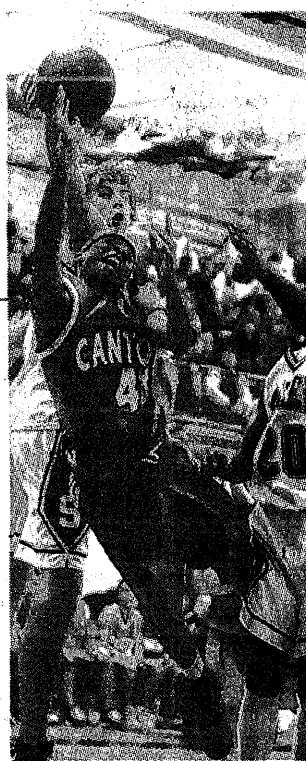


Delve into the 'Deep Sea' filter, D1

Plumbing success not just pipe dream

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## Addicted to helping

### Former addict turns life around with program to aid others

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Scott Harris was in high school and on into college, he was always the cool friend or the awesome relative who gave great gifts on holidays or birthdays.

Being able to give clothes, CDs, video games and other presents not only made Harris popular with the recipients, but it also helped feed the one need he'd felt all his life: to feel worthy.

The problem with Harris' largesse, however, is that he wasn't really doing much to earn those gifts he gave away.

He was stealing them.

He didn't necessarily want to; he simply couldn't help himself. Harris was addicted to shoplifting.

"It started with wanting things other kids had that I couldn't afford," said Harris, now 37. "For me, it struck a chord on my focus in life. For other people, it's drinking or drugs. For me, having those things made me feel I was an equal ground with those people I felt inferior to."

He started as a young teenager, boosting stuff from places like Meijer and other stores. By the time he got into college, Harris knew he had a problem, but he couldn't do anything to stop it. He could stop for a while, sometimes for months at a time, usually when he was feeling a little bit better about himself.

But eventually, he needed something or his insecurities were retriggered.

There were times he got caught, and he'd do the time, because he'd done the crime. The legal system always took care of him. Unfortunately, the bigger question was never being addressed,

#### COMPULSIVE STOP!

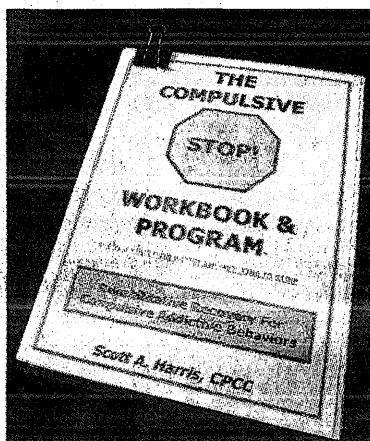
■ **Who:** Scott Harris of Plymouth

■ **What:** Compulsive Stop! and Compulsive No More!

■ **About:** Secular and Christian-based programs designed to help those with addictive, destructive behaviors

■ **Find out more:** Information about Harris' programs can be found at [www.compulsivenomore-stop.com](http://www.compulsivenomore-stop.com)

■ **Contact:** Harris can be reached via e-mail at [scott@compulsivenomorestop.com](mailto:scott@compulsivenomorestop.com) or by calling (248) 767-2482



Scott Harris's Compulsive Stop workbook and program is a secular version of his Christian-based support program.

much less answered.

"People would always ask me why I did it," Harris recalled. "Nobody ever stopped and said, 'Wait a minute, there's a (bigger) problem here.'"

Harris moved into a "normal" life, snagging a job in 1996 as a teacher in the South Lyon school district, where he also coached



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Scott Harris has turned his life around and developed programs to help people with addictive, destructive behaviors.

track and football. "Normal," such as it was, lasted about seven years. His marriage began having trouble, he was still shoplifting and it was all about to come crashing down.

It happened in 2003. Harris was arrested for DUI and cocaine possession, did 90 days with an Oakland County work-release program, but lost his job in South

Lyon because of the conviction.

"By summer 2003, I had grown to hate my life so much, I had stopped caring about much, and my decision-making got worse," Harris said.

A few months later, shopping at Meijer for his son's first birthday party, Harris loaded his cart

Please see **ADDICT, A5**

## Signs of the times light up businesses

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Justin Draplin plans to build on the sense of community that already exists in Plymouth. And he'll do so digitally.

As founder of City Drip Digital Signage, the Plymouth native is kicking off his business in the town he knows best. Draplin plans to install a growing network of LCD screens within local businesses.

The screens, ranging in size from 19 to 50 inches, will display everything from traffic and weather to local news and information for area patrons to use.

"The original concept was to put these in businesses and promote what's going on in Plymouth," Draplin said.

More than six months ago, Draplin met with Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Wes Graff and the idea took off. As early as late February, visitors to the chamber office in downtown Plymouth, as well as patrons of Leo's Coney Island on Ann Arbor Trail, may notice panel screens showing information about community events and businesses.

"We're going to have one in the side window," Graff said. The screen will take the place of a computer monitor visitors might have noticed during the holidays. "It let people know when Santa was in the park and that gift certificates were available," Graff said.

The City Drip signs will go further, with video technology and graphics. "It's a good way to promote not just businesses, but activities and events," Graff said.

The technology will be of no cost to the Chamber, other than the electricity it takes to run it — which is well worth the investment, according to Graff.

"Long term, we'd like to put up as many as we can," Draplin said. "The location has to make sense."

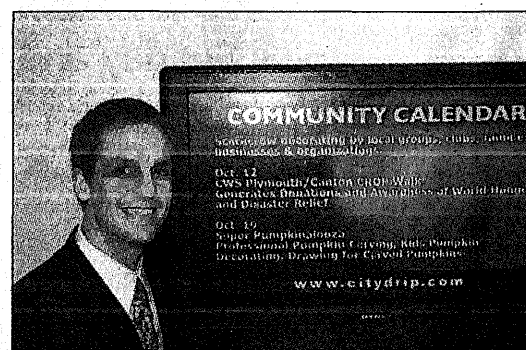
Leo's Coney Island marked a good spot because it brings in about 15,000 customers a month. And they spend some time in the restaurant. "We want to be in front of as many people as we can," Draplin said.

The information is provided and funded by local businesses looking to add value and reach out to the community. Though it works like paid advertising in a network of digital displays, Draplin envisions this sort of signage will be customizable and useful. He said he imagined local doctors offering health tips or sports organizations and movie theaters listing event times.

And, he said, it's purely local.

Though Draplin is launching this project in Plymouth, he has hopes for expansion in other cities. Moving away from DVDs and using the Internet to update and change the display information allows the messages to be adjusted in real time. Draplin said businesses can target the morning breakfast crowd of business people at one time of day and a younger clientele at Leo's at night, for example.

To learn more or advertise, visit [citydrip.com](http://citydrip.com) or send e-mail to [justin@citydrip.com](mailto:justin@citydrip.com).



City Drip Digital Signage owner Justin Draplin with one of the digital signs he hopes to put up in a variety of Plymouth businesses.

## Million-dollar gown meant to raise autism awareness

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Former Plymouth resident Val McFarland, who still has family in the area, will wear a gown studded with \$1.75 million in diamonds to the auto show charity preview to heighten awareness of autism.

When it comes to dressing for the North American International Auto Show Charity Preview, attendee Val McFarland is sure to look like more than a million bucks.

The former Plymouth resident and current Commerce Township married mother of two will be sporting a gown coated in \$1.75 million worth of diamonds, representing the 1.75 million people whose lives are impacted by autism. McFarland's 4-year-old son, Callahan, was diagnosed with autism and currently undergoes about 40 hours a week of therapy.

"We are personally spending \$100,000 on our son's therapy," she said, pointing out insurance doesn't cover such needs in Michigan. "The fact is that we are seeing amazing results."

That was incentive enough for McFarland to found Celebrities Against Autism one year ago. "Our number one objective is to create more public awareness," she said. "The funds we generate help families."

Autism is a complex neurological disorder that impacts development in social and communication skills. McFarland believes strongly that "intensive early intervention" is the best means for those with autism to recover.

To spread that message, she chose to make a serious fashion statement at "the largest black-tie event in the world," the Charity Preview. "It was one of those ideas I had in the middle of the night," she said. Her longtime friend Kimberly Petros is a Southfield-based jewelry designer and helped make it all possible.

"It's kind of amazing," McFarland said of wearing the gown. "I feel like a movie star. I feel like a rock star, literally, with all these rocks."

Though Celebrities Against Autism is not a direct beneficiary of this year's Charity Preview event, it will be strongly represented, beginning with McFarland's gown, designed by Dearborn fashion designer Zaynini.

"Our hope is to drive people to our Web site," McFarland said. The site, [www.celebritiesagainstaautism.org](http://www.celebritiesagainstaautism.org), is currently selling puzzle pieces for \$1 each, which will contribute to the World's Largest Puzzle, to support families affected by autism. Patrons may also be on the lookout for therapy dogs provided by Golden Ticket Puppies. The puppies made a splash last year and will return to the event this year. McFarland has partnered with celebrities Jenny McCarthy and Jim Carrey, whose Generation Rescue Organization also works to fight autism and support research and treatment for families.

### Warming Homes and Hearts

The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW) is a nonprofit organization established to provide low-income families with energy assistance during crisis. For the 2007-2008 heating season, THAW distributed more than \$10,928,000 in energy assistance to more than 8,600 households in Michigan.

\*See branch for complete details. NCUA Your savings federally insured to at least \$250,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government. Equal Housing Lender. ©2009 Community Financial

For every new checking account opened in January 2009, Community Financial will contribute \$10.00 to THAW.\*



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PLYMOUTH CANTON NORTHVILLE NOVI

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Number 43



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# Library storytimes add new chapter

BY JULIE BROWN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Carol Champagne knows local families like to get out in the winter. The storytimes at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, offer just that opportunity.

"We have nighttime ones that are for the whole families," said Champagne, head of youth services for the Plymouth library. "A lot of daddies come."

**Storytimes are divided by age, with younger children attending with a caregiver. The preschoolers attend on their own, with a caregiver elsewhere in the library.**

The library offers four-week sessions every other month. Summer drop-in sessions draw big crowds, but winter attendance isn't quite as strong.

"By March, it'll be crazy again," she said. "Everybody wants to get out of the house."

Storytimes are divided by age, with younger children attending with a caregiver. The preschoolers attend on their own, with a caregiver elsewhere in the library.

Sessions vary, featuring finger plays, and rhymes done with fingers.

"Something different each week," said Champagne, listing musical instruments, movies, crafts and puppets. There's a small parachute used to play games. "We bounce it up and down and play games with it," she said. "Each week we do something different just to keep it nice and fresh."

Most other libraries also offer children's storytimes, she said, and you don't have to be

a Plymouth city or township resident to attend Plymouth's.

The Plymouth District Library offers the following:

■ **Lap Sit Storytime** for children 6 to 24 months — Lap sit storytime is a 15-minute song-and-rhyme time for babies on their caregiver laps. Storytime will be held Saturday, Jan. 17, at 10 a.m. Registration is under way. There's a limit of 16 children per session. A waiting list is available. The session is for a registered caregiver and baby only.

■ **Preschool/Family Evening** storytime for children 2 to 5 years old — These programs allow siblings and other family members to attend as long as one member is between the ages of 2 and 5. Storytimes start at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, through Jan. 27, and Wednesdays, through Jan. 28. Registration is under way.

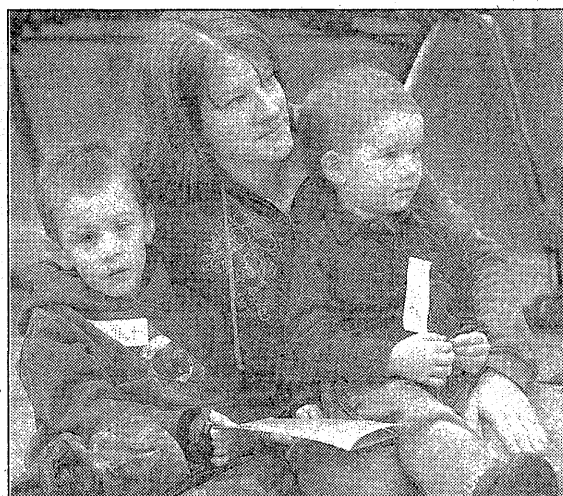
■ **Toddler/Parent** storytime for children 2 to 3½ years old — Two programs will be offered. The 10 a.m. program is for one adult with each toddler. Exceptions are made for twins, otherwise you should

make other arrangements for siblings. The 11 a.m. program allows other family members to attend as long as one member is between the ages of 2 and 3½. These programs run on Tuesdays, through Jan. 27. Registration is under way.

■ **Preschool storytime** for children 3½ to 5 years old — Two storytimes will be

offered; one at 10 a.m. and the other at 1 p.m. These programs run on Wednesdays, through Jan. 28. Children must be prepared to attend without an adult; caretakers must remain in the library. Registration is under way.

Call (734) 453-0750, Ext. 5, to register.



Lisa Carey and sons Elliott, 5, and Wyatt, 2, listen to the stories.



Youth librarian Dana Bussard leads the toddler storytime.

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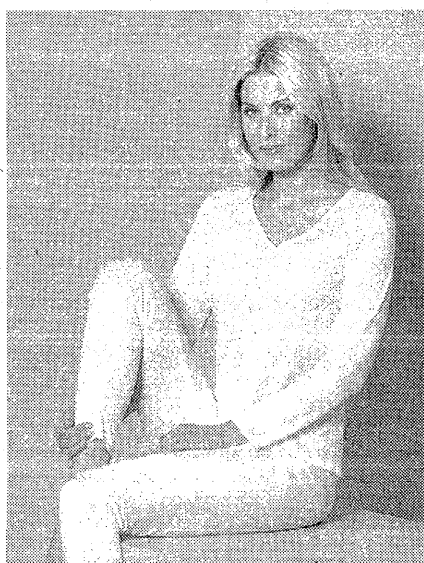
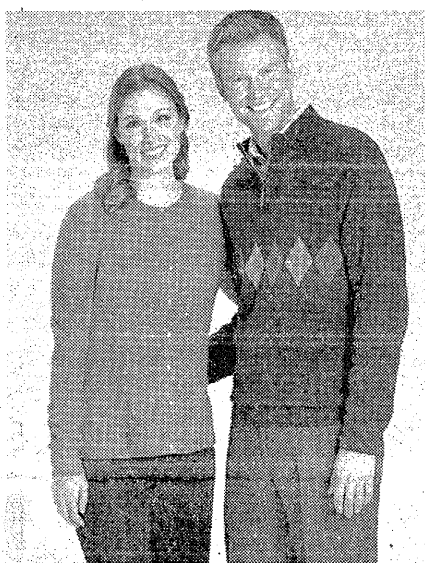
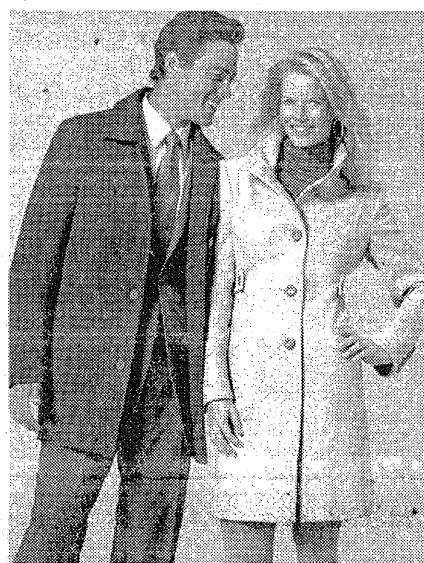
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**ADDICT**

FROM PAGE A1

as high as he could and, even though he knew security was watching him, he pushed the cart right out the door

"I gave up my whole life by walking out those doors," Harris said. "I knew they were watching me. I didn't care. I couldn't cope with my life any more."

The cocaine arrest and job loss had already stunned Harris' family, and when he turned himself in following the last shoplifting episode, Harris' mom, Plymouth Township resident Barbara Harris, said her emotions ran the gamut.

"I was devastated," Barb Harris said. "I was sad, horrified, angry at him. How could you do this to us, to yourself? At the same time, I thought, 'This is my fault, I failed him.' I beat myself up for a long time."

Scott did 13 months in a work-release program, with his mother by his side nearly every day. The conditions of that program made it nearly impossible for him to go into stores where temptation might lie in wait. Finally, he got into a support group he credits with helping him start to straighten himself out.

"I was able to stop," he said. "If I had continued, not only would it have destroyed my family and friends, I felt a responsibility to God."

He attended a retreat with NorthRidge Church in Plymouth Township, where a pastor noted Harris' connection to God.

"He asked me, 'You've been taking God into your life, but have you given your life to him? What are you doing?'"

Now Harris, who lives in Plymouth, is doing something to help others in the same boat. He developed a Christian-based support system and workbook, "Compulsive No More!" designed to help people with rehabilitative recovery for compulsive addictions and destructive behaviors.

The program drew rave reviews and Harris was approached to develop a secular version. He did, and now he and his mother are shopping it around to local district courts as a potential tool. According to Barb Harris, judges at both the 48th and 36th District Courts are interested.

It all leaves Harris, now a certified life coach, in an "interesting place," struggling financially "because I'm not working a regular job," but believing he can finally have a life worth living.

"I believe in what I'm doing, I believe it's going to happen for me," Harris said. "I like myself now. It's a daily challenge, a daily goal of mine to be a better person every day. I like myself now."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Scott Harris is trying to convince local district courts his program could work for them.

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2G1WL52J1Y1187567	2000 Chevrolet	Lumina
2B3ED46T7PH579594	1993 Dodge	Intrepid
1G3HN53L5PH318117	1993 Oldsmobile	88 Royale
ZP4GM2530SR294588	1995 Plymouth	Voyager
1N67R3S170146	1973 Chevrolet	Caprice
1FAFP34P52W323092	2002 Ford	Focus Se/Se Co
2C3HD46R0YH234347	2000 Chrysler	Concorde Lx
1B3ES46C42D598986	2002 Dodge	Neon Se

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OUR VIEWS

## MacDonald served with pride, grace

The Plymouth-Canton area is made up of an endless number of people whose caring attitude and involvement make up the "hometown" feeling upon which we pride ourselves.

John MacDonald is certainly one of those. MacDonald, forced to retire at the age of 72 from the 35th District Court bench, ended nearly a quarter-century of judicial excellence dispensed from high upon his seat atop the court.

He's replaced by Jim Plakas, the Northville attorney who beat Plymouth's own Joe Barone in the November general election. Plakas has large robes to fill.

MacDonald presided over a court that was generally well-run, fiscally responsible, never operated in the red and added programs and processes that ensured the smooth dispensing of justice in his courthouse.

It wasn't all moonlight and roses during MacDonald's tenure. His relationship with fellow longtime Judge Ron Lowe deteriorated to the point where MacDonald openly campaigned against Lowe the last time Lowe had to seek re-election. You could argue — and some observers to whom we spoke agreed — such politicking was out of bounds for a sitting judge.

The animosity between the two is legend in the realm of off-the-record conversations, and that probably hurt the administration of the court.

But it never entered MacDonald's courtroom, where the veteran jurist ruled with charm, good humor and grace. He took the time to explain what was happening to those who came before him, listened to their stories and seemed genuinely caring about the people who found themselves in trouble.

He was active in the community, ranging from his annual benediction at the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce auction to his judging of the old *Observer* pie-eating contest during the fall festival.

It's a level of involvement Plakas would do well to emulate. The strike against Plakas has been that his involvement in the community didn't start until he wanted the job. You decide whether that bothers you; community involvement has to start somewhere; just because you just began doing it doesn't make it less genuine.

In the hallways, Plakas, the candidate MacDonald supported against Lowe a few years ago, must have a better working relationship with Lowe and fellow Judge Mike Gerou than MacDonald had at the end. But in the courtroom, Plakas will do well to simply match MacDonald's service.

## King would be proud of Obama's election

On Tuesday, Barack Hussein Obama will be sworn in as the 44th president of the United States. That historic event will follow the day we set aside to celebrate the life of Martin Luther King Jr., the martyred civil rights leader who helped set in motion the profound changes that made it possible for Obama to reach the nation's highest political office.

It has been a long, violent and often bitter struggle for African Americans to assert their place in America, moving from slavery to Jim Crow laws in the South to widespread de facto discrimination in the North. It's a story of hardship that still afflicts the black community, where grinding poverty, limited opportunity and crime still separate many African Americans from the white majority.

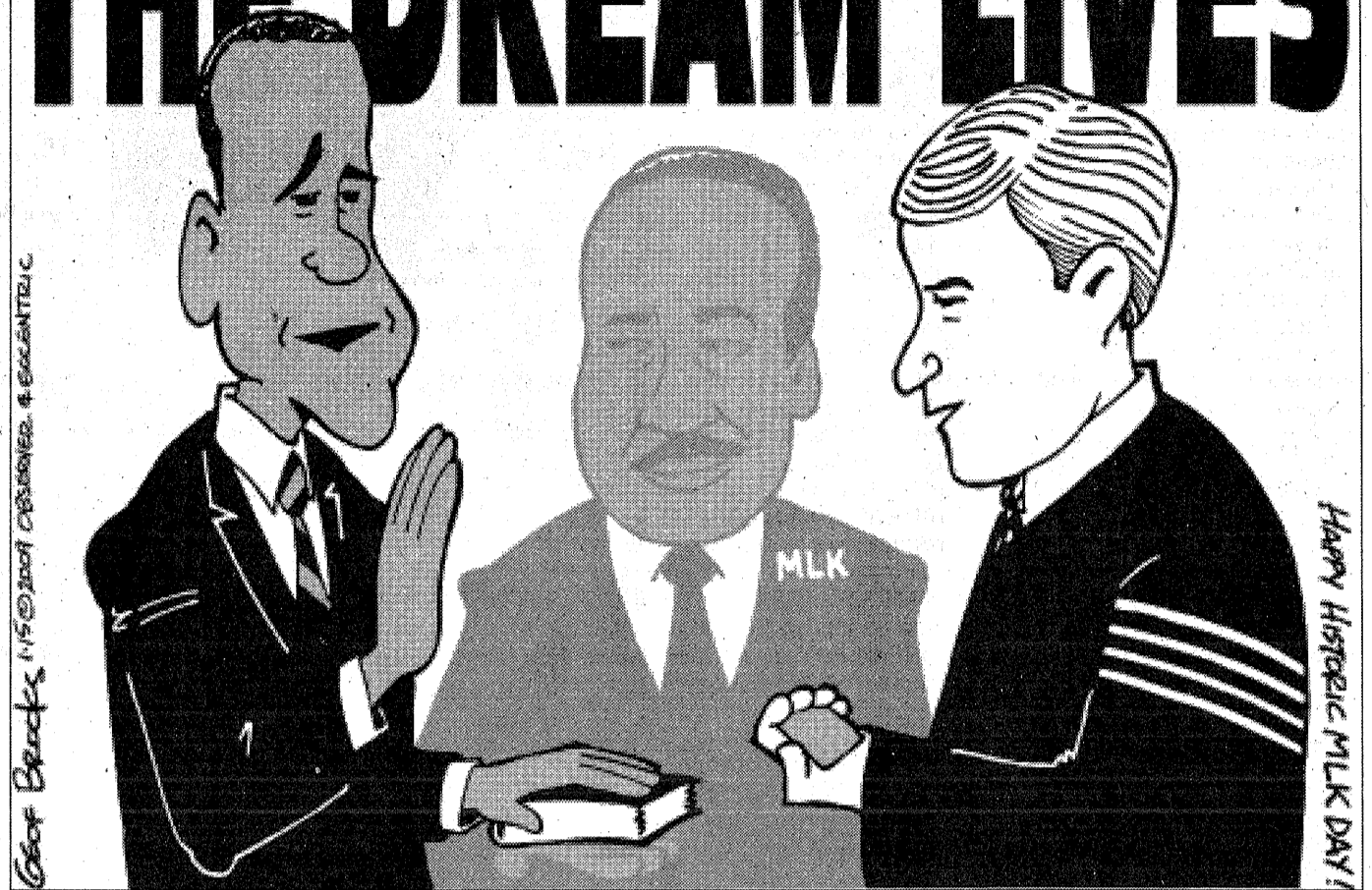
But each year, this nation moves closer to King's dream. In large ways and small, black Americans have taken their place as national, state and local leaders, prominent professionals and artists and prospering members of a growing black middle class.

In 1963, King set the mark — not just for black Americans, but for the United States as a whole. He challenged this great country to make real its vaunted claims of liberty and justice for all, to open the doors of opportunity, to break down the walls of racial separation and create a dialogue on what the promise of America really means.

George W. Bush, a Republican, appointed many cabinet members from minority communities, most notably his two secretaries of state, Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice. Now Obama, a Democrat, assumes the position of the nation's leader at a time of great economic, political and military strife.

The nation looks toward this man of mixed racial heritage with overwhelming expectations. Martin Luther King Jr. would have been proud that the United States would choose to place its faith in this man at this time. It is a piece of the dream fulfilled.

# THE DREAM LIVES



### LETTERS

#### Board misses point

The school board is missing the point, as did the American car companies. The budget needs to start with the top, which is all the employees and their benefits.

There is NO doubt that the budget should include drastic cuts in administration salaries, and benefits. All teacher salaries and benefits should be reduced immediately. By reducing the legacy cost (pensions) that alone would create millions of additional revenue dollars in the budget.

With the addition of these cuts, we would not have to reduce any services to the students. We need to start thinking of the students, not keep raising teachers' salaries and benefits. Everyone and every company is cutting salaries and benefits, why are the administrators and teachers excluded from cuts? The Plymouth-Canton Schools employees need to start contributing more of their own dollars to cover health care and pension cost.

Let's stop just trimming the fat, and counting on state funds. Judy Mardigian has been protecting the teachers and administrators long enough.

All Judy Mardigian cares about is getting new money. As stated in your article today, "One of the difficult things in not getting new money is where are we going to be with union negotiations and salary."

I would love to read in the *Plymouth Observer*, Plymouth-Canton Schools have reduced their budget by cutting salaries and reducing employee benefits. I have NEVER read where salaries and benefit cuts were even considered.

It's time the Plymouth-Canton Schools made the right cuts, and started spending less.

Keith Martin  
Plymouth

#### No heed taken

Evidently, City Manager Paul Sincok did not take heed to the letter my husband sent on Dec. 12 suggesting "free" parking in Plymouth during the holidays to encourage people to shop in Plymouth.

After reading the letter to the editor from Mr. Vraniak stating he spent \$200 in Plymouth and then got a \$15 parking ticket (and that he plans to take his business elsewhere) which he was denied any leniency.

When are you all going to get it that people will NOT shop in Plymouth just because it is Plymouth ... those days are over. You MUST make it appealing for people to come to downtown Plymouth and handing out parking tickets is NOT the friendly or smart way to do it.

Have you noticed the lack of foot traffic in Plymouth?

Mary Lockwood  
Plymouth

#### Ducking responsibility

Among those assembled at our president's inauguration will be the drag along special interests, the manipulating environmentalists, the UAW, WOW, and gay lobby each committed to defined objectives, followed tightly in line by the drunk politicians from American cities and states who have guided spending well beyond resources.

Jumping into the mix seeking attention are Hollywood hot dogs, trial lawyers, and the mainstream media too, all expecting to collect. Facing the barbarians at the gate, our new president may be run ragged by the often unhappy Americans. While unanticipated, in control of the bully pulpit, it would be simply masterful if the president turned the tables and push serious detoxification of groupie expectations.

I do not envy our next President Obama and wish him well at receiving President Bush's weak punt in the auto industry bailout. More concerned about saving jobs, the president saved the UAW. What awaits is the unions "card check" initiative. In view of the economic and political decay with a "highly unionized" and the unstable European populations, aggressive liberals may be given pause.

Are these conditions best reflected by segment of a significant European military program recently declared "unfit." A little messy!

The government might produce winners with a "payoff program" like a "thumb on the scale trick" to prop up sales of union-produced vehicles? The better idea is to get commerce working by igniting industries that bring a perennial compounding effect of action. Manufacturing! Eliminating corporate taxes and the capital gains works in the lubrication of business and commerce. Throwing cash at infrastructure projects simply bails out poor governance found in abundance in patronizing blue states.

Cash that might be better directed to protect a Federal Pension Benefit Guarantee Program. As with FDR problems may be punted as long as angst is politically useful. Still curious how AIG had such speedy and enormous support making us wonder if it has to do with underwriting governmental benefit programs.

Congress spends. Can even a strong president hold back more schemes authored or promoted by a Congress heaping heavier debt upon Americas young? Our national debt must be eventually covered by empty dollars or heavy taxes on Americans' food and fuel. The U.S. Congress is responsible for this raw deal swindle and surge of debt facing this nation. In their lobbies will their chosen affected by Madoof's scheme be bailed out as well?

George W., however, provides a convenient excuse for any pre-exist-

ing or forthcoming problem. Costly government is a political industry bent upon spending. The tenured education mugging particularly, shows unbridled growth and its population held unusually safe and harmless by the wavering economic fortunes. Especially in recent promotion of vaporous science beliefs for financial support. In difficult times, citizens fully locked up in struggles of the private sector could become unhappy with nesting sanctuaries. Hard to unravel the tightly entrenched and politically couched even if functionally phony and unsupported. In politics bluster is common actual leaders are rare. Too many of the elected tax easily, duck responsibility, and never, ever accept failures as their own.

Jim Nowka  
Northville

#### Open the books

No way should Chrysler expenses stay secret since it has been given public funds to survive this downturn in the automotive industry.

The process of loaning Chrysler taxpayer money was a huge misstep in policy making. The arrogance of their CEO to dictate to the public that their expenses stay secret, after the fact that \$4 billion in public funds has allowed them to continue their mismanagement is absurd.

Cerberus is a private company, and that rubs me and a million others in this country as plain old cronyism in Congress that they would loan this company any funds at all. We have thousands, and the number is growing across this country, in food and unemployment lines that could use that \$4 billion to help their life struggles.

I expect full disclosure of the books, and the original books, not cooked books that so commonly are used in business practices today. This is just plain good business practice.

Ron Austin  
Franklin

### SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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

### QUOTABLE

**"We're trying to look at every line item to determine what's really in the budget and determine if there are any chances for reductions. The board has done this so long there's just not much to cut without affecting programs and services to students. We try to stay away from those as much as possible, but you can only do that for so long without funding."**

— Plymouth-Canton Schools Supt. Craig Fiegel, discussing the district's financial predicament, which has been exacerbated by the fact that state funding has not kept up with the rate of inflation





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Boarshead Baby Swiss Cheese <b>\$6.99</b> lb.	Boarshead Sweet Sliced Ham & Golden Classic Chicken <b>\$5.99</b> lb.	<u>Joe's Specials!</u> Healthy Ones Honey Ham, Honey Turkey or Oven Turkey <b>\$5.99</b> lb.	Dietz & Watson Buffalo Style Chicken or Pastrami <b>\$7.99</b> lb.	Shady Brook Canadian Maple Turkey <b>\$4.99</b> lb.
4 Bears Sauvignon Blanc Sonoma County '06 <b>\$12.99</b>	Ottone Balbera Piedmonte '05 <b>\$9.99</b> ea.	Wildhurst Vineyards Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon Lake County '05 <b>\$11.99</b>	Gabbiano Chianti & Pinot Grigio <b>\$9.99</b> ea.	4 Bears Chardonnay Central Coast California '05 <b>\$10.99</b>
Leerdammer Swiss Cheese <b>\$9.99</b> lb.	Joe's Mini Meatloaf <b>\$5.99</b> ea.	Buffalo Chicken Pasta Salad <b>\$4.99</b> lb.	Joe's Oven Fried Chicken <b>\$3.99</b> lb.	Mild Cheddar Cheese <b>\$5.99</b> lb.
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THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL Thursday, Jan. 15 Huron Valley at Canton Agape, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16 Canton at Novi, 7 p.m. Plymouth at Salem, 7 p.m. PCA at Oakland Christian, 8:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL Thursday, Jan. 15 Huron Valley at Agape, 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16 PCA at Oakland Christian, 7 p.m. Novi at Canton, 7 p.m. Salem at Plymouth, 7 p.m. PREP GIRLS HOCKEY Friday, Jan. 16 Ann Arbor Pioneer at PCS at Arctic Edge, 6 p.m. PREP BOYS HOCKEY Friday, Jan. 16 Plymouth at Canton, 8 p.m. Livonia Franklin at Salem at Plymouth Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m. PREP WRESTLING Saturday, Jan. 17 Canton at Warren Woods Tower, 8 a.m.

Plymouth at Williamston Tournament, 8:30 p.m. PREP GYMNASTICS Thursday, Jan. 15 Canton at Walled Lake Gold, 6:30 p.m. Livonia Blue at Salem, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17 Canton and Salem at Farmington Invite, 9 a.m. BOYS SWIMMING Thursday, Jan. 15 Churchill at Canton, 6:30 p.m. Stevenson at Salem, 6:30 p.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday, Jan. 17 Aquinas College at Madonna, 3 p.m. Schoolcraft at OCC Orchard Ridge, 3 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday, Jan. 17 Aquinas College at Madonna, 1 p.m. Schoolcraft at OCC Orchard Ridge, 1 p.m. ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE Friday, Jan. 16 Barrie at Plymouth (Compuware), 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17 Owen Sound at Plymouth (Compuware), 7 p.m.

Salem lady cagers stumble at Churchill

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was a signature victory Tuesday night for the Livonia Churchill girls basketball team despite what the records indicate. The host Chargers improved to 4-3 overall with a surprising 35-32 triumph over Salem, a preseason top 25-ranked team which was coming off its first win of the season last Friday against state-ranked Livonia Franklin (26-23).

Darcy DeRoo, a 5-foot-10 junior forward, led Churchill with a game-high 15 points, while senior point-guard Lindsey Graciak chipped in with 10. Churchill trailed 10-7 after one quarter, but took a 23-17 halftime advantage with a 16-7 second-period run and kept the Rocks at bay during the final 16 minutes. "It was our patience on offense and defensively we were able to take away the middle because of their size," Churchill coach Chad Jenkins said. "We wanted to take away the 'paint' and force them into perimeter shots. We did an excellent job of rotating defensively and not giving them easy looks. We limited them to one shot a lot and we took away the second-chances for them."

Tracy Whalen, a 6-foot senior transfer from Farmington Hills Mercy, led the Rocks (1-5) with 10 points. Chelsea Davis, a 5-11 senior, added eight, while 5-10 junior guard Sara Stone added seven. "I'm having a hard time figuring this team out," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "I thought we turned the corner with our win on Friday and we started well tonight, but they took it to us in the second quarter."

"As a whole we were working together as a team and everybody did their part," Jenkins said. "Offensively we were very patient. We waited for the best shot and got some layups."

Churchill was 4-of-9 from the foul line, while Salem made 1-of-3.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Chelsea Davis tries to keep Churchill's Nakia Griffin from rebounding a foul shot near the end of the game Tuesday night.

Advertisement for Whalers Hockey. It features the Whalers logo and text: '14900 Beck Road North of M-14 • Plymouth (734) 453-6400'. The main headline is 'AWESOME Hockey Fun!'. It lists two games: '7:05 PM Jan 16 FRIDAY Whalers v. Barrie Whalers Go Green Night' and '7:05 PM Jan 17 SATURDAY Whalers v. Owen Sound Whaler Wacky Fun Night'. It also mentions 'TICKETS EVERY SEAT IS A GREAT SEAT! 734-453-8400' and provides website information: 'ticketmaster.com • (248) 645-6666' and 'compuwarearena.com • plymouthwhalers.com'.

Advertisement for Community Home Finder. It features a photo of a house and the text: '"Looking for that special place to call home? Look no further!!"'. The main headline is 'Community Home Finder' with the phone number '800.579.7355' and email 'eads@hometownlife.com'. It also says 'For Even More Listings... See Our Classified Section in Today's Paper'.

A grid of real estate listings. Each listing includes a category (e.g., Real Estate For Sale, Apartments/Unfurnished), a location (e.g., Garden City, Livonia), and details about the property (e.g., '3000-3890 Real Estate For Sale Garden City (3170)', 'FARMINGTON HILLS RENTAL SPECIAL Spacious 1 & 2 bdrms, updated kitchen, blinds and carpet incl. Starting at \$600/mo. 1 year lease. 1st month free with good credit. Call: (248) 763-4729').

A large advertisement with the text: 'Families have found some of the best things in our Classified Ads. Now you can visit us at..... www.hometownlife.com'. The text is arranged in a large, bold, sans-serif font, with the website address at the bottom right.







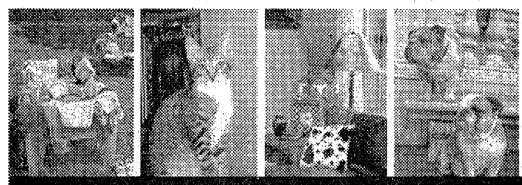












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Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, Saline, MI. 734-944-0713</p> <hr/> <p><b>7060</b> Auction Sales</p> <p><b>AUCTION</b> Jan. 17, 6:30 pm, Old Winery General Store, 31505 Grand River, Farmington. 248-982-0105</p> <p>Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)</p>	<p><b>7060</b> Estate Sales</p> <p><b>ESTATE AUCTION</b> Saturday- Jan 17th - 7pm Cultural Center 525 Farmer Plymouth, MI Collectibles Glassware/Furniture Coins/Jewelry Costume Jewelry Household Items Tools Cash/MC/Visa AmEx/Discover Bank Debit Cards No Checks Doors Open 6pm <b>JC Auction Services</b> 734-451-7444 jcauctionservices.com</p> <hr/> <p><b>"We Work For You!"</b> <a href="http://hometownlife.com">hometownlife.com</a></p>	<p><b>7100</b> Estate Sales</p> <p><b>ANOTHER GOOD ESTATE SALE!</b> FRI.-SAT. Jan. 16-17 10AM-4PM 25277 Hopkins Rd., Independence Commons, Farmington Hills, 48335- West of Drake, South of 11 Mile. Take Old Holmstead to Hopkins. 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Evergreen &amp; Southfield, to Bloomfield St. Go S to San Jose, go W. to dead end. *Vintage collectibles *Early matchbox cars *Antique postcards *Old metal cars, etc. *Collectible paper goods, etc. *2 brdm sets, *Lg. dining table &amp; 8 chairs, huge breakfast *2 leather sofas &amp; matching chair *Full nursery: furniture, toys, clothes, etc. *Bikes *Workout stuff *2 office desks, etc. *Gorgeous decorator iron king bed *8 new tires w/rims *Patio furniture *Too much to mention! <b>IRIS KAUFMAN</b> 248-626-6335 <b>JAMES ADELSON</b> 248-240-3269 Appraisers &amp; Liquidators for 45 Yrs in Metro Area.</p> <hr/> <p><b>7100</b> Estate Sales</p> <p><b>BLOOMFIELD HILLS - 2089</b> W Bend Ct, N/ Long Lk, E Middlebelt. Fri-Sat, 8:30-4. St #s ok, 4 pics. <a href="http://estatesales.net">estatesales.net</a></p> <hr/> <p><b>7100</b> Estate Sales</p> <p><b>LIVONIA</b> 9060 Hanlon, Ann Arbor Trl &amp; Wayne. Fri-Sun Jan 16-18, 9-5pm. Household furniture &amp; appliances &amp; misc. items.</p> <hr/> <p><b>7100</b> Estate Sales</p> <p><b>PRESTIGE ESTATE SALE</b> Fri., Jan. 16, 10-4 Sat. Jan 17 10-12 Noon 32350 Eastlady, Beverly Hills (S. of 14 Mile, btwn Cranbrook &amp; Lahser). Patio furniture sets, Formica table and 4 chairs, computer desk, lawn equipment, accessories and more! 586-662-7373</p> <hr/> <p><b>7160</b> Household Goods</p> <p><b>ENTERTAINMENT CENTER</b> 5 piece Hooker traditional oak wall unit. 36in. center ent. piece, 2- 34in. door units w/antique glass. 2- 14in. bridge units. \$1495. Call evenings. 248-474-3307</p> <hr/> <p><b>7160</b> Household Goods</p> <p><b>ENTERTAINMENT CENTER</b> 59in. wide by 61in. high. 3 drawers, 6 shelves, TV area is 32in. wide by 28in. high. Off white. \$400 248-349-6521</p> <hr/> <p><b>7160</b> Household Goods</p> <p><b>FURNITURE</b> Traditional style sofa, 3 piece entertainment center, end table, fabric ottoman, red painted chest, black computer cabinet, 50" round kitchen table with 6 chairs. Best offer. (248) 723-5373</p> <hr/> <p><b>7180</b> Moving Sales</p> <p><b>REDFORD - 3 Shopaholics Clean Out/Moving Sale!</b> Lots of furniture, couch sets, dining room, home decor, racks, racks &amp; more racks of gorgeous clothing, winter/spring, all sizes. *Women's men's &amp; kid's. Tons &amp; tons of jewelry, shoes &amp; purses. Most clothing &amp; accessories, \$1 each. You won't believe your eyes! Fri &amp; Sat, 1/16 &amp; 1/17, 10-5pm; Sun 1/18, 10-2pm (1/2 off). 15630 Meadowbrook, N of 5 Mile, E of Inkster. <a href="http://hometownlife.com">hometownlife.com</a></p> <hr/> <p><b>7180</b> Appliances</p> <p><b>APPLIANCES</b> Stove \$85 Refrigerator \$100, Freezer \$100. Call 248-465-0282</p>	<p><b>7500</b> Miscellaneous For Sale</p> <p><b>CHRISTMAS VILLAGES (Miniature)</b> 15 assorted buildings. \$10 each. Also, 3 vinyl desk chairs. Call: (248) 476-9398</p> <hr/> <p><b>7510</b> Musical Instruments</p> <p><b>GIUITAR</b> Gibson Electric Guitar Model 340, mint condition, fender Twin Reverb Amp. \$4500 or make offer. 810-655-8049</p> <hr/> <p><b>7510</b> Musical Instruments</p> <p><b>"It's All About Results"</b> Observer &amp; Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL</p> <hr/> <p><b>7500</b> Miscellaneous For Sale</p> <p><b>PIANO</b> George D. Bent Spinnet Piano, needs tuning. \$400 Call: 517-467-9262</p> <hr/> <p><b>7880</b> Household Pets</p> <p><b>ADORABLE PUPPY SALE!</b> <b>All Puppies \$200 off or more!</b> <b>90 Days Same as Cash*</b> *With Approved Credit &amp; Minimum Purchase Many Popular Breeds including: Boxer, Cocker Spaniel, Dachshund, Designer Mixes, Shih Tzu, Yorkies, etc. <b>Petland Westland</b> Across from Westland Mall (734) 387-9906 <a href="http://petlandwestland.com">petlandwestland.com</a></p> <hr/> <p><b>7880</b> Household Pets</p> <p><b>Lost - Pets</b> <b>LOST CAT</b> - Missing since 1/5/09 in Plymouth near Sheldon &amp; Ann Arbor Rds, Trailwood Sub. 2 yr old male, all grey, long hair, no collar, George. 734-459-3877 w/ info</p>
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<p><b>5000-5980</b> Employment Services</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>ADULT CARRIERS NEEDED</b>  Western Wayne County &amp; Farmington Area Previous experience preferred. Must be available on Thursday morning, Saturday evening/Sunday morning. Reliable transportation. Possible earnings of \$40-\$80 per delivery. Some Porch delivery. No Collections. Call Toll Free 1-866-887-2737 Observer &amp; Eccentric</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>Accountant</b> For Construction Division of Multi-State Developer Job Requirements: Successful candidates must have an exceptional knowledge of computers including MS Word and MS Excel, a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, knowledge of AIA documents, construction accounting/job costing knowledge, lien waiver exp. &amp; excellent organizational &amp; multi-tasking skills. Exp. in using Timberline is required &amp; MRI preferred. Duties require a self-starter who is highly organized &amp; has the ability to work well independently. We offer competitive compensation package. Please send resumes to: Box 1756 DMP Att: O&amp;E Newspapers 6200 Metropolitan Parkway Sterling Heights, MI 48312 <a href="mailto:oeresume@hometownlife.com">oeresume@hometownlife.com</a> (Code 1756)</p>	<p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>ENGINE TECHNICIAN</b> Great pay &amp; benefits. Must be ASE certified. GM experience a plus. Apply in person to: <b>TENNYSON CHEVROLET</b> 32570 Plymouth Rd. Livonia, MI (734) 425-6500</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>BOOKKEEPER</b> Full charge for Novi based business. Must be proficient in all areas of accounting with a strong emphasis in bank reconciliations, AR, AP and journal entries. Candidate must have excellent communication skills, be detailed oriented and able to handle multiple tasks. Email resume with salary requirements and history to: <a href="mailto:oaklandjobs@hotmail.com">oaklandjobs@hotmail.com</a></p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>BOWLING CENTER</b> now hiring afternoon Shift Manager. Full or Part-Time. Please apply in person: Ford Lanes, 23100 Van Born, Dearborn Heights.</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>Cable Sales, Sales Managers, Exp'd Technical Positions</b> Michigan's leading Cable Co. is seeking self-motivated, professionals. Needed immediately. Send resume to: <a href="mailto:cablesales@comcast.net">cablesales@comcast.net</a> or fax: 586-791-2690</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>CAREGIVERS</b> Healthcare company looking for private duty care givers for all shifts including alternate weekends. Fax resume to 248-735-1010</p>	<p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>CASHIER</b> FT-PT. Must be at least 18, energetic, flexible scheduling, benefits available. Warren Prescriptions 32910 Middlebelt Rd. Farmington Hills 248-855-1177</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>CHILD CARE ASSISTANTS, PT</b> Exp. helpful. Call Farmington Hills Nursery School, after 10am. 248-476-3110</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>DELIVERY TECHNICIAN, P/T</b> Located in Detroit hospital for DMC company. 1-2 days/week, noon to midnight. Fax resume: 800-552-9443 or email: <a href="mailto:amsdme@sbcglobal.net">amsdme@sbcglobal.net</a></p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>DIETARY AIDES &amp; HOUSEKEEPERS PART-TIME</b> Needed for retirement home in Northville. Good wages. Apply in person: Oakmont, 42000 Seven Mile Rd. W. of I-275, or call: 248-449-1480</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>DRIVER- Local Delivery</b> For commercial door distributor. Applicant must have a valid drivers license. Chauffeur's license a plus, not required. Fax resume to 734-422-9488</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>DRIVERS: TOW TRUCK</b> Full-Time, Experience, afternoon shift. Contact Walter or Karen: 734-455-1130</p>	<p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>Hair Stylist</b>, dntwn Plymouth salon has chair avail. Call confidential 734-233-8023 or email <a href="mailto:physalon@aol.com">physalon@aol.com</a></p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>Housekeeping/Janitorial</b> Dining Services Management Company has immediate openings for PART-TIME janitorial cleaners at a Detroit College. Floor care experience a plus. Friendly, energetic, customer service oriented individuals need only to apply. Must be able to work evenings &amp; weekends. Please call Sherry or Dana at: (313) 927-1871 Ext. 1871</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>JANITOR</b> Part time for retirement community in Westland. Fax resume to 734-729-9840 Equal Opportunity Employer</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>Landscape Co. needs:</b> Qualified Employees. Crimball Nursery, Inc., 50145 Ford Rd, Canton. Fax: 734-495-1131</p> <hr/> <p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>LEASING CONSULTANT</b> For Suburban apt. complex. Candidate should be outgoing &amp; results driven. Previous leasing &amp; marketing exp. a must. Weekend hrs. required. Fax resumes to: 248-471-0003 - EOE</p>	<p><b>5000</b> Help Wanted-General</p> <p><b>Maintenance</b> Full time position available for Northville and Canton commercial sites. Duties include general maintenance skills. Competitive wage including benefits. Fax resume to (248) 855-0915 <b>MANAGER</b> for large Suburban apt. complex. Candidate should be creative &amp; ambitious w/marketing. Must be results-driven. Prior exp. managing daily operations of conventional property a must. Please fax resume: 248-471-0003 - E.O.E. Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)</p>
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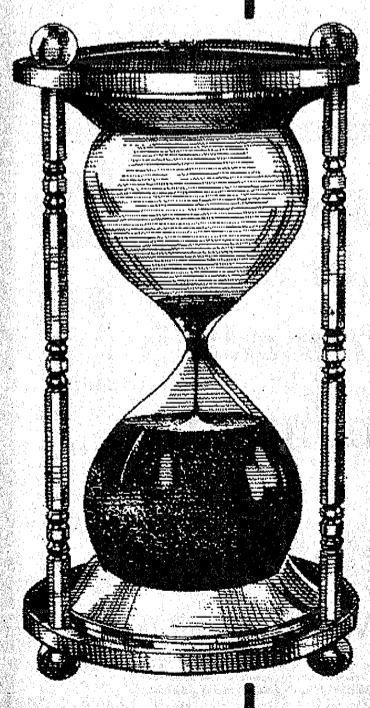
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Help Wanted-General 5000

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**OPTICIANS**  
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**Printing**  
Growing Livonia bindery has a full time entry level position for a helper to get on the job training on multiple machines. 1st and 2nd shift available. Benefits offered. Motivated individuals call for interview. Mon-Fri. 9-4 734-425-7500

**PRODUCTION TECHNICIANS**

Premiere bottled water manufacturer has openings for Production Technicians at our facility located in Plymouth.

Qualified candidates will have a related associate degree and/or at least 2 yrs. of hands on exp. operating, maintaining and adjusting manufacturing equipment to maximize production output while maintaining quality and safety. This is a 24/7 operation with various shifts/schedules. We offer a competitive benefits package including Medical Insurance with Health Savings Accounts, Dental, Life Insurance, 401K with company match and more!

Requirements for position:  
•Associates/Technical Degree, equivalent educational/military exp. or 2 yrs. in high speed filling & packaging environment  
•Basic Mechanical & Electrical skills required  
•Basic Computer Literacy  
•Maximize production output  
•Assure high quality standards & follow GMP's  
•Ability to lift 50 pounds repetitively

Interested candidates please email resume to: hr25@coconfidential.com E.O.E.

**SALES ENGINEER**  
See website for details www.axis-systems.com/ Jobs.htm

**SALES MANAGER**  
For Livonia office. This position requires an individual who is experienced leading and inspiring a sales force, communicating the vision and mission for the organization and fostering a "can do" environment. Experienced understanding of Life, Disability and LTC insurance is a must. Responsible for overseeing a training and development system that promotes growth and productivity. To learn more, contact Brad M. Kreiner, Agency Manager at 248-619-3972 Email to bkreiner@gic.com Or apply/see full details at: careerbuilder.com Keyword: ce08638522

Help Wanted-General 5000

**Southfield Based REO**  
service company is hiring individuals to help manage properties and dispatch crews. Individuals that have computer skills, can multi-task, have a positive attitude and can be a team player will do well in our non-smoking and drug free work environment. We have competitive wages, paid time off and health benefits. E-mail resumes to A-Son's Construction North, Attn: Jessica at csr23@asons.net or fax to 248-552-6794.

**WAREHOUSE CLERK**  
Fast paced medical supply company in Plymouth needs a highly organized, detail oriented person with good people skills and computer experience for our distribution team. In this position you will need to coordinate requests and prepare inventory for surgical procedures. This is full time with benefits. Send resume and compensation requirements to applicant@ostekinetics.com

**Warehouse Coordinator**  
Plumbing contractor has opening for responsible, motivated, and detailed oriented individual. Management of warehouse space and stocking experience is essential. Must have knowledge of commercial plumbing/piping supplies. MIOSHA forklift cert. is preferred. Candidate will be responsible for organizing, sorting, loading, unloading, staging and transporting material, tools and equipment. Other duties will include managing tool logs, tool repairs and material returns to suppliers. Good communication skills, computer knowledge and problem solving abilities a plus. Attention to detail is critical. Candidate should have 5 plus years of relevant work exp. Physical exertion is req'd such as stooping and lifting material or equipment (which may be heavy). A state of MI CDL or minimum of a chauffeurs license, clean driving record, criminal background check, and a drug test and pre-employment requirements. Please fax resume and salary req to 248-548-9130.

**WAREHOUSE PERSON**  
Commercial door distributor looking for a qualified warehouse person. Applicant must have a valid drivers license and the ability to lift 50+ lbs. Fax resume to 734-422-9488

**WINDOW INSTALLER, PT**  
Must have experience in wood & vinyl installation. Neat, clean, dependable need only apply. 248-446-1750

**ADMINISTRATIVE/ ACCOUNTING**  
Part-Time position. 20-25 hrs/wk. Motivated & resourceful employee with strong organizational skills. Proficiency with Word, Excel, QuickBooks, as well as exp. in bookkeeping, AP/AR & general office skills. Please forward resume & salary requirements to: gkreek@pizzapapalis.com

**ADMINISTRATOR/ SUPERVISOR**  
PT, Evenings. Call for appt. 248-559-0200

**ASSISTANT TO OFFICE MANAGER**  
Part to Full-Time for reconstruction co. Must have computer/people skills. Potential for advancement. Fax resume: 248-477-1777

**BOOKKEEPER/OFFICE MANAGER, Full-Time**  
Must be familiar with Quick-Book & payroll. Plymouth. Gregg: 248-417-1800

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

**LEGAL SECRETARY**  
Law Firm in Canton has entry level position, answering phones, keyboarding & filing. Willing to train. College grad./some college preferred. Fax resume to: 734-455-4826

**Sales Greeter**  
Career minded individual needed for part-time 12 hrs/wk to assist in the office of an attractive Condominium Development in Southfield. Fax resume: 248-358-3779

**DENTAL ASSISTANT**  
Exp'd. Westland office. Part-Time or Full-Time. Fax resume: 734-425-7675

**DENTAL ASSISTANT**  
Experienced, motivated individual to handle all phases of general dentistry. Call Ann: (248) 433-7070

**DENTAL ASSISTANT**  
Full-Time. Experience Only For former office in Ann Arbor. Excellent pay & benefits: health insurance & fitness membership. Send resume to: mhaldms@aol.com or Employment Application 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr. PO Box 326 Ann Arbor MI 48106

**DENTAL ASSISTANT:**  
Full-time. Dental Exp. required 248-355-9600 waltzz@msn.com

**DENTAL INSURANCE BILLER**  
Must have exp. 20-25 hours per week, some Saturdays Fax resume: 313-565-3057

**DENTAL RECEPTION/ PATIENT COORDINATOR**  
Full-Time position. Exc. compensation. Dental & computer experience required. Fax resume: 734-464-4778

**ORTHODONTIC CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANT**  
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**DIRECT CARE STAFF**  
Needed, Part time for afternoons \$7.61/hr. to start. CLS trained only. Call Debbie: 734-524-1361

**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**  
Part-time for internal medicine office. Exp. preferred. Paid vacation. Resume: 990 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 104, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

**Medical Biller**  
2+ yrs. exp. Must be proficient in physician billing, CPT & ICD-9 coding, dependable. Full-Time/Benefits. Email: gpressley@pbsb.net

**MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST**  
Needed Full-time for busy family practice. Must have telephone skills, computer scheduling, and billing exp. Fun place to work, great benefits. Fax resume: (248) 476-9709

**PHARMACY TECHNICIAN**  
FT-PT. Must have retail pharmacy exp. Certified preferred. High volume, great support staff- Great pay, plus many benefits. Immediate openings. Warren Prescriptions 32910 Middlebelt Rd. Farmington Hills - 248-855-1177

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**WAITSTAFF**  
FT & PT, DAY & NIGHT Apply at: Starling Gate 135 N. Center St., Northville

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

**WAITSTAFF, Part-Time**  
Independence Village of Plymouth, a luxury retirement community. Apply in person: 14707 Northville Rd. Plymouth, MI 48170

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\$575-\$975/per wk. Training Provided. Valid Driver's License required. Call between 10am-2pm. (248) 471-5200

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**FAMILY NEEDS** experienced help in caring for their mother with Alzheimer's disease. Westland area. Approx. 2 hrs. (734) 326-0199

**Housekeeper**  
Great opportunity for self-motivated, hard worker with good judgment to work for family as a part or full-time housekeeper. Duties encompass general housekeeping skills (laundry, vacuuming, mopping, dusting, windows, bathrooms, etc.) Must like children and animals. Must be a non-smoker, from a smoke-free household. Must speak English. Must have own transportation. Household experience required. Hourly wage flexible. Please forward list of qualifications and resumes. Fax: 248-593-5849 Email: housekeeper2007@gmail.com

**LIVE-IN MATURE** light housekeeper for gentleman. English speaking Valid drivers license required. Farmington Hills. (248) 921-7244

Position Wanted 5340

**"Caregiver Maid in Heaven"**  
Certified Geriatric Nurse. Avail for weekdays. Exc. references. (734) 844-8828

**CAREGIVER** - I will take care of your loved ones day or night. 20 yrs exp. Ref. Pay negotiable. Karen: 734-895-7950

**I AM SEEKING WORK** in Delivery/Courier/Chauffeur/General Service. Mi Chauffeur Lic. 0 pts, no tickets in over 7 yrs. MSU BA 1992. Ken: (248) 231-3377

**EXPERIENCED CHILD CARE PROVIDER** Livonia area, CPR first aid certified, meals provided. newborn & up. Full/part time. Call: (734) 466-9772

**ADORABLE infant** needs Nanny Monday & Tuesday 7am-6pm. 15 7 Ryan Call Amy: 248-546-4596

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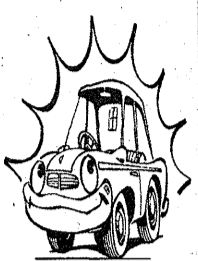
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**Childcare Services-Licensed 5360**  
**EXPERIENCED CHILD CARE PROVIDER** Livonia area, CPR first aid certified, meals provided. newborn & up. Full/part time. Call: (734) 466-9772

**Childcare Needed 5380**  
**ADORABLE infant** needs Nanny Monday & Tuesday 7am-6pm. 15 7 Ryan Call Amy: 248-546-4596

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<b>'08 MAGNUM SE</b> V6, black, 19,948 miles.....	<b>\$14,990</b>	<b>'08 GRAND PRIX</b> V6, black, 28,544 miles.....	<b>\$13,990</b>

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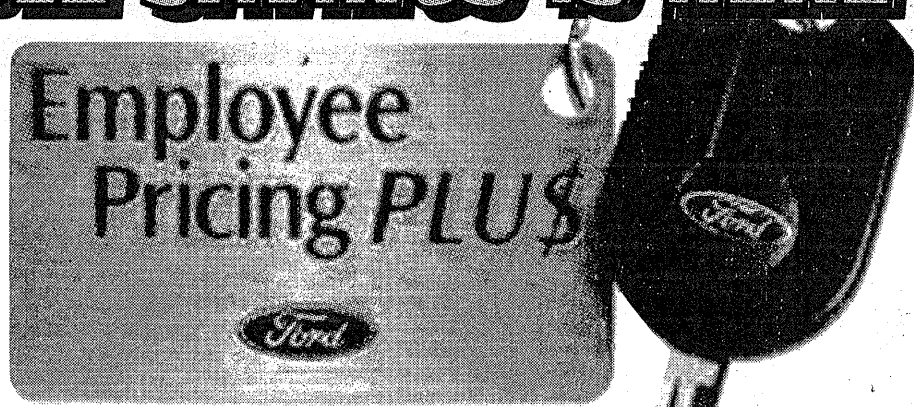
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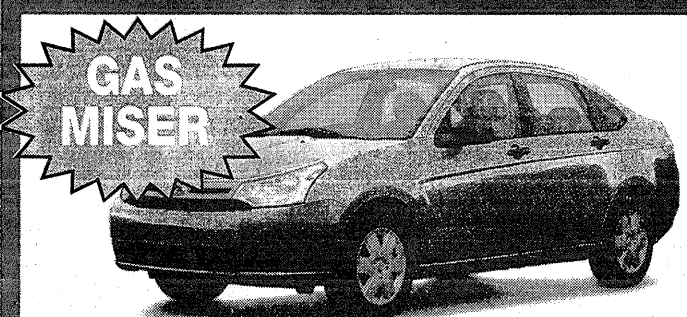
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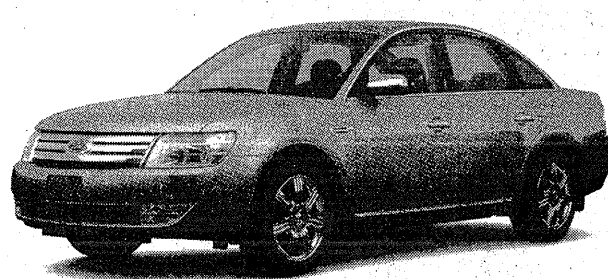
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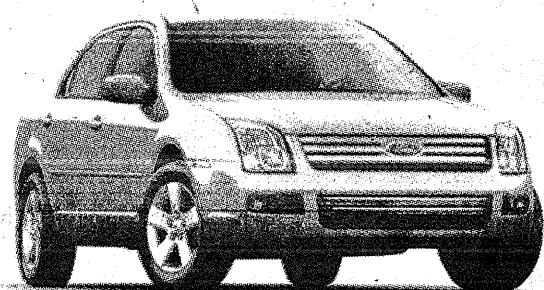
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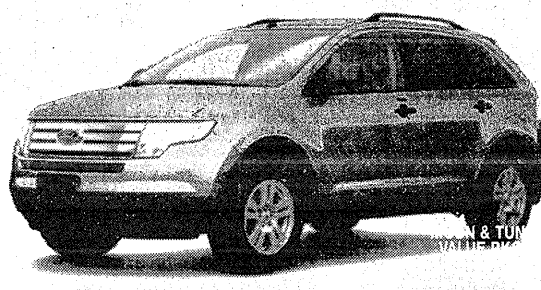
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**New 2009 Ford Flex SE Fwd**

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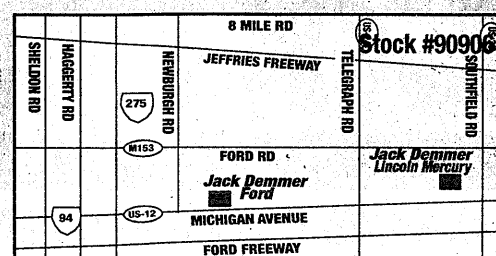
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Documentary shows what really happens to dogs in emergencies

**PAGE D3**

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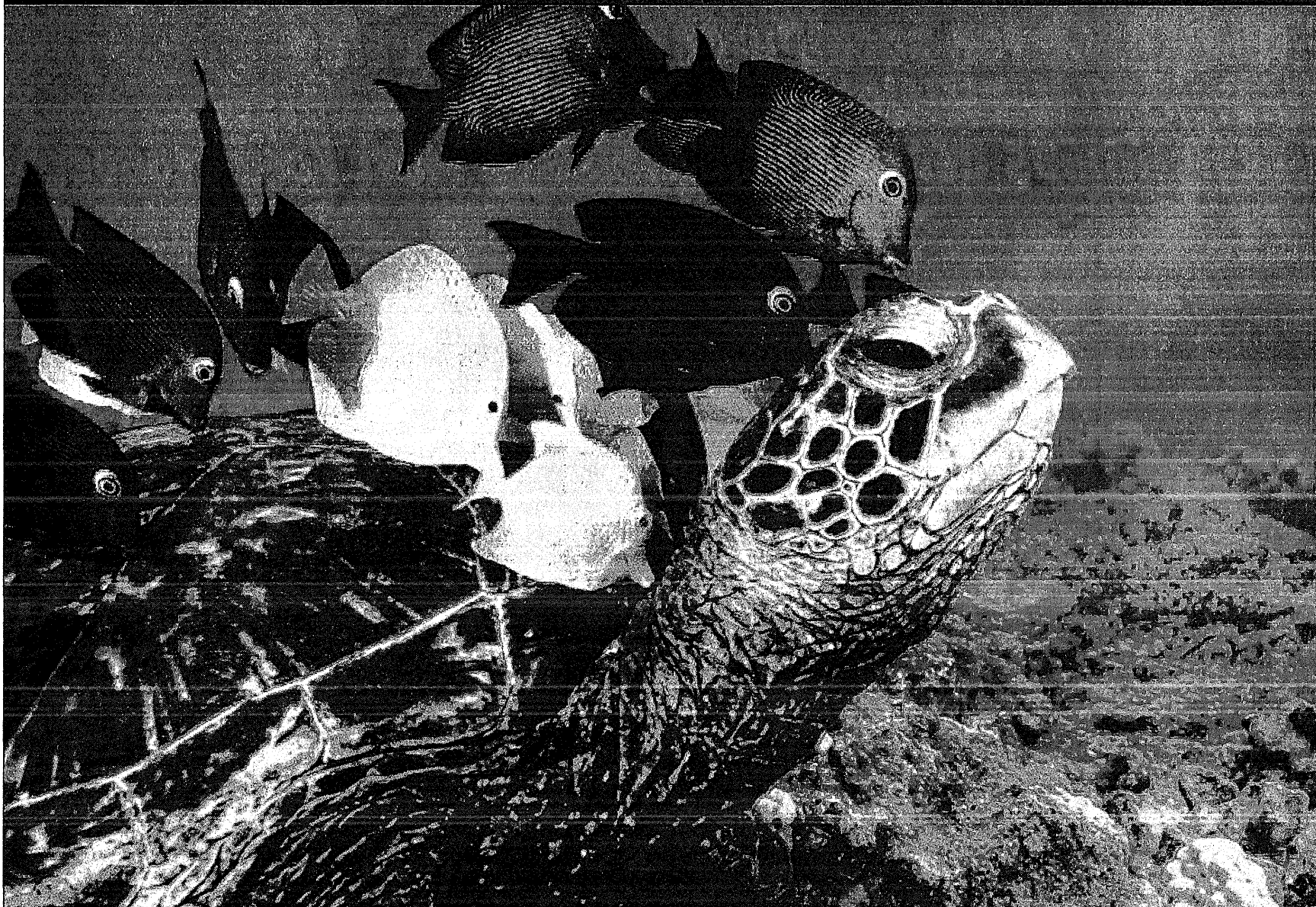
**PAGE D6**



Thursday, January 15, 2009

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

# Delve into the 'Deep Sea' at the science center's IMAX



PHOTOS BY PETER KRAGH

Reef fish nibble algae from a green sea turtle's shell off Hawaiian shores in the IMAX® 3D film "Deep Sea 3D."

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
O&E STAFF WRITER

The Detroit Science Center's latest IMAX offering is sure to make audiences feel like marine biologists-in-training. *Deep Sea 3D* offers a wondrous close-up look at sea creatures from jellyfish and manta ray to sea turtles and squid.

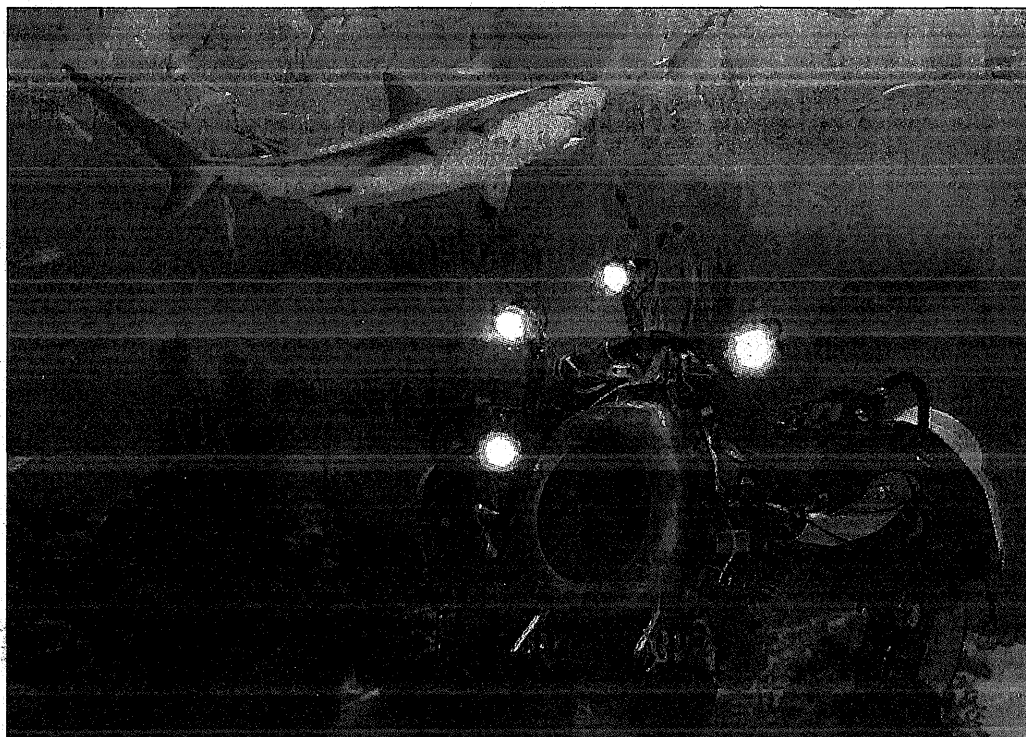
Fred Huebener, IMAX manager at the center, said the film has been on his radar for a few years. "It is one of the most popular IMAX films of all time," he said.

Huebener attributes that success to the fact that the film shows only underwater sequences, allowing viewers to feel they're right there, deep in the ocean.

At the science center, IMAX films are typically rotated from land to sea to keep both members and patrons interested. "From year to year to year they will always experience something new and different," said Huebener.

*Deep Sea* was included in a Mystery Movie series of screenings

Please see 'DEEP SEA', D2



Director Howard Hall and cameraman Bob Cranston glimpse a Caribbean Reef Shark overhead in the warm Atlantic waters of the Bahamas for the filming of the IMAX® 3D film "Deep Sea 3D," now playing at the Detroit Science Center.

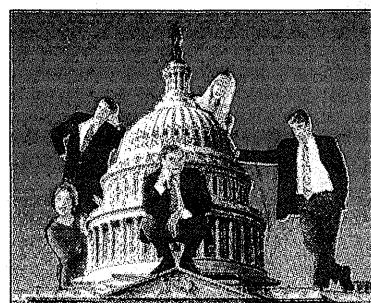
## DEEP SEA 3D

**What:** Howard Hall directs this undersea adventure narrated by Johnny Depp and Kate Winslet, with a score by Danny Elfman.

**When:** Showing now through June, various times listed at [www.detroitsscience-center.org](http://www.detroitsscience-center.org). Running time is 45 minutes.

**Where:** The Chrysler IMAX Dome Theatre at the Detroit Science Center, 5020 John R., Detroit.

**Tickets:** \$12.95 adults, \$11.95 children. Arrive 30 minutes before the last show on any day and see the IMAX only for \$5 off ticket price.



The Capitol Steps bring their brand of political humor to The Village Theater at Cherry Hill on Friday.

## 'CAPITOL STEPS' IN CANTON

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill will become the hub of political comedy when Capitol Steps bring their unique wit to Canton and put the *MOCK in Democracy* at 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16.

Capitol Steps began as a group of Senate staffers who set out to satirize the very people and places that employed them in December 1981. Inspired by incumbent president and one-time Hollywood actor Ronald Reagan, the group determined that if entertainers could become politicians, then politicians could become entertainers. The Washington D.C.-based troupe will perform their political song parodies and skits straight out of current headlines in the intimate setting of the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. Purchase tickets, \$45 for all seats, online at [www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater](http://www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater) or call (734) 394-5300. For more information visit [www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater](http://www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater) or [www.capsteps.com](http://www.capsteps.com).

## BANJOS IN LIVONIA

The Friends of the Livonia Library will present The Banjos of Michigan 2 p.m. Jan. 25 at the Livonia Civic Center, 32777 Five Mile Road. The group started as a handful of banjo players who met in a basement in West Bloomfield, and has grown to include more than 100 members. Now one of the largest clubs in the Midwest, The Banjos of Michigan play in nursing homes, hospitals, retirement homes, civic events and concerts across the Metro area. The concert is free. Call (734) 455-2495.

## HAVE A "BLAST" WITH DDC

Detroit Dance Collective will host "The Blast!," a unique fund raising event, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16 at The Glass Academy, 25331 Trowbridge St., Dearborn. The evening includes dance performances, glass blowing demonstrations, wine, hors d'oeuvres, music, door prizes and more. Since 1980, DDC has created, premiered, and toured provocative dance works and touched the lives of thousands through dedicated educational programming. Funds raised from The Blast will support educational outreach in community schools, the creation of new company repertory, and continued employment for several Michigan dancers. Door prizes include restaurant certificates, spa packages, massage, wine baskets, performance tickets and more. Cost is \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door. Visit [www.detroitdancecollective.org](http://www.detroitdancecollective.org) or call (810) 444-4553.

# Pure Picks

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Filtering your entertainment picks for the weekend beginning Jan. 16, 2009:



**16**

**Defiance** opens in area theaters today, a true tale of family, honor and vengeance set during World War II. The film stars Daniel Craig, Liev Schreiber and Jamie Bell as brothers struggling to avenge the death of their loved ones. This film is rated R.

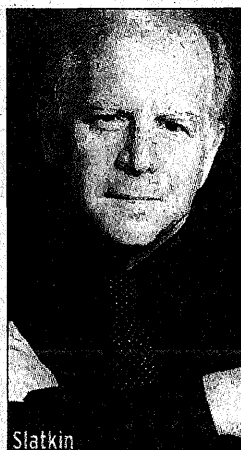
Daniel Craig is Tuvia Bielski and Liev Schreiber is Zus Bielski in the Paramount Vantage film, "Defiance."

**17** Sometimes you just want more Soup. Comedian **Joel McHale**, host of the E! Entertainment cable network's show *The Soup*, dishes it out live, 7:30 tonight at The Fillmore, 2115 Woodward, Detroit. Tickets \$32.50 to \$37.50, call (248) 645-6666.



McHale

**19** Who Wants Cake theater company delves into thrilling territory with *Deathtrap*, showing at 8 p.m. at The Ringwald, 22742 Woodward, in Ferndale. Find out what happens when a struggling writer joins forces with an unsuspecting student to develop a potential Broadway hit. The plot twists and turns will keep you on the edge of your seat until the end. Tickets are \$10 on this and any Half-Off Monday shows. Call (248) 556-8581 or visit [www.whowantscaketheatre.com](http://www.whowantscaketheatre.com).



Slatkin

**18** Leonard Slatkin conducts the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, along with performances by Olga Kern on piano and the MSU Children's Choir for *From Russia With Love*, 3 p.m. today at the Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313) 576-5111 or visit [www.detroitssymphony.com](http://www.detroitssymphony.com). Listen for Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet* Fantasy and the *Russian and Ludmilla* overture by Glinka.



COLLEEN SCRIBNER

Joe Bailey (center, seated) is surrounded by the cast of *Deathtrap*, including (left to right) Jean Garringer, Melissa Beckwith, Tom James, and Jamie Richards.

## RON ASHETON REMEMBERED

Pay tribute to late Stooges guitarist Ron Asheton during "Ronnie ... Thanks a Million," 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17 at Music Hall Center For The Performing Arts, 350 Madison, Detroit.

Hosted by artist Niagara, Asheton's former Destroy All Monsters and Dark Carnival bandmate, the evening will celebrate the life of the man Rolling Stone magazine called "one of the greatest guitarists of all time." Asheton was found dead in his Ann Arbor home on Tuesday, Jan. 4.

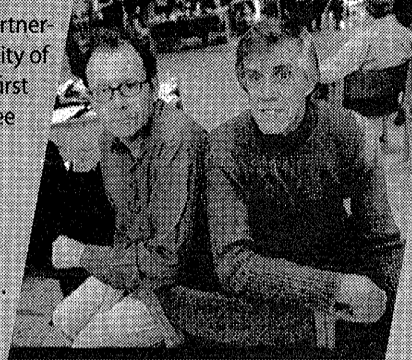
The night will include tributes, Asheton's music, a film retrospective by Tim Caldwell, and performances by special friends including Dark Carnival alumni led by Bootsey X & The Lovemasters. Admission is free but donations are encouraged to cover the night's expenses and contribute to Asheton's favorite charity, The Michigan Humane Society. Visit [www.myspace.com/niagarade-troit](http://www.myspace.com/niagarade-troit) for more information.

# Winter | Spring 2009 UMS 130th UMS Season

## 14th Annual Ford Honors Program honoring Royal Shakespeare Company Michael Boyd artistic director Ralph Williams U-M Professor of English

SAT, JAN 24 | 6 PM  
Rackham Auditorium

The 14th Annual Ford Honors Program celebrates the partnership between the University Musical Society, the University of Michigan, and the Royal Shakespeare Company, whose first UMS appearance in 2001 launched the beginning of three major residencies that have included nine Shakespeare plays, the US premiere of a stage adaptation of Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*, and hundreds of free educational events with local and regional partners. The 90-minute celebration will animate the partnership through a costumed performance of the courting scene from *Henry V* by the acclaimed RSC actors who brought the roles to life in London and Stratford, Shakespeare-related performances by students from the U-M Musical Theatre Department and the Mosaic Youth Theater, and Professor Williams's reflections on Shakespeare and theater, all woven together through brief video segments that highlight some of the profound impacts of the RSC residencies and of Williams's career at U-M.



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SUN, JAN 25 | 4 PM  
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  - Mazurkas
  - Chopin Scherzo No. 3 in c-sharp minor, Op. 39
  - Barcarolle in F-sharp Major, Op. 60
  - J.S. Bach Preludes and Fugues from *The Well-Tempered Klavier*, BWV 846-893
  - Chopin Nocturne in F-sharp Major, Op. 15, No. 2
  - Nocturne in D-flat Major, Op. 27, No. 2
  - Waltz in c-sharp minor, Op. 64, No. 3
  - Waltz in A-flat Major, Op. 64, No. 2
  - Valse brillante in F Major, Op. 34, No. 3
  - Polonaise-fantaisie in A-flat Major, Op. 61



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# Mardi Gras fun planned

During these trying times you can look to the blues for comfort or move in a different direction and go for Dixieland jazz. It's celebratory and fun. It all depends on the mood you want to revel in. If you want to Dixieland, mark your calendars for Sunday, Feb. 22 at the Monaghan Council Knights of Columbus in Livonia for the 17th Annual Mardi Gras Concert featuring the highly-

acclaimed Dixieland jazz band Tom Saunders' Detroit All-Stars. Saunders himself is a master cornetist. The concert is 3-6 p.m. and includes a light menu. Costumes are encouraged. The KOF is located at 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia, between Seven and Eight Mile roads. Tickets are \$15. Call (248) 478-0172 to order.

- By Lana Mimi

# 'DEEP SEA'

FROM PAGE D1

for patrons of all ages. "We showed three films to two different audiences and this was the highest rated film." The 45-minute sea exploration was released in 2006 and directed by world-renowned underwater cinematographer Howard Hall. This marks its Detroit Science Center debut. The center houses Michigan's only large-scale IMAX dome theater, which Huebener said is especially suited to films like *Deep Sea*. Because patrons sit at a 30-degree angle completely surrounded by the image, it offers the full experience of deep sea life — without ever getting wet. "You feel as if you're in a submarine looking at a giant squid," said Huebener. "You feel like you've been transported."

No matter how large a screen one might have at home, he said, it doesn't compare to the IMAX experience. Movies are chosen about one year in advance and slotted into the schedule accordingly. Huebener said *Deep Sea* differentiates itself from more traditional nature films because it doesn't focus on a single animal or move linearly from one animal to the next.

Instead, viewers will see the sea animals interact in their natural habitat. Narration is provided by actors Johnny Depp and Kate Winslet — whose voices come across as friendly and familiar, said Huebener. "The filmmakers spent weeks and weeks (to get) a few seconds of a shrimp snapping its claws," said Huebener, adding that a Manta Shrimp does so with the force of a .22-caliber bullet being fired, a sound sure to catch the audience off guard.

The film will be showing daily through at least June. To enhance the experience, visitors will notice a brief LED light show precedes each IMAX film in the theater.

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# MOVIE Guide

Where available by deadline, features are listed.

# THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

Call your local theatre for showings for this week. Please check listings below for phone numbers and websites.

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1/16/09-1/22/09  
AUSTRALIA [PG13]  
FOUR CHRISTMASSES [PG13]  
QUANTUM OF SOLACE [PG13]  
SOUL MEN [R]  
MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA [PG]  
ROLE MODELS [R]  
BODY OF LIES [R]  
BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA [PG]  
SAW V [R]  
TYLER PERRY'S THE FAMILY THAT PREYS TOGETHER [PG13]  
QUARANTINE [R]  
EAGLE EYE [PG13]  
LAKEVIEW TERRACE [PG13]  
THE LONGSHOTS [PG]

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1/15/09  
BRIDE WARS [PG]  
GRAN TORINO [R]  
THE UNBORN [PG13]  
NOT EASILY BROKEN [PG13]  
BEDTIME STORIES [PG]  
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON [PG13]  
MARLEY AND ME [PG]  
THE SPIRIT [PG13]  
VALKYRIE [PG13]  
DOUBT [PG13]  
YES MAN [PG13]  
SEVEN POUNDS [PG13]  
THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX [G]  
THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL [PG13]  
FOUR CHRISTMASSES [PG13]  
TWILIGHT [PG13]  
BOLT 3-D [PG]  
QUANTUM OF SOLACE [PG13]

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1/15/09  
BRIDE WARS [PG]  
GRAN TORINO [R]  
THE UNBORN [PG13]  
RACHEL GETTING MARRIED [R]  
VALKYRIE [PG13]  
BEDTIME STORIES [PG]  
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON [PG13]  
DOUBT [PG13]  
MARLEY & ME [PG]  
THE SPIRIT [PG13]  
YES MAN [PG13]  
SEVEN POUNDS [PG13]  
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE [R]  
THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX [G]  
THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL [PG13]  
FOUR CHRISTMASSES [PG13]  
TWILIGHT [PG13]  
BOLT 3-D [PG]  
QUANTUM OF SOLACE [PG13]

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1/16/09-1/22/09  
MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA [PG]  
QUANTUM OF SOLACE [PG13]  
SOUL MEN [R]

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[1-5]  
1/16/09-1/22/09  
NOTORIOUS [R]  
THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL [PG13]

MY BLOODY VALENTINE [R]  
PUNISHER: WAR ZONE [R]

THE UNBORN [PG13]  
ROLE MODELS [R]

GRAN TORINO [R]  
YES MAN [PG13]

NOT EASILY BROKEN [PG13]  
SEVEN POUNDS [PG13]

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[6-9]

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# Documentary shows what really happens to dogs in emergencies

The small black Labrador was infested with more worms and other parasites than any other animal ever seen at Rochester Veterinary Hospital.



She had heartworm, roundworm, hook worm and a host of other problems — and the enlarged but dry teats on her little body were evidence she had puppies.

She was a survivor of Hurricane Katrina from the rough Ninth Ward area of New Orleans and spent weeks swimming through parasite infested waters. She was finally saved when an animal rescue group from Michigan — called Sasha Farm — drove there to start helping.

The Labrador is healthy now because of Rochester Veterinary's extraordinary skills and kindness. She now lives with me, and her best friend is Macy, our spunky "pitbull" who cuddles with her daily. Life is good for Tula — her new name.

animals of Katrina is mixed. There were many heroes, many from Michigan, who risked their own safety to rescue animals like Tula.

The stories of Katrina animals can be seen in Ann Arbor on January 29, at the premiere of *An American Opera* — a documentary about perseverance and sadness during Katrina; filmed by Dearborn resident Tom McPhee.

The award-winning film details the efforts of thousands of volunteers who attempted to save the lives of the animals immediately following the hurricane. McPhee delves into society's frustration, helplessness and anguish in the wake of such a massive crisis.

Proceeds from the screening benefit several local and national charities, including Best Friends Network, and a variety of senior service organizations in Southeastern Michigan.

The film is presented as "The Greatest Pet Rescue Ever!" and looks into the human-animal relationship.

When I look into Tula's eyes I wonder about the struggles she endured in New Orleans; if her puppies survived; and what she

## AN AMERICAN OPERA

**What:** Benefit Premiere of "An American Opera," a documentary about heroism, chaos and the lives of the animals in Hurricane Katrina. **Extra:** Filmmaker Tom McPhee will host a short question and answer session immediately following the screening.

**Where:** The Michigan Theater, 603 Liberty St., Ann Arbor, www.mich-theater.org

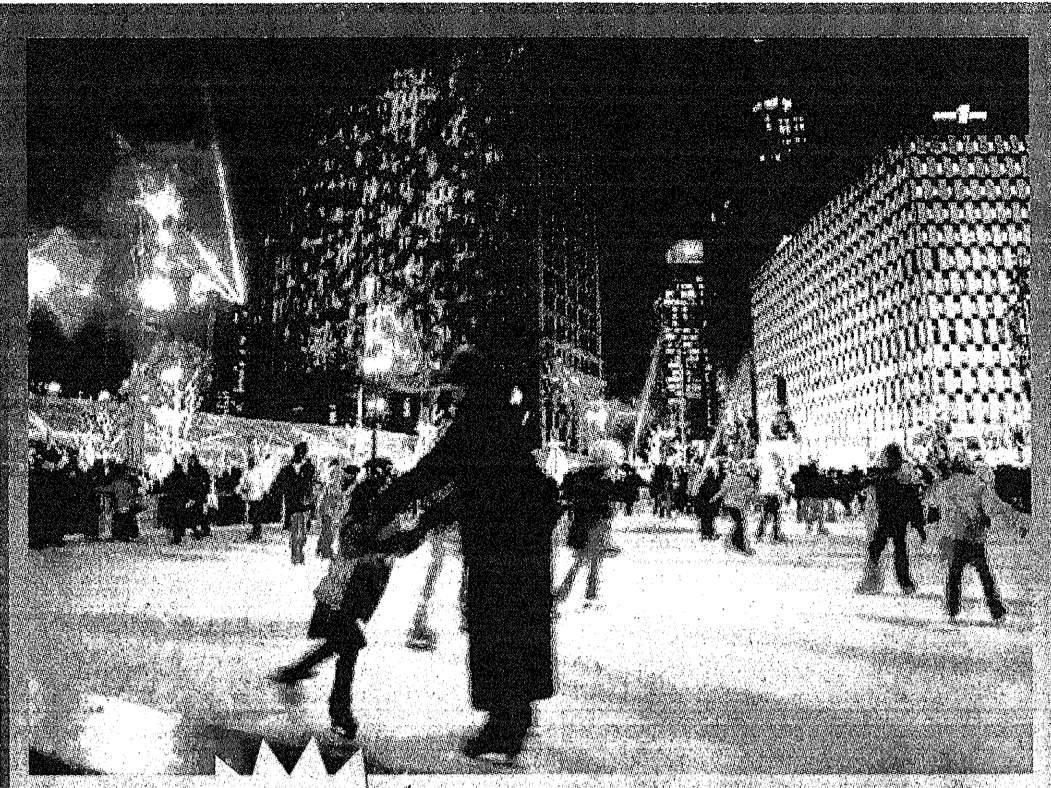
**When:** Thursday, Jan. 29, 7 p.m. reception with appetizers; 8 p.m. screening

**Admission:** \$10 general admission; \$25 VIP, which includes reserved seating and an autographed poster.

**Details:** See the trailer at www.myspace.com/eyetoeyedocumentary

saw. Her ability to climb like no dog I've ever rescued (I've fostered many) tells me she had to learn survival skills fast.

It worries me that if there's another disaster, officials still won't know what to do. Hopefully they will opt to be like the heroic folks in this documentary.



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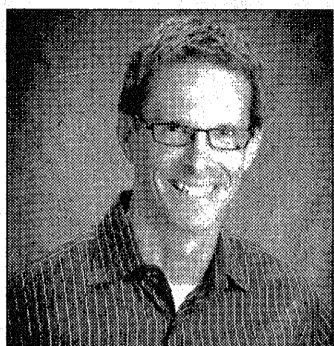
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# 'Expand your Canvas' with new series at NorthRidge Church

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Each of us is a masterpiece  
in God's eyes.



Powell

That's the message a new series at NorthRidge Church in Plymouth Township hopes to convey.

During "Expand Your Canvas," now through Feb. 22, senior pastor Brad Powell uses the metaphor of art to help people understand God's creative and restorative power.

A unique feature of "Expand Your Canvas" is an exhibit featuring art by members of the church, on display in the Chapel Gallery through the duration of the series.

In addition, the NorthRidge stage is decorated with reproductions of famed mas-

terworks, which Powell references during his talks.

The series opened Jan. 10 with a sermon entitled "Defaced Masterpieces," during which Powell discussed "Patch of Grass" by Vincent Van Gogh.

"You would think he would start with a fresh canvas, but when you examine this masterpiece what you find under it is another portrait by Van Gogh," Powell said.

For whatever reason, Powell said, Van Gogh was unhappy with the original painting, and chose to cover it with a fresh work of art. In the same sense,

God is a great artist who has the power to renew lives and relationships fraught by bad choices.

"If you give the canvas back to God he can repaint a new masterpiece," Powell said.

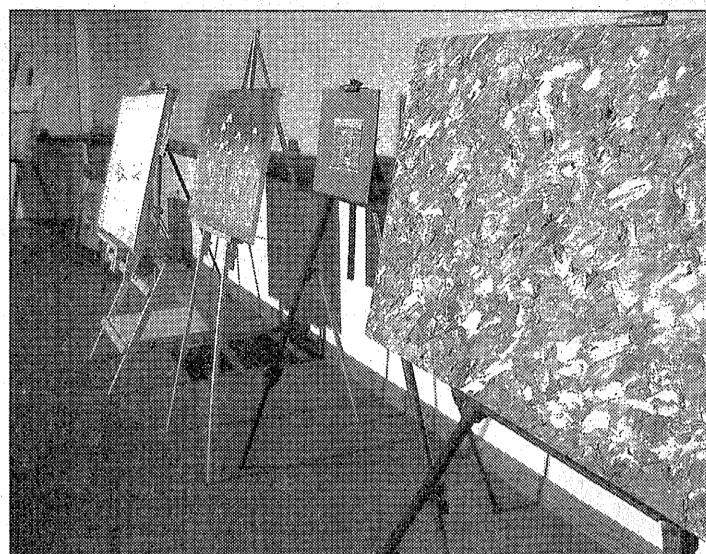
The series focuses on the Bible's Book of Nehemiah, which tells of the Jews who lingered in a devastated Jerusalem for 142 years until Nehemiah showed them hope.

In the same way, Powell said, many people today live amidst decline, decay and destruction without seeing a way out.

"Make the choice," Powell said. "Sit in the rubble or give the brush back to God. Sit in the rubble or give the sculpting tools back to God."

To further illustrate the metaphor, as well as showcase the talent of its diverse patrons, NorthRidge invited members to submit artwork for a juried gallery show.

Artists were asked to explain how God inspired



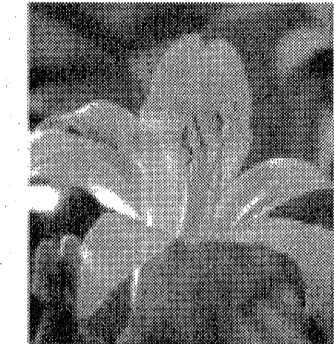
A juried exhibit of members artwork accompanies the series 'Expand Your Canvas' at NorthRidge Church in Plymouth Township.

their work, and their answers are displayed alongside each piece.

"This series fits right into our lives, especially at a time like this when we're entering a new year," Powell said. "Expand your canvas. There

really is hope. You don't have to waste your lives."

For more information and to view the talks online, including "Defaced Masterpiece" (Jan. 10-11), visit www.northridgechurch.com.



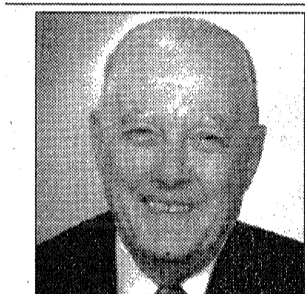
## Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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**GEORGE TIFFANY GASTON II**

Age 81, of Bloomfield Hills, retired owner of George M. Gaston, Inc., passed away Monday, January 12, 2008. Mr. Gaston graduated from the Cranbrook Academy, and the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. He served his country in the U.S. Navy during WWII. Survived by his beloved wife of 49 years, Joan. Loving father of Lori (Amir) Gal, David T. (Carrie) and Mark M. (Lisa). He was the proud Poppy of Stephanie and Danielle Gal; Grace; Hayden and Taylor Gaston; and Alexandra, Annalisse and William Gaston. Memorial visitation at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 1368 N. Crooks Road (between 14-15 Mile Rds.), Friday, 4pm-8pm. Prayers at 7pm. Mass at the Academy of the Sacred Heart, 1250 Kensington Road, Bloomfield Hills, Saturday at 11am. Memorial donations may be made to the George T. Gaston Fund at the Academy of the Sacred Heart or [CureSearch.com](http://CureSearch.com) in the name of his granddaughter, Grace Gaston. Obituary and condolences at [lynchfuneraldirectors.com](http://lynchfuneraldirectors.com)

**PAUL A. KOONTER**  
Age 75. Of Southfield, MI. January 10, 2009. Arrangements by: THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home

**ROBERT W. McALLISTER "BOB"**  
Age 53. Of Farmington Hills, MI. January 10, 2009. Arrangements by: THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home.

**TERRY A. MINNICK**  
Born July 21, 1943 and died December 12, 2008. Loving mother of Kelley (Stuart) Karbal, Jeffrey Bann, Michael Bann, Scott Minnick (Elizabeth Star), Kimberly Reece and Sydneya (Omar) Norman. Devoted grandmother to Carly Duran and Seth Karbal, Jacob, Alex and Leah Bann, Caitlin and Zachary Minnick, Ksosi Baker, Rachael Minnick, Dakota Reece, Joshua Reed and the late Avery Minnick. Beloved daughter of Ann P. and the late Elmer Fick. Burial was at Mt. Hope Cemetery.



**FRANCES O'MARA**  
Age 86. January 12. Beloved wife of the late Brian "Duke." Loving mother of Patrick (Deni), Kathleen (Stan) Zasawa, Linda (Curt) Carriveau, Cheryl, and Lorrie (Steve) Peck. Loving grandmother of Mandi, Erin, Brian, Eric, Dan, Sheena, Shannon, Rachael, Sean, Zachary, Amy, Stephen, Tess, Isabel, Charlie and six great-grandchildren. Remembered also with love by her surviving brother, sister, nieces, nephews, and dear friends. Visiting Thursday 2-9 pm with Scripture service at 7:30 pm at Charles Step Funeral Home, 18425 Beech Daly (Btw 6-7 Mile). Visiting Friday 9:30 am until 10 am Mass at St. Priscilla Church, 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia, MI 48152 (N off 7 Mile, W of Middlebelt). Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

**LEO J. STACHERSKI**  
Age 93. Of Farmington Hills, MI. January 10, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home.

**HELVI TALO**  
Age 87, January 11, 2009. Beloved wife of the late Oge. Dear mother of James (Sue), Terry (Sherry), Gary, Arthur and David (Connie). Grandmother of 11. Great-grandmother of five. Best friend of Dorothy Roth, Elsie Johnson and Eva Jackson. Charter member of Good Hope Lutheran Church and was a faithful member. Memorial Service was held. Memorials suggested to Good Hope Lutheran Church. Arrangements by Santeiu & Son Funeral Home.

Let others know...

When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"...a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

Observer & Eccentric  
Call 1-800-579-7355



**HELEN A. WALLACE**  
Age 93, of Plymouth. Passed away January 11, 2009. Helen was born on August 15, 1915, in Palo, Michigan, daughter of Harold R. and Olive (Roberts) Compton. She is preceded in death by her three sons, Richard B., Donald S. and Michael A. Wallace; her husband, Russell B. Wallace; and her sister, Jeanne Mettetal. She is survived by her two sisters, Catharine Sherrick and Doris (Herrick) Close, both of Northville. Also surviving here are loving daughters-in-law, Yvonne Wallace and Nancy Wallace; grandchildren, Deborah J. (Wallace) Cook, Michael (Dawn) Wallace, Bruce (Patricia) Wallace and John (Lorrie) Wallace; and great-grandchildren, Kevin Wallace, John Wallace, Stephen Wallace, David Wallace, Jonathan Foulkes and Rebecca Browne. She will be sadly missed by her many nieces and nephews and their families, as well as neighbors and the hundreds of friends over the years. Funeral from Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth, Saturday, January 17, 11am. Friends may visit beginning at 10am. Visitation Friday 5-8pm. Burial in Davisburg Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society in memory of Helen's son, Michael, and Southwest Indian Children's Fund, Box 9066, Broken Arrow, OK 74013.



**ROBERT H. WATKINS**  
Age 65, of Westland. Passed at home January 6, 2009. Devoted husband of Mary. Predeceased by mother Mabel, fathers Woody Watkins and Bob Nelson, and son Wade Watkins. Survived by sons and daughter Eric (Beth), Christina (Matt), Jay (Emily) and Brian (Windy), 12 grandchildren: Ryan, Elizabeth, Kristi, Nelson, Brittny, Alan Jacob, Alaxandria, Brandon, Nicolas, Seth and Calub. Brothers and sister Don (Darlene, Rand (Annette), Lauren (Doug), Rick (Sandy), Greg (Toni) and Kirk (Tina). Active in the 82nd Airborne Division Association, Wayne-Westland Parade Council, Lions Club, Veterans United, Post, and Past Volunteer at Westland Court. A memorial service will be held in the Spring. Arrangements by R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Garden City, MI.

**GEORGE D. YATICH, D.C.**  
Of Troy, January 12, 2009. Distinguished chiropractor for over 50 years. Beloved husband of Dorothy. Dear father of Ron. Special grandfather to Darrell (Sherry) and Scott (Regina). Brother of Olga Narich and Jennie Besevich. Arrangements were handled by A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, Troy, 248-362-2500. Memorial Tributes to charity of donor's choice. View obituary and share memories at [www.DesmondFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHome.com)

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

### RELIGION CALENDAR

To submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-second level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Linda Chomin. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

#### JANUARY

**Mobile food pantry**  
Trinity Evangelical Presbyterian Church is partnering with Gleaners Community Food Bank to offer a mobile food pantry for those in need Saturday, Jan. 17. Recipients must register between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 15, by calling (734) 459-9557 for a pick up time.

#### Bethany Singles

Bethany Suburban West meets at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, at Leon's, 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. For details, call Kathy at (734) 513-9479.

Bethany North Oakland plans a dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Jan. 17, at St. Daniel's, 7010 Valley Park Drive, Clarkston. Admission \$12, includes beer, wine and refreshments. For information, call Tim at (248) 891-8938.

Sunday, Jan. 18, at No-Taps Bowling at Oak Lanes, 8450 Middlebelt, south of Joy, Westland. Cost is \$15, includes three games of bowling, pizza and prizes. Spectators and cheerleaders will pay \$5 for pizza. Games will start at 2 p.m., registration by 1:30 p.m. For details contact either Kathy at (734) 513-9479 or Judy at (734) 261-5630.

Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit Office for Family Ministry. Bethany provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

#### Special service

4th annual "People of Life" Service 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, at St. Aidan's Parish, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia, in remembrance of the 36th anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision. Special guest speakers are from St. Aidan's, St. Gerald's, Calvary Missionary Church and Christian Covenant Church. American Sign Language Interpreter provided. Refreshments to follow.

#### Worship service

The Wayne-Westland Ministerial Association will sponsor a worship service to remember the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, at 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 18, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. There will be a combined choir from several churches led by Steve Holbrook. The preacher for the evening will be to Tim Wilson of the New Beginnings Church in Wayne. The public is invited. For more information call Neil Cowling at the Kirk of Our Savior, at (734) 728-1088.

#### All-you-can-eat pancakes

The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continues its more than 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, with an expanded menu that features pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, and assorted breakfast beverages. Meals are served buffet-style at family friendly prices: \$5, adults, \$3 children ages 4-11, free for children under age 3, \$15 a family (2 adults and all children). Everyone is welcome.

#### Chamber music concert

The Woodward Corridor Musicians present a "One of a Kind" concert 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, at First Baptist Church of Royal Oak (The Church on Main Street), 309 N. Main. The concert features the only woodwind

quintet written by August Klughardt; the only string quartet written by Giuseppe Verdi, and unique arrangements for clarinet quartet. Tickets \$10 adults, students K-12 free, and available at the door. For information, call (248) 546-5818 or send e-mail to [LFDean@aol.com](mailto:LFDean@aol.com).

#### Dare to be holy

Parish Mission with Bill Wegner, conducted by Good News International, a Catholic lay ministry, 7 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, Jan. 18-21, at St. Mel Parish, 7506 N. Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights. Refreshments. Offering will be taken. Special session after 8:30 a.m. Mass Monday-Wednesday. For more information, call (313) 274-0684.

#### Protect yourself

Ward Evangelical Church's senior potluck luncheon features retired State Police officer Monte Oswald demonstrating how seniors can protect and defend themselves 11:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 19, at the church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Bring your favorite dish to pass and enjoy the fellowship of other seniors. For more information, call (248) 374-7400. If you plan to attend, let the church know. For information on the program, visit [www.eyefight-back.com](http://www.eyefight-back.com).

#### Clothing bank

Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need 10 a.m.-noon on the fourth Saturday of each month (Jan. 24), at Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 8775 Ronda Drive, south of Joy between Haggerty and Lilley. For information, call (734) 404-2480, visit [www.CantonCF.org](http://www.CantonCF.org) or send e-mail to [info@cantoncf.org](mailto:info@cantoncf.org).

#### Time change

Worship is 9:30 a.m. Sunday, at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. Learning hour is at 8:15 a.m. for all ages. For more information, visit [www.livon](http://www.livon)

Please see CALENDAR, D5

## Wedding Workshop

How To Plan Your Wedding in 90 Minutes  
Like Speed Dating But It's All About Your Wedding

Wednesday  
January 21, 2009  
6:30 p.m.



Meeting House  
Grand Ballroom  
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- ♥ Have all your questions answered
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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE D4

faith.org.
Special needs Bible class
Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia invites adults with developmental disabilities and special needs to attend a new Open Arms Bible Class at the church, 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. The class will include songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to elc-ed@arundetroit.biz.

ENDOW
St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia will host two different courses of the Archdiocese of Detroit's ENDOW program, a continuing women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths.

Course VI, called "Salvifici Doloris" addresses the Christian meaning of suffering. Based on the writing of Pope John Paul II, this is a new addition to the ENDOW curriculum and available 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, in the convent meeting room. The class began Jan. 13.

Based on Pope John Paul II's "Mulieris Dignitatem" (On the Dignity and Vocation of Women), the Course II group, will meet 7-8:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays beginning Jan. 22, in the convent meeting room behind the rectory, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. Women of all ages and faiths are welcome. There is a \$60 charge for materials, but no woman will be turned away because of inability to pay. Register by calling (734) 261-1455, Ext. 207, or online at www.endowonline.com.

St. Aidan Catholic Church also offers ENDOW. The eight-session course will focus on the ideas

about human beings and God that St. Thomas Aquinas explores in his work Summa Theologiae, 7-9 p.m., Thursdays, through March 5, in the parish office conference room at the church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$60 for materials. Registration required. Visit www.endowonline.com or call (734) 425-5950. Facilitator is Michele Schmidt at (734) 367-0353 or mtschmidt@sbcglobal.net.

Couples prayer series
7-9 p.m. Wednesday, through Feb. 18, at St. Aidan Catholic Church in

Livonia. Cost is \$55 per couple. Those unable to pay because of financial difficulty may register and join the group. To register, visit www.coupleprayer.org or send e-mail to davidjonrad@staidanlivonia.org. The six-week Couples Prayer Series is for married or engaged couples, and designed to nurture a life-long pattern of sharing daily prayer together.

UPCOMING

Bethany singles
Dance, 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 7, in Redford. Cost is

\$10, includes refreshments. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Call Diane for information at (734) 261-5716.

Breakfast, 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at Leon's 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden City, 48135. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. For details, call

Kathy at (734) 513-9479. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit Office for Family Ministry. Bethany provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

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Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, MI 48101 (313) 441-3117 1/30/2009 at 11:30am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.
Personal property described below in the matter of:
Ronald John Lithgow A007 Boxes, Bags, totes
Tracey Wilburn A016 Mattress, Boxes, Bags
Deborah Coe B028 Boxes, Bags, Totes
Keyanna Wafford B048 Boxes, Bags, Totes
Jennifer Jackson B082 Boxes, Bags, Totes
Margaret Mercing B097 Boxes, Totes, Dresser
Dwain Puryear B128 Boxes, Totes, Bags
Tammy Whitehead B176 Totes, Desks, Showcases
LaChanta Cooper B190 Shelves, Dresser, Boxes
Stacie Van Tuyl B233 Boxes, Bags, Totes
Clayton Smith B238 Boxes, Bags, Totes
Kerby Dixon B289 Boxes, Bags, Totes
E Victor Helb B298 Boxes, Bags, Totes
Nicole Tomlinson B329 Boxes, Bags, totes
Sheldon Turley B330 Luggage, Boxes, Boxes
Danny Smith B351 Boxes, bags, Totes
Clint Adolph B367 chairs, mattress, bikes
Donald Schwartz B373 Boxes, Bags, totes
Connie Volpe C009 Boxes, Bags, Totes
Ted Konesky C013 Bike, Boxes, Bags
Stephan Mitchell C034 Toys, Crib, Bags
Aaron Daniels D030 Boxes, Bags, Totes
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# Bridal Couture aims to provide the perfect dress and service

BY SUSAN STEINMUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

You could call Amy Pohlod a matchmaker — one who pairs women with their perfect wedding dress.

"When a bride puts on a dress and she loves it, when it's the dress that was made for her, I get so excited," said Pohlod, owner of Bridal Couture of Birmingham, 34000 N. Woodward Ave. and Plymouth, 570 South Main Street.

For Pohlod, matching a bride and dress should come with perfect service too.

That's something she said was lacking when she bought her wedding dress 10 years ago.

It inspired her to make service a top priority when she bought the former Julie's Bridal in November 2007.

She aims to provide excellent service from the first glance at the dress to the final fitting and delivery.

"It's a very important process to me," said Pohlod, a Birmingham resident who found her niche in the bridal business when she left the corporate world to do something more creative.



LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Amy Pohlod, owner of Bridal Couture in Birmingham and Plymouth, stands in front of two designs by Rochester Hills wedding designer Kate Bennett: a strapless gown called Lillie (left) and an empire waist design called Annie (right).

Hills, is her only local designer. Pohlod describes Bennett's look as "very much a fairy tale type of look. It's true romance."

Bennett says Bridal Couture "has a great staff. That's my main concern."

She finds the same reward as Pohlod does when a bride finds "her" dress.

"They have that moment when they look at themselves and then cry and it's the most amazing thing... It makes it totally worth it."

Bennett's most popular design is a classic one, called Lillie. It's a strapless ballgown of silk Duchess

satin with hand sewn French Alencon lace at the hem and waistband.

A more modern style is "Annie," one of four from her 2009 collection. It has a fashion forward silhouette with an empire waist and a loose, flowing chiffon skirt.

Every gown is available in a variety of colors and trims and some styles are customizable.

Bennett's next trunk show at Bridal Couture is Feb. 28 in the Birmingham store.

For more information, go to the store's Website at [www.bridalcouture.com](http://www.bridalcouture.com)

### EXCLUSIVE LINES

Bridal Couture stores have large dressing rooms so brides-to-be can view selections with those close to them.

The wide variety of styles include designer lines that can't be found elsewhere in Michigan.

"I've been really concentrating on designers that we have exclusives for — that really sets us apart," said Pohlod. They include Jane Wang, Kate Bennett and Birnbaum & Bullock.

Wang, of New York, will be featured and available to advise brides in a trunk show featuring her new collection, Jan. 30-31 at the Birmingham store. Pohlod describes Wang's look as "extremely elegant."

Kate Bennett, of Rochester

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### Friday Night Live!

Friday Night Live! has been cancelled for Friday, January 16. The museum will close at 5 p.m.

### Saturday:

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Enjoy storytelling by Roan Judd, drawing in the galleries and much more.

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