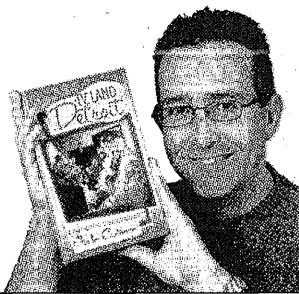


## TALK SHOW PIONEERS

Author profiles local TV celebrities

- Hometownlife, C1



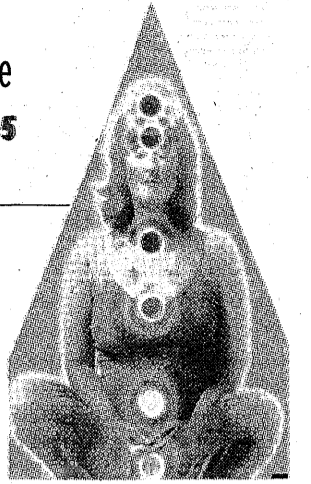
## PHOTO GALLERIES

Check out local faces at local events

HOMETOWNlife.com

## RECONNECT WITH FOOD

Program uses yoga and self-reflection to resolve food issues - Health, B5



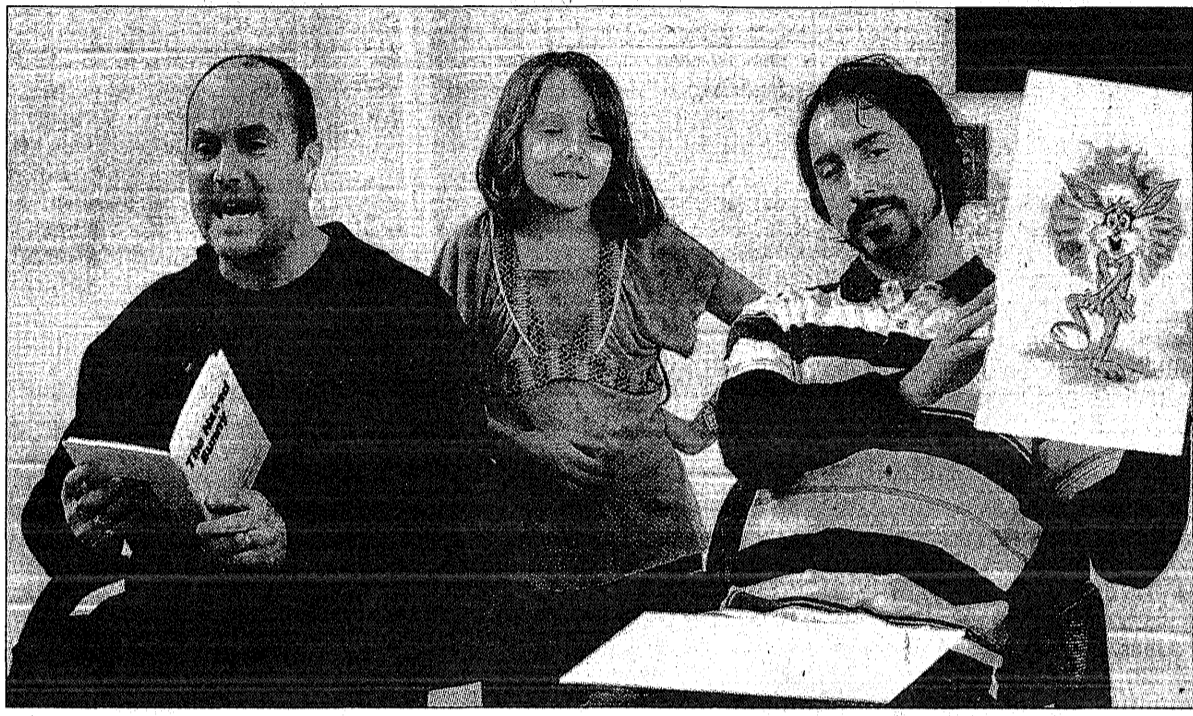
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Author Rick Hauser reads from 'The Naked Bunny' while illustrator Carl Johnson shows his drawings for the book. They're watched by 9-year-old Ruby Hauser.

## Write of passage

### First book helps author live out his dream

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

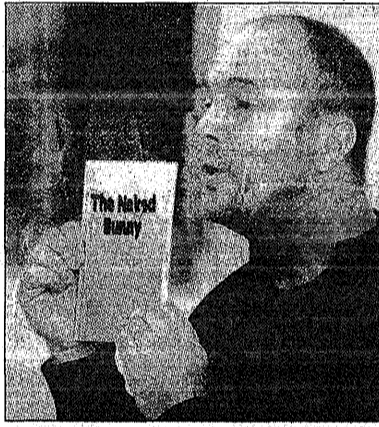
When Rick Hauser was in kindergarten he dreamed of being a rock star.

"I realized pretty quickly (in first grade) I didn't have the voice to be a rock star," said Hauser, 40, of Plymouth. "But, I thought, maybe I can be a rock star with my words. At that point, I realized I wanted to write books. I knew at a young age what I really wanted to do with my life."

However, sometimes life just gets in the way of dreams. "When I was 12 years old, I

#### THE HAUSER FILE

- Name: Rick Hauser, 40
- Occupation: When he's not writing children's books, he's a digital media specialist for Ford Motor Co.
- Where: Plymouth resident
- What: Published first book, "The Naked Bunny"
- Family: Wife, Jeannie, 44; son, Owen, 11; daughters Ruby, 9, and June, 6



Rick Hauser of Plymouth got to read his own book, 'The Naked Bunny,' to students at Smith Elementary School in Plymouth.

cialist at Ford Motor Co., finally reached his dream when he read to youngsters at Smith Elementary — where two of his three children attend school — a book he recently

Please see **AUTHOR, A4**

told my parents I wanted to be a writer," remembered Hauser. "But, they told me writers don't make much money, that I should become a scientist or engineer. I listened to my dad and ended up going to a business school and pursued other ideas. But I never buried the dream. The artist in me was always there, screaming to get out."

Hauser, a digital media spe-

## New owner gets 'Cozy' in downtown eatery

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton Township dentist Doug Read fondly remembers the walnut raisin sweet rolls at the now-closed Cozy Cafe restaurant in downtown Plymouth.

"They were to die for, my favorite, no doubt about it," remembers Read, 56, of Salem Township. "Dentists, by nature, have a sweet tooth, and I'm one of the worst."

Whether it was the sweet rolls, or the popular menu, the soft music which served as a background for the many conversations being conducted or the friendly wait staff, Read



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

New owners Bev Martin-Read and Doug Read are excited about the re-opening. Their son Matt Read, 13, attends Plymouth Christian Academy and may end up washing a few dishes in his spare time.

is hoping to bring it all back when he reopens the old and more famil-

iar Cozy Cafe next month.

"We bought it after we

went there for breakfast last October and found it was closed," said Read, who still struggles for an answer when asked why he and his wife, Beverly, 53, bought the restaurant. "I don't know other than we felt very strongly how something so historic in Plymouth could be open one day and closed the next. We just couldn't fathom it."

"I liked the ambiance, it was quaint — the food, the people, the location in downtown Plymouth," he said. "It all came together and made for an nice brunch, lunch or dinner."

**CHANGES DIDN'T WORK**  
The Cozy Cafe was

Please see **COZY CAFE, A4**

## Instant messaging

### System would speed school alerts

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Schools is among a consortium of six area school districts which will share a federal grant of \$570,000 to be partially spent on an emergency alert system which will enable them to contact parents and school staff simultaneously and within minutes of an emergency situation, such as a lockdown or evacuation.

According to Bob Hayes, director of student services for Plymouth-Canton Schools, nearly \$100,000 of the total will be used for the new communications tool, which will allow the school districts to call parents and secondary contacts in case of a district-wide emergency, power outages, notification of snow days and reminders about parent-teacher conferences.

"If there's an emergency, we can have the information out immediately," said Hayes. "Not only will it stop a lot of the incoming phone calls to the district, but alleviate the fears of parents."

Plymouth-Canton will share the Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Grant from the U.S. Department of Education with Northville, Walled Lake, Huron Valley, South Lyon and West Bloomfield. The grant will cover the cost of the emergency notification system for the remainder of this school year and all of next year.

District officials believe PCCS will be able to renew the grant to continue the service beyond the 2008-09 school year.

A number of districts throughout the state are already using a similar notification system.

"On a particular snow day we sent over 3,000 calls to our staff, parents and students in just two minutes," said Judy Considine, South Redford Schools spokeswoman. "We've also used it to send out reminder calls to parents about parent-teacher conferences and PTO meetings. The system also allows us to make calls to parents if their child has been marked absent."

Kerri Huckestein of Redford Township, a South Redford schools parent, said the notification system has been invaluable.

"When we had an unexpected snow day a lot of parents thought the band booster spaghetti dinner fund-raiser would also be canceled," said Huckestein. "We did a fan-out using the notification system and the dinner was a huge success. It would have been nearly impossible to contact all those people by phone."

Plymouth-Canton officials are hopeful of having the new communications system, which can also send messages via e-mail, operational before the end of the school year.

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## Budget not taxed by tardy township taxes

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

During these harsh economic times, people sometimes have to decide which bills have to go unpaid.

In Plymouth Township, property taxes apparently aren't among them.

According to township Treasurer Ron Edwards, some 3.1 percent of township businesses are delinquent in their taxes. And although that number is up slightly from a year ago, Edwards said it's still an impressively low figure.

"People are doing quite well (in paying taxes)," Edwards said. "Despite the economic downturn, people are paying their taxes. It helps in terms of the operation of the township."

As of March 1, the township had billed just more than \$75 million in real and personal property taxes, and collected just under \$73 million. According to Edwards, one business hadn't paid their taxes and another developer was appealing a portion of its taxes. He declined to name the businesses.

"When you take those two (businesses) out of the equation, the delinquency rate is even better," Edwards said. "When you take

everything into account, the people of Plymouth Township are doing a pretty good job."

Edwards said timely tax collection helps the township maneuver financially and holds off potential budget problems. It's a key to accessing money from Wayne County, he said.

"When people don't pay their taxes, the township has a harder time collecting from the county," Edwards said. "When they do, that's money we don't have to wait for. We get the money and we can invest it."

Edwards said the economy hasn't necessarily hit the township all that hard yet. In a state where foreclosures are becoming all too frequent, Edwards said "fewer than 1 percent" of the township's 8,600 residential units face that prospect.

In his experience, Edwards said, people are "embarrassed to ask for help," though help is out there. Among such agencies, he said, are Michigan Legal Services, (313) 964-4130, and Legal Aid and Defender, (313) 964-4700, both of which serve Wayne County residents.

"We have to look out for people who can't pay their taxes," Edwards said. "If there's anyone in that situation, there's help out there, and they need to make contact."

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

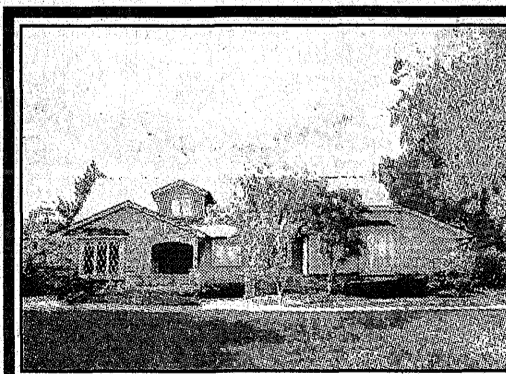
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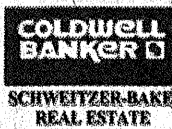
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#### Coming Thursday in filter



Explore the 'Fringe' of art and music with Sandra Bernhard

**Canine naming contest**

Plymouth Township Police are reminding township students in grades K-5 they have until April 2 to enter the contest to name the department's new canine.

The canine will replace Hogan, who retired earlier this year. Officer Steve Albrecht, who will be the new canine's handler, is conducting a contest to name the new dog. Entries should consist of a name and a drawing of a police officer and his/her dog (the drawings will be judged as a potential tie-breaker). Grand prize is a pizza party for the winning student's classroom.

Entry forms can be found on the township's Web site [www.plymouthtp.org](http://www.plymouthtp.org) (go to "departments," then "police," then "forms"). Drop off or mail entries in care of Albrecht at the Plymouth Township Police Department, 9955 N. Haggerty, Plymouth, MI 48170.

**Curbside compost**

Plymouth Township officials announced the township's curbside compost collection program starts Monday, March 31.

Yard waste including leaves, grass clippings, vegetative pruning, garden waste, wood debris and brush can be set out by 7 a.m. on the residents' regular collection day, and no earlier than 6 p.m. the night before.

Brush and branches up to six inches in diameter must be tied in bundles no longer than three feet long. Leaves and grass clippings can be in paper yard waste bags or a 35-gallon container identified with a compost sticker or marked with two large "X" or "C" markings.

For more information, call the township's solid waste department, (734) 354-3270, Ext. 4.

**Community performance**

Plymouth-Canton Winter Guards and Winter Drumline will perform for the community during a special 7 p.m. performance Wednesday, April 2, in the Plymouth High School gymnasium, 8400 Beck in Canton.

The Winter Ensembles are comprised of students of Plymouth-Canton Education Park and the music program. All three teams are active in the 2008 competition season, where they have received numerous accolades for their programs.

Winter Pee Wee and Junior Guard is comprised of elementary and middle school students who participated in a special workshop hosted by the Winter Guard Program and director Jennifer Leseth.

**Ernest Hemingway exhibit**

The Plymouth Community Arts Council presents "Up North with the Hemingways," a traveling exhibit companion to The Great Michigan Read, which focuses on the influence that Northern Michigan had on Ernest Hemingway and his Nick Adams Stories.

The touring exhibit includes references to original artifacts about Ernest Hemingway's life, and his writings, that pertain to his time in Northern Michigan. The Great Michigan Read was launched in July 2007 by the Michigan Humanities Council, to help address the decline in reading literature.

The exhibit can be viewed through April 14, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A Gala Open House will be held Saturday, April 5, from 6-8 p.m. at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth.

The exhibit and gala are open to the public and free of charge. Additional information about the exhibit is available at (734) 416-4278.

**First Step event**

First Step and The Plymouth Coffee Bean are taking part in recognizing April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. During this month, The Plymouth Coffee Bean and First Step will be joining with people throughout the state and the nation to focus the public's attention on this important issue.

The Plymouth Coffee Bean hosts the sixth-annual Coffee Bean Event coordinated by Jessica Klein and First Step,



**Bundles of baskets**

Katie Hill and Kayla Ganster of Plymouth pose with the baskets they made as part of a community service project for the Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors. The teens eagerly volunteered their time and energy to assemble Easter baskets in hopes of bringing lots of cheer to children in need. During the month of February, they collected hundreds of items and created more than 50 Easter Baskets for children participating in counseling at First Step, a local abuse shelter. 'It is great to know that you can help other kids in our community and maybe make their holiday better,' said Katie Hill. Kayla Ganster agreed and said 'it was an honor to make the baskets and I hope they enjoy them.' The teens said thanks to the Plymouth Newcomers, local residents, Andy's Hallmark, Subway, Panera, Burger Spot, Gabriela's and Michigan Made.

Saturday, April 26, at 6:30 p.m. Join in with a great cup of coffee and community as we hear from local bands; Tristan and Mary, from Just Jill; The Next Romantic; and Fallway Downs. The event starts with a candlelight vigil. Following will be the musical performances, coffee, and great company. All proceeds will go to First Step of Plymouth and Safe House of Ann Arbor.

At First Step, over 360 victims of sexual assault and their friends and family received services last year alone.

For more information on Sexual Assault Awareness Month, contact First Step at (734) 416-1111 during business hours. If you or someone that you know has been sexually assaulted, confidential help is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at (888) 453-5900.

**Comedy Night**  
To all aspiring comedians,

think you're funny? Got your act together? Let us be the judge. Looking for comedians for a Comedy Night at the Cherry Hill Village Theater in Canton June 7 (TV audience material only).

Some appreciation prizes will be awarded based on tickets sales. The event is being sponsored by the Plymouth High School Football Booster club and all proceeds will benefit the Plymouth High School football program.

If you are interested in participating as a comic, or in attending, contact Tiffany at (313) 300-7620 or e-mail [ekj90@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ekj90@sbcglobal.net)

**Cruisers walking**

The PCCA Cruisers Walking Club brings community seniors together to enjoy a low impact form of exercise.

The group meets at the Plymouth Township Park at 9 a.m. Thursdays from May through October, to walk

together on the fitness walking trails.

Call the Plymouth Community Council on Aging, (734) 453-1234, for more information.

**J.C. Penney opening**

J.C. Penney Company Inc. hosts the grand opening of the J.C. Penney store at 43690 Ford Road in Canton, set for Friday, April 11, marked by a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the store's main entrance at 8:45 a.m.

The new store will contribute approximately 150 jobs to the local economy. J.C. Penney on Ford Road will operate Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**DAR meets**

The Daughters of the American Revolution/Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter of Northville/Plymouth meet for their annual meeting noon

Monday, April 21, at Mill Race Village, Cady Inn, Northville.

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

**Moonlight madness**

The downtown Plymouth merchants present the Moonlight Madness Spring Sale on Friday, April 4 and Saturday, April 5. Sale begins at 6 p.m. Friday, with more sales on Saturday.

Downtown Plymouth features a wide variety of specialty shops and galleries that will be offering special discounts and bargains during the annual Spring Sale.

Contact the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-1540 for more information.

**New Morning auction**

New Morning School conducts its 32nd annual auction Saturday, April 5, at Laurel Manor in Livonia. The Roaring 20s will come alive for jaspers and flappers alike!

Enjoy an elegant meal with open bar, and peruse the hundreds of offerings in our silent auction. Then, get ready to bid on the exciting packages in the live auction. Experience the excitement of bidding on unique items such as getaways to Malta, Florida, and Toronto; luxury ski & golf trips; local spa packages; fine jewelry; and a one-of-kind package to Beverly Hills, California that includes a deluxe stay at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel, dining and celebrity-sighting at Spago, and tickets to see Dr. Phil.

The huge silent auction features something for everyone, from sports memorabilia to children's items, electronics, original artwork, home improvement packages, and more. Step into our Speakeasy to enjoy a specialty martini bar, live music, and learn to dance the Charleston.

The local community is welcome to attend. Call (734) 420-3331 to purchase tickets by phone or visit [www.newmorningschool.com](http://www.newmorningschool.com) for more information. Tickets are \$75 per person which includes seated dinner, dessert, open bar, and the silent and live auction portions of the evening.

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**- MESSAGE FROM THE OWNER -**

After 45 years, Cornwell Pool & Patio is in the process of making major changes to our two stores. We are selling our entire present stock of available floor samples and warehouse stock to reduce and balance our inventories. We must make room for new spring orders which are arriving daily and will be included in this Sale. **OUR TWO STORES ARE NOW CLOSED** to mark down prices. Over **FOUR MILLION DOLLARS** of the Midwest's largest selection of pool supplies and patio furniture, will be sold at spectacular savings. **THESE FLOOR SAMPLES MUST BE SOLD.** During this sale period, you will also be offered special savings on custom orders. Everything will be plainly marked with sale tags for your convenience! We will open to the general public on Friday, April 4th.

**See Thursday's Newspaper For Details!**

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## Crane crash damages overpass at M-14, Gotfredson

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

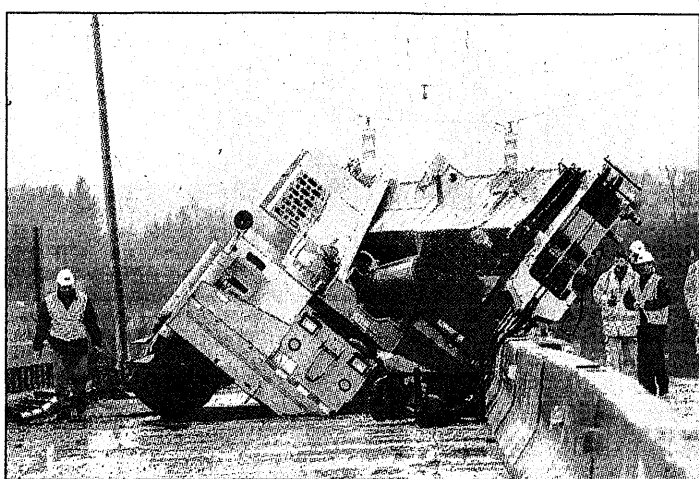
Traffic on east and west-bound M-14 at Gotfredson Road had to be re-routed onto the exit ramps and back onto the freeway after a construction crane fell partially through the Gotfredson Road overpass shortly after 1 p.m. Thursday.

"The crew was working on the overpass when the crane fell through the bridge decking," said Eric Byerly of the Michigan State Police Post in Ypsilanti. "There was debris across the freeway. We were told they are waiting on another crane to lift the one that has fallen through."

Kari Arend, a representative for the Michigan Department of Transportation, said work on the Gotfredson overpass is part of several bridge projects in Washtenaw County, east of U.S. 23.

"The Gotfredson bridge was under construction, and it was scheduled for partial demolition this weekend," Arend said. "The crew was on the bridge preparing for that when the incident with the crane happened."

Arend said there were no serious injuries reported.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The crane, working on the Gotfredson Road bridge over M-14, crashed through the bridge deck, showering material on the freeway below.



The crane broke through the bridge deck, sending concrete, gravel, and other road material down onto the freeway. Traffic had to be routed off the freeway at the Gotfredson exit and right back onto M-14.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com  
(734) 459-2700

## Snow can't stop Bunny Brunch

Not even a wet, heavy snow could keep the Easter Bunny from visiting The Salvation Army in Plymouth Saturday.

More than 300 children, parents and volunteers braved some six to eight inches of snow for brunch and a morning full of activities in the church's gymnasium. Children received Easter baskets to fill with eggs, cookies and other goodies as they moved through activity stations which included crafts, face painting and tattoos and the resurrection story.

Pictures with the Easter Bunny, and a chance to pet live rabbits from the Midwest Rabbit Rescue and Rehome in Plymouth were part of the day's activities.

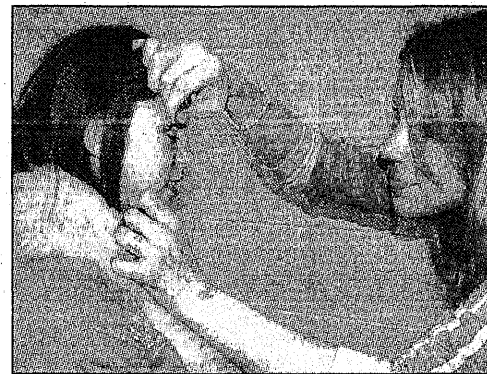
Volunteers from the Rotary Club of Plymouth, Rotary Interact of Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, Kiwanis Colonial Plymouth Club, Life Church of Canton joined with the congregation of The Salvation Army to greet families, work activity stations and serve breakfast catered by Chef Barney and crew.

Laurie Aren, director of Family and Community Ministries for The Salvation Army, cited the enthusiasm of the volunteers.

"I was a bit nervous with the snow, but the volunteers kept coming," she said. "So many volunteers came that we had to arrange for parking across the street from our church building. Everyone came in, got to work and stayed right through clean up."

"In the face of hard times, it's so terrific to see so many community groups pull together to help us provide such a fun day for families of limited means," added Aren. "It was simply amazing."

Cpts. Pat and Jim Irvine, Corps Officers and pastors of the Plymouth Salvation Army were very pleased with outcome of the event.



Ciera Payne, 10, gets her face painted by volunteer Hilary DeGraaf during the Bunny Brunch Saturday.

"The Easter Bunny Brunch represents a departure from the way The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps has provided Easter services to the community," Jim Irvine said. "In the past, we've provided food baskets with hams and trimmings for an Easter meal with the help of our friends at the Plymouth Rotary. Local churches, too, had helped provide Easter baskets for families with children."

"This year we wanted to do more with the families we're privileged to serve. We wanted to provide a fun atmosphere where families could enjoy the day together and, if they wanted, hear why we do what we do to help others. And the whole reason The Salvation Army serves people in crisis is because of the Easter story, because of the risen Christ."

As children and their parents worked their way from station to station, the captains took turns sharing the biblical Easter story with children and their parents using a carton of twelve plastic eggs, each containing a small trinket representing an object linked to the story of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection.

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# Tax on sale of widow's house may be less than she thinks

**Dear Rick:** My husband and I bought a home together over 40 years ago. We paid about \$25,000 for the house and last year I sold it for more than \$500,000. My husband died about five years ago. Do I have to pay taxes on the gain? My tax preparer says I do while a friend of our family, who also does taxes, says I don't because I qualify for the \$500,000 exclusion. What do you think?

It's not uncommon for there to be a variety of opinions. Our tax laws are complex and confusing. That being said I believe your friend is wrong. However, you probably will pay less tax than you think.



**Money Matters**

**Rick Bloom**

The law has changed with regard to the sale of a personal residence. It used to be that if you sold your property, and you had a gain, you could avoid taxes if you purchased a new house of greater value.

The only other way of avoiding taxes was if you were a senior citizen. Seniors were eligible to exclude \$125,000 of that gain

from income taxes.

In order to make those laws simpler and fairer, Congress changed the law. Now if you are single and sell your home you can exclude \$250,000 of gain from taxes as long as the home was your primary residence for two of the last five years. Therefore, if you purchased a house for \$50,000 and you eventually sold it for \$350,000, your gain on the home would be \$300,000. As long as the home was your primary residence for two of the last five years the first \$250,000 of gain would be tax free. The

\$250,000 number is increased to \$500,000 for married couples.

Since you sold the house when you were single you are allowed to exclude \$250,000 of profits. However, you are entitled to a step-up basis for half the house. For example, if the house was worth \$400,000 at the time of your husband's death your new basis in the property would be half the \$400,000 plus one half of the original purchase price. Therefore, your new basis would be \$212,500. Therefore, your gain would be the sales price less the \$212,500. Your

taxable gain would be the gain less the \$250,000 exclusion.

Starting this year, a surviving spouse can exclude the full \$500,000 as long as the house was joint property and the sale occurs within two years after the first spouse passed on.

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

# Legislation paves way for vote on zoo tax

Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed a new bill into law Thursday that allows counties to create authorities with the power to levy funds for zoos.

Through the creation of zoological authorities, metro Detroit counties could then levy a tax for the Detroit Zoo of up to 0.10 mill on all taxable property for a period of 20 years - with approval from the electorate. The millage would average approximately \$10 per year for a \$200,000 home.

The City of Detroit turned over governance and manage-

ment of the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo to the Detroit Zoological Society in 2006.

At the time of transition the city stopped paying an annual subsidy of about \$8 million for operations and \$2-3 million for capital maintenance. In addition to replacing the subsidy, the Zoological Society anticipates incurring lost revenue and increased expense relating to discounts and other benefits provided to citizens living within participating counties. Altogether, this

funding gap is approximately the value of the tax that would be collected from a 0.10 mill in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

"This legislation is crucial to protecting the long-term financial future of the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo and continuing valuable programs that serve Metro-Detroit's children and families," said Detroit Zoological director Ron Kagan. "We appreciate the legislature and Gov. Granholm for leading this initiative. We're espe-

cially grateful to Sens. Gilda Jacobs and Nancy Cassis and Rep. Andy Meisner for their outstanding leadership on this important issue."

The Zoological Society will work closely with Metro-Detroit counties to help each county create its own zoological authority and to place the issue in front of voters on the August ballot.

"We look forward to continuing our work with the Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb County commissioners to take this next step," said Kagan.

# SMART offers Google Map service online

The Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) is offering Michigan's first "Google™ Maps" Trip Planner for customers looking for a fast and easy way to plan their bus trips. SMART has partnered with Google™ Maps to offer the free service on the authority's Web site at [www.smartbus.org](http://www.smartbus.org).

"Google™ Maps is a tool designed to help you find your bus route step-by-step," said Hayes W. Jones, SMART general manager. "It's so convenient and so easy it makes rid-

ing the bus an obvious choice." SMART fixed route bus fare is \$1.50 per trip.

The online service is available at 21 transit agencies nationwide. Users can click on the Google™ Maps icon and get detailed itineraries. By using your origin and destination and the time of day you would like to travel, Google™ plans your route based on available public transportation schedules and information including route numbers, locations, schedules, transfer information on SMART buses, return trips and walking

directions. Also available on SMART's Web site is a complete listing of Places Served by SMART with addresses and contact information.

"We are pleased to partner with SMART to offer Google™ Maps Transit Trip Planner in southeast Michigan. Google's™ mission is to organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful, provid-

ing transit information is a step towards that," said Tom Sly, Google™ New Business Development. Transit customers can also find this service on the Google™ Transit page at [www.google.com/transit](http://www.google.com/transit) on the web to plan their trips.

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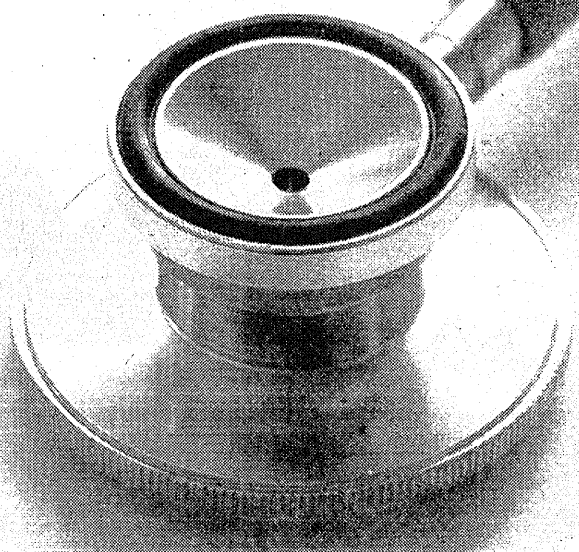


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# Livonia man credits Focus:HOPE with turning his life around

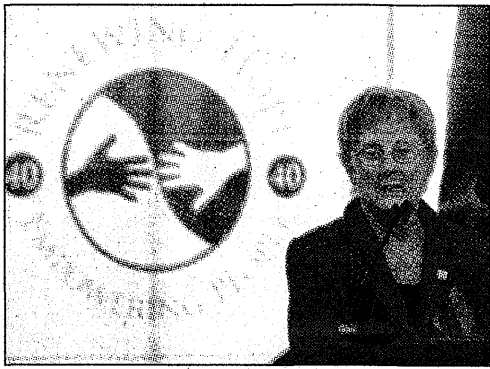
BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

For William Motts II, being a child on Detroit's west side was a life of constant chaos. "Growing up pretty much was a living hell. Ever since I can remember I was surrounded by crime and drugs," he said.

Motts' father was a drug addict and dealer. Motts, now 34, has vivid memories of being taken on deals when he was 8 and 9 years old, of police raiding his home, of bullets fired into his house and of his father being taken off to jail.

"It was embarrassing," he said, his dark eyes staring intently as he told his story. "When I was 13 or 14 years old, my father went off to jail again. He gave me the keys to his car and his wallet and he said, 'Do you remember where we parked?' and I drove home. I was literally petrified. I could barely make it home."

That began Motts' own descent into crime, picking



Eleanor Josaitis, co-founder of Focus:HOPE, talks about the program during ceremonies held Wednesday to celebrate the organization's 40 years of service.

up his dad's business while he was in jail.

On Wednesday, Motts of Livonia was a featured speaker at a press conference to launch the yearlong 40th anniversary celebration of Focus:HOPE, the job training and social services organization founded by the late Rev. William Cunningham and Eleanor Josaitis in the wake of the 1967 Detroit race riot.

As Josaitis, Gov. Jennifer Granholm and other dignitaries looked on, Motts, a General Motors innovation/decision team leader, thanked Focus:HOPE for changing his life.

Motts was arrested at 18. He had been handling his father's business and faced serious jail time. But he remembers

his own arrest as a blessing in disguise.

"I had a 3-month-old daughter. I was sitting on the floor of the county jail facing a life with murderers with the worst elements of society. And my father was two floors up," he said. "What is wrong with this picture? He's on the floor above me and it doesn't phase him or even care and I am mortified about what my



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Judge David Kerwin (left) and William Motts talk during ceremonies celebrating the 40th anniversary of Focus:HOPE. Kerwin presided over Motts' trial in the 1990s and decided to send him to see the Rev. William Cunningham at Focus:HOPE where Motts enrolled in the Fast Track program.

daughter is going to think of me. Is she going to grow up in the same environment that I did? I just said no, we have to break this cycle."

After a year in Wayne County Jail, a perceptive lawyer and a compassionate judge put Motts in touch with Focus:HOPE.

"After sitting there, they realized I was a puppet, a way for my father to make more money and do what he couldn't do," he said.

#### GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY

Attorney Robert Elsey had taken an English class with the Rev. Cunningham and knew about the program. Judge David Kerwin agreed that Motts should go to Focus:HOPE instead of back to jail.

"I didn't graduate from high school. I didn't know how to write a paper at the time. I didn't know about algebra," Motts said. "It really struck a fear in me. It really scared the death out of me. I did not want to be my father. I did not want to be an idiot. I did not want to force my kids into something they did not want to do."

Motts got his GED, enrolled in Focus:HOPE's Fast Track program to bring up his reading and math skills and graduated from the Machinist Training Institute. His group started with 50 people and ended up with seven. His

grades were so high he was encouraged to pursue a college degree through the Center for Advanced Technologies.

"This is the best-kept secret in Detroit," Motts said.

He had strong support from his wife, Paula. They made a pact to take turns getting their education. He earned his associate's degree and she earned her dental hygienist degree and a bachelor's degree from the University of Detroit Mercy. Motts also earned a master's degree in engineering management from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and is finishing a master of business administration degree from Indiana University.

When his father was released from prison, Motts supported him through the Machinist Training Institute and he is also employed.

Motts calls his wife "the backbone of the family," which now includes three daughters, Mercedes, 16, Helaina, 6, and Trisha, 3.

"I sensed that in his heart he was a good person and he was going to make it out," Paula said. "When he sets his mind to something, he's going to achieve it. He got into Focus:HOPE and they helped him in every sense and direction."

Kerwin, a retired judge from West Bloomfield, also sensed Motts' potential. Kerwin grew up in the tough neighborhood

around Focus:HOPE near Oakman Boulevard. His own sister died of a heroin overdose.

"Some of my friends ended up in prison, some are on the police force, some of them became doctors," Kerwin said.

He said Motts' story was special, but not unique.

#### LEARNING DISCIPLINE

Wednesday, Kerwin and Motts were reunited for the first time since Kerwin gave Motts his opportunity. Focus:HOPE let Motts make the most of that opportunity.

"It taught me a lot about discipline. Being here, not a minute late, being here on time, looking professional, acting professional," he said. "I couldn't say enough about this program."

In addition to hands-on training, Motts was able to interact with the many retired GM, Ford and Chrysler plant managers who have donated their time to working with Focus:HOPE. He was inspired by their example.

Now that Motts is successful, he wants to tell others what he's found.

"There is somewhere in this city where you can get educated, you can change and break the cycle, change the history you're born into," he said.

He now brings his oldest daughter down to Focus:HOPE to help package food for the elderly and tell her what a difference it made in their lives.

Josaitis has met many success stories in the 40 years that Focus:HOPE has been offering a hand to those who want a way out.

"It makes me realize we are really-making a difference in a lot of lives," she said. "That's all I want to do. And when William comes back and tells the story, other young people might say I didn't think I had a chance, but now I've got a chance. There is nothing greater that you can do than that. I am so proud of William because he told me, 'I'd be dead on the street if you hadn't helped me.'"

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OUR VIEWS

## Judge makes right decision concerning party voting lists

The farce known as the 2008 Michigan presidential primary reached another milestone Wednesday when federal Judge Nancy G. Edmunds barred the Michigan Secretary of State from providing party preference declarations solely to the two major political parties.

The judge struck down a portion of the legislation authorizing the January primary that made it a misdemeanor for anyone other than the two major parties to have access or use the preference lists. The suit was brought by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of the Green Party of Michigan, the Libertarian Party of Michigan, the Reform Party of Michigan, the *Metro Times* and Winning Strategies, a political consulting firm.

"The state is not required to provide the party preference information to any party," Edmunds wrote. "When it chooses to do so, however, it may not provide the information only to the two major political parties."

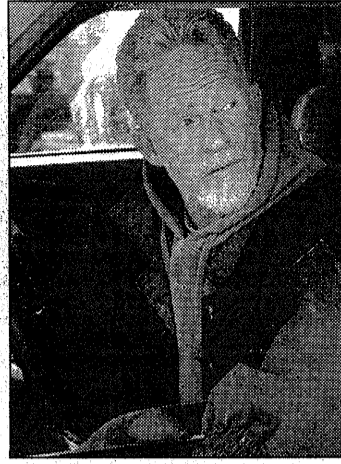
We agree the state had no business being an agent for collecting valuable political information for two private organizations, the Democratic and Republican parties.

This is the latest in a series of embarrassing consequences of the state's ill-considered attempt to buck the national parties by moving Michigan's primary to an earlier date. The national Democratic Party stripped the state of all of its delegates to the August convention in Denver.

The two remaining presidential candidates have been unable to resolve their differences to allow delegate allocations and the state Legislature rejected an attempt to hold a do-over primary in June.

Clearly, something has to give in the future. The national party must give more voice to large, urban, racially and economically diverse states. Iowa and New Hampshire have had their day and the decision on a better method needs to be made long before the 2012 election.

What do you think of the charges Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy brought against Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick?



'If Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick is found guilty of wrongdoing, then maybe other high-ranking politicians will be caught.'

Loyd Stewart  
Canton Township



'I think he should own up to his responsibility as a public figure, and if he's guilty he needs to admit it.'

Sue McHugh  
Plymouth



'I'm glad they're forcing him to come clean. How are you going to get people to move back into the city if he continues to do these kinds of things.'

Christine Scott  
Farmington Hills

COMMUNITY VOICE

LETTERS

Digging for facts

I just read the letter to the editor from Bill Piner, complaining about the *Observer* story on Alex Letkemann passing a polygraph test, and I have to wonder; what is he so upset about?

I don't remember a letter from him complaining about the prosecutor, when they were splashing "Thrill Kill" all over the place. The prosecutor's office then promptly sought a gag order keeping anyone responsible from responding. Where was the moral outrage then?

I, for one, am glad that the *Observer* is digging for facts that we would not otherwise hear about. Polygraph tests, while not admissible in court, are routinely used by investigators AND prosecutors to preclude suspects

or point them in the right direction. Why not now? This is a valid question that will NOT be answered in court.

J. Brinemor  
Plymouth

We need some understanding

Reading Thursday's paper I was interested in the opinions section's focus on race and diversity. Wayne Peal's column on Sen. Obama and the speech he gave on race was well thought out and impressive in the very personal approach he took. Mr. Peal was dead on in his analysis that the uncomfortable truths of our attitudes on race and how we all, regardless of race, has a common interest in transcending these. On the other hand the

leading letter to the editor titled "Consider 'American' residents" was a little more off. While I generally appreciate Mr. Densted's letters I was a little surprised by the comment.

While the argument that a new building in the area may adversely affect residents in the area may have merit this statement comes off as "us vs. them" labeling members of the church as the polar opposite, non-American. I am sure that this was not the purpose of the letter and many times context can be lost by focusing on a few words, I do feel that these implications are indicative of the lack of knowledge we have of the members of our community.

All one has to do is go to the public library on a weekday to witness the diversity that boasts of Canton's wide appeal to

people from all geographic locations and walks of life. This is a testament to the quality of the township and is hard to dismiss. Canton has a wide variety of cultural, ethnic and religious groups within its borders and perhaps we could work harder to understand each other.

Many groups have faced adversity in this country, from the Italians in Chicago, Irish in the Northeast and Chinese in California. We may be better off in learning from our past reactions out of fear. This was the point I got out of Sen. Obama's speech and Mr. Peal's column. This is also the sentiments I got out Mr. Densted's letter in hoping that both sides will be satisfied by the outcome.

Michael Siegrist  
Canton

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

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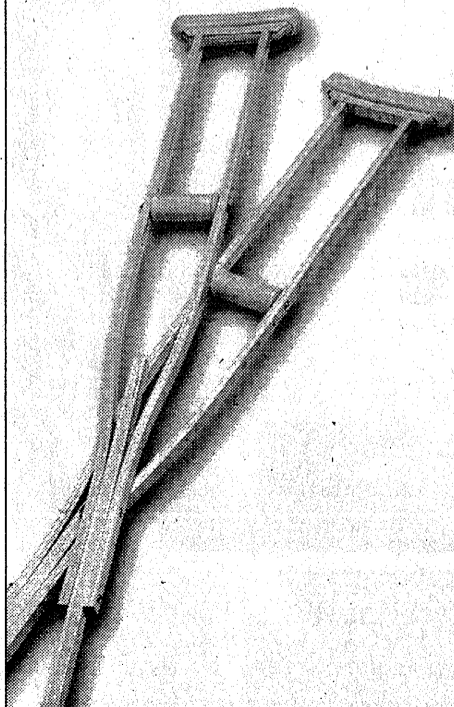


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WALT DMOCH

Plymouth goalie Jeremy Smith hit the ice to make a save during Game 2 of the Whalers' first-round series against Kitchener. The Whalers bowed out in four games against the No. 1-seeded Rangers following Wednesday's 7-4 loss.

## Four-gone conclusion

### Kitchener sweeps Whalers out of OHL playoffs, 7-4

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The 2008 Ontario Hockey League playoffs proved to be short and "sweep" for the defending champion Plymouth Whalers.

The Kitchener Rangers, who play eerily similar to last season's Plymouth titleists, capped a four-game, first-round sweep, 7-4, Wednesday night before a Spring Break-decimated crowd at the Compuware Arena.

Plymouth played shift-to-shift with the slick-skating Rangers for most of the night and trailed just 5-4 when captain Andrew Fournier tipped in a goal with 11:15 left in the third period.

But Kitchener punched its ticket to the Western Conference semifinals by scoring bang-bang goals with less than five minutes to play.

Kitchener earned the OHL Western Conference's No. 1 seed by cruising to 53 regular-season wins and just 11 losses.

The precursor to the Whalers' early playoff exit came during the final week of the regular season when a three-game losing streak dropped them from a No. 5 seed to No. 8 — and a date with the Rangers.

Please see **WHALERS, B2**



WALT DMOCH

Plymouth's Patrick Lee re-directs Chris Terry's shot past Kitchener goalie Josh Unice during Game 4 of the OHL Playoffs Wednesday at Compuware Arena. Despite the goal, the Whalers fell, 7-4.

## Plymouth hitters look strong again

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth High School softball program's tradition of excellence shouldn't miss a beat in 2008 as several key performers return from last year's 26-4 squad.

Last season's campaign for the Wildcats was a couple heart-breaking late-season losses from being remarkable as a loss to Walled Lake Central cost them a Western Lakes Activities Association outright title, although they eventually tied for the top spot with Northville; and they were upended in the first round of the Division 1 District by Salem.

At one point, the Wildcats were ranked No. 7 in the Division 1 rankings.

"This is a very good team with the potential to be a great team," said Val Canfield, the only varsity coach the Wildcats have known since the school opened in 2002. "We lost some good players to graduation — including our All-Conference shortstop Kim Klonowski — but I like the core of players we have returning this year."

"Our outfield has a lot of quickness and they're very consistent players. Our infield is experienced and talented; our pitchers have been tested in the past and performed well under pressure; and catcher is one of the best around."

There will still be a Klonowski roaming the shortstop position and batting clean-up for the Wildcats. Stacey Klonowski — Kim's younger sister — will take over both roles with the potential to be just as good as her sister, who is currently playing Division I collegiate softball at Youngstown State University.

"Stacey is very fundamentally sound and her arm is as strong as Kim's," noted Canfield. "She hit four home runs last year, which is a school record — and she was only a freshman."

The Wildcats' pitching duties will be shared by a pair of more-than-capable seniors: Meaghan Patterson, who handled the bulk of the mound work last year, and Ally Ciotti, who started a few games and was a reli-

Please see **SOFTBALL, B6**

## Sidelines

### 'Y' soccer

The Plymouth Family YMCA is accepting registrations for Spring Soccer for children between the ages of 4 and 11.

Practices begin the week of April 7 and games start Saturday, April 19.

There will be eight practices and seven games. The fee is \$70 for program members or \$102 for community members.

All participants will need to purchase a YMCA youth sports reversible jersey for \$15. The registration deadline is March 31.

If you are interested in participating or coaching your child's team, call (734) 453-2904 for more details or visit out [www.wymcadeloit.org](http://www.wymcadeloit.org).

### Cezat All-American

Hillsdale College junior Katie Cezat was named First-Team All-American by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association.

In addition, Cezat netted Daktronics First-Team All-American honors. That award is voted upon by Division II sports information directors around the country.

Only four other players earned Daktronics First-Team honors in addition to Cezat.

Only 10 players nationwide were honored as First-Team All-Americans by the WBCA. The voting was conducted by Division II coaches around the country.

Cezat led the Chargers to their best record in school history (23-5) in 2007-08. In the process, she put together an incredible season that saw her break 10 school records, spanning both single-game and single-season marks.

Cezat was named the GLIAC Player of the Year and the Daktronics Great Lakes Regional Player of the Year. In earning those honors, Cezat finished the season averaging 24.0 points and 12.7 rebounds per game.

Both of those averages are new school records, and Cezat finished the season as Division II's leading scorer, putting up 673 points this season.

Cezat broke four single-game school records this season, setting all four marks within a seven-day span in the middle of the season. On Jan. 26 vs. Gannon, Cezat grabbed 25 rebounds, breaking a 19-year-old school record.

### Beasley honored

Detroit Ignited forward Jamar Beasley was named the Major Indoor Soccer League's Offensive Player of the Week last week, after scoring five goals for 11 points in the team's 29-12 victory over the California Cougars on March 22.

## The traditionally strong Canton T&F team set for breakout year

See girls track and field preview, B3.

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The always-competitive Canton boys track-and-field team will have a familiar look to its this season as 45 members return from the 2007 contingent that racked up a 6-2 dual-meet record and fourth-place showings in both the Western Lakes Activities Association and Division 1 Regional meets.

"There's a lot of interest in the program as we had 80 to 90 kids try out," said veteran Canton coach Bob Richardson. "Our largest class is our freshman class with 35 kids, so we have a lot of youth."

The Chiefs could get a tremendous boost if senior speed-burner Eric Piwowar is able to return from a leg injury that sidelined him for all of the 2007 campaign.

Piwowar, a talented soccer player as well, was one of the area's fastest 100-meter runners in the 100-meter dash as a sophomore.

"Eric has been one of our fastest runners so far, so we're optimistic," said Richardson. "Our hurdlers, mid-distance and distance crew all look strong, too. A bunch of our distance



Zech



Spitz

guys ran really well during the cross-country season, so we're looking for that to carry over to the spring."

The Chiefs have a strong nucleus of senior captains, all of whom were voted on by their teammates at last season's post-season banquet.

They are: Tim Belcher, a school-record holding hurdler; Josh Etim, who excels in the middle distances, sprints and field events; long-distance runner Derek Hoerman, who can run anything from the 800 to the 3,200; and Chris McGinnis, one of the area's most-accomplished pole vaulters.

Other key seniors include sprinter/long jumper Ocie Lewis and Piwowar, who will run some relays and possibly long jump.

Canton's core of contributing juniors is strong and deep: Kyle Clinton (distance); Sherif Hassani (hurdles and relays); Rob Moores (thrower); Josh Hurst (middle-distances); Ryan

### PREP TRACK PREVIEW

Randall (100, 200 and 400); Greg Reed (distance); Duncan Spitz (distance); and the versatile Scott Zech, who can run well in anything from the 200 to the 1,600.

The sophomore class is headed by Keith Zech (Scott's younger brother), who high jumps and runs the 400 and 800; and Zack Spreitzer, who excels in distance events as well as the 800.

Two freshmen have already made a strong impression on Richardson: Austin Mach, a thrower; and Ben Spreitzer, a high jumper and hurdler.

"Last year we were a little down from where we are used to being," said Richardson, "especially at Observerland where we finished eighth after placing in the top two five of the previous six years."

Richardson's star-studded roster of coaches includes Paul Bedford, Matti Kilpelainen, Brian Soash and Juan Moon.

The Chiefs opened the 2008 season at Saturday's Eastern Michigan Relays. Results of the meet will be available Tuesday morning at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY PHOTO

Former Salem basketball standout Ellen Canale (with ball) is pictured driving past a defender during an Ohio Valley Conference game earlier this season. Canale helped lead the Panthers to a 19-13 record and within one win of a trip to the NCAA Division 1 women's tournament.

## Canale helps raise Eastern Illinois to lofty new heights

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Instead of shying away from a daunting challenge like many people tend to do, former Salem basketball standout Ellen Canale chose to embrace one when she signed on to play for a struggling Eastern Illinois University program in 2004.

And for that, Brady Sallee is forever grateful.

Sallee, a former assis-

tant coach at East Carolina University, inherited the head coaching reins of an EIU program in 2004 that was in shambles and ranked 318th of 324 Division 1 teams.

When he was looking for the building blocks to revive the program from the ashes, he caught a glimpse of Canale's multi-tiered skills at a summer tournament — and the rest is history.

Please see **CANALE, B3**



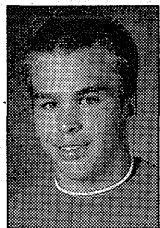
BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton senior shortstop Ryan Neu (left) provides solid defense for the Chiefs.

## Plenty of zip

### Canton baseball team to rely heavily on strong arms

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Wright

Wright piled a 10-4 record and 1.89 earned-run average in two varsity seasons to date; Will Tidwell, who earned a pair of mound victories last year and has already signed to pitch for Adrian College never year; junior Dan Stoney, a hard-throwing righty; and sophomore southpaw Kevin Delapaz, who earned a letter as a freshman in 2007.

If someone decides to produce a TV show about the Canton baseball team's pitching staff this season, they may want to name it "That 80s Show."

No less than eight Chief hurlers have registered 80-plus miles-per-hour readings on the JUGS gun in the past, a fact that brings a smile to first-year coach Mark Blomshield, a former standout hurler at Western Michigan University.

"Our strength will definitely be our pitching this year," said Blomshield, the program's long-time junior-varsity coach who was promoted in the fall after previous coach Scott Dickey resigned last summer. "We have 10 kids who can pitch, so we have a lot of depth in that department."

The staff ace figures to be senior right-hander Ben Vaughn, who has touched 90 mph on the gun already this spring. The 6-foot-2 flame-thrower is being recruited by several Division 1 and 2 colleges. "Ben has really looked good during the off-season and I anticipate he'll have a good season for us. He's a very important part of our team."

Other members of the Chiefs' rotation include senior lefty Erik Wright, who has com-

Contributing to the team's pitching depth will be junior Zane Birchler, who has developed a unique and effective side-arm delivery; junior Dane Staples, who throws in the low- to mid-80s; junior Tim Hemmelgarn; junior Joel Schwiebert; and sophomore southpaw Alex Dixon.

Providing the target for the Canton pitchers will be freshman catcher Seth Schnettler, who Blomshield praised for his skills and work ethic. Key infielders include first baseman Tidwell and senior shortstop Ryan Neu, who both started at those respective positions last year; Vaughn, who will play third when he's not pitching; junior Nick Tomilenko, who will play third when Vaughn is pitching; and senior Mike

### PREP BASEBALL PREVIEW

Madias, who is battling for the starting second-base job with Tomilenko.

The starting outfield will consist of Stoney, Delapaz and Dixon.

Key reserves include senior outfielder Matt Barylski, junior Nick Sweda and senior Mike Flis, who has been swinging a hot back in pre-season workouts, Blomshield noted.

Blomshield didn't hesitate when asked the team's primary goal.

"Canton hasn't won a District title in 19 years, so that would have to be No. 1," he said. "It won't be easy as there are several good teams in our District, but that's what we're shooting for."

"Ultimately, like all teams, we'd like to win a state championship, but you have to take things one step at a time."

Blomshield said Northville and Plymouth will be the teams to beat in the Western Lakes Activities Association's Western Division.

Weather permitting, the Chiefs will open the 2008 campaign at Ann Arbor Huron in a double-header. Game 1 is set to start a 4 p.m.

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## Whalers' Fournier signs pro deal

The American Hockey League's Norfolk Admirals have announced the signing of Plymouth Whalers captain Andrew Fournier to a standard Amateur Tryout Contract.

Fournier — who played from 2003-04 through this past season for the Whalers — was expected to make his AHL debut Friday night in Norfolk as the Admirals host the Manchester Monarchs.

Fournier was never selected in the National Hockey League Entry Draft and was a free agent, available to sign

with any professional team. "We're very happy for Andrew," said Plymouth head coach Greg Stefan. "He worked very hard while in Plymouth and deserves a chance to move on to a higher level of the game."

Fournier scored 35 goals and 40 assists in 64 games this season for Plymouth. He completed his Plymouth career 19th on the team's all-time scoring list with 85 goals and 83 assists over 226 games.

Fournier's 85 career goals ranks him 12th on the

Whalers all-time list (tied with David Legwand) and his 226 games played is 14th on Plymouth's all-time list (tied with Cole Jarrett).

Fournier was an integral part of the Whalers' championship team in 2007.

In addition, Plymouth center/left wing Chris Terry — a draft choice of the Carolina Hurricanes — is expected to spend some time with the Hurricanes' American Hockey League affiliate, the Albany River Rats. Terry is eligible to return next season to Plymouth.

## WHALERS

FROM PAGE B1

The winners whistled 55 shots at Whalers goalie Jeremy Smith, who had one of the best seven-goals-allowed nights a net-minder can have.

The Rangers' balance was on display the entire night as seven different players scored goals. Amazingly, none of the net-finders were scored by OHL leading scorer Justin Azevedo.

Kitchener set the tone early when Mikkel Boedker and Scott Timmins staked the Rangers to a 2-0 lead in the game's opening three minutes. Boedker was assisted by Nazem Kadri and Azevedo while Timmins received help from T.J. Battani and Yannick Weber.

The Rangers nearly took a 3-0 advantage, however, a

Weber goal at the 15:32 mark was reviewed and waved off when the replay official ruled the net had been knocked off its moorings before the puck crossed the goal line.

Plymouth pulled to within 2-1 with 7:05 to go in the first when Jordon O'Neill secured a pass from Joe Gaynor in front and ripped the puck past Kitchener goalie Josh Unice.

The first period ended with the Rangers holding a 17-7 edge in shots.

Kitchener expanded its lead to 3-1 8:29 into the second period on a played drenched in controversy. Matt Halischuk was awarded — and subsequently converted — a penalty shot after the referee ruled he was slowed down from behind by a Whaler during a break-away.

However, replays revealed there was little if any contact

on the play.

Plymouth's Patrick Lee redirected a Chris Terry shot beyond Unice's reach five minutes later to bring his team to within 3-2. However, the Rangers answered just over two minutes later when Nick Spaling made it 4-2 with a goal from the door-step.

Undeterred, the Whalers narrowed the gap to 4-3 12 seconds into the third period when Westland's Tyler J. Brown lasered a shot top shelf. He was assisted by Terry.

Forty-six seconds later, Ben Shutron padded Kitchener's lead to 5-3, but Fournier countered at the 11:15 mark to make it 5-4.

Mike Duco and Scott Tregunna tacked on insurance goals for Kitchener at 4:51 and 4:13, respectively.

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### THE WEEK AHEAD

**PREP BASEBALL**  
TUESDAY, APRIL 1  
Lake Orion Baptist at Agape, at Griffin Park, 4:30 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2  
Canton at A.A. Huron (DH), 4 p.m.  
THURSDAY, APRIL 3  
Agape at Southfield Christian, 4:30 p.m.  
FRIDAY, APRIL 4  
PCA at Lutheran Westland, 4:30 p.m.  
SATURDAY, APRIL 5  
Plymouth at Ypsilanti (DH), 11 a.m.  
Agape at Urban Lutheran, 1 p.m.  
**PREP SOFTBALL**  
THURSDAY, APRIL 3  
Agape at Southfield Christian, 4:30 p.m.  
FRIDAY, APRIL 4  
PCA at Lutheran Westland, 4:30 p.m.  
Riverview Gabriel Richard at Agape, 4 p.m.  
**BOYS AND GIRLS TRACK & FIELD**  
THURSDAY, APRIL 3  
Livonia Stevenson at Canton, 3:30 p.m.-W.L. Central at Plymouth at Plymouth JV Stadium, 3:30 p.m.  
Salem at Livonia Franklin, 3:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5  
Canton and Plymouth at A.A. Pioneer Invite at Eastern Michigan University, 10 a.m.  
PCA at Lakeview Invite, 9 a.m.  
**GIRLS SOCCER**  
MONDAY, MARCH 31  
Summit Home School at PCA, 4:30 p.m.  
TUESDAY, APRIL 1  
PCA at Wayne Memorial, 4:30 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2  
Livonia Churchill at Plymouth, 7 p.m.  
Salem at Northville, 7 p.m.  
Novi at Canton, 7:30 p.m.  
FRIDAY, APRIL 4  
PCA at Lutheran Westland, 4:30 p.m.  
Livonia Stevenson at Canton, 5:30 p.m.  
SATURDAY, APRIL 5  
Southfield Christian at PCA, 11 a.m.  
**PREP LACROSSE**  
THURSDAY, APRIL 3  
Canton at Grosse Ile, 7 p.m.  
**GIRLS TENNIS**  
Salem at Troy Invite, 8 a.m.  
**MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL**  
SUNDAY, MARCH 30  
Siena Heights at Madonna (2), 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2  
Aquinas at Madonna (2), 1:30 p.m.  
THURSDAY, APRIL 3  
Rochester at Madonna, 2 p.m.  
SATURDAY, APRIL 5  
Madonna at St. Xavier, Ill. (2), 1 p.m.  
SUNDAY, APRIL 6  
Madonna at St. Xavier (2), 1 p.m.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL**  
SATURDAY, MARCH 29  
(at Campbellsville, Ky.)  
Madonna vs. Midway (Ky.), 11:30 a.m.  
Madonna vs. Campbellsville (2), 1:30 p.m.  
SUNDAY, MARCH 30  
(at Columbia, Ky.)  
Madonna vs. Lindsey Wilson (Ky.), 10:30 a.m.  
Madonna vs. Campbellsville (2), 12:30 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2  
Madonna at Michigan Dearborn (2), 4 p.m.  
THURSDAY, APRIL 3  
Madonna at Siena Heights (2), 4 p.m.  
FRIDAY, APRIL 4  
Cornerstone at Madonna (2), 4 p.m.  
SATURDAY, APRIL 5  
Aquinas College at Madonna (2), 1 p.m.

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**Thursday, April 3, 1:05**  
FREE Magnet Schedule to first 10,000 fans, courtesy of McDonald's.

**Tigers vs White Sox**  
Friday, April 4, 1:05  
FREE Magnet Schedule to first 10,000 fans, courtesy of McDonald's.

**Saturday, April 5, 3:55**  
FREE Tigers Calendar to first 10,000 fans, courtesy of Red Robin.

**Sunday, April 6, 8:05**  
Sunday Kids Day.

**Tigers vs Twins**  
Monday, April 14, 7:05  
FREE Ordoñez Batting Title Mini-Bat to first 10,000 fans, courtesy of Little Caesars.

**Tuesday, April 15, 7:05**  
FREE Verlander No-Hitter DVD to first 10,000 fans, courtesy of Chevrolet.

**Tigers vs Rangers**  
Tuesday, April 22, 7:05  
Wednesday, April 23, 7:05  
Motown Night  
Thursday, April 24, 1:05

**Tigers vs Angels**  
Friday, April 25, 7:05  
Saturday, April 26, 3:55  
FREE On-Field Pre-Game Clinic (weather permitting) courtesy of Red Robin.

**Sunday, April 27, 8:05**  
Sunday Kids Day.

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## I know Grams is still here for the ride

I'm having a crisis of confidence because my biggest fan has stopped reading this column. For the first time since Mom's the Word began four years ago with a story about Jackson wanting to dress as Dora the Explorer for Halloween, I'm finding it nearly impossible to share details about my kids and my efforts to parent them.

I keep stopping mid-sentence, fingers hovering above the keyboard, to ask myself, "Who cares?"

Grams used to. Grams taught me to read, she helped publish my first book — with cardboard and Scotch tape at age 5 — and she's been applauding every word I've put to paper ever since. But three months ago she died — a mercifully quick death at the ripe old age of 94 — and my muse is gone.

When she was alive, Grams was never far from my thoughts as I brainstormed topics and crafted phrases. If I happened to type a passage I considered particularly inspired, I'd smile, imagining her reaction.

My husband is one of those people who lost all of his grandparents before he was out of middle school, so I know how fortunate I am to have known and been loved by my grandmother well into my adult life. I feel blessed many times over that Grams met and delighted in my children, her great-grandchildren. My younger brother, who is weeks away from his wedding, cannot say the same, and I suspect that it breaks his heart.

At midnight on deadline day for this column, it dawned on me in an Oprah "aha" moment why the preceding hours had been so painful. Each new paragraph was another tooth pulled, and once I'd done my spell-check and hit "save" for the last time, I wasn't at all happy with what the Herculean effort had yielded. For the first time, it felt self-indulgent to write about my mommy woes and exploitative to diss on the kids.

Since Grams died, I haven't had any trouble writing about the auto industry or education — the projects that help pay the bills and the type of ho-hum work I rarely shared with Grams. But writing this column lost its charm once I knew I wouldn't be clipping it out of the *Observer* and stuffing it into an envelope addressed to Great Lakes Christian Homes in Holt, where Grams would find it in her mailbox one day after lunch, toss it into her walker basket for the stroll down the hall to her tiny apartment, and settle into her well-worn armchair with a tall glass of cheap red wine before slicing the envelope with a wooden letter opener.

She'd read the column slowly, savoring each word — or so she told me.

I tried to time my weekly phone calls so we would talk shortly after she'd received a new mailing. I wanted her memory of my effort to be fresh so I could bask in her lavish praise, the same as I did when we'd play school in the '70s and she'd mark my "homework" with "A+++++", the plus marks trailing off the page.

I'm well aware that, if she were here, Grams would scold me for feeling this way. She might pull out a "pish" or "fid-dlesticks," never missing an opportunity to incite giggles with those stereotypically old-lady expressions.

"Well, what did you expect?" she'd ask me, her watery brown eyes meeting my gaze and not letting go. "People don't live forever, Becky Dear."

When I was in kindergarten and my great-grandmother died, Grams was the one who explained the situation, telling me, "You're born, you live and you die — it's the natural course of events."

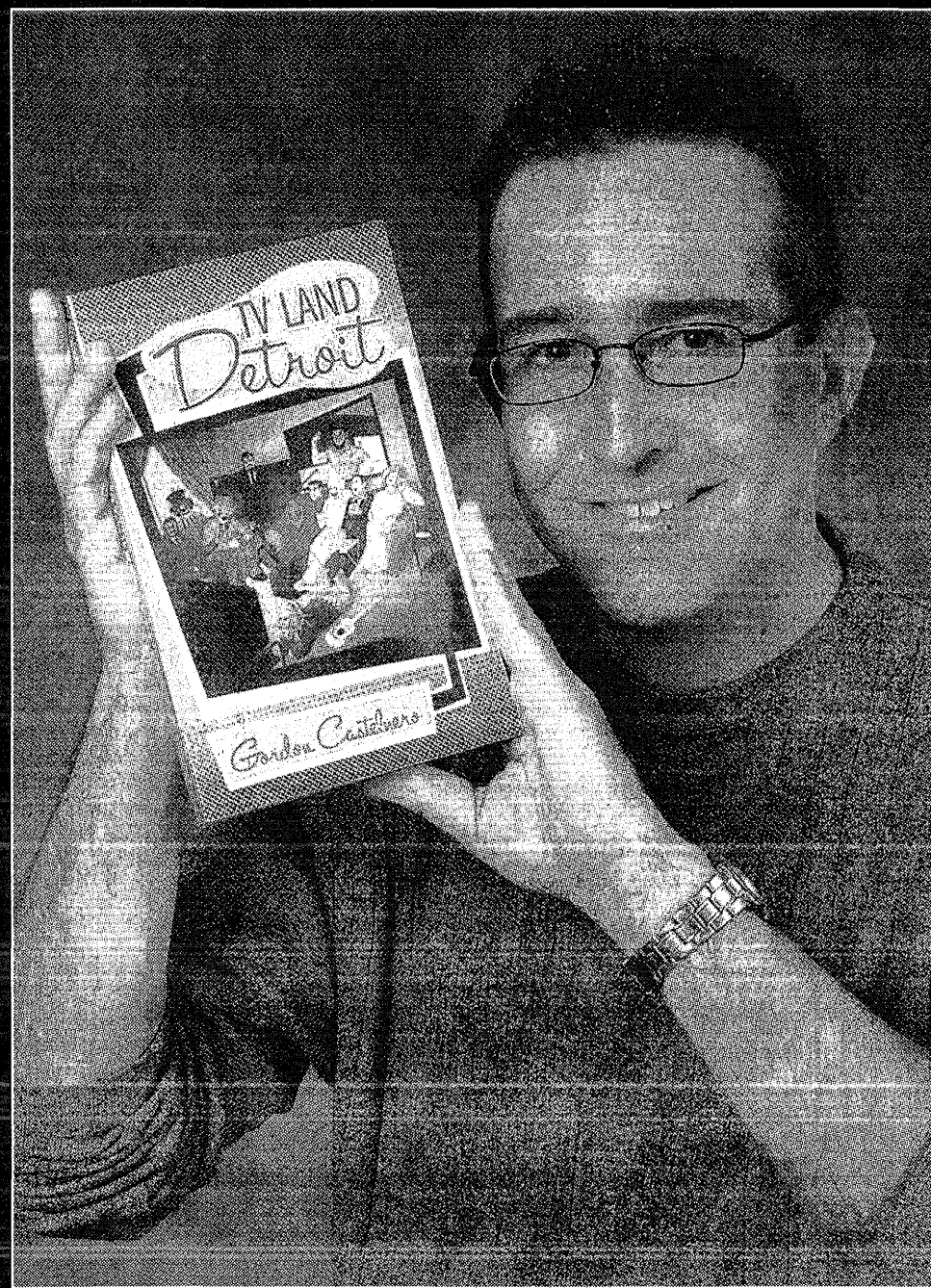
Years later, in recounting the conversation, Grams reported that Little Me then chimed in, with much-needed comic relief, "But in between there's Cedar Point!"

As I think about the future of Mom's the Word and how I can possibly continue when each key click rings so hollow, I realize that it's the Cedar Point part that I want to keep writing about.

So much of who I am as a mother — especially the Fun Mom part — comes directly from Grams and her influence on me over the past 37 years. I know I owe it to her to keep talking about this roller coaster ride, even when everything's upside down.

Rebecca Kavanagh lives in Farmington Hills with her husband and two kids. Please write to her at momsthewordcolumn@gmail.com.

# Talk show pioneers



Author Gordon Castelnero with his book on Detroit television, which inspired a television project on local celebrities.



Marilyn Turner and John Kelly brought their off-screen married life to their daily talk show on WXYZ-TV.



Lou Gordon's hard hitting interview style was a forerunner to today's opinionated cable news shows.

## Producer profiles TV celebrities Kelly, Turner and Gordon

### MOTOR CITY CELEBRITIES

**What:** Two half-hour documentaries  
**Where:** WTVS-TV (Channel 56)  
**When:** Monday, April 7, John Kelly and Marilyn Turner at 9 p.m., Lou Gordon at 9:30 p.m.

BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Forty years ago, George Romney — father of erstwhile presidential candidate Mitt Romney — was running his own high-profile bid for the presidency.

As the standard-bearer for the moderate wing of the Republican Party, Romney's chances looked pretty good. That was until he sat down to have a talk with Lou Gordon.

Romney told Gordon and his TV audience that the generals and diplomats in Vietnam had put him through the worst "brainwashing" he'd ever had. That unfortunate use of a word associated with the war in Korea helped put an end to that earlier Romney bid.

Ironically, Romney made his statement during a calm, thoughtful discussion of the war. Calm and thoughtful wasn't Lou Gordon's usual approach. The innovative Detroit television talk show host usually preferred lively jousts and going for the jugular.

Gordon and those formidable darlings of daytime Detroit television, John Kelly and Marilyn Turner, are the subjects of two half-hour documentaries on WTVS-TV (Channel 56) produced by Gordon Castelnero of Livonia.

The documentaries are the off-shoot of Castelnero's lively portraits of Detroit television personalities in his 2006 book *TV Land Detroit* (University of Michigan, \$22.95).

Castelnero, a television producer, got the idea to pitch a series to WTVS after positive response to the book. He originally thought of doing a longer documentary on all the personalities profiled in *TV Land Detroit*, but decided

instead to do several half-hour documentaries, beginning with Kelly and Turner.

"They were the super couple for a long, long time in town," Castelnero said. He said they epitomized the best in Detroit television.

He chose Gordon as a dark contrast to the lightweight Kelly and Turner show.

Gordon, who died in 1977, was a left-leaning Bill O'Reilly. He was opinionated, relentless, scolding and passionate. He loved nothing better than to rile a guest so much that he would storm off the set, as notorious Philadelphia Mayor Frank Rizzo is shown doing on one show.

Gordon's story is told through the words of his daughter, Debbie; son, Scott; former Attorney General Frank Kelley; former state Supreme Court Justice Charles Levin; and others. Their recollections are fond, but they don't let Gordon off the hook for his bombastic style.

Another clip shows Gordon staring with agitated disgust and wagging his finger at a guest, "You are a demagogue and dangerous. I would break my vow about never running for office to oppose you if you ever ran for anything."

The camera pans to show a young, slightly shaggy-haired L. Brooks Patterson, almost at a loss for words.

"That clip amplifies what Debbie Gordon says at the beginning, he had an opinion about everything and he didn't care what people thought of him," Castelnero said.

Gordon could be a good friend and a rabid enemy. The late Detroit Mayor Jerome

Please see **PIONEERS, C2**

# Scholarship auction to highlight students

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

Doug Semivan and his students only have a couple of boxes of materials to create a sculpture for Madonna University's upcoming scholarship auction Friday, April 11, but the art department chairman isn't worried. He knows it's just a matter of time before the skeleton of Madonna's Science and Media Center is up and scraps become available.

"We have bits of insulation, ceramic tiles, carpet samples, pipes," Semivan said. "We'll

make something elegant but simple, a sculpture for a table top or possibly outdoors in the garden. We hope it will draw attention to itself and make some student's scholarship a little more possible."

Semivan is donating two of his etchings which were award winners in a national juried exhibition at the Springfield Art Museum two years ago. The works are from the ongoing series, Flores Negres, which means black flowers in Spanish. Semivan calls the art "elegant

Please see **AUCTION, C4**



Madonna University art students check out the building materials they will be using to create a sculpture for the Scholarship Auction. They are clockwise from left Debbie Garrity (seated), Melissa Peppercorn, Jin Kwang Kim, Samantha Paul, Taylor Mulka, Mary McGinnis, Yun-ok Kim, Elisa Zachert, Minnelle Kouka, and Hannah Zachert.







Michele Phillips of Livonia is the newly elected president of the Detroit Panhellenic Alumni Association.



Sharon Rees of Redford (left); Susie Sherman-Hall, Pleasant Ridge, and Judith Stewart, Livonia recently attended a tea in honor of Michele Phillips, the new president of the Detroit Panhellenic Alumni Association.

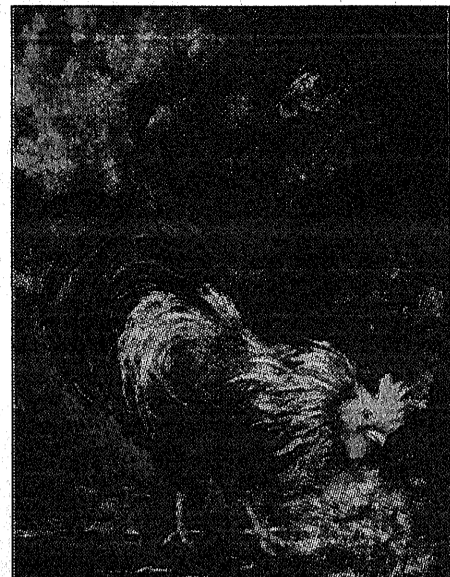
## Livonia art club presents annual spring exhibition

The Livonia Artists Club holds its annual Spring Exhibit and Sale 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 5, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, April 6, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road.

There will be more than 100 watercolors, oils, acrylics, and photographs by more than 20 of the club's members. Artists will also be demonstrating.

This is the club's 47th Annual Art Exhibit. Admission and refreshments are free.

For more information, call Marge Masek at (734) 464-6772.



Martha Barnes of Northville painted this acrylic titled Rooster. The work is one of more than 100 showcased in the Livonia Artists Club Spring Exhibit Saturday-Sunday, April 5-6, at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

## Spring luncheon to raise money for scholarships

Members of the Detroit Panhellenic Alumni Association recently a tea to honor Michele Phillips, their new president. Phillips lives in Livonia.

The association meets seven months a year. A spring luncheon in April or May raises money for girls' scholarships.

In 2007 three \$750 scholarships were given away.

This year the spring luncheon will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 3, at St. Joseph Banquet Center, 26440 Ryan, Warren. Tickets cost \$30, call (734) 464-9297.

The mission of the association is to promote Greek life on

college campuses and alumni groups as well. Alumni as well as college groups give annually to their chosen charities.

Lifetime friendships are formed when one belongs to a sorority. When the girls graduate from college they give time and money to their communities.

## Teen actors sought for 'Les Miserables'

Dream Players Productions of Project DayDream opens its 2008 theatrical season with auditions for the epic musical, *Les Miserables*.

It's now the last call as audition spaces are filling up fast with teenagers from all over the Detroit Metropolitan area eager to take part in a student production of the show.

Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg's score filled with popular works such as *On My Own* and *One Day More*, combined with Victor Hugo's classic novel of a student

uprising in pre-revolutionary France, provides a compelling story line that continues to thrill audiences all over the world.

Project DayDream founder and artistic director, Tiffany Victoria Sims, is looking for talented teen performers ages 12-19 to audition for this once-in-a-lifetime theatrical experience. *Les Miserables* is an ensemble show loaded with roles for male and female actors as well as plenty of stage-time for supporting roles and chorus.

Actors should come prepared with a headshot or 5-by-7 photograph; one Broadway style song to perform and sheet music in the correct key.

An accompanist will be provided.

Auditions are by appointment only and will be held at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs School in Beverly Hills. Call (248) 219-7644.

Performances will take place the final weekend in June at Birmingham Groves High School. Tickets go on sale mid-May.



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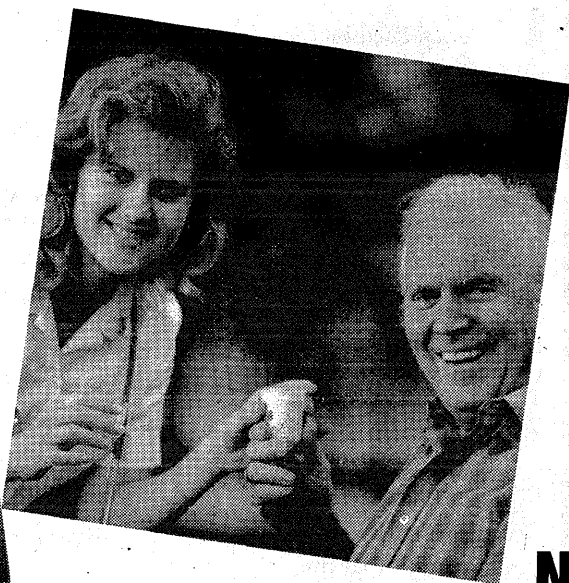
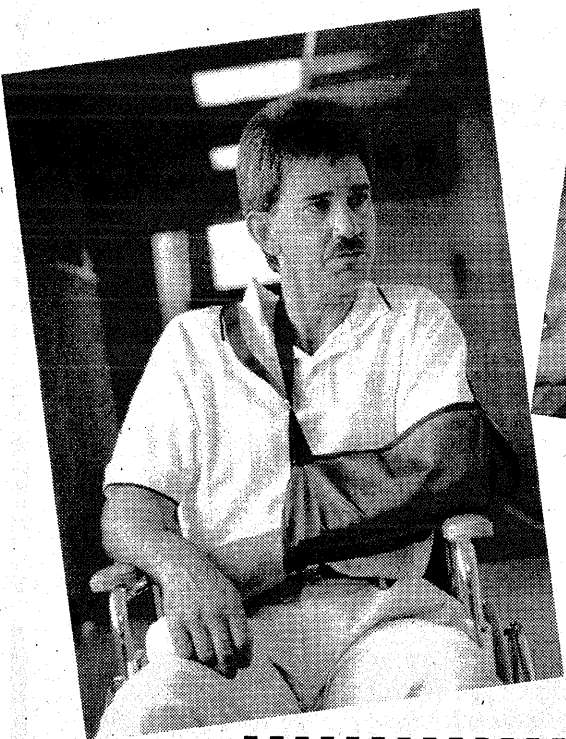
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# HIGHVELOCITY SPORTS 2008 Summer Camps



This advertisement is courtesy of: **THE Observer & Eccentric** NEWSPAPERS [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

**All-Sport Camp:** All-Sport camp includes a multitude of sports including soccer, flag football, floor hockey, basketball, volleyball, dodge ball and an array of backyard games like capture the flag, kickball, and hide & seek. Plus, enjoy the Carnival of Inflatables!

Full-Day (ages 7-12): 9 am-4 pm. Fee: \$225/week  
Half-Day (ages 5-8): 9 am-12 pm or 1-4 pm. Fee: \$125/week

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Both Early and Late Care: \$35/week.

(June 16-August 22)

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**Sports Camps:** Soccer, Baseball, Basketball, Basics of Football, & Lacrosse. Learn to play each sport during week-long, sport-specific camps. Check [www.hvsports.com](http://www.hvsports.com) for dates, times, & fees.

**HVS Basketball Camp featuring LINDSEY HUNTER!**

Full-Day (9am-4pm) Camp for ages 8-17. All skill levels welcome.  
Week of 6/23, 7/7, and 7/21. Camp Fee: \$295/person. Sorry, no discounts apply to these camps. Lindsey Hunter will appear every day of each camp but may not be present for the entire day.

**CRAFT CAMP**

Tie-dye t-shirts, make jewelry, bird feeders, fragrant soaps & bath salts, sand art & more.  
Half-Day Camp: 9am-12 pm Ages: 5-12 (\$135/wk)  
Weeks of: 6/16, 7/7, 7/21, 8/7, 8/11

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[hvsports.com](http://hvsports.com) 46245 Michigan Ave. in Canton (734) HV-SPORT

## REUNIONS

**Clarenceville High School Class of 1988**  
A reunion is being planned for the summer of 2008. Trying to reach as many classmates as possible. Send contact information to Dale Weighill at [resource@gfn.org](mailto:resource@gfn.org).

**Crestwood High School Class of 1968**  
A 40th class reunion Oct 4, 2008. For information, contact Gail Goodall Welch 313-937-3477 or email [CHS1968Sec@yahoo.com](mailto:CHS1968Sec@yahoo.com).

**Dearborn Edsel Ford Class of 1968**  
A 40-year reunion Aug. 2, 2008, at Patrick O'Kelly Knights of Columbus in Dearborn. For more information, contact Janet Wszola Robbins at (313) 277-1418 or Susan Taylor Szalony at (248) 348-6692.

**Dearborn Fordson Class of 1969**  
Planning a reunion. Please contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: [Kayniniu@aol.com](mailto:Kayniniu@aol.com) or Kathy Shoebridge @ [Klivingston@nu-core.com](mailto:Klivingston@nu-core.com).

**Detroit Cass Tech Class of 1958**  
A 50-year reunion, Oct. 11, 2008. For details, call Isabelle at (313) 882-4626 and at [casstech58.com](http://casstech58.com).

**Detroit Christ the King Elementary Class of 1963**  
A 45-year reunion is being planned for 2008. Searching for classmates. The reunion date has not been set. Contact Dennis Place at (734) 354-0223 or e-mail [denplace@bigfoot.com](mailto: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.

**Detroit Western High School Class of 1978**  
A 30-year reunion is planned for Saturday, Nov. 29, 2008. For more info, contact Donna Willingham at (313) 605-0377 or email [reunion-30western@woway.com](mailto:reunion-30western@woway.com).

**Garden City High School Class of 1960**  
Mini-Reunion Luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at

1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Anyone interested in more information can call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to [GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com](mailto:GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com).

**Class of 1989**  
Need classmates to register online with names, addresses and e-mail addresses to Paula at [gch-1989reunion@hotmail.com](mailto:gch-1989reunion@hotmail.com) and check out web site at [www.myspace.com/gchs20threunion](http://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'Kelly Hall, Dearborn. Contact Betsy Cushman at (313) 565-5972 or [ecushman@comcast.com](mailto:ecushman@comcast.com)

**Dearborn Edsel Ford Classes of 1958**  
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 at (313) 562-9031, [Judgygoerke@yahoo.com](mailto:Judgygoerke@yahoo.com) or Shirley Chiado Peters at (248) 348-9443, [Shirley.peters@villageford.net](mailto:Shirley.peters@villageford.net) may be contacted for further information.

**Grosse Pointe North Class of 1991**  
Call (800) 677-7800, visit [www.taylorreunions.com](http://www.taylorreunions.com) or e-mail: [info@taylorreunions.com](mailto:info@taylorreunions.com).

**Jefferson Avenue Cooperative Nursery School 60th Anniversary**

The Jefferson Avenue Cooperative Nursery School (JACS) in Detroit is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. A celebration and silent auction are being planned for Saturday, May 24. If you were associated with Jefferson Avenue Cooperative Nursery School at any time in the past, as either a student or parent, the school is seeking your memories. For information, email [gand-jack1@yahoo.com](mailto:gand-jack1@yahoo.com), or call the Shields family at (313) 822-3211.

**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@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nc6897@sbcglobal.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 e-mail: [Kayniniu@aol.com](mailto:Kayniniu@aol.com).

**Livonia Stevenson Class of 1978**  
A 30 year reunion, Aug. 16, 2008, at Marriott, 17100 N. Laurel Park Drive, Livonia. Includes DJ, cash bar, and strolling buffet. There will be more information coming soon. For more information, contact the Reunion Committee, Tim Oehmke at (734)637-1002 or [superchargertest@aol.com](mailto:superchargertest@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](mailto:milford78@gmail.com).

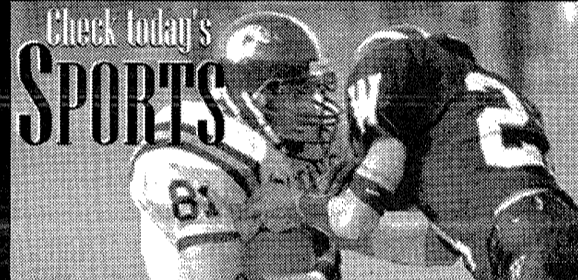
**Plymouth High School Class of 1968**  
Searching for classmates for a 40th reunion on July 19, 2008. Only about 63 percent of the class have been located. Contact Sue (Keith) Johnson at (734) 451-1048 or contact [phs40threunion@charter.net](mailto:phs40threunion@charter.net).

**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](mailto:cepclassof1988@yahoo.com) for more information.

**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.

**Royal Oak Kimball Class of 1988**  
A 20-year class reunion on Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008. For more information please go to [www.kimball1988.myevent.com](http://www.kimball1988.myevent.com) to register.

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 kelli@harperjobs.com  
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 PT position.  
 Mon., Wed., Fri., 2:45-7:30 pm;  
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 Must be highly motivated, well organized and possess ability to multi task. Willing to train the right person.  
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**Tepper Chiropractic**  
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 Highly paid position and work you'll love in a professionally, growth-oriented environment. Leading edge specialty practice is looking for a FT assistant with exc. dental exp.  
**Call 248-357-3100**

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 Small dental office in Farmington Hills/ Southfield area is seeking a Dental Assistant to perform basic assisting tasks & also have front desk responsibilities; while assisting the Doctor, there will be no expanded duties. Tues., Thurs. & 1-2 Sat. per mo. Customer service skills must be excellent. Prefer 1-2 years exp. as a Dental Assistant.  
**Reply to: dcdsdoe@yahoo.com**

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 Needed Full-time for busy family practice. Must have telephone skills, computer scheduling, and billing exp. Fun place to work, great benefits.  
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**Our Nurses are Golden**  
 Golden Oaks in Pontiac is actively seeking that special golden nurse (you). This 90-bed rehab facility has a golden part time opportunity for you.  
 Please fax your resume to Golden Oaks at (248) 858-4026 or call to schedule an interview at (248) 858-1415.

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 An Outpatient Cosmetic Surgery Center has a job opening for an Operating Room Nurse and a Surgical Scrub Technologist. PT/FT days w/benefits. Hrs include: Mon, Wed & Thurs from 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM. If you are energetic, a quick learner with excellent teamwork and interpersonal skills, a unique opportunity awaits you.  
 Please email your resume to: mcrs.martin08@yahoo.com  
 Specify a day, time, & phone number where you can be contacted for an interview.

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 oeresume@hometownlife.com

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 Come join us at our Employment Fair!! Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers, a leader in the field of brain injury rehabilitation, is holding an Informational Employment Fair. Come and learn about our full-time and part-time opportunities at our facilities in the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti and Farmington areas. We are hiring for the following positions:  
**CNA/Direct Care Worker:**  
 Provides direct patient care including assistance with ADL's and general health monitoring.  
**RNs – Floor Nurse:**  
 Provides care to our medically stable, brain injured clients at our NeuroRehab Campus in Farmington Hills. Part-time midnight and Contingent/Float positions available. Must have current MI licensure. Both positions require a valid Driver's License and an excellent driving record.  
 For more information, join us Tuesday, April 1 from 3pm-7pm  
**Rainbow Rehabilitation Center**  
 Willow Creek Plaza, 42180 Ford Rd., Ste. 202  
 Canton, MI 48187 (corner of Ford & Lilley)  
 If you are unavailable to join us on Tuesday, check us out on the web! www.rainbowrehab.com  
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 Requirements: Must be 18 or older, Have a valid driver's license, drug screen & Background check required.  
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 > Highest in home provider pay rates.  
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 Apply online at: expertcare.com

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 Minimum requirements include: current Michigan licensure/certification; two years clinical experience; strong leadership skills; excellent communication and organization skills; TBI experience preferred.  
 Rainbow offers a creative and autonomous work environment, competitive salary and excellent benefits. \*Some restrictions apply for the Sign-on Bonus.  
 For consideration, send resume and salary history to: Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers, Attn: Human Resources, P.O. Box 970230, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Fax: 734-482-0794. E-mail us at humres@rainbowrehab.com or visit our web-site www.rainbowrehab.com EOE. Drug-free workplace.

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**SALE ENDS**  
**MON. 3-31**

**\$0**   **\$0**   **\$0**

Down Payment   1st Mo. Payment   Cash Due at Signing

**2008 MERCURY MILAN**

5 speed auto transmission, 2.3L 14 engine, P205/60R16 all season tires, interior trim metal auto pkg, 16" aluminum wheels. Stock #81583

**39 Month Lease** **\$187\*** Per Mo. \$0 Cash due at signing

**2008 MERCURY SABLE**

6 speed automatic transmission, 3.5L V6 Duratec engine, P215/60R17 BSW tires. SYNC system, reverse sensing & cargo mgmt. Stock #81191

**39 Month Lease** **\$267\*** Per Mo. \$0 Cash due at signing

**2008 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER**

P245/65R17 BSW A/T tires, fir mats, color-key carpet, illuminated visors 17" machined alum wheels, auto lamp headlamps, keyless entry w/ keypad, 4.0L SOHC V6 engine, 5-spd auto O/D trans, 6180 lb. GVW, adjust pedals, ultrasonic reverse sensing. Stock #81588

**39 Month Lease** **\$301\*** Per Mo. \$0 Cash due at signing

**2008 LINCOLN MKZ**

3.5L V6 Duratec eng. 6 speed automatic transmission, fog lamps, message center, side air curtain, wood trim, leather and more. Stock #81578

**39 Month Lease** **\$338\*** Per Mo. \$0 Cash due at signing

**2008 MERCURY MARINER**

2.3L Duratec X-4 eng., 4 spd auto trans, 6 CD/MP3, moon & tune, Sat. radio, speed control, fog lamps, priv. glass, roof rack w/crossbars & much more. Stock #81537

**39 Month Lease** **\$251\*** Per Mo. \$0 Cash due at signing

**2008 LINCOLN MKX**

3.5L V6 engine, auto trans, ultimate pkg. includes 18" chrome-clad alum wheels, adaptive headlamps, power liftgate, reverse sensing system, SYNC voice activated system, more. Stock #81530

**39 Month Lease** **\$433\*** Per Mo. \$0 Cash due at signing

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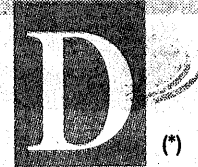
With the purchase or lease of a new vehicle, 1995 or newer, less than 100,000 miles. All prior sales excluded. Good through 3-31-08.

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\*Plus tax, title, license and plates. All applicable rebates included in price. MOUNTAINEER INCLUDES OWNER LOYALTY. All leases are 10,500 miles/yr. With approved credit. \*\*See Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury for complete details -A Plan Purchase and Leases. All offers subject to change due to early print deadlines. Sale ends 3-31-08. Security Deposit waived.



# New Homes



Sunday, March 30, 2008

The Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

## Young families, empty nesters will find Weith a winner

The Weith (405-52) is ideal for the young couple just married and looking for the starter home or for the empty nesters who wish to size down from the large family home to a smaller, more economical home. The Weith is 1,475 square feet, and is designed for a narrow lot.

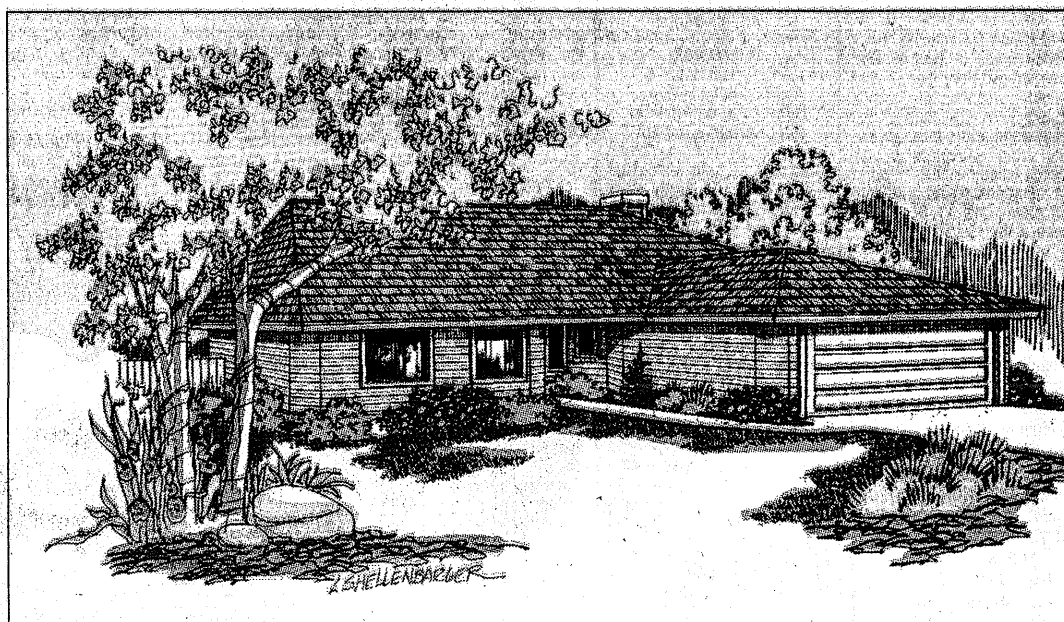
The Weith has a front two-car garage. All corners of this home have the "rounded" look, making it slightly different from than the traditional home. The entry is set back on the face of the home. Once you enter, there is a spacious appearance with all the open rooms available to the family.

A basement stairwell is located near the entry, for those who need the extra space.

The kitchen is to the right of the entry. The cabinets curve around the wall with a window over the sink that looks out past the porch to the front yard. The eating bar extends into the great room from the utility room, located in the front corner of the home. The utility room has a folding area, along with space for a freezer. It also has access to the garage.

This great room is very open and immense with a fireplace and numerous skylights. There are also four windows spaced along the back wall, allowing an abundance of sunlight to cheer this large room. Between the great room and the master suite is a garden room. It has been designed to house plants, grow herbs or plant starts, or house an enclosed spa, with direct access to the guest bath.

The master suite also has two windows and two skylights. The bath is divided in such a manner that the sink is located in the main suite area



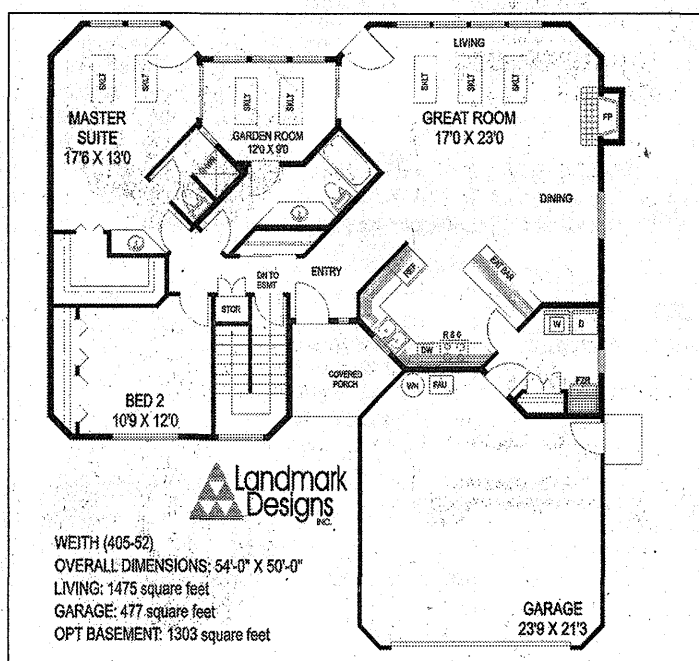
while the shower and toilet are in the bathroom area. The walk-in closet is very large and open.

The second bedroom has a long wall closet that has two sets of folding doors. The room is a good size with a large window facing the front of the home. The extra bath is across the hall with doors from the

garden room and the hall. There is a large storage closet in the hall for linen.

For a study plan of the WEITH (405-52), 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](http://www.ldiplans.com). Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (LOE48) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.



### BRIEFS

#### BIA

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and its NAHBR Professional Remodelers will present the ABCs of Remodeling for all interested homeowners. The event will take place at Doyle Center, 7275 Wing Lake Road in Bloomfield Hills on Tuesday, April 1, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and is free to everyone. The Center is located just west of Telegraph and north

off 14 Mile.

Homeowners will have an opportunity to speak directly with remodelers and to providers of related services. A panel of experts will discuss what homeowners need to know about major and minor remodeling for improvement projects such as kitchens and baths, home additions and insurance repairs. Also included will be information on energy efficiency, cost and financing and how to hire a

professional contractor.

The panel of experts includes Mark Renn of H.J. Oldenkamp, John Maloney of BOA Construction, Don Pratt of Wake-Pratt Construction, Patty Shea of Shea Company Construction, Tim Smith of Countrywide Bank, FSB, Mike Gordon, A.I.A., of Moiseev/Gordon Architects and Don Bourdeau of Al Bourdeau Insurance. Each expert is a member of BIA and its NAHBR Professional

Remodelers Council.

Exhibitors will be on hand to show their remodeling products and services, including Advance Plumbing & Heating Supply, Affordable Spaces/Four Seasons, Andersen Windows, Carnovale Associates, Closets Plus, Inc., Hinkson Construction Co., Michigan Shelf Distributors, Newmyer Remodeling and Shea Company Construction. The event is free to every-

one. For further information, call the Association, (248) 862-1008.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and Construction Association of Michigan (CAM) present The Southeast Michigan Residential & Commercial Construction Safety Training Workshop on Thursday, April 3, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Total Sports Complex, 30990 Wixom Road in Wixom.

The seminar will include how to deal with fall protection, trenching, rigging, masonry, aerial lift, fire protection, scaffolding, asbestos awareness and more.

After March 25, registration is payable at the door only and is \$90 per person. To register, call Joe Forgue at (248) 972-1141 or Sheila Denstaedt at (248) 862-1033. To register online, visit [www.cam-online.com](http://www.cam-online.com) or [www.builders.org](http://www.builders.org).

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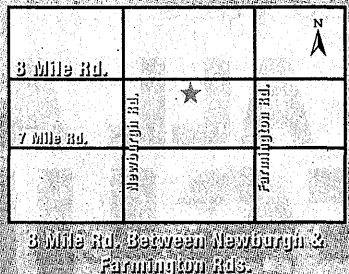
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