resume to Help Wanted-Dental

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A world leader in automo Must be a motivated indi vidual proficient in MS Office and adaptable to other computer programs This clerical position wil work with quotations fol customers, maintain quota tion history, file structure and transfers, and gather required materials needed.

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Resume hjklawyer@gmail.com LEGAL*SECRETARY

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RECEPTIONIST

RECEPTIONIST PT. Mon-Fri. 8-3. Answer phones, interact with internal

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cal work. Must have exp. with

5030

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5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT Downtown Plymouth dental office seeks an energetic,

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Village looking for exp'd person. Hours & salary negotiable. Call 248-552-0076 or fax resume to: 248-552-3050 DENTAL RECEPTIONIST Positive, calm, mature, peo-ple-person to manage front desk. Skills include scheduling, insurance billing, collect-ing fees & exceptional cus-tomer service. Must have dental software exp. Dentrix preferred. Knowledge of chairside assisting helpful. Part-Time. Farmington Hills. Fax resume to: 248-932-7734

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Salary based on experience. Fax resume: (248) 474-5451 At IHA, we offer our nursing staff the opporor email resume to: andan@tds.net tunity to work in an envi ronment that allows them **CLINIC MANAGER** For adolescent health cenimize their professiona development and provide w/benefits Responsible for provision reward. As a Sr. RN. we of medical and counseling are looking for cand services as well as a WIC program. Medical services dates who are interested in coordinating Clinica include general medical care, OB/gyn, pediatrics and psychiatry. Supervises performing telephone triage, serving as a clini front desk staff, medical cal resource and provid assistants, nurses, socia workers and the WIC proing patient education The best fit for this posigram. Requires excellen leadership skills, with 5-7 tion is someone who has the ability to use a comyears previous managerial experience in an outcustomer service skills patient clinic. Must be RN and a license to practice in the State of Michigan, with current nursing licen sure. Advanced degrees with a desire to work in are preferred. Send cover office nursing.

jchesler@cornerhealth.org EOE Farmington Hills Drake House Seeking DIRECT CARE WORKERS High-Tech Skills LPNs/RNs Infusion & Wound Care exp.

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jl1977@aol.com MEDICAL **INSURANCE** VERIFICATION

fax resume to 734-425-821

Bilingual (Spanish & English) for large multi-state physician practice head-quartered in Farmington Hills, Ideal candidate must be computer/inter net literate. Good organizational skills must. Knowledge of ICD9/CPT and medical billing a plus. Fax resume to 248-324-0761

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40441 Ann Arbor Rd. to joining our team include an excellent benefit pack-BIKINI WAITSTAFF& COOK age, incl fully deferred non FT/PT,days & nights. Apply in contributory Pension Plan person before 6pm. Plymouth orientation and on-going education. If you are inter-Road House, 34101 Plymouth Rd., (734) 421-7744 ested in contributing to the **BOB EVANS NOW HIRING** and spiritual care of our ALL POSITIONS

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5120

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

Preventive medicine

Drug could prevent kidney damage from dyes

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN **O&E STAFF WRITER**

Dr. Aine Kelly suspects the average patient is unaware ofthe risks for kidney damage from the dye used to provide contrast in computed tomography (CT) scans. Patients usually receive the dye or contrast agent intravenously before an angiogram, angioplasty, or CT scan which uses X-rays to produce cross-sectional images of the body.

The good news is that a recent study found that an inexpensive drug, N-acetylcysteine, taken beforehand can protect patients at risk of kidney damage from the iodine-containing contrast

Kelly, an medical doctor and assistant professor in the radiology department at the University of Michigan Medical School, led researchers in analyzing data from 41 randomized controlled studies of drugs to reduce the chance of contrast-induced kidney damage during angiograms which use the same dye as CT scans. She suggests patients ask their health care provider prior to undergoing a CT scan about the possibility they could be at risk for nephropathy, the medical term for dye-induced kidney damage. About 25 percent of high-risk patients suffer kidney damage from the dyes. In the study published in the Annals of Internal Medicine in February on the effective-

ness of drugs for preventing

contrast-induced kidney damage, N-acetylcysteine offered protection and cost about 25

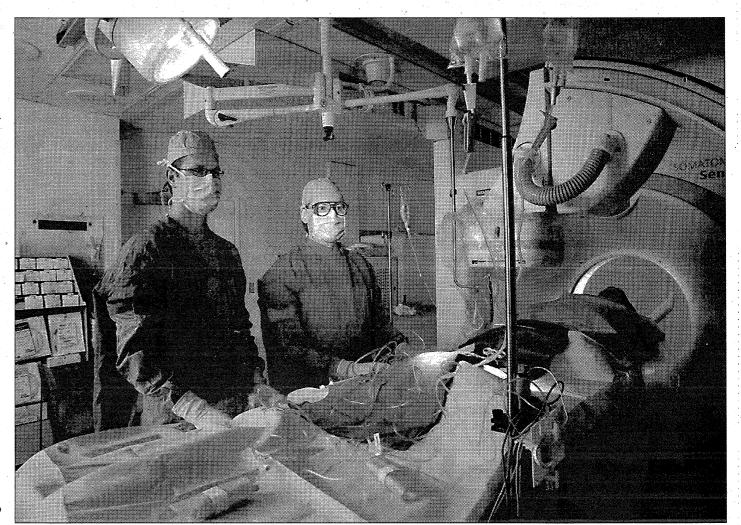
"The contrast agent impairs the excretory function," said Kelly. "The work unit of the kidneys is the nephron. Some blood vessels are constricted and toxic substances don't get excreted as well, stay in the blood stream and cause problems. In some patients there's a possibility that a transplant or dialysis might be needed. Sometimes it can be a life or death thing. If it shuts down completely, the kidneys could be permanently damaged."

Even patients without kidney problems should probably request a blood test to determine creatinine levels. A rise in creatinine indicates the kidneys aren't functioning efficiently.

"There is a small risk (even for normal kidneys) for about one in 10. They'll get it for two or three days until it is excreted in the urine," said Kelly. "My advice is if middle-aged or older, there's no harm to be aware of your kidney function. They should probably have kidney function checked.

"Second is to drink lots of fluid. It helps flush the contrast out. Drink lots of clear liquids not alcohol, but make sure your doctor doesn't have you on a special diet. A lot of times, fluid is restricted for kidney problems."

Although the initial analysis looked at angiogram data only, Kelly's future plan is to study CT scan patients



University of Michigan physicians use a CT scanner in one of the special rooms that contain both the scanner and angiogram imaging equipment.

to see if N-acetylcysteine or another drug like theophylline could lower the risk of kidney damage caused by contrast agents. Kelly specifically came to this country to do research at the University of Michigan after working as a physician in Ireland and then training as a radiologist in the United Kingdom. She decided to do the study after talking to colleagues who were giving patients Nacetylcysteine pre-scan. She was curious as to whether

there was evidence the drug offered protection against contrast-induced kidney damage so she could better advise colleagues and patients. Kelly says the problem of kidney damage is not a recent one.

"It's probably been happening all along," said Kelly. "The studies went back 15 years. CT took off in the '80s and early '90s. Angiograms have been around for 30 years. I suspect patients are unaware of it from talking

with patients and my own friends and relatives."

The benefits of CT scans and angiograms still outweigh the risk of kidney damage from the contrast agent.

"In most situations when a CT scan is ordered it's to answer a serious situation, said Kelly, "a patient is suspected of having cancer or a clot in the lung, or a kidney stone which needs to be diagnosed and specific treatment begun quite soon.'

Kelly is hopeful that

researchers will soon find a safer way to diagnose diseases. She has seen progress over her 12 years in radiology.

"Contrast agents are getting better," said Kelly. "We have different contrast agents. Contrast agents are becoming less toxic than they used to be. It's certainly become much less of a problem. Maybe we could make it such a tiny risk it would be less of a worry.'

Ichomin@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2145

Vibration platform tightens abs

Brad from Wixom e-mails asking if there is anything he can do to tone up his abs. He has been trying crunches and ab work, but he still feels flabby.

Brad, you may want to try a vibration platform. A new study found standing on a vibration platform for only 15 minutes a day could help you get those washboard



Principles

Peter Nielsen

Researchers put mice on a vibrating platform for 15 minutes a day for 15 weeks. At the end of the study they found the mice had 27 percent fewer abdominal Peter's fat cells. They also saw a decrease in

mice!! One more note, the mice did not lose weight, but experts believe the vibration changes fat distribution in a beneficial way. Experts believe humans can achieve the same results. I have actually been on one of these platforms and it is a great workout! Pam from Keego Harbor e-mails about her teenage son. He smokes and she is worried he may be doing more. What can

triglycerides in the

are some well-toned

liver. Now those

Pam, it is crucial to get your son to quit smoking because it may lead to more unhealthy behavior. A new study found teenagers who smoke are five times more likely to drink and 13 times more likely to use marijuana. Experts believe the nicotine in tobacco products can produce structural and chemical changes in the brain that can cause teens to be more vulnerable to alcohol and other drugs. Researchers also found teenagers who smoke have a higher risk of depression and anxiety disorders. It is time to get them to quit, now!

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

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Workshop with Dr. William Karl, D.C., on how nutrition affects health and longevity 7 p.m. Monday, March 3, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile,

east of Farmington Rd. No charge. Call (734) 425-8588 for more information

and to reserve your seat. Exercise boot camps

Begins Monday, March 3, 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday (\$300) or Monday. Wednesday and Friday (\$180) for four weeks, and 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (\$180), at Total Life Fitness Building, 9562 Telegraph, Redford. One day women only boot camp Saturday, March 1 (\$60). Space limited to first 15 people. Call (313) 561-LIFE or (313) 622-2837.

Breastfeeding classes 10:30 a.m. to noon Monday, March 3, 10 and 17, at the Oakland County Health Division, 27725 Greenfield, Southfield. Classes for mother and baby are taught by public health nurses and cover everything from pumping to starting solids and weaning. Information targeted to first year of breastfeeding. For information or to register, call

(248) 858-4003 or (888) 350-0900, Ext. 84003.

Sharing & Caring Dinner and support for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients and their partners with Annette Spencer, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at Beaumont Hospital Cancer Center, Royal Oak. Sharing & Caring offers education and support programs for breast cancer survivors. For reservations, call (248) 551-

Fibromyalgia lecture

7-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, with Dr. Peter lanni, a behavioral pain psychologist, present a demonstration of surface EMG and Biofeed back, at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. RSVP a few days before the lecture if you will be attending, by sending e-mail to smo23915@aol.com. Cost is \$5 to help pay for the cost of the room. For more information, call (248) 344-0896. Loren DeVinney, P.T. will discuss the role of physical therapy in the treatment of fibromyalgia and how Biofeedback and physical therapy complement each other in a multidisciplinary treatment program. There will also be a round table question discussion. New Fibromyalgia patients, spouses or friends are welcome to attend the meeting.

Workshop series

Teens Using Drugs: What To Know and What To Do, an ongoing series, is presented by Ronald Harrison, SW in the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, Classroom EC4, 5305 Elliott, Ypsilanti. Part One: What To Know, runs 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, and provides information on understanding and recognizing teen substance abuse problems. For details, call (734) 973-7892, send e-mail to jessa@med.umich.edu or visit www. teensusingdrugs.

Think trim class

Give up dieting and find out why willpower or deprivation never work. Instead change your thinking about food and learn how to develop a healthy approach to eating and exercise. You won't have to give up the foods you love and you'll acquire skills to be trim and healthy for a lifetime. Class

takes place 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, at The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham (\$24) Presented by Lorraine Stefano, A.C.S.W. For details, call (248) 828-7333 or visit thinktrim.com.

Smoking cessation clinic

With Dr. Arthur Weaver 10:30 a.m. to noon March 7, 10-14, and 17, at Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist Church fellowship room, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. For more information, call (248) 349-5683

Low vision support group

Meets 1-3 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. For more information, call Ellen Stross at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 232.

Divorce support group

Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, Attorney Patricia Kasody-Coyle will also be available to answer questions on a first come, first served basis, in the Women's Resource Center (room 225) of the McDowell Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Call (734) 462-

Fibromyalgia support

The Metro Fibromyalgia and CFS Support Group features speaker Esther Morton on Pain Relief at Your Fingertips, Serenity ear acupressure program 1-3 p.m. Thursday, March 13, at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, south of Ford. Donations accepted. Group meets monthly on second Thursday. For information, call Lucy Rowley at

(734) 462-1768. Vegetarian seminar

Nutrition and cooking seminar 2:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 16, at Plymouth Seventh-day Adventist Church fellowship room, 4295 Napier, between Ann Arbor and Warren roads. Lectures by a physician and nutritionist will be followed by cooking demonstrations with recipes and menu plans. Suggested donation is \$10 per person. To register, call (248) 349-5683 or (313)

Art of aging

Ninth annual Art of Aging Successfully 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, March 27, at Greater Grace Temple, 23500 W. 7 Mile. Detroit icon Sonny Eliot talks about his decades of working in radio and TV and his personal triumphs and tragedies. Cost \$18 for age 55 and older, includes sit-down lunch. To register, call Donna at (313) 577-2297. Hosted by the Institute of Gerontology at Wayne State University.

PLAY Project Level I Workshop

With Rick Solomon, M.D., 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 29, for Family members of children with autism and education and health care professionals, at The Futures HealthCore Therapy Center, 3231 South Gulley, Dearborn. Visit www.futurestherapycenter.com or call Dawn Ham-Kucharski at (734) 407-2500, Ext. 459.

Volunteers needed

For Camp Discovery for children with epilepsy (June 29 to July 3), at Sherman Lake YMCA Outdoor Center in Augusta, northwest of Kalamazoo). Volunteer training from experts on epilepsy and camp procedures Saturday, June 28. Free room and board. For information or an application, visit www. epilepsymichigan.org, call (800) 377-6226, option 1, Ext. 231, or send e-mail to sdarroch@epilepsymichi-

'Do You See What I See' campaign raises awareness about vision loss

Do You See What I See? For seniors who suffer with an eye disease known as Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) the answer is always no because the central area of the retina known as the macula is losing function. The retina is made up of layers of nerve cells that sense light and allow you to see.

Picture a large black hole in the center of your sight that robs you from seeing complete images and eats away at your vision from the inside out. That is what happens for 10 million Americans who suffer from AMD, a devastating eye disease and the leading cause of vision loss in people 65 years or older in the

In honor of March's AMD Awareness Month, EyeCare America is launching a campaign to educate people about risk factors (age, race, family history) and treatment options. For seniors who have not been diagnosed with AMD, the national organization would like to connect those people with a free eye exam through its AMD EyeCare Program. The eye exams will be provided by more than 7,000 volunteer ophthalmologists across the U.S. For more information, call (866) 324-EYES (3937). Eyeglasses, medicines, hospital services and fees of other medical professionals are not included.

"There is no cure for AMD, but early detection and treatment may lessen severe vision loss and slow the progression of the disease," said Dr. William Tasman, chairman of the EyeCare America program.

To supplement its award-winning referral program, EyeCare America has recently created a new Web site specifically designed to assist online users in learning more about eye problems such as AMD. The site, eyecareamerica.org, contains upto-date clinical information about AMD and other eye diseases reviewed by certified ophthalmologists with links to current treatments and an interactive tour of the eye's anatomy. Visitors can share important health topics with family and friends through a convenient e-mail forward function and order free brochures that give in-depth information on treatment, tests/ diagnosis, and causes and risks factors for a wide variety of common eye diseases.

Other easy to use functions include online tools such as a vision simulator which allows users to see how vision would be affected from common eye diseases, and informative videos created by the American Academy of Ophthalmology that will provide visitors with a complete interactive experience.

Established in 1985, EyeCare America, the public service program of the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, is committed to the preservation of sight by providing eye care services to the medically underserved and for those at increased risk for eye disease. More than 90 percent of the care made available is provided at no out-of-pocket cost to the patients. EyeCare America includes programs for seniors, glaucoma, diabetes, AMD, and children.

Sarnia stings Whalers with last shot

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 2, 2008

Jamie Arniel's goal with 1:16 remaining in regulation snapped a 5-5 tie and the Sarnia Sting defeated the Plymouth Whalers, 6-5, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Friday night before 3,582 at the Sarnia Sports and Entertainment Centre.

Plymouth is now 32-23-2-3, good for 69 points and fifth place in the tight Western Conference playoff race. Sarnia improved to 33-26-2-0, good for 68 points and eighth place in the Western Conference

On a night when offense ruled, the last shot won and that was Arniel's, when he pounced on a loose puck just outside the Plymouth goal crease with Whalers goaltender Jeremy Smith down on the ice.

Sarnia star Steven Stamkos - whom many project to be the first overall selection in this summer's National Hockey League Entry Draft in Ottawa - continued to torment Plymouth this season with a hat trick and his 47th, 48th and 49th goals of the season. Stamkos has eight goals and an assist in five games against Plymouth this year.

Mark Katic (5) and Jared Gomes (18) scored the

other Sarnia goals. Plymouth received two goals and an assist from former Sarnia player Christian Steingraber (2-3) and one each from Chris Terry (team-leading 40th), Kaine Geldart (11) and Ryan

The Whalers came back four times from deficits (1-0, 2-1, 3-2 in the first period and 5-3 in the third)

Trailing 5-3 after 40 minutes, Plymouth tied the game in the third period on Steingraber's second goal of the evening at 2:10 (snap shot from the high slot that handcuffed Sarnia goaltender Andrew Perugini) and Hayes' power play goal at 10:09 (rebound in front after Perugini made the save on a Steingraber point shot). That set the stage for Arniel's game-winner.

Sarnia outshot Plymouth, 48-27.

Plymouth is home this afternoon (2 p.m.) against Saginaw. Tickets can be purchased for all Plymouth games by calling the Compuware Arena at (734) 453-8400 or by going to Ticketmaster at www.tick-

Ignition vaults to first with 24-11 triumph

The Detroit Ignition defeated the California Cougars 24-11 Friday night at Compuware Arena in the club's third consecutive victory.

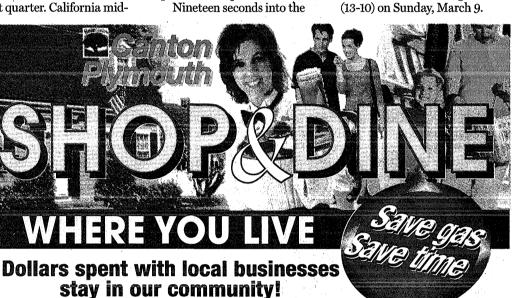
The victory, which was nationally broadcast on Fox Soccer Channel, gives Detroit a share of first place in the Major Indoor Soccer League with a 15-7 mark. California slipped to 8-14.

The first points of the match came from Ignition midfielder Ricardinho, a two-point score less than two minutes into the first quarter. California midfielder Majell Aterado responded third, Brighton native Doug for the visitors at 5:42, notching two points off an assist from Semir Mesanovic.

With just 12 seconds remaining in the first, Detroit got two more points on the scoreboard off the head of rookie Vahid Assadpour. Midfielder Ze

Roberto assisted on the goal. The second quarter belonged to Detroit as Worteh Sampson, Ricardinho and Jamar Beasley each scored two-point goals to put the club up 10-2 at halftime. Rice put a two-point tally past California keeper Sanaldo, who played for Detroit last season. Less than two minutes later, Roberto increased the club's cushion to 13 with a three-point score that spurred the Cougars to bring netminder Matt McDougall in for Sanaldo.

The Ignition will travel to Florida on Friday, March 7 to face the expansion Orlando Sharks (3-20), and will return home to host the Chicago Storm



Your initial

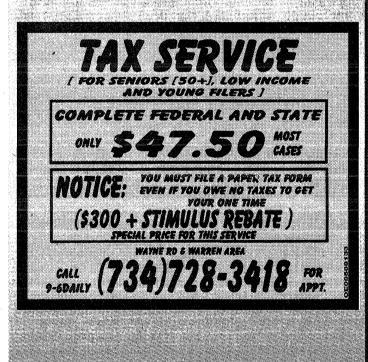
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Eagles soar over Covenant in District semifinals, 71-61

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Brian Alexander carefully measured his words after his Redford Covenant boys basketball team lost 71-61 to Plymouth Christian Academy in Thursday night's Class D district semifinal.

"Every coach doesn't want it to end," he said. "But take your hat off to Plymouth Christian, they took us out of our game." The Spartans head coach then emphasized that his squad did not rebound, shoot well or play very good defense against the district host Eagles — who were powered by a raucous home crowd and 31 points by senior guard Trevor Zinn.

"Those things have been our Achilles heel all season," Alexander said. "It caught up with us."

Alexander did not give the home-court advantage much weight when discussing what sparked the Eagles, a team that came in with a 5-16 record.

'The home-court advantage didn't have anything to do with it, it's just that we weren't focused," he said. "And, Plymouth Christian did a great job."

He noted how the Eagles turned the tables on Covenant.

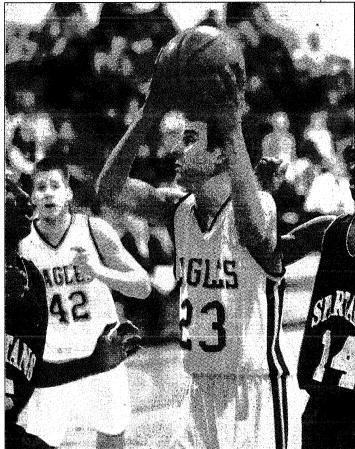
They got the ball out quick, so we could not set up our defense," Alexander said. "And they ran a little bit. We had problems getting back, something that we normally do (to other teams)."

Plymouth Christian head coach Mike Doyle did give credit to the home fans, however.

"It was a big home-court advantage. They filled the whole student section and the fans were awesome and they rushed the floor after the game," said Doyle, with a laugh.

And that supportive noise ratcheted up his squad in the energy department.

"It gives us a lot because all year we've been playing two or three quarters very well, and in the fourth quarter we just run out of gas," Doyle said. "I think with that extra adrenalin, the crowd cheering, that gave us a big, extra boost."



PCA's Spencer Wiard grabs a rebound during Thursday night's Class D District semifinal victory over Redford Covenant.

Doyle, of course couldn't ignore other big reasons for the win. The Eagles more than doubled Covenant in the rebounding department (with 10 by junior center Reid Barber), hit many more free throws and rode Trevor Zinn's coattails.

"It would been his last game, he's a senior and he was on a mission for sure," Doyle said. "He played the whole game, he didn't come out one time."

The Eagles started strong, racing out to a 12-2 lead that featured back-to-back treys by Trevor Zinn and his junior brother, Brent Zinn (13 points, seven rebounds).

It was 17-12 after the first, following a brief Covenant rally. Chester (17 points) nailed a triple, sophomore wing guard Lawrence Ridgell (16 points) converted a put-back and freshman point guard Ben Kil (11 points) connected on a beautiful, spin-a-rama jump shot from the paint after taking a nifty one i militari dattal filmes sali i en-

inside feed from senior guard DeAndre Bracken.

The Spartans forced a 36-36 halftime tie after a better showing in the second, with six points each by Chester, sophomore guard Julian Ridgell (who finished with nine) and five by

But Covenant never really seemed to get in sync, even after moving ahead 44-40 midway through the third following a great play by Bracken. He picked off an in-bounds pass in the Plymouth Christian end and dished through traffic to Julian Ridgell for a layup.

An example of how the Spartans couldn't sustain anything positive took place late in the first half.

After an Eagle missed a free throw, Chester pulled down the rebound. But then he came down on the foot of a Plymouth Christian player and slipped - enough to be whistled for traveling.

Presented by

Andrea S.

Vivian, D.D.S.

BABY'S FIRST TEETH

There is an old wives' tale

that links how early a baby

begins to teethe with mental development. The truth of the

matter, of course, is that no

such relationship has been

Parents will typically notice

that their child's first tooth pushes through the gumline between the ages of four and

seven months. The first teeth to appear are usually the two bottom front teeth (central incisors). About one month later, the two teeth flanking the bottom front teeth (lower lateral incisors) make their

patients feel at ease from the moment they walk in our office is an important part of establishing a positive dental experience. Our staff is friendly and competent, and our reception area is warm and inviting. We intend to make all our patients comfortable by providing a

relaxing atmosphere and the most up-to-date procedures and equipment available in the dental industry today. We

invite all members of your

family to 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth.

Please call 734-453-9413. P.S. In rare cases, children are born with one or two

teeth, or will have a tooth

emerge within the first few

weeks of life.

proven to exist.

appearance. Making our

Gerulis twined 11 and Wiard chipped in with nine.

Barber led all rebounders with eight.

Ahlsmeyer paced the

Warriors with 14 points. Jake Kruger contributed 12. The Eagles sank just 13-of-

26 free throws. LW was 15-of-22 from the stripe.

PCA will take a 7-16 record into Monday night's Regional semifinal game

at Birmingham Roeper. Its opponent and the time of the contest was not known as of Friday night's deadline.

Lutheran Westland closed with a 6-15 mark.

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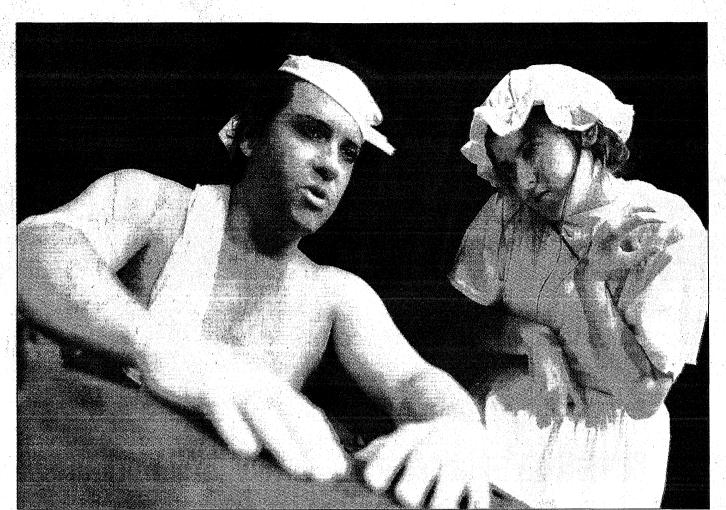
HOMETOWN

Sunday, March 2, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

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



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Christian Cash as Jean-Paul Marat and Stephanie Lee as Simonne Evrard rehearse a scene from 'Marat/Sade,' a drama which takes place in an insane asylum. Marat is stabbed to death by Charlotte Corday (played by Melissa Humphrey, not pictured) while taking a bath.

This is mad

'Marat/Sade' deals with dark side of human nature

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Michael Ludlum likes to think of Hannibal Lecter, the serial killer in the The Silence of the Lambs, when re-creating the Marquis de Sade. The Canton man plays the French aristocrat in the Schoolcraft College production of Marat/Sade opening March 21.

Marat/Sade is a play within a play and based in part on history. De Sade, for whom sadism was named, wrote plays while an inmate in an insane asylum in Paris. Set in 1808 in an asylum where patients are putting on a play, the drama culminates with the assassination of revolutionary journalist Jean-Paul Marat in a flashback to 1793. Marat and de Sade spend much of the play debating relevant issues of the time.

Besides learning his lines Ludlum had to research the period after the French Revolution. He is a part-time Web development instructor at the college who's fairly new to acting. He appeared in his first Schoolcraft play, Shakespeare's Measure for Measure, last season.

"I analyzed the character and the historical figure," said Ludlum. "The Marquis de Sade wrote things in a very manipulative way to enforce his beliefs."

'MARAT/SADE'

What: Peter Weiss' drama about the Marquis de Sade, Jean-Paul Marat and patients in an insane asylum in early 1800s France

When: 6:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 21-22 and March 28-29 (dinner theater), and 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 4-5 (performance only)

Where: Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia

Tickets: \$24 (dinner theater), \$12 (performance only). Vegetarian dinner available. Call (734) 462-4596.

James Hartman did his research before he took on the job of directing Peter Weiss' play at the University of Cincinnati many years ago. This is the third time the Schoolcraft College professor has staged the play. He warns, the production is not for children. Hartman remembers walking to the car with his stomach in knots after seeing the play at a theater in

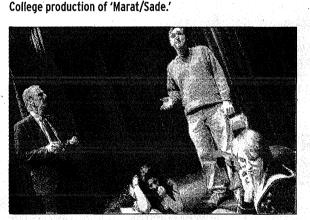
Cincinnati. "I got permission to go through an asylum. I needed background information," said Hartman. "I saw some pitiful, awful and horrifying things some of which I put on stage, some things I could not. It was a scary experience."

Ever since directing the play 14 years ago at Schoolcraft College, Hartman says at least one audience member at

Please see MADNESS, C3



Trevor Wnuk as Herald rehearses a scene for the Schoolcraft



Schoolcraft College theater professor James Hartman, left, directs Michael Ludlum as Marquis de Sade, right, with actors from left, Diana Oswald, Lia Liade Biasi, and Paige Pavlos as they rehearse a scene from the college's production of 'Marat/Sade.'

Mama Jazz receives Salute to Women



Midge Elllis (right) received the Salute to Women Award from the Livonia Branch of the American Association of University Women at the annual luncheon. Janet Bennett (left) is chairperson for the award.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Midge Ellis started promoting jazz back in high school in Kentucky. The 84-year-old Livonia woman hasn't stopped since. In recognition of her support for the music Ellis was recently presented with the 2007 Salute to Women award from the Livonia Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW).

Once a year, women are nominated for their contributions to the community. Laura Callow received the award in 1978 for her work on behalf of furthering the Equal rights Amendment.

"We look for women who have made a contribution to the community and Midge certainly has made a number of contributions through her career. She actually improved not only life in Livonia but the region," said Callow, co-

president of the AAUW, Livonia were fortunate to be able to see branch. "She brought many musicians to the Clarenceville school district helping to further and preserve the true American art form which jazz is."

SCHOOL DAYS

Ellis chuckles when she remembers her student days in Corbin, Ky.

"The first band I hired was in high school. I was on the prom and year book committees and talked them into bringing a big band to the prom instead of a year book," said Ellis. "I've been promoting jazz since 1945. I started right after my husband got out of the service and we joined a country club and started bringing in bands for dances in Greenwood, Mississippi, then Baton Rouge.'

Ellis has been bringing musicians to the Livonia area for nearly 40 years. Local jazz fans and hear the big bands thanks to her efforts on behalf of the Clarenceville series. The big band concerts ran from 1969 to 1982 in the high school's Louis

Schmidt Auditorium in Livonia. "They had built the new auditorium. It was big and beautiful and the taxpayers were saying why do we have it," said Ellis. "We brought in children's programs that didn't pay for themselves. I suggested bringing in bands. At the time big bands were traveling all over the country. We got Buddy Rich. He was the first."

Over the years Stan Kenton, Maynard Ferguson, Woody Herman, Harry James, and Count Basie were among the bands spotlighted on the series. While in town the musicians shared their knowledge with

Please see SALUTE, C2

Friendships need a break sometimes

I have a friend that gets into a lot of trouble ... ! mean, A LOT of trouble. She's even been to juvie. She has spent a lot of time at my house but she keeps getting arrested for things. I want to help her and be a good friend to her, but now she's mad at me for hanging out with other friends. What should I do? **Caring Friend** Westland



Teen Talk

Monica Fulton

is the kind of friend you want to have in your life. Have you been friends for a long time? How good of a friend is she to you? It sure sounds like you go out of your way for her ... does she go out of her way for you? Besides, it's OK to have lots of different friends. Why is this friend

It sounds like you really need to ask yourself if this

angry that you've been hanging out with other people? Being possessive of you isn't being a good friend.

Sometimes, friendships need a break. Maybe this is a good time to take a breather from the friendship and explore other activities and other friends. You might want to ask your parents for help and support during this "break" so that you can think clearly about what you want in a friend. But, make sure you're not saying negative things about this friend to other people. Just because you two aren't getting along right now is no reason to be mean. And this includes teaming up with other friends to harass or bully this friend. Just focus on what you want and surround yourself with people that will help you, not hurt you.

I'm trying to stay sober but everyone around me drinks or uses drugs. My friends, my family ... everybody! What should I do? **Almost Sober**

Garden City It's important to surround yourself with people that are not using drugs or alcohol. If you're not comfortable attending Alcoholics Anonymous, you might want to try Ala-Teen. There are lots of teens dealing with families that are alcohol or drug involved, as well as dealing with sobriety themselves. Many local churches, community centers, hospitals, and Salvation Army centers have AA, Al-Anon, and Ala-Teen groups. One of the biggest thing you can do to help yourself es where there will and/or drug use. If you're family is having a big celebration where you know most of them will be drinking heavily, choose not to go. But be prepared, your family isn't going to like it. Simply tell them that you aren't interested in being around a bunch of people that are drinking. Creating a new support circle of friends who don't use is important too. Seek out activities that don't involve alcohol and drugs, and you'll find people who don't drink or use drugs. Sounds simple enough - right? It's a little more challenging than that because you're using friends aren't going to like you breaking away from their circle. Just remember to keep your own best interests at the top of your list. You are in charge of realizing your goals ... make sure you're on the right road to get to them!

One of my really good friends recently died and I'm having a really hard time dealing with it. It's hard to see his parents, it's hard to go to school, it's hard to go to the movies ... everything reminds me of him. Help! **Grieving in Garden City**

It is so hard to lose someone you care so much about. It's especially hard when that person is so young, with his whole life ahead of him. It is going to be hard to do things or go places without reminding you of the loss of your friend. It's important to recognize that this is normal. It's also important to understand that there are different stages of the grief process. Denial, anger, bargaining, and acceptance are all normal feelings. When we're in the denial stage, we almost don't remember that the person died. We look for the person in public places, we go to the phone to call the person, or we think about the person in the present tense. During the anger phase, we tend to feel angry at the person who left, angry at God, and angry that we don't have control over the situation. When we are in the bargaining stage, we tend to avoid doing things that we used to do with the person who died as a way of trying to keep the person alive in our minds. Finally, during acceptance, we can move forward in our lives and have memories of our loved one that brings a smile to our faces and lifts us up, rather than bringing us down. Give it time. Recognize that grief is a process. And by all means, talk to a school counselor, a parent, or another adult that you're comfortable with about what you're feeling. Reach out to other kids that knew your friend ... you might find out that you're not alone in how you feel.

Monica Fulton is the supervisor of the Family Resource Center in Garden City working on youth and family problems. She has a master of arts degree in clinical psychology. She can reached at monicafulton@sbcglobal.net.

students. It was during this time the late *Detroit Free Press* columnist Bob Talbert gave Ellis the nickname, Mama Jazz. Talbert, who announced many of the concerts, began noticing how the musicians would go to Ellis to sew on buttons and take care of them like a mother.

"We had clinics and brought in jazz students. The 940 seats would be full. They would come in from high schools from all over Michigan," said

NOT SLOWING DOWN

After 1982, Ellis was so busy as coordinator of special events at Schoolcraft College she didn't have time to book bands. Then in the early 1990s she and vibraphonist Jack Brokensha met with the owner of the Botsford Inn to bring jazz to the Farmington area on a weekly basis. The Jack Brokensha Quartet with Matt Michaels, Dan Jordan and Jerry McKenzie played the historic venue for several years as the Wednesday jazz nights

were so popular. Then Ellis was asked to use her organizational skills to coordinate the Michigan Jazz Festival, the dream of big band leaders Johnny Trudell and the late Emil Moro. The event had been held at Freedom Hill for the first time in 1995. For the next four years it was held at the Botsford Inn before outgrowing the space and moving in 1999 to Schoolcraft College where it continues to take place. The next event is scheduled for July 20, and as always showcases Michigan jazz musicians on multiple stages.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 2, 2008

Ellis serves as vice president, treasurer and director of the annual event which means she organizes the fund-raisers to make the festival a reality. Right now she's working on the April 13 program featuring jazz pianist Cliff Monear and his group, the annual Father's Day brunch, and a fall fundraiser Oct. 12. For more information, call (248) 474-2720.

"We look for somebody who's done an outstanding job in the community (over a lifespan)," said Janet Bennett, chair of the Salute to Women award. "Midge provided that kind of support for jazz. She brought public attention to Louis Schmidt Auditorium which is marvelous for its acoustics and the Livonia Symphony now uses it. She made a real contri-

Bennett was the one who informed Ellis that she was receiving the AAUW's Salute to Women. The award is hanging in place of honor in Ellis's "When she called and told

me I'd won I couldn't believe it especially when it was for the education of jazz," said Ellis. "That's been my mission in life to teach about jazz so they can love it as much as I do. I love it because it's an American art form. It started here in the United States. The freedom in the music is what our forefathers fought for. There's such a freedom because of the improvisation. The musicians are not reading the music. They can play a solo one night and the next night not be the same. Each instrument plays such a vital part in the music."

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Livonia Symphony Orchestra celebrates spring

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The weatherman is calling for another 3 to 5-inches of snow but Tom Bjorklund doesn't seem to care. He's looking forward to the Livonia Symphony Orchestra's Marching into Spring concert Saturday, March 8, at Clarenceville High School Auditorium in Livonia.

On the program is Robert Schumann's Spring Symphony which was inspired by the February of 1841, First Cuckoo of Spring by Frederick Delius, and several marches. For sure the cuckoo calls that identify with nature should be fun and there's nothing like a rousing march to boost the spirits.

"The music committee has put together some neat pieces," said Bjorklund, president of the LSO board of directors. "I'm looking forward to it. The Schumann symphony is going to be a lot of fun to listen to. I encourage people to come and

"It's such a bargain to listen to our great musicians in an auditorium with great acoustics for a grand total of \$17 and only \$5 for students and children. We lowered the price (for chil**MARCHING INTO SPRING**

What: Livonia Symphony Orchestra concert featuring Schumann's 'Spring Symphony' and marches

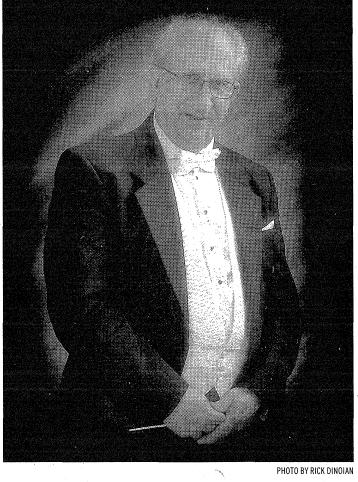
When: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 8 Where: Clarenceville High School Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia Tickets: \$17 adults, \$5 children and students. Call (734) 421-1111 or visit www.livoniasymphony.org

dren and students) a couple of years ago and it's nice to see an increasing number of young people because they enjoy the

Like all nonprofits, the LSO continues to struggle to raise the funds to keep the LSO alive.

"It's not just our problem," said Bjorklund. "There's not a symphony orchestra in the country that can get by just with ticket sales. Fund raising is an important part. With the economy in Michigan as it is, I encourage people to send in their donations and attend the golf outing in June and the con-

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Volodymyr Shesiuk conducts the Livonia Symphony Orchestra in its Marching into Spring concert on March 8.

Bowlathon to raise money for Goodwill work programs

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit is registering teams for the first annual Goodwill's Motor City Bowlathon. The month long event, which culminates on March 31, encourages Metro Detroiters to Bowl for Jobs at 11 area bowling centers in an effort to raise thousands of dollars to put people to work in Southeast Michigan. Bowling centers include Beech Lanes in Redford; Drakeshire Lanes, Farmington Hills; Mayflower Lanes, Redford; Thunderbird Lanes, Troy; Westland Bowl, Westland; and Woodland Lanes, Livonia.

Registration information and other details are available online at www. MotorCityBowlAThon.com. Blue Ribbon Quality Bowling Centers will host the event at 11 locations throughout Metro Detroit.

"The Bowlathon is an opportunity for families, co-workers, neighbors and friends to get together, have a fantastic time and contribute to a cause that impacts everyone in Michigan," said Ed Deeb, president and CEO of the Michigan Food & Beverage Association and the Michigan Business & Professional Association, and co-chairman of Goodwill's Motor City Bowlathon. "Every pin that falls and every dollar raised will help put people to work in this region."

The total cost to participate in Goodwill's Motor City Bowlathon is \$150 per team of three, four or five individuals. Each participating team member will receive two games of bowling, shoe rental, two pieces of pizza or two hot dogs, and a soft drink. Proceeds from all registration fees benefit Goodwill Industries of Industries of Greater Detroit's YouTube Web

Greater Detroit.

"Everyone in Southeast Michigan recognizes the importance of jobs to the future of our communities," said Jerry Harris, proprietor and general manager of Blue Ribbon Quality Bowling Centers member locations in Novi and Farmington Hills and co-chairman of the Bowlathon. "We're looking forward to providing the places where bowlers from across the region can come together to support this initia-

Eligible participants will have the opportunity to win a number of prizes including a lease on a new vehicle for the individual bowler with the highest score among all participants and two trips to tropical destinations. Any bowler recording a perfect 300 score during the Bowlathon will have the chance to win an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) from Motor City Harley-Davidson.

The first bowler rolling a turkey (three strikes in a row) on each team will win a \$15 Meijer Gift Card courtesy of Meijer. Participants will also be entered into a raffle for a number of other prizes. Those wishing to contribute to the Bowlathon, but are unable to bowl may submit suggested donation of \$30 via the Web site. By doing so, donors will be eligible for the raffle. In addition to prizes award ed for bowling accomplishments, Goodwill's Motor City Bowlathon also will award a prize to the team producing the best one- to twominute video promoting the fund-raiser.

Entries will be shown on Goodwill

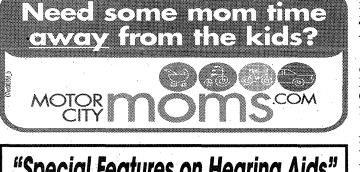
site, www.youtube.com/goodwilldetroitpr. The winning team will receive up to five digital video camcorders.

"At its core, the mission of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit is to put people to work, not just in the city of Detroit, but throughout Southeast Michigan," said Lorna Utley, president and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit.

The organization's clients include individuals facing a wide range of barriers to employment. Many were recently laid off and left lacking the skills to find new work in the changing economy. Others require assistance developing life skills necessary to communicate with customers and handle stressful situations. Still others suffer from physical or mental disabilities or have transportation or housing issues.

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit provides people with opportunities to become independent, self-supporting citizens through training, work experience and employment in the community. In 2007, the organization successfully put nearly 1500 residents to work in the counties of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties and provided nearly 14,000 individuals with employment and training services.

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit provides people who have disabilities and other barriers to employment with opportunities to become independent, self-supporting citizens through training, work experience and employment in the community. For information, visit www.goodwilldetroit.org.



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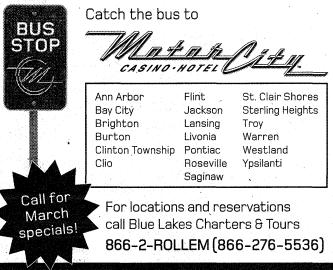
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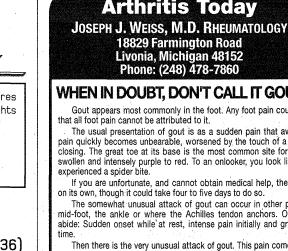


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pain quickly becomes unbearable, worsened by the touch of a sheet or a breeze from door closing. The great toe at its base is the most common site for an attack; the toe becomes swollen and intensely purple to red. To an onlooker, you look like you suffered a fracture or experienced a spider bite.

If you are unfortunate, and cannot obtain medical help, the attack will gradually resolve on its own, though it could take four to five days to do so. The somewhat unusual attack of gout can occur in other parts of your foot, like in the mid-foot, the ankle or where the Achilles tendon anchors. Otherwise, the usual features

abide. Sudden onset while at rest, intense pain initially and gradual lessening of pain over Then there is the very unusual attack of gout. This pain comes on gradually over hours to days, lasts for days to weeks, is distracting but not compelling, and presents in odd places on your foot, like the fifth toe or the side of the great toe.

Gout is unlikely to be the cause of such pain. If the pain persists, don't live with it. Bring the problem to the attention of your doctor. His training allows him to consider other possibilities and initiate treatment that will end this attack and prevent the next one.

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Deanna received crowns and bridges and used Dream Dentistry to alleviate her fears. "Parkside was the miracle I had been waiting for," she says. "I felt no pain and I was never afraid!" Since her treatment, Deanna says her self-esteem has

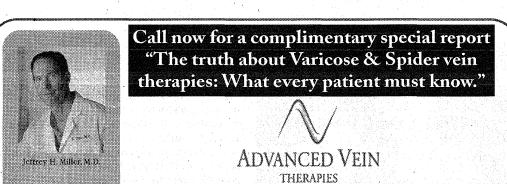
skyrocketed. "I no longer cover my mouth when I smile and I love being photographed! I haven't felt this good in 40 years!" Deanna recommended Parkside Dental Team to all her family

and friends and advises, "If you're suffering from dental pain, don't wait another minute. Give Parkside Dental Team a chance!"



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Spaghetti dinner to raise funds for Women's Resource Center

The Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College holds its annual Spaghetti Dinner & Wine Glow Tuesday, March 18, in the VisTaTech center on campus, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia.

Guests can mingle during the Wine Glow which begins at 6 p.m. The 7 p.m. dinner and 8 p.m. program follows.

Tickets are \$30. For more information, call (734) 462-

4443. Proceeds go to support the Women's Resource Center which provides scholarships and programs for Schoolcraft College students.

During the 2006-2007 academic year 519 men and women received more than \$200,000 in grants and scholarships which came from multiple sources like the Spaghetti Dinner. Last year's Basket Raffle was especially popular with the crowd raising an additional \$1,500. This year themes include State of Michigan, Gardener's and Mystery baskets. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and available at the event.

The WRC has earned national recognition for From Chocolate Chips to Micro Chips to Blue Chips, the educational training program that's helped more than 600 women transition from working inside to outside of the home.

League to hold used book sale

Members of the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County are busy working on their 26th annual used book sale March 14-16, at Livonia Mall on the northwest corner of Middlebelt and Seven Mile.

The Preview takes place 9 a.m. to noon Friday, March 14. Admission is \$3.

Regular hours for the sale run noon to

8 p.m. Friday, March 14; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, March 15, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 16.

Bag sale is \$6, two for \$11. Most books and magazines cost \$1 or less.

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every production has asked when he's going to do the play set in an asylum again. Hartman places actors as patients in the aisles of the theater to make the audience feel as if they are in an asylum.

"They're moaning or shouting things out," said Hartman. "I want the audience to be very involved in it. It helps draw the audience in. The two leads get very loud and emotional. It was done by the Royal Shakespeare Company in London in the 1960s and made such an impact it is included in many theater history

Hartman finds the play intriguing partly because it's based on history. He says it does create some controversy.

"A lot of speeches are very relevant to what's going on in our lives today," said Hartman. "We do have poverty today and people talk about freedom and how far the government can be in your

Critics describe the drama as total theater as it combines singing and movement with drama. The relatively large cast of 18 is composed of relatively new talent.

Melissa Humphrev is still struggling to define the line between her character and the one her character plays in Marat/ Sade. Charlotte Corday is the French aristocrat who assassinates Marat.

This is Humphrey's first time acting in a production at Schoolcraft College. Originally she became interested in theater as a student at Macomb

Community College after landing the lead role in a Shakespeare play in 2000.

Like de Sade, Humphrey enjoys writing dramas and plays. She's published poetry and a short story and writes for the school newspaper, The Connection, and is on the staff of the national literary magazine, The MacGuffin from Schoolcraft College. Humphrey is working towards a master's degree in English while minoring in theater.

"The patient who plays Charlotte Corday is a narcoleptic and suffers from melancholia. She's so depressed as a patient," said Humphrey of Redford.

Christian Cash plays Jean-Paul Marat, the French revolutionary journalist. The 40-year-old Fenton actor says it's been an educational experience and forced him to rethink positions involving politics and equality of the classes

Cash regularly performs with the Spotlight Players, a community theater group based at The Village Theater of Cherry Hill in

"I don't want to scare them away. It is a theatrical extravaganza." said Cash of Fenton, "Marat is one of the leaders of the French Revolution of the people against the aristocrats. De Sade wrote plays to rehabilitate the inmates and for the aristocratic crowd to come and see the plays. It all really did happen. My character gets everybody worked up (in the asylum). He's a paranoid schizophrenic. It all ends in complete chaos and bedlam."

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Celebrate Finnish heritage with Art workshop focuses on O'Keeffe Saarinen lecture, band concert

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 2, 2008

You've heard of singing in the shower? Get ready for songs about saunas...and hunting, fishing, forests and cold winters in the U.P. from the Marquette band, Conga Se Menne.

The group that combines traditional Finnish schottisches and polkas with blues, funk, Latin, reggae, rock, and Caribbean beats, will perform a concert called "Finnish Reggae and Other Sauna Beats," from 8-10 p.m., Saturday, March 15 at Cranbrook's Art Museum, in

Bloomfield Hills. The concert, co-sponsored by The Finlandia Foundation National and The Finnish Club of Detroit, will include a cash bar and traditional Finnish refreshments. Doors will open at 7 p.m., allowing time to check out the museum's current exhibit, "Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future," a look at the life and work of one of America's most innovative architects. Admission to the concert, which includes entrance to the exhibit, is \$15 per person for the general public

and \$10 per person for members of the Finlandia Foundation National, Finnish Cultural Center and the Finnish American Club of Detroit. The event is free for ArtMembers@Cranbrook. To reserve tickets, call (248) 645-3314.

The foundation also is sponsoring a lecture, featuring Susan Saarinen, Eero Saarinen's daughter, and Mark Coir, director of Cranbrook Archives, at 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 14, at the deSalle Auditorium at Cranbrook.

Three Cities Art Club presents a free O'Keeffe workshop 7-9 p.m. Monday, March 3, in the lower level of the Canton Township Hall, 1150 Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill.

Club member Elizabeth Gullikson will give the opening presentation on one of America's most acclaimed artists of the 20th century, Georgia O'Keeffe. Guests as

well as club members will then be able to choose a work by O'Keeffe and try their hand at reproducing it. This is an open studio event and there will be no instructor on hand.

Bring a starter kit of watercolors or acrylic paints, a couple of brushes, a container of water, and paper or canvas. An easel would be helpful if you plan to use acrylics. Supplies are available for a 15 percent

discount by mentioning Three Cities Art Club at D & M Art Studio, 8691 N. Lilley at Joy, Canton.

There is no charge to attend a Three Cities Art Club meeting but membership is only \$20 a year and there are many benefits. For more information, call Marilyn Meredith at (248) 557-3800, ext. 123 weekdays or send e-mail to threecitiesartclub@hotmail.com.

ENGAGEMENTS

Dew-Kusmierz

Rick and Carolyn Dew of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Lauren Ashley Dew, to Matthew Scott Kusmierz of Howell, son of Michael and Linda Kusmierz of Bay City.

The bride-to-be received a bachelor of science degree in biochemistry from Michigan State University in 2005. She is a third year medical student at Wayne State University School of medicine.

The future groom received a bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University and a master's degree in packag-

Kristen Colleen Foley and

Timothy Robert Kasten are

The bride-to-be is the

daughter of Debbie Foley of

Plymouth and Pete Foley of

be graduating in May 2008

with a bachelor's degree in

architecture from Lawrence

Technological University. She

is employed at Studio Design.

The future groom, son of

Fred and Cathy Kasten of

Plymouth, is a graduate of

attending the University of

Michigan-Dearborn, majoring

David and Christine Kingery

of Westland announce the

Ambs of Kalamazoo.

Spencer-Jacovetti

engagement of their daughter,

Sara Louise Kingery, to Mark

The bride-to-be is a 2006

University. The groom is a

graduate of Mattawan High

raduate of Central Michigan

A June wedding is planned.

Salem High School. He is

Kingery-Ambs

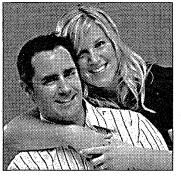
School.

Plymouth. She is a graduate of

Canton High School. She will

engaged to be married.

Foley-Kasten



ing engineering in 2005 from Michigan State University. He is currently working as a packaging engineer at Nissan.

A June 2008, wedding is planned at MSU Alumni Chapel in East Lansing, Mich.

in mechanical engineering. He

A May wedding is planned

is employed at Power Sports.

for Weller's in Saline.

REUNIONS

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1969

Planning a reunion. Please contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kayninilu@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nu-core.

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.

Detroit High School of Commerce Class of 1958 January, June and August

Planning reunion for Sept. 13. Call J. Wilkinson, 313-861-0834 or B. King 248-547-1693

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 gchs1989reunion@hotmail.com and check out web site at www.myspace.com/ gchs20threunion.

The reunion date has not been set yet. Dearborn High School

Class of 1963 A 45 year reunion planned Aug. 1, 2008. Father Patrick O'Kelley Hall, Dearborn. Contact Betsy Cushman at 313-565-5972 or ecushman@comcast.

Dearborn Edsel Ford Classes of 1958

com

The 1958 January and June Classes of Dearborn and Edsel Ford High Schools are having a combined 50-Year Reunion on Saturday Aug. 2, 2008 at the Dearborn Country Club. Judy Richards Goerke 313-562 Judygoerke@yahoo.com or Shirley Chiado Peters 248-348-9443, Shirley. peters@villageford.net may be contacted for further information.

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 313-535-8777 or nc6897@sbcgloblal.net

Livonia Franklin Class of 1969

A reunion is in the pre-planning stages. For more information, contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or email: Kayninilu@aol.com.

Milford High School

Class of 1978 Planning a 30th reunion. All interested class members should contact the reunion committee as soon as

possible. Their contact email address

is: milford78@gmail.com. **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 phs40threunion@charter.net.

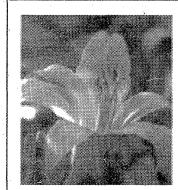
Plymouth-Canton high schools Classes of 1988

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 infor-

Romulus High School Class of 1958

A 50-year class reunion Saturday, May 3, 2008, at Lakes of Taylor, 25505 Northline, Taylor. For details, contact Al Preis at (734)697-0092, Janet Miller at (734)697-7483 or Terry Bird at (734)697-4232.





Jassages

e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com

ANNE M. ANZICK

Of Bloomfield Hills, peacefully February 24, 2008 surrounded by her loving family. Beloved wife of the late Anthony J. "Bud". Devoted mother of Mary Lee Jelinek (Gary), Joanne "Joey" Stotsky (Alan), Amy A. Peash (David) and the late Tommy Anzick. Dear grandmother of Brooke, A.J. and Caroline. Loving companion of Joseph Westergom. Services have been held. In lieu of flowers family suggests memorial tributes to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-1942 View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com





JOSEPHINE CASERIO

February 26, 2008 peacefully at home in Bloomfield Hills, surrounded by her loving family. Age 86. Josephine's most important legacy from her allotted time on earth was her unwavering devotion to her family. Beloved wife of Martin J. Caserio for 63 years. Dear mother of Richard Martin Caserio (Patricia), Kathleen Jo Stroh (John), Joseph Michael Caserio (Karen) and Patricia Marie Clark (Kevin). Grandmother of Vincent and Martin III Caserio, Kristin Stroh, Jacqueline and Michael Caserio, Catherine and Timothy Clark and the late Carolyn Caserio. Sister of Ann Spicko. Sister in-law of Jennie Spolarich. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Services have been held. In lieu of flowers family suggests memorial tributes to The Village Women's Club Foundation, 190 E. Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304 or Christ Child Society, 15751 Joy Rd., Detroit, MI 48228 or the charity of donor's choice. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at:

www.DesmondFuneralHome.com.

HOPE (BRIGDEN) GILFERT Age 88, of Longwood Dr., Westwood, MA, died Feb. 27 at the Clark House

in Westwood. Born in Freehold, NJ. Nov. 13, 1919 daughter of the late George and Evelyn (Forman) Brigden she has lived in MA since 1992 previously living in Birmingham, MI for 25 years. Mrs. Gilfert graduated from Smith College and the Kathryn Gibbs Secretarial School. She volunteered in the recovery room at Wilmette Hospital in Wilmette, IL and Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, MI. She was a lover of the Arts and Symphony, her favorite painter was Winslow Homer. Pre-deceased by her husband Robert John Gilfert in May of 2006 and a brother George I Brigden who died in WWII she is survived by a son Roger and his wife Vicki Gilfert of Bedford, NH, a daughter Kiela and her husband Ralph June of Chilhowie, VA, a sister Mary Margaret Summers of Antioch, CA, four grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.A graveside service will be held at Lakeview Cemetery in Wolfeboro, NH in the spring. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, One Bedford Farms Dr., Suite 105, Bedford, NH 03110 or the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123. The Baker-Gagne Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Wolfeboro is in charge of the arrange-

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

View Obits On-line@www.hometownlife.com ELEANOR J. KIND 79, February 27, 2008. Loving wife of Wayne of 60 years. Dear mother to Joy, Michael and Jill. Grandmother of Cory and Katey. Sister of Larry Crommer, the late

Margaret Case and the late Charles Crommer. Sunday visitation at Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly, Redford at 3 pm until her funeral service at 4 pm. Arrangements entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia. Memorials suggested to the National Kidney Foundation in Eleanor's honor.

SHIRLEY L. LAVIGNE

Shirley died peacefully in Orinda Convalescent Hospital, Orinda, CA on February 18, 2008 at the age of 88. A native of Michigan, she moved with her husband, Louis, to Antioch, CA, in August 1995. Shirley was born February 12, 1920 in Cheboygan, Michigan and graduated from Cheboygan High School and Alma College, Alma, Michigan. She later acquired a Masters Degree in Education from Mercy College of Detroit. Shirley began her career as a social worker. Her teaching career began doing substitute teaching in parochial grade schools in Michigan. She later switched to Farmington East Junior High, Farmington, MI and taught as a reading specialist. She retired with her husband after moving to Howell, MI and remodeling an old deceased by her beloved husband, Louis. She is survived by son, Louis Jr. and daughter-in-law, Shelley; daughter, Cara and son-in-law Andy. She was Grandmom to Stephanie and Gordon, Great Grandmom to Zachary, Benjamin, Max, Emily, Jack and Maddie. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to Hospice of the East Bay, 3470 Buskirk Avenue, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 or Half the Sky Foundation, 740 Gilman St., Berkeley, CA 94710.

 Θ

JUANITA PITUCH

Age 77. Beloved wife of the late

Stephen. Loving mother of Kathryn

(Steve) Thompson, Larry and Dr

Stephen Pituck. Dear grandmother of

Nick, Jaimie and the late Adam.

Sister of Erma Greenshields and the

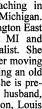
missed by her many nieces, nephews

and loving friends. Funeral Services

were held at the Harry J. Will Funeral

Home, Livonia.

William Beachum. Will be



Carmichael). She was a life-long resident of Michigan. She is survived by husband, A. William (Bill) Neef; thei four sons, David, Stephen, Eric and Jonathan; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Liz and Bill would have celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on March 1st. Liz wanted immediate cremation and no funeral. A memorial celebration will be arranged after this winter. Liz graduated from Detroit's Redford High School in January, 1945 and attended University of Michigan for one year. She played the lead part in her senior play, and was an accomplished singer. For years she sang in her beautiful soprano voice at the Birmingham Company Company Company Birmingham Congregational Church, in the choir and as soloist. She was frequently guest soloist at the Church of Later Day Saints in Birmingham and at several other churches near Oakland County, and at many weddings. In her youth, Liz spent summers at her folks' cottage on Little Wolf Lake in Jackson County. Bill and Liz replaced the cottage with their home on Little Wolf Lake in 1976. and moved in on January 1st 1977 They had lived 9 years on Forrer Ave. in northwest Detroit, and 20 years on Gilbert Lake Rd. in Bloomfield Twp, and finally 31 years on Wolf Lake Rd. in Napoleon Twp, Jackson County. Liz became interested in genealogy and joined the Jackson County Genealogical Society. For years, she devoted much of her time and gained many dear friends while doing volunteer tasks for the society. She joined husband, Bill, in operating their Wolf Lake Sailboards business from their She showed prospective

women customers that the sport was

not just for men. Liz's preferred char-

ities for any desired memorial dona-

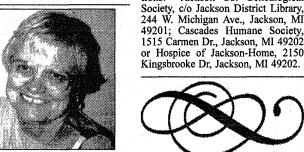
Jackson Co. Genealogical

ELIZABETH ANN "LIZ" NEEF (nee HOUCK)

Died February 28, 2008 at age 8

under the loving care of her newes friends at Hospice of Jackson-Home. Born January 21, 1927 on the kitchen table at the home on Griggs Ave. in

Detroit of her parents, Harry David, Sr. and Hazel Blanche Houck (nee



CHARLOTTE E. SCAGGS

Age 70, February 29, 2008. Beloved wife of Phillip. Loving mother of Autumn (Jim) Keller, Summer and Travis. Dear mamaw of Savannah and Jackson. Dear daughter-in-law of Virginia Alley of Catlettsburg, KY. visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Sunday 1-9 pm. and at Church of Christ-West, 291 E. Spring St., Plymouth, Monday from 10 am. until time of Funeral Service at 11 am. Memorial contributions may be directed to Schults-Lewis Childrens Home, P.O. Box 471, Valparaiso, IN. 46384. Please sign the online guestbook at: www.rggrharris.com

FRANCES H. TOUTANT

Age 85. February 27, 2008. Beloved wife of the late Lawrence Jr. Loving mother of Dana and Darrell (Judit). Proud grandmother of Victoria. A memorial gathering will take place on Wednesday, April 2, 2008. Please contact the funeral home for details at 248-541-7000. Memorials to In-House Hospice Solutions of Southfield appreciated. Arrangements by Wm. Sullivan Son Funeral Home, Royal Oak.

Share your memories at: www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

FRANCES K. WARNER

Age 88, passed away at Plymouth Inn on February 28, 2008. A Memorial service is being planned for a later date and will be announced. Services entrusted to Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 734-453-6928. Share memories at: schrader-howell.com

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines: Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

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

e-mail your obit to

oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 For more information call: **Charolette Wilson** 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067



of Lakeland, Fla., formerly of Redford, announce the engagement of their daughter, Crystal Marie, to Christopher Jacovetti, son of William and Karen Jacovetti of Livonia.

John and Lorie Spencer

Crystal is a 2001 graduate of Thurston High School and is currently attending college in Lakeland, Fla.

Christopher is a 1999 graduate of Catholic Central High School and resides in Daytona Beach, Fla., where he is employed as an operations manager with Sunbelt Rentals in Ormond Beach.

An August 2008 wedding is



planned. The couple will make their home in Daytona Beach,

BIRTH

Jacob Daniel Cardwell

Daniel Cardwell and Tracey Halaberda of Belleville announce the birth of their son, Jacob Daniel Cardwell on Jan. 24 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. Grandparents are Jessica and Mike Cardwell of Pinckney and

Daniel and Barb Halaberda of Wayne.

Great-grandparents are Gerry Cardwell of Westland and Joe and Merlene Kittka of Westland.



Grand Opening

Organic Garage
Serving Pediatrics to Geriatrics

Walk-ins Welcome!



- Sore throat
- Fever
- Flu
- Broken Bones
- Stitches
- Allergies
- Physicals

Complete lab and diagnostic services on site pharmacy



Most insurances accepted • Reasonable fees

6200 Middlebelt Road Garden City (North of Ford Road) OPEN 365 DAYS A YEAR Monday thru Friday 10 am-9 pm Saturday & Sunday 10 am-8 pm 734.367.9100

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SAD?

We are looking for volunteers

to participate in a research study of an investigational

medication for depression. Qualified participants receive

all research related care, study medication, and office

visits at no cost. Please call

the Institute for Health

Studies at 1-877-908-CARE.

Ask about compensation

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Swimming Pool Co. Exp. req. Pay & benefits commensurate w/exp. 248-477-7727

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Requires a Bachelors Degree
in Social Work, Counseling,

Psychology, Public Administration, Health Administration,

Criminal Justice, Sociology, Behavioral Science or a relat-

ed field; and four years of

progressively responsible

listed above.

experience in one of the areas

Must have experience with vendors that provide drug

testing, counseling, and or treatment services. Pay range

application and resume to

Livingston County Human Resources, 304 E. Grand

River Ave. Ste 205, Howell

Submit

available for participation



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Help Wanted-General 5000

Observer & Eccentric

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......1-800-579-SELL (7355)

EMAIL.....oeads@hometownlife.com Sunday edition 5 p.m. Friday Thursday edition.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday Offices and Hours:

Eccentric office......805 E. Maple, Birmingham

Observer office36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia

Hours8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591-0900. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspaper sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc, 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an for the achievement of equal housing opportunity statement: we are pleaged to the letter and spirit of U.S. police to the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtain housing becaus of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.



Help Wanted-General 5000

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE/ CASH APPLICATIONS CASH APPLICATIONS
Vistar of Michigan currently
has an opening for a parttime, Monday-Friday,
11:00am-4:30pm person in
our credit department.
Responsibilities include: order
release based on credit policies, collections on accounts posting of payments received electronics deposits and general administrative duties. Please apply online at www.vistarvsa.com and click on employment opportunities for Michigan or fax to 734-397-3303. No phone calls please. EOE/Supporting a Drug Free Workplace. M/F/D/V

ADMINISTRATOR/DIRECTOR For a Senior Assisted Living Facility in the Northville/ Livonia area. A minimum 5 years experience, good com-munication, organizational and marketing skills are required for this position. Fax your resume to 248-356-3509

All Students/Others Local firm has

27 immediate openings \$15.00 base/appt Flexible Schedule. Customer Sales/Service Conditions Apply.

Call: (248) 426-4405

\$14.95/hr Wkd.

training, Management avail.

Local company has several openings because of our expansion. No exp. nec. Free

Help Wanted-General 5000

Help Wanted-General

Auto Fleet Service Tech

For Livonia fleet service co. Field service, gas & diesel

exp. Own tools and good driv-

ing record. Great pay! Flexible hours. Fax to 734-953-8605

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Apply within: 12651 Newburgh,

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Call 313-278-8383

Every Thursday

in Every Office

Noon-1p & 6-7p

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Please send resume along with salary requirements to: Fax 313-852-1339 Mail Human Resources 373 Victor Ave. Highland Park, MI 48203

CHILD CARE ASSISTANT Full & Part-Time. Christian Center in Plymouth

734-455-3196 CLEANERS NEEDED For Plymouth area homes. \$10 hr. to start. No nights or weekends. Full-Time. 734-455-4570

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Competitive pay. Reliable and sincere individuals apply. Fax resume: 734-245-0170

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City of Wayne

accepting applications for the purpose of establishing

an Emergency Services
Dispatcher eligibility list.
Current salary \$33,386 \$42,645. High School
diploma or equivalent is

required. Applicants must

be able to type accurately 30 words per minute and

successfully pass written and oral examinations. Must have the ability handle

emergency phone calls and dispatch emergency vehi-

cles for the Police and Fire

Applications must be picked up at the City of Wayne, 3355 S. Wayne Rd.,

Wayne, MI 48184. An appli-

cation form is also available

www.ci.wayne.mi.us

Application must be completed in its entirety and on file in the Personnel

Department by 4:00 p.m. on March 14, 2008. No faxed

or e-mailed applications will be accepted. No resumes

will be accepted without

The City of Wayne does not

race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disabil-ity in employment or the

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Engineer

To design overhead cranes

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written application form.

Departments.

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DIRECT CARE AIDE Foster Care Home in Bloomfield 6 Seniors \$9/hr Call: (248) 258-6422

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT Join the team with assisting special population adults. We good benefits. Livonia 248-474-0283, 734-953-8911 734-425-8334

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Must be trained/valid license. 313-255-6295 **DIRECT CARE STAFF**

PT for Oakland County Group Homes. Drivers License req'd. Call 248-814-6714 **DIRECT CARE WORKER**

Wayne/Westland area. Call Mon-Fri. 734-397-6955, 734-595-3253

Direct Care-- Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations, many shifts! If you are at least 18 years old, have a valid Michigan's Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call out Job Line 734-728-4201, 0#.

> DISPATCHER/ **PRISONER ATTENDANT**

Charter Township of Redford

For more information call 313-387-2761 or visit our website at: redfordtwp.com/dept/hr

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

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Sedan driver needed part time evenings & weekends. Call btwn 12-4pm. 313-962-2432 **DRIVER TRAINEES**

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ELPING A STRESSED CO-WORK



bv Mildred L.

stress under control, the stress of a coworker might bother you. Productivity diminishes and a cloud seems to descend on the workplace. You're not out to be a psychologist, but you

Even if you have

do deserve to work in a comfortable environment. How can you help?

Not everyone agrees on the same method. In fact, while there may be established methods to reduce personal stress, there doesn't seem to be even one for helping a co-worker. Instead, there's a smattering of tactics to consider when situations arise:

-- Ann Latham, president of Uncommon Clarity Inc., in Easthampton, Mass., recommends, in cases of diminishing productivity, that you "set some boundaries and figure out how to work around them. Focus on specific facts, such as 'This is what you're doing and this is the impact on me,' to avoid putting him on the defensive or passing judgment. Limit your comments to behavior, impact and solution-seeking questions."

For example, she explains, "When you slam the

phone down and begin to sob, first I am startled and then I find it difficult to recover my train of thought. This has

happened three times this week. Is there something I could do, or you could do, that would help us both get more accomplished?"

-- If this method seems unsuitable, consider interceding more frequently, "whenever you perceive that a co-worker is having a hard time dealing with demands of the job, taking a toll on productivity or having problems overall."This idea comes from researcher Jeanne Hurlbert of Optinent Resources L.L.C., in Baton Rouge. But she refers to an "overture" explaining that this is what you perceive and that the person could use help at work now. "Don't only allow the person to vent, but help

make plans about how she can actually decrease the 'points out Bob Livingstone, licensed clinical social worker in private practice in San Francisco. "Talking can lead to the sharing of empathy... (about the) anger, frustration, fatigue and sadness. This demonstrates that you understand what is happening. For example, you might say, 'I am so tired from all of this work that I haven't had time to have any fun. Do you feel the same way I do?' This might open the door for further discussion."

-- A completely different approach -- being ready to act -- comes from Jay Liebowitz, associate professor in the Palumbo Donahue School of Business at Pittsburgh's Duquesne University. "Determine what the co-worker is likely to do," he advises, "by asking a question (Hurlbert); and that begins with the phrase. 'Does this mean that you're

going to ...?"He also recommends making certain that the person wants advice before offering it, or doing something that will help him navigate his way through the situation

MORE TACTICS

Hurlbert further recommends drawing attention to the larger world by discussing subjects other than work that you have in common, such as hobbies or current events. Is your co-worker isolated from other people? She suggests sharing your contacts, internally and externally, to increase the person's social interaction and support (and decrease your need to help). Encourage him to enjoy a hobby, even if it's reading a good book.

Guard against assuming the person's burden (Latham). Don't react and watch the stress attack stop (Joanie Winberg of Happy Wednesday Inc., in Lakeville, Mass.). If there's no progress, consider consulting with your boss about the impact on your work (Latham), or your boss and HR, but only if the problem is serious (Hurlbert). Don't respond with "Suck it up," which doesn't console and, in fact, makes the stress worse or "a comment in jest about job performance, which could be misinterpreted as a slam" (Livingstone) Don't make these mistakes, either:

"reasoning with the person" on the spot (Winberg); -- ignoring, belittling or criticizing the person

-- giving advice, guessing at motivations and

Credit: Chris Anderson

Photo: Jeanne Hurlbert (facing camera) speaks with student Danielle Smith about measures to take with a stressed co-worker. Hurlbert's research at Optinent Resources L.L.C., in Baton Rouge, focuses upon social networking.

assuming you understand the situation completely, when your only new information is that the behavior is out of character or problem-inducing (Latham).

The bottom line, Latham indicates, is to be professional, protect your productivity and assure safety for yourself, the person and your other co-workers. Keep trying, in other words, until you find the approach that

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2008 Passage Media.)

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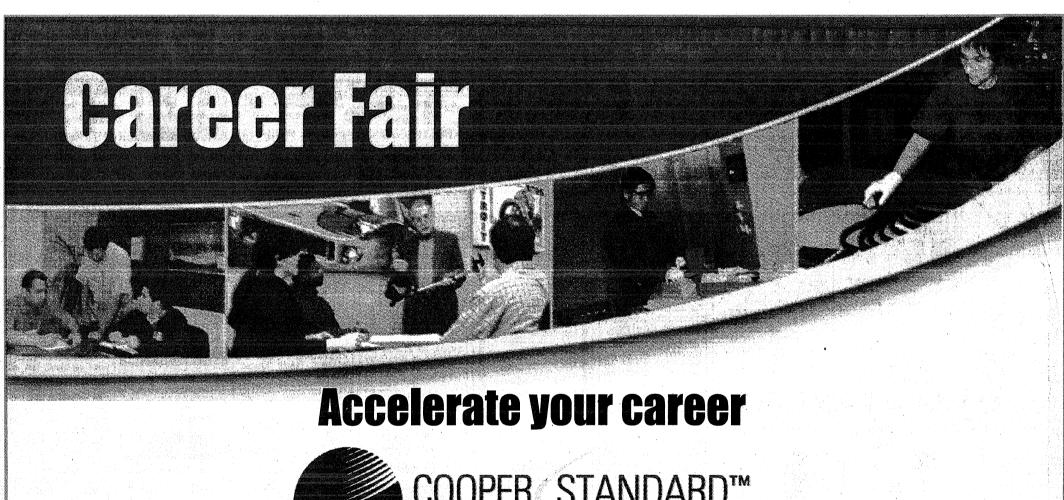
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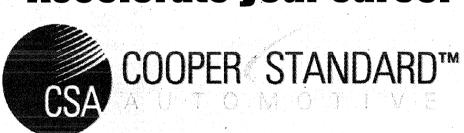
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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Sunday, March 2, 2008

Park your cab in roomy garage of bright Calloway

The weather directly affects our lives and how homes are designed. The Calloway (405-34) has been designed to provide shelter in the form of a 420-square-foot cellar, a good hiding place from the storms of the middle area of the United States. The living area of the Calloway is open and large, containing 2,141 square feet.

The covered porch invites the visitor into an airy entry, facing a large living and dining room. To the right of the entry is the master suite. A full bath with an enormous walk-in closet adds amenities to the suite as does three large windows pouring light into the area. At the door to the master suite are stairs down to the cellar and up to a hex shaped loft.

There are two bedrooms in the front of the Calloway, just to the left of the entry. Adjacent is a full bath with a walk-in storage closet and a linen closet. The kitchen is Lshaped with a cook top island.

Landmark Designs SECOND FLOOR PLAN 238 SQ FT

FIRST FLOOR PLAN 1903 SQ FT

The pantry faces the kitchen and provides a great storage area for stocking up on necessities. Three large windows surround the breakfast nook, which floods the area with

The utility room is near the garage entry and contains its own sink. It provides a mudroom area to wash hands and

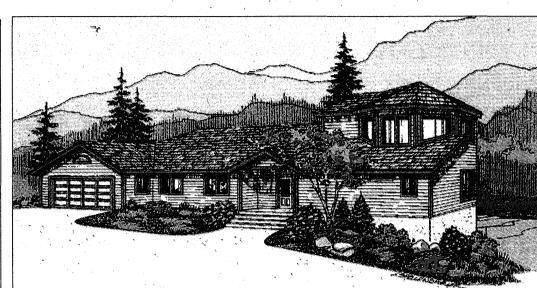
change clothing before entering the house. With the door from the garage facing the kitchen, it is very convenient to unloading groceries and carrying them inside. The garage is a two-car unit with one garage door. There is plenty of room to put a workbench on the rear wall for the weekend mechanic or the gardener.

The Calloway provides a stable, sturdy look that inspires confidence in its design. It would be ideal for a sloping lot, but would also work equally well on a flat lot. With the loft located high, encased in windows, it would also be wonderful overlooking the ocean, somewhere along the coast, espe-

cially during a storm (not of hurricane proportions).

For a study plan of the CALLOWAY (405-34), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are

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



BRIEFS

Investors

'Flip This House," a presentation by Than Merrill will be sponsored by the Real Estate Investors of Oakland 6-9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 13, at Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River. Novi. Seminar free to members. \$20 guests. Call (800) 747 6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

Scholarships

The first six buyers who participate in a Kheder Homes incentive will receive Michigan Education Trust scholarships. Kheder Homes, a Farmington Hills-based residential builder, will provide the program for its Charleston Park homes in South Lyon. Scholarship amounts will vary depending on the home bought.

'We believe that providing a MET makes so much sense, relative to purchasing a home, said Joseph Kheder, president. "With the state of the housing market, builders are giving away everything imaginable to promote themselves, so in order to truly stand apart, we feel that providing a fair price on a home, along with a MET would be the most powerful

incentive a homeowner could

Kheder Homes will provide scholarships to a purchaser's designee, awarding up to six limited benefit semesters, three years or approximately \$25,000 at any participating college or university. The scholarship can be awarded to any child, newborn through 12th grade, and is transferable. For information on the homes or scholarship program, call Jennifer Bordes at (248) 446-2100 or visit khederhomes.com for information on Charleston

Oakland Builders

Get the help you need to pass the Michigan State builder's license examination with a 16-hour comprehensive seminar offered by Birmingham Community Education in cooperation with Oakland Builders Education Seminars. The seminar is scheduled for Monday/Wednesday, March 10, 12, 17, 19, from 6-10 p.m. at Berkshire Middle School, 21707 W. 14 Mile, Beverly Hills.

The course is for those who want to subcontract the construction of their own homes, real estate investors and

developers and building trades people. The seminar costs \$190 plus \$25 for the course textbook and sample questions to the instructor. Pre-registration with payment is preferred as classes may cancel. Please call Birmingham Community Education at (248) 203-3800 to register Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

■ Get the help you need to start and maintain a successful business with an eighthour comprehensive seminar offered by Wayne-Westland Community Education in cooperation with Oakland Builders

Education Seminars. The seminar is scheduled for Tuesday/ Thursday, March 11 & 13, from 6-10 p.m. at John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, Westland. This seminar is designed to help make sense of purchasing, starting and maintaining a successful business. The cost of the seminar is \$105 for residents plus \$20 for the course textbook. Preregistration with payment is preferred as classes may cancel. Please call Wayne-Westland Community Education at (734) 419-2425 to register Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.







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3390

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3047

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Farmington Hills

EQUITY OPPORTUNITY on this huge custom built sprawling 3 bdrm brick ranch w/2 car garage, 3 full baths 1st floor laundry. Spacious master suite! Huge family room & library, home sits on hillside lot. \$215,000 MLS 28004701

3145

(248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

EQUITY OPPORTUNITY on this huge custom built sprawling 3 bdrm brick ranch w/2 car side entry garage, full baths, 1st floor laundry Spacious master bdrm suite! Huge family room & library home sits on hillside lot \$215,000 MLS 28004701 (248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY

SHARP, 4 BDRM brick ranch on a beautiful 2/3 acre lot. Open floor plan great for entertaining. Oak kitchen w/island & eating area widoorwall to patio. Updated roof, newer hot water heater, furnace & CA (3 yrs). \$274,900 MLS 28013674 (248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

SHARP, WELL TAKEN care of 4 bdrm brick ranch on a beautiful 2/3 acre lot Open floor plan that's great for entertaining. Oak kitcher w/island and eating area with door wall to patio. Updated roof, newer hot water heater (248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY

Garden City

BEAUTIFUL RANCH! Jpdated top to bottom! bdrm, 2 bath, garage & finished bsmt. Walk to school &

3170

DENISE McGUIGAN 734-357-2032 REMERICA HOMETOWN III 6231 N. Canton Center Rd. **REALLY CUTE RANCH** 3 Bdrm., updated Kitchen Part. Fin. Bsmt, \$104,900. Century 21 Castelli 734-525-7900

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BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM BUILT HOME 10 rooms, Quad level brick 2.5 garage. 33 x72 cemen drive way. 20 x30 spa addition w/family rm. Will sell-Lease-Land Contract or Rent. Will take late model motor home for my equity. Must See Private owner, Call: 734-765-5757

NICE 3 BDRM brick ranch, 2 full baths, kitchen w/oak cabinets, finished bsmt, \$139,000

(734) 462-9800 CENTURY 21 TODAY SPACIOUS 3 BDRM, bath ranch. Add on family has wood burning stove, updated landscaping, rear deck w/wheelchair ramp, \$179,900 MLS 28020919 (734) 462-9800 CENTURY 21 TODAY

3250 Livonia

UPDATED COLONIAL. newer kitchen, windows, roof, furnace, CA, hardwood floors in hall, foyer, kitchen & nook, screened sun room. \$249,900 MLS 28021047

(734) 462-9800 CENTURY 21 TODAY

3290 AWESOME COLONIAL. lst floor master w/updated bath, newer kitchen w/cherry fireplace, doorwall leads to lovely yard & deck. \$238,900 MLS 27181791 (734) 462-9800

MOVE IN READY colonial w/2-story foyer, vaulted ceilings in living room, updated island kitchen w/granite counters. Library large master bdrm w/walk in closet & private bath, walkout lower level. 1st floor laundry \$329,900 MLS 28026103 (248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY

MOVE IN READY

colonial w/2-story foyer, vaulted ceilings in living room, updated island kitchen w/granite counters. Library arge master bdrm w/walk in lower level. 1st floor laundry \$329,900 MLS 28026103 (248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

ALMOST 1,400 sq. ft. on a large lot. Large kitchen w/built in appliances. Family or dining room w/natural fireplace. Hardwood floors throughout. Copper plumbing, circuits, newer hot water heater, Andersen windows & newer roof. Attached 2 car parage w/heat & 5124,900 MLS 27166352

(313) 538-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY **GREAT 3 BDRM** brick ranch. Many updates including windows, furnace air conditioning, roof, carpet Part finished bsmt w/rec room \$105,000 MLS 28027205 (248) 673-2211 CENTURY 21 TODAY

REDFORD TWP. Sharp 3 bdrm, 2 bath blick bungalow. New gorgeous kitchen, hardwood floors, new windows, newer furnace, CA, finished bsmt. \$109,900

MLS 27225909 (734) 462-9800 CENTURY 21 TODAY When seeking out the best deal check out

the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds! 1-800-579-7355 THREE BORM,

1.5 bath ranch in great area w/newer furnace, CA and vinyl windows. Finished bsmt w/carpet, 4th bdrm & loads of Kitchen has lots of cabinets & counter space Natural fireplace in living room. Attached garage is dry walled. \$119.500 MLS 28017289 (313) 538-2000

CENTURY 21 TODAY

Royal Oak

UPDATED TRI-LEVEL new lower level bath, fresh paint & flooring throughout. Lots of storage & living space. \$197,900 MLS 28026279 (734) 462-9800 CENTURY 21 TODAY

Southfield/Lathrup

SOUTHFIELD Beautiful, updated 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath colonial. Family room w/gas fireplace & doorwall to screened in porch. Brick paver

\$67eened III poloti. Blick paver patio. Great backyard! \$175,000 (27198210) (248) 647-8888 CENTURY 21 TODAY SOUTHFIELD

Dramatic 4 bdrm, 2,760 sq. ft. contemporary built in '06. Gourmet kitchen, living room, family room, dining room, library, huge master, partially finished bsmt.=, deck, 3 car garage. \$429,900 (28019527) (248) 647-8888 CENTURY 21 TODAY

SOUTHFIELD Large 3 bdrm, 2 bath ranch in great location! Hardwood floors, lovely kitchen, family room w/cathedral ceiling & fireplace, huge bsmt, all appli ances. Home warranty. \$175,000 (28022045) (248) 647-8888 CENTURY 21 TODAY

Sterling Heights

STERLING HEIGHTS **OPEN SUN. 12-3** 39142 Augusta. 3 bdrm ranch, many updates \$155,000, 248-752-6580

READY TO MOVE IN beautiful 4 bdrm 2.5 bath colonial. Spacious kitchen w/appliances, upgraded cabi-nets & double oven. Master bdrm w/decorative ceiling & luxurious upgraded master bath w/walk-in closet. \$425,000 MLS 28008113 (248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY

READY TO MOVE IN beautiful 4 bdrm 2.5 bath colonial. Spacious kitchen w/appliances, upgraded cabinets & double oven. Master bdrm w/decorative ceiling & luxurious upgraded master bath w/walk-in closet \$425,000 MLS 28008113 (248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

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By Owner

Remodeled 4 bdrm., 3 bath, new Euro Kitchen, granite, island, Brazilian Cherry floors, stainless steel appl ances, office, .9 wooded acre, secluded, Bloomfield Hills schools, bsmt., area of \$1M homes, \$399K or lease. ForPublicAuction.com 248-939-4006

Waterford

FOUR BDRM. 3 bath home, 3 lots overlooking Lake Oakland, 50 ft. of Lake Oakland frontage. Finished walkout bsmt. Lake privileges on Oakland & Wood

THREE BDRM RANCH located in Waterford school Hardwood floors throughout. Large family room, finished bsmt w/bonus room, oversized garage. \$158,900 MLS 28025025

(248) 673-2211 CENTURY 21 TODAY

CENTURY 21 TODAY

Beautiful 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath home located in Clarkston

INDEPENDENCE TWP room. Formal dining room, finished daylight bsmt. \$384,900 MLS 28028953 (248) 673-2211 CENTURY 21 TODAY

Dakland County

Oakland County

3423

3440

INDEPENDENCE TWP Vacation all year in this wood ed hilltop home w/breathtak ing views. Deluxe bathroom with Jacuzzi, private balcony w/hot tub & new carpet. Finished lower level walkout. All appliances stay, \$239,900

MLS 27152029 (248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

INDEPENDENCE TWP Vacation all year long in this wooded hilltop home w/breathtaking views. Deluxe bathroom w/Jacuzzi, private balcony w/hot tub & new car pet. Finished lower level walk out All appliances stay. \$239,900 MLS 27152029 (248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY

Wayne County

INKSTER 3 bdrm located in all brick Remodeled kitchen area! beautiful bath w/newer tile flooring & sink Coppe plumbing, circuits, some windows, newer hot water heate & some newer doors, lami-nate flooring in living room Nicely painted Brand new CA \$70,000 MLS 27209682

Homes/Property

MOVE TO TENNESSEE Affordable homes Website: www. SmokvMountainProperties.ne

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Condos CANTON

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MLS 27204697 (248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY

SOUTHFIELD Beautifully landscaped court-yard. Entry opens to vaulted ceiling & staircase foyer over looking spacious great room. Charming & inviting kitchen w/breakfast room. Master suite w/large walk in closet 2nd bdrm w/private bath \$244,900 MLS 27204697

SOUTHFIELD to woods. Full bsmt. 2 car attached garage. Small com-plex. \$125,000 (27133744) (248) 647-8888 CENTURY 21 TODAY

CENTURY 21 TODAY

Condos

3540

3570

3720

TROY Northfield Hills condo offers 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, family room w/fireplace, newer appliances finished bsmt, two level deck, Assoc fee included heat & water. \$139,900 (28017202)

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By Owner

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WESTLAND Lovely 2 bdrm, 2.5 bath condo end unit overlooking beautiful gazebo & pond. Master w/walk in closet & private bath. \$129,900 MLS 28021604 (734) 462-9800 CENTURY 21 TODAY

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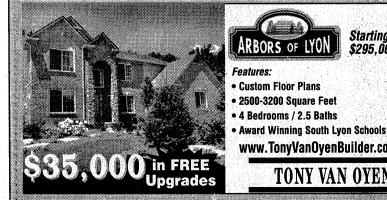
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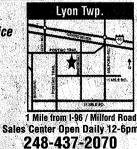
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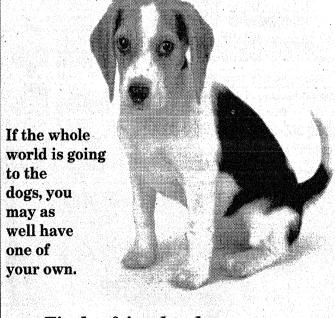
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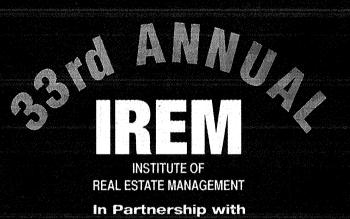
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- 1 Wall Street figure
- 4 Q.E.D. part 8 Bold look
- 12 Slip up 13 Large tawny cat
- 14 Debate side 15 Society column word
- 16 About to happen
- 18 Popular mixer 20 Swit costar
- 21 Volcanic emis-
- 23 Birthday count 24 Reach across
- 27 Skipper's okay 29 The facts
- Tiki' 34 Stockholm
- carrier 35 Mall display
- 36 Hairy humanoid 38 Low card
- 39 Quick snack
- 42 Luau fare
- 40 Regret deeply
- 50 Directed

46 Pillages

- 54 Skip stones 55 Roll call reply 56 Have an effect
- 58 Watched carefully 59 Jug
- 60 Doze off

DOWN

- 1 Parking-lot mishap
- 2 Popular cookie 3 Brown sonabird
- many extras
- 5 Pirate's swig
- kwon do 8 Served the
- soup 9 Writer
- Baanold
- 10 Sicilian landmark

6

7

3

Q

5

2

Level: Beginner

9

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,

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5

4

6

8

5

2

9

1

3

9

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4

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9

1

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6

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DOVE

DUCK

EAGLE

11 Fauipment 23 Fable author 17 Complain 24 Moon's place persistently 19 Holm or 25 "Ulalume" poet 26 Diligent insect 28 Hit heavy seas Woosnam 22 Urgency 30 "Who -

Answer to Previous Puzzle

EDGE

EOCENEALARMS

KAFKAPUB

LEEKSAYFOGS

A L T E R H U M R I M G E D E W K I N R A E G O P O P R O L L S

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KITPANGS

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ATETOILNEMO BAY EELS RUB

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ARF

KOOL

- to say?" 31 Make lace like granny 32 Goodall
 - subject 37 Did a laundry
 - chore 39 Sci. class
 - 41 Footed vase 43 Of longer
 - standing 44 The other
 - guys 45 Jack rabbit
 - 47 Valhalla host 48 Baia fast food 49 Rushed
 - 50 Ernesto Guevera 51 Summer in
 - Quebec
 - 53 Use sparingly
 - 52 Ordinance

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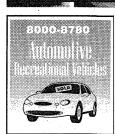
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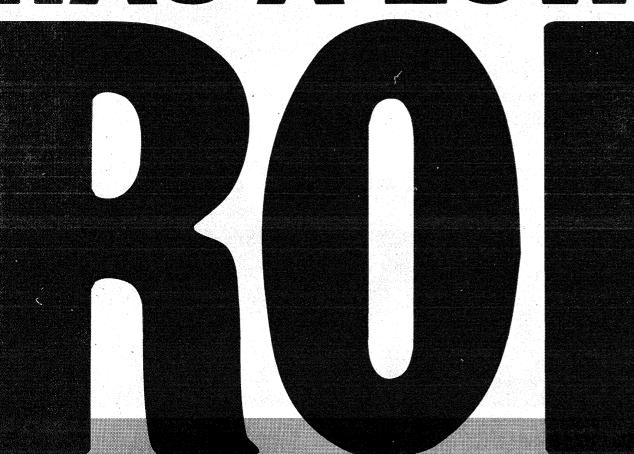
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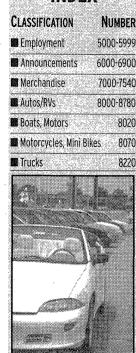
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2008 Lincoln Mark LT 4x4 a truck with Lincoln heritage But who is this truck aimed at?

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dave Menard Avanti News Features



I have to confess: I have no idea why there is a Lincoln Mark LT truck on the market. Lincoln making a truck seems to make about as much sense as Cadillac making a truck. ... OK, bad example. Seriously, I don't understand the point. Who is

this truck aimed at? It's not a true luxury vehicle – I mean, it's still a truck – and if you're looking for a true working truck and wanted to stay with the Ford family of vehicles, I'd imagine you'd be looking for a F-Series. The folks at Lincoln-Mercury must believe there's some kind of demand for a truck with the Lincoln name, or I wouldn't have the Mark LT 4x4 in my driveway this week.

Not that there's anything really wrong with the truck, particularly in the way it's styled. The LT comes as either a 4x2 or 4x4, with either a short or long wheelbase (138.5 and 150.5 inches, respectively). The Lincoln waterfall grille is there, along with chrome lower bodyside cladding, chrome exterior accents on the front and rear bumpers, side mirrors, the tail pipe tip and on the optional running boards. The running boards, by the way, are a good

option, at either \$495 as a stand-alone option or as part of a more expensive package that includes power adjustable pedals, power moonroof, power sliding rear window, trailer tow package, navigation system, reverse camera, and reverse sensing system; that package goes for about \$4,800. This truck isn't easy to get in and out of and the running boards are a big

The reverse camera and sensing system are good ideas, as well. The truck is tricky to park and back up and the camera helps out a lot.

The Mark LT 4x4 comes with 18-inch aluminum wheels (20-inch wheels are available at \$1,495, as well), tailgate with tailgate assist, fog lamps and power heated side mirrors

Inside, the truck resembles Lincoln SUVs, with many of the same styling touches. There's plenty of chrome and wood accents throughout the interior, with leather applied to the steering wheel, center



The LT comes as either a 4x2 or 4x4, with either a short or long wheelbase.

console and floor shifter.

The standard power leather seats are comfortable and easy to adjust. There's plenty of room in the cabin, and this includes the rear seats area on this four-door truck. The rear seats are fold-down 60/40

There's a roomy center console storage area with two cupholders built in. I was surprised not to find an extra 12V power outlet up front; there is the cigarette lighter, but an upscale truck should have an extra power outlet.

The Mark LT comes with automatic climate control, power windows, driver information center, remote keyless entry and a universal garage door opener. The standard audio system is an AM/FM/sixdisc CD changer with a subwoofer and an input for your mp3 player. Satellite radio, with a six-month subscription, is also included at no charge.

The Mark LT is powered by a 5.4-liter three-valve SOHC V8 engine. It's rated at 300 horsepower and 365 lb.-ft. of torque, which is plenty for everyday driving. This engine is mated to a four-speed automatic transmission that shifts fairly smoothly. On the 4x4 model, you get electronic shift on-the-fly. Gas mileage is a concern, though, with EPA estimates of 13 mpg in the city and 17 on the highway. The good news, however, is that it takes regular fuel. You can order a larger (35.7 gallon) fuel tank for \$95.

If you were thinking that the Lincoln name on the front would mean a truck that handles like a luxury car, you'd be mistaken. This is still, after all, a truck, and it rides and handles like one (and that's not a criticism, by the way). The front suspension system is a coil-over-shock, long-spindle double-wishbone independent system, while in the rear, it's a Hotchkiss-type non-independent live type, with leaf springs and outboard shock absorbers. It's a fairly good quiet ride, for a truck.

Handling is a mixed bag. Due to its size and large turning circle, parking and U-turns are pains in the neck. The power-rack-and-pinion steering responds quickly, though and the truck maneuvers fairly well on the open road. The four-wheel ABS brakes are

The Mark LT comes with dual-stage front airbags and an anti-theft system.

The 2008 Lincoln Mark LT 4x4 starts at about \$42,000. Add the optional skid plates (\$160), remote starter (\$455), 20-inch wheels, larger fuel tank, chrome box rail bars (\$250), and the "Elite" Package (running boards, navigation, etc, described above), and you're at over \$50,000.

For a truck. Yes, it has the Lincoln name, and it's a nice truck, but it is still a truck. See one for yourself, and compare it to what you'd get with a similarly equipped Ford F-Series, for instance. The Mark LT is a nice-looking, comfortable

truck. I'm just not sure who it's aimed at.

Dave Menard can be reached at Avanti1054@aol..com < mailto:Avanti1054@aol..com>

2008 Lincoln Mark LT 4x4. Vehicle class: Pickup truck. Power: 5.4-liter V8 engine. Mileage: 13 city /17 highway. Where built: Dearborn, MI. Base price: \$41,740. Price as tested: \$50,410.

MUSTANG GT 2006, stick, Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

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