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Sports, B1

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PLYMOUTH Observer

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It's all about the kids

First Kidpalooza! promises to include variety of events

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Children ages 8-12 will participate in fun activities and collect treasures Saturday as nearly three dozen merchants hold the first Kidpalooza! throughout downtown Plymouth.

"No matter what corner you turn, there will be some kind of engaging entertainment for kids," promised Jessica Perlman, event organizer and owner of Creatopia Pottery on Ann Arbor Trail. "We want to provide an event that is fun for the kids as well as help parents discover the different places in Plymouth and what we have to offer."

Registration begins at 10 a.m. in Kellogg Park, where kids will receive a bucket and treasure maps to guide them to the various merchants and their activities, including a coloring quiz, sidewalk chalk art and a wheel of fortune.

"The kids complete a game or craft at the stores and then receive a ticket," said Perlman, 28. "The idea is to collect as many tickets as possible and redeem them afterward for prizes."

Sidewalk entertainers will feature a balloon twister, stilt walker and juggler and face painters, as well as student performers from the Plymouth Symphony.

Kids who stop at Creatopia will make Critter Tiles, using their thumb prints to paint an animal on a ceramic tile which they can take home or have glazed and fired for free. Jaime White, owner of Core Sports Pilates fitness studio in downtown Plymouth, will combine fun activities with family fitness in Kellogg Park.

"We'll have a potato sack race, Hula Hoop and jump rope contests for the older kids, and bubble blowing and bean bag toss for the little kids," said White, 30, of Plymouth Township. "These are games that parents remember doing when they were little, and they can teach them to their kids. You don't have to be in a gym to get exercise and have fun."

Kidpalooza! will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2172



Jessica Perlman holds one of the pails that each child will receive for raffle tickets and prizes.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Steak and ale

Township loses one eatery, another remains despite bankruptcy filings

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Longtime Steak and Ale customer Cheryl Rehfield of Westland is wondering what she's going to do with some \$200 in unused gift cards she'd normally give to customers of her Plymouth business, Select Air Systems.

Unfortunately for Rehfield, there's no one around to tell her. The restaurant, located for more than 25 years on Ann Arbor Road near I-275, closed its doors Tuesday.

"It's a shame," Rehfield said of the closing.

The closing came the same day it was announced restaurant chains Steak and Ale and Bennigan's filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection and would shut their doors.

The same fate will not befall the Plymouth Township Bennigan's, however, since it is a franchise owned and operated by LaBelle Management. LaBelle franchised the Plymouth eatery — one of 37 establishments it owns in Michigan and Indiana — from Metromedia Restaurant Group.

The two restaurant chains

filed for bankruptcy protection in the Eastern District of Texas. MRG, the parent company for both Steak and Ale and Bennigan's, is based in Plano, Texas.

In a Chapter 7 bankruptcy filing, a company seeks to liquidate its assets and shut down.

In the filing, the company indicated that it has up to 49 creditors. It said it will have no funds left after administrative expenses are paid to repay its creditors.

No one at the Plymouth Steak and Ale nor at MRG returned calls for comment.

Brad Hansen, CEO of LaBelle Management, said his group would keep all 14 Michigan Bennigan's locations — including the one in Plymouth Township — going strong.

"We are a strong, viable company that simply represents the Bennigan's brand in Michigan," Hansen said. "We have no intention of closing any of our locations statewide. We will continue to take care of our internal and external guests."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2153

Auditors have praise, concerns for township

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Officials at Plante & Moran talked in fairly glowing terms about the financial condition in which Plymouth Township found itself following the presentation of its 2007 audit.

It's in the succeeding years — perhaps as early as 2009 — auditors found cause for some concern.

Joe Heffernan, who has overseen the township's audit for years, warned trustees at their last meeting the township's property assessments in 2007 were "flat," with some neighborhoods actually decreasing as much as 1 percent.

Since property taxes make up about half the township's revenue, that trend, if continued, could have a detrimental effect on the township's budget, Heffernan said. "You need to be a little cautious when you do your 2009 budget," he told trustees. "You might want to be looking ahead to 2010."

Flattened assessments and a continuing

decline in state-shared revenue, as well as falling building department revenue and burgeoning salaries, mean the township could face hard economic times in the future, according to its treasurer.

Ron Edwards said the township will tax properties at the same rate as last year and, with a decline in real estate values, estimates an 8- to 10-percent drop.

"We're not going to see any growth," said Edwards, who estimated the loss of tax revenue next year could be as much as \$500,000. "This will have an effect on everything ... everything is going down right now because of the economy. Times are going to be tough next year."

The rest of the audit was complimentary. The township brought in a little more than \$14 million in revenues in 2007, with some \$6.3 million coming from the police/fire millage. Township expenses totaled some \$13.2 million, with \$8.8 million of that attributed to police and fire services. Some 50 percent of the township's total expenditures, according to figures contained in the

audit, come from salaries and wages.

Township officials added more than \$373,000 to its general fund balance, which at the end of fiscal 2007 stood at \$2.36 million. That figure is slightly below the targeted 20 percent of the township's \$14 million budget.

Heffernan also urged caution when talking about that figure, a fund frequently referred to as a "rainy day" fund, because before a small surge in 2007, it had shown a steady decline.

"You need to be cautious there," Heffernan said. "There were four years straight of decline in your fund balance."

Other than that, Heffernan said, his firm found "no issues," with the township's books. Plante & Moran audits a wide variety of municipalities, and Heffernan pointed out "about 80 percent of them have issues."

"It's not unusual for communities to have issues," he told trustees. "Not having issues is not something you're usually going to see. (But) basically there were no issues here."

City seeks warrant on alleged sign thief

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Police Chief Wayne Carroll said he's given a "warrant request information packet" to city attorney Bob Marzano in the case of a stolen campaign sign.

While Carroll declined to identify the suspect, the *Observer* reported July 17

that 21-year-old Ryan Xuereb of Northville Township, the stepson of 35th District Court judge candidate Martha Snow, admitted to his parents he stole and destroyed a campaign lawn sign belonging to one of her five competitors, Jim Plakas.

The case would normally be handled by city prosecutor Cam Miller. However,

since Miller is also a judicial candidate, Carroll turned the case over to Marzano "who is independent from anybody involved with the incident."

Marzano is expected to decide soon if a warrant should be sought against Xuereb.

Meanwhile, 35th District Court records also indicate

Xuereb is expected to attend a civil infraction hearing today (Thursday) in connection with a June 24 accident in Plymouth Township. Xuereb was ticketed with failure to stop causing an accident, which is a civil infraction.

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Longtime Steak and Ale customer Cheryl Rehfield of Westland holds \$200 in unused Steak and Ale gift cards that she gives to clients of her business, Select Air Systems, of Plymouth.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hopefuls pouring cash into court election

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Some of the 35th District Court judge candidates in the Aug. 5 primary had predicted at the start of the race campaign spending would reach \$100,000 for the six-year seat on the bench.

In campaign finance reports required by the Michigan Secretary of State, as of July 20 half of the six candidates were well on their way to reaching the unofficial spending goal they expect will lead

them to one of the two top finishes in the primary.

According to Secretary of State records, Joe Barone of Plymouth Township had spent the most. Barone reported spending \$61,101 through July 20, with another \$2,734 left in campaign funds.

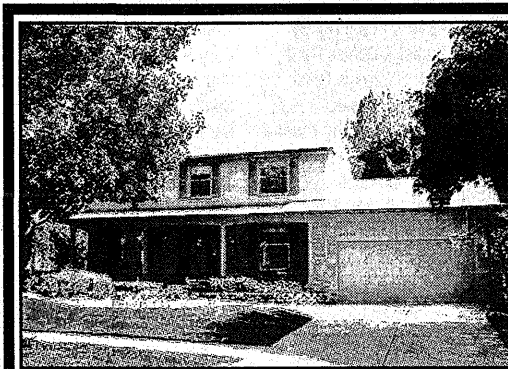
Martha Snow of Northville Township spent \$60,527, leaving her with \$14,521 in available funds. Jim Plakas of Northville Township - who spent \$98,000 trying to win

Please see **ELECTION, A3**

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USA WEEKLY

Jack Black
I want to make sure my kids can't PROUD of this

Coming Sunday:
Comedian Jack-Black:
'I want to make sure my kids can be proud of me.'

"Around Plymouth" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Veterans benefits

Officials at Plymouth Park Apartments are inviting the public to attend an informational presentation on the Wartime Veterans Benefit, Aid and Attendance, by Sean Sturgeon of the Detroit

Veterans Affairs Regional office.

The presentation takes place Friday, Aug. 1, with a complimentary lunch at noon and the program at 1 p.m. Plymouth Park Apartments are located at 107 N. Haggerty in Plymouth.

To make the required RSVP for lunch, or for more information, call (734) 459-3891.

Band car wash

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band host-

ing its annual "PCMB Car Washathon" 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9 at the Plymouth High School parking lot on Beck Road south of Joy in Canton.

The car wash is free. Money is raised through pledges gathered by approximately 200 band members.

Individual band members of the not-for-profit organization are accepting between one-half cent to two cents for every car washed or a donation prior to the

day's activities. The band expects to wash about 1,000 vehicles. Donations are tax deductible.

The award-winning high school band is comprised of students at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park in Canton, Mich. This is the first year the car wash will be hosted at Plymouth High School.

Literary arts class

Literary Arts Class For Children - Embark On A Creative Writing Journey Poet and photographer Cheryl A. Vatcher-Martin of Canton offers a Literary Arts Class for Children noon to 1 p.m., Aug. 4-7, at the Tinkham Center off Venoy Road in Westland.

The class is designed to live up your story telling skills by writing in your journal, learn about new ways to describe things so that all of your stories and haiku will be cool to write and fun to share with others.

Call (734) 419-2426 to register. Anyone wishing to speak first to Martin can e-mail her at peroinc5@comcast.net or call (734) 397-1626.

Fife & drum event

The Plymouth Fife & Drum Corps is preparing for its 2008 summer tour. As part of tour preparation, the Corps will be showing off their concert moves with a pre-tour concert in the park Thursday, July 31.

The 2008 PFDC will perform a pre-tour concert at 7:30 p.m. at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth, just prior to the Plymouth Community Band. The PFDC concert is free and open to the public.

Preceding the concert, the Plymouth Fife & Drum Corps will host a picnic for current and alumni PFDC members and families. It will be held at 5 p.m. at Jaycee Park, located at the northeast corner of Joy and Harding, near downtown Plymouth. For those PFDC families planning to attend, please bring lawn chairs, beverages, a dish to pass (A-L salads/appetizers, M-Z desserts). The Corps will provide hamburgers and hot dogs with condiments.

Please let Debbie Johnson know how many from your family will be attending the picnic. She can be reached at

(734) 718-2184 or adlk1@comcast.net

Citizen police academy

The Plymouth Township Police Department hosts its seventh Citizens Police Academy beginning Sept. 10. The 11-week program offers residents and businesses a first-hand look into the law enforcement operations of the Plymouth Township Police Department.

Participants meet 7-10 p.m. each Wednesday at Plymouth Township hall. There is no charge for the program; however, application and acceptance to the program are required. Students must be 18 years old to participate.

Deadline for applications is Aug. 17, and class size is limited.

Applications can be obtained at the Plymouth Township Police Department, 9955 Haggerty, or by calling (734) 354-3232. Application forms may also be downloaded from the Plymouth Township Web site at www.plymouth-twp.org under the heading "Forms." For more information on the program, contact Officer Jamie Senkbeil at (734) 354-3243.

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CORRECTION
Information accompanying a photo promoting Barefoot Productions' presentation of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, scheduled Aug. 7-10 and 14-17 at the old Walker-Buzenberg building (240 N. Main), should have said tickets are available by calling (734) 582-9688.

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Former Pfizer building gets a new tenant

A former Pfizer Inc. laboratory in Plymouth Township will become the Michigan Life Science and Innovation Center under a plan announced Wednesday from the Michigan Economic Development Corp., Ann Arbor Spark and the Greater Wayne Economic Development Corp.

The aim of the center is to connect well-funded, experienced entrepreneurs with business accelerator organizations and start-up companies.

The proposed center is a 57,518-square-foot building that offers office space, laboratory facilities and vivarium areas. The MEDC, Ann Arbor Spark and the Greater Wayne group have contributed a combined \$3.5 million to purchase the building from Pfizer.

The actual purchase would be made by a to-be-formed non-profit who would also operate the facility.

The building is located at 46701 Commerce Center Drive.

IN BUSINESS

It was acquired by Pfizer to house Esperion Therapeutics Inc. after Pfizer's 2003 purchase of Esperion. It was left vacant after Pfizer decided last year to stop all research efforts in the Ann Arbor area.

"The state of Michigan and its partners strongly support the development of our life sciences industry," said James Epolito, MEDC president and CEO.

"The collaboration propelling the Life Science and Innovation Center will ensure its long-term success and present an exciting opportunity for life sciences businesses throughout southeast Michigan."

The center's plan calls for the funding of ongoing operational costs through a combination of public, private and foundation support.

Business acceleration services offered at the Life Science and Innovation Center

will include peer-to-peer mentoring that will connect experienced entrepreneurs with start-up ventures. Several tenants have committed to occupying the Center with announcements to be made at a future date. Additional business acceleration services offered will include access to wet lab and research space, funding support and other critical services.

"The Life Science and Innovation Center fills a need for entrepreneurial support and incubator space in southeast Michigan," explained Roger Newton, founder, president and CEO of newly restarted Esperion Therapeutics, Inc. "It's exciting that this initiative will connect entrepreneurs and established business owners; entrepreneurial experience can benefit start-up companies throughout their formation and growth."

Ann Arbor Spark and Greater Wayne EDC have worked closely to bring

together the resources needed to support the acquisition and ongoing operation of the Life Science and Innovation Center.

"The Life Science and Innovation Center represents the region's next step in diversifying our life sciences economy beyond Pfizer," said Michael A. Finney, Spark president. "Ann Arbor Spark and our partners in this effort are committed to attracting and retaining high-value knowledge workers and leading-edge life science companies."

a seat on the bench two years ago - had spent \$46,616 through the reporting period, but had the largest remaining balance of \$24,453.

Cam Miller of Plymouth reported spending \$15,865; Art Butler of Plymouth Township \$2,667; and Jim Malinowski of Canton Township \$1,881.

The two candidates with the highest number of votes will face off in the November general election for a chance to succeed Judge John MacDonald, who is retiring at

the end of the year.

Meanwhile, in the race for the 20th House District, state Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, reported spending \$38,289 of his \$134,710 war chest.

Republican Jerry Vorva of Plymouth had \$10,800 in his coffers, which included a \$5,000 donation from the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, which is supporting Vorva; a \$500 contribution from the Michigan Association of Insurance Agents and a \$5,000 loan to himself. Vorva has thus far spent \$2,896.

Corriveau and Vorva do not have competition in the primary race and are gearing up for the November election.

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13 candidates vie for county treasurer

Nine candidates have filed to run against incumbent Wayne County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz in the Aug. 5 Democratic primary. Two Republicans are seeking the GOP nomination. The county treasurer serves a four-year term. The position pays \$128,768 a year.

All candidates were asked to respond to an online questionnaire by Gannett Newspapers in Michigan for our online

voter guide. Three Democrats, Wojtowicz, County Commissioner Philip Cavanagh and Beverly Kindle-Walker and two Republicans, former county auditor Brenden Dunleavy and Timberly Robinson responded.

Kevin Kelly of Grosse Ile, Thomas Marciniak of Plymouth, Robert John Nozicka of Dearborn, Brian O'Donnell of Dearborn, Catherine O'Meara of Grosse Pointe Farms, Sigmunt John

Szczepkowski of Riverview, Keith Windham of Detroit, and Linda Kay Zebrowsk of Garden City did not respond to the questionnaire.

These are the responses of the Democratic candidates to the questionnaire. The responses of the Republican candidates will run on Sunday.

For responses in this and other contests, go to the Voter Guide at www.hometownlife.com.

WOJTOWICZ CITES LONG SERVICE

What makes you the most qualified to hold this position?

My experience. Navigating in these unprecedented economic times requires knowledge and experience to collect delinquent taxes but also the sensitivity to respond to the needs of the many families just trying to survive each day. This year, my office has completed a record borrowing for delinquent taxes, nearly \$300 million at below market rates, savings



Wojtowicz

millions for the County. I have guided the County's investment activities, never losing a dime nor missing a payment. We have the most extensive and most effective Community Outreach Program in the State, with demonstrated results. More than 3000 people have been helped by our Taxpayer Assistance Department this year. We do not auction occupied properties. Hardship applications have more than doubled versus last year to over 1300. More than 2700 properties have been saved by accepting payments after the March 31 statutory deadline. I have faced change and challenges with honesty, integrity and genuine concern for my constituents. I will continue to use my experience to deliver for Wayne County taxpayers.

What are the two most important issues facing the treasurer's office, and how would you address them?

1. Keeping families in their homes. It is a multi-faceted and complex issue. The extended adverse economic climate has had a severe impact on a family's ability to pay taxes. For this reason, Phase 1 of

RAYMOND WOJTOWICZ

Party: Democrat
Age: 79
Marital Status: Married
Family: 5 children, 9 grandchildren
City/Town: Lifelong resident of the City of Hamtramck
Education/Degrees: Graduate of St. Ladislaus High School Great Lakes College, Diplomate Medical Radiographer
Occupation: Wayne County Treasurer
Experience: I have had the honor of serving as the Wayne County Treasurer since August 1976.

"Operation Normandy" was launched in February 2008 to enlist the support of more than 20 community organizations to provide a wide range of services to help the citizens of Wayne County. As a result of the innovative and creative approaches taken by my office, we are recognized as setting the standard in educating and helping families stay in their homes.

2. Safeguarding County funds in the current challenging market. My office invests all County funds in such a way as to judiciously protect the safety and security of those funds, while meeting liquidity requirements and maximizing yield. We constantly monitor key financial data, using only those institutions with acceptable levels of estimated risk.

Just a few, quick, personal trivia questions: What was the last book you read?

The Century by Peter Jennings and Todd Brewster.
 What is the best movie you've seen in the last 12 months?
The Sound of Music.

CAVANAGH SAYS FORECLOSURES TOP ISSUE

What makes you the most qualified to hold this position?

I have served as a Wayne County Commissioner for the last eight years, overseeing the budget and trying to get a handle on how many properties have gone through the tax foreclosure auction process. The commissioners are told there are 9000 vacant parcels sitting idle but the treasurer's office has never disclosed

the annual proceeds or the accumulative total from auctioning off our county's assets. I am not sure they know how much money they are holding. I have an MBA and a law degree, both would prove invaluable with the continuous avalanche of litigation plaguing the treasurer's office from improper procedures. I have also studied at Harvard University and learned nationally acclaimed programs to fight foreclosure and blight from other county treasurers. I have the energy and ambition to bring proven best practices from around our state and

country to turn the tide on the escalating problems facing our neighborhoods.

What are the two most important issues facing the treasurer's office and how would you address them?

1. Foreclosures, home and business - most counties in our state have NEVER taken an occupied home or business. The treasurer does so as a matter of procedure. It takes hard work and compassion to put the effort into helping someone stay in their home not just referring them to a non-profit that does the heavy lifting. We need people to stay in their homes to stabilize our communities.

2. Stabilizing property values and reducing blight by maintaining or rehabbing the 9000 County Treasurer owned properties. This will create JOBS! The treasurer's office has reserved all the auction proceeds for pending litigation. We need procedures in place so we are not wrongfully taking someone's property and being sued. Therefore the proceeds can be used to develop and reconstruct our neighborhoods.

Tax Delinquencies! 201,000 of 857,000 residential taxpayers are currently

PHILIP CAVANAGH

Party: Democrat
Age: 46

Marital Status: Married to Lily Cavanagh
Family: Three daughters. Veronica and Erin (17), twins, just graduated from Thurston High School, attending U of M in the fall and Mary (16), senior at Thurston High School and three stepchildren: Alex, 28; Stacey, 26; and Raymond, 21
City/Town: Redford Township
Education/Degrees: Milford High School, class of 1979 BS and BA from Aquinas College (1983) in Accounting and Business Administration; Juris Doctorate and MBA (1998) from the University of Detroit Mercy; Harvard JFK School of Government: Senior Executive in State and Local Government Program (2005). Michigan Political Leadership Program. Fellow at MSU (1998)
Occupation: Wayne County Commissioner, 9th District Attorney and Counselor at Law (part time) Business Consultant (part time)
Experience: County Commission - Vice chair of Ways and Means Committee, also served or am serving on Economic Development, Public Safety Judiciary and Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, Government Operations and Mental Health Taskforce Committee. Attended Harvard JFK School with Dan Kildee, Genesee County Treasurer, and learned best practices for national model of land banks. Balanced budgets and eliminated deficits as treasurer of the Detroit-Wayne County Mental Health Board and Health Choice.

delinquent on their taxes. The County government cannot own a quarter of the County. Residents are fleeing Wayne County. We have to stop this trend before the 2010 federal census.

Just a few, quick, personal trivia questions: What was the last book you read?

The Secret by Rhonda Burne
 What is the best movie you've seen in the last 12 months?

No Country for Old Men by the Cohen Brothers (2007).

KINDLE-WALKER WANTS TO PROTECT VULNERABLE

What makes you the most qualified to hold this position?

The qualifications for the office of Wayne County Treasurer is to be at least 18 years old, a registered voter in Wayne County and receive the most votes. I have a record of service which is unmatched by any other in this race. I believe that I am the best candidate because I have made it my chief concern, since 1996, to determine how the Wayne County Treasurer could better serve its citizens. I have consistently challenged the status quo. When Public Act 123 (which accelerated to tax reversion process) went



Kindle-Walker

into effect in 2000 I began to alert people to the potential problem. The Treasurer was too slow in responding. Thus we experienced this crisis which started to escalate in 2004. We need a visionary with compassion in this office. Over 71,000 people have voted Beverly Kindle-Walker for Wayne County Treasurer in the last three elections.

What are the two most important issues facing the office you are

running for, and how would you address them?

A: Responding to the crisis of tax-reverted foreclosed homes is a great concern. The Treasurer has the discretion to withhold any property from foreclosure. I would enter into special payment arrangements with those most vulnerable citizens. As the keeper of all County funds I would make certain that millages are used as the voters intended. I would protect retiree pensions from the likes of Bear Stearns investments and MCA/RIMCO type investors and speculators.

Just a few, quick, personal trivia questions: What was the last book you read?

Currently reading *Raised from the Dead* by former TV anchor Frank Turner (sharing the book with my husband). The last book that I read is *Bishop C. H. Mason and the Roots of the Church of God in Christ* by Bishop Ithiel Clemmons.

What is the best movie you've seen in the last 12 months?

The Great Debaters with Denzel Washington. My all-time favorites are *Beaches* with Bette Midler and *Eddie* with Whoopi Goldberg.

BEVERLY KINDLE-WALKER

Party: Democrat
Age: 54

Marital Status: married
Family: one adult son
City/Town: Detroit
Education/Degrees: Associate's degree, General Studies, Wayne County Community College District Transfer Student, B.A. Community Development-Public Administration, Central Michigan
Occupation: Legislative assistant to Wayne County Commissioner Tim Killeen, 1st District (currently on unpaid leave)
Experience: I have over 20 years of administrative and managerial experience in public and private sector employment.

Hospital seeking volunteers

The volunteer services department of the new Providence Park Hospital in Novi is beginning its first volunteer recruitment campaign. The hospital is scheduled to open Sept. 5 and expects to recruit some 400 new volunteers within the first year.

Kathy Zaguroli, manager of volunteer services, said, "Hospital volunteers not only make a difference in people's lives, but at the same time they experience a sense camaraderie amongst their peers, and a sense of fulfillment in giving back to the community."

Volunteers are needed for responsibilities in the Emergency Center, surgical lounge, pediatric department, gift shop, and visitor services, as well as duties in the areas of spiritual care, transporter, clerical, patient greeter.

The hospital is looking for adults 18 and older to work a minimum of one, four-hour shift per week.

Interested persons may request a volunteer application packet by calling (248) 465-4096 or e-mailing volunteerservice@stjohn.org.

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OUR VIEWS

Dress code push not a rights violation

Administrators and educators spent the last few weeks using summer school students to tune up enforcement of Plymouth-Canton's dress code, following plans hatched during months of committee discussions among administrators, teachers, students and parents.

We think it was time well spent. The district has decided, after its dress policy committee started studying the issue as far back as October, to increase enforcement of the code. For the second straight year — last year, it was cell phones — officials decided to begin the enforcement in summer school, giving them those few weeks to tweak and teach, to let students and parents alike know what was coming, and gauge reaction to it.

District officials maintain the policy itself isn't changing — indeed, they say the policy has been pretty much the same for 15 years — but that a stronger enforcement has become necessary.

The targets are items the district deems distracting — plunging necklines, sagging pants that reveal undergarments, clothing that glorifies drugs, alcohol or sex. Also on the radar are potential safety items or possible weapons, such as large belt buckles, and colored contact lenses, which educators say can mask the fact the wearer could be high or inebriated.

We agree such things can be a distraction, but if you don't want to listen to us or to administrators, listen to the students themselves, who said so in an anonymous survey taken as part of the committee's discussions.

Of course there are also students calling this new enforcement push a violation of their freedom of expression. Kids, they say, use dress as a means of expressing themselves. We agree with that part, and that's all fine and good, in the right circumstance and venue.

But a classroom is not the right venue. Students are there to learn, and those who push the envelope on things like the dress code do a disservice to those they would deter. It's a matter of respect, for self and others, a lesson best learned young, because it's one students will need as they move on to the more heavily regulated world of the adult work force.

Conspiracy theorists would have you believe such a move on the district's part is a first step toward a uniform policy, but there's no indication anyone in the district wants that, and we don't think it should.

What district officials want is a more uniform enforcement of an existing policy. Such enforcement removes any gray areas; students now know what constitutes a violation and what the resulting penalty will be. It gives the policy, and the district, a much more regimented code.

Schools have never been intended as bastions of democracy. There are certain rules to be followed. It can only benefit students to make those rules — and their resultant consequences — clear.

We support no-reason absentee voting

Every Election Day, there are countless people who plan to vote, but don't make it to the polls for one reason or another.

These well-intentioned citizens want to participate in our democratic system, but the logistics of life prevent them from doing so.

Perhaps they have to work a long shift or stay late at the office to finish up a project. Maybe they commute a long distance to work and have to leave before 7 a.m. and don't get home until 8 p.m.

Maybe they have young children or an elderly family member to care for at home and can't get anyone to relieve them. Or perhaps they have to rush home after work to fix dinner for the family and then rush out the door again to drive a child to soccer practice or attend a child's recital.

Whatever the reason, it's no reason not to vote. That's why we support no-reason absentee voting in Michigan.

Currently, the only people in Michigan eligible to vote by absentee ballot are those who are 60 years old and older, incarcerated, have religious reasons for not voting on election day, plan to be out of town, or need assistance voting.

Earlier this month, state Sens. Liz Brater, D-Ann Arbor, and Gilda Z. Jacobs, D-Huntington Woods, announced a "No Excuses Voting Initiative" that supports the passage of Senate Bill 12, which would allow voters to vote by absentee ballot for any reason.

We support the passage of S.B. 12 as well. Any change in law that would give more people the chance to participate in democracy gets a yes vote from us.



Barone is best

I believe Joe Barone is the best candidate for judge.

When my family needed expert legal advice, Joe displayed his honesty, integrity and willingness to work above and beyond what was needed to make sure we understood how the law is interpreted. He is active and committed to making this a community one that we can be proud to live and work in. He is no stranger in the courtroom and is fair and just.

Please vote for Joe Barone, 35th District Court judge. He is experienced, involved and the best candidate for the job.

Faith Demorest
Canton

Supporting Bridgman

I am a new resident in Plymouth Township. Since I am a senior citizen I qualify to receive an absentee ballot.

I am going abroad in the fall and my passport was nearing expiration. I also wanted to see the new township hall. I made the trip one afternoon to the clerk's office. I was greeted by Joe Bridgman, current deputy clerk.

He courteously and efficiently issued me a ballot and helped me prepare the needed information for a new passport. Before leaving, he also gave me a township calendar and a map.

I feel blessed to live in a community that takes such good care of its citizens. I will do everything I can to see that Joe Bridgman progresses from deputy clerk to clerk. He cares about people and their needs.

Richard Kenneth Clark
Plymouth Township

Miller for judge

In the August primary we will be given the opportunity to vote for a new judge who will serve the Plymouth, Canton and Northville communities. Of the six candidates in this race, Cam Miller is far and away the most qualified to become the next judge of the 35th District Court. Here are just a few of the reasons we are encouraging you to vote for Cam:

■ Experience. As a civil attorney, defense attorney and prosecuting attorney for the City of Plymouth, Cam has appeared in more than 2,600 cases in the 35th District Court over the past 11 years. This is 10 times more than all of the other candidates combined. This experience in our local court gives Cam knowledge and insight into our court unmatched by any other candidate. As a judge, he will treat everyone with respect and dignity. He'll be fair and impartial with all, but tough when he needs to be.

■ Community service. There is no greater measure of one's commitment to the community than their volunteer record. Cam's service to our community is second to none. He's been a Rotarian

LETTERS

for close to 20 years and is currently chairman of the Fall Festival Chicken BBQ. He's worked with the Plymouth Goodfellows for more than 30 years, is a past president of the Plymouth-Canton Jaycees and continues to volunteer for the Salvation Army.

■ Strong family man with lifelong ties to our community. Cam and his wife, Barb, raised their daughters, Courtney and Jillian, in the same house where Cam's parents raised him. He has been actively involved in all aspects of their lives. From figure skating to cheerleading to lacrosse, Cam supported their activities by serving on boards, fundraising and, of course, showing up for events.

■ Track record. As prosecuting attorney for the City of Plymouth, Cam worked diligently with local police to help crack down on drunk drivers and the bars/restaurants that served them. He's also been a leader in seeing the punishment suits the crime.

Each district court is as unique as the community it serves, and experience within the court and the community is of the utmost importance. Cam Miller will be the kind of judge we want to protect our families. Please vote Aug. 5 for Cam Miller.

Elaine Kirchgatter
Canton Township treasurer

Kay Arnold
Plymouth Township trustee

Tonya Lowe
Canton resident

Judge Lita Popke
Canton resident

Marilyn Massengill
Plymouth Township clerk

Jeanine Lowe
Canton resident

Rainy Kirchoff
Plymouth resident

Pat Pulkownik
Plymouth Township resident

Margie Banner
Northville Township trustee

Michelle Kelly
Former Northville prosecutor

Ellen Elliott
Plymouth resident

cate for children by Attorney General Mike Cox and she has done a tremendous job in achieving great results.

Smart, intelligent, articulate, Martha will work hard to respect our values in this community. Martha respects the right of all individuals and her conservative judicial philosophy has earned her the respect and support of many judges. She is also the ONLY candidate supported by the Right to Life of Michigan. Her philosophy and ideas that judges should interpret the law and not make the law is a breath of fresh air. She believes strongly that life is a gift and should be protected.

Martha has been endorsed by elected officials from both sides of the aisle. She is dedicated, a hard worker and has served on many service club functions and volunteer boards of non-profit organizations. She works hard for all of us, and I feel that it is a time to continue the tradition of electing distinguished jurists in the 35th District Court by elevating her to the bench.

Also, the 35th District Court has never had a female judge serve. I think it is about time that this happens, and Martha Snow would be the best first female judge to serve with distinction.

Please join me in voting for and electing Martha Snow as our next judge of the 35th District Court.

Abe A Munfakh
former Plymouth Township trustee

Chamber too political

The Plymouth Chamber of Commerce must be a "political group" since it hosted a political forum 12 days before the Aug. 5 primary election.

Why is the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce engaging in these political activities?

Kurt Heise, a key supporter of Carl F. Berry, and officer of the 11th Congressional Republicans, was one of the persons who read the questions at the chamber's forum.

I want to commend the League of Women Voters for their non-partisan forum on June 25.

Don Hessel
Plymouth Township

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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QUOTABLE

"You get kids who try to test the policy ... The majority of our students understand why we need to increase our enforcement. For the most part, the kids have been cooperative."

— Pat Fitzpatrick, Salem High School interim principal, on the school district's decision to more stridently enforce the dress code

PLYMOUTH
Observer

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Vote for Malinowski

From a daughter's perspective, a bit of insight into a man who is finding himself in the middle of a not-so-nice local political scene as he is now a candidate for 35th District Court judge. He is not just another politician, he is our dad, James Malinowski.

For years, our dad had a small neighborhood office a few blocks from the house we grew up in. It was a family affair as our mother (Sue) was his secretary and we both worked in the office during our summers off. All that came to an abrupt end near the beginning of 1989 when our mother suffered a brain aneurysm and was hospitalized for four months.

It was a turning point in all our lives as she was left with a condition known as aphasia which severely impaired her communication skills such as speaking, reading and writing. She was also left with a seizure disorder which could only be controlled by medication and after much study and research, dad could probably be considered somewhat of a seizure "expert."

When our mother became ill, our father became — in essence — a single parent. Dad became more important to us than ever. Growing up, he had always been a great father, providing for us, stressing schoolwork and our love of sports while instilling good values such as respect for God and family as well as community and the law.

In the years since, while being the sole caretaker for our mother, as well as full-time parent, he maintained his thriving local law practice. His clients often inquired how our mother was doing, and what her progress and prognosis was. Several years ago, our mother started to lose control over her motor skills and began falling and breaking bones. After a broken leg, her condition started to degrade and she lost the use of her legs. Again, dad took the lead, being determined to help his wife walk again — researched and went for opinion after opinion. And after an unsuccessful surgery, dad set out to make the necessary adjustments to living with mom in a wheelchair.

This year, after more health scares in our family, and the passing of his mother, dad decided to make his bid for judge. We wondered how he would do it. We have asked him why he wanted to be a judge. "I've always felt privileged that I get the opportunity to help people every day. I love what I do, I love my family, my work and the law. Being a judge will allow me to expand my knowledge and continue on with what I started 35 years ago when I decided this is what I wanted for my life and my family."

James Malinowski is our father. He is a husband, a health care provider, a sportsman, a lover of the law, and a reluctant politician. He is striving to do his best for himself, his family, his friends and the community around him. As his daughters, of course we are biased, but we can confi-

dently say he is NOT just another candidate.

Andrea and Janelle Malinowski
Canton

'No' on Berry

Recently, I opened my absentee ballot for the Aug. 5 primary. I was very surprised to see the name of Carl Berry on the Republican slate for Plymouth Township trustee.

Considering all the trouble Mr. Berry has brought to our community, he has a lot of nerve to ask for the public trust by running for office. I am also amazed that he has the nerve to show his face in public!

The following are Carl Berry's "claimed qualifications" for public office:

"Public Service." While serving as chief of police for Plymouth Township, Mr. Berry was known for his politicization of the office and a lack of professional conduct. Remember, the stray dog incident in the trailer park?

"Involvement in Community." Mr. Berry seems to be "puffing" his resume when it comes to this subject. His main "involvement in the community" has been of a "political" nature. Mr. Berry was the "front man" in the dirty politics campaign during the primary election of 2006. Carl Berry instigated calls to the IRS, to his friend, Mike Cox, the attorney general, and the local newspapers asking them to "investigate" the Plymouth Historical Museum.

Such dirty, negative political activities do not provide any reasonable trust that is essential for any elected official. Every township employee should be concerned that the possibility exists that Carl Berry might come after their job for political purposes.

"Integrity, Trust, Commitment." Mr. Berry was front-page news when he became a principal in a Harley-Davidson dealership some years ago. Then, he stepped aside following a lawsuit against local developer, Robert DeMattia.

The pattern continued when Carl Berry resigned from his position on the Plymouth-Canton School Board before his term expired. Why is Berry running for township trustee if he lacks sound principles such as commitment and integrity?

Mr. Berry is not interested in serving our community. He only is interested in furthering his own political agenda.

On Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2008, vote for Michael Kelly, Bob Doroshewitz, Kay Arnold and Steve Mann for Plymouth Township trustees.

Don Bain
Plymouth Township

Miller for judge

I've known Cam Miller for over 20 years, and I know him to be a good and fair man.

He's been the Plymouth prosecutor for eight years, has made over 2,600 court appearances in the 35th District Court,

and has still found time to give back to our community by being actively involved in the Rotary, the Goodfellows, the Jaycees and his church.

Until campaign time, I never even see most of the other judicial candidates in our community. I'm voting for experience and commitment to our community. I'm voting for Cam Miller for judge.

Chuck Lowe
Canton

Firefighters respond

Plymouth Township trustee Bob Doroshewitz recently wrote a letter about the firefighters contract arbitration, the second time an elected official has reported a distorted version of the arbitrators ruling for personal political gain.

Attempts have been made to intimidate and discredit the firefighters by township officials up for re-election, just because we exercised our American right to participate in the democratic process and support a non-incumbent. The firefighters are not up for re-election, we have no reason to inform the citizens of anything but the simple facts. We have nothing to hide.

Mr. Doroshewitz refers to the year 2007 in his letter, but what he did not tell you is that in 2007 the fire department staffing was seven firefighters short. Seventy percent of the time one or two firefighter had to volunteer to work overtime just to keep all three stations open. To date, the fire department is short two firefighters, a chief, and a training officer. There are no plans to replace them anytime soon.

Trustee Doroshewitz named four of the fire department officers and listed their alleged wages. He did some political voodoo math and the wage amounts he listed are approximately \$12,000 higher than the officers W-2 forms reflect. So let's put these wages in perspective and look at some simple numbers that we can understand.

A township hall employee who works five days a week works 1,950 hours per year, less the days the township is closed. A firefighter works 2,912 hours per year before any overtime is added in. The fire officers that Mr. Doroshewitz named in his letter were forced to work a large amount of overtime just to keep all three stations open.

These officers were also mandated by the Township to attend a staff and command school at Eastern Michigan University. This course was 11 months long and 23 credit hours. Mr. Doroshewitz listed Captain Jury as the highest paid firefighter. In 2007 Captain Jury worked 3,600 hours (now remember that a township hall employee works 1950 hours per year). Lieutenant Mann, Lieutenant Gross, and Captain Russo's hours were slightly less than Captain Jury's.

The fire department is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Firefighters are away from their families on Christmas,

Thanksgiving, etc. We miss our children's birthdays and sporting events. Mr. Doroshewitz should thank these firefighters for their dedication to keep stations open and the community safe, not bash them in the newspaper.

If you compare pay-per-hour it looks approximately like this: A firefighter makes \$22 per hour. A secretary makes \$19 per hour. The township supervisor and clerk make \$45 per hour. Bob Doroshewitz, a trustee, makes \$11,400 per year and spends roughly 72 hours in board meetings, which works out to \$158 per hour. Now who should be ranked as the top paid in the township?

The Township Board keeps bringing up sick time and they do their political voodoo math. Again they come up with a number and say look at this eye-popping amount of sick time the firefighters want. The truth is, it's not eye-popping at all. Every department in the township gets 12 sick days a year except the fire department. We get six sick days per year. All we asked for in arbitration is one sick day per month, the same as every other township employee.

Pete Bukis
representing Plymouth Fire Dept. Command Officers

Vote for Bridgman

Joe Bridgman has the experience. He's been in the Plymouth Township clerk's office as deputy clerk for the past five-plus years.

Joe is the only candidate with the education, knowledge and experience for a smooth transition into the clerk's position. Joe has experience in the election process. Joe has proven ability to perform the work needed to be the Plymouth Township clerk.

Joe will be a conscientious, dedicated, hard-working public servant.

Sonia Mayer
Plymouth Township

Supporting Reaume

Strong communities need strong leadership. Plymouth Township has an enviable reputation not only in the state of Michigan, but also in the United States.

We are all aware of the great publicity that Plymouth Township has attracted. This doesn't happen by accident. Strong leadership plays an integral part in a community's success.

That is why I am supporting and encouraging your votes for Richard Reaume for re-election to township supervisor. I have known and interacted with Richard for the past four years. I have seen the hard work and hours that he has committed to our community. His dedication and passion for Plymouth Township's success are ever-present in all he does.

Please help keep our community one of the best in the nation.

Patrick O'Neill
Plymouth Township

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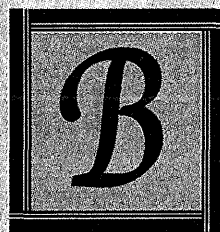
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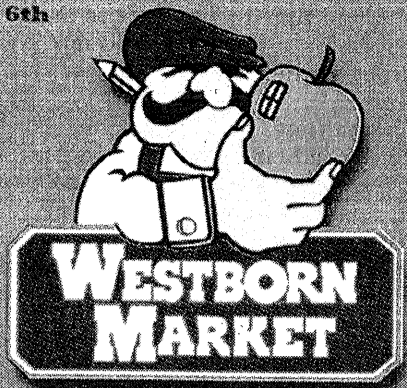
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Offers good from July 31st-Aug 6th

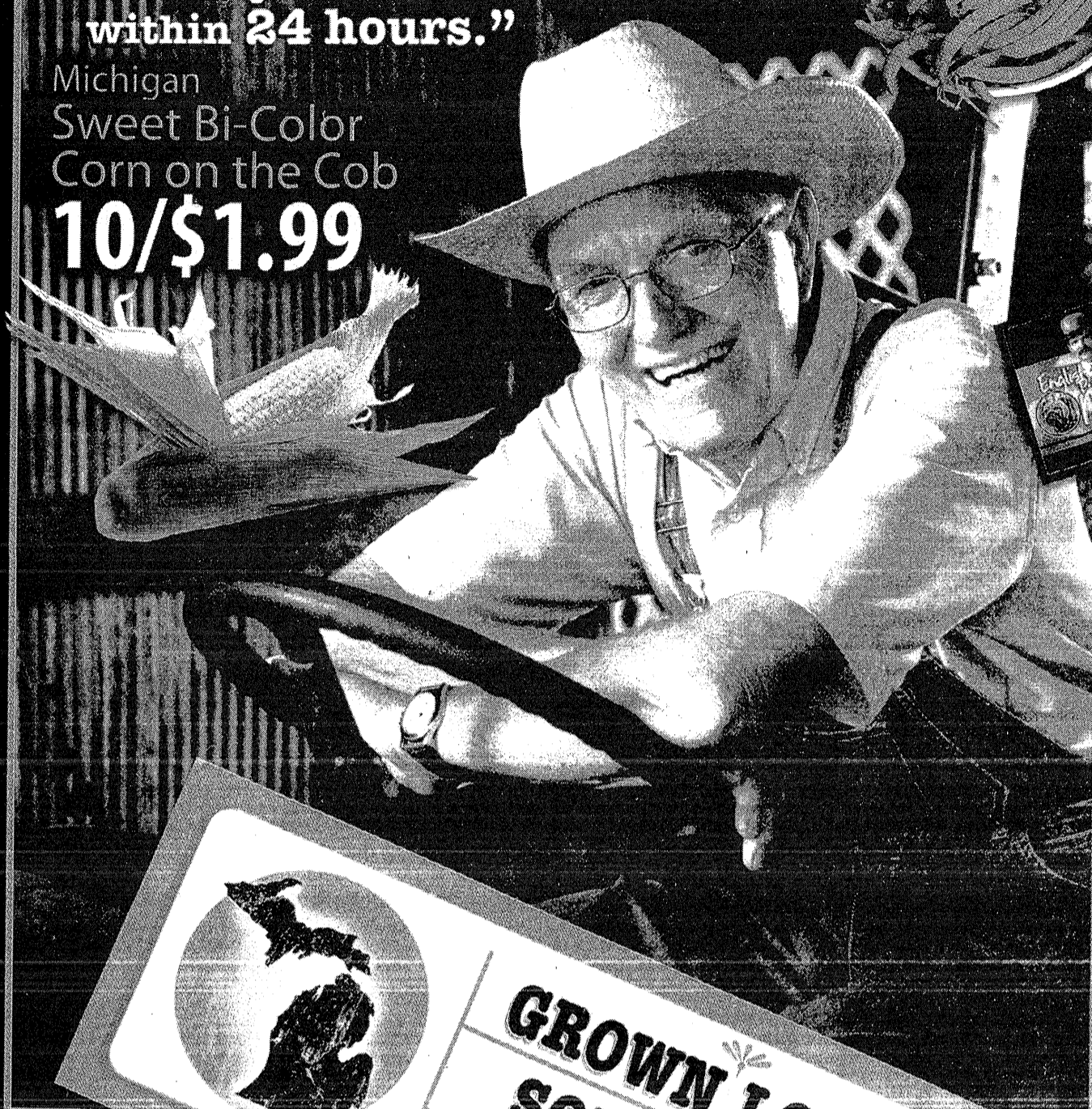


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Michigan Sweet Bi-Color Corn on the Cob **10/\$1.99**



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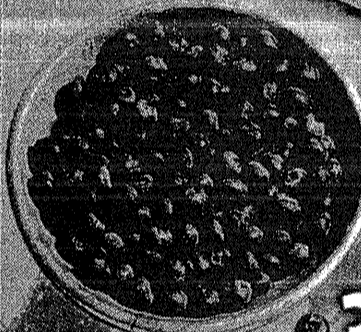
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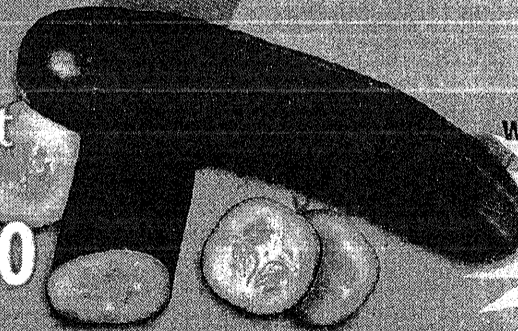


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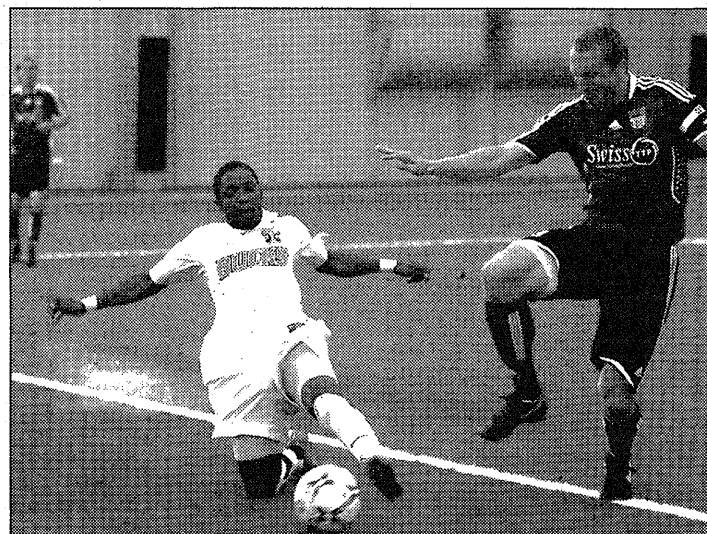
Outrage ends Bucks' year, 3-1

BY DAN STICKRADT
O&E STAFF WRITER

The No. 1 seed and high expectations didn't save the Michigan Bucks Saturday night. After reaching the USL Premier Development League national championship each of the past two years with the same core of players, the Bucks were upset in the Round of 16 Saturday night at the Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac.

The bucks gave up a late goal in regulation and two more in overtime in suffering a season-ending 3-1 defeat to the Kalamazoo Outrage.

On Sunday night, second-seeded Thunder Bay Chill ousted Kalamazoo 4-0 to claim the Central Conference regional title and advance to the PDL Final four. "We just didn't get it done," admitted third-year Bucks head coach Dan Fitzgerald, who cited many reasons for his team's unexpected upset exit from the national tourney. All-PDL midfielder Nate Jafta, who had missed five games during the last month due to injuries, was held out and fellow all-league forward Kenny Uzoigwe, ranked in the top 10 in the nation with 23 points during the regular season, went down with a re-aggravated hamstring injury in the seventh minute and didn't return. With two core players gone from the Bucks' attack, Michigan struggled to find the back of the net. "With Nate out and Kenny going down in the first few minutes, it really hurt," offered Fitzgerald. "We had to move



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Michigan Bucks midfielder Ty Shiplane and his teammates were upset victims in the Round of 16 Saturday night in the United Soccer Leagues-Premier Development League national tournament, falling to the Kalamazoo Outrage, 3-1, in overtime.

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings July 22, 2008

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, July 22, 2008, at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Roll Call Members Present: Bennett, Caccamo, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Staff Present: Director Eva, Executive Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, Director Paas Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the agenda deleting employee negotiations. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to move from open session to closed session at 6:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of pending litigation. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to move from closed session to open session at 7:08 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. Approval of Minutes for July 8, 2008. Motion carried unanimously. Citizens Non Agenda Item Comments: Mark Waldbauer presented Canton with a plaque from the American Cancer Society. Tom Lieberman spoke about the Canton Waste Recycling One-day Free disposal. Payment of Bills Motion carried unanimously. GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. BUDGET AMENDMENT-FEDERAL GRANTS FUND 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (FBD) Motion carried unanimously. Item 2. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO SIGN THE INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENT WITH WAYNE COUNTY TO ALLOW CANTON TOWNSHIP TO REVIEW AND PERMIT STORM WATER MANAGEMENT STANDARDS. (MSD) Motion carried unanimously. GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. CONSIDER SPECIAL LAND USE AND SITE PLAN FOR EXPANSION OF ST. JOHN NEUMANN CATHOLIC CHURCH. (MSD) Motion carried unanimously. Item 2. CONSIDER SAHOTA REZONING. (MSD) Motion carried unanimously. Item 3. CONSIDER ACCEPTING AGREEMENT IN LIEU OF LETTERS OF CREDIT FOR COMPLETION OF PUNCH LIST ITEMS FOR CHERRY HILL VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT. (MSD) Motion carried unanimously. Item 4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT TO LEASE TOWNSHIP-OWNED PROPERTY TO ALLIED WASTE C/O SAUK TRAIL HILLS DEVELOPMENT, INC. FOR THE STOCKPILE OF CLAY FOR LANDFILL DAILY COVER. (MSD) Motion carried unanimously. PLACE THE PROCEEDS OF THE AGREEMENT TO LEASE TOWNSHIP PROPERTY TO SAUK HILLS TRAILS DEVELOPMENT DATED 7/22/08 BE DEPOSITED WITH MERS FOR THE UNFUNDED LIABILITY FOR RETIREMENT HEALTHCARE. Motion carried unanimously. Item 5. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$260,276.00 FOR A PUBLIC SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT ALONG THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION CORRIDOR AND AUTHORIZE THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO SIGN THE EASEMENT. (MSD) Motion carried unanimously. Item 6. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE PO#2008-0000650 TO BEST ASPHALT, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000 FOR PAVING HIGH VELOCITY. (MSD) Motion carried unanimously. Item 7. CONSIDER AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS OF LILLEY AND HANFORD TO PETER A. BASILE SONS, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$373,272.21. (MSD) Motion carried unanimously. Item 8. BUDGET TRANSFER - CLERK'S OFFICE Motion carried unanimously. Item 9. PILOT-TAX ABATEMENT ORDINANCE AND CONTRACTS WITH LINCOLNSHIRE APARTMENTS. (SUPERVISOR) Motion tabled unanimously. Item 10. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING JOHNSON ROSATI TO FILE A LAWSUIT AGAINST PARTIES FOR NON-PERFORMANCE OF DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR HAMPTON RIDGE NORTH (PHASE 1) (MSD) Motion carried unanimously. OTHER: Supervisor Yack stated there will be no study session on July 29, 2008 or August 5, 2008. The next regular Board meeting will be August 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building, First Floor, Board Room, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan 48188. ADJOURN: Motion by Zarbo, supported by Bennett to adjourn at 8:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor
Terry G. Bennett, Clerk
Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org
Publish: July 31, 2008

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: July 24 & 31, 2008

CE08012913-2x2.5

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, August 14, 2008 for the following:

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: July 31, 2008

CE08014016-2x3

MAYFLOWER TOWING 1179 STARKWEATHER PLYMOUTH, MI 48170 734-459-0053

NOTICE OF SALE

The following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction for cash to satisfy lien pursuant to F.S. 713.78 On August 7, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

1999 Honda Accord Lx	1HGCG5645XA125890
1994 Horse Trailer	NO VIN
1994 Ford Taurus G1	1FALP52U0RG129954
1999 Ford Windstar Lx	2FMZA5141XBB78054
2006 Kia Optima	KNAGE123865025766
2001 Pontiac Grand Am Gt	1G2NW12E71M501274
1989 Mercury Topaz Gs	1MEPM31X0KK655507
1997 Mercury Sable Ls	1MELM53S8VG610656
1997 Lincoln Continental	1LNLM97V75TY625888
1976 Chevrolet Caprice	1M67HY196192

Publish: July 31, 2008

CE08014010-2x3

SUBURBAN Suburban Honda

2008 Accord 4 dr LX, auto

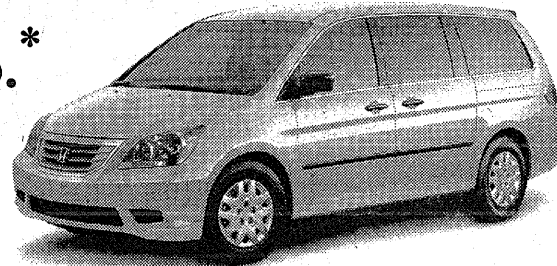
\$215/mo.*
Lease



36 month lease, \$2999 due at signing, 12,000 miles/year

2008 Odyssey LX

\$239/mo.*
Lease



36 month lease, \$1999 due at signing, 12,000 miles/year

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HORNETS

FROM PAGE B1

Horde also had three hits, while Semak went 2-for-4. A 3-0 record in preliminary round play put the Hornets into the regional semifinals with Jawad going 3-for-4, including a pair of doubles and three runs scored in an 11-6 triumph over the Illinois Big Dogs. Conti added two hits and two RBI, while Horde went 2-for-4 with an RBI. Roed also knocked in three runs. Ginster (5-2) worked the first four innings to pick up the win. Roed came on for the final three innings in relief to

pick up his fourth save of the year. The pair combined to allow six runs on six hits and five walks. The Hornets will fly out next Wednesday and play against the host team beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 7. The game will be broadcast on local Puerto Rico television and radio. Area fans can follow the game on www.tutv.puertoric.pr. "It's a big deal down there, the mayor gets involved and the whole town shuts down," said Pirronello, who last guided a Concealed team to the 2003 16-and-under AABC World Series.

bemons@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2123



Members of the Pee Wee Reese 12-and-under American Amateur Baseball Congress regional championship team headed next week to Puerto Rico for the World Series includes (bottom row, from left): Alex Roed, West Bloomfield; Badih Jawad, Dearborn Heights; J.T. Conti, Trenton; Mike Vomastek, Livonia; (middle row, from left) John Slater, Southfield; Drew Horde, Oak Park; Jake Ginster, Commerce Township; Zach Tallman, Brownstown; Jake Semak, Livonia; head coach Lou Pirronello, Livonia; (back row, from left) assistant coaches Todd Conti, Trenton; Chuck Ginster, Commerce; Spencer Roed, West Bloomfield.

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MICHIGAN

Golf Guide

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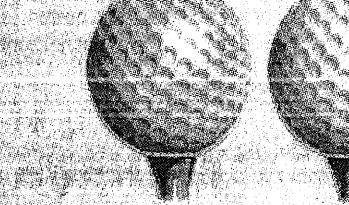
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 Seniors-18 holes w/cart Mon-Fri..\$19
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734-878-9790

REDDEMAN FARMS
 Seniors-18 holes w/cart Mon-Fri..\$23
 Four-somes \$60
 Non Seniors - 18 holes w/cart.....\$29
 Four-somes \$100
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\$10 off 18 Holes w/Cart
\$10 off regular rate. May not be combined with other offers. Excludes Flight, Payer's Club, Senior & Early Bird Rates. Expires 8/11/08. A PREMIER PUBLIC COURSE BY ARTHUR HILLS. 1.5 miles from I-94 State Street exit in Ann Arbor. 1825 Clubhouse Dr. Ann Arbor, MI 48108. 734.429.8383



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Diesels elude K'zoo Outlaws

BY CHRISTIAN YOUNG
CORRESPONDENT

After a snarling, tough first half, followed by a second-half shootout, the Detroit Diesels outgunned the Kalamazoo Outlaws, 22-13, in a Great Lakes Football League matchup Saturday at Mayor's Riverfront Park.

The Outlaws got on the board first with a touchdown pass, but the extra-point attempt was blocked.

Quarterback Andy Hess (Lutheran Westland) struck right back in the second quarter for the Diesels, with a half-back option to Venzal Russell, who then connected with Jon Craven (Farmington) for a 40-yard score. Keith Thomas ran in for the two-point conversion to take the Diesels up 8-6 at halftime.

The Outlaws, however, came right back scoring on a punt

return in the third quarter.

But the Diesels retaliated when Russell leaped in the air for a long bomb from Hess. It initially looked to be broken up by the Outlaw defensive back - until Russell fought for the ball, and cut across field, winning the foot race for the end zone. He also caught the ensuing two-point pass.

Hess found Craven again for the final go-ahead touchdown early in the fourth quarter.

The Outlaws had another chance to go after them, but the Detroit defense held like a brick wall, allowing the Diesels to run out the clock.

Hess finished 9-of-21 passing for 144 yards, two touchdowns, and five interceptions.

Despite those miscues, he was able to manage the game and pull out the win. Russell caught four balls for 72 yards and that wild cross-field TD, in addition to his 40-yard scoring

toss, while Craven had three catches total for 61 yards and his two TDs.

Earl Blanchette led the Detroit defense with six sacks, while Dan Hayes added four. Ja'Ron Embry and Lamarr Miller had three broken up passes each.

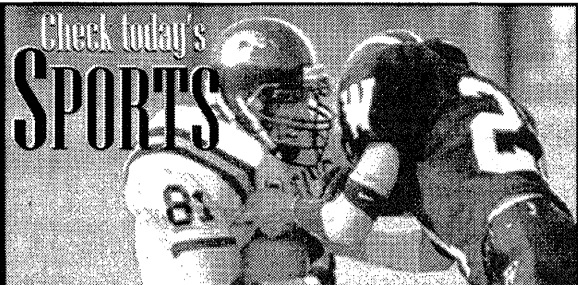
Taking their third straight win, the Diesels (4-3 overall, 4-2 GLFL) will face an old foe in the Genesee County Patriots, beginning at 6:30 p.m. this Saturday at Livonia Franklin High School.

The original opponent, the Lenawee County Crusaders, folded, but Diesels general manager Al Seder isn't worried.

"The Patriots game should be a good tune-up for our game against the (Northwest Ohio) Knights," said the G.M. whose team will meet the Knights at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9 at Franklin to close the home portion of their schedule.

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A priest for peace goes to war

BY LUIS CARLOS MONTALVÁN CORRESPONDENT

Jesuit priest the Rev. Timothy Meier does not exactly fit the typical profile of a soldier serving in a war zone.

"I never dreamed of being a soldier," said Meier, 52. "I never, ever dreamt it. I was a kid during Vietnam and felt it a mistake for us to be there.

Meier never thought he would become a Jesuit priest, either.

"Who wants to not be married and vow to a life of poverty?" Meier said with a chuckle.

Born in Detroit and raised in Farmington Hills, Meier worked seven days a week at his local parish and at a racket club doing administrative work to help pay his tuition to University of Detroit High School,

It was after completing bachelor of arts degrees in biology and music with honors from Kalamazoo College that Meier decided to become a priest.

1978-80, he was a Jesuit Novice. In 1982, Meier received a Master of Arts in Philosophy from Loyola University of Chicago.

While there, Meier identified 700 late-type red giant stars near the center of the galaxy. He also had the privilege of singing an a cappella solo for Pope John Paul II at a Mass in his private chapel at the 17th-century Castel Gandolfo near Rome.

"Every night I would walk to the heights of a spiral staircase of the medieval castle because I learned the acoustics were incredible. One day, some Polish children, who were visiting Pope John Paul II, heard me singing.

One day, Meier was summoned to the Pope's private residence in the castle where he celebrated Mass. The pontiff had heard Meier's mellifluous tenor voice and the then 26-year-old was asked to sing at a Mass celebrated by John Paul II for a group of Canadian pilgrims.

In 1984, Meier attended

Georgetown University and earned a master's of science in Biology (immunology), graduating again with distinction.

From 1984 to 2004, Meier vigorously pursued his studies. He was a Jesuit Fellow in Biology at John Carroll University in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

From 1990-91, he attended the Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, Mass., earning masters' degrees in divinity and theology. In 1998 and 1999, Meier received his Ph.D. in Biological Sciences (molecular neurobiology) and a post-doctoral degree in molecular virology from Stanford University.

"It is a joy to mentor students who are so dedicated to the pursuit of scientific research and advancement. They challenge me and I them. It is such a privilege," Meier said.

In 2006, Meier was commissioned a captain in the Chaplain Corps of United States Army Reserve. Later that year, he was transferred into the California Army National Guard. While at Stanford, Meier taught, coached and mentored R.O.T.C. cadets who studied there but travelled to train in military science elsewhere.



The Rev. Timothy Meier is a Jesuit priest and a U.S. Army captain now serving as a chaplain in Iraq. He served Mass at Our Lady of Victory Church in Northville shortly before leaving for the war-torn country in June.

The kind of help that cadets and soldiers want and need of chaplains these days is rare.

A shortage of chaplains, who give invaluable counsel to soldiers in times of stress and personal hardship, comes at a time when the number of suicides among active-duty U.S. soldiers has seen a sharp increase.

According to a statement given at the American Psychiatric Association's annual meeting in Washington on May 5, Thomas Insel, the U.S. government's top psychiatric researcher and director of the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Md., said, "The number of suicides among veterans of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

may exceed the combat death toll because of inadequate mental health care."

Army Capt. Meier knows he is unarmed in a dangerous place where his entire life's experiences will be put to the test.

"My goal in Iraq is to provide spiritual comfort to women and men who place themselves in harm's way," Meier said.

Meier is the son of Tom and Nancy Meier of Northville.

Luis Carlos Montalván is a former Army cavalry captain who served two tours in Iraq and is recovering in New York from various wounds sustained in combat. Meier is his Catholic priest and spiritual counselor.

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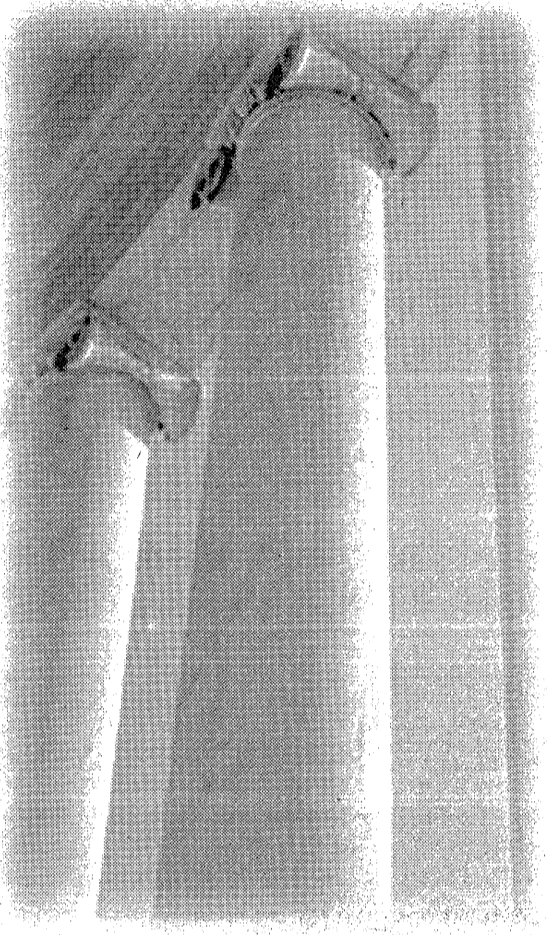
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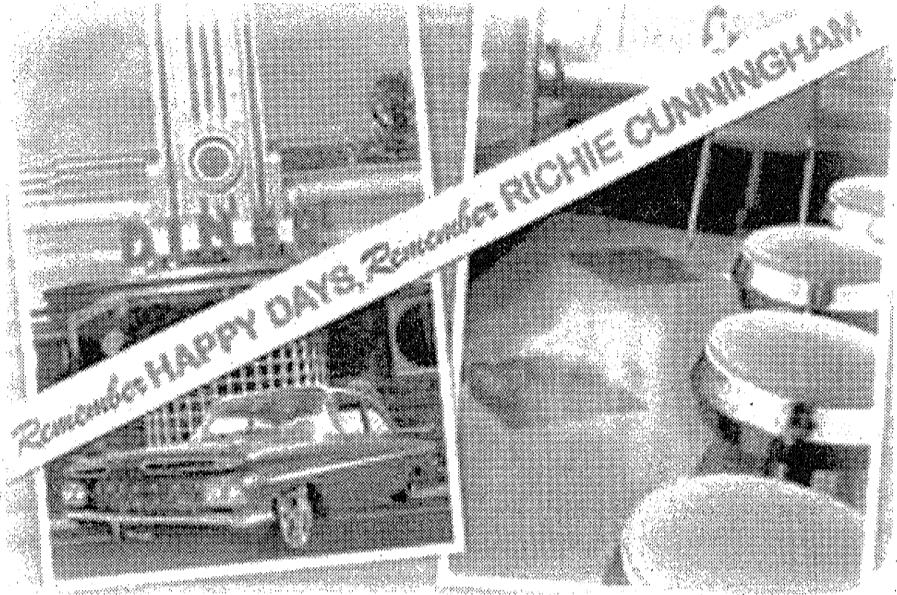
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PLATO



Former Recorder's Court Judge **Richard Cunningham** is seeking election to the office of Wayne County Circuit Court Judge. He is one of eleven candidates seeking three open seats. His professional experience, demonstrated leadership and commitment to public service make him uniquely qualified for this important position.

Richard Cunningham is currently an attorney in private practice. His 29 year legal career includes service as an Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor, a trial court judge, an ethics prosecutor for the Attorney Grievance Commission, and staff attorney for the Veterans Administration. *Michigan Lawyers Weekly* named him an "Attorney Of The Year" in 2000. His exemplary judicial service was recognized by a major newspaper, which noted that he was among the 10 Michigan judges least likely to be reversed.

Richard Cunningham serves as an elected member of the Board Of Commissioners (the board of directors) of the State Bar of Michigan. He previously served two terms on the State Bar Representative Assembly. Other professional leadership positions include a term as President of the Criminal Law Section of the State Bar and three terms as Chairperson of Criminal Law Section of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association. He is a Trustee of the DMBA Foundation, and a Fellow of the State Bar Foundation.

Richard Cunningham is dedicated to the principle of "due process" for those accused of crimes, but has demonstrated his sensitivity and concern for crime victims. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Save Our Sons And Daughters (SOSAD) and on the National Board of Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc.

Richard Cunningham is involved in the community. He is the Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors for U-SNAP-BAC, a non-profit housing corporation. He is a graduate of Belleville High School, and was recognized in 2004 with a "Distinguished Graduate" award. He has served as an adjunct instructor at Henry Ford Community College.



Rated OUTSTANDING - Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association

This is the highest rating available to a candidate for judicial office. Richard Cunningham is the only one of the eleven candidates for this office to receive the "Outstanding" rating.

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THE DETROIT FREE PRESS (Editorial Endorsement on July 24, 2008)

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Richard Cunningham served our country as a combat infantryman in Viet Nam. He is a member of the Viet Nam Veterans of America and a Life Member of the Veterans Of Foreign Wars (VFW)

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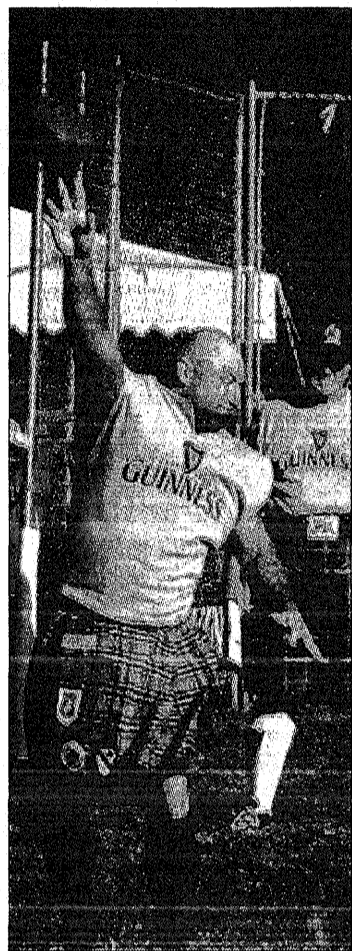
COMEDY Comedienne Chelsea Handler talks about Detroit. PAGE D8

FOOD Chef Michelle Bommarito waxes on healthy eating at Concours d'Elegance. PAGE D6

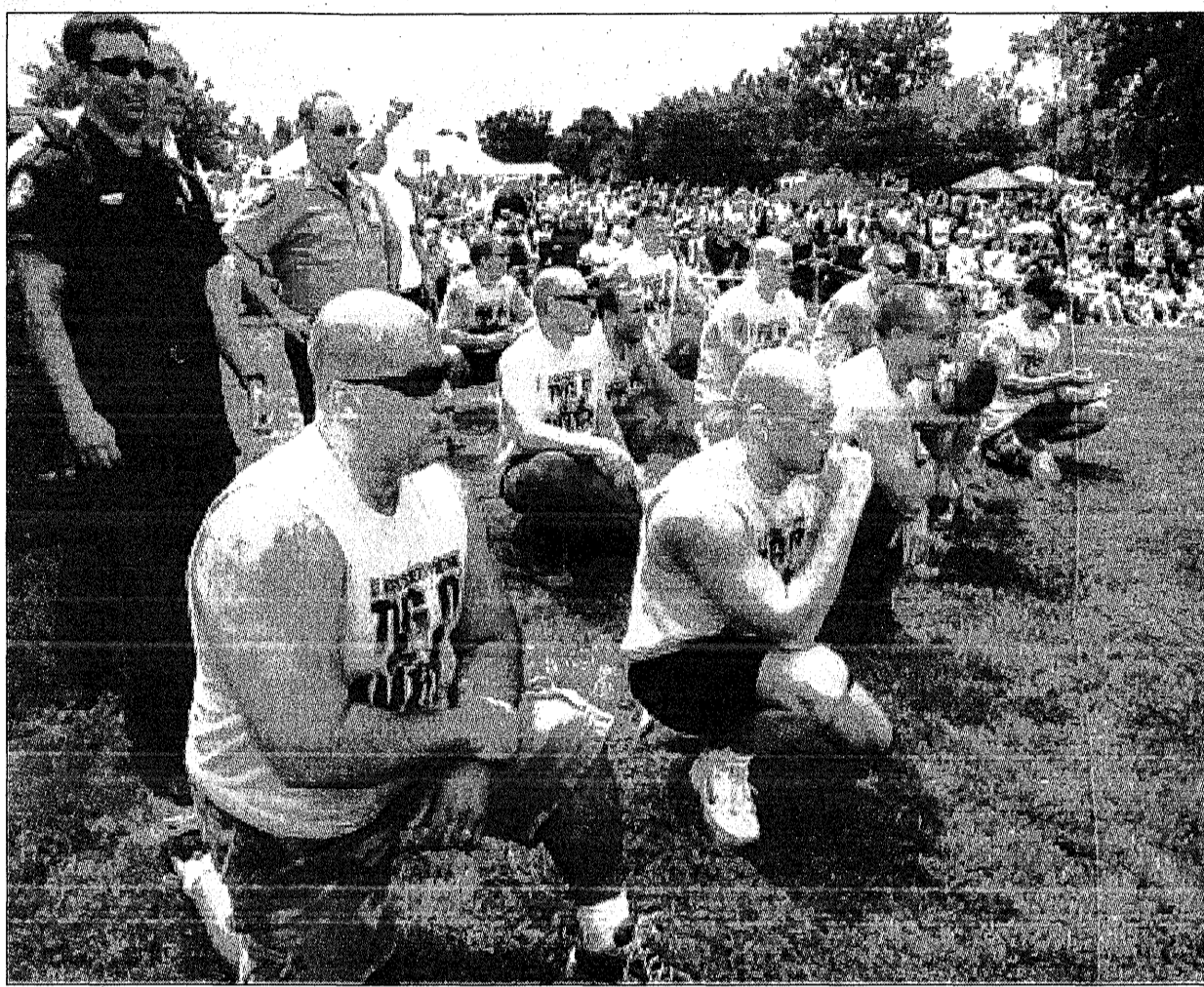
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The St. Andrew's Society 159th Annual Highland Games

Livonia Firefighters ready to cream Marines



The big burly type will be showing off their strength in the traditional contests.



Who will win the tug-of-war at the Highland Games? The Livonia firefighters? The Harley riders? The Marine Corps or the Army?

Event takes place at Highland Games - Royal Oak woman crowned queen



Fiona Dohanyos was crowned at the Highland Games. Her goal is to preserve her heritage and better the community.

BY LANA MINI O&E STAFF WRITER

Livonia Fire Captain Robert Simmons was ready to do some Marine Corps trash-talking. Relax, he means no disrespect, it's all in good fun. Besides, Simmons has to regain his team's title. The Livonia Firefighters lost a tug-of-war contest to the U.S. Marine Corps last year. It was the first time in four years the firefighters were defeated. 'But we're taking a different approach this year,' Simmons said, treading carefully not to reveal too much of his strategic tug-of-war secrets. See the event at The 159th Annual Highland Games, taking place Aug. 1-2 at Historic Greenmead Village in Livonia. 'We have a 300-pound anchor (a firefighter) who will have the rope tied around his waist,' Simmons said. Other than that there's no gloves, no spiked shoes — just strength. Each team is permitted 2,200 pounds of weight — which could mean about 12 men weighing 183 pounds — or fewer men with a lot more muscle. The firefighters will pull against the Marines. The Harley-Davidson group will pull against the U.S. Army and then the two winners will pull for the title. Simmons is coaching his team. The fun begins with a Scottish party on Friday, Aug. 1. Saturday,

Aug. 2 are the games. Highland Games is the longest, continuous running Scottish festival in North America and is organized strictly through volunteers. The tug-of-war begins at 1:15 p.m. on Saturday. And there's beauty. Fiona Dohanyos of Royal Oak was crowned queen of the games. Her Scottish roots are traced to clans Buchanan and Ramsay. 'I'm so excited,' Dohanyos said. 'The group does a lot for many charitable organizations and I want to be a part of that ongoing effort.' Proceeds from the games go to many charities. A cosmetology student, Dohanyos said she wants to carry the independent spirit of Scots throughout her life and help people everywhere. IT'S ALL COMPETITION During the games, where will be Scottish music; athletic games; bagpipe, drumming and dance competitions; parades including clans from across the country, and food. The highlights though are the hulks. The games include massive men who are among the Earth's strongest who toss large stones, hammers and the popular caber. 'We're fortunate to have most of the continent's top performers coming to compete year after

Please see GAMES, D5

THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY 159TH ANNUAL HIGHLAND GAMES

Where: Historic Greenmead Village; 20501 Newburgh Road, Livonia When: Friday and Saturday, Aug. 1-2 Parking: It's hard to find at the village after 11 a.m. on Saturday. Park at Schoolcraft College on Haggerty between Six and Seven Mile roads. Free shuttle every five minutes. What is it: Heavy athletic games, genealogy and clan tents, Scottish food, music, dancing and bagpipe contests, vendors, kids games, and a lot more Scottish fun. Special: The event is handicapped accessible. Tickets: For Saturday, \$15 at the door, \$10 in advance with free admission for kids under 12. Purchase at www.highlandgames.com For the Friday Ceilidh, tickets must be purchased in advance, \$15. Ceilidh (pronounced kay-lee) is a traditional Scottish party with food, drink and entertainment. Hours: 5 to 11 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday; Register for amateur athletic and drumming games at 8:30 a.m. Saturday. Details: (734) 742-4100. See full schedule at www.highlandgames.com

Farmington Hills hosts Johnny Cash tribute

He's the ultimate cool guy — Johnny Cash. The man in black will be remembered tonight as the Farmington Hills 'Stars in the Park' series features Terry Lee Goffee, known as the 'ultimate Johnny Cash tribute artist.'



The concert at Heritage Park begins at 7:30 p.m. where you will hear Cash's most popular songs including Ring of Fire. Goffee grew up admiring Cash's music. One of his greatest thrills was when he was performing and Cash's brother and sister attended the show. Joanne Cash Yates told him, 'you don't impersonate my brother; you pay tribute to him with honor.' The concert takes place in the new amphitheater, opened last month, situated in a grassy 'bowl' with outdoor acoustics. Heritage Park is located at 24915 Farmington Road, just south of 11 Mile. Call (248) 473-1848.

-L. Mini

Count On Kidpalooza at Kellogg Park

Plymouth's Kellogg Park will surely be kid central 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, in celebration of Kidpalooza. Participating youngsters are invited to embark on a Treasure Hunt through the downtown shopping district, where they'll play games, watch kid-friendly street performers and earn prizes.

'This is really about families discovering the treasures of downtown Plymouth,' said Jessica Perlman, event chair. 'It's exciting to be doing something new and different.' To participate, stop by Kellogg Park any time after 10 a.m. and register. Activities are meant for children 6-12, though all ages are welcome. Child care will not be provided. Call (734) 455-1453 or visit www.downtownplymouth.org.

-S. Casola

Top Chefs work to end hunger

Talented chef Rich Travis of Tribute restaurant in Farmington Hills gathers six top chefs from the Detroit-area and around the country to create a masterful menu paired with exquisite wines for Share Our Strength's A Taste of Pursuit presented by Lexus, on Monday, Aug. 4.

Funds raised from the high-end dinner and auction will support Share Our Strength's efforts to end childhood hunger in America. Other chefs include: Steve Allen and Chuck 'Rocky' Rachwit of Steve & Rocky's in Novi; Brian Polcyn of Five Lakes Grill in Milford; Greg Stroker, pastry chef of Tribute Restaurant in Farmington Hills; Bradford Thompson of Lever House in New York; and Don Yamauchi of Forté Restaurant in Birmingham.

Also special guest Tony Abou-Ganim, The Modern Mixologist of Bar Milano in New York, will demonstrate his cocktail craft. Each chef will prepare a course.

The live auction will be conducted by Billy Harris, one of the country's most sought-after corporate entertainers. Guests can bid on culinary and travel items. Tickets are \$150 each. Tribute is located at 31425 W. 12 Mile in Farmington Hills. Reservations can be made by visiting: www.strength.org/atp_detroit or calling (248) 848-9393.

-L. Mini

Birmingham appraiser featured on 'Antiques Roadshow'

ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

What: The popular PBS show stops in Michigan When: Saturday, Aug. 9 Where: DeVos Place, 303 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids Tickets: Distributed earlier this summer based on a random drawing. For more information, visit http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/roadshow/cities/grandrapids_2009.html. Only those with tickets may enter, and they may bring two items for appraisal. Watch: Season 13 will begin airing Monday, Jan. 5, 2009 on PBS stations.

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA O&E STAFF WRITER

Birmingham's Caroline Ashleigh grew up surrounded by art, antiques and collectibles in her Michigan home. She was bound for a career steeped in art and culture. And since the popular PBS program Antiques Roadshow got its start, she's been featured as an appraiser, circling the country in search of American treasures.

On Aug. 9, the show will film in Grand Rapids. According to Erika Denn, a marketing executive with WGBH in Boston, this marks a notable return. Antiques Roadshow filmed in Southfield in 1996, for an episode that aired in

its first season the following year. Antiques Roadshow serves as a sort of Americana treasure hunt, drawing people from across the country who bring their collectibles, heirlooms and more to be appraised by experts like Ashleigh.

Born to parents who were avid collectors, she said: 'I decided really early on I wanted to pursue a career in art.' She worked at her parent's shop, Noah's Ark Antiques in New Hudson, Mich., to gain practical experience and earned her bachelor's degree in art history from the University of Boulder, Colo. After working as an art dealer on Rodeo Drive, Ashleigh

Please see ROADSHOW, D3



Birmingham appraiser Caroline Ashleigh (right) estimates this 18th Century men's embroidered vest is worth between \$3,000 and \$5,000, during a Season 12 episode of 'Antiques Roadshow' in Baltimore.

JEFF DUNN

Lebanese Fest includes ethnic bazaar, music, dance and comedy

The Lebfest in downtown Birmingham's Shain Park was so popular last year - that this year the festival has expanded. Last year, it was held during the week. This year it has a precious weekend spot - all day and evening Friday and Saturday August 1 and 2. This year there's even more entertainment that celebrates the music, food, culture, dance, crafts and art of Lebanon and the Lebanese American community.

The musical mix is interesting - from jazz to a master oud player (a stringed instrument with an exotic sound) to music performed by several Lebanese divas. The event kicks off with some Motown. Detroit's Martha Reeves will sing the National Anthem on Friday.

The festival is organized by the Lebanese American Chamber of Commerce.

"I'm so glad that Birmingham welcomed us back so warmly this year," John Akouri, the chamber chairmen said.

Presented by Mezza Mediterranean Grille, the second annual event - is also known as a *Mahrajan* - which is Lebanese for festival.

There's also dabke dance (Lebanon's national dance) and traditional bellydance performances.

The festival is influenced by the Baalbeck International Festival of Lebanon that includes classical music, dance, theater, jazz, and modern world music.

In Birmingham there will be *An Evening of Lebanese Stars* featuring Jimmy A & his Rat Pack Rollers (paying homage to American greats); heart-throb teenage male singer Lance Attalla and teen sensation Ashley Peters; popular Lebanese

singers Amalia Kaddo and Soumaya Aziz; energetic Arabic performers Bassam Saleh and Usama Baalbaki; the Our Lady of Lebanon Dabke Troupe, Detroit Bellydance, jazz by Eric Watson, actor Alex Safi, New York veteran comedian George Saba, Oud player Karim Badr and others.

"This year we have a true national presence," Akouri said. "Attending will be film directors, national book authors, international singers. The support we are seeing locally and regionally - including the Lt. Governor (and his wife who is Lebanese), and the arrival of dignitaries, diplomats and celebrities is a nice attest to the work that we do."

Well-known faces who will attend: Honorary Chairman of the Festival Host-Committee this year is Detroit Pistons Trainer Mike Abdenour. The 2008 LEBFEST Grand Marshall is NFL Great Lomas Brown, who will officially

cut the ribbon to open the concert. The former Detroit Lion will be joined by US Ambassador Sam Zakhem, Lt. Governor John Cherry, Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land, Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano, Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence, Detroit Red Wings singer Karen Newman, WNIC Radio Personality Kevin O'Neill, Miss Michigan 2006 Angela Marie Corsi, Lebanese Consul General Bachir S. Tawk and Birmingham Mayor Donald Carney.

As part of the closing ceremonies, the Lebanese American Chamber of Commerce is hosting a screening at the Landmark Maple Art Theatre in Bloomfield Township, of a yet-to-be released film shot entirely on location in Beirut, on Sunday, August 3, at 12:30 p.m.

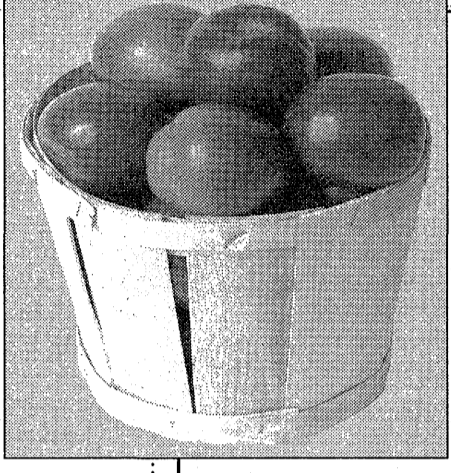
Director Deborah Harse will attend that screening and discuss the film. Seating is limited to the first 400 guests.

LEBFEST
What: Lebfest 2008, the Lebanese Festival
Where: Shain Park, Birmingham at Bates, Merrill, Martin, and Henrietta streets, just west of Woodward and south of Maple.
When: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, August 1 and 2
Admission: Free
Details: Visit (248) 320-7300 or www.lebanesefestival.org
Special details: Guests are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on to enjoy the concert. Opening ceremonies take place Friday at 7 p.m.
Events: Singers, food, bellydance, dabke dance, shopping area & more

Woodward Dream Cruise music
 The Woodward Dream Cruise has an official song. It's all about stopping and going and checking out the sights at the country's biggest love it or hate it car cruise. The song *Drive On!* was created by metro Detroit recording artist RG Dempster and features music by accomplished musicians Johnny Trudell and Richard Becker. The single has that 1950s feeling, and soon an entire album will follow. Hear and purchase it at detroitrocksusa.cc, or www.woodwarddreamcruise.com. - L. Mini

8 great works
 Barebones Theatre Productions offers 8X8@8, an evening featuring eight plays by eight local playwrights beginning at 8 p.m. and running Aug. 6-8 at the Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Company Founder and Rochester Hills resident John Rutherford has assembled a cast of 10 local actors to feature this collection of funny and dramatic works centered on intimate and relatable moments in interpersonal relationships. The works are: *Blockbuster* by Birmingham's Kitty Dublin; *How Many Chuck's Would* by Farmington's Jan Radcliff; *The Tide That Binds* by Rutherford; *Subtext* by Beverly Hills' own Kim Carney; *Revelation* by David McGregor of Brighton and *Housewife With An Attitude* by M.V. Patton of Ferndale. Tickets \$10-\$15, call (586) 215-7538 or e-mail btptix@gmail.com. - S. Casola

The Great Art-doors
 The Village of Rochester Hills will transform into an open air art gallery once again for its Summer Fine Art at the Village festival, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2 and noon-6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3 at the corner of Adams and Walton roads in Rochester Hills. More than 100 artists will present works in a wide array of media for this juried event. "We believe the beautiful and relaxed atmosphere of the Village of Rochester Hills is the perfect setting to view artwork of this caliber and meet the artists," said Donna Beaubien, executive director of the festival. "Along with enjoying the exciting fine art and fine crafts, patrons can stroll the tree lined streets and visit the over 50 intriguing shop and restaurants. Children can enjoy the playground and participate in the free arts and crafts activities." Visit www.FineArtAtTheVillage.com. - S. Casola




- S. Casola

Arts and Apples in Rochester
 In a recent edition of FILTER, we failed to include The National City Art and Apples Festival among a list of upcoming local art fairs. Presented by Paint Creek Center for the Arts, the 43rd annual festival will take place Sept. 5-7 in Rochester Park, located in downtown Rochester. To find out more about the state's second largest juried art fair, visit www.artandapples.com or stay tuned to FILTER.

Illuminated Pleasures in Ferndale
 The public is invited from 6-9 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 2, to Lawrence Street Gallery in Ferndale for the opening reception of this vintage-inspired show that runs through Aug. 30. Artist Larry Zdeb of Troy and Gene Smith, formerly of Michigan and now in North Carolina, say "Objects d'Art" is an exploration into the past. The artists use vintage found objects as a major component in their constructions along with elements of data, randomness and chance. Layer after layer, the surfaces of these constructions reveal a variety of stimulating possibilities to the viewer. Lawrence Street Gallery is located at 22620 Woodward, two blocks south of Nine Mile. Call (248) 544-0394, or visit www.lawrencestreetgallery.com. - L. Mini

Chopper Show Detroit Revs into Corktown
 Choppers, custom motorcycles, art enthusiasts, rock music devotees, entertainers and barbecue connoisseurs will roll into Corktown Tavern 3 p.m. Aug. 9 for the fourth annual Chopper Show Detroit. Bikers are welcome to view motorcycles created by customs by Ron Finch, Keith Coleman and Garage Built, or ride in and compete for Chopper and Custom Class trophies. The event also features an art exhibit, live music, a fashion show with vintage wear from Mother Fletchers and performances by The Motor City Dolls. Foxy Fearless will offer a Burlesque Tribute to Tiger Stadium, while The Chanteuse From Crud hosts an R-rated dunk tank. Corktown Tavern is located at 1716 Michigan Ave. in Detroit. Call (248) 924-0298 or visit www.choppershowdetroit.com. - W. Von Buskirk

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GAMES

FROM PAGE D1

year," said Kurt Pauli, a four-time champ himself.

Adult guests can participate in amateur athletics and the stone-put.

The live music includes The Raggle Taggle band — the only local group performing this year. Raggle Taggle plays traditional and modern Scottish favorites at 5 p.m. Saturday, said Raggle's guitarist Franklin Dohanyos.

Other musicians include Needfire, a Texas-based Celtic-rock band; Alex Beaton, a singer and storyteller; Barleyjuice, a band

featuring guitar, fiddle, accordion, bagpipes, bouzouki, mandolin, harmonica, banjo, tinwhistle, piano, bass and drums — played by just six members.

Dancing includes the Highland Fling — a wild dance that originated as a celebration of victory after every battle.

Kids will love the Wee Bairns where they can paint a shield for protection on the journey; take a wee tour of Scotland; visit MacFarlane's Company; drill with the 42nd Royal Highland Regiment; march in the Wee Bairns' Clan Parade; toss a wee caber; play cricket and race for prizes in organized field events.



The Raggle Taggle Band is the only local musical group performing at the Highland Games. Metro Detroiters pictured from left to right: Bob Ervin of West Bloomfield, Jeff Axelsen of Redford, John Dooley of Chesterfield, Franklin Dohanyos of Royal Oak, Ron Karvonen of Waterford and Jean Dohanyos of Royal Oak.

FILTER-ED BLOGS

Check out blogs by FILTER staff writers Stephanie Casola and Lana Mini, or start your own blog.

Visit www.hometownlife.com and click on "Voices and Views."



Casola



Mini

Cheer for the hometeam, read today's

SPORTS section



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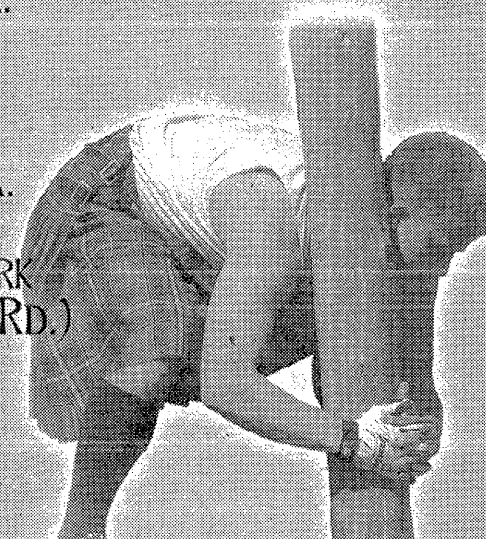


Buy advance tickets online at www.highlandgames.com

CEILIDH (a scottish party)
AUGUST 1, 2008
5:00 P.M. TO 11:00 P.M.

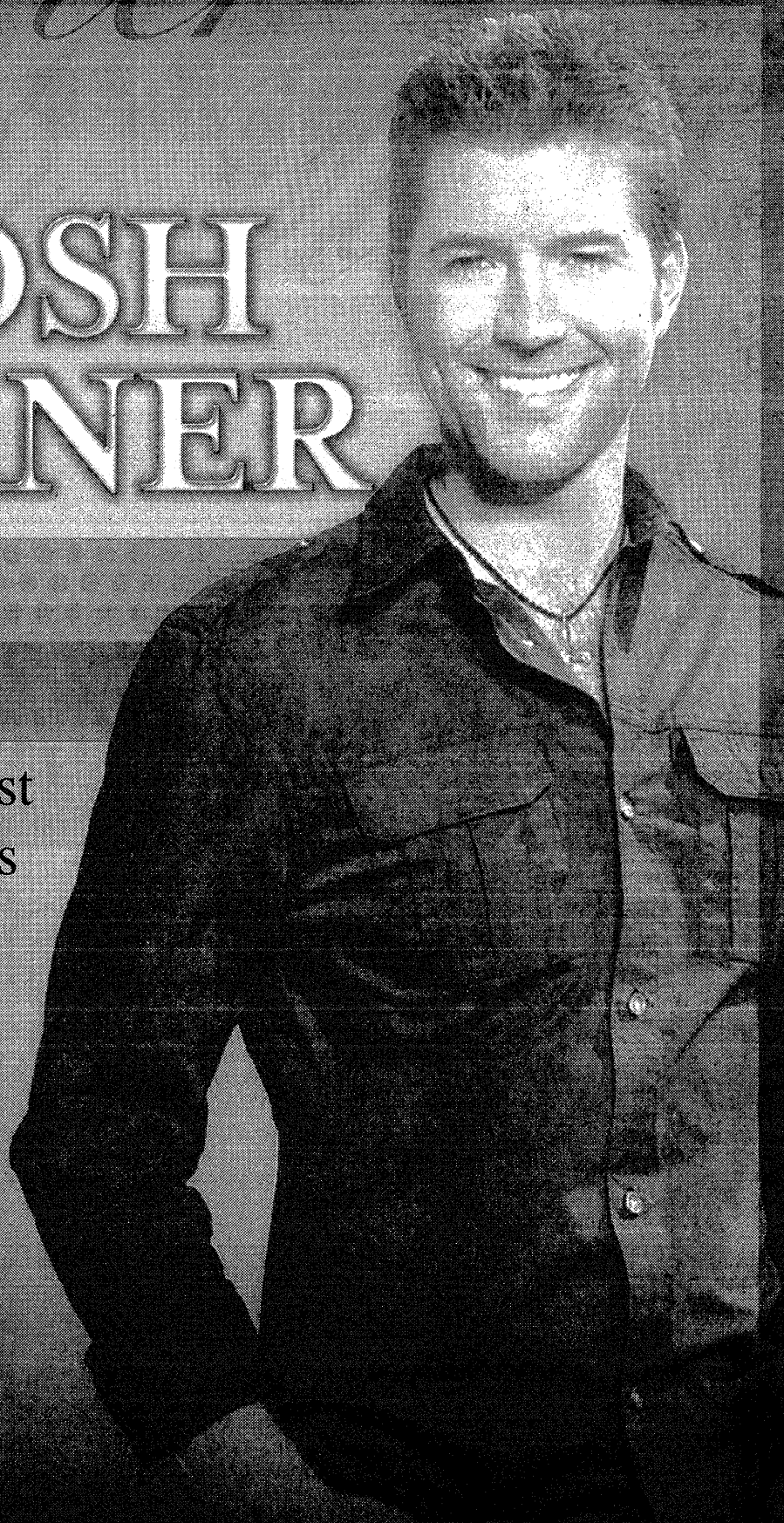
HIGHLAND GAMES
AUGUST 2, 2008
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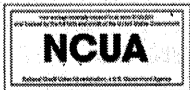
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city bites

Wine, chocolate, travel locally

BY LANA MINI
O&E STAFF WRITER

TRAVEL LOCALLY

Save money but still travel ... right to Livonia.

Take a little getaway, for example, at a Bed & Breakfast at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center in Livonia at 17123 Laurel Park Drive.

The B&B package includes a \$20 breakfast voucher for couples and \$30 voucher for families. Rates begin at \$99 per night. Some rooms have "Sleep Number" beds. The hotel includes an atrium, indoor pool, Jacuzzi, lounge, and state of the art fitness center.

Visit www.radisson.com/breakfast for more information.

PB&J AND A COLD BEER

Who doesn't love PB&J? We just had to share this little tidbit from the July/August issue of *DRAFT* magazine:

What beer do you pair with a peanut butter and grape jelly sandwich?

Answer: Sierra Nevada Porter

"The porter's dark roasted malt flavors match up well with the roasted peanut taste, while the beer's effervescence washes the stickiness from your teeth. Plus, the sweet grape jelly evokes chocolate notes in the porter, creating a truly grown-up snack experience," the magazine states. Also try: Deschutes Black Butte Porter, Marin Point Reyes Porter.

CHOCOLATE, I NEED CHOCOLATE!

Panera Bread and The Henry Ford have teamed up to offer discount cards, good for 25 percent off admission to Henry Ford Museum which is hosting a huge chocolate exhibit. The cards, offered at all 44 southeast Michigan Panera Bread locations, are available for the duration of the exhibit through Sept. 7.

Visitors attending the decadent event, may sample Panera's chocolate-themed products on select weekends.

Henry Ford Museum is open seven days a week, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$14 adults, \$13 seniors and \$10 youths; members and children 4 and under are free. Call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.thehenryford.org or www.panerabread.com.

POPULAR CHEF TAKES NEW POSITION

Jim Barnett, former executive chef for The Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, has been appointed executive chef for The Westin Book Cadillac Detroit, the 455-room, 33-story historic hotel that will reopen Oct. 1 following a \$200 million restoration. Chef Barnett will be responsible for all culinary operations including the 125-seat restaurant, The Boulevard Room, and Motor Bar. He will also oversee the hotel's 24-hour, in-room dining services; the gourmet "grab-n-go"

coffee outlet; banquets and catering and all menu content and execution.

"We are thrilled to have chef Barnett join our Westin team," said The Westin Book Cadillac Detroit General Manager Tim Freisen. "He has tremendous culinary experience and knows our community well. Our hotel guests, including meeting and conference groups will be very pleased with his creative offerings."



Barnett

Prior to joining The Townsend, Barnett was a corporate executive chef for the Matt Prentice Restaurant Group based in Bingham Farms. Over the last five years Barnett provided culinary leadership for the *Detroit Share Our Strength's Taste of the Nation*, a fund-raising event to help end childhood hunger in America.

Barnett was named the Midwest Operation Frontline Chef of the Year in 2000.

Learn more about the hotel at www.westin.com/bookcadillac; or call (313) 442-1600.

IT'S VINO MANIA!

The Community House in Birmingham hosts *Vino Mania*, an event that combines wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres, wine trivia games and live jazz on the terrace, Thursday, Aug. 8, from 7:30-10 p.m.

Proceeds benefit Children's Health and Wellness in Oakland County on behalf of the Junior League of Birmingham and The Community House's 21st Century Leaders Program.

Hosting the event is certified sommelier Nidal Daher, who has worked in the wine industry for more than 15 years. He has served as the wine director, event sommelier, and catalogue scribe for the Detroit International Wine Auction; is a former fine wine director and buyer for the Merchant of Vino and is a professional member of the French gourmet society *Chaine De Rotisseurs*.Reservations for *Vino Mania* are \$55. Contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates St., Birmingham, (248) 644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com. Ages 21 or older only.

AND MORE WINE ... THIS TIME AT DTW

Vino Volo (derived from the words "wine flight" in Italian) is a contemporary wine tasting room and retailer that just opened at Metro Airport's McNamara Terminal at gate A-45.

There travelers can taste wines and enjoy small food samples while chilling on lounge chairs.

More *Vino Volo*'s are supposed to open in the Detroit area over time.

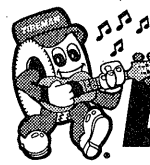
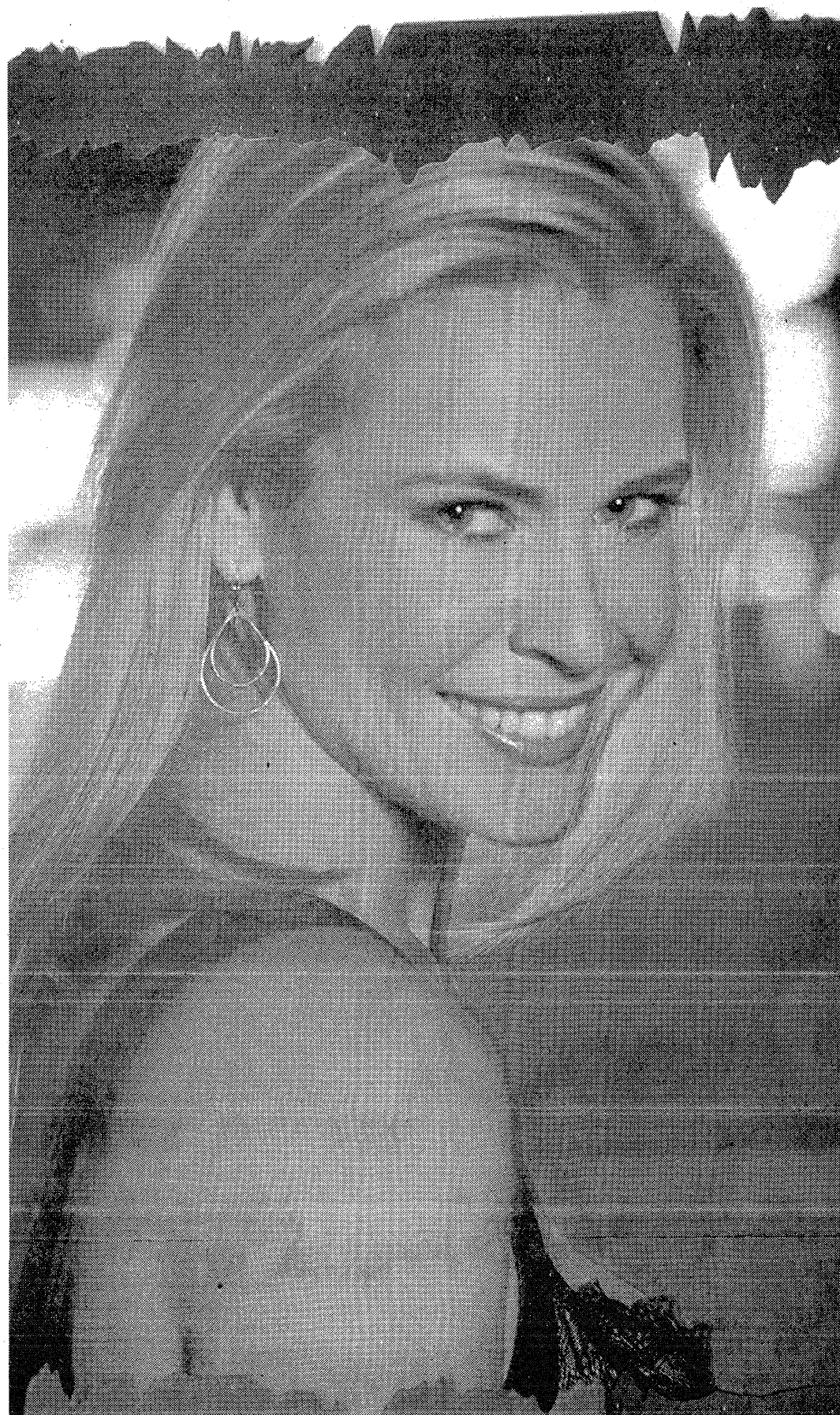
Each store includes a lounge, tasting bar and boutique retail area. Tastings are served in Riedel crystal glasses and the menu offers rotating selections of wines grouped either by wine region or the grape variety.

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MEET MISTI. While faced with many obstacles throughout her life, Misti graduated from Mackinaw Academy with above average grades while living at St. Vincent Villa Supervised Independent Living. She is enrolled at Delta College as a full-time student and will begin classes this fall. Misti's goal is to graduate from college and pursuing a career that will allow her to help others.

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pink

Check out the new Pink Ink blog at www.hometownlife.com

Wensdy Von Buskirk . Features Editor (734) 953-2019 . wvnb@hometownlife.com



Find Meghan Rossi's Uprising spa products at Plum Market or online at www.uprisingholistichealth.com.

Comfort goes green with new Uprising spa goods

For Birmingham's Meghan Rossi a splendid spa experience simply goes hand-in-hand with sustainable environmental practices. But early on, she noticed the spa industry itself had some catching up to do when it came to going green.



Dollface

Stephanie Casola

Rossi has long held an interest in homeopathic treatments. For years she dabbled in creating comforting spa products on her own. So much so, she said, "my brother called me the witch doctor." Her combined professional experience working in the fields of homeopathy, nutrition and spa treatments has led her to create her own line of products under the name Uprising Holistic Health and Spa Products.

"Uprising is definitely a political type of word, but I see it as people coming together for a change," she said. And that's just what she's aiming to do. From spa pillows to eye masks and neck rolls to sweet sachets, Rossi combines natural, sustainable, fair-trade ingredients and materials with whimsical patterns for plush comfort in the spa, at home, or as fabulous gifts.

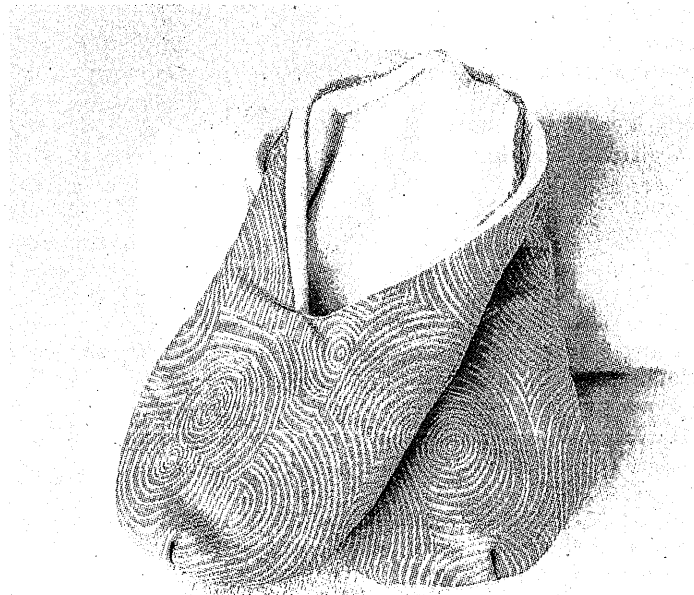
weren't doing anything green in the spa," she said.

She pondered solutions even before she headed back to her home state to start her own practice.

At Uprising Holistic Health, she offers massage, mud wraps, salt scrubs and other treatments, as well as health and nutrition consultations and homeopathic remedies, all based in Royal Oak. "I wanted to provide a product for people to take care of themselves," she said.

Rossi researched all sorts of textiles, fabrics and materials, conceptualizing, sewing and testing every prototype to find out which worked best. She tried out everything from toasty booties to warm neck rolls on family members and friends. After more than two years of development, Uprising products are now available.

Veering away from lotions, soaps and potions — simply because there are so many quality items on the market — she's focused on comfort items her clients can purchase for themselves. Uprising bath soak is made of Celtic sea salts, Epsom salts and an array of seaweeds that leaves water



PHOTOS BY KAREN LIPPOWITZ

Uprising comfort booties, made with organic materials, will warm you up.



Uprising Holistic Health offers lovely sachets made with sustainably-harvested hemp and silk, and filled with organic herbs and fragrant essential oils.



Meghan Rossi

silky and skin soft. Used regularly it draws out skin impurities to diminish signs of cellulite.

The lovely organic silk eye masks and soft organic cotton comfort pillows can be heated in a microwave or cooked in a freezer, then used for relaxation or to comfort aches and pains. "They are filled with certified organic flax seed and buckwheat," she said. After trying various seeds and beans to fill the organic cotton spa products, she opted for those that heated without burning and had the most subtle scent.

Perhaps the most pampering items in her line include plush mittens, booties and a neck roll that would easily make any PINK girl feel like she's escaped to a spa while right at home. The packaging is made

of biodegradable cellophane and recycled paper. Rossi believes these products can be both environmentally friendly and luxurious.

Still an upstart venture, Rossi sews and fills every product by hand. The green goods — in a variety of patterns and colors — are available at Plum Market in Bloomfield Township and in Ann Arbor, as well as online at www.uprisingholistichealth.com. Rossi is currently expanding her line to include travel eye masks, yoga props and plush robes. She's also scouting for area boutiques interested in carrying these nurturing products.

Uprising Holistic Health is located in Suite 140, 225 South Troy Street, Royal Oak. Call (248) 414-4275 or e-mail meghan@uprisingholistichealth.com for products or information.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola plans to sport a pair of comfort booties while working on deadline. She covers beauty, fashion and pop culture for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Have an idea suitable for Dollface? Contact her at (248) 901-2567 or sca-sola@hometownlife.com.



Duct Tape Duds

A local couple won stylish second place in the national "Stuck at Prom" Scholarship Contest, which challenged students to create formalwear from Duck brand duct tape. Haley Cavanaugh, 17, of Farmington Hills, and her date, Keith Porter, 17, of Grosse Pointe Shores, each won a \$2,000 scholarship, along with \$2,000 for Cavanaugh's school, Mercy High. Their purple, white and black geometric prom looks (above) impressed judges, who selected 10 top finalists based on workmanship, originality, use of colors, accessories and quantity of duct tape used. The public then voted for their favorite ensembles during a two-week online voting period. Next year's contest is slated to start on March 2, 2009 and end on June 8. Visit www.duckproducts.com for more.

Malls & Mainstreets

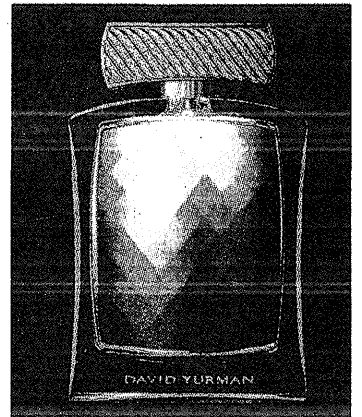
Saks Debuts David Yurman Fragrance TROY — The David Yurman Fragrance Collection will debut at Saks Fifth Avenue on Friday, Aug. 1. The floral-chypre fragrance captures strands of exotic woods, patchouli, soft musk, rose, peony, water lily, and accents of mandarin, cassis and fresh green petals. Call (248) 614-3370.

Salon Awesome Makeovers PLYMOUTH — When Kidpalooza takes place in downtown Plymouth 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 2, more than 25 stores will help create an entertaining family-friendly summer day. Salon Awesome, 290 S. Main St., will offer princess makeovers for \$10 per child, along with a story-reading and signing by Cheryl Zuzo, author of "Being Bella." Call (734) 927-0800.

FGI Honors Local Icon TROY — Fashion Group International of Detroit will honor Irene Miller, founder of the legendary Claire Pearone boutique, with an intimate gathering 1:30-3:30 p.m. Aug. 3 at the Somerset Collection South Rotunda. Miller is credited with helping to launch designers like Valentino, Oscar de la Renta and Geoffrey Beene. Tickets, \$25, include hors d'oeuvres and drinks from Brio. RSVP at (248) 540-6202 or FGI.Detroit@gmail.com.

Parisian Laurel Park Events LIVONIA — Earn a free \$10 gift card for every \$50 you spend on your Parisian card through Aug. 3 at Parisian Laurel Park Place in Livonia; Receive a free 8-piece gift with any Elizabeth Arden purchase of \$24.50 or more through Aug. 17. Call (734) 953-7536.

Books & Buds at The Village ROCHESTER HILLS — The Village of Rochester Hills, in partnership with Rochester Hills Public Library, continues "Books, Buddies & Blankets" in



The David Yurman Fragrance comes in a pressed Italian crystal bottle designed to reflect the David Yurman Jewelry Collection.

Village's Festival Park. On Aug. 6 hear Cynthia Furlong Reynolds read her story "Grammie's Secret Cupboard." For a complete list of guest readers, visit www.villageofrochesterhills.com.

Rochester Offers Property Tour ROCHESTER — The Rochester DDA will host its first-ever Downtown Rochester Property Tour 1-7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, showcasing available retail lease space in the downtown, and hopefully sparking interest in new business ventures. Check in at 314 Main Street, and use maps and brochures to navigate the self-guided tour. Call (248) 656-0060 or e-mail Sheila@DowntownRochesterMI.com.

Get your pass to Glamour METRO DETROIT — Shop, save and support a great cause with the Glam Pass, available in all Detroit area Macy's stores Aug. 1-23 for \$5. The Glam Pass highlights the season's hottest trends and includes coupons. Proceeds benefit Beaumont Hospitals. Visit www.macys.com. Compiled by Wensdy Von Buskirk

STYLE BRIEFS

Rock the Runway

Kid Rock, Mariah Carey, Justin Timberlake, Beyonce and Rihanna will perform at the fifth annual Fashion Rocks concert celebrating the relationship between music and fashion.

The event will be held Sept. 5 at Radio City Music Hall, and will air in a two-hour special on CBS the following night. Proceeds will benefit Stand Up to Cancer.

Also performing: Keith Urban, Chris Brown, Fergie,

Lil Wayne and the Black Eyed Peas. Fashion Rocks magazine will also return for its annual issue. The magazine, helmed by *Vogue* Editor-in-Chief Anna Wintour, will accompany the September edition of 16 Conde Nast magazines.

Associated Press

Pattern Mixing Primer

There seem to be no "rules" when it comes to mixing patterns and prints — a hot trend in the youth market. But here's some advice if you want to get the look:

- Work in color schemes — perhaps blues and greens, or oranges and yellows, or choose only one patterned item and mix it with pieces in solid colors that wouldn't normally seem complementary. For example, a pink floral-pattern skirt is OK with a solid blue T-shirt.

- Allow one large-scale pattern per outfit, Harmon says. A small dot or floral, or a thin stripe can almost be treated like a solid, though.

- Don't just mix patterns, mix styles, too. Try an argyle

sweater with rugged denim or a letterman sweater with a graphic tee underneath.

- Your daughter will get more use out of a crazy pattern skirt with a lot of colors in it than one with just one or two colors, because it will go with many solid-colored tops.

- Choose patterned socks or a patterned backpack if you want to be stylish but not draw too much attention.

- For girls, printed leggings can replace tights on cool mornings.

Samantha Critchell, AP

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