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SUNDAY December 14, 2008 75 cents

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Back on track!

Businesses hopeful following Sheldon Road reopening

BY TONY BRUSCATO OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With the reopening of Sheldon Road at the CSX railroad tracks Friday, it's pretty much a given Teri Allen won't be on the phone as much giving directions to lost customers attempting to find her Dearborn Jewelers store on Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth.

"I don't think MapQuest ever got it straightened out that Sheldon Road was closed," Allen said. "It was still telling people to get off the freeway (M-14) and take Sheldon Road south. Of course, you couldn't get to Plymouth and customers would call on their cell phones telling me they couldn't figure it out.

We'd have to direct them through Old Village or onto Beck Road," she said. "So, the reopening will certainly help."

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano presided over a brief ceremony to reopen Sheldon Road, which has been closed since

Chief Wayne Carroll gives the OK to Mike Janz, who is the first civilian vehicle to officially travel through the underpass. He lives on saw a big increase in traffic for two years. He said "I told my daughters that I wanted to be the first car through. They said, "Dad, you need to get a life. But it's a long

way around.'



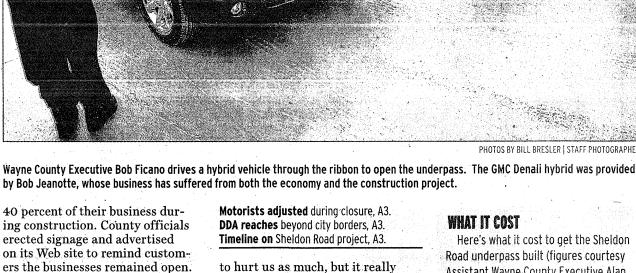
January 2007, Friday. Fittingly, instead of a traditional ribbon-cutting, officials broke the ribbon with a car, donated for the occasion by Bob Jeannotte Pontiac-GMC.

Arlette Stobbe, owner of Bella Mia on Forest Avenue and the newly opened Bella Mia Dressed Up on Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth, is hopeful the reopening of Sheldon Road will enhance her business.

"I do have a lot of customers from Northville, but I think we might see more since the road is open," said Stobbe. "It can only be for the better because there were people that were avoiding coming to Plymouth because it was such a pain to get to.

"Of course, Plymouth people will also have an opportunity to resume going to Northville," she said.

Not everyone is warm and fuzzy about Sheldon Road reopening. Establishments in the Five Mile and Sheldon area of Plymouth Township balked numerous times to Wayne County officials about losing up to



Sheldon Road is finally open. "Not only did I lose \$150,000 over the past two years, it's not like the 40 percent of my business that left will just come back because th road opened," Lorey said. "It will take years for me to rebuild what has been taken from me."

However, Randy Lorey of Lorey

Cleaners in the Busch's retail center

said all he can say is "I'm relieved"

It got so bad the Subway sandwich shop in the same retail center saw a change in ownership during the construction period.

"We didn't think it was going

Motorists adjusted during closure, A3. DDA reaches beyond city borders, A3. Timeline on Sheldon Road project, A3.

to hurt us as much, but it really hurt us a lot," said Steven Dawson, Subway manager. "It actually hurt us so bad the old owner had to sell the store.

"We're excited about the road being open," he said, "but we'll have to fight to get our customers back. Hopefully there will be some loyal customers that will drive back

Bob Jeannotte, owner of Bob Jeannotte Pontiac-GMC just north of the railroad tracks in Plymouth Township, said he'll probably incor-

Please see SHELDON, A3

WHAT IT COST

Here's what it cost to get the Sheldon Road underpass built (figures courtesy Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp):

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPH

- Total project: \$15.5 million
- Federal grant: \$5.5 million
- Plymouth Township: \$1,021,750 City of Plymouth: \$503,250
- State of Michigan: \$1.3 million
- The remaining is from Wayne County and other state and federal funds directed to the project. Part of it includes \$1.5 million in redirected funds from other projects to accelerate the project the last six months with additional weekend and evening work.

Cheering throng greets opening of Sheldon Road

BY TONY BRUSCATO OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The scene was reminiscent of the Tigers winning the World Series or Red Wings the Stanley Cup as several dozen drivers honked their horns - some waving with delight – as they were among the first to drive the \$15.5 million Sheldon Road underpass which opened Friday after-

Motorists lined up behind the GMC Yukon Denali from Bob Jeannotte Pontiac-GMC with Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano at the wheel. After

Ficano drove slowly through a ceremonial red ribbon held by Plymouth, Plymouth Township and other dignitaries to signify the opening of Sheldon Road after two years of construction, drivers honked their horns in celebration while heading northbound toward Northville.

"I'd never been to something like this before so I couldn't resist it," said Mike Janz of Plymouth Township, who was first in line in his 2002 Cadillac. "I emailed my two daughters that I was doing this and they told me 'to get a life.'

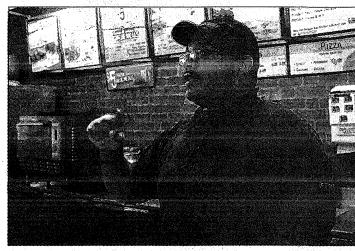
"While it's important for the businesses, it's also important for the residents," said

Janz, who lives off North Territorial. "North Territorial took a beating. It shouldered a big load the last two years."

Right behind Janz, in her late model Saturn, was Peggy Vankerckhove, who lives just down the street at Sheldon

"To get to M-14 we had to go all the way around and I'm just excited about having this open again," said Vankerckhove. "It's going to open up all those businesses to Northville for us without having to go all the way around. And, when my brother

Please see CHEERING, A3



Steven Dawson, manager of the Subway at Five Mile and Sheldon, talks about customers lost to the closing of Sheldon Road.

Economy keeping any buyers of old township hall at bay

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

When Plymouth Township officials were selling the idea of building a new township hall along Haggerty near Ann Arbor Road a couple of years ago, proceeds the sale of the old township hall were going to be used to help pay the \$12 million cost of the new digs.

At this point, though, there haven't been many proceeds.

Township officials still have the old the site. property, located at the corner of Ann Arbor Road and Lilley, on the market, but thus far precious few takers have come calling.

Only one part of the property — the old Friendly's building which used to house the clerk's office has been sold. Fifth Third Bank bought it in December 2006 for some \$2 million. But no serious offers have been made for the other 2.75 acres the township owns on

Reaume said two development groups have shown serious interest, but both "had their financing pulled back." The supervisor said there is still "one strong group" interested, though he wouldn't name the group. He said the group was waiting to see if it could get its financing plan worked out.

"We've had a number of interested parties," township Supervisor Richard Reaume said. "But it's difficult to sell old buildings in this economy. It's something we may have to sit on until the economy turns around."

Even after purchasing it, Fifth Third Bank officials said they may have to take that same approach to developing the old Friendly's building, which they want to turn into a bank branch. Fifth Third plans its build-outs on a three-year basis, slotting in which branches they want to build and when.

"Right now our plan is still in the evaluation stage," said Jack Riley, senior vice president of marketing. "Like most everybody else we're reading the market. That process is still in progress.

"Obviously, we own the dirt," Riley added. "We just have to figure it out and, hopefully, in the next few weeks we'll make our final decisions for 2009."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899

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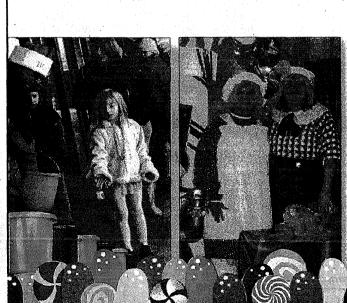
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Event Candids Available Now: Stephanie Weatherly Photography

Photos available for purchase until January 30, 2009 at www.stephanieweatherly.com Enter: HFEST08 under proofing to view the images.





Karl Zarbo







Photos courtesy of Stephanie Weatherly Photography

Motorists adjusted during closure

BY TONY BRUSCATO **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

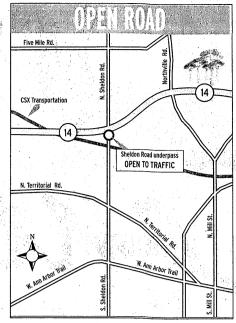
The two-year closure of Sheldon Road at the CSX railroad tracks forced many people to change their driving habits between Plymouth and Northville.

While some remained loyal customers and traveled the not-so-convenient detours to their favorite establishments, others decided it was just much easier to change their habits and where they conducted business.

Case in point is Dennis Dicken, who works at Northville Downs and traveled southbound Sheldon Road frequently to visit his favorite waitress and eat at Pizza Hut on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth

"When they closed Sheldon Road it was impossible for me to really do it," said Dicken. "Sheldon Road being closed for so long made me change."

While manning the Salvation Army Red Kettle at Busch's grocery store on Sheldon at Five Mile, Trudy



Steigerwald of Canton Township said she used to frequent the businesses in the Plymouth Township shopping center, but not much after the Sheldon corridor was closed.

"I haven't been to any of these businesses in a while ... I used to come to Nassau, Einstein's and even Wendy's once in a while," said Steigerwald. "It's been a little bit of pain to drive around and I'm glad to see it's opened. It will be great for the businesses.

There are some who have never even experienced the convenience of driving Sheldon Road, knowing only the detours west on Beck Road or through Plymouth's Old Village.

"We moved here (from Florida) the month it closed so we've never gotten to use it (Sheldon Road)," said Kathy Lee of Northville Township, who visits Plymouth often. "We found going down Northville Road around is better ... to get to our favorite restaurant, Compari's, for the chicken piccata.

"We love it here because everything is convenient, except for that," said Lee, referring to Sheldon Road the day before

THE TIMELINE

Here are some of the highlights of the Sheldon Road underpass project (this list is not all-inclusive):

- March 25, 1998 Congressional funding established
- Nov. 1, 1999 City of Plymouth adopts first resolution on the project.
- Aug. 23, 2001 County says construction to start May/June of 2002. ■ July 9, 2002 - County Commissioner Lyn Bankes sends an update to city and township officials. Construction now scheduled for January 2003.

 - Oct. 24, 2002 Start of construction now scheduled for April 2003. ■ Jan. 18, 2005 - County announces Fall 2005 Construction start.
- Oct. 6, 2006 County opens bids on the project. The low bidder is Walter Tobe and was reportedly 1.6 percent under the county's estimate of \$10.2 mil-
- Oct. 31, 2006 County announces they plan on closing Sheldon Road shortly after Thanksgiving 2006.
- Dec. 15, 2006 County announces Sheldon Road will not close until after
- Jan. 9, 2007 WAYNE COUNTY CLOSES SHELDON ROAD!
- November 2007 Business owners consider suing to stop project. Dec. 21, 2007 - Contractor asks for a 259-day extension.
- Oct. 10, 2008 Crews were placing the rubber decking on the railroad bridge. The county hopes to switch the trains to the new bridge on or about October 27th. Crews are also continuing to pour concrete for the new roadways and drive approaches to 909 N. Sheldon.
 - November 2008 First train runs over new track.
- Dec. 12, 2008 Sheldon Road re-opens to traffic.

FROM PAGE A1

porate the opening of Sheldon Road in his future advertising to attract customers from Plymouth he hasn't seen for a couple of years.

"I think we lost business we're never going to see again," said Jeannotte. "I hope this new corridor will bring more traffic and we will recover. I, personally, don't think so. But, I'm looking forward to getting back to business.'

During the two-year construction period, one route motorists were detoured was through Old Village. Despite the increased traffic, Robert Costanza of Station 885 on

Starkweather said it didn't bring increased revenues.

"It seemed like the influx of traffic was more of a bypass with people in a hurry to get home," said Costanza. "From what I can tell, nobody in Old Village saw much of an increase in business."

However, Costanza said the reopening of Sheldon Road will help his business — and others in Old Village - in the long run.

"Now I can tell customers to get off M-14, take Sheldon to Farmer Street into Old Village," Costanza said. "The last two years I've had to explain the detours and it just got confusing. It will be a lot easier for people to get in and out of Plymouth."

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

With Sheldon open, DDA reaches beyond borders

BY TONY BRUSCATO **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

When Northville residents open their mailboxes Monday they'll find postcards with a coupon enticing them to shop downtown Plymouth.

It's not a coincidence the mailings were delivered just

Authority Operations Manager Sherrie Prvor said they've been planning for months to get an immediate impact from the completion of the underpass after nearly two years. Pryor said many Northville residents

days after Sheldon Road

Downtown Development

reopened Friday. Plymouth

stayed away from downtown Plymouth rather than take out-of-the-way detours.

"We want to find those people who maybe have missed their favorite places for lunch or shopping because of the construction," said Pryor. "And, there are several new stores that have opened in the

downs, the underpass

ties

still a couple of weeks before Christmas," she said. "We think it will give merchants the little boost they're looking for right now. The merchants are looking at this as a gift." said despite the ups and

remained a project important

to all neighboring communi-

last two years that many peo-

ple may not even know about.

merchants because there's

"It's perfect timing for the

"For all the reasons this was a good idea eight years ago we're still delighted to have it," said Reaume to laughter by dignitaries. "Now we have a north-south artery under the railroad tracks so emergency vehicles, as well as residents, will be able to use it."

Plymouth Police Chief Wayne Carroll said he doesn't foresee any problems with traffic that will no longer have to slow down, or be stopped, at the railroad tracks.



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comes to visit from Flint he won't get lost." The Sheldon Road under-

pass started out with a federal grant in 1999 by then-Congresswoman Lynn Rivers, D-Ann Arbor. At the time, estimates pegged the underpass at about \$8 million. After a number of delays regarding funding from Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Wayne County, the road was closed in January 2007. Two years later the underpass is

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now complete at about twice the original cost estimates.

"I know there was a lot of skepticism whether this would actually be done on time and on budget, and I can tell you that both were met," said Ficano. "It's a special day and one that shows we're facing the challenges."

During speeches before the road was reopened, Plymouth city officials gave Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp - who at times was the only one who believed the project would be completed within two years of groundbreaking - a black and orange road sign that

read "Northbound Sheldon Road Open at Railroad Tracks.'

Plymouth Mayor Pro-Tem Ron Loiselle, who was on the city commission at the very beginning stages of the underpass project, said it was worth the wait.

"Absolutely," said Loiselle, who has always supported the underpass. "It's not going to be the greatest thing for the City of Plymouth, but it is for the community because it will make access to north and south more reasonable without stoppage by trains."

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume

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"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

Senior party fund-raisers

The PCEP Senior Party Committee is inviting diners to dine out for "a wonderful cause," supporting the senior party by dining out at one (or more) of the area restaurants which have agreed to donate 20 percent of the purchases made during a specific time and date.

Fund-raisers take place at the following restaurants on the following dates:

Wednesday, Dec. 17, at Buffalo Wild Wings; Monday, Jan. 12 at Palermo's; Thursday, Feb. 12 at Caravel; Monday, April 6 at Palermo's; and Thursday, May 7, also at Palermo's. All restaurants are on Ford Road in Canton.

Detail information and a flyer is available at http://web.pccs. k12.mi.us/pcep/pages/classof/2009/senior-party09.htm (this flyer must be presented at time of purchase for us to receive 20% credit of your purchase).

Visit the committee's blog at http://pcep09seniorparty. blogspot.com/ or its Web page at http://web.pccs.k12.mi.us/ pcep/pages/classof/2009/senior-party09.htm

To volunteer or for questions, contact pcep-senior-party@

comcast.net

Gingerbread Teens

Area teens are invited to come to the Plymouth District Library 3-4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 15, to make gingerbread houses. All supplies provided. Teens are free to bring a parent or grandparent along with them. Register by calling the Help Desk at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

DAR meets

The Daughters of the American Revolution-Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter meet 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 15, at Greenmead, Alexander Blue House in Livonia.

The program will feature Christmas music and a sing-along with "MI Darlings.

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

Medicare workshop

The Plymouth District Library has scheduled a Medicare D workshop.

Seniors with questions about the selection of a drug prescription program through Medicare should plan to attend the workshop at the Plymouth District Library 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16. Participants should bring a list of their current prescriptions to determine what plan best suits their need.

Register for this free program by calling (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

Luminaria sale

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The Plymouth Symphony League is selling Luminaria kits for

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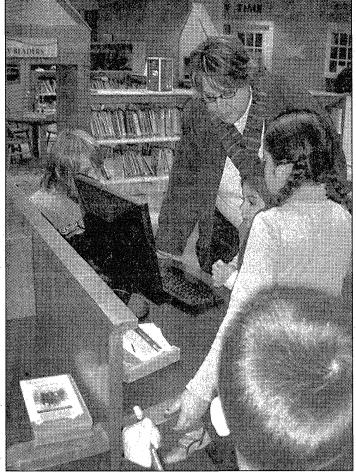
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Night at the library

Farrand Elementary School principal Dana Jones helps students search the library catalog for favorite books and movies during the school's recent visit to the Plymouth District Library. More than 20 families and staff members from Farrand Elementary School came to the library for an information night which featured story time, tours and an introduction to the library's Web site.

the holiday season.

Each \$5 kit consists of 10 white paper bags and 10 candles and can be purchased at Gabriala's, Sideways, Saxton's and the Plymouth Symphony office at 470 Forest Place, Suite 18, through Dec. 24.

For more information visit the symphony Web site at www. plymouthsymphony.org

Ornament sale

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church is offering beautiful Christmas Ornaments for sale.

The ornaments are hand crafted in Poland with a portrait of the OLGC Mother and Child mosaic. The ornaments symbolize the true spirit of Christmas and make wonderful holiday gifts. For further information contact either Mark Coulter, (734)

453-5423, or Mary Vangieson, (734) 737-9942.

Holiday Pottery Gallery

In response to customer requests, the Village Potters Guild is opening its studio gallery for special holiday hours for the first

The gallery, which features Guild members' original artwork, will be open 5-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through Dec. 20. It is located at 340 N. Main, Suite G-1 in Plymouth.

For more information or to learn about classes, call (734) 207-8807 or see www.villagepottersguild.org.

College workshop series

(next to Carl's Golfland)

248.338.6390

The Plymouth District Library will host a series of workshops

designed to assist high school and college students and their parents.

■ "Test strategies for the ACT," Thursday, Jan. 15, 7-8:30 p.m. "Essay writing workshop for the ACT essay," Thursday, Jan.

Registration is requested for these free programs. Contact the Library at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

Museum exhibits

The Plymouth Historical Museum has reopened with its new special exhibit, "Twas the Night Before Christmas," featuring several popular Christmas stories from the past two centuries, including the poem of the same name purportedly by Clement C. Moore, A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens, and The Polar Express, by Chris Van Allsburg. The special exhibit will be open through Jan. 4.

Santa is now visiting the Museum to meet good little girls and boys. Santa Claus will be at the Museum every Saturday until Christmas. and will be at the Museum 9-5 p.m. Dec. 6 during the Annual Craft Bazaar and Open House. This year's Craft Bazaar will have free admission, with more crafters and a craft

The Museum's permanent Lincoln Collection exhibit will remain closed until early December while the exhibit undergoes a facelift in anticipation of the upcoming special exhibit "In the Presence of Lincoln," honoring Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday in February 2009. That exhibit will run Jan. 21-Nov. 4.

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main. Hours are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$10 for families, and \$2 for students 6-17. Tours and groups can be accommodated by calling (734) 455-8940. For more information, visit www.plymouthhistory.

Prison Family Support Group

Do you have a family member currently serving time in prison, a subject that you can't easily discuss with just anyone? Now, there's a place for help – for conversation – for understanding of what you are going through.

Hope-4-Healing is a free on-going support group for those who have loved ones in prison, providing a safe place to talk about it, share with and learn from others. The group meets the second Monday of every month beginning in January 2009 at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, in

For additional information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or e-mail hope4healing@rocketmail.com

Holiday classics

The Penn Theatre will show a variety of holiday classics during December.

The schedule includes: "Polar Express," 7 and 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19 and 5 and 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 20-21.

The Penn Theatre is located on Penniman in downtown Plymouth. Box office opens a half-hour before each showing; tickets are \$3. For more information, call (734) 453-0870 or visit www.penntheatre.com

Saturdays at the Penn

4th Annual

The Plymouth Community Arts Council and the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society present "Saturdays at the Penn" oldfashioned variety shows for children and families at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth.

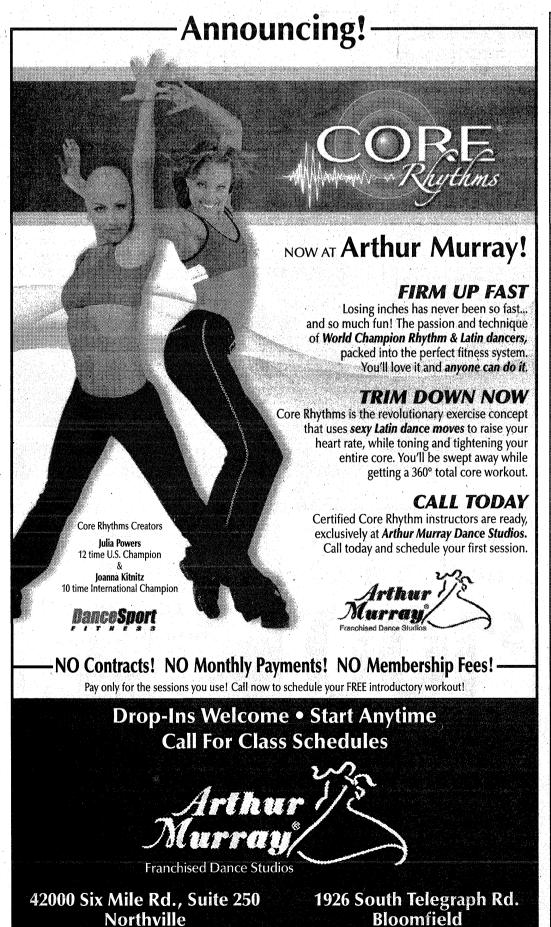
The upcoming performance features special musical host Nan Washburn, conductor of the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, announcer Timothy Thompson and special guest performer Josh White, Jr. The event is set for noon Saturday, Jan. 3.

Tickets are \$3 and may be purchased the day of the show. Doors open 11:15 a.m. The Penn is located at 760 Penniman.

To purchase tickets before the concert or for more information on group purchases, contact Deb Madonna at (734) 377-0914. The concert is made possible, in part, by a grant from The Wilcox Foundation and other sponsors.

> **Holiday Hours** Dec. 13- Dec. 24

Sunday12-5

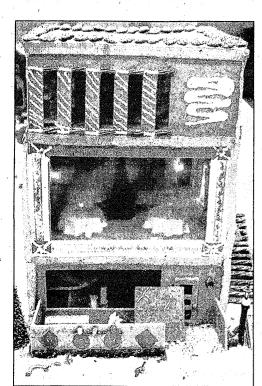


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Schoolcraft students create a sweet downtown



Third place winner Tina Czarney and Lisa Chin's construction La Saison in the Gingerbread Village display at Schoolcraft College.

The theme of this year's Gingerbread Village at Schoolcraft College is "Downtown."

Students in the Culinary Arts Program have created a delectable vision of the city with such landmarks as Comerica Park and Macy's in sweet gingerbread.

The creations also include some imaginative buildings that only exist in the students' imaginations. The buildings include intricate details of fruits and vegetables, baked items, Scrooge and a snowman all down in candy and spun sugar.

And it's all edible, except for the gas lamp lighting system.

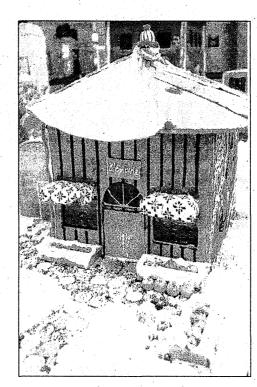
The 16 buildings were created by 30 students working individually and in groups. It will be on display at Schoolcraft's VisTaTech Center until 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, and is open to the public.

A panel selected four buildings for special

First place was awarded to Rudeepan Wattanapat of Plymouth for North Star Gallery.

Second place was awarded to Gabrielle Todd of Jackson for Epicurie and to Laura Camacho-Arguello of Dearborn and team mate Nancy Mechler of Brighton for Old Town Bakery.

Third place was awarded to La Saison by Tina Czarney of Allen Park of Allen Park and Lisa Chin of Canton.



Second place winner Gabrielle Todd's construction Epicurie in the Gingerbread Village display at Schoolcraft College.



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

First place winner Rudeepan Wattanapat's North Star Gallery in the Gingerbread Village at Schoolcraft College.







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Schoolcraft creates new Transitions Center

BY HUGH GALLAGHER **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College is now one of four programs within a new Transitions

College officials say the change is to serve students and the community better but some longtime WRC advisory board members aren't happy with the change and how it was presented.

A meeting was held Tuesday at Schoolcraft to introduce the change. The Transitions Center, under director Stacey Stover, incorporates the Women Resource Center, Adult Student Services, Family Resources and Student Engagement Programs.

"We're excited about this, providing opportunities to more students and growing services to students and the community," Stover said.

Stover replaced Nancy Swanborg as director of the Women's Resource Center in

"This is an expansion of services. Services are continuing," Stover said. "It meets the needs of the community."

Laura Callow of Livonia has been an advisory board member since 1970, when the WRC was founded. She said the changes have been in the works since September.

"All the trappings of the Women's Resource Center were stripped, a quilt, pictures, plants. People could no longer refer to it as the

Women's Resource Center but only as WRC," she said.

She said Schoolcraft **President Conway Jeffress** was concerned that a center for women at the college might be a violation of Proposal 2, the anti-affirmative action amendment approved by voters in 2006.

But Beth Allen of Farmington Hills, who has been on the WRC advisory board for 18 years, said the center has always welcomed and assisted men.

"It was called the Women's Resource Center because that's where most of the efforts were," Allen said.

Stover emphasizes that the change will not eliminate any of the services now offered. Allen and Callow say they understand that the services

will continue.

The Women's Resource Center includes a Divorce Support Group, programs to help women in transition and help with economic independence. Adult Student Services offers financial planning, income tax assistance, a workers in transition program and help for adult students. Family Resources offers campus recruiting information and a Web site for families and parents. Student Engagement sponsors a women's history month program, helps with student schedules, and a high school to college transition program.

Allen said what many on the advisory board are concerned about is that the WRC won't have a separate identity and that many of the women

who have come for assistance won't feel as comfortable

under the new arrangement. She said many women come in emotionally upset but through counseling are able to become economically selfsufficient.

"Many of us believe that with the changes you won't see that anymore," she said.

But Stover said she knows the history of the WRC is important and that it will continue under the new arrangement.

"One thing that was done well under the Women's Resource Center was the ability to work one on one, to sit down with students and work with someone," she said.

She said the program has "as wonderful base" of 48 volunteers who will continue their work.

"They are empathetic and knowledgeable," she said. Another tradition that will continue is the annual WRC Spaghetti Dinner, which has raised scholarship money for adult students. Stover said the dinner will continue and funds raised will go to the

Transitions Center. The date scheduled is March 17, 2009.

Winter dark covers a world of wildlife

inter Dark. It never really takes me by surprise. But it does send me inside early. I adjust and have come to realize that it's

the near fran-

tic scurrying

of black wal-

nut-hauling

red squirrels,

the huddling

of chickadees

wind and the

sudden cessa-

that warns me

I have about

30 minutes to

finish outdoor

tion of drip-

ping icicles

against the

Oakland **Naturally**

Jonathan

Schechter

task. So it is with winter dark, a more powerful warning than a ticking watch. I head in with a few oak logs for the night fire about the same time deer cautiously head uphill from their woodland edge beds of pine needles.

Winter Dark. The time

of the owl, the fox and the coyote. The time for the occasional rifle shot like crack of a frozen tree "explosion." One night soon the mysterious throaty groans of nearby lake ice join the dark noises. Winter dark is the time to wonder on the ways of nature and man as ranting winds rattle windows on my old hilltop home and send the occasional puff of smoke back drafting from the wood stove.

I may feel frustration these moments can be hard to share, but I find more pleasure in their peaceful solitude than the more common human trait in my small town of heading out or a drink or two. And I know that winter dark is followed by the sparkle of dawn, frosted windows and a new world of discovery laced with snow. Fresh snow sets the stage for discovery. More often than not those discoveries are found along the edge of my cross country ski tracks.

Technical books on winter

wildlife seldom mention the tiny intricacies that seem so obvious on a slow paced solitary ski sojourn. Perhaps it is because those writers are cloistered indoors and work from established facts rather than direct personal observations. Chickadees: We all know they huddle a bit against the wind. But look at them closely down among the dogwood thicket and some observations are quickly noted — their huddling is not random. Random behavior is not the way of successful winter survival. The chickadees huddle low and face into the wind. A trait that seems to be shared by most small winter "feeder birds." I can only surmise it is to keep the cold winds of winter dark from blowing up under their layers of insulating feathers.

Dawn, with her almost imperceptible slowness wakens the sleeping earth as I push on along the tree line. Crows calls. A startled rabbit bursts into flight and then freezes to "disappear." If I was a hunter it would be his end. And as the first clear rays of sunshine warm my cheek and soak the feathers of huddled chickadees, I ski over small logs that hide tiny earth-covered wood frogs, amphibians frozen into a comatose state of ice laden biomass until their time of spring. I enter the backwoods swamp, a place where winter dark's hand gives us a clear sense of time and place. I smile recognizing that if it was not for the slowing of the pace brought on by winter dark, the eye would not see and the mind would not absorb the subtleness of wilder mysteries, a world that on this dawn includes the painfully slow trek of an inquisitive young opossum with frost nipped ears and a dragging bent tail.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. Reach him at Oaknature@aol.com.

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Holocaust **Memorial** founder was 'selfless'

BY SARA CALLENDER **ECCENTRIC STAFF WRITER**

Rabbi Charles Rosenzveig turned his personal tragedy into messages of tolerance and understanding. Rosenzveig, whose family was

killed by the Nazis, later created Holocaust memorial centers in West Bloomfield and Farmington



Rabbi Rosenzveig

from 80 to 88.

Because his personal documents were destroyed in the Holocaust, Rosenzveig - who lived in Southfield - didn't know how old he was. Estimates range

Hills. He died

Thursday of heart failure

at Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital.

"He was a selfless man who worked tirelessly to bring the knowledge and the tragedy of the Holocaust to many," said Alan Zekelman, a member of the board of the Holocaust center. "He knew that the only way to prevent hatred and genocide was to educate people about them."

Born in Ostrovitz, Poland, Rosenzveig immigrated to the United States in 1947, after his parents, brother and one of his two sisters and all of his aunts, uncles and cousins were killed.

Rosenzveig was ordained at Yeshiva University in New York in 1951. He served as rabbi at Congregation Mt. Sinai in Port Huron from 1953 to 1993.

His passion was creating a permanent memorial to Holocaust victims and teaching the importance of tolerance.

Burial will take place in Israel. Memorial contributions can be sent to the Holocaust Center, 28123 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills 48334.





Some insurance agents know their products, others just salesmen



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

some life insurance. After listening to your radio show. I decided to buy term life

insurance.

I contacted

Dear Rick:

I need to life insurance and he gave purchase me a bid. I went online and was able to find a policy with same terms that was considerably cheaper. Both of the companies are AAA rated. Is there any reason why I shouldn't buy the one online?

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 14, 2008

Congratulations for shopping around and getting competitive bids. I

a friend of mine who sells

don't have a problem with buying life insurance online particularly term where the policies are straightforward and easy to understand. The money you save looks better in your pocket than it does anywhere else.

As far as I am concerned there are two types of insurance agents those who are salespeople and those that understand their policies and the workings of insurance and client needs.

Those who are salespeople only don't understand the policies they sell nor do they understand individual needs. All they want to do is sell. These people provide no value to you so there is no reason to deal with them.

There are agents who understand complex insurance needs and they are able to guide you to select the right policy for your situation. These individuals bring value to the process.

One of the reasons I like term insurance is because the policy provisions are easy to understand you're buying insurance for a period of time and if you pass on during that period of time, your

beneficiaries collect on the policy. In most situations, I recommend term insurance because it fills a need and is cost effective. If you are considering term insurance, get competitive bids and remember, the Internet is a great resource. Dear Rick: I want to take some losses by selling some good funds but I don't want to be out of the market. How can one find good comparable funds to replace those

when making sales for tax losses? I want to sell Vanguard Explorer, Vanguard Wellington, **Dodge & Cox International** and Selected America. I never see this specific

issue addressed. What do

Www.hometownlife.com

you suggest? The real issue is to not violate the wash sale rule which says if you sell an investment with a loss, you cannot buy that same fund back within 30 days. If you purchase the same fund within 30 days, then you cannot take the loss for tax purposes. That does not mean that you cannot buy back a similar fund because you can. For example, if you are in a balanced fund and you sell that fund, you can immediately buy back another balanced fund without violating the wash

sale rule.

In your situation, I like all the funds you are selling. Although, they've all had a difficult time of late, they are all good funds. Therefore, there are a couple things that you can do. You can sell the existing funds that you're in and then reinvest the money into an index fund for that category, hold the index fund for over 30 days, then sell them and re-buy the same funds you have sold. This would allow you to still deduct your losses for tax purposes and remain invested. Therefore, if the market does have a short-term run you'd be in a

position to benefit from it. In your situation, the index fund that you can use to substitute for the Vanguard Explorer will be the Vanguard Small Cap Index. A substitute index fund for the Vanguard Wellington would be the Vanguard Index Balanced Fund, a substitute for the Dodge & Cox International would be the Vanguard Index International, and a substitute for the selected American Shares Fund would be the Vanguard

Index 500 Fund. Another strategy as opposed to using the index fund is just to buy some very good similar funds. In that case, I'd consider the Baron Small Cap Fund as a replacement for the Vanguard Explorer. Instead of Vanguard Wellington, the Dodge & Cox Balanced Fund would be an excellent substitute. To replace the Dodge & Cox International, you could use the Vanguard International Value Fund, while replacing the Selected American Shares with the Dodge & Cox Stock Fund:

I believe you never want to let the tax tail wag the dog. In other words, you don't want to do anything for tax reasons and tax reasons alone. However, if you can do something that makes sense economically and it saves you on taxes, then that is a strategy worth pursuing.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife. com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can





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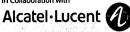
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Observer & Eccentric **Plymouth Distribution Center**



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Fax a letter to the editor, press release or item for the community calendar to (313) 223-3318.

The Observer also maintains a local retail advertising office in Plymouth Township. To contact Plymouth advertising representative Nicole Stone, call (734) 582-8357.

To reach the following editorial staff members call: ■ Editor Brad Kadrich: (313)

- 222-8899 ■ Plymouth reporter Tony
- Bruscato: (313) 222-2637
- **■** Plymouth-Canton sports editor Ed Wright: (313) 222-

Trying to restore a river

Faas takes lead of organization in charge of cleaning up Rouge

BY KURT KUBAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Few people are as knowledgeable about the Rouge River and the ills that plague it

As director of municipal services for Canton Township, Faas knows firsthand about the efforts that have been made by Rouge communities to clean up the waterway, and how much more needs to be done to return it to a safe recreational resource that allows fishing and even swimming.

Faas, who lives in Farmington Hills with his wife Ceri, was recently elected to a two-year term as chair of the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC), an organization formed in 2006 by dozens of communities within the Rouge River watershed to help restore the river and to comply with federal clean water requirements.

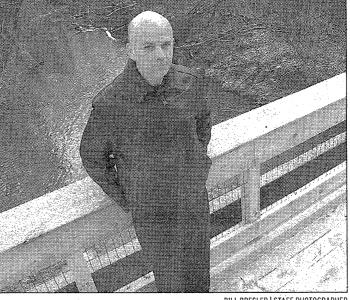
Faas will chair his first full meeting when the ARC meets on Tuesday in Novi.

Faas is assuming the job of chairman at an interesting time for Alliance, which has a membership that includes about 40 communities, and several counties. Currently the ARC is in a legal dispute with the Michigan Department of Environment over new requirements for storm water management plans, which each community has to file with the state to show that it is complying with federal water quality regulations.

According to Faas, most of the ARC communities believe the new requirements are too costly, because they will force communities to do much more water sampling of storm water discharges into the river than is currently required.

"The ARC position is we've, been doing a very good job with our monitoring program, better than the rest of the state. This will be very costly to our communities," Faas

The fight with the DEQ will be a topic that will be discusses at Tuesday's meeting,



pool resources and at the low-

est cost to comply with water

quality requirements," Faas

His other hope is to help

Tim Faas, Canton's director of municipal services, is the new chair of the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC), which is in charge of improving the Rouge River.

Faas said.

Faas, 47, grew up in southwest Ontario, Canada. He worked for the city of Windsor for about a decade as assistant director of the public works department. He came to Michigan for a job opportunity, and became the director of operations for the Western **Townships Utilities Authority** (WTUA). From there, Faas became the director of Municipal Services for Canton.

In addition to trying to get the state to ease its position, Faas says he has two major goals for the ARC during his tenure as chairman. First, he wants people to learn about the organization and realize it has real value. He says ARC is important for its member communities, because it helps them meet federal mandates like water quality monitoring and public education - programs that would be

much more costly for individual communities without the pooled resources of the ARC, which has a \$749,559 budget

"Beyond the overall improvement to the watershed that we have seen because of the work we've done, the Alliance is a way for the communities to

ARC MEETING

What: The Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) public meet-

When: 2-4 p.m., Tuesday, Dec.

Where: Novi Civic Center, The Gateway and Events Room of the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Quarter, 45175 W. Tem Mile Road,

For more info: Visit www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/

find secure funding for the ARC, from grants, corporations, and even individuals. He believes if ARC is successful proving its value, then the second part of the equation will much easier.

"We have so much real data to show how much the watershed has improved," Faas said. "In Canton in particular, the Lower Rouge has gone from one of the worst in terms of water quality to one of the

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPT. 734-354-3232

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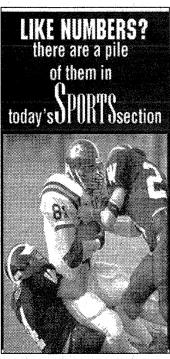
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CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction December 19, 2008 at 9:00 AM. The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

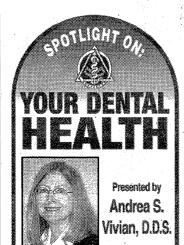
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1994	Ford T	aurus	4-DR	1FALP52U3RG232429	
1998	Plymouth N	eon	4-DR	1P3ES47C1WD581047	
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1991	Ford E	scort	4-DR	1FAPP14J3MW378602	
1999	Ford W	/indstar	S/W	2FMZA5143XBB23850	
1996	Mercury N	larquis	4-DR	2MELM7462TX605960	
pertuit.				선생님 사람들이 가는 것이 없다.	

Publish: December 11 & 14, 2008









NEW ORAL BACTERIA IDENTIFIED

It may surprise you to know that more than six hundred bacteria live in the human mouth. As you might imagine, these bacteria have the potential to cause various problems, from tooth decay to bad breath to gum disease. With this in mind, it is important to identify unrecognized species of mouth bacteria if we are to find more effective ways of preventing and treating oral diseases. Thus, it comes as good news that British researchers have identified a new associated with tooth decay and In fact, gum disease. researchers found three new strains Prevotella histicola (abacteroides) inside the lining of the mouth. Histicola means "inhabitant of tissue". The new

finding may help combat periodontitis.

A very big threat to dental health as well as overall health is gum disease. And the best way to deal with gum disease is to prevent it with daily brushing flossing and it, with daily brushing, flossing, and visiting the dentist on a regular basis. We are diligent in our approach to making sure periodontal disease destroy your smile. And since most dental insurance allows two cleanings per year, now is the perfect time to call us at 734-453-9413 to schedule an appointment

you can maximize coverage by the end of the year. It is our mission at 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth to deliver the highest level of care, using the latest materials and always keeping our patients' comfort and well-

P.S. In addition to removing tartar and bacteria from tooth surfaces and beneath the gums, antibiotics and other medications



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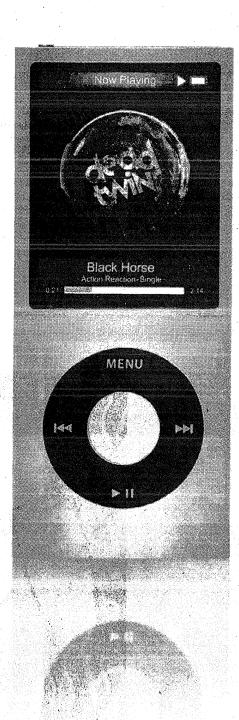
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Sunday, December 14, 2008

OUR VIEWS

And critics said it couldn't be done

When Wayne County officials closed Sheldon Road nearly two years ago to begin the underpass project and said it would be done by December 2008, nearly everyone scoffed.

Whether they did it publicly or privately, pretty much everyone snickered when Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp continually insisted he'd find a way to meet the deadline.

On Friday, Helmkamp had a chance to stick his tongue out at all the doubters when Sheldon Road reopened to traffic basically on schedule (or way ahead of schedule, transferred to the Pizza Hut on Ann Arbor depending on your level of cynicism).

Of course, he didn't. In fact, Helmkamp, who local officials credit the most for shepherding the massive project, pretty much stood aside and let his boss, Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano, and other dignitaries have the stage Road it was impossible for me to really do at Friday's brief grand opening. In our minds, it would have been more fitting for Helmkamp to preside Friday, but he's much too good a soldier and, when the time came, stood aside to let his boss run things.

None of that, however, diminishes the effort Helmkamp put in to get this project completed. Hamstrung by his own engineers and other members of the county's team in the beginning — when mistakes piled up and delayed construction for weeks at a time — he held the project together with baling wire and bubble gum.

He fought an uncooperative CSX (which copped a surprisingly indifferent attitude considering they weren't being asked to put in much money and they were getting a brand new underpass out of the deal), along with a balky Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and utility companies.

You can argue about whether the project was worth the money, some \$15.5 million, up from some \$8 million the method for getting the project back on track — Wayne County essentially threw as much money as it took to get the contractor to get the job done — but it didn't cost Plymouth (some \$500,000) or Plymouth Township (a little over \$1 million) any more money than they signed on for to begin with.

There's still some tweaking to do on the project, so it's not totally over yet. But north and southbound traffic is moving again, right on time. It's everyone's sincere hope the businesses most affected by the two-year closure will see business pick up again.

No one's saying the project was well-managed, and you have to wonder if they'd have been able to avoid all the delays whether the project would have been done even ear-

Business owners have earned a medal for their patience and their ability to survive an extended painful period. And Helmkamp has earned the right to take a bow for making sure it wasn't prolonged any longer than necessary.

COMMUNITY VOICE

How has the two-year closing of Sheldon Road for the underpass project affected you?



"There was a woman I know that Road (in Plymouth Township) and I would go there to eat. When they closed Sheldon it. Sheldon Road being closed for so long made me change."

> - Dennis Dicken, **New Hudson**



"We moved here (from Florida) the month it closed so we've never gotten to use (Sheldon Road). We found going down Northville Road around is better ... to get to our favorite restaurant, Compari's, for the chicken piccata. We love it here because everything is convenient, except for that (Sheldon Road)."

> - Kathy Lee, Northville Township



"It's been a little bit of pain to drive around and I'm glad to see it's opening. It will be great for the businesses. I haven't been to any of these businesses in a while."

> Trudy Steigerwald, **Canton Township**

OUR VIEWS

Thank you, Rep. McCotter, for standing up for Detroit

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, has developed a reputation for his soaring oratorical style in the House of Representatives.

His speeches are notable for their obscure historical references, stinging wit, musical allusions and passion.

We have not always agreed with the positions that McCotter has supported vith his oratory. But on Wednesday, the 11th District congressman used his eloquence in support of the auto recovery bill and rose to the defense of not just the auto industry but the embattled Detroit region and working men and women everywhere. This was a Class A rhetorical performance.

McCotter had been one of the most ferocious Republican leaders against the bank bailout, something he continues to rail against. He and others were instrumental in defeating an initial bailout

bill before a revised version was passed in the Senate and the House. He has been harshly critical of the lack of oversight on how those billions of dollars are being spent and the clueless arrogance of investment bankers.

But, McCotter argues that the auto industry is different. Contrary to its critics, the industry has been restructuring, has been meeting federal CAFE mandates, has been developing better and more energyefficient cars. They didn't ask for help until they were swamped by the bank disaster. He says that it is the hard-working people of his district and other districts all across America who will suffer if there is no bailout. Small businesses will collapse. Whole towns will be devastated.

He strongly rebukes those who have railed against the UAW for daring to negotiate decent contracts for their members.

"I once spent a freezing winter morning in front of the glass house, the Ford Motor Company corporate headquarters, in Dearborn. All those employees, those UAW members, that people say don't want to work come to work and don't want to perform, don't care about their quality of performance. Well I'll tell you what: They stood out in zero degree temperatures to keep the Wixom plant in my district open. That's how badly they wanted to work. That's how much they cared about the production of those cars. That's how much they love their families,' McCotter told his fellow representatives.

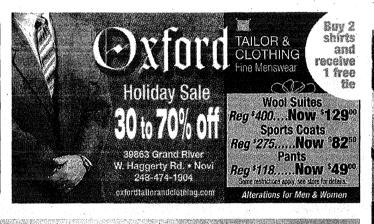
Perhaps McCotter's oratory helped move a few votes to win passage of the bailout in the House, where he was one of only 32 Republicans to vote yes. Whatever the outcome, McCotter

deserves a warm thank you from his

district.

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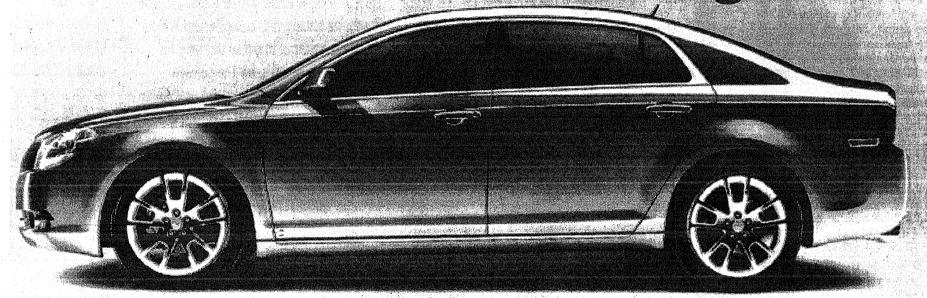
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Schmitt update

Canton native Allison Schmitt, who won a bronze

medal at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China, earned a silver medal

in the 500-yard freestyle event at the U.S. Short Course Nationals at Georgia

Tech University in

Atlanta last week-

4:39.55 was a per-

sonal best.

Schmitt's time of

The 2008 gradu-

ate of Canton High

School also placed

freestyle with a per-

sonal-best clocking

of 1:45.14. She also

recorded a personalbest time of 23.23

in the 50-yard free-

meets are held in 25-

length of long-course

and Olympic compe-

Sanders' feat

Kyle Sanders, a

2008 graduate of

School and a fresh-

recently passed his "Player Ability Test,"

Plymouth High

man at Arizona

State University

which is a major

step in acquiring a

Management degree

Professional Golf

Sanders shot

rounds of 71 and 79

at Lone Tree Golf

Club in Chandler,

ed to shoot a two-

lower to pass. 'Hockey Night' in Plymouth

Ariz. Students need-

round score of 154 or

Friday night will

at ASU.

vard pools, half the

Short-course

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New-look Ignition set to kick off 3rd season

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Detroit Ignition has undergone an "Xtreme" makeover since the Plymouth-based professional indoor soccer last played seven months ago.

Not only does the three-yearold franchise play in a new league — the Xtreme Soccer League — it has a new coach; a smaller, revised roster; and a pared-down schedule.

The good news for fans of the two-time regular-season champions of the Major Indoor Soccer League is that 10 of the Ignition's 15 players return from last year.

The team's new coach, Matt Johnson, is a familiar face, having served as a player/assistant coach almost since Day 1 of the franchise's inception.

"This is all very exciting for me," said Johnson, who will relinquish his playing role this season to focus on the coaching. "I feel fortunate to be taking over a team that has a winning tradition and an

atmosphere of success." The XSL will play the

2008-09 season with just four teams: Detroit, Milwaukee, Chicago and New Jersey. After the Major Indoor Soccer League broke apart following last season, three teams – Philadelphia, Baltimore and

Monterrey — joined the fledgling National Indoor Soccer League. "The way we look at the new

setup is addition by subtrac-

FRESH START

What: Detroit Ignition professional indoor soccer team; **Who**: The team is made up of 15 players, 10 of whom played on the team last season when it competed in the Major Indoor Soccer League; When: The Ignition kicked off its 2008-09 season Saturday at Milwaukee; the team's home opener is Dec. 20 at 7:35 p.m. against New Jersey; Where: The team plays its home games at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township; it trains at High Velocity Sports in Canton;

Changes in the wind: The Ignition is a member of the first-year Xtreme Soccer League, a four-team league that also includes franchises in New Jersey, Chicago and Milwaukee; its new coach is Matt Johnson, who served as a player/coach the previous two seasons.

Please see IGNITION, B2

Resurgent Whalers top Saginaw, 3-2

Goaltender Matt Hackett won his sixth straight start in stopping 34-of-36 shots and the Plymouth Whalers built a 3-0 lead into the third period to defeat the Saginaw Spirit, 3-2, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Wednesday at Compuware Arena.

Plymouth has won four games in a row and is now 13-13-3-0 (29 points).

Combined with Sault Ste. Marie's 3-1 loss to Sudbury on Wednesday, the Whalers moved into fourth place of the OHL's West Division and eighth overall in the Western Conference. Saginaw had a fourgame winning streak snapped and is now 19-9-0-1.

RJ Mahalak (Monroe), Chris Terry and Ryan Hayes scored for Plymouth, which led 2-0 after 40

Saginaw replied with third period goals by Joe Pleckaitis and Tyler Murovich and pulled goaltender Edward Pasquale with 35.7 left in regulation, but the Spirit couldn't find the equalizer.

Mahalak's goal - his sixth of the season - came at 6:10 on a rebound from the lower rim of the left circle after Pasquale stopped Michal Jordan's shot from the right point.

Terry scored his team-leading 14th of the year at 16:26 of the second period when he accepted Beau Schmitz's stretch pass out of

Please see WHALERS, B3



Brad Lineberry (11), pictured during a game last season, provides Plymouth's basketball team with a high level of skills along with invaluable leadership abilities. The 6-1 forward was named the team's captain.

Young 'Cats ready for big season

BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

An infusion of high-rising talent gives Plymouth's boys basketball team reason for high hopes as it enters the 2008-09 season.

Although the Wildcats return only 10 percent of their scoring from last year's 9-13 unit, the addition of several new players and the return of a few standouts from last year should be enough

PREP HOOP PREVIEW

coach Tom Van Wagoner's squad a contender in the first year of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's South Division.

to make

'We lost six seniors that contributed largely to victories last season, so we'll have a new-look team," said Van Wagoner. "We'll be young and athletic, and looking to gain experience while experiencing success."

The makeup of the Wildcats roster will include six seniors, five juniors and three sophomores.

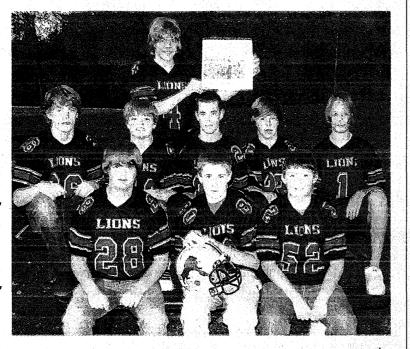
"I expect us to have good balance in scoring," said Van Wagoner. "We'll be starting three sophomores, so we'll definitely be one of the younger teams around."

Nearly half the Wildcats' 13player roster is made up of seniors. Brad Lineberry, a 6-foot-1 hardworking guard, will serve as the captain. Lineberry recently signed to play baseball at Madonna

Please see PREVIEW, B2

Time flies when you're having fun

Pictured are members of the Canton Lions junior football team who played on teams that had a combined record of 45-3 over the past five years. The Lions freshmen team was featured in an Observer article (held up by Daniel Tidwell, top) in 2004. The pictured players played key roles in winning four divisional championships, three Super Bowls and a Super Bowl runner-up finish. They outscored their opponents, 1,567-570. Pictured are (front row from left) Travis McCall, Scott Gring, Alex Smith, (second row from left) Luke Denser, Danny Stropes, Jordan Ciciotti, Nathan Emminger, Brandon Lee and (top row) Daniel Tidwell.



Olech sparks Crusaders' win

Christie Carrico and Plymouth High's Kim Olech led the way as the Madonna University women's basketball team rolled to a 78-60 non-conference win Wednesday night over host Marygrove College in a game played at the University of Detroit Jesuit High School Arena.

Carrico, hitting 12-of-15 free throws, led the victorious Crusaders (3-8) with 20 points. She also grabbed 14

Olech, a transfer from Adrian College, also had a double-double with 14 points and 14 rebounds.

Also getting into the act for MU was Alyssa Guerin (Salem) and Tabatha Wydryck with 12 points apiece. Guard Katie Mount added eight points and six assists.

Lonnie Terrell had 19 points to pace the Mustangs (1-9). Keyandra Linebarger added 10.

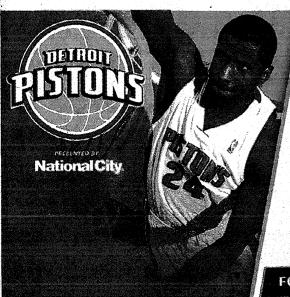
Marygrove was outrebounded 60-32. MU is off the rest of the week for final exams before returning to action 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Activities Center to face NAIA No. 18-ranked Cedarville University (Ohio).

be a significant evening for prep soccer in this area. At 7 p.m. at the

Plymouth Cultural Center, former members of the Canton, Salem and Plymouth boys hockey programs will compete in an alumni game.

Immediately following the alumni contest, the Salem and Plymouth boys hockey teams will square off in a key KLAA contest.

The high school game is expected to start at approximately 8:30 p.m.



Home the Holidays

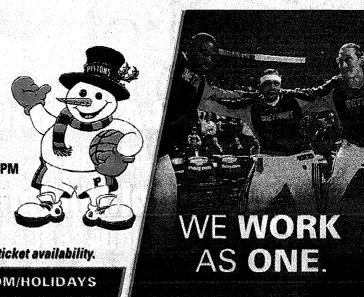
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Canton prepared to give foes a run for their money

BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 14, 2008

Canton's basketball team will hit the court running this season.

And it won't quit until the final buzzer sounds, according to secondyear head coach Dan Colligan, who will be imploring his team to function at a quicker pace than usual.

"We don't have a lot of size, but we're pretty fast," said Colligan, whose team is coming off a 7-14 season. "I want us to run a lot this season, but to do that we have to be a great rebounding team. We're not there quite yet, but the boys are working hard to get there."

Colligan said he's looking forward to the inaugural season of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

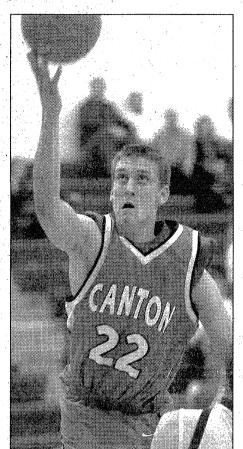
"I think all the changes are exciting," he said. "The games will be tough, night in and night out. I know the kids are fired up about it."

While the Chiefs only have one player that stands taller than 6-foot-2, they have several others who play taller than their listed height. One of those is 6-foot-2 senior forward Daniel Stoney, a three-sport athlete who kicked for the Chiefs' football team in the fall.

"Dan is one of those guys who leaves it all out on the floor every game," said Colligan. "He's a high-energy guy who never gives less than 100 percent."

Key players in the Chiefs' back-court rotation are senior Kyle Biega, a 6-foot senior; Marlan Glenn, a 5-10 senior; and Dietrich Lever, an electrifying 5-8 sophomore.

Lever was unfazed when he was called up to play as a freshman in a District game this past spring as he



Senior Daniel Stoney brings a high-energy brand of play to Canton's basketball team.

than two quarters of action.

"He's a pass-first point guard who handles the ball really well and gets the ball to guys who are in position to score," said Colligan. "Defensively, he's tenacious.

We're moving Kyle from the point to netted 12 points and five assists in less the wing because he has a good perim-

PREP HOOP PREVIEW

eter shot. He started nearly every game last year as a junior, so he brings a lot of experience to the team.

"Marlan is one of our best outside Colligan said the team's best

shooter is 6-foot senior guard Sherif Hassanien, who was one of the Chiefs' top reserves as a junior.

'We're not sure yet if Sherif will start or come off the bench," Colligan revealed "He's the kind of player who can change a game with his energy and shooting ability."

Joining Stoney in the starting frontcourt is 5-9 senior forward Kiere

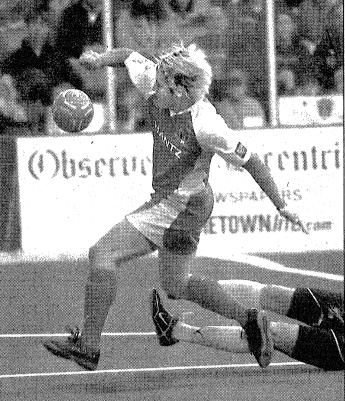
"Kiere's 5-9, but he plays like he's 6-3," said Colligan. "He's one of our best defensive players and he's a very active rebounder."

Among the top reserves are 6-2 senior George Muresan, 6-4 junior forward Kevin Weise and 6-2 junior forward Kai Walther.

"George is a great student of the game and one of our best defenders in the post," said Colligan. "Kevin is a good outside shooter who can hit the pull-up jumper on the break. Kai was our best rebounder on the junior varsity last year. He's a very heady player."

Providing valuable depth will be seniors Zach DeLoy, a 5-11 guard, and Joey Krizanek, a 6-foot forward; and a trio of juniors: Brandon Duffey, a 6-1 swing player; Yusef Bazzi, a 5-10 point guard; and Alex Martin, a 6-foot shooting guard.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Josh Rife is one of 10 Detroit Ignition players to return from last year's team.

tion," said Johnson. "The four teams we have in the league now are all committed to the long term, which will give our league stability.

"There's no question it could get a little repetitive playing only three other teams until the league adds more teams in the future, but on the other hand, strong rivalries will develop, which is a good thing."

The Ignition will have a definite local flavor to its roster this season. Among the players whose hometowns are nearby include Livonia's Tino Scicluna, Birmingham's Ryan Mack and Worteh Sampson, who played college soccer at Madonna University.

Scicluna, the head coach of the Madonna University men's soccer team, played one season for the Detroit Rockers in 2000-01. Mack was among the MISL's leading scorers last season while Sampson could be a future star in the new league, Johnson forecasted.

'Worteh has great potential,'

of our top scorers from last year's team, so we're hoping he's one of the guys who steps up and realizes his potential this season."

Jamar Beasley, the team's top scorer last season, signed to play with the Rockford Rampage of the NISL.

"We would have liked to have kept everybody, but it was financially impossible," said Johnson, who took on a general manager-type role during the off-season.

Other returners from last year's Ignition contingent include mid-fielders Vahid Assadpour and Kyt Selaidopoulos; defenders Josh Rife, Droo Callahan and Nate Craft; forward Mike Apple; and goal-keeper Danny Waltman.

"I expect a solid year from Danny this season," Johnson added. "He really came on and had a good season last year."

The Ignition opened its 2008-09 campaign Saturday at Milwaukee. The team's home-opener is Dec. 20 against New Jersey. The opening kick is set for 7:35 p.m. at Compuware Arena.

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FROM PAGE B1

University.

A pair of other two-sport senior stars — 6-2 Zach Hamed (football) and 5-10 Cliff Buttermore (baseball) - will provide athleticism and perimeter shooting.

Six-foot senior Jordan Jones

is a "high-wire player" in Van Wagoner's estimation while 6-1 Ryan Spencer will provide instant energy off the bench.

Leading the 'Cats' iunior class are 5-10 Dion Johnson, a "creative and solid contributor," and hard-working 6-2 guard Adam Skubik.

A trio of junior newcomers - 5-10 Alontae McElhaney, 5-10 Marquee Taylor and

6-3 Aaron Thompson — are all difference-makers, Van Wagoner said.

All three sophomores on the team have already earned starting berths. Leading the way is 6-6 post player Justin Moss, who played well as a freshman following a lateseason promotion last season. Brennen Beyer, a 6-3 forward, is tenacious in the paint and

6-0 Mike Nadratowski is one of the team's best shooters.

The Wildcats opened with an impressive 40-point victory over South Lyon East on Tuesday night.

"If we share the ball all season like we did against East, we'll have a good season," said Van Wagoner.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108 said Johnson. "We lost a couple



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the Plymouth zone to the Saginaw blue line. Terry skated by Saginaw defenseman Nick Crawford and beat Pasquale with a well-placed shot from the right circle.

Hayes scored his 10th of the year at 6:44 of the third period to give Plymouth a 3-0 with a shot through traffic in tight on the left wing.

Pleckatis cut the Plymouth lead to 3-1 on a power-play goal at 13:08 of the period with he ripped a rebound from the left hashmark by Hackett.

Murovich scored his 12th of the season 1.22 later at 14:30 with a hard shot from the left circle that was tucked inside the short side

Hackett saved some of his best work for early in the third period when Saginaw had a two-man advantage and was steady all night in raising his record to 10-5-1-0. His last loss came Nov. 8 in a 4-2 decision to Ottawa

Newest Whaler

at Compuware Arena.

After the game, Plymouth President, General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci announced the Whalers acquired overage defenseman Scott Fletcher (Haslett, MI) from the Niagara IceDogs in exchange for London's eighth round draft choice in

The 20-year-old Fletcher is the third overage (1988 birthday) on the Plymouth

roster. OHL teams can carry three overages and Plymouth has had right wing Patrick Lee on the roster all season and acquired center Matt Caria from Sault Ste. Marie on Tuesday. Caria made his debut tonight, skating on a forward line with Terry and right wing Kaine Geldart.

Fletcher was originally selected by Saginaw in the

second round (22nd overall) in the 2004 OHL Draft and was traded to Niagara in 2007.

In 201 OHL games in his career, Fletcher has scored one goal with nine assists for 10 points and 561 penalty minutes.

Fletcher started the season with Providence of the American Hockey League before returning to Niagara.

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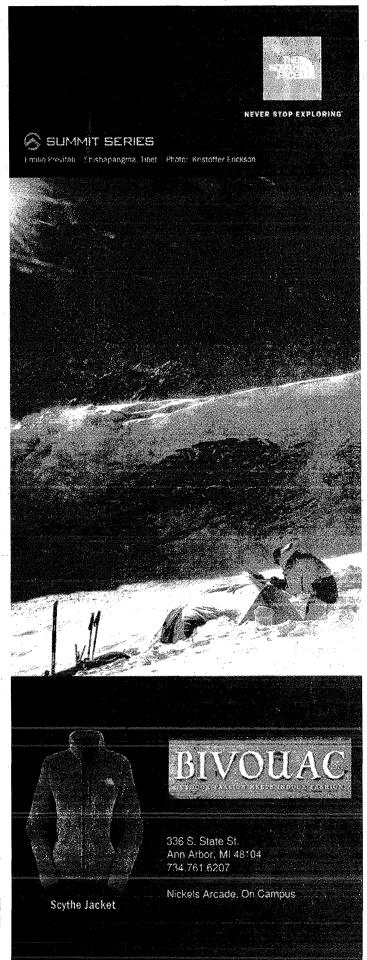
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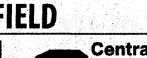








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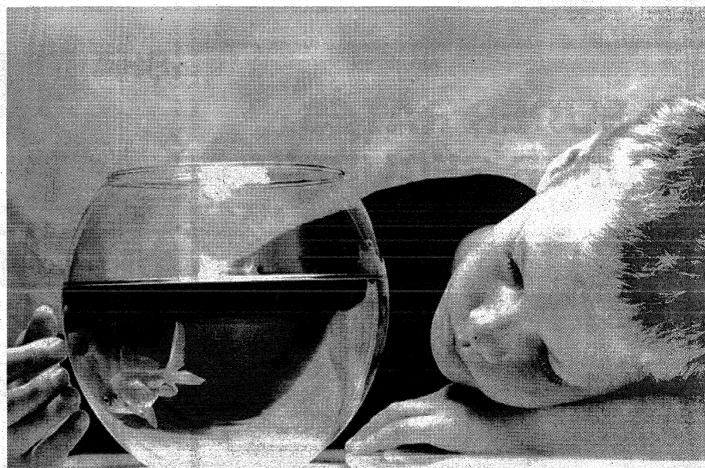


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MIAC to add five schools in '09-10

BY DAN STICKRADT **ECCENTRIC STAFF WRITER**

The Michigan Independent Athletic Conference is about to become bigger.

Currently a 12-member league, the MIAC announced that it will add five schools for the 2009-10 school year. Coming on board for in August will be Ann Arbor Greenhills, Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest, Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett, Westland Lutheran and Newport Lutheran South, giving the league 17 schools.

Currently the league operates two divisions, Blue Division and Red Division, of six schools each.

"This is the biggest it has ever been," said Ed Mehlberg, the league commissioner and athletics director at Auburn Hills Oakland Christian. "The biggest it has been is 12, which is where we are at now.

years ago." Lutheran Northwest, Liggett and Westland all come over from the Metro Conference,

We were 12 once before, a few

which will shrink to a fiveschool league. Those same three schools left the MIAC for the Metro in 1993.

Greenhills and Lutheran South have been independents, although Lutheran South is only in its fourth year of exis-

This is the first addition since current MIAC member Ypsilanti Calvary Christian came aboard three years ago from the Fundamental Baptist Athletic Conference, replacing Dearborn World Outreach Christian, which shuttered its doors in 2004.

All current and new members of the MIAC are also members of Michigan High School Athletic Association for state-wide tournaments.

"This will make us stronger in every sport," Mehlberg said. "This will make us one of the premier small-school conferences in the state."

The MIAC schools have had a history of success on the state scene in many sports, with numerous state champions, state runners-up, Final Four and state quarterfinalist teams

across the board.

"There has been numerous times when schools in our league have won state championships or been in Final Fours," said Mehlberg, whose own school won the Division 4 state crown in boys soccer last

"This will make us very competitive, across the board," said Ernie Righetti, the athletics director at Birmingham Roeper and also the school's boys and girls basketball coach. "Nobody will be able to win 10 straight league titles in anything."

Using enrollments from last school year, Greenhills will be the largest school in the league at 340 students in grades 9-12. Lutheran Northwest will follow with 307, while Southfield Christian (236), University-Liggett (211), Westland Lutheran (206), Oakland Christian (204), Birmingham Roeper (2001), Sterling Heights Parkway Christian (191), Plymouth Christian (160), Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (99), Allen Park Inter-City Baptist (97), Novi

Franklin Road Christian (95), Warren Macomb Christian (80), Ypsilanti Calvary Christian (60), Canton Agape Christian (54) and Lutheran South (48).

The expansion will also allow for football to become a conference sport, as Southfield Christian, Parkway Christian, Oakland Christian, Westland Lutheran, University-Liggett and Lutheran Northwest will begin a conference schedule next year on the gridiron.

The league already sponsors boys and girls basketball, girls volleyball, boys and girls soccer, cross-country, track and field, boys golf, baseball and softball. Some of the league members will also have wrestling, boys and girls tennis, girls golf and bowling teams, although not enough for a league schedule.

"These schools bring so much to the table," Mehlberg said.

"The league's athletics directors will convene next week to further discuss possible divisions, on whether to go to a two- or a three-division for-

UNIFIED 2: On Wednesday at

the DISC, the Wildcats domi-

nated their hosts thanks to

a two-goal effort from Zach

"This was a good win

for us after we suffered a tough loss against Chelsea,"

said Plymouth coach Paul

Fassbender. "I'm not real happy

with our goal output - we out-

shot them 38-14, so we prob-

ably should have scored some

the way the boys played."

more goals, but I'm happy with

In addition to Gambrell and

Nick Sofios, Luke Merandi and

Sanders, goal scorers for the

winners were Pat Smiatacz,

Sanders.

Gambrell and a one-goal-two-

assist performance from Tyler

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS PREP BASKETBALL Redford Union at Salem, 7 p.m.
PCA at Canton Agape, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 18
Canton Agape at Mt. Carmel, 7:30 p.m.
Livonia Stevenson at Plymouth, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19 PCA at Franklin Road., 8 p.m. GIRLS PREP BASKETBALL

Monday, Dec. 15 Canton at Howell, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16 PCA at Canton Agape, 6 p.m. Plymouth at Detroit Community, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17 Thursday, Dec. 18
Canton Agape at Mt. Carmel, 6 p.m.
Plymouth at Livonia Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 19 Canton at Salem, 7 p.m.
PCA at Franklin Road, 6 p.m.
BOYS PREP HOCKEY
Monday, Dec. 15
Salem at Novi
at Novi Arena, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 16 Grosse lle at Salem at Plymouth Cultural Center, 7:30 p.m.

Northville at Plymouth at Compuware, 6:10 p.m. **Wednesday, Dec. 17**Plymouth at Livonia Stevenson at Eddie Edgar, 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19 Plymouth at Salem at Plymouth Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20 Canton at Detroit Country Day at Oak Park Arena, 2 p.m.

GIRLS PREP HOCKEY
Tuesday, Dec. 16
Northville at PCS
at Compuware, 7:50 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18 PCS at Grosse Pointe South, 7:30 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING

Wednesday, Dec. 17 nouth at Allen Park quad, TBA Saturday, Dec. 20 Canton at Woodhaven Invitational, 8 a.m. Plymouth at Ida Team Tournament, TBA
BOYS SWIMMING

Tuesday, Dec. 16 Ann Arbor Pioneer at Canton, 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19 at Salem pool, 6:30 p.m.

Madonna spikers earn **All-America status**

Madonna University seniors Lubovj Tihomirova and Whitney Fuelling were both named to the 2008 Tachikara-NAIA Volleyball All-America teams.

Tihomirova, a first-team selection from Riga, Latvia, ranked 11th nationally with 4.08 kill per set and sits fifth all-time at MU with a total of 2,413 kills. In her final season.

Tihomirova finished with 616 kills this fall as the Crusaders finished 35-7 overall and captured their 12th straight Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference title and earned its seventh straight trip to the NAIA Nationals.

Tihomirova also led MU in aces with 43 this season and hold the single season record for kills (967) set in 2007.

Fuelling, a native of Milford, earned secondteam honors after ranking 10th in the nation with a .385 atgtack percentage.

The senior middle hitter also paced the WHAC in blocks with 1.3 per set and ranked 18th nationally. Four Crusaders also

earned NAIA All-America Scholar-Athlete honors including Fuelling, along with juniors Inta Grinvalds (Portage Central), Mary McGinnis (Fraser) and Byrnn Kerr (Livonia Churchill/Schoolcraft College).

To be selected, a studentathlete must be a junior or senior and carry a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or better. Grinvalds, a nursing

major, was second nationally with 10.83 assists per set, while Kerr, majoring in math and education, led the Crusaders with 513 digs in her first season as the team's libero.

McGinnis, majoring in art and education, was second on the team and in the topten in the WHAC in kills with 474.

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'Super' third period leads Rocks over Country Day

BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Detroit Country Day goalie Alex Cantrell played like Superman during the first two periods of Thursday night's game against visiting Salem.

But the Rocks pieced together a kryptonite-laced comeback over the final 10 minutes to earn a dramatic 3-2 triumph.

When it was all said and done, Cantrell finished with 39 saves as Salem outshot their hosts 42-21. However, three net-finder over the final 10 minutes helped the Rocks improve their record to 3-3-2.

Tonight's game was 45 minutes of pretty good hockey," said Salem coach Ryan

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HOCKEY

Ossenmacher. "We outshot them two-to-one, but their goalie played really well. It could have been a lot different without him in net.

"Last Saturday, we were leading 2-0 and ended up losing 8-5, so we worked the guys pretty hard in practice this week. They responded really well tonight."

Salem's Josh Jarvela cut his team's 2-0 deficit in half with 10 minutes left when he scored off assists from Mario Macari and David Russell.

A few minutes later, Nick Haves provided the equalizer off an assist from Jarvela. Macari netted the game-winner with approximately three minutes left. Hayes and Ryan Quigley assisted.

There was a scramble in front and Mario backhanded a rebound shot over the goalie, who had dropped to the ice," said Ossenmacher. "It was a good goal."

The Rocks face a busy schedule next week beginning with Monday's game at Novi. On Tuesday they host Grosse Ile at the Plymouth Cultural Center before taking on Plymouth Friday at the same venue.

Friday's game will be proceeded by the annual Plymouth-Canton-Salem alumni game.

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company, Seeking pleasant gentleman,

SEEKING A MATURE MAN ractive SBPF, 35, N/S, N/Drugs, would like to let respectable, happy SBPM, 25-50, to enjoy life together. 12300680

HARD WORKER SEEKS SAME SBF, 44, N/S, mother, seeks old-fashioned BM, 29-49, N/S, homebody, to explore all fire has to offer! I enjoy reading, bike rides, playing tennis. 13274519

VERY DOWN-TO-EARTH
SBF, 37, 55", 125bs, slim build, enjoys nice walks in the park, movies, bowling, basketball games. Seeking SBM, 30-43. 12299111 ARE WE A MATCH?

VERY ATTRACTIVE

SBPF, 37, mother, looking for attractive, sexy, tall, dark-complected, employed, intelligent BM, 33-50, for friendship possibly leading to LTR. 12282115 HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU WIWF, 57, homeowner, independent, a little lonely dog owner, enjoys quiet times, good talks and to getherness. Seeking a kind man to share these

TAKE A CHANCE
SF, 48, 57", 210bs, medium brown/blue, N/D, N/S, no children, enjoys drama films, shooting pool, playing darts, sporting events, long drives, more. Seeking SM, 45-55, who enjoys the same. T2253036

LOOKING FOR MR RIGHT Outgoing, laid-back SWF, 40, sincère and light-hearted seeks easygoing, fun SM, who knows how to enjoy life, to share talks, dates, friendship and possible LTR. **17:255010**.

LET'S GET TOGETHER

ure, intelligent BF, 35, 5'5", 130lbs, seeks
telligent man, for casual dating and friend-

ship. **23**267624 GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR? 5'3", brown/brown, has nets N/ 5'3", brown/brown, has pets, N/S, great of humor, looking for WM, 45-55, who likes out, museums, movies, reading and more, to

HOMEBODY SEEKS SAME
SBF, 44, 52*, 165lbs, black hair, brown eyes, light complexion, N/D, N/S, enjoys movies, bowling, dining, plays, concerts, reading. Seeking SBM, 39-51.

SF, 41, 5'4", dark complexion, brown eyes, short hair, looking to meet an honest, loyal, funny man, 37-55, to spend a lot of time together. \$\frac{\pi}{2289947}\$ SEARCHING FOR A MAN...
40-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 47-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. 27962317

CURVACEOUS SWF, 47, 57" 155lbs, hazel eyes, dimples, enjoys råb music, jazz, dancing, dining out, blues, sports. Seeking SBM, 21-42, with similar interests, for friendship first, possibly more. 2283605

I'M UNIQUE..

complex with a good sense of humor, good listener and great talker, God-fearing, enjoys movies, music, books and more. Searching for a male companion with the same or similar qualities, 35-50.

ARE YOU THE ONE?

A NEW BEGINNING SBF, 47, 5/4", like action movies, swimming, dancing, plays, ulkovs, just having fun. Seeking SBM, 45-55, for friendship or more. 27289151

PRETTY COMIC BOOK NERD SWF, 21, red hair, blue eyes, 510°, 165bs, mature body/mind, looking for a lonely handsome man, 20-30, race open, clean-cut, open-minded, who can make me laugh and who is writy. 17292913

PETITE AND CUTE SWF, 35, great sense of style, very friendly, would like to meet a SWM, 36-45, who will love me for

THAT SPECIAL ONE SBF, 39, enjoys movies, walks in the park, picnics, just chilling. Looking for SBM, 39-45, for possible relationship. 27295026 SEEKING STRONG BM

Can you handle me? SBF, mid 40s, healthy and beautiful, seeks strong, bald BM, 40-62, who knows how to handle his own business. I'm laid-back, gentle cot. #7055509

SINGLE DAD WELCOME

I NEED LOVE Fun-loving, down-to-earth, outgoing, smart SBF, 20, loves having fun. Seeking SB/WM, 18-30, who shares my lust for life. 22300110

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?
Bright, spunlky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. \$\overline{12}\)230694

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

JUST A NICE PERSON... looking for a nice man. Tall SBF, 45, 5'8", long hair, glasses, seeks SM, 45-65, WM a plus. **17249320**

HONESTY A MUST
BF, 42, 54", 186lbs, shapely, brown/brown, seeking an honest man, 40-50, NDrus, who enjoys to
good things in life. I like plabys, dancing, dining out,
good company and working out. \$\frac{\pi}{2256608}\$

BLACK BEAUTY SEEKS. White Knight Spontaneous SBF, 35, brown eyes, in search of adventurous, honest, attractive WM, 25-50, with great sense of humon. I enjoy movies, reading, working out, more. \$\mathbf{T262020}\$

LET'S GET TOGETHER! Sexy SBF, 40, N/S, seeks fun and witty WM, for friendship first, maybe more. 17270132

LONELY VIRGO SBF, 47, with a young heart, enjoys cartoons, music, dancing, good food, good fun. Looking for SF, 30-65, with same interests. 22:69375

BEAUTIFUL
BIBF, 37, beautiful, classy and open-minded, looking for BiF, 25-40, race open, D/D free, HW proportionate. You must be confident with who you are.

HEART OF GOLD

SBF, 39, 5'6", average build, smoker, enjoys cross-word puzzles, old-school lifestyle, movies, dining. Seeking athletic, active BM, 30-42, 6'+, smoker, for friendship, possible romance. 22:268442 DOWN-TO-EARTH AND HONEST

LET'S DANCE IN THE RAIN!
Petite SBF, 36, 150lbs, brown eyes, mother of two, enjoys cooking, music, church. Looking for SM, 35-75. \$\frac{12281372}{2281372}

GREAT-LOOKING BF... eks serious, mature, financially secure LTR. Call me; you won't be disappointed! BEAUTIFUL SBF...

BEAUTIFUL SBF...

37, seeks SWM, 30-50, who is spontaneous and knows how to have fun. Casual relationship first, maybe leading to more. 72271683 ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT
SBF, 47, 57", fulf-figured, NS, likes rollerskating, canoeing, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a genternan, 45-70, who is healtry, fun-loving, financially secure, looks decent. 17287305

A POLISHED DIAMOND
Attractive, sexy BF, 34, seeks true gentle tractive, sexy BF, 34, seeks true gentleman. You on't be disappointed when we meet! **17287057**

DOWN-TO-EARTH

Easygoing DWF, early 50s, would like to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, with the same qualities, minimal baggage, to share the ups and downs of life. Seeking possible LTR. 2279171 CALLING ALL GOLFERS

WiWF, 62, seeking golfer, best friend, 62-70, must be honest, N/S, and active. Looking for LTR, don't delay call now. 22976914

CLASSY LADY
I am in my early 60s, 5'2", brown/brown, I enjoy dancing, outdoors, and travel. Seeking a companion, 60-70, and maybe a relationship. Please call.

ATTRACTIVE BLONDE
SWF, 55, 5'6", N/S, H/W proportionate, active, fun-loving, likes bike rides, working out, taking walks autumn. Seeking SW/BM, 45-63, for dating, pos-sible LTR. 12296774

READY FOR A FRESH START?
DWF, 51, 55°, 120bs, long blonde/blue, well-pro portioned, very ferminine, attractive, self-employed seeking SWM, 45-57, 6°1°+, 225ibs+, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adven

of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoor turer, manly gentleman. 27692549 WHY NOT CALL? SBF, full-figured, seeks a SM, 37-90, for friendship, possible LTR. Call me, let's get together and get to know each other. 12217234

WARM SMILE SBF, 21, N/S, looking for SM, 21-40, for friendship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk and get to know each other! \$287187

LET'S HAVE FUN SWF, likes camping, fishing, hiking, motorcycles, seeking a SWM, 36-63, who enjoys the same, for friendship first, possible LTR. 2244983

LIVE LIFE 2 THE FULLEST

SF, 18, enjoys music, architectural design and try-ing new things. Seeking SM, creative and fun, with passion for the same, to share friendship, good times and then who knows? 27247152

ACTIVE WOMAN
SWF, dark hair and eyes, N/S, social drinker, likes bowling, bingo, garage sales, funny movies and more. If you would like to meet for coffee, let me

HELLO THERE

A WOMAN OF CLASS SWF, 68, looks younger, in search of a SWM, 62-69, who likes movies, dining, theater. Is it you? **GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR**

SWF, 27, mother, enjoys swimming, walking, nature, being outdoors. Seeking similar SWM, 23-45, for companionship. 13:282578 LET'S GET TOGETHER

5'8", N/S, enjoys life's simple pleasures. SB/WM, 48-62, N/S, for friendship or more. 22282444 MUSICAL GIRL Christian WF, 19, enjoys playing guitar, singing, going to church and more. Looking for SM, 19-25, who enjoys the same things. 17292258

OUTGOING BF, 24, student, looking for BM, 35-45, to go out and have fun with. Friendship first, hopefully leading to PRETTY EYES

SBF, 33, voluptuous in all the right places, enjoys life, long walks, intellectual conversation. Seeking SM, 30-50, similar interests. 2298970 TRY THIS ONE Loving, sincere SBF, 5k easygoing, looking for a good-hearted, Christian gentleman with The Lord In his heart to share life, laughter, happiness and possible LTR. 17242234

WORTH A CALL SWF, 55, loves movies, trying new things, sport-ing events, motocross, sewing and more. Seeking sociable SM, with similar interests, to share the special times in life. Friendship first, possible LTR.

BEAUTIFUL MAKEUP ARTIST Sincere, kind SWF 53, proportionate, 5°6", 124hs, professional, attractive, intelligent and educated, lovessional, attractive, intelligent and educated, lovessional, attractive, intelligent and educated, lovessional, attractive, intelligent and sealing statements of the control of the sealing statements and sealing seal



2300385

UR PREE AD 1-800-506-5115 SEEKING LOVING KINDNESS? 40-65, that loves reading, midnight picnics, walking, and exciting conversations. Must have good SOH and self-worth. 27282618

GET TO KNOW ME a-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR.

STILL SEEKING

Very cute SBF, 57, 5/3", 122/ibs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 46-59, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special, 27113198 ARE YOU OUT THERE?

SBF, 5'3', long hair, student, seeking a SBM, 19-23, handsome, honest, fun, good personality, for friendship and more. 27248542 WORTH A LOOK

SBF, 30, 57", 195lbs, nurse, loves music, trying new things and just having fun. Looking for good-hearted, open-minded man to share the good times TAKING A PEEK

Attractive SWF, 20 years old, loves to be outdoors and have fun, enjoys clubs, movies, relaxing at home, ISO male who likes the same, and wishes

for friendship, maybe more. 2254474

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

SEEKING SOUL MATE Nice-tooking SWM, 68, HW-proportionate, 59°, 166ths, NS, social drinker, enjoys shooting pool, movies, dining out. Seeking attractive SWF, 48-60, NS, HW-proportionate, petite, loving, adventurous, for friendship, possible LTR. 27292815

FUNNY & ATTRACTIVE SWM, 44, 57", likes outdoor activities, cooking, movies, kids, animals. Seeking SWF, 30-45, to spend time together. 17297143 HOW ARE YOU? DWM, 37, 61", 200lbs. athletia butter

LVVM, 37, 61", 200lbs, athletic build, medium blond hair, employed, outgoing and fun, hard-working, looking to meet like-minded lady to share talks, casual dates, friendship more? 77242120

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

WM, 61, good-looking, good sense of humor, interested in politics, sports, the arts, food. Seeking BF, 45-63. Glasses a plus. \$\frac{\partial 2778802}{2}\$ ARE YOU OUT THERE? SWM, 32, N/S, interested in meeting a lady, 35-42, for friendship first, maybe more. 23:290956 TAKE A CHANCE

Independent, romantic, outgoing, affectionate BM, 32, two children not at home, looking for a BF, 22-45, to get to know and spend time with. HARD-WORKER ovvn, 45, 5'5", short brown hair, grown kids, enjoys music, playing guitar, travel. Looking for similar SF, 35-45. **T7296097**

WINTER SPORTS
Single DWM, 42, 6'1", 218lbs, hardworking, easy going guy. Likes movies, bowling, and winter spor Looking for SWM, 35-42, for dating. **2301662** POSITIVITY

SBM, 42, looking for positive, intelligent SF, 32-48, with no negativity in her life. Call, let's see if we click! LOOKING FOR MZ RIGHT WWM, 45, 511", 220tbs, is easygoing, fun-loving, enjoys a variety of activities, indoor/outdoor. Look-ing for LTR, with the right person. 27265340

SEKING THE RIGHT WOMAN
Male, 5'9', 165lbs, brown/blue, likes horseback riding, camping, long walks, more. Would like to meet
a woman for ffendship first, possibly leading to
LTR, 40-55. 12297398

ing and possible LTR. 2293155 SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED SERIOUS WOMAN THATTED
SBM, 46, looking for that special persona for
LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely,
independent and know what you want in life.

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE!
Haridsome, mature gent SWM, 50, traditional values, romartic, and thoughtful, enjoys culture events, artiquing, short trips, etc. Seeking SWF for friendship and companionship. 27:176497 LOOKING FOR A FUN LADY Devoted SCM, 36, low-key and light-hearted, look-ing for SCF, race open, to enjoy church, dinner dates, movie nights and much more. Let's see what happens. 17252802

HI LADIES
SWM, 46, kind, hard-working, N/S, seeking SB/
HF, 32-34, N/S, for sharing conversation, enjoys dates, laughter and just living life. Possible LTR. 137254060

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
WM, 5'11", 180lbs, works in construction, lof or a woman, 38-55, to go out and do things enjoy racing, the water and more. \$\frac{\pi}{2257001}\$

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

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HOMETOWN



Sunday, December 14, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

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

Holidays a time for sharing

Everyone has been affected by the economy, but some a lot more than others. This year, the need is greater than ever for charities caring for the less fortunate. I was reminded of this last week when I spoke to nonprofit organizations in our communities. Even though we might not be able to give as much as in the past it's important to do what we can.

JA'NOAH HOUSE

Audrey Mattson of Livonia is still taking clothing and food to the poor and homeless in the Norwayne area of



Linda Chomin

Cass Corridor, and Brewster Projects even though her husband, Carl, died in April 2007. The Livonia woman continues their work through the Ja'Noah House. Call (734) 522-5077 to help.

Westland, Brightmoor,

In years past, the couple was able to fill 250 holiday gift bags for children, this year

only about 50. "Every little bit means a lot even socks for the homeless, hats and gloves," said Mattson. "We're seeing more homeless on the streets. Even though they can go to the shelters at night, they have to walk the streets during the day and they're

CAPUCHIN SOUP KITCHENS

Sister Nancy Ann Turner is concerned about those with homes, but no heat. The Livonia nun runs the tutoring program at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen's Conner location. She's asking for educational and hand-held games for the 60 children and socks, blankets and hand and body lotions for everyone. Call (313) 822-8606, Ext. 210.

"I try to give the moms a food card. We have a lot more coming for meals," said Sister Turner. "For the low income it's kind of their way of life. Others they're struggling for the first time because they lost their job. Last year, we had families living without heat and people got sick."

Brother Vincent Reyes used to collect toys for the children at the Meldrum kitchen. This year, he's asking for caps and gloves for the kids in addition to underwear and tube socks for the homeless shower program. Call (313) 579-2100, Ext. 203.

"We're seeing more people at the Meldrum kitchen," said Reyes. "The family pack we give feeds a family of four for a week and usually includes 15 pounds of chicken now only 10 pounds, and the numbers jumped from September to October from 4,300 families to 5,100 families. It's going to be even worse next year. The economy is becoming more of a problem and people can't give what they haven't got."

FIRST STEP

Judith Barr has been busier than ever at First Step which helps survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Around 75 families need to be adopted for the holidays by this week. Call (734) 416-1111.

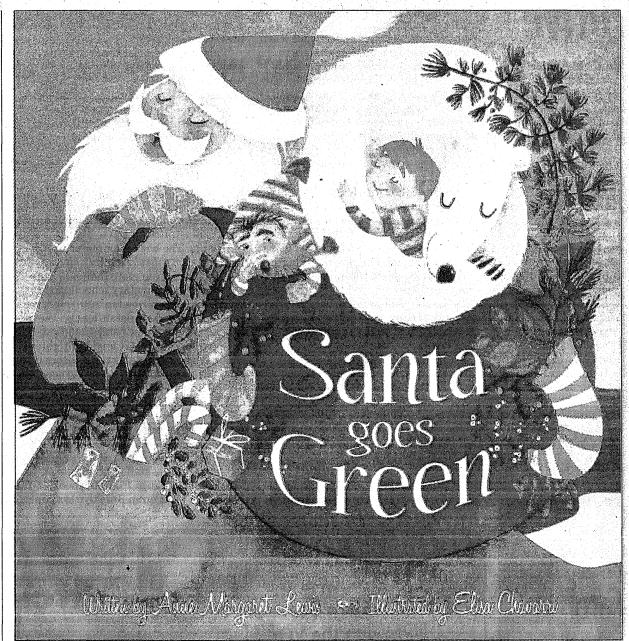
"When the economy is hurting and people are underemployed there's more stress which leads to an increase in family fighting and domestic violence. We're seeing more calls to the 24-hour line, seeing more women afraid to leave and prosecute because they need the income, the bread and milk," said Barr, associate director of the agency based in Plymouth. "We're in need of coats, pajamas, sweat suits used for assault response. When they go to hospitals and police stations, clothes are generally taken. We do need underwear, all sizes of socks, gas cards. People can't afford gas anymore to go to court, to park. We need disposable phones with minutes, food cards. We're trying to help people sustain. For children, we're giving nonviolent, durable toys. We still have hats and mittens because of the generosity of churches last year."

First Step does need small or individu² al sizes of juice, protein bars and canned goods for the shelter that provides a haven for women and children.

"First Step is in a transition. We're looking for a new way to house people to be safe. Our building is 60 years old. We're halfway in a capital campaign for a new facility. If someone makes a cash donation then we're able to go out and buy what a family needs, an alarm system to ensure their safety."

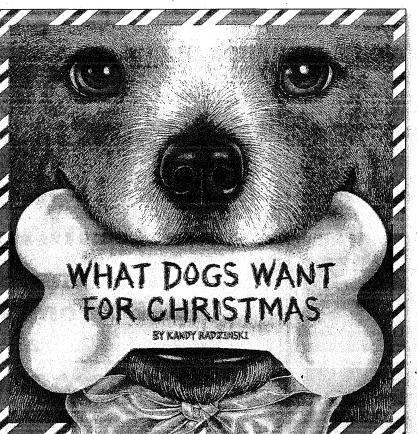
If you need help, call (888) 453-5900.

Linda Ann Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2145 or Ichomin@hometownlife.com.



Santa helps a little boy save the polar bears in this new book illustrated by Elisa Chavarri of Northville.

Chid's Day



Dogs write Santa with their Christmas wishes in a new book by Kandy Radzinski.

Authors use imaginations to create fun books

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

All Sam wants for Christmas is something warm to wear. While that might not seem unusual for a little boy or girl, this wish comes from a chihuahua. The short-haired pup is just one of the characters in Kandy Radzinski's What Dogs Want for Christmas.

Children's books open a world where animals can write Santa with their requests. Several new tales this season take creativity to the limit. Nowhere is that more true in the Oklahoma author's new book, a sequel to What Cats Want for Christmas, from Sleeping Bear Press in Chelsea.

WHAT DOGS WANT FOR CHRISTMAS

Radzinski's rescue dog provided plenty of inspiration as evidenced when Beanie asks for something new to chew besides a nice leather

shoe. Radzinski took a photograph before painting the watercolor of the innocent-looking trouble maker. Her love shines in these beautiful renderings. Radzinski grew up with dogs before going on to teach art at Central Washington State College and the University of Tulsa.

"I'm probably closer to dogs than people. They're always there for you," said Radzinski, who also lives with a Scottie named Kirby. "The book mostly revolves around Beanie. She was the most expensive. There's the living room leather chair with one arm. In the dining room, one chair is garbage. She chewed the throw pillows just enough to ruin them, but we love her."

WILLOW

Denise Brennan-Nelson and her sister, Rosemarie Brennan,

Please see BOOKS, C2

Celebrate Christmas Irish-style

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

Not much has changed for Mick Gavin since he left County Clare in 1973. Give the Irish any reason to celebrate and out come the dancing shoes and fiddles. This year, Gavin is inviting everyone to step out to his annual party on Dec. 20 at the Monaghan K of C Hall in Livonia.

At least twice a year, the Redford musician calls his performer friends together for gatherings. This Saturday, Wallace Hood of the Irish Rovers and Ray Maguire of Plymouth join Gavin on stage. There will be step and ceili dancing with students from the Ardan Academy of Irish Dance based in Livonia. Kitty Heinzman brings her students from the Hibernian Club in Redford and Gaelic League in Detroit. They'll take turns kicking up their heels with Anne McCallum's Set Dancers. "We do encourage parents to bring their kids. It's a family event," said



Mick Gavin (back row) and his students perform at two Celtic shows during the holidays. Pictured are sons Sean (left front row) and Michael, Colleen Shanks (back row), Kelsey Lutz and Holland Raper.

Gavin. "We'll have about 12 to 14 local musicians playing Bells of Belfast, Silent Night and a sing-

along. There will be food including Christmas cake and Irish scones, and step, set and ceili dancers. It's

CELTIC CHRISTMAS

What: Christmas Songs & Ceili Tunes When: 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20 Where: Monaghan K of C Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, between Seven Mile and Eight Mile, Livonia Cost: \$10, kids under age 12 free. Call (313) 537-3489.

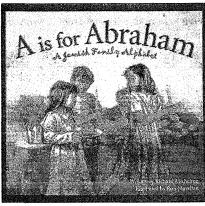
Related events: The Irish fun continues at the Crossroads Ceili 7:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 27-28, at The Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. Admission \$16. Call (734) 761-1800. Workshops for fiddle, flute, tenor banjo, penny whistle, uilleann pipes, guitar accompaniment, button accordion and mandolin performance off by advance registration only on Saturday afternoon. For information or to register, call (313) 537-3489

really a party, a Christmas party." John Heinzman grew up dancing, but turns the floor over to his students at the Ardan Academy of Irish Dance. The team of eight advanced dancers will be accompanied by Heinzman on flute and Irish whistle, and Jo Ryan on keyboards.

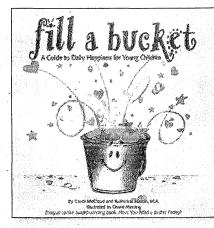
Please see CELTIC, C3



Willow is a free spirit in this new book from Sleeping Bear Press.



Richard Michelson's new book is a primer for Jewish tradition.



David Messing of Livonia illustrated this new

Canned goods are sought for annual **Holiday Food Drive**

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 14, 2008

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

This year more than ever, Livonia Councilwoman Laura Toy hopes the community puts politics aside to help the needy. On Thursday, Dec. 18, she'll join with state Rep. John Pastor and state Rep.-elect John Walsh to collect canned goods and nonperishables for Gleaners Food Bank from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus on Farmington Road, between Seven Mile and Eight Mile, in Livonia.

Toy started the annual drive when she was in the state Senate. Over the last six years, she's collected everything from gently used coats to books to brighten the holidays of the less fortunate.

"I started it to do something to help people during the holidays. The natural thing would be to do something with toys because of my last name, but in my district I looked and saw there was a need, particularly in the south end of the district, Westland and Redford as well as Garden City," said Toy, who now is the community outreach specialist for the state Senate in Lansing in addition to being a Livonia councilwoman.

"This year, the food shelves are empty. I felt between the three of us we could rally all of our supporters. Besides canned goods and nonperishables, people could provide a gift certificate for a grocery store or favorite bakery or deli, or any cash donation.'

Cash donations can be mailed to Rep. John Pastor at 15417 Middlebelt, Livonia,

'Gleaners serves Southeast Michigan and maybe not all the help goes to Livonia but it makes us better to help our neighbors," said Toy.

really used their creativity to write about Willow, an independent thinker, for Sleeping Bear Press. The recently released book was illustrated by Cvd Moore, who formerly lived in Birmingham and Beverly Hills. Willow paints pink trees and blue apples in Miss Hawthorn's art class.

"I hope kids, teachers and parents learn or realize that the more free you are to explore in art and writing and probably reading, the better," said Moore, who now lives in Sylvan Lake with three cats and one dog. "My mother was a painter and art teacher but never sat us down and told us you have to do it this way. We were always provided reams of paper, clay. We always got new crayons and markers for Christmas so I was just free like Willow who was not following along."

The Brennan sisters were careful not to cast a negative light on teachers but still relay a message. Although this is Denise's eighth children's book, it is her first using human characters. The Howell author is best known for Buzzy the Bumblebee and Grady the Goose.

"It's the fact Willow doesn't see Miss Hawthorn the way anybody else does and her ability to unleash creativity in Miss Hawthorn," said Denise Brennan-Wilson. "Using our imaginations is so important. Nobody sees art the same way. Everything being the same isn't near as much fun. My sister and I originally started talking about trees, willow and hawthorn. The metaphor is there about the difference in trees and part of the underlying messages."

SANTA GOES GREEN

Elisa Chavarri especially had fun illus-

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY

18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860

MEDICINE FOR ARTHRITIS IN THE ELDERLY

array of therapy is not open to people with arthritis age seventy or older.

that gives pain relief but does not hurt either the stomach or the kidney.

drug trials usually do not include patients over age 65

The number of medications doctors have to treat arthritis is large. However, this

For example, ibuprofen is drug commonly used to treat osteoarthritis. This medicine

belongs to the class of drugs known as the Non Steroidal Anti-Inflamatory Drugs

(NSAIDs); a well known side effect of this class of medication is upset stomach, even

ulcers. But for individuals over age 70, this complication of therapy is unlikely. The real risk for the elderly with NSAID therapy is that NSAIDs can cause kidney failure, and it is

not necessarily the result of excessive use of the NSAID. For that reason doctors limit

drug treatment for osteoarthritis in the elderly to acetaminophen (Tylenol), a medicine

Another arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis can appear in old age. Again, doctors have

many drugs available for treatment, but not for the group over age seventy, because the

medications interfere with the body's immune system. The effect of this change is to disrupt the elderly individual's surveillance against cancer, making that person more

susceptible to lymphoma. In addition, interference of the immune system by rheumatoid

arthritis medication increases the elderly person's risk for infections such as pneumonia.

www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com

Finally, starting new arthritis drugs on an elderly person means taking a chance, as

trating Anne Margaret Lewis' story about saving a polar bear in Santa Goes Green from Mackinac Island Press in Traverse City. A boy named Finn is concerned about Leopold and the sea ice so necessary to hunt for food. The melting glaciers could mean the extinction of the species.

Chavarri was born in Peru but eventually moved to Michigan where a trip to the Detroit Zoo left her with an idea for portraying the big white bear fond of nose-to-nose kisses.

"I always liked polar bears so I was excited. The way Anne described him he was a lovable character," said Chavarri of Northville. "The book makes it seem that it's attainable that we can save the polar bears. Anything you can do will make a slight difference and all of those add up if everyone starts being more aware."

Carol McCloud revisits the topic of helping others in Fill a Bucket: A Guide to Daily Happiness for Children. The book is illustrated by David Messing of Livonia. The book is a prequel to her Have You Filled a Bucket Today? McCloud has given more than 800 presentations in elementary schools since the book was published in 2006 by Ferne Press (www.bucketfillers101com).

"It's perfect for new babies and firsttime parents," said McCloud of Brighton. "Kids at age 2 can start taking dishes off the table. It gives them a sense of accomplishment and pride. When you fill others' buckets it fills yours."

A IS FOR ABRAHAM

Richard Michelson wrote A is for Abraham for a younger version of himself, but adults as well as children can learn about Judaism from this book. Michelson grew up in Brooklyn without any religious education even though his family were Jews. It wasn't until deciding to marry a woman outside his culture that Michelson became curious about his background. She eventually converted to Judaism and they raised their children in

Although he represents illustrators through his R. Michelson Galleries in Massachusetts, it was an editor at Sleeping Bear Press who suggested Ron Mazellan for the drawings that seem as if from an earlier age.

"It's a Jewish family alphabet. I thought of it as a fun encyclopedia for families to share," said Michelson. "I'm culturally Jewish but didn't understand where the traditions came from or why things were being done. My mother had grown up in a Jewish household and rebelled. We didn't keep any traditions, didn't celebrate the Sabbath 'cause my dad was busy making a living. I was trying to be a regular kid and fit in. As an adult I'm not alone. A lot of people don't understand the basics of their tradition."

Michelson recently read African and Native American alphabet books just to learn about the cultures.

"I hope non-Jews turn to this book as a primer, but obviously Jewish people are the most likely audience for it," said Michelson. "I hope they get fun and education. It's hard often to have the second without the first. I generally write poetry, stories. The best way to communicate is through a good story in this case in fun word play. It's difficult to reconcile the tradition. There are so many different branches of Judaism so I tried to be general enough. For those steeped in one tradition it can be used as a jumping off point."

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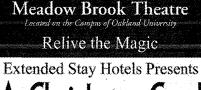
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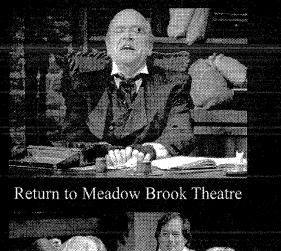
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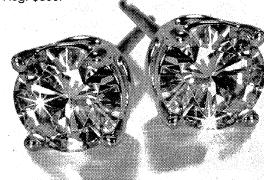
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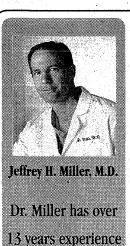
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FROM PAGE C1

"They'll be dancing a variety of Irish step dances, and ceili old folk dancing intermixed with Christmas music," said Heinzman. "Last year it was a nice event. Even though we had a bad snowstorm, we still had a good crowd. Kids danced and turned the stage over to Mick and his music students. We had people from the audience come up and do ceili dancing. There's food and drink so people can come out and have an entire evening and participate a little bit. It's

like a cabaret kind of day." Heinzman's mother Kitty is from Westport, County Mayo, and he started dancing at age 5. That was 39 years ago. About 15 years ago, he and his sister, Liz, opened their studio, then known as the Heinzman

SPORTS (

School of Irish Dance. They bring a select few of their students to Crossroads Ceili Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 27-28, at The Ark in Ann Arbor. Paddy Homan, winner of the 2001 Thomas Moore Cup for solo Irish tenor, will be joined by Hood, Gavin and his students, and Maguire who played with the popular Irish group, Pat's People, in the 1970s and 1980s.

"It's just a way of life for us. My mom still is a very involved part of the Irish community," said Heinzman. "She teaches ceili which means together or group dancing. We teach solo dancing or step dancing now at the Ardan Academy of Irish Dance in Livonia with locations in Redford, Wixom, Taylor, Grosse Pointe, Warren, Lansing, Toledo and Windsor."

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Dancers from the Ardan Academy of Irish Dance kick up their heels at a Celtic Christmas party Dec. 20, in Livonia. Pictured are Grace Carey (back row), Kim Bell, Jackie Harris, Elizabeth Gallagher; Paula Ryan (middle row), Jobi McCarthy, Maddie Calderon-Jackson, and Emily Wheeler (front row), Victoria Gallagher and Sarah Quinn.

Gridiron, Court, Pool, Arena, Greens, Diamond

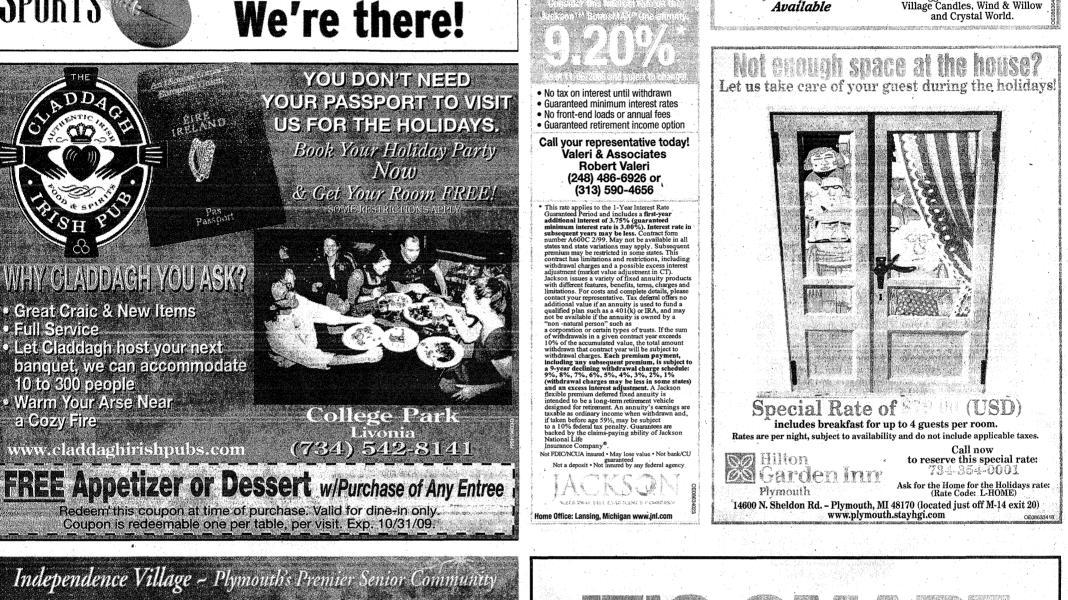
Art classes to start in January

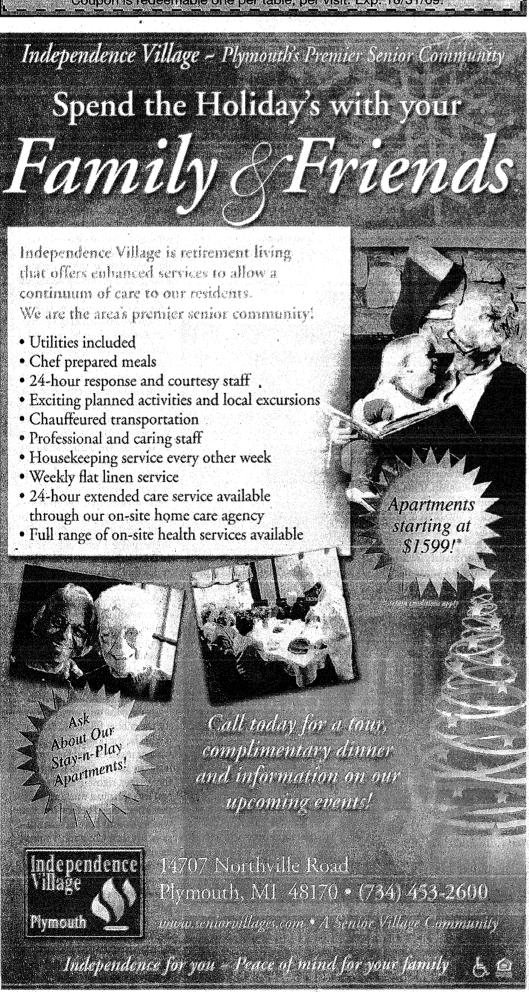
Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL) is offering winter art classes beginning Jan. 7, 2009. Classes in drawing, watercolor, mixed media, portraits, and color technique are available. A pastel workshop with Michigan artist, Jerry Power, is also offered on Feb. 5-6, 2009.

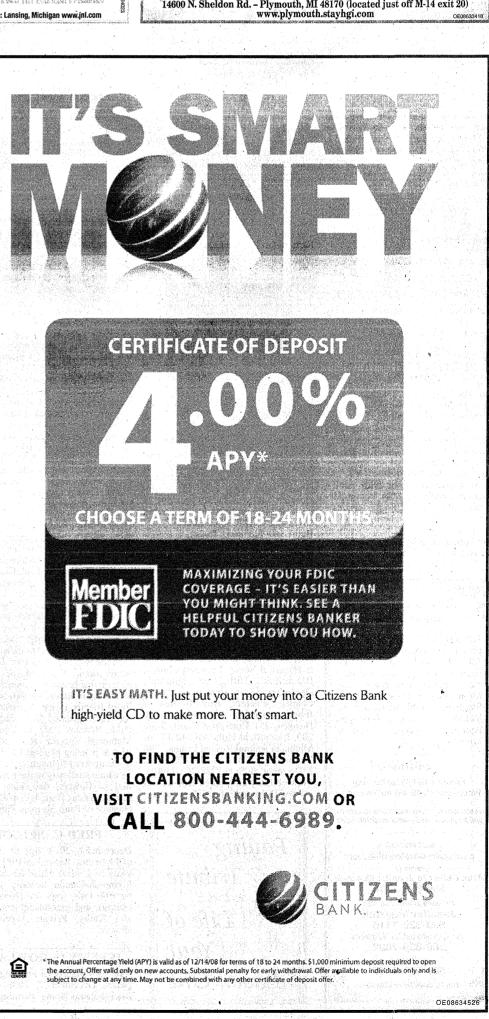
VAAL is dedicated to advancing knowledge and appreciation of the creative arts by offering studio classes and twice yearly exhibits, all open to the public.

For more information about VAAL or to receive a free catalog of classes, call (734) 838-1204.









REUNION CALENDAR

The Reunion Calendar runs Sundays in the newspaper as space allows, and online in its entirety at www. hometownlife.com. Submit your reunion announcement at least two weeks in advance to Linda Chomin. Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or e-mail Ichomin@ hometownlife.com.

Brighton High School Class of 1989

Planning a July 25,2009 reunion at Barnstormer Entertainment Complex in Green Oak Township. There will be a buffet dinner, Dj, and cash bar. Tickets are \$75 per person or \$140 per couple. For details, contact Kelley (Doan) Simpson at (269) 375-5773 or at email4kelley@ yahoo.com, or see groups.yahoo. com/group/brightonclassof1989. Class of 1959

50th reunion with activities June 5-7, 2009. Events will include a Saturday evening dinner party at Plum Hollow Country Club in Southfield. For information, visit www.casstech59.com or contact Marge Teramino Knable, reunion@ casstech59.com; Debbie Friedman, (248) 626-3729; or Steve Sperling, (248) 360-9658.

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1969

Planning a reunion. Contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or email: Kayninilu@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nu-core.

Detroit St. Brigid **Class of 1959**

Planning a reunion and looking for classmates. Contact szonyek@att. net with any information about classmates.

Garden City High School Class of 1960

Mini-reunion luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to GCHS.MCMLX@vahoo.com.

Class of 1989

20th reunion Aug. 29, 2009, at Joy Manor (6 p.m. to midnight. Ticket \$65 before March 1, 2009, \$75 from March 2 to June 1, 2009. No tickets

PAUL DONOVAN

Gross), Laura Bunker (Jeff), Paul Donovan and Lisa Walker (Joe).

therished grandfather of Amy (Tim),

yle, Victoria, Autumn, Jacob, Ian,

Joshua, Jillian, Joey, Emily and Nicole (Mitch). Proud great-grandfa-ther of Tori Lee. Memorial Mass

Monday 11 AM at the Servant Church

of St. Alexander, 27835 Shiawassee,

Farmington Hills, MI 48336. In lieu

of flowers, donations to the Disabled

American Veterans or Maryknoll

DONALD E. FRASER, SR.

December 9, 2008 Age 91. Beloved

husband of Shirley for 63 years. Dear

father of Don Jr. (Gina), Ray

(Valerie), Jim (Sally), Wendy Kouthier

(Charles) and the late Lawrence. Also survived by nine grandchildren.

Brother of William (Joanne). Father-

in-law of Danielle. Memorial service

North Congregational Church, 36520 W. Twelve Mile Rd., Farmington

Hills. Memorial tributes to Beaumont

Hospice, 3601 W. Thirteen Mile Rd.,

Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500.

View obituary and share memories at:

www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

CHARLOTTE G. (Zavitz) HESTER

Age 81, of Farmington, MI, passed away Dec. 12, 2008. Visitation at

Farmington, MI Sunday, Dec. 14 from

2-5 with funeral service Monday,

JOHN "RUSS" HILL

Of Bloomfield Hills, lost his battle

with cancer on December 9, 2008, at

the age of 77. He died peacefully at

home under the care of Mercy Hospice, with his family and dog at his side. He survived by his loving

wife, Dolly, two sons, Bruce (Mary

Beth) and Stephen (Tracy), and four

outstanding grandchildren, Douglas,

Kathryn, Brad, and Daina. Graduated

from Wavne State University in

Electrical Engineering in 1955, and

earned a Master's Degree in Business

Chrysler Corporation until retirement

in 1991. A devoted husband, father,

grandpa, and friend, he will be missed

by all. A memorial service and gath-

ering of friends and family was held

at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church,

Bloomfield Hills, on Saturday,

December 13. Inurnment at White

Chapel Cemetery, Troy. In lieu of flowers memorial tributes to Mercy

Hospice, 281 Enterprise Court, Suite

200, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, or

Michigan Animal Rescue League, 290 Featherstone, Pontiac, MI 48342. A. J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500.

View obituary and share memories at:

www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

Employed by

Dec. 15 at 11am at the funeral home.

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Funeral Home,

Church.

Royal Oak, MI

Congregational

Thayer-Rock

Sisters. www.thayer-rock.com

Age 86. December 10, 2008.

Beloved husband of the late

Rosemary for 52 years.

Loving father of Sue Watts

Linda Underwood (Craig

will be sold at the door. Tickets include dinner, premium open bar, dj, door prizes, picture cd and other gifts, and available for purchase at www.gardencity89.com or contact Paula at gchs1989reunion@hotmail.

Grosse Pointe North Class of 1991

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

Lincoln Park High School

Looking for members of Lincoln Park High School class of 1958 for 50-year reunion. Contact Nancy, (313) 535-8777 or nc6897@sbcgloblal.net.

Livonia Franklin Class of 1969

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

Milford High School Class of 1978

Planning a 30th reunion. Class members should contact the reunion committee as soon as possible. Email milford78@gmail.com



The Finnish-American Singers will present, "The Scenes of Christmas," an international Christmas concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 21, at the Finnish Center at 35200 W. Eight Mile, between Newburgh and Gill Road, in Farmington Hills.

Finnish singers present 'The Scenes of Christmas'

The Finnish-American Singers will present, "The Scenes of Christmas," an international Christmas concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 21, at the Finnish Center at 35200 W. Eight Mile, between Newburgh and Gill Road, in Farmington

Carols from many countries will be performed by this mixed chorus of 25 voices with Henry Naasko, director, and William Gramzow, accompa-

There will be solos and duets as well as a song by a quintet. Following the concert will be

a Finnish coffee table with home-made open-faced sandwiches and desserts. All of this is for a donation of \$10. Chorus members will hold a Bake Sale of Finnish Cardamon coffee breads made in fancy shapes and decorated for Christmas.



Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com View Obits On-line@www.hometownlife.com

ARTHUR ANTHONY ARDITTO

Age 86+. Born July 31, 1922 in Detroit, Michigan. Passed away December 10, 2008 in Florida. Loving husband of Edna (deceased). Beloved father of Richard A. (Pilar) Ardito and Susan M. Sanderfer. Grandfather of Angela, Renae, Stephen, Mandi, Korby and Gina. Great-grandfather to Falyn and Rylee, of Florida. Brother to Marie T. Caldwell of Grosse Pte. Woods, MI, Delphine F. Ardito of Clawson, MI, John R. of Florida and Barbara A. Kerr of South Lyon, MI. Uncle of many loving nieces and nephews. He served his country in World War II in the Army Air Corp, as a bombadier and retired as a Major from the Air Force Reserve. He was a school teacher at St. Francis School for Boys' in Detroit. He graduated from Wayne State University in Detroit and was the number one car salesman at Lou LaRiche in Plymouth, MI. He loved sports, a professional bowler, ardent golfer, pool player, fisherman and card player and was a baseball and football fan. Arthur mals and music. He played the piano, accordion and harmonica. A member of the Italian-American Club. He was a lifetime friend, associate, companion and was admired. He is with the Lord, may he rest in peace. Services in Florida, on Sunday, December 14, 2008, 2-4 pm. Donations to Preston James or Susan Sanderfer, Compass Bank, 7205 Forrest Oaks Blvd., Spring Hill, FL 34606.

WILLIAM O. BLISS

Age 87, of Farmington, MI, passed away December 10, 2008. Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, MI, 248-474-5200

FRANK DONALD BLOCK

December 9, 2008. Age 89, formerly of Redford, MI. Lynch and Sons Funeral Home, 248-684-6645

SUZANNE WILLIAMS BUSCH

Age 79, Notre Dame, IN passed away Nov. 23, 2008. Thomas J. Busch, her husband, survives along with five children, and 15 awesome grandchildren. Upon Tom's retirement from Bendix Corp., Suzie and Tom moved from Birmingham, MI to Savannah, GA, then to Kalamazoo, MI and Notre Dame, IN to be with family. Suzie enjoyed her family, community service, playing golf, bridge, and parties with friends. Memorials may be donated to the Christ Child Society of Northern Michigan or to the Center for Hospice, South Bend, IN.



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

Deadlines: Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday will be placed in the next available issue

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to Attn: Obits c/o Jennifer Musztuk 586-826-7318

Jennifer Musztuk 586-826-7115 or Charolette Wilson 586-826-7082 or toll free 800-579-7355

Paying Tribute Life of Your

JERRY LAMBERT JR.

Born in Malden, Arkansas, he moved to Bradenton in 1989 from Plymouth, Michigan. He is a member of First Church of the Nazarene of Bradenton and retired after 34 years of service as a engineer for General Motors Corp. of Livonia, Michigan. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Barbara E.; daughters, Anthonette Beach of Johnson City, TN, Debra K. Carter of Bradenton and Sondra L. Raubacher of Shanghai, China; sons, Jim D. Lambert of Toledo, OH and Terry L. Lambert of Mesa, AZ; sister, Laveda Miller of Ankeny, Iowa; 13 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. Friends may visit the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, Plymouth Monday from 11:30am until time of funeral service at 1:30pm. Entombment Glen Eden Cemetery. Share memories at schrader-howell.com.

ROBERT G. MARKS

July 26th, 1926 to December 9th. 2008. He passed away peacefully surrounded by family early on the mornof Tuesday, December Bob was a navy veteran of W.W.II serving in the Pacific Theatre as a navigator with a squadron of P.B.Y's. Robert lived most of his life in the metro Detroit area- Old Redford, Wayne, Dearborn. The last seven years he resided in Lantana, Florida with his wife June (Rigg). He was a long time professional educator in the Livonia Public Schools, holding a variety of positions; elementary teacher, M.S. administrator, coach, and H.S. media center director. He changed to this career later in life for he wished "to make a difference" and in his final days mentioned how content he was with that decision. In that new career he was very successful impacting the lives of countless children in schools, libraries, and on the sporting fields/courts in and around Livonia and the greater Metro-Detroit area. He was especially important in the lives of his four children: John, Tom, Sue, and Doug, and greatly enjoyed touching the lives of his 21 grandchildren and his 17, soon-to-be 18 great-grandchildren. Robert loved a good book, a good card game, a good debate, a good word puzzle, a good sporting contest (even two or three at a time), a fine meal, a cup of tea, travel, music in all forms, and the outdoors. Most of all it was time spent, or activities with, his family and good friends that made him most happy. He would appreciate these words from Dr. Seuss at this moment, "Don't cry that its over, celebrate that it happened". Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Robert H. & Lillian M. Marks, his wife of 44 years Alice K, and his younger brother Doug. He is survived by his wife of 9 years. June, his four children and their spouses: Patti, Amy, Paul, Glenda, and Judy, his four step children: Chris, Robin, Heather, and Craig, his sisterin-law Sandy and his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren who will miss him very much. Robert was truly a member of America's "greatest generation" and we who carry on are thankful for the model of living he represented. We will be forever blessed that he shared so much of himself with his family and extended family of friends. Peace. A private family service is planned for Friday at the Palm Breezes Park in Lantana. A Memorial Service for family and friends is being planned for the spring in Dearborn, Michigan with details to

FRED C. NELSON

be announced early in the new year. In

lieu of flowers, donations may be

made to Focus Hope Inc. of Detroit or

Hospice of Palm Springs, Florida

December 6, 2008. Age 88. Resident of Plymouth. Retired in 1981 after 33 years as a vocal music teacher in the Plymouth-Canton Schools. Survived by wife Lois, sons Jim (Nancy), Bill (Susan), and granddaughters Melissa and Kathy. Private service held

JEREMY D. ROWLANDS

Age 30, formerly of Farmington, MI, passed December 7, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

WEDDINGS

Nastase-Lambert

Sam and Kathy Nastase of Algonac announce the marriage of their daughter, Stacey, to Chad Lambert, son of Jean Lambert of Clinton Township.

The bride is a 1998 graduate of Stevenson High School in Livonia and a 2002 graduate of Kalamazoo College. She works in sales. The groom is a 1994 graduate of Henry Ford II High School and a 1998 graduate of Stetson University. He also works in sales.

The couple wed Sept. 19, 2008 at the Royal Park Hotel in Rochester. The Rev. Michael Maras officiated.

They spent their honeymoon in the Greek Islands.



ARISING IMAGES

Appliance

Joe Gagnon

Doctor

Spencer-Jacovetti

John and Laurie Spencer of Lakeland, Fla., and formerly of Redford, announce the marriage of their daughter, Crystal Marie, to Christopher Andrew Jacovetti, son of Bill and Karen Jacovetti of Livonia.

The bride is a 2000 graduate of Redford's Thurston High School and she currently attends Daytona University. The groom is a 1997 graduate of Catholic Central High School and he works as manager of Sunbelt Rentals in Ormond Beach, Fla.

The couple wed Aug. 8, 2008 at the First Church of the Nazarene. A reception followed at the Italian American Club.



The couple spent their honeymoon at the Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas.

ANNIVERSARY

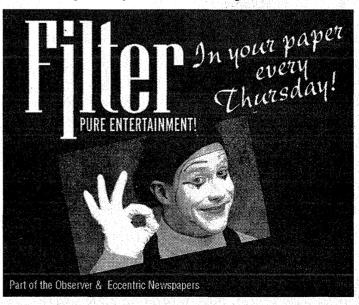
Golden anniversary

Cornelius and Jean (Duty) Van Boven of Canton are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this month. The couple wed Dec. 27, 1958 at Newburg Methodist Church in Livonia. They have lived in Livonia for 58 years and are parents to James VanBoven of Canton and Brian VanBoven of Redford Township. They have one grandchild.

Cornelius VanBoven worked at Teamsters Trucking and Jean worked for Plymouth **Canton Community Schools** until retiring 23 years ago. They've been members of the American Legion in Plymouth



for 43 years. The couple will celebrate their anniversary with a trip to Hawaii.



Visit us online at hometownlife.com

Stain problem with no cure

hey have put some of my work in the World Book Encyclopedia and called me to court cases as an expert witness and yet I don't have the smarts to answer the problem described in the following e-mail. Please read it and if you have a solution to this

lady's frustration, please drop me a note and tell me what you think

about all this: "My husband and I have had a laundry problem for several years that has caused

us constant frustration. The problem is that when we wash dark-colored

clothing at our house, it often comes out with grease-like stains that were not on the clothing prior to washing. The stains usually come out after treatment with color-safe bleach and re-washing. We have tried many different detergents and we don't use fabric softener, so we know that our washing products are not the source of the problem. We had thought that the problem could be the washing machine, so we replaced it with a new front loader a couple of years ago, but we have continued to have the problem. We wondered whether the problem was the dryer, but we have had the spots on some clothes that we have air dried or dried elsewhere.

"We know that the problem is not the hot water heater because it happens to clothes washed and rinsed in cold water. We have consulted with an appliance repair person (when we had the previous washer), a handyman, and a plumber, and none of them can figure out what is wrong. We have city water and we wonder whether there could be something in our pipes, but they are copper including the pipe to the water source. We were told that corrosion would be unlikely. We are desperate to find an answer to this problem, and we have tried everything that we can think of. Can you offer some advice? Thanks Christine."

I am sitting here scratching my head just the way Jim Carrey did it in the movie, Dumb and Dumber. Let's look at some facts about stains that occur on items being washed and how they get there. We are not going to blame the washer because you illuminated that possibility in your e-mail to me.

Fabric softener has always been a leading contender in the stain race but that is also out of the picture. The hot water heater is also removed from the story, which leads us to the only area of possibility, the rubber fill hoses. But wait, it can't be the hoses! You had a new washer installed and I'm sure they used the new hoses that came with the washer, right? Transmissions can leak oil into a washer tub but that's been ruled out as well. Your washer doesn't have a transmission. My dear Christine, I would love to give you an answer to this problem but I am stumped. I will count on some of the readers to come up with a prescription and pass it on to you. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. E-mail questions to appldr@twmi.rr.com.

This year's party clothes are about 'the piece'

BY SAMANTHA CRITCHELL AP FASHION WRITER

With more people likely to enjoy smaller-scale, at-home holiday gatherings this year instead of big blowouts at restaurants and fancy venues, multitasking separates seem better suited to the social whirl than do sexy cocktail frocks.

A recent spin around retailers' "occasion" dress departments found more knits and less glitz, as well as several racks of dressy slacks and skirts.

Adam Glassman, creative director and fashion expert at O: The Oprah Magazine, says many women likely have the makings of a stylish outfit already in their closets. But if you want to give yourself a gift, here are some pieces that could be the perfect finishing touch:

■ A skirt: Strut with a little

It could be a long cocktail skirt or a 1950s-style circle skirt, both of which offer graceful movement. They'll look great with sequin tank tops or a subtle tonal-beaded sweater, recommends Glassman.

"Dresses are easy no-brainers, but skirts give more mileage and bang for the buck," he says. "Even if it's shiny or metallic, it can move from day to night. You have the ability to wear that skirt to work or a nice lunch with a girlfriend if you pare down the look.

■ Statement jewelry: A necklace is the key piece.

A bold necklace will turn a casual outfit into a chic one and a dressy outfit into something glamorous. A very sophisticated style is a ribbed black turtleneck with one of these chunky pieces.

It doesn't matter if the jewelry isn't expensive - you can find love-

ly options at every price point from Vera Wang to J. Crew to Kohl's, reports Glassman — but don't try to pass off costume jewelry as anything other than what it is. Instead embrace the jewelry as fun, trendy pieces and take some chances.

A cocktail ring can also garner the right kind of attention, especially since you might be holding a drink, putting your hands further on display, but it's pretty much an either-or with the necklace or you risk overkill.

■ Jeweled flats: No need for black.

A jewel-tone shoe, adorned with bows, seguins or beads is "something that makes you feel happy and alive," Glassman says. "Even if you're not buying a full outfit, buy that great shoe like Dorothy's red ruby slipper — it will wake up your whole outfit."

The added bonus is that when

are likely to see your shoes as you cross your legs when you sit on a couch and they can be good conversation starters, he adds.

■ Shine: Light up your look. Something shiny around your face will brighten up your face and draw the eye upward. It could be a shiny fabric, beading or a top with

you're at a home party, more people a jewel-encrusted neckline, which takes care of the necklace too. Glassman singles out an Oscar de la Renta turtleneck with a jeweled neck and cuffs that perfectly bal-

ances coziness with sophistication. Lace: This isn't your grand-

mother's lace. "You hear lace and you might think Little House on the Prairie, but we're talking about the new lace," Glassman says. That means lace worn in unexpected ways.

Wear a trace of lace: a lacy bra peeking through a blouse, lace shoes or a lace blouse worn with dressy trouser jeans. Glassman recommends black, brown, fleshtone or even dove gray lace, which are both demure and sexy.

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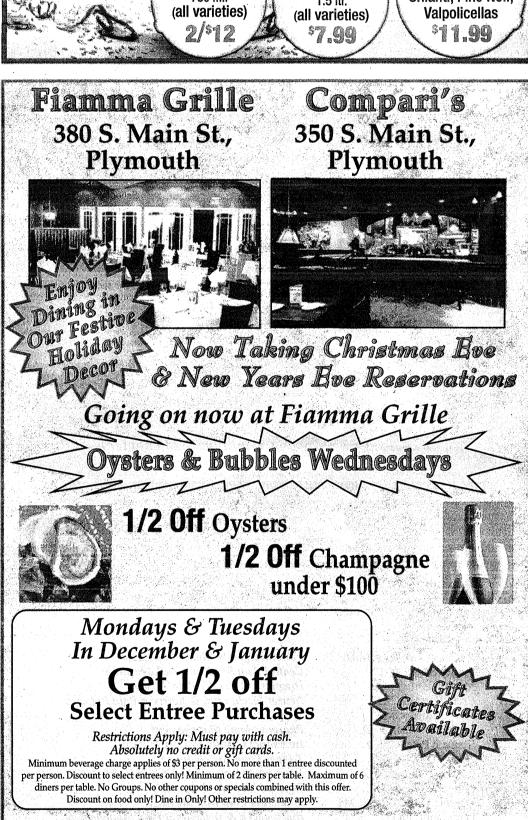






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Staying on track

Enjoy but choose holiday food carefully

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

It's all right to enjoy that slice of pumpkin pie or cookie at a holiday gathering, just remember to get back on track at the next meal. That's the advice of local registered dietitians this season. Gail Posner plans to eat the delicious foods at her family's Hanukkah celebrations, but limit portions. She cautions clients at Healthy Ways **Nutrition Counseling in West** Bloomfield not to arrive at parties hungry, but fill up on vegetables and fruits before leaving the house.

"The goal is not weight loss but weight maintenance. Who wants to deal with an extra five to seven pounds, the average gain over the holiday?" said Posner. "A cup of eggnog is 500 calories, martinis and daiquiris a good 350 calories. Try some alternatives like red vitamin water which has holiday color and is loaded with antioxidants: acia, blueberry and pomegranate, a good protector for our health with extra vitamin C. If you are going to drink, I encourage people to go every other drink, have a glass of water, Perrier, in between. Enjoy the holiday specials but keep them in check

When it's time for dinner, make sure one half of the plate plications and her grandmothis vegetables, the other one tablespoon servings of high calorie items.

"You can always go back and try all the different things that people make, and eat slow,"

'After the party, be careful of dangerous leftovers. People do fine at a party and gain weight afterwards. Give leftovers to vour quests."

GAIL POSMER, registered dietitian

said Posner. "After the party, be careful of dangerous leftovers. People do fine at a party and gain weight afterwards. Give leftovers to your guests."

For Thanksgiving, Posner arrived at her sister-in-law's home with a salad, spinach Parmesan side dish, and fruit for dessert. In addition to vegetables, she ate turkey and a bite of sweet potato. Her motto is don't eat an entire serving when a taste could satisfy the craving.

"It's fine to enjoy these holiday items, but if you're going to eat a cookie have a glass of water between each delicious item, have one and then a cup of tea or water before enjoying the next one," said Posner. "We all get off track, don't wait till Jan. 1 to get back on."

As a certified diabetes educator at Troy Beaumont Hospital, Judith Pegg offers tips anyone can use to avoid weight gain. She especially warns those with a family history of diabetes to be aware of the consequences of obesity.

Pegg's mother died of comer had both legs amputated because of diabetes. Her hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) is a precursor to the disease.

"You don't have to avoid anything in their diet. You



have to learn to put it in your diet. Figure that chocolate in if that's going to help you feel satisfied," said Pegg, a registered nurse who gives presentations for the American Diabetes Association. "If you're going to a party allow one carbohydrate, a few crackers and cheese, for your evening snack. People shouldn't be drinking unless blood sugar is under control and depending on medication and then one drink for women, two for men. And don't stand by the

appetizer table. If you're going to stand there talking to someone, turn your back."

For many, weight loss means changing their lifestyle.

Pegg grew up in a large Italian family where food was the focus of celebrations. For Thanksgiving, she cooked a traditional dinner but made the stuffing with less fat and then baked it seperately. Pegg admits she wasn't always conscious of her choices until her husband had a heart attack

two years ago at age 55.

"Changing the way you do anything during the holidays is difficult, It's important to stay focused," said Pegg. "If they have pre-diabetes with numbers higher than normal but not high enough to be diagnosed, they need to start living different, learn to change their lifestyle. They could possibly avoid ever going into diabetes. It's a chronic disease with no cure.

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Karmanos to offer help to quit smoking

As Detroit area residents prepare resolutions for the New Year, those wishing to conquer smoking can receive free assistance from the American Lung Association to accomplish their goal.

Karmanos Cancer Center is offering the American Lung Association's highly acclaimed Freedom From Smoking clinic, a program, that will consist of 8 classes held on Tuesday evenings Tuesday, Jan. 6, through Feb. 17, as well as Thursday, Jan. **Freedom From**

classes will Smoking is based 6:30 p.m. at on the premise Karmanos Cancer Center, 4100 John

that smoking is a learned behavior.

R., Detroit, MI 48201. Registration is required. Contact Andrea Layman at (313) 576-8129 or laymana@ karmanos.org.

As the American Lung Association's premiere smoking cessation program, Freedom From Smoking is a highly structured and comprehensive behavior modification approach to smoking cessation in a group support setting.

Freedom From Smoking is based on the premise that smoking is a learned behav-

The 8 session format provides for tracking personal habits, developing coping strategies and practice in a supportive environment with others who are experiencing. the same feelings and challenges.

Helping Our Pain & Exhaustion Fibromyalgia proudly presents the release of the documentary: Fibromyalgia: Fitting the Pieces Together (90 minutes - 13 chapters) For the first time in one informative documentary, Fibromyalgia: Fitting the

Pieces Together will provide practical advice and answers to questions about this debilitating condition.

The documentary will enhance your knowledge and awareness of Fibromyalgia as well as provide insight in the management of chronic pain.

With its easy to use menu, viewers can search chapters that correspond to one's specific concerns and interests.

List of chapters:

Ananias C. Diokno, M.D. Daniel Clauw, M.D. Martin Tamler, M.D. Craig Hartrick, M.D. Martin Tamler, M.D. Leon Rubenfaer, M.D. Kenneth Peters, M.D. Dennis Dobritt, D.O. Cassius DeFlon, M.D. Loren DeVinney, P.T. Virginia Drouin-Berry, MT Peter Ianni, Ph.D. Lynne Matallana

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Helping Our Pain & Exhaustion (H.O.P.E.) is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to enhance knowledge and awareness of Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue syndrome through programs that educate families, friends, the public, the media and the medical community.

To order the documentary go to: www.hffcf.org or contact Sharon at: smo23915@aol.com

> 1.5 CME credits are available. for information contact Sharon at:smo23915@aol.com

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Hiller's, 39950 W. 14 Mile (at Haggerty Road). Call (248) 960-1990.

Get ready to have a baby Learn what to expect during preg-

Gluten-free food fair

nancy, labor and delivery and make the entire experience more rewarding. Childbirth Education Weekday programs held 7-9 p.m. Mondays to Dec. 15, and Wednesdays to Jan. 14. Childbirth Education workshops 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. There is a fee. Registration required. Call (734) 655-1162.

Breast cancer support group

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Rd.), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100 for more information, or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Overeaters Anonymous

Meet 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia. And 7 p.m. Sundays at the Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia, in Classroom 1. Call Wendy first at (313) 387-9797. Anyone who wants to stop eating compulsively is welcome. For more Greater Detroit Overeaters Anonymous Information visit www.

oa.org or call (248) 559-7722. **Parkinson Support**

Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group meets 709 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August, at Farmington Hills Baptist Church, 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. Enter at rear of church. For more information, call (248) 433-1011.

UPCOMING

Understanding diabetes

St. Mary Mercy Hospital hosts Diabetes Support Group presentations 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 14, and Feb. 11, in the hospital's Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile at Levan Road, Livonia. Please use the Main Entrance on Five Mile Road. Registered dietitian Katie Dooley presents Understanding Carbohydrates for Better Blood Sugar Control on Jan. 14. On Feb. 11, registered dietitian Judy Swancutt presents Diabetes and Vitamins, Minerals and Herbs: What's Right for You. All are welcome. A new topic is presented on the second

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Wednesday of each month for adults with diabetes and family members. There is no charge, pre-registration not required. For information, call (734) 655-8961.

Butterfly ball

The American Lung Association of Michigan has rescheduled its black tie fund-raiser to 6-11 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at the Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn. Proceeds go to lung health research, education and advocacy. Tickets \$250 per person and include The Butterfly Ball will be highlighted by music and will include a cocktail reception, dinner, dancing, and a live auction featuring trips, dinners and a variety of experiences. Sponsorships available. Call Jessica Jimenez, Development , Specialist, (248) 784-2018 or jjimenez@ alam.org.

ONGOING

Caregiver's support group

St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for more information. This group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Wayne metro caregiver support

Are you a caregiver of an aging parent, spouse or relative? Do you ever wish you had an understanding person to talk to? Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer support and assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to their loved ones and offers valuable information at meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month 10 a.m. to noon at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Avenue in Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile Road in Redford. Morning and evening options available. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon on the 2nd Thursday of the month, the evening group meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Adult care may also be available. For information or if attending for the first time, call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

Physical performance classes

Incorporates jump-rope training, core work, and functional strength training using dumbbells and body weight for resistance 5:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays. An Exercise Therapy class

for a mid to lower intensity workout that stress functional fitness, core. balance, strength and flexibility 8:45 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays. One hour sessions run through November at Metropolitan Adventist Jr. Academy Gym, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Drop in sessions \$6 each, 10 sessions \$48. These classes are both lead by Jeanie Weaver with the concept of training to spare the joints and improve back mobility and strength. She is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957 to register. For information send e-mail to ieanieweaver@ charter.net.

Flu shots

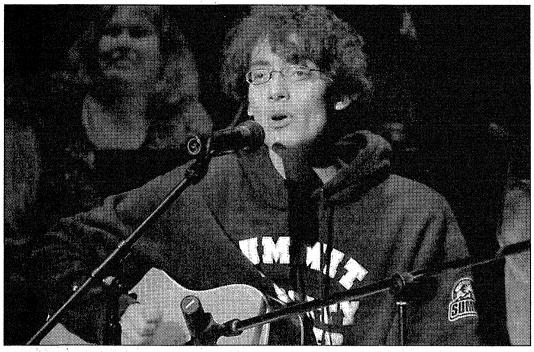
Wayne County Department of Public Health offers flu shots for residents at its clinic in Wayne 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday and Thursday (walk-ins), Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday (by appointment only), at 33030 Van Born at Venoy. The cost of the flu vaccine is \$15, \$35 for pneumonia vaccine is also offered for \$35. Medicare (Part B) and Medicaid are accepted. Vaccines are offered for adults and children. For information about family flu vaccinations at Wayne County's public health clinic locations, call (734) 727-7000. For additional influenza and flu prevention facts, visit www.waynecounty.com/ hhSvcs/public/pamphlet.htm.

Flu shots

For adults and children over 6 months of age available at Oakland County Health Division locations at 1200 N. Telegraph in Oakland County Complex Bldg. 36 East in Pontiac; 27725 Greenfield, north of 11 Mile at Catalpa Road in Southfield, and 1010 E. West Maple at Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake. Hours are noon to 8 p.m. Monday, and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Cost is \$11 (cash only). Medicare and Medicaid accepted. Bring photo identification and insurance cards. For information, call (800) 434-3358 or visit www.oakgov.com/health.

CPR classes

Classes range from basic CPR for people who wish to know how to help save a life to certification for those who need CPR for work and state licensure, at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. First aid classes also available. Classes offered weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. Price varies. Pre-registration required at www.hvsh.org/hvsh/calendar or call (248) 937-3314.



Ryan Maike, 18, of Farmington Hills, practices his song during a recent rehearsal for the Farmington Community Chorus holiday concert at Oakland Community College.

Chorus member carries on family tradition

BY STACY JENKINS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Ryan Maike remembers being in awe of the Farmington Community Chorus, when he would attend concerts with his grandparents.

Maike's grandparents, Jim and Dorothy Miller, were longtime members of the chorus, but have since moved out of the

Since they're in Arizona, currently, Maike, 18, said he plans to send them a video of the concert, in which he will perform a solo of the song, God Bless the Broken Road, at the FCC's holiday concert, "Joy!" at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 18, Friday, Dec. 19, and Saturday, Dec. 20, at the L.C. Smith Auditorium at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington

Maike said his grandparents have always been a musical couple who encouraged his pursuit of music.

"I grew up with them always singing," he said. "I would listen to tapes of them singgrandparents were big advocates for me getting involved in

They paid for Maike to take piano lessons, guitar and voice lessons.

Maike, who is a student at OCC, was looking to join a singing group and saw the FCC notice at OCC.

"For the last couple of years, I had been singing in a group,' he said. "Once I graduated from high school, and was in college, I knew I had to find a place to sing. I didn't know this was the same group that my grandparents were in, but once I found out, all of those memories came back. I was like "Wow! I have the chance to be in that choir?'

He's enjoying his FCC experience so far.

"I've enjoyed getting to know people," he said. "There is such a wealth of knowledge about music and about life.' Maike, who lives in

Farmington Hills, said he enjoys the leadership of Director Steve SeGraves.

"He does a really incredible job of leading us," he said.

Chorus is a 80-voice mixed chorus, which will be joined by dancers and instrumentalists for the concert.

This year, for the first time, talented music students from OCC have auditioned to join the FCC and are earning college credit. Directed by SeGraves and accompanied by assistant director Susan Garr, the chorus will perform a variety of holiday music including Sweet Little Jesus Boy, Boogie Woogie Hanukkah, Christmas Joy, It's the Holiday Season, and Still, Still, Still as well as solo and small group numbers.

Tickets are \$15 and can be ordered in advance. A limited number will be available at the door. To order advance tickets, call the FCC ticket line at (810) 632-4067 or the Costick Activities Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile in Farmington Hills at (248) 473-1800. Tickets may also be bought from FCC mem-

For more information about the Farmington Community Chorus, contact manager Kathy Hall at (248) 471-4516 or visit www.farmingtonchorus.com.

Celebrate winter solstice with music, dance, stories

BY SHARON DARGAY 🦠 **0&E STAFF WRITER**

If you dread winter's arrival next week, the Rev. Leonetta Bugleisi and the Paint Creek Unitarian Universalist Congregation might just change your mind. She and her congregation are busy trans-

forming the American Legion Hall where they hold weekly services in downtown Rochester – into a winter wonderland of snowflakes and icy silver

and blue decorations. 'We go bozo mundo with decorating," said Bugleisi, who will lead the church's Fifth Annual Solstice Ritual at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, in the hall at Third and Walnut, a block west of Main.

The celebration will be heavy on cultural arts, too. The church choir will sing; the Lake Orion Drummers will sound out the beat on their African hand drums; dancers gracefully will glide into the hall to the music of Sarah McLachlan: and the sounds of Toronto musician Loreena McKennett will set the mood for contemplation.

TELL ME A STORY

Dramatic storytelling, complete with gods and goddesses, ice fairies, elves, trolls and a Viking-druid solstice tale about the mischievous Loki, a shape-shifter, serves as the centerpiece of the event.

"It's an old story that taps into the druids and the meaning of mistletoe, which was called 'all heal' and was said to avert ill luck to herds. The kissing thing came later with the English,"

The congregation and visitors will have lots of opportunities to participate in chanting, dancing and music-making. Shakers and other small percussion instruments will be on hand for their use and everyone will join in on the final song, Ritchie Havens' rendition of Here Comes the

"Last year we did a pine cone exchange. Every pine cone had a peace message on it. They were in baskets and everyone took one and read the message. Then they exchanged pine cones. I might do it again this year."

Participants will spend some time in personal reflection and meditation and in a guided visu-

"Someone gave us a good CD last year of the

WINTER SOLSTICE

What: Celebration of winter's arrival and the return of the sun

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19

Where: Paint Creek Unitarian Universalist Congregation, in the American Legion Hall, located at Walnut and Third, a block west of Main in downtown

Parking: Public lots are located on Walnut and within walking distance

Attire: Wear something gold, silver or black to

become a part of the wintry audience Details: Music, storytelling, drumming, dancing, meditation, all in a winter wonderland setting

Contact: Rev. Leonetta Bugleisi at (248) 202-1711 Afterward: Stroll Main street just a block east of Walnut and take in the eye-popping Big Bright Light Show with its 500,000 lights

Actual solstice: 7:04 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 21

sounds the sun makes. We also have this cool

noise, the scientific voice of the sun."

MARKING THE DATE

Bugleisi said the winter solstice is universally celebrated in all cultures because it signifies the start of gradually lengthening days and the return of the sun.

"We are all so dependent on the sun and its return ... it's the juxtaposition, the contrast of the darkness and of wanting the light to return,' she said. "It's a metaphor spiritually ... we carry the light within us.'

She refutes the idea that celebrating seasonal change is anti-Christian.

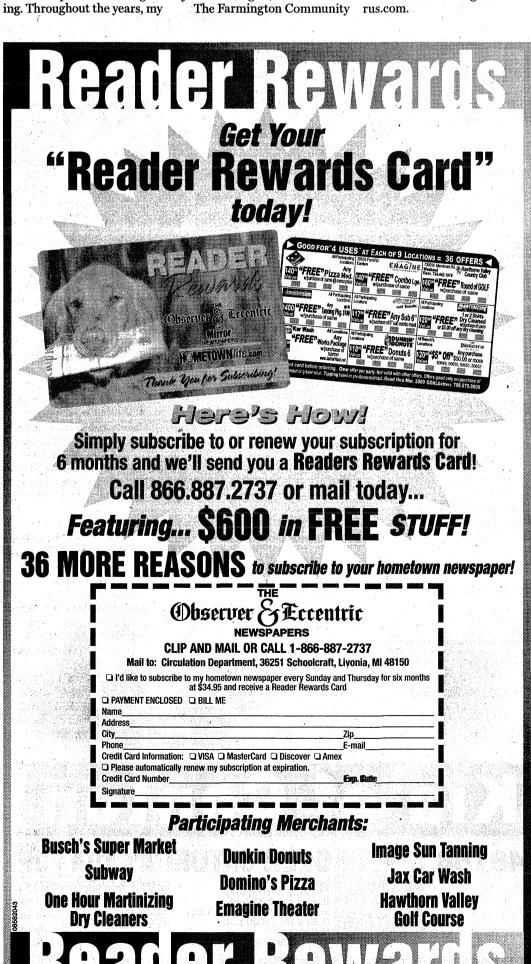
"We are trans-Christian. We study Christianity and other religions," she said. "I'd encourage people to check out the Web on Newgrange Ireland and Stonehenge in England. They'd see that something was going on before Christianity. Our ancestral stories go back long periods of time and are richer than just one cul-

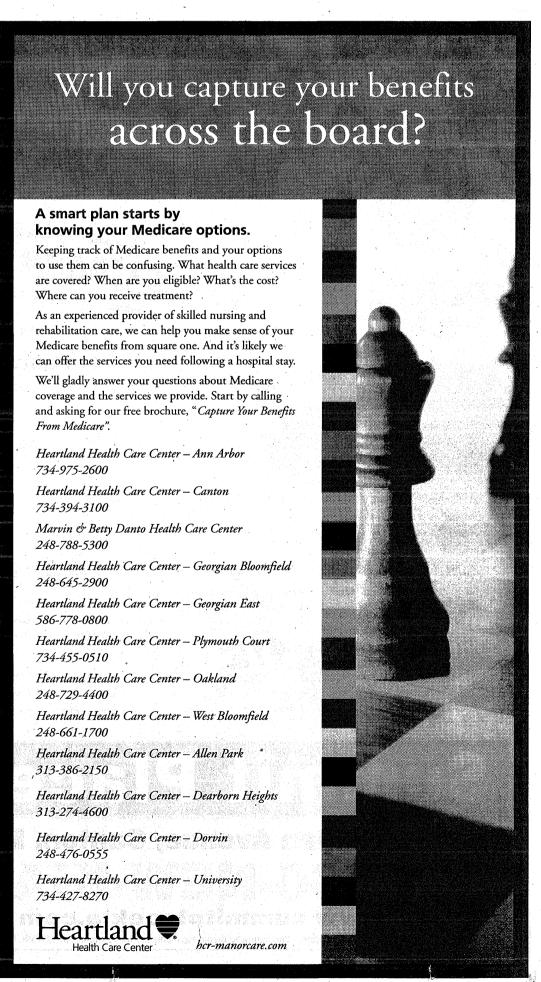
Both the monuments at Stonehenge and the tomb at Newgrange were built so that they aligned with the solstice. At Newgrange, for example, a shaft of sunlight penetrates the tomb's central chamber at dawn on the winter Bugleisi describes the annual gathering at her

church as a "totally commercial-free ritual that transcends all religious interpretations of the holidays." It's designed for ages 6 and up.

"Some people last year brought their teenagers and they (the teens) loved it. They said 'This is the first service we went to that we didn't feel bad or guilty.'

"People really appreciate it. Hopefully, they're coming here annually for it."







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JOB SATISFACTION AND THE AMERICAN DRE



WORKWISE

figure in the American Dream? J. Walter Thompson's report from a survey of 2.112 Americans at least 18 Mildred L. vears old presents trends generationally. Ann Mack, director of Trendspotting, maintains that "for

older Americans, the Dream is about freedom, as well as the possibility of building a good life through hard work. Younger Americans tend to take for granted the conditions appreciated by older generations; theirs is a dream with bigger aspirations in terms of fame, fortune and happiness." However, job satisfaction would seem to be essential to the Dream, regardless of age. EMPLOYER/EMPLOYEE PARTNERING

Former dairy farmer Charles Isaak, inventory manager at Pacific Steel & Recycling (PS&R) in Great Falls, Mont., joined the company 12 years ago, PS&R has more than 700 employees, all owners of the company, across seven states. Isaak believes that his company aids him in achieving job satisfaction, which in turn benefits the company. "I've been encouraged to work my way up," he says, "through training and by letting people know I'm motivated."

When the CEO offered him management training, he

grabbed it. Then came the opportunity to relocate to headquarters from his hometown in Aberdeen, Idaho, where he'd worked for 10 years. He'd lived in only one other place. The CEO offered him an out-of-state mentor to meet with him once a month for six months to help define his new position.

Isaak sees a broad attempt to partner with employees. A consulting firm is working with around 150 to 200 managers, assistant managers and foremen to improve relationships at work and at home. This effort will eventually benefit the entire company. PS&R partners financially, too. When the ROI is on target, employees get a bonus, even if they've worked there only two weeks. Since 1977, the company has paid two bonuses every year to some of its employees. LEGAL WORK

Criminal lawyer Anthony Colleluori of Woodbury, N.Y.'s, The Law Offices of Anthony J. Colleluori & Associates P.L.L.C. loves litigating. "I have a niche practice I find exhilarating and I pinch myself everyday because I love being an attorney so he says. "I try to put clients first. I get to help people in a time of their lives when all others have abandoned them and their family."

He engages clients and the professional community, M.D.s and psychotherapists, to identify what will forestall reoffending by defendants. "I try not to worry about money," he observes. "Then as a result, I get good results and happy clients and I make money. I feel blessed to be a lawyer." THE ENVIRONMENT

Lisa Kivirist, co-author, with John Ivanko, of

"ECOpreneuring: Putting Purpose and the Planet Before Profits," abandoned corporate excess to run multiple businesses, including bed and breakfast Inn Serendipity, on her Browntown, Wis., organic farm (New Society Publishers, \$17.95). She believes that self-employment exemplifies the American Dream, integrating independence, control over the work environment and personal passion with a debt-free, selfreliant lifestyle. "It's work but it's so much more than that to me," she explains: "We all need to earn a living," she continues. employee-owned company. "Doing everything smartly and strategically and still loving what you do when you go to bed (is the American Dream). We live very well on less.'

Colleluori, the attorney, ranks his fulfilling employment "second or third in my life." Family comes first, while religious faith and employment vie for second -- the latter, 'exceptionally important.'

For Isaak, faith comes first, then family, then employment "At the end of the day," he comments, "I like to say I made a Kivirist, the ecopreneur, views work socially. She believes that "work should be right up there. If it isn't, we're really

missing something as a nation.' All consider job satisfaction a key component of the

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. E-mail your questions to culp@workwise.net. Copyright 2008 Passage Media.)

Help Wanted-General 5000

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Ideal for anyone who can't

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To schedule an interview:

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We offer a clean building, equipment, exc. bay, 401K, medical-& ownership opportunity. 734-454-4300

Bookkeeper Kitchen Studio of Bloomfield Hills seeks exp. P/T bookkeep

er with strong QuickBooks experience. Must be proficient

Please fax resume and salary

reg. to 248-332-4733.

in Word and Excel.

Promotion eligibility

734-728-4572

Charles Isaak is operating a band saw at Pacific Steel & Recycling in Great Falls, Mont. He believes that his employer's partnering with him contributes to his job satisfaction, Isaak is inventory manager at his



Charles Isaak is inspecting material for defects at Pacific Steel & Recycling in Great Falls, Mont., where he is inventory manager.

He believes that his employer's partnering with him contributes to his job satisfaction.



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the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591-0900. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591-9900. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspaper sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions, Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis, (FR Doc, 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtain housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III -Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

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Must know Quickbooks.

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MEDICAL ASSISTANT/EMT Medical house call practice in Southfield seeks medical assistant or EMT with good phlebotomy and patient care experience. Great salary & benefits. Fax resume to

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directed, positive, team player. E-mail resume: staciesmith.kenwood @yahoo.com

Must be dependable self

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PT, Weekends, Exp. reg. Apply

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Stock #90124



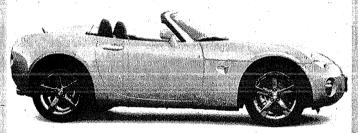
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NOW



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Stock #90139



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NOW

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Deferred Paument Available

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Stk. #93035



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NOW



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NOW



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NOW

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NOW



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G-6 2005

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G-6 2006

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8620

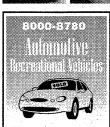
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Lou LaRiche

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Auto Misc.

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GMC YUKON SLE 2005 Rear 4x4, 4 cylinder \$15,998 AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 **FORD ESCAPE XLT 2007**

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(734) 453-2500 SATURN VUE 2006 Auto, air, moon, red, only \$12,495

Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500 SATURN VUE 2006 Red, 27K,

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Auto Misc.

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BMW 325xi 2004

Sports & Imported

8300

8290

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Can't Miss This One! Call for

Details!

CHEVY TAHOE LT Z71 2004

Moonroof, DVD, leather, loaded, \$AVE! \$19.950

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EXT, Seating for 7, DVD,

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Wheels & More, Priced to

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Several to Choose From,

Nicely Equipped, Winter

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\$13,995

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Volvo \$60 2003 All Wheel Drive,

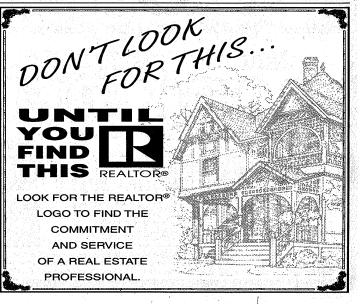
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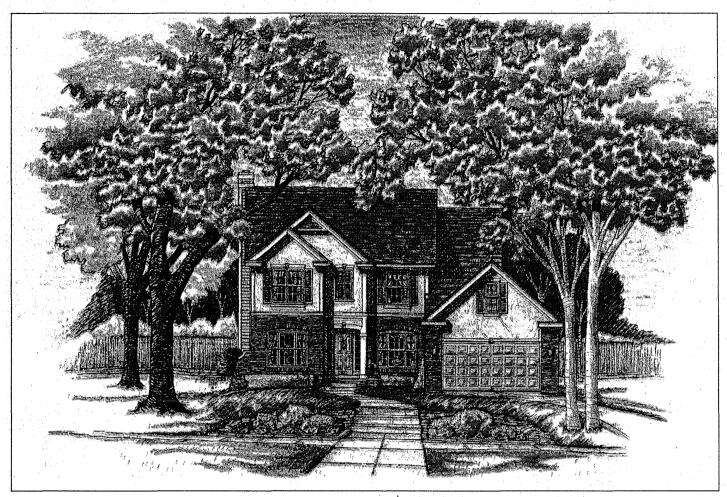
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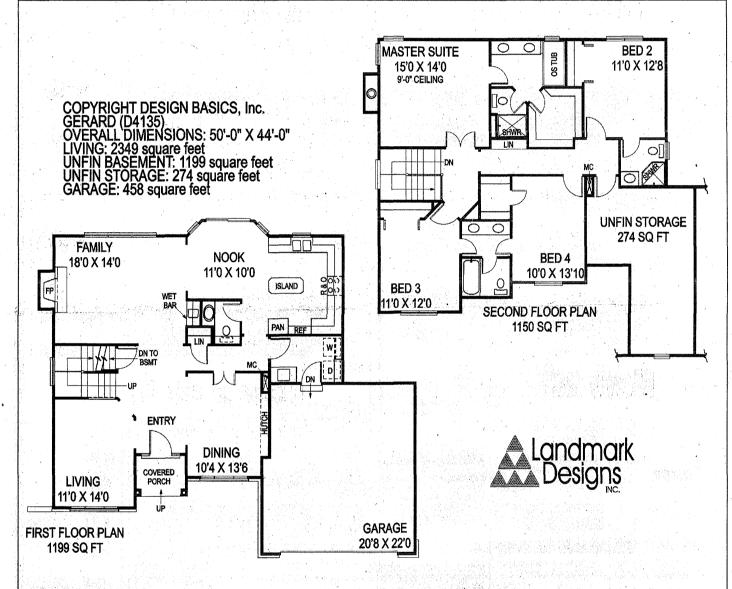
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Fair housing efforts include Michigan Association of Realtors contributions

The National Association of Realtors commended the collaborative efforts of hundreds of fair housing advocates who participated in the National Commission on Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.

Earlier this year, the commission conducted daylong hearings in Chicago, Los Angeles, Boston, Atlanta and Houston and collected information and heard testimony about the nature and extent of illegal housing discrimination. The commission also gathered data on the origin of housing discrimination, its connection with government policy and practice, and its effect on foreclosures and segregation in the community.

The commission was sponsored by The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund, NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, and the National Fair Housing Alliance. Former HUD Secretaries Jack Kemp and Henry Cisneros chaired the commission. 2007 NAR President Pat V. Combs acted as a commissioner; a contribution by NAR helped support the commission's activities.

"I am proud to have served as a commissioner on the National Commission on Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, representing America's largest professional association with 1.2 million Realtor members," said 2007 NAR President Pat V. Combs. "I'm most grateful for the support and collaboration of the hundreds of private and public housing advocates and

officials who participated in the hearings. While progress has been made in meeting the goals of the Fair Housing Act, more work needs to be done to increase awareness of fair housing laws, improve access to affordable housing, and promote inclusion and diversity in our communities – and that can only be done through effective cooperation and building upon the progress of the Commission."

At an event in Washington, D.C., Dec. 9 the commission released a final report, The Future of Fair Housing. The report is the result of the multicity hearings and addresses the nation's progress in meeting the Fair Housing Act's goals of ending housing discrimination and replacing patterns of racial segregation with healthy integrated communities.

"The broad theme of the commission's report is that a comprehensive approach is necessary to help end discrimination and ensure equal housing opportunity. This includes more collaboration between those enforcing fair housing laws, real estate practitioners, and educators – as well as offering additional training and education to practitioners and the public about fair housing law," said Combs.

NAR works closely with the federal government and other allies to build homeownership programs and offers its expanded fair housing education programs like At Home with Diversity for members, seeks out diverse membership and association leadership, and works to expand relationships with its real estate

diversity partners.

"Our Realtor members remain committed to America's policy of fair housing and NAR pledges to continue its work toward increasing education offered to real estate professionals as well as raising public awareness about fair housing laws and the issues surrounding discrimination," said Combs.

Realtors are bound by state and federal fair housing laws, as well as the Realtor Code of Ethics, which mandates that Realtors ensure that their clients and members of the public receive equal professional services at all times.

Many local and state Realtor associations have also implemented community programs to better educate their members on fair housing and the importance of inclusive housing practices. The Michigan Association of Realtors has successfully partnered with fair housing centers in Michigan to implement a voluntary and confidential self-testing program among real estate offices: The program has seen positive results and helped open the doors to additional fair housing training and development tools and made it easier for practitioners to better identify discriminatory practices.

"Fair housing is a complex issue and only through collaboration on education, reform, enforcement and creative solutions such as self-testing, can we achieve our shared goal of strong and inclusive communities," said Combs.

2-story, 4-bedroom Gerard offers life of comfort to dwellers

The two-storied, multi-roofed Gerard (D4135) has 2,349 square feet of gracious living space, featuring four bedrooms and a very open floor plan. The home is compact and ideal for smaller lots. Large windows grace the façade of the Gerard and are accented with brick and shutters, giving a classical as well as a warm and cozy appeal.

A small covered porch provides protection for the entrance of the Gerard. Once inside, the home is open and spacious. The formal living room is on the left side of the entry. Windows facing the front yard bathe the room with light. To the right of the entry is the formal dining room with a built-in hutch on the right wall. French doors separate the dining room from the rest of the home.

The kitchen is a classic C-shape with a corner pantry cabinet, a double sink with a window overlooking the backyard, and a work island in the middle. Adjacent to the kitchen with a door to the two-car garage is the utility room with its own sink. Opposite the kitchen is a square room divider containing a half bath, linen closet, and a wet bar for the family room. The nook is open with a sliding door to the back deck.

The family room radiates the warm feeling of spaciousness with its fireplace on the left wall and its large windows facing the backyard on the back wall. Separating the family room from the formal living room is stairs to the 1,199 square foot unfinished basement and the second floor, which contains all the sleeping quarters.

The Gerard has four bedrooms. The master suite is in the left rear corner with a French door entry and corner windows. It also has a 9-foot ceiling. The master bath has "his and her" sinks, an oversized tub, a shower, and large corner walk-in closet.

corner walk-in closet.

Two of the other three bedrooms have wall closets. Bedrooms 3 and 4 share a common bathroom with a tub and dual sinks. Bedroom 4 has a corner walk-in closet. Bedroom 2 could be used as a guest suite as it has a private bath with a single sink and a corner shower. Adjacent to bedroom 4 is an unfinished

274 square foot storage area. For a study plan of the GERARD (D4135), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for your dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans. com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (LOE48) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.

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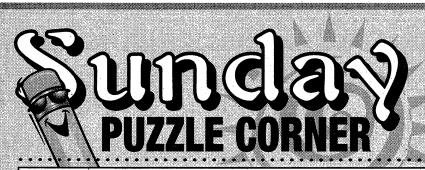
There's a free seminar every week: Tuesday or Saturday, 11 a.m. to noon at 27555 Executive Drive (off West 12 Mile and Halsted), Farmington Hills 48331. For more details, contact Steve Leibhan, (248) 553-0400, Ext. 2500.

Investors

Learn about "The Art of House Foreclosure Short Sales" from Steve Dillon. Sponsored by the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, Dec. 11, at 5:30-9:30 p.m. at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members, \$20 nonmembers.

Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers.





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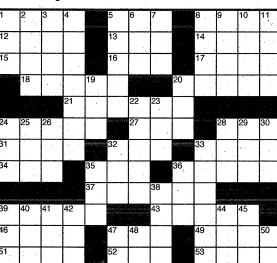
ACROSS

- Hansoms
- 5 Sarcastic retort Blunder
- 12 Almond-shaped 13 Ms. Lupino
- 14 Ship of myth 15 Hatcher or Garr
- 16 Seed container
- 17 Boldly attempt 18 News summary 20 Specks
- on a globe 21 Wrinkle-free
- 24 Come as a
- ghost 27 Pacino and Hirt
- 28 Crumple up 31 Pound
- on the door
- 32 Invite
- 33 Bleached-out 34 Shout

- of surprise 35 Colony member 36 Weird 37 Couch 39 Oil-bearing rock
- 46 Towel off 47 Handle roughly 49 Prunes a hedge 51 Luau
- strummers 52 Farm animal 53 Great Lakes
- port 54 Docs prescribe
- them 55 Rainbow band

DOWN

- 1 Collapsible bed 2 Declare 3 Like some
- 4 Cutting thin 5 Zoo
- heavyweight
- 6 Shakespeare
- title word
- 7 Once owned
- 8 Traipses about 9 Grad-school exam



Answer to Previous Puzzle



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- 10 People devourer 11 Celts, to
- Romans
- 19 Sculpture
 - animal 24 Cable network or music
 - of content 26 Famous numero 28 Series of battles

20 Badges and

such 22 Bad-tempered 23 Broad-antlered

- 29 Ms. MacGraw
- 30 Actress -
- Wallace-Stone
- 32 Collection of tales
- 33 Rode a bike 35 Summer drink
- 36 Cartoon shriek 38 Yielded
- 39 Crawled, perhaps 40 Go
- backpacking 41 Parroted 42 Not so expen-
- 44 Time long past 45 Quick drive
- 47 Pricing word 48 Impress

50 Salon request

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sharpen your

your sudoku



Here's How It Works:

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

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

AUTOGRAPH CALF **DECAF FLAGSTAFF**

GIRAFFE HALF LAUGH **PARAGRAPH**

PHOTOGRAPH POLYGRAPH , **STAFF TELEGRAPH**

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

LAGSTAF I B E \mathbf{Z}^{M} HOTOGRAP

EKANDEIN

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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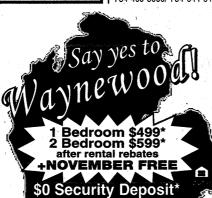
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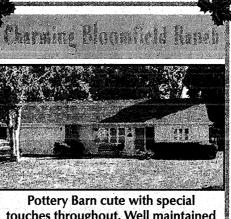
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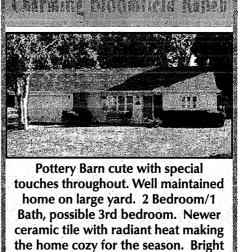


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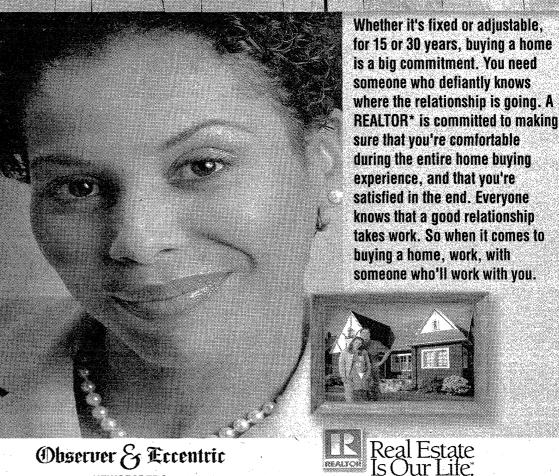
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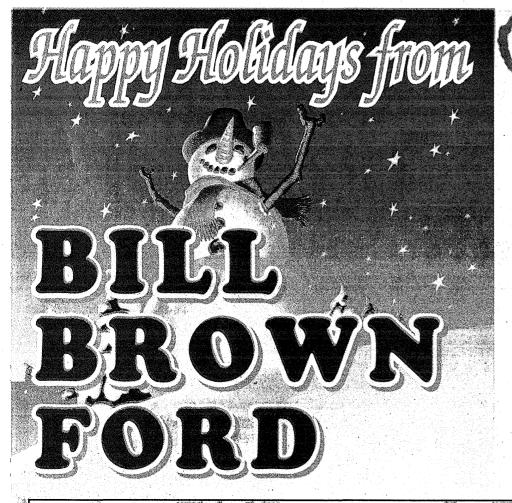
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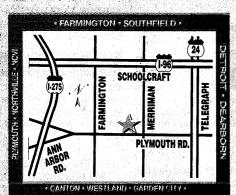
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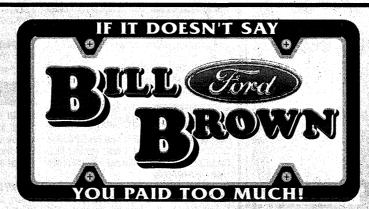
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