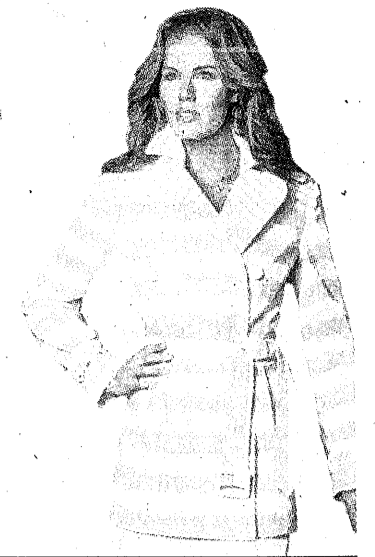


# PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

online at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

What's  
hot for  
spring

Pink, A9



## PIPELINE

### Jaycees back?

The Michigan Jaycees are starting a new chapter in the Plymouth community. The club last year lost its charter due to lack of sustained membership.

The club is for people between 21 and 40 years old who are interested in community service, networking and developing leadership skills.

There will be an informational meeting at the Liberty Street Brewing Company (149 Liberty St.) 7 p.m. Monday, March 23. For more information, contact Amy Flavell at [plymouthjuniorchamber@gmail.com](mailto:plymouthjuniorchamber@gmail.com).

### Political pick

Michigan State University's Michigan Political Leadership Program announced the selection of Eric Bacyinski of Plymouth as a recipient of a political leadership fellowship.



Through a highly competitive process, Bacyinski was chosen for this public policy and leadership training

program that runs annually from February through November.

Bacyinski works as the Southeast Michigan Constituent Relations analyst for Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox. He serves on the 11th Congressional District Republican Committee. In 2006, he was elected to the Plymouth District Library Board of Trustees, becoming one of the youngest elected officials in Plymouth history.

He and 23 other individuals from across the state will take part in a rigorous 10-month curriculum focusing on practical politics, public policy analysis and process, personal leadership development, and effective governance. Each fellowship is valued at \$12,000.

### Hire Michigan

State Rep. Marc Corriveau is among representatives promoting an aggressive job-creation plan that rewards companies that employ 100 percent Michigan workers with state economic development incentives.

The "Hire Michigan First" plan awards state tax breaks and other economic development incentives to companies that hire the most Michigan residents; encourages transparency and accountability by requiring companies that accept incentives to report on who they hire to ensure that Michigan residents are put first; and cracks down on companies that hire undocumented workers by creating penalties that include requiring them to pay back their tax incentives and barring them from future state contracts.

## 3rd time the charm? Search still on for band director

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A few months after finishing 11th in the nation at the national band championships in Indianapolis with an interim director who took the job as a last-minute replacement, the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band still doesn't have a permanent director.

And it doesn't look like they're going to get one any time soon.

Ray Bihun, the school district's executive

director for human resources, said two searches have narrowed the field to one candidate, but that in both searches, the final candidate withdrew from consideration.

Bihun said he's been disappointed with the number of candidates, pointing out there were only 14 applicants for the second search. A band as prominent as Plymouth-Canton's — it won a national title in 1999 and is a regular finalist in the national competition — should be drawing

Please see **DIRECTOR, A7**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Martin Montoya, here keeping time during a band camp drill, replaced Marc Whitlock, who stepped down after five years due to family circumstances, as director of bands for Plymouth-Canton.

## Hitting the stage



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Olivia Mensah (from left), Zack Smith and Victoria Reese sing "Kansas City" during dress rehearsal for the Park Players' production of "Smokey Joe's Cafe." The Players take the stage this weekend and next weekend at the Gloria Logan Auditorium in Salem High School. For more on the play, please turn to Page A6.

## Trustees balk at rent-free space for district

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' plan for rent-free temporary headquarters for its curriculum department met a roadblock Tuesday, but school district and Plymouth Township officials on Wednesday were taking a new path.

The township Board of Trustees voted Tuesday to postpone a decision on a lease that would have given the curriculum department space, from April through August, in the township's Department of Public Works building on Port

Street. The move came after Trustees Kay Arnold and Steve Mann balked at the low rent — nominally a dollar a month — in the courtesy lease.

"We have dedicated some money of our own" for projects such as improving school playgrounds, Mann said. "We are going to incur some costs and some inconvenience with them using our facility."

Mann suggested officials should determine the market rate for such space and offer it at a 25-percent discount. The board then voted unanimously to delay deciding on the proposed lease for up to 60

days, giving officials time to rework the proposal.

Ken Jacobs, PCCS deputy superintendent, said rent is something the district can handle. "I'm working with the township on that right now," he said Wednesday afternoon.

"We understand how things go and we appreciate even their willingness to do this for us," Jacobs added.

The curriculum department building, at the East Middle School complex on Lilley, is scheduled to undergo major renovations beginning Saturday, April 11. As district

officials want to get the department into its renovated headquarters before the next school year, Jacobs said, starting renovations on schedule is crucial. That means moving the department — temporarily — first, he said.

The department, he said, is heavily involved in the in-service days — teacher training — that typically begin the district's school year. "Pretty important time for us," he said.

The department would bring nine employees to its temporary site,

Please see **SPACE, A7**

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## Trustees on school program: Go TEAM

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Township is still a TEAM player. Lobbying efforts from the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools on behalf of the Teaching, Educating and Mentoring program, in which police officers teach elementary and middle school students about safety and personal responsibility, led some Board of Trustees members to emphasize that during Tuesday's meeting.

"As far as this end of the board's concerned, we're going with TEAM," said Trustee Kay Arnold, who sits at the board table next to Trustee Steve Mann, another TEAM fan.

Word had apparently reached some in the district that township officials were considering pulling out of TEAM. That prompted at least two letters in support of TEAM, including one from an elementary school principal that was copied to all trustees, said Supervisor Richard Reaume.

Police Chief Thomas Tiderington told the board he had suggested to Reaume that the program be dropped, due to police staffing and budget concerns. Mann was upset about not being informed of the

issue before some in the district had heard about it. "That needs to be cleared up. That's not good for the image of the township," Mann said. He added that Reaume's communications with department heads should be passed on to trustees.

Reaume said Wednesday the township will stay with TEAM for the foreseeable future. But budgetary concerns mean that cutting it can't be taken off the table, he said.

Answering Mann's point, Reaume said: "We try to do the best we can with all communications."

Likewise, Tiderington said Wednesday his department will remain in TEAM for now, but that a decision on its future will ultimately be the board's to make.

The chief said he has been reviewing all police activities because of budget concerns, and that the department is doing a good job with its 30 sworn officers, down from its maximum strength of 31 last year.

"We're definitely going to finish out the school year, and I'm sure at some point we'll meet with the board and discuss the future of the TEAM program," Tiderington said.

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**AROUND PLYMOUTH**

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

**Miller Woods meeting**

The annual meeting for Friends of Miller Woods takes place 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, at the Plymouth District Library.

A review of the past year and planning for upcoming events will be the agenda. The public is welcome to attend the meeting as an opportunity to learn about this pristine remnant of early Michigan that is a part of Plymouth Township.

**Cultural revolution**



Zhou Long

The Plymouth District Library and the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra will present international composer Zhou Long, who will speak about his music and experiences in China during the Cultural Revolution, in a program set for 2 p.m. Saturday, March 14.

Register for this free program by calling the library at 734-453-0750, ext. 4.

**DAR meets**

The Daughters of the American Revolution-Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter meets noon Monday, March 16, at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady, in Northville.

The speaker will be Kurt Heise of Plymouth Township, the director of the Wayne County Department of Environment, whose topic will be "Our Environment."

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

**Home-buyers seminar**

Potential home-buyers considering home ownership in 2009 can learn how to get the most for their money, see no-money-down deals are still available and learn about buying bank-owned and HUD homes at a free community workshop, "Buying a home in Today's Real Estate Market," Monday, March 16, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the SMP Offices, 1200 S. Sheldon, in Plymouth.

Community sponsorship provided by Coldwell Banker and Success Mortgage. You must RSVP for this event, only the first 45 reservations will be accepted. RSVP to ttrainor@smprate.com

For more information, call Kim Belz, Coldwell Banker, (734) 576-1548 or Jamie Benner at Success Mortgage, (734) 259-0637.

**Easter Egg Hunt**

The Plymouth Lions Club will be sponsoring this year's Easter egg hunt at Plymouth Township Park Saturday, April 11.

The park is located off Ann Arbor Trail at McCumpha. The hunt will begin promptly at 10 a.m. Don't forget to bring your baskets, bags and cameras! We will also be collecting hearing aids, eyeglasses and cell phones.

For more information e-mail Debbie

Baudino-Dowling at debbaudino@hotmail.com, call (734) 207-7464 or see the Web site at www.plymouth-lionsclub.org

**Love stories**

Concert lovers can make plans now to attend the BeckRidge Chorale's "Love Stories" Spring Concert.

Tickets for the concert, which features songs are for women and men, are \$13 and \$16, or buyers can buy three and get one free when purchased by March 21.

For more information or to order tickets visit the group's Web site at www.beckridgechorale.org or call us at (734) 416-9885.

Concerts take place 8 p.m. Saturday, April 25, and 4 p.m. Sunday, April 26 at Northville High School, located at 45700 Six Mile Road, Northville.

**Senior party fund-raisers**

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

Fund-raisers take place at the following restaurants on the following dates: Monday, April 6 and Thursday, May 7, both at Palermo's on Ford Road in Canton.

Detail information and a flyer is available at <http://web.pccs.k12.mi.us/pcep/pages/classof2009/senior-party09.htm> (this flyer must be presented at time of purchase for us to receive 20% credit of your purchase).

Visit the committee's blog at <http://pcep09seniorparty.blogspot.com/> or its Web page at <http://web.pccs.k12.mi.us/pcep/pages/classof2009/senior-party09.htm>

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

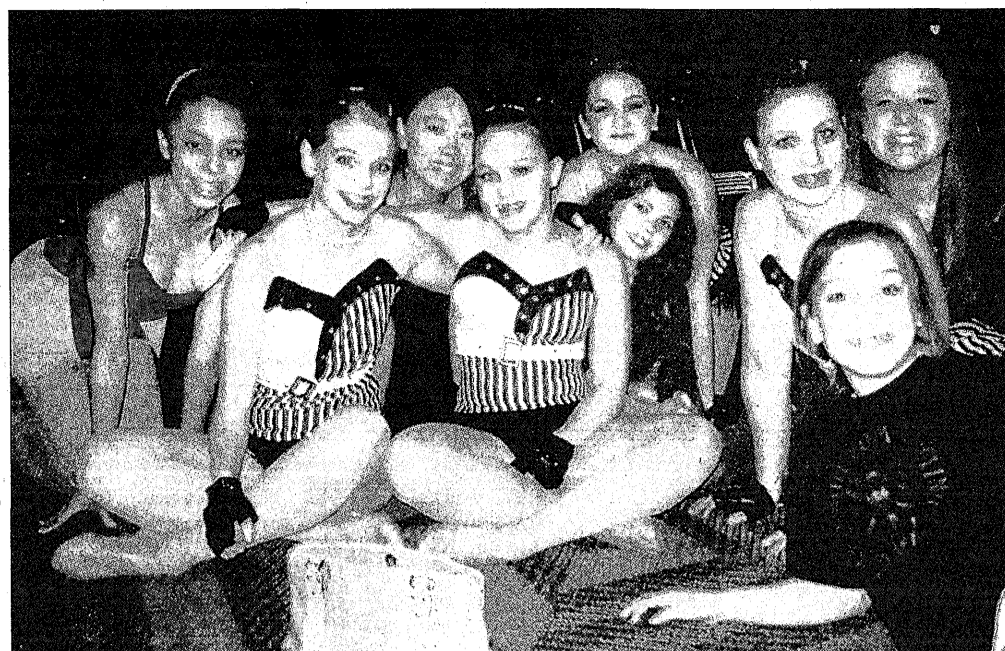
**DIA series**

Join the Plymouth Community Arts Council and the Detroit Institute of Arts each month for informative lectures offered by highly trained presenters. These lectures bring the DIA's world-class collection to life through informative slide presentations, while also speaking on the various facets of art appreciation. Presentations last 45-60 minutes and are free.

At noon on the second Tuesday of each month are the Brown Bag Lectures at the Joanne Winkleman Hulce Center for the Arts located at 774 N. Sheldon Road in Plymouth. Attendees may bring a bagged lunch to enjoy during the presentation. The next discussion topic is "American Chronicles: The Art of Norman Rockwell" and will take place on Tuesday, March 10.

For Evening Lectures you may visit the Plymouth Public Library at 223 South Main Street in Plymouth. Discussions are the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. The next discussion will take place on March 4th and the topic is "The Portrayal of Women."

These lectures are made possible by sponsor-



**Delightful dancing**

Dancers from Metro Dance Company in Plymouth took home a platinum and four high gold awards at the Adrenaline dance competition in Dearborn. Audrey Johnson placed 4th overall in the teen solo division. Dancers included Audrey Johnson, Molly Brewin, Emily Swanson, Kasidy Shepler, Anna Colaianne, Stefanie Shepler, Jordyn Shepler, Kalena Wright and Erica Shepler.

ship from Huron Valley Ambulance. To find more information on this and other PCAC programs please visit the Plymouth Community Arts website: [www.plymoutharts.com](http://www.plymoutharts.com) or call (734) 416-4278.

**Crafters wanted**

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters host their annual Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble Saturday, March 14.

Exhibitors who hand-craft their own items are invited to submit an application to exhibit at the fund-raising event to be held at Plymouth High School in Canton.

The juried art event is produced twice each year by the PCMB to help support the band and color guard programs at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Artists and crafters who are interested in applying for consideration to exhibit should visit [www.pcmb.net/artcraft](http://www.pcmb.net/artcraft) to download an application and submit with photos by early February or contact Carol Rosati at (734) 455-0714. Only 100 exhibitors will be permitted to exhibit at this event.

Plymouth High School is located at 8400 Beck Road in Canton. The Spring Arts & Craft Ensemble will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 14. In addition to over 100 exhibits, there will be food, a raffle, and entertainment by local musicians and artists throughout the day. Admission is \$2.

**New band members**

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band, a 22-time Bands of America Finalist at Grand Nationals in Indianapolis, hosts a series of informational meetings for students and par-

ents who are interested in joining the 2009 Marching Band program.

The meeting is designed for existing eighth graders, but is open to any high school student. Interested students will spend time with the existing marchers, while parents listen to a presentation by the Plymouth Canton Music Boosters on how eighth-graders can become a member of the award-winning marching band for the 2009 summer/fall season.

Parents and students are asked to attend one of the scheduled Open House meetings Tuesday, March 10, Wednesday, April 22, Thursday, May 7 or Monday, June 15.

All meetings begin at 7:00 pm in the Plymouth High School band room (enter near the big yellow truck). For more information, call Barb Hawkins, New Member Representative, PCMB, 734-420-5355.

**Penn classics**

March is "Hitchcock Month" at the Penn Theatre, with Alfred Hitchcock classics being featured each Thursday.

The schedule: March 12, "Shadow of a Doubt"; March 19, "Saboteur"; and March 26, "To Catch a Thief."

Box office opens at 6:30; screenings start at 7 p.m. All seats are \$3. The movies are sponsored by the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority.

Free passes available (while supplies last) at Haven, Michigan Made & More, Sean O'Callaghan's Irish Public House, Three Dog Bakery.

For more information visit the Penn's Web site at [www.penntheatre.com](http://www.penntheatre.com) or call (734) 453-0870.

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# Iditarod musher helps keep beloved teacher's memory alive

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

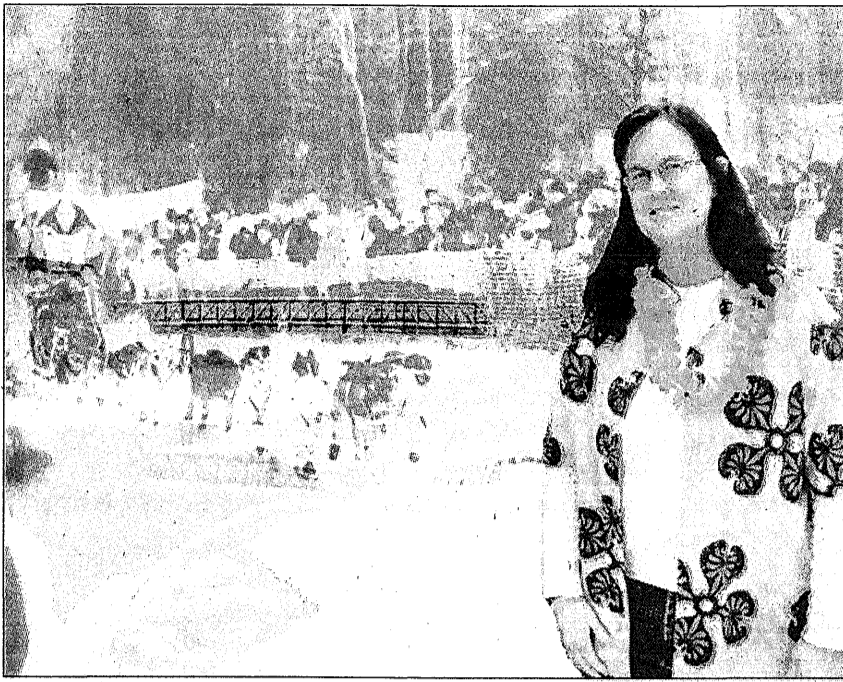
Discovery Middle School special education teacher Angie Lipford, who died Jan. 24 after a five-year fight with cancer, loved the Iditarod dog sled race in Alaska.

So, when colleague Amy Trombley visited Alaska a couple of weeks ago and met a musher and his dog team preparing for this year's race, which started this week, her thoughts turned to Lipford.

"While I was talking with Mike Suprenant, the musher, I told him about Angie and how she loved the Iditarod," Trombley said. "One thing led to another, and Mike is taking a key chain with Angie's picture with him on the race from Anchorage to Nome.

"In thanks of Mike's support, Discovery is supporting one of Mike's lead Iditarod race dogs, Tim, with a \$300 donation, through a fundraiser to be held later this month," she said.

Trombley gives updates to students on the Iditarod race with a special device that tracks Suprenant, giving updates on his location, when



Mike Suprenant, a musher in this year's Iditarod dog sled race in Alaska, is carrying with him a photo of Angie Lipford, the Discovery Middle School special education teacher who died Jan. 24 after a five-year fight with cancer.

he takes breaks and how far he's from the finish line. The first mushers are expected to complete the Iditarod sometime early next week.

It's not the first time students, parents and staff at Discovery have remembered Lipford. The school recently sold pink shirts, hats and water bottles with "Angie's Angels" printed on them and

raised approximately \$1,500 for Lipford's three sons.

Lipford would, no doubt, be proud of her students and all those who helped organize efforts on her behalf.

"I just don't think she realized the following she had," said Trombley. "She's just a well-loved person."

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Livonia Public Schools is opening its Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2009-10 school year.

This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will be open from April 6-20 at the Department of Elementary and Special Program, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia 48154 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

All candidates MUST meet the ACAT selection testing criteria.

For complete information on the application process, visit [www.livonia.k12.mi.us](http://www.livonia.k12.mi.us) or contact Charlotte Worthen, Director of Elementary & Special Programs at 734-744-2589.

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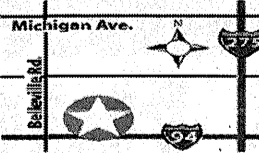
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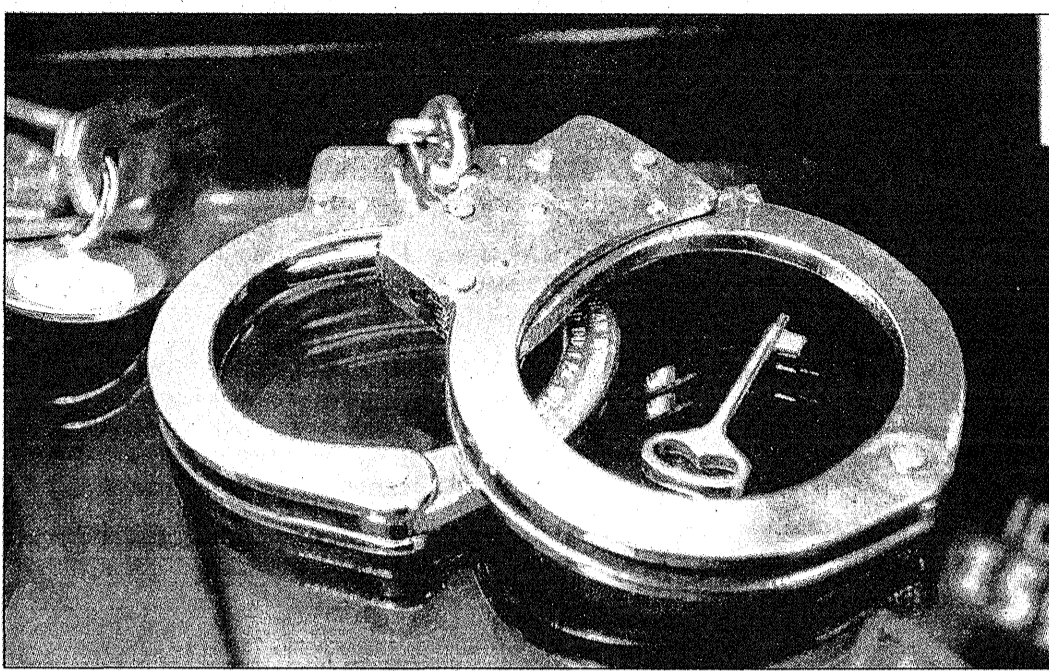
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# PUBLIC SAFETY



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A new display at Plymouth City Hall includes police gear from days past. The type of handcuffs shown here have been replaced by cuffs joined by a hinge rather than a chain, which makes for better prisoner control, according to Public Safety Director Wayne Carroll.

## Old-school police gear shows how job has changed

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A new display of law-enforcement gear at Plymouth City Hall illustrates the way policing and the philosophy behind it have changed.

The display includes weapons that officers haven't been issued in decades — like the sap, a leather club with a lead-filled pouch at the business end — and equipment that was high-tech for its time but now looks more dated than a manual typewriter.

There are fingerprint and criminal record cards, nightsticks (officers now carry Tasers and collapsible batons), an old Breathalyzer, an early electronic prisoner number display, and a riot helmet that's among the items issued, according to Public Safety Director Wayne Carroll, in the wake of the civil disturbances of the 1960s.

Carroll, a 31-year veteran of the department, said police weapons and the way force is used have evolved because of increasing concern over the well-being of combatants — bad guys and officers alike.

"The Taser, I think, has really cut down on the physical confrontations," said Carroll, referring to the device that delivers a temporarily disabling electronic shock. "Just the display of it, many times, brings them back into a compliant attitude and nobody gets hurt."

Weapons like riot sticks (36 inches long, used for crowd control) and nightsticks were deployed back in the day, but "we found out we were breaking a lot of knees and elbows," Carroll said. (Not in Plymouth, he added, but in general in departments around the country.)

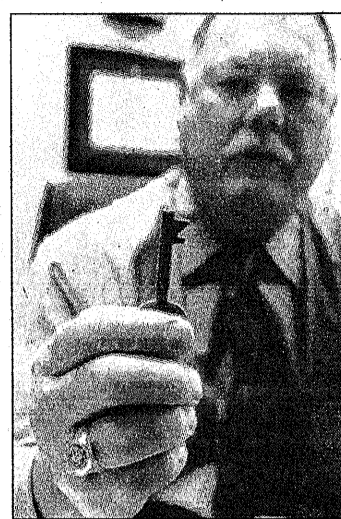
Later, police used joint manipulation and strikes to specific

muscle groups as techniques for controlling combative people (those are still taught), and then the Taser came along, he said.

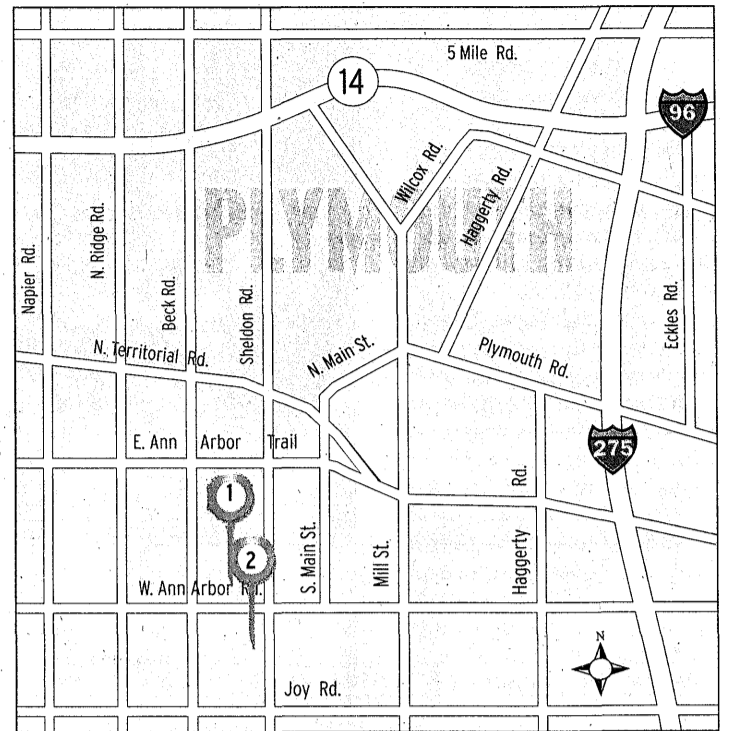
"It's a far better system than beating somebody," Carroll said. Some of the tools on display show the evolution of other aspects of police work.

A portable device for estimating the blood-alcohol content of a suspected drunken driver, for example, took the place of sobriety-testing exercises and guesswork at the scene, Carroll said. Instead of ink on cards, fingerprints are taken electronically (except in certain instances, such as when a citizen needs a fingerprint card for an employer) and criminal records are kept on computers, not notecards.

Carroll marveled at the way technology speeded things up in his profession. When he started, he said, a warrant check from the field involved radioing the sta-



Wayne Carroll, Plymouth's public safety director, holds the call box key he was issued when he started his career with the city's police department in 1978. Call boxes had long been replaced by two-way radios, but one box still stood at Main and Mill streets.



tion, having someone at the front desk input the suspect's information on a teletype machine (called the green monster) that took up nearly half the room, waiting for the information to be processed by several computers, and getting a response maybe 10 minutes later.

"Now, in the car, they can put in the parameters (on a laptop) and it instantly comes back to them," he said.

Police administrative assistant Paula Sherman and Officer Jeffrey Jones were the key players in researching the gear and organizing the display.

"We've had a lot of nice comments on it and people seem to enjoy it," Sherman said on Tuesday.

Also on show, in a police station hallway, are framed photographs of Plymouth officers on the job in different situations 20 or more years ago. Some old photos were found during renovations in recent years, after the department moved into space formerly taken up by the fire department, and those findings sparked an interest among some officers in putting up a display, Carroll said.

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## Pot found packaged in police citation; teen is arrested

### CRIME WATCH

A 17-year-old from Wayne was arrested on a marijuana-possession charge Friday night after police found suspected marijuana in his car in Plymouth Township.

The substance — police weighed it at 1.75 grams — was wrapped in a ticket issued in Westland, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. A test later confirmed it was marijuana, police said.

The arrest occurred just after 10 p.m. in the parking lot of the CVS drug store at Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon. A patrolling officer saw a Ford Escort in the lot and, as the store was closed, decided to talk to the occupants, police said.

Upon doing so, the officer noticed a strong marijuana smell in the car, the police report said. The driver denied having marijuana in the car and said, "You can search my car if you want to," police said.

Upon doing so, the officer found the Westland ticket with what later turned out to be pot in

it, police said. He also found two "blunt" cigars, which are sometimes filled with marijuana, and a cigar-splitter.

The passenger, also a 17-year-old male from Wayne, was released at the scene.

### Tequila theft

A 36-year-old Pinckney man was arrested on a misdemeanor shoplifting charge on the night of March 4 after two security guards reported seeing him walk out of the Kroger on Ann Arbor Road with four bottles of tequila for which he hadn't paid.

The guards told police the man was dropped off at the store, went in and put four 750-milliliter bottles of tequila into a Kroger bag. He went to the self-checkout lane, paid for a few small items, and walked out, they said.

The guards confronted him, and police were called.

By Matt Jachman

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**Sale Extended to March 15th-8pm**

# Plymouth Strictly Business

## BUSINESS MILESTONES

### Karmann facility

**★** Karmann USA, the world's leading supplier of convertible tops, is expected to introduce the company's new aftermarket group, Karmann Classics, at a media briefing at the end of the month. Erik Roeren, president and CEO of Karmann USA, will introduce the new group, established to rebuild convertible tops for vintage Karmann Ghias and Volkswagen Beetles. As the original manufacturer of these classic cars, Karmann is uniquely positioned to provide their expertise and quality service to classic car owners and dealerships, as well as auto repair and service centers. Karmann USA is located at 14967 Pilot Drive in Plymouth.

### State of the community

Registration has begun for the 2009 State of the Community luncheon, the annual opportunity to join fellow business people and community leaders as we hear about what to expect in the coming year. Last year's event drew 133 people. With tax revenues shrinking and the difficult state of our economy, this is a crucial time for local units of government and schools to determine how they will continue to provide needed levels of service. The results of those decisions will significantly

impact local residents and the business community. Speakers will include Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume, Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox and Plymouth-Canton Superintendent of Schools Dr. Craig Fiegel. A City of Plymouth speaker has not yet been determined. The event will be on March 18 from noon to 1:30 p.m. and the cost to attend is \$20. The luncheon is at Plymouth Manor, located at 345 N. Main St. To attend this event, please reply to [teri@plymouthmich.org](mailto:teri@plymouthmich.org) or contact the Chamber at (734) 453-1540. Cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to the event, since the Chamber is liable for all meals. Community Financial and National City Bank are sponsoring the event.

**Construction update**  
From the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority:

- Ironwood Grill - Build-out of the new restaurant in the space formerly occupied by The Book Cellar & Cafe continues. Owners hope to be open in the spring.
- Kilwin's - Owners expect to have construction permits and demolition and build-out were expected to start this week. They're aiming for an opening in late April or early May.
- Elite Family Eye Care - Build-out of the new eye

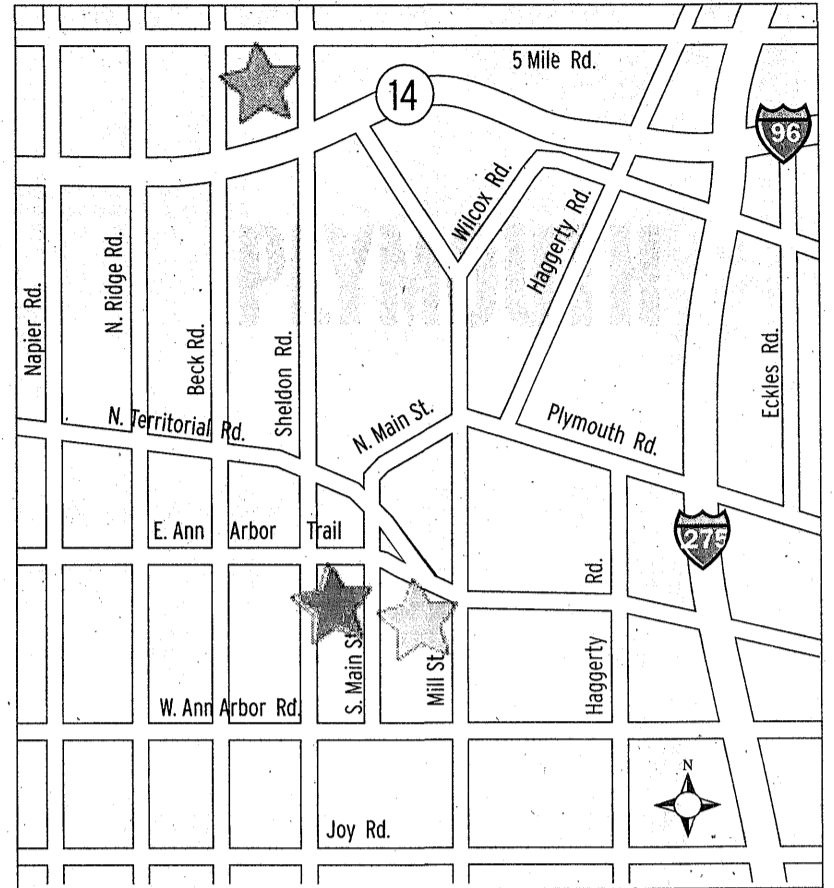
doctor office continues in the space formerly occupied by the Riley Grace Boutique on Forest.

- Central parking deck - Engineers were on-site to evaluate earlier this week.

**Business update**  
From the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority:

- ★ Georgia's Gift Gallery - It is expected that a toy store will be opening in this location on Forest. The interior space has been divided and at least one other retail space is expected to be available.
- Eclectic Home - Eclectic Home, located on Main, is moving out of the downtown to a larger location on Plymouth Road in Livonia. Owners expect to be in their new location by the end of the month.

**Energy-efficient roadster**  
Plymouth-based SKF has been selected to supply energy-efficient wheel hub bearings to Tesla Motors for its new Roadster sports car. The SKF wheel hub bearings will help with the overall handling and performance of the vehicle. The superior rolling characteristics of the bearings also provide less friction, making them more energy-efficient in operation. This is part of the green technical partnership formed between SKF and Tesla to encourage the development of products that are environmentally-friendly.



## IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

# Gigi's offers 'glamorous goodies'

**Observer:** Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature.

**Gigi's Mode:** Our boutique offers a wide range of glamorous goodies that any girl cannot resist! From jewelry, heels and purses too funky tees, jeans and p.j.'s. With a touch of home decor and personal gift's including books, accessory's, bath products and ton's more!

**Observer:** What makes your business unique?

**Gigi's Mode:** Uniquely yours, here at Gigi's we strive to find the newest fashion forward trends and bring them to you at a reasonable price.

**Observer:** How did you first decide to open your own business?

**Gigi's Mode:** We decided to open a store together as mother and daughter that all girls would love! We love having a place that unites the young princess and the diva grandmother together!

**Observer:** How did you decide to locate in the Plymouth community?

**Gigi's Mode:** While living in Plymouth it just seemed natural to open in our home town!

**Observer:** Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?

**Gigi's Mode:** One day while shopping at the store an elderly woman was looking at hanky

### GIGI'S MODE

- Business Name: Gigi's Mode
- Business Address: 960 Ann Arbor Trail, Ste #1, Plymouth
- Your Name & Title: Amanda Britcher, Co-Owner
- Your Hometown: Plymouth
- Business Opened: Spring 2004
- Employees: Currently the business is run by the two owners, Beverly Whitby and Amanda Britcher.
- Your Business Specialty: We are here for you! When it comes to picking out a special gift, or putting together the perfect outfit for the next get together we are sure you will be impressed as we help pull it all together for you.
- Hours: Doors are open 7 days a week (winter hours: Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4 p.m.)
- Business Phone and Web site: (734) 254-8774; [www.gigimode.net](http://www.gigimode.net)

panky thongs, telling her girlfriend, another elderly lady, "Look at these beautiful hankys" and then realizing... She was looking at thongs! not hankys!! We all had a great laugh!



Beverly Whitby of Gigi's Mode offers designer eyewear, this season's strong accessory, scarves, and Detroit Ts and hats.

## CHAMBER CHAT

### State of the Community Luncheon

This popular annual event is an opportunity to join fellow business people and community leaders as we hear about what to expect from our community in the coming year. With tax revenues shrinking and the difficult state of our economy, this is a crucial time for local units of government and schools to determine how they will continue to provide needed levels of service. The results of those decisions will significantly impact local residents and the business community. Speakers will include Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume, Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox, Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Dr. Craig Fiegel and an as-yet-unnamed representative of the City of Plymouth.

The event will be noon to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 18, and the cost to attend is \$20. The luncheon is at Plymouth Manor, located at 345 N. Main St. To attend this event, please reply to [teri@plymouthmich.org](mailto:teri@plymouthmich.org) or contact the Chamber at (734) 453-1540. Cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to the event, since the Chamber is liable for all meals.

Community Financial and National City Bank are sponsoring the event.

### Chamber volunteer passes away

Jeff Beitz of JB Pioneering, an active Chamber volunteer, was killed in a traffic accident at eight o'clock Thursday morning. He served on the Ambassadors Committee and attended most of our events. Jeff was widely known by new members since he had been actively recruiting membership for the Chamber the last few months. Often, when no one else was available, Jeff would attend the ribbon cuttings to support new businesses as they opened. Jeff was one of the most dedicated volunteers we worked with at the Chamber and always demonstrated the true meaning of giving selflessly to support the community. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jeff's family as they deal with this tragic event.

### Boundary breaking

Expand your business contacts beyond Plymouth at the Annual Western Suburban Area Council of Chambers "Breaking the

Boundaries" Business Mixer. Over 300 members from 13 area Chambers will be at Burton Manor Thursday, March 26 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This will be a great night for networking, where business meets business across every border in the western suburbs.

There are 5 exhibit spaces available for this event. Spaces are \$35 each and they are half of an exhibit table (4'x3"). To reserve space, please call the Chamber at (734) 453-1540. Space must be paid for by March 19 or the space will be offered to other members. Payments can be taken by credit card over the phone or by check.

The cost to attend is just \$10, which includes food and a cash bar. Due to the overwhelming popularity of this event there are no walk-ins allowed and everyone must be pre-registered. To attend the event you must RSVP by March 23 by emailing the Chamber at [teri@plymouthmich.org](mailto:teri@plymouthmich.org) or calling us at (734) 453-1540. Cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to the event to avoid being billed, since the Chamber is liable for food being served to our registered members. Burton Manor is located at 27777 Schoolcraft Rd in Livonia. The facility is on the south side of the road between Middlebelt and Inkster Roads.

### 'Chamber Bucks'

New Liberty has incorporated the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce into their new promotion to support local business activity. Anyone who opens an account or refers someone who opens an account will receive a \$50 Chamber gift certificate. These gift certificates are redeemable at 74 member locations.

### 'Fanfare for Freedom'

The Plymouth Symphony will present "Fanfare for Freedom" celebrating freedom in many forms of music and culture Saturday, March 14.

The event will feature Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with a full orchestra and a chorus of 200 people.

The event will be Saturday at the Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville at 8:00 p.m. For more information or tickets call (734) 451-2112 or go to [www.plymouthsymphony.org](http://www.plymouthsymphony.org)

**Wes Graff** is executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. He can be reached via e-mail at [wes@plymouthmich.org](mailto:wes@plymouthmich.org) or by phone at (734) 453-1540.

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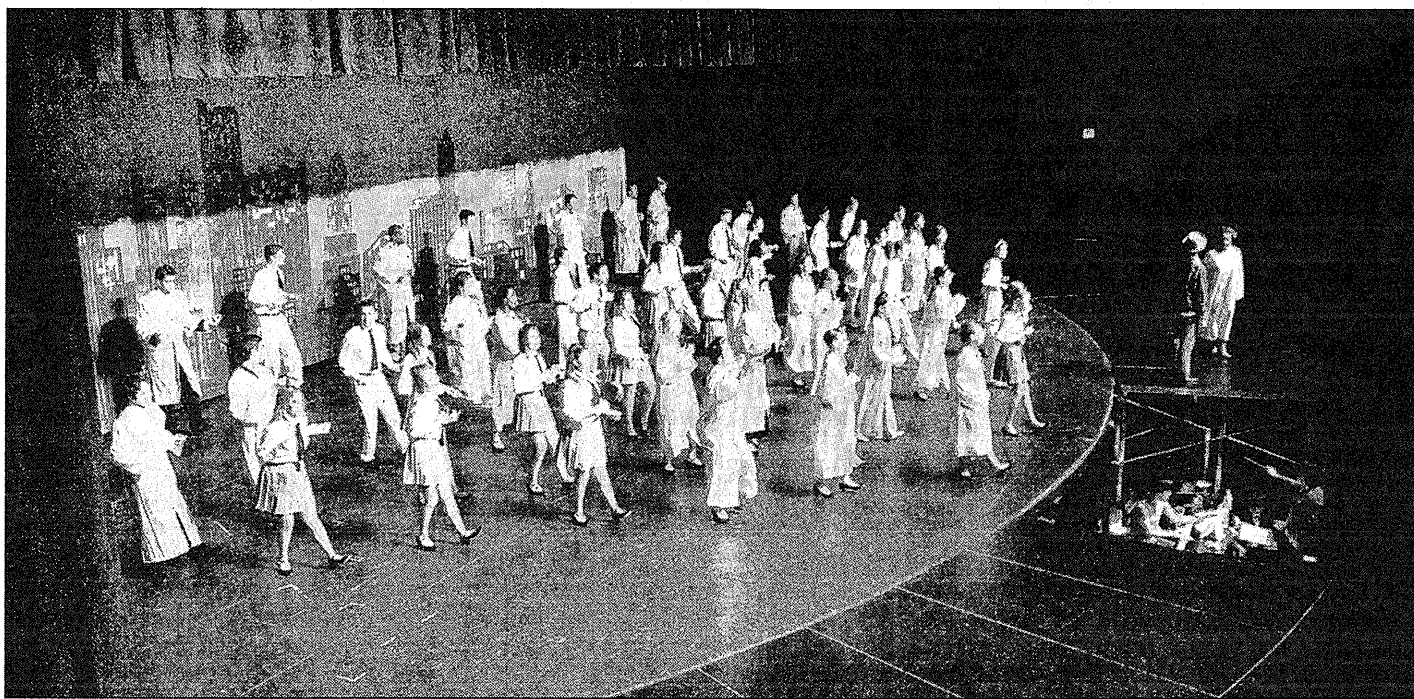
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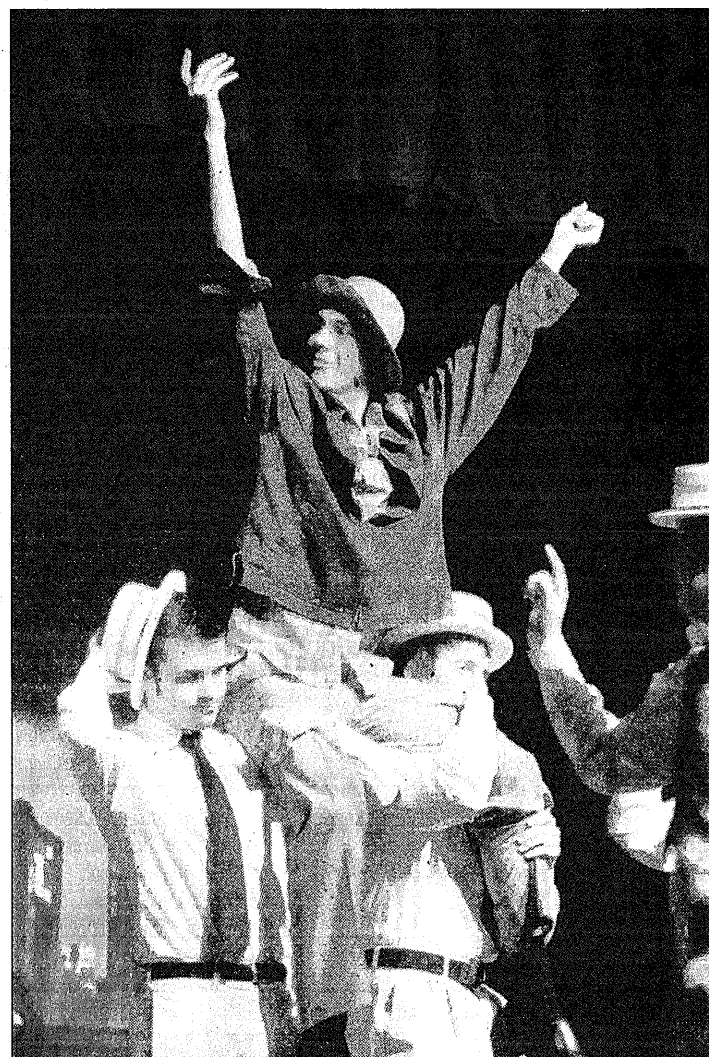
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Bud Mason



The Park Players present "Smokey Joe's Cafe," which opens Thursday, March 12 at Salem High School's Gloria Logan Auditorium.



Cory Thomas and Karl Heitman lift Kyle Scanlon in "D.W. Washburn" at Monday's dress rehearsal.

"Love Me/Don't," sung by Mia Topalian and Frankie DiNicola, is one of the songs featured in "Smokey Joe's Cafe," being produced by the Park Players the next two weekends.



## The 'revue' is in

### Park Players take stage in spring musical

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Melissa Bowling, a 17-year-old senior at Salem High School, has done some acting — she was in *Annie Jr.* as a sixth-grader and appeared in *Apple Tree* and *The Crucible* for Second Stage at Canton High School — but she'd never landed a leading role.

So when director Kristen Quesada posted the lineup for the Park Players' production of *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, Bowling didn't get all that excited.

Until she saw the list.

Bowling, the daughter of Sharon and Keith Bowling of Plymouth Township, landed one of the featured vocal roles in the production, which opens tonight (Thursday) and runs this weekend and next at the Gloria Logan Auditorium for the Performing Arts in Salem High School.

#### SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE

- What: Park Players' production of *Smokey Joe's Cafe*
- When: March 12-14 and March 20-21; all performances 8 p.m.
- Where: Gloria Logan Auditorium, Salem High School
- How much: Tickets are \$12, reserved seating
- Details: For more information, visit [www.parkplayers.org](http://www.parkplayers.org)

"I was ecstatic," said Bowling, who also appeared in last year's production of *Jeckyl and Hyde*. "I thought, 'Wow.' I didn't expect to get a lead, because I hadn't gotten a lead before, and there were so many good people auditioning. I was pretty excited."

Bowling is among the 53-member cast of the spring production, which also features 15 crew members and 11 musicians in The Pit. It's a musical revue, totally dependent on song and

dance to get its message across. *Smokey Joe's Cafe* is set in the 1950s and 1960s and features songs written by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller, who wrote for musicians of the time such as Peggy Lee, the Drifters and the Coasters. *Smokey Joe's Cafe* opened on Broadway in 1995 and has been nominated for seven Tony Awards.

"It's the first revue we've done," Quesada said. "The songs are so different from each other, it won't give the audience a chance to get bored. It keeps moving."

Quesada said many people asked her how she's going to top last year's wildly popular production of *Jeckyl and Hyde*. Her answer was simple.

"I'm not," she said, smiling. "But it's going to be just as

good!"

That's what Salem senior Zack Smith said, too. Smith, 18, appeared in *Jeckyl* last year and was Mr. Salk in the Plymouth Community Arts Council's production of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. He said the cast of *Smokey Joe's* had great rehearsals.

"I'm kind of nervous," Smith said Monday. "I want the show to go well."

Bowling said at Monday's dress rehearsal the nerves hadn't caught up with her, but she expected they would by the time the curtain went up.

"I haven't gotten there (nervous) yet, but I will," she said, laughing. "You just have to turn it into adrenaline."

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# Cox holds 'transparency' hearing

## NEWS BRIEFS

As part of her initiative to make government more open and transparent, Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox (R-Livonia) is holding a public hearing on "Transparency in Wayne County Government" on Monday, March 16, at 1 p.m. at the Livonia Civic Hall Auditorium. The auditorium is located at 33000 Civic Center Drive.



The public hearing is being held in conjunction with Sunshine Week, a national initiative designed to open a dialogue about the importance of open government and freedom of information. Participants include print, broadcast and on-line news media, civic groups, libraries, non-profits, schools and others interested in the public's right to know.

Commissioner Cox, who is chair of the commission's Committee on Ways and Means, is also chairing the commission's Transparency in Wayne County Government Task Force. The initiative is intended to provide citizens with greater access on government expenditures and make them more aware of how their tax dollars are spent.

"During these tight economic times, it is imperative that government provide citizens with information about revenues and expenditures," Commissioner Cox said. "My public hearing in Livonia will give citizens an opportunity to express their viewpoints on this matter."

Cox represents the communities of Livonia, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville and Northville Township. For more information, please contact Cindi Quinn-Ventura in Commissioner Cox's office at (313) 224-0946.



## The Swedish express

IKEA Canton, the giant Swedish furniture retailer, unveiled its new "Destination Shuttle" earlier this week that will transport people at no cost between Campus Martius Park in downtown Detroit and IKEA, located at 41640 Ford Road. Beginning today, and then for four consecutive days each month during special IKEA or Detroit event weekends, two 40-seat buses will make the round trip between the park and the store every hour from 9 a.m.-10 p.m. The buses will pick up and drop passengers off at the Hard Rock Café adjacent to the Park, 45 Monroe Street, and also at IKEA. "A destination shuttle between Campus Martius Park and our IKEA location in Canton not only provides downtown and metro Detroiters with a free mass transit option that affords them hours of entertainment, but it also aligns with IKEA's commitment to people and the environment," said IKEA Canton Store Manager Kelly Frieze. To view the shuttle schedule visit [www.ikea-cmpshuttle.com](http://www.ikea-cmpshuttle.com).

## Visiting Angels

Visiting Angels is now providing living assistance services to seniors and disabled persons in the Plymouth/Canton area.

John Roehrig and his wife Doreen Debolski have opened a Visiting Angels office in Plymouth at 689 N. Mill Street.

Roehrig, Chief of Police in Lake Angelus, has spent his entire career assisting others in the community, so the decision to start a home healthcare business came naturally. Debolski, a dental hygienist, is also accustomed to providing healthcare services to others.

With years of experience as community service providers, Roehrig and Debolski decided to open their own branch of the Visiting Angels franchise to provide affordable and reliable home care

as a more comfortable and convenient alternative to assisted living facilities.

Visiting Angels is unique because it allows the client to select his or her own caregiver.

The company was established in 1998 in Baltimore, MD and is now nationwide. Each franchise is very well trained so that clients receive top quality care.

Appointments and walk-ins are always welcome and can be made by calling (734) 661-2850 or by stopping in the office.

For more information regarding this matter please feel free to call Lindsay Debolski at (248) 755-3510 or email at [debolski@msu.edu](mailto:debolski@msu.edu).

You may also visit [www.VisitingAngels.com](http://www.VisitingAngels.com) for additional information about the Visiting Angels franchise.

# DIRECTOR

FROM PAGE A1

more prospects, Bihun said. The job is being posted a third time.

"We're still looking for candidates," Bihun said Tuesday. "We're a national program. We should be getting people in here."

The posting became necessary last summer, when former director of bands Marc Whitlock stepped down to deal with a family crisis. Martin Montoya, who had served as a part-time assistant with the marching band for three years, took the reins. The band finished third in the state — ending a 14-year reign as state champion — but rebounded to finish 11th at nationals.

That kind of season under those kinds of circumstances look pretty good on a resume, at least to some band parents, some of whom attended Tuesday's school board meeting to ask why Montoya hasn't been handed the job.

"I am concerned the hiring committee has taken a year

to find us a director ... are we missing what's right in front of our faces in Martin Montoya?" said Lynn Black, who has one daughter who graduated the program and another who is a junior in the color guard. "He took a partially completed show, finished it and took it to 11th in the nation. He has not only gained the respect of his students, but also of their parents and his co-workers."

Montoya has been a part of both searches — he was one of the top two finalists the first time around, according to Bihun — and would likely be a part of the next search. Bihun wouldn't comment on Montoya's potential to get the job as a full-time gig, citing the confidentiality of the search process.

No timetable has been set for hiring a permanent replacement for Whitlock.

"The process has been ... complicated," said Superintendent Craig Fiegel. "It is being worked on."

[bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com)  
(313) 222-8899

# SPACE

FROM PAGE A1

Jacobs said, and is already making arrangements for forwarding phone calls and getting computer connections to the DPW building.

Jacobs said the district could wait as long as April 1 for a township decision and still be able to move the curriculum department and begin renovations on time.

Township Department of Public Services Director Jim Anulewicz said the space in the DPW building slated for the district, now unused, totals about 4,700 square feet. He said the district would be responsible for cleaning up the space before moving in, and would pay for the increased cost of utilities in the building, or 25 percent of all utilities.

Anulewicz estimated the lease would likely be priced at between \$300 and \$500 a month.

[mjachman@hometownlife.com](mailto:mjachman@hometownlife.com)  
(313) 222-2405

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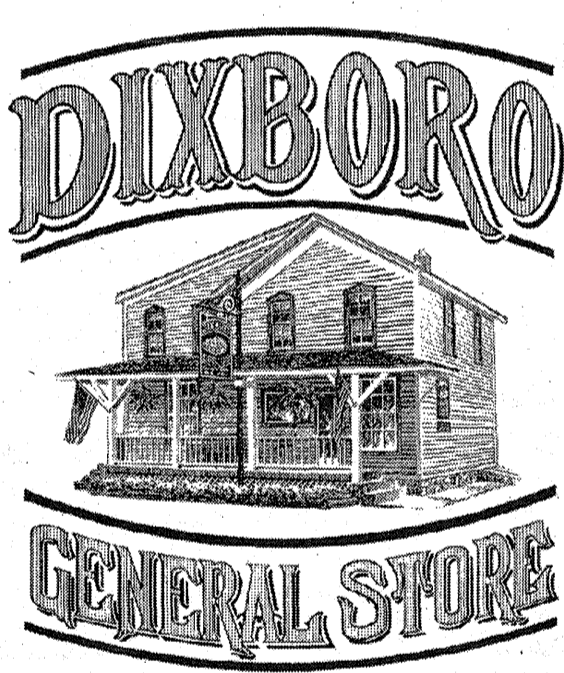
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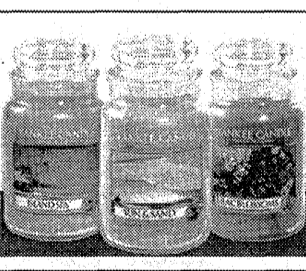
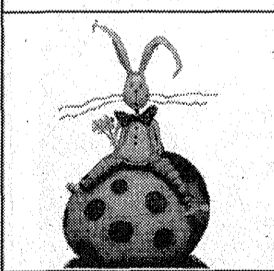
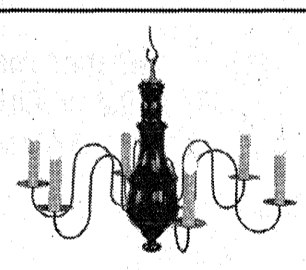
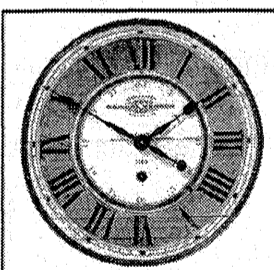


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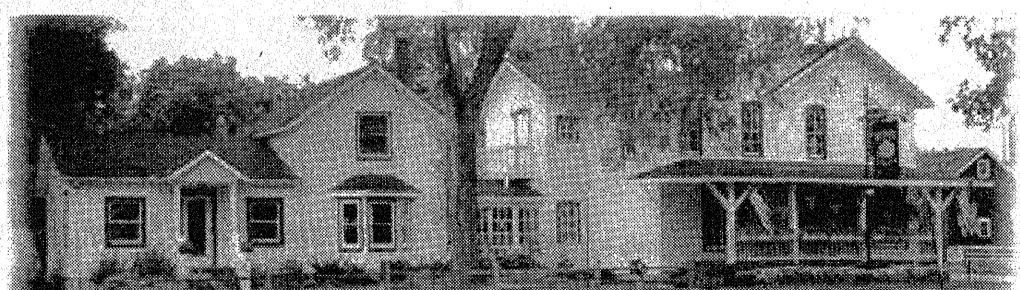


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## OUR VIEWS

# Campaign support good for business

It doesn't take a genius to realize the economy is in rough shape.

But while we watch our leaders from the federal level on down float possible cures, consider what you can do that might make a difference in your own hometown.

That's why, with the "Plymouth Rocks" campaign it unveiled last month, the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce seems to be enacting an age-old adage: Charity begins at home.

It's not unusual that an organization like the Chamber of Commerce would tout the idea of shopping for goods and services from its membership, but beyond the goal of promoting area merchants and nurturing their success is a message that what's good for local business is good for local towns.

It's this spirit that's driving the chamber's new marketing campaign. It's a marketing strategy chamber board members developed at their annual retreat that includes a new chamber directory, a map due out this spring, and plans to continue to expand the capability of the chamber's Web site.

They've revised their traditional networking opportunities, include addition of a new 6-on-6 concept designed to get smaller groups together. And they're integrating more technology into the plan, using sites such as Facebook.

"It's a matter of using trends," according to chamber executive director Wes Graff. "People are looking for inexpensive ways to network. It's a way to target specific groups. We're not going to change the world (with 'Plymouth Rocks'), but we're going to do our part."

The chamber is also partnering with City Drip to broadcast news about the community on video monitors at local businesses. The chamber is one of three locations in the Plymouth Community where a monitor is located. Monitors can also be found at Station 885 in Old Village and Leo's Coney Island on Ann Arbor Road.

Businesses are starting to get into it. For instance, New Liberty Bank has incorporated the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce into their new promotion to support local business activity. Anyone who opens an account or refers someone who opens an account will receive a \$50 chamber gift certificate. These gift certificates are redeemable at 74 member locations.

Overall, supporting nearby businesses isn't a particularly ground-breaking idea, but the chamber's latest push for doing so is sensible (unless, of course, you don't consider using coupons or taking advantage of discounts sensible). So take a moment and think about the pluses associated with shopping locally. A robust local business base helps keep a community healthy and viable. It may not always be obvious, but it's true.



## LETTERS

### Life saver

This letter is to the person that saved my life on Hines Drive Feb. 28.

I am the runner that you saw staggering down the bike path, just south of the Six Mile Road bridge in Northville. Your simple decision to ask if I was OK made the difference between leaving my wife a widow with two children or enabling me to continue on with my life.

I didn't realize it at the time, but I had gone into ventricular tachycardia, and my heart was pounding irregularly at about 250 beats per minute, stressing it tremendously and leaving it unable to deliver adequate oxygen to my brain. I would not have made it the additional half-mile back to my car. Unfortunately I wasn't fully cognizant when you saw me, and I didn't even get your name.

If you see this letter I would be grateful if you would contact me so that I can thank you personally. I imagine that you may have been wondering what became of me anyways, and I have a pretty good story to tell. You can reach me at (734) 416-0418 or via e-mail at andersonhome@comcast.net. I look forward very much to hearing from you. Thank you.

Brian Anderson  
Plymouth

### Review board

As a previous member of the Board of Review I would like to clear up a few statements, which were made during the trustee meeting held Jan. 20.

I took an individual poll of the Board of Trustee members (tape of meeting available

### What do you think?

Mail comments to the Plymouth Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226 or e-mail to bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

at Township Hall) and only two members, Richard Reaume and Ron Edwards, wanted a change in the Board of Review members. There was no communication from the township as to the two-year reappointments until, in checking the agenda the night before the meeting, it showed that the three women with the most experience were not on the list of reappointments. It seems that consideration and appreciation should have been initiated on the part of the township in this matter.

Mr. Edwards' allegations about people complaining are a cover-up because he was unable to control the review board on some decisions regarding property values. All three members of each board must independently agree on the outcome of each petition. The remaining three men (two-year experienced members) stepped down to support the members that were removed. Later, Mr. Litwin was persuaded to rejoin the board.

Board members, when they are new, have 12 hours of training and, this year, a separate four hours held at the Township Hall. Members have rules to follow from the state and in 2006 and 2007 foreclosures, Sheriff and tax sales were excluded from the decision-making process.

Obviously, if the new board makes more cuts, it will be due to the economic down-

turn of 2008. Housing had just started to take a tumble in the later part of 2007. This year's sales considered are from 10/1/07 to 12/31/08. The board appointment is task-oriented and workshops are where decisions are made using neighborhood values and comparable home sales, which are evaluated in a specific time period.

At the Wayne County Assessor's class, we were told that no one should try to influence the board's decision. This is where we had a difference of opinion with Mr. Edwards, which resulted in three of the board members not being reappointed. Record books are kept of all of our decisions and how they were made.

It is not Mr. Edwards' decision whether we cut too little or too much since we must follow specific guidelines. However, this seems to be a control issue with him. If he chooses to comment on issues he should attend the yearly classes.

When people question their home values, they should go to the assessing department and not to the treasurer. It is not the job of the treasurer to get involved. The new board members, I am sure, will do a good job and hope the value of the lost experienced members will not be a hindrance in following procedures throughout the process.

If you have any questions, I am available for further comments. Just look me up in the phone book.

Remember workshops, where decisions are made, are open for observation at the Township Hall where the workshop hours are posted.

Carol Leroux  
Plymouth Township

## ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

Here's a look at what readers are saying about stories on our Web site, www.hometownlife.com:

■ In response to "Grieving owner goes beyond the paw print:"

sgolden81 wrote:  
"This story really brings the issue of pet loss and grieving to light and is so helpful and informative. Thank you."

dhunter1271 wrote:  
"This is a great article, I am not a lover of pets but I do understand that a loss of a close member of your family is very traumatic. I wish your group all the success and I hope you make a great impact in someone's life as you did mine, by just learning your story."

## Join the discussion

### What do you think about ...?

Will the Red Wings win the Stanley Cup?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Go to hometownlife.com to give us your feedback.

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Jeannie Parent  
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of Sales & Marketing

Susan Rosiek  
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## COMMUNITY VOICE

What do you think should be done with Cobo Center now that the Detroit City Council has rejected a shared-ownership proposal? We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



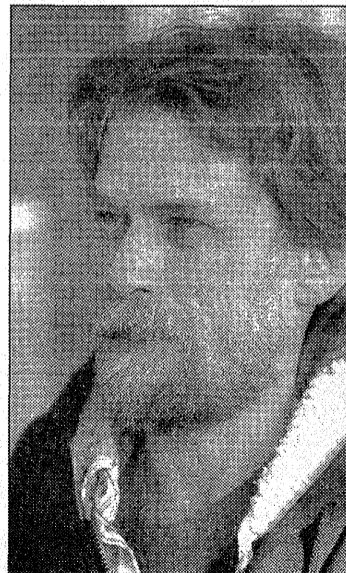
"I was disappointed to find out that Detroit has rejected it. I think it's very short-sighted. ... I think they'd better rethink it."

Kay Reilly  
Grosse Isle



"I would think they'd need to reconsider. ... It's beneficial for the city."

Lawrence Zane  
Plymouth



"I have no idea."

Mark McDonald  
Plymouth



"I think it should keep going ... They've got the best, like, auto show around."

David Lockard  
Canton Township



# Parisian points out what's hot for spring

Spring runways were awash in brightly-colored and boho-chic styles sure to chase away the winter blues. This season, we can look forward to romantic, feminine clothing paired with bold, dramatic accessories.

Here's a Hot List of spring trends courtesy of Parisian.

**Pleasantly Peasant:** A peasant blouse is both a must-have trend for this Spring and a wise investment for seasons to come due to its versatility. Touches of beaded embellishment and embroidery make these tops equally fashion-right for a day at the beach or a meeting at the office. Add a stone-coil bracelet or a wooden beaded necklace for a truly boho-chic look.

**Petal Power:** Spring's fashions are bursting with dainty floral patterns and oversized, art-nouveau flower prints. A summery frock or a pretty blouse in a botanical print would make a smart addition to your wardrobe this year. For just a hint of the trend, don a necklace with a bright daisy pendant or tie a silky, floral scarf in your hair. It's the equivalent of tucking a flower behind your ear.

**Fresh Cardigans:** Layer up on early spring days by adding a new cardigan to your favorite existing outfit. This spring's lightweight cardigans feature open fronts, ruffles or flutter sleeves. A wrap-cardigan looks fresh in a bold spring hue or a painterly print.

**Strappy Sandals:** The gladiator sandal is out in full force this spring at Parisian. Black or metallic leather shoes with multiple straps and buckles make an impact with a rich look. The versatility of the strappy gladiator sandals easily takes you from day to night, making it a statement shoe that maximizes your budget.

**Dressy Style:** A maxi dress is a valuable new staple for your spring wardrobe. It's a comfortable, carefree style that's perfect for warmer weather and they can easily be dressed up with the proper accessories. Another trend to watch for is the jacket dress. These multi-tasking dresses and coordinating jackets go easily from the office to dinner in style.

**Bright Lights:** One simple way to refresh your look this season

is with brightly-colored shoes and accessories. Focus on candy-colored pumps, flats, handbags, clutches and jewelry alike. Coral, turquoise, orange and yellow will take center stage. If you aren't afraid to stand out, try these shades in a shiny, metallic finish.

**Feminine Touches:** Romance is in the air, so look for sheer blouses with feminine touches such as ruffles, ruching, pleating, pin-tucking and hints of lace. A ruffle blouse in a neutral color is a wardrobe asset you can pair with a wide-leg trouser or a pencil skirt. Don't be afraid to balance these prim, pretty blouses with a menswear vest, a boyfriend blazer or a snug leather jacket.

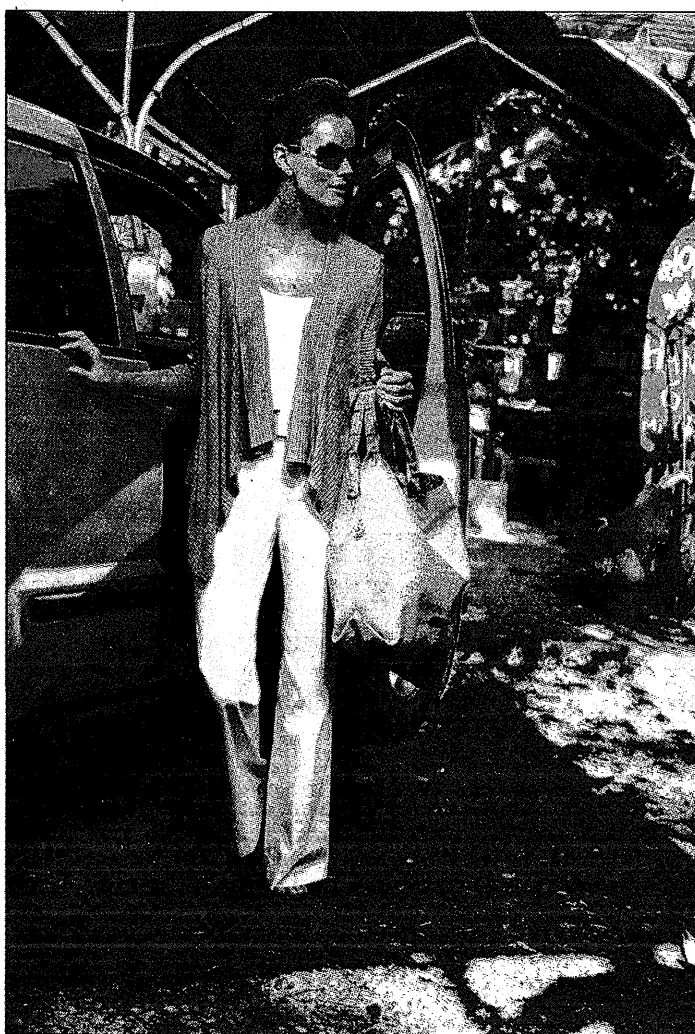
**Trench Coats:** There is something quintessentially spring about a trench coat. Until the temperatures really rise, every woman would be wise to invest in a piece of light outerwear. The trench coat is effortlessly chic and classic — it's a style that faithfully comes back year after year. If you can't see yourself in the tan, double-breasted version, opt for an updated silhouette or an unexpected color.

**Cross-Body Bags:** One of the hottest trends in handbags is the cross-body bag, which leaves your hands free — perfect for outdoor music festivals, farmer's markets or travel. If you're going to buy one bag this summer, it's smart to choose a bag that can go anywhere. At Parisian, you'll find cross-body bags in a wide array of colors, finishes and styles.

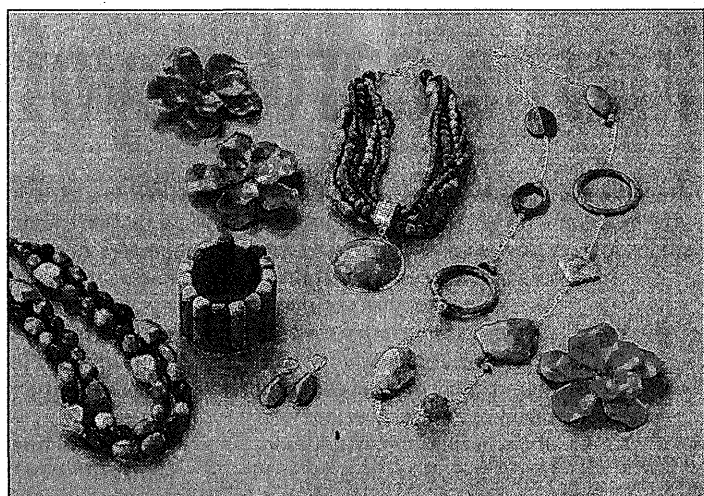
**Lightweight Scarves:** Right now, you're probably tired of layering on a scarf, hat and gloves to bear the elements, but the spring versions of scarves are lightweight, lovely wardrobe workhorses.

They'll perk up any of your favorite casual ensembles. The current trends in fashion neckwear include inspirational messages, peace signs, fringe, ombre and tie dye. These are the perfect accessories for the breezy days ahead.

The Bon-Ton Stores, Inc. operates Parisian nameplates at Laurel Park Place, Livonia; The Village of Rochester Hills; and the Mall at Partridge Creek, Clinton Township.



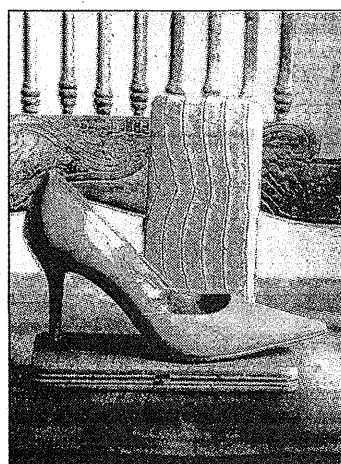
Layering is essential as winter turns to spring. Try a bright cascading cardigan like this green one from Fever, \$58, at Parisian.



Chunky wooden and stone Erica Lyons jewelry, \$15-\$50, captures the boho-chic trend for spring. Floral pins, layered necklaces, stretch bracelets and drop earrings are available at Parisian.



Try a new take on the classic trench, like this belted and striped version from Jones New York Signature, \$169, at Parisian. Availability may vary by store.



Choose color when it comes to spring accessories, like this Rampage 'Maria' shoe, \$49, and frame clutches by Rolfs in yellow and aqua, \$28, all at Parisian.

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# Charge card payoff deal may not be right for everyone

One of the main reasons we are in this financial mess is the amount of debt taken on by businesses and individuals. Many people overextended with mortgages, used home equity loans like ATM machines and never turned down a charge card offer.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

I received a phone call from a client who had just

received a letter from a charge card company. This promotion caught his eye because the company offered him cash if he would pay off his balance and close out his account. The client couldn't figure out what the gimmick was and wanted my advice.

I wasn't sure what was up, but I did some research. I was surprised to find this is not unusual. A number of charge card companies have made a 180-degree turn.

Banks and financial institutions are attempting to clean up their balance sheets by reducing the amount of credit available to consumers. Companies also are reducing credit limits and canceling credit cards with inactive accounts. According to some experts, the new promotions offering discounts to reduce balances and close out accounts is aimed at encouraging card holders to pay off charge cards before they pay other debts. Charge card companies are concerned that with increasing unemployment more people

are finding themselves in financial difficulty and defaulting on credit cards.

What should you do if you get a letter like this?

If your charge card company sends you a letter, it may be saying you are no longer a valuable client. The company may have determined that because of your balance and the activity in the account, you are no longer a profitable client to them. One way to look at the promotion is if you do not take it, the terms of your account could change. Not only can the company cut your credit limits, they can also raise your rates.

In my client's situation, he had other charge cards. I advised him to take the deal. However, that is not the right answer for everyone.

I never like to finance purchases with charge cards. In the past, charge cards were the easiest form of credit to get but also the most expensive. The average American is paying approximately 18 percent

interest on credit cards.

I like the idea of reducing charge card debt whenever possible. I prefer having more debt on a home vs. a charge card because the interest on your home is generally one-third of what it would be on a charge card. In addition, interest on a home is tax deductible. However, with housing values plummeting many people no longer have the equity to refinance or to obtain a home equity line of credit.

If you receive a letter from your charge card company offering incentives to payoff your debt at a discount, it is something to consider. However, factor into the equation whether you need that card for short-term purposes and if you can obtain another charge card or other forms of credit.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). Visit Rick's Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).



MONNI MUST

Pictured are Matthew Darling (left front), Sara Davidson (middle front), Katherine Lucas (front), Buddy's owner and student, Robert Jacobs; Linda Kay Nathan (back left) and Aaron Fenton (back right). Davidson, Lucas, Kay Nathan and Fenton are participating in this month's Dining with the Stars contest.

## Dine with yoga stars

Dining with the Stars sponsored by Buddy's Pizza and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* takes a special twist this month. The winner will dine with the yoga stars of metro Detroit.

The group includes Katherine Lucas, founder of Karma Yoga, Inc.; Sara Davidson, ERYT-500; Aaron E. Fenton (ASHTANGA) Yoga Room; and Linda Kay Nathan of Yoga Shelter.

Tell us in 100 words or less why you want to have lunch with yoga stars at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills. E-mail your entry to [BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com](mailto:BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com) by 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 31.

The contest winner will be treated to a limo ride from Class

Plus Limo, a makeover courtesy of Christine from the Beauty Salon in Birmingham, a \$100 gift certificate from Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield and a dance exhibition by the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

Robert Jacobs, owner of Buddy's Pizza and an 18-year student of yoga, says the yoga community played a major role in his recovery from Guillain-Barre syndrome, a rare autoimmune disease which attacks the body's nerves. He used yoga to heal and was supported by the yoga community. His quest for health has expanded into his own business. He created a healthy nine multi-grain pizza which will be served at the yoga stars lunch.

## County tax bills go out July, December



Ask the Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz

Each week, Wayne County Treasurer Raymond J. Wojtowicz will answer reader questions about the tax process and property taxes. Wojtowicz reminds taxpayers: "Always remember that your property is your most precious asset. Do not risk losing it for nonpayment of property taxes. If in doubt, ask questions."

**Q: When and how many current real property tax bills will I receive each year?**

**A:** Your local treasurer will send two tax bills each calendar year, a summer tax bill in July and a winter tax bill in

December.

If you do not receive a summer and/or winter tax bill, call or visit your local city, township or village treasurer where the property is located and request a tax bill. At the same time, check to make sure the treasurer has your correct mailing name and address.

**Q: When are current property taxes due and when do they become delinquent?**

**A:** Each year, current summer taxes are due, July 1 and the current winter taxes are due, Dec. 1 and are payable to the local

treasurer until the last day in February.

According to State law, on March 1 unpaid property taxes become delinquent and are sent to the county treasurer for billing and collection with additional penalties and interest, computed with a 4 percent penalty, and 1 percent interest per month for the first year.

Readers can e-mail questions for Ask the Wayne County Treasurer to [askabouttaxes@hometownlife.com](mailto:askabouttaxes@hometownlife.com). If you have any questions or issues related to delinquent property taxes in Wayne County, call the Taxpayer Assistance Department at 313-224-6105.

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# HOMETOWN LIFE



## Patriots' game: Franklin derails Canton, 46-43

Canton's CarolAnn Sexauer pulls down a rebound as teammate Sara Schmitt looks on during Tuesday night's Class A Regional semifinal contest at Milford High School.



LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The script didn't deviate between KLAAs South Division girls basketball rivals Livonia Franklin and Canton.

With each team winning on the other's team home floor during the regular season by identical 36-33 scores, something had to give in Tuesday's Class A regional semifinal at Milford.

And once again the outcome wasn't decided until the final possession.

This time it was Franklin's turn as the Patriots rode the 20-point, 12-rebound performance of Briauna Taylor to topple the state-ranked Chiefs, 46-43.

Franklin, now 22-3 overall, advances to Thursday's regional championship game to face 16-8 Farmington Hills Mercy, which survived a late Brighton rally to earn a 49-41 triumph. (Game time is 7 p.m. at Milford).

Briauna Taylor and her twin sister Brittany combined for 6-for-6 first-half shooting to stake the Patriots to a 15-3 first-quarter lead.

Canton, meanwhile, shot just 1-of-8 and committed six turnovers. "The key was our ability to recognize our strengths," Franklin coach Dave McCall. "We knew they'd double team the ball and we had to get the ball in (Williams) Chelsea's hands so they wouldn't be able to double team as much and it worked."

Canton, however, came out during the second quarter with a full-court press and cut the deficit to 23-19 at halftime as sophomore Kari Schmitt scored eight of her 10 points.

"I thought they (Franklin) were the aggressors and we took a step back," Canton coach Brian Samulski said of the opening period. "But to the girls' credit, they got rolling and came back."

Meanwhile, for Franklin it was gut-check time.

"They (Canton) had the momentum," McCall said. "I told them at halftime we had to reach down inside and pull something out. Both (Nicole) Emery and the Taylors were exhausted at halftime. We had ACT (tests) today and a half-

a-day of school. They were out of their routine and it's better when it's a normal schedule. They were fatigued, but I thought we had more in the tank. It was pure will."

Canton took the lead on two occasions in the third quarter on a rebound basket by CarolAnn Sexauer (eight points) and two free throws by Sara Schmitt, but Franklin regained the 33-29 on two free throws by Amanda Borio.

The fourth quarter turned into a foul shooting contest with both teams in the double bonus.

Two free throws by Kayla Bridges with 6:36 remaining gave the Chiefs a 35-34 advantage, but Franklin answered with six straight

Please see **CANTON, B2**

### BOYS MARCH MADNESS TIPS OFF

## CC boards 'Cats from postseason

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

They crashed the boards in waves of blue, outjumping taller opposing players and outlasting smaller ones.

And because of their blue-collar effort in Monday night's Class A District 25 opener at Novi High School, Novi Catholic Central's boys basketball team will be punching the time clock once again following its 62-46 victory over Plymouth.

CC, which improved to 15-6, advanced to play Northville in Wednesday's semifinal contest set for 5 p.m. at Novi. Plymouth's once-promising season ended with a 9-12 record following an 8-4 start.

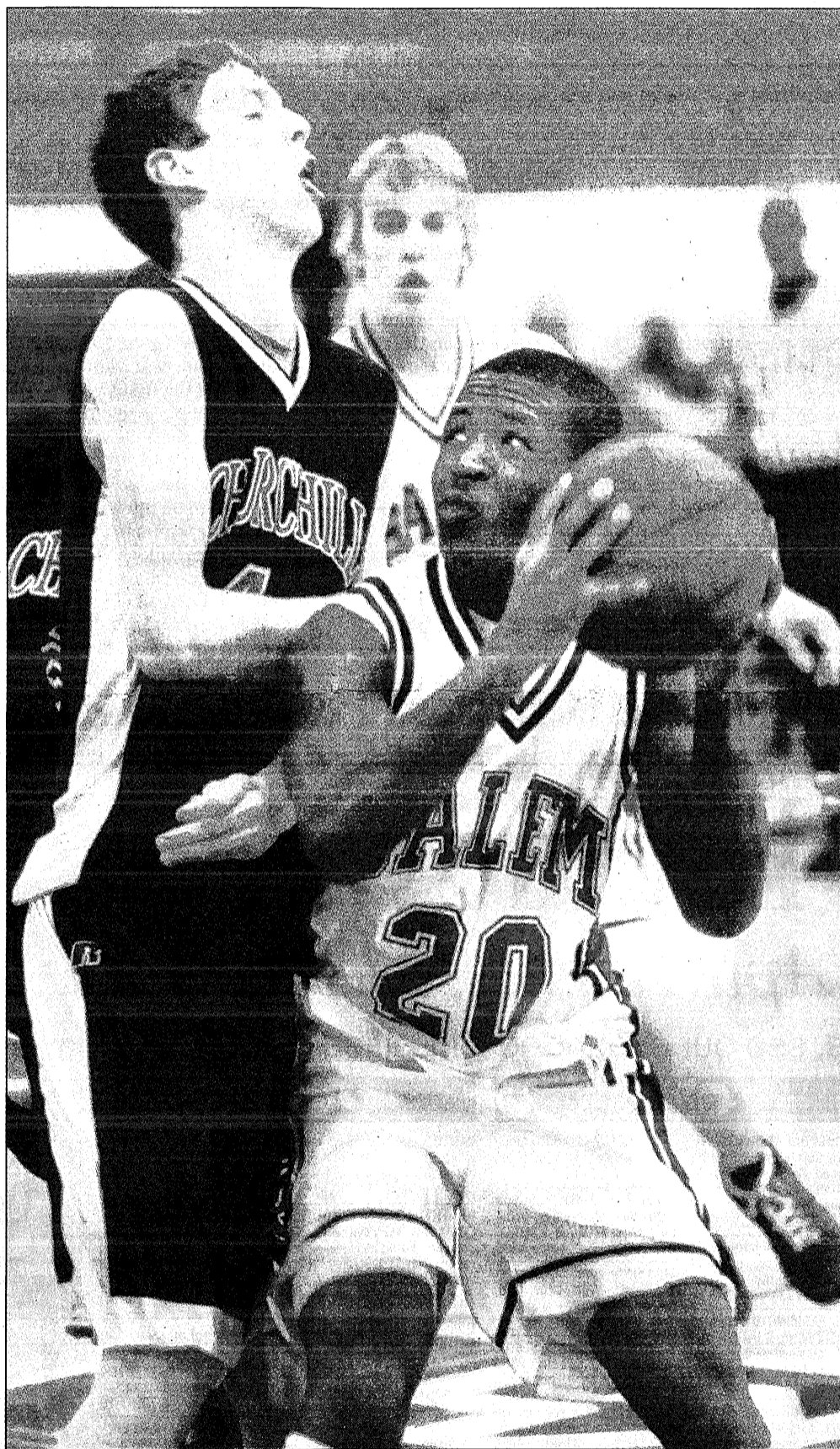
The Shamrocks seized control of the contest in the first half when they out-boarded the Wildcats, 23-8, to take a 37-18 lead into the break. They extended their advantage to 58-34 after three quarters before Plymouth eventually gained ground during garbage time.

Even though CC won the rebounding battle, 40-23, the Shamrocks didn't have a chairman of the boards. It was a committee effort as three players — Matt Doneth, Steve Harding and Jamie Morris — yanked down six caroms each — while another — Tim Dezelski — grabbed five.

The scoring ledger was equally balanced for the winners, who were led by Dezelski's 13. Harding added 12, Morris netted 10 and Brett Smith racked up nine.

Junior guard Alontae McElhane paced the Wildcats

Please see **CC, B2**



Salem's Anthony Mullins (with ball), pictured above during a game earlier this season, led Salem with 15 points in the Rocks' 60-55 loss to Novi Monday night.

## Chris-crossed

### Novi's Bellamy knocks out Rocks during crunch time

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Fans watching Monday night's Class A District opener between Salem and Novi probably wouldn't have been shocked if ice water had seeped out of the small cut Wildcat guard Chris Bellamy suffered on his right hand early in the third quarter.

The senior captain was so cool, calm and collected during the down-to-the-wire thriller, it appeared as if ice water flowed through his veins.

The tighter and deeper Monday's game drew, the steadier Bellamy seemed to play as he scored 12 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter to help the Wildcats repel the Rocks, 60-55.

Led by Bellamy's 7-for-7 effort in the final stanza, Novi (18-3) drained all 12 of its free throws to advance to Wednesday's semifinal contest against Canton, which drew a first-round bye.

Salem (10-11), which carried a six-game winning streak into the showdown, managed to drain just 5 of 13 attempts from the charity stripe.

"It's nice to have a kid like Chris on your team in tight games like this," said Novi coach Cory Heitsch. "It definitely calms you a little bit having a kid like that stepping to the free-throw line and extending the lead like he did tonight."

Bellamy's four free throws during the final 20 seconds put Salem in two-possession holes.

"He just took the game over at the end and put his team on his shoulders," said Salem coach Bob Brodie, referring to Bellamy. "We tried some different things against him, but he was too quick and slashy. We ended up fouling him and he knocked down the free throws." Based on a pair of double-

digit losses to the Wildcats earlier this season, the Rocks entered the game as prohibitive underdogs. They didn't play like it.

During the game's first 20 minutes, Salem built a 39-34 lead thanks in large part to the inside play of junior center Jake Peterson (who finished with 12 points and nine rebounds) and senior guard Anthony Mullins (team-high 15 points), who consistently sliced his way through the mid-section of the Wildcats' defense.

However, an and-one driving layup by junior guard Jeremy Mims with 3:11 left ignited a 12-0 Wildcat run that didn't end until Salem's Jimmy Dexter drained a jumper at the 5:20 mark of the fourth to bring Salem to within 46-41.

A Bellamy basket with 3:10 to play re-cushioned Novi's advantage to 54-44 before the Rocks made one final push. Salem cut its deficit to three points on three occasions during the final two minutes — the final time on Andrew Daniels' long jumper with 11.3 seconds left to make it 58-55.

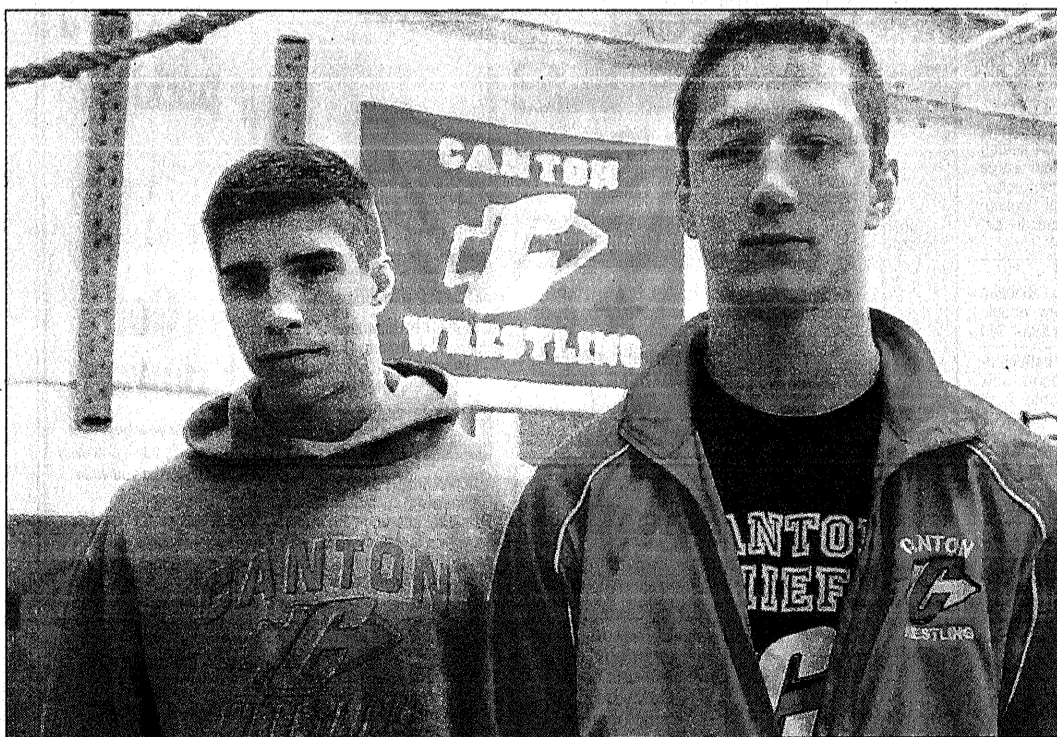
But "Cool Hand" Chris buried a couple free throws with 10 ticks left to close the scoring.

Despite the win, Heitsch wasn't completely please with his team's performance.

"We wouldn't get a gold star for our poise tonight," he said. "I thought we were pretty flat. I don't want to put the entire onus on us. I thought Salem had a lot to do with the way we played tonight. They were a much different team than the one we saw earlier in the season. They were much more focused tonight and they played with a lot more energy."

Brodie gave his team a two-

Please see **ROCKS, B2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton juniors Brent Winekoff (left) and Donnie Watkins will take a combined record of 107-3 into the Division 1 Individual State Meet, which runs today through Saturday at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

## Win/Win situation

### Winekoff, Watkins rack up wins at amazing rate

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

From the instant the referee first blows his whistle, Canton wrestlers Donnie Watkins and Brent Winekoff stalk their opponents like a spider would stalk a bug caught in its web.

Usually in a matter of seconds, the Chiefs' dynamic duo's foes find themselves on the wrong end of a "Where-did-that-come-from?" maneuver and their priorities quickly switch from winning to trying to survive the first two-minute round without getting pinned.

Like the bugs in the web, not many succeed.

Heading into today's Division 1 individual state meet at the Palace of Auburn Hills, Winekoff is 55-1 and

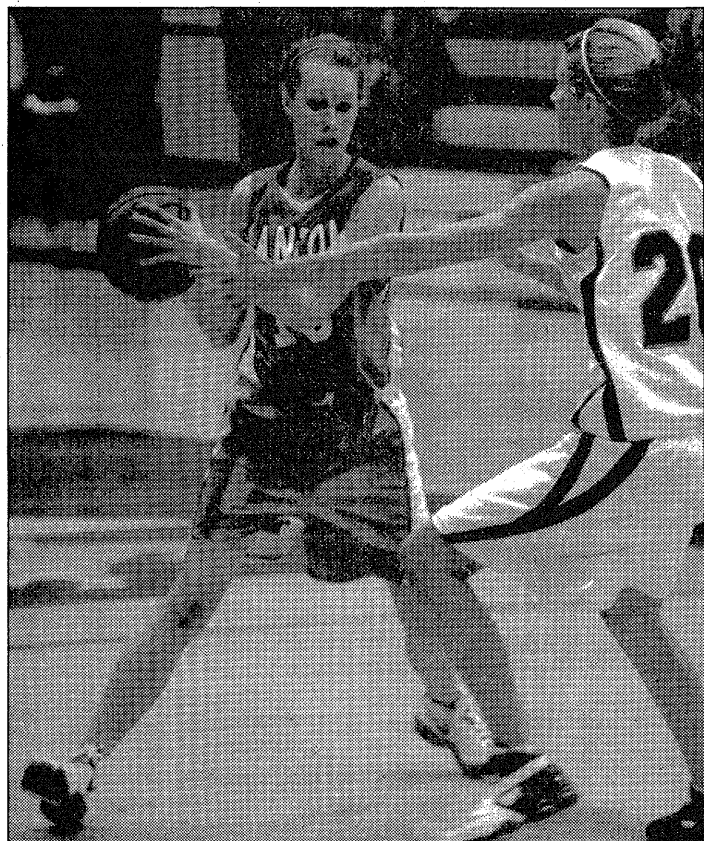
Please see **WRESTLING, B2**

### PALACE PREVIEW

Beginning this morning, seven Plymouth-Canton Educational Park wrestlers — five from Canton and two from Salem — will be competing in the Division 1 Individual State Meet at the Palace of Auburn Hills. The finals will be held beginning Saturday afternoon. For updates on the brackets, visit [www.mhsaa.com](http://www.mhsaa.com). Following are the local state-qualifiers and their first-round opponents:

- 103 pounds:** Salem's Nick Kim (34-11) vs. Clarkston's Zak Roberson (31-8);
- 112 pounds:** Canton's Waleed

- Faraj (41-11) vs. Holland's Nikolas Leal (39-7);
- 119 pounds:** Canton's Carl Lucke (48-10) vs. Milford's Devin Boria (36-8);
- 135 pounds:** Canton's Donnie Watkins (52-2) vs. Mt. Clemens Lanse Creuse's Clayton Muller (39-11);
- 145 pounds:** Canton's Brent Winekoff (55-1) vs. Hudsonville's Paul Carbone (35-13);
- 171 pounds:** Canton's Keith Zech (38-16) vs. Grand Haven's Chris Lucas (39-5); and
- 215 pounds:** Salem's Sam Lepper (38-8) vs. Rochester Adams' Jason Finney (51-1).



Canton's Lindsey Winters prepares to bounce a pass to a teammate during Tuesday night's Class A Regional semifinal loss to Livonia Franklin.

**CANTON**

FROM PAGE B1

points, including a pair of free throws by Borio to lead 40-35.

Canton pulled to within two twice and appeared to have Franklin on the ropes when Brittany Taylor (eight points) fouled out with 3:10 remaining.

But Emery hit a key outside hoop, her only two of the game, with 2:44 left for a 44-40 lead.

Canton trimmed the deficit to 44-43 on two free throws by Sara Schmitt with exactly a minute left, but Brianna Taylor came through with a pair of free throws with only 14.5 seconds remaining after missing two just 14 seconds earlier to help seal the victory.

Canton's last-ditch attempt missed the mark and Brianna Taylor grabbed the rebound with only 1.4 seconds remaining to end the suspense.

The Chiefs were 19-of-31 from the foul line, while Franklin was 14-of-24.

"We talked about the game coming down to free throws

and the last three minutes," McCall said. "All three games we lost this season we shot terrible at the line."

Canton, meanwhile, shot only 11-of-36 (30.5 percent) from the floor and committed 19 turnovers.

"When it came time and we had opportunities, we couldn't make the plays and just couldn't get over the hump," Samulski said. "They just made more plays when they had them."

"But overall our girls had a great season - 20-3, co-South Division champs and a district championship. They competed all year and we lost three games by three points. They get after it and play hard. That's all you can ask for."

Franklin, meanwhile, will go after its first-ever regional girls basketball title Thursday night.

"We worked our butts off all year long since November 4," McCall said. "I've been tough on them in practice and sometimes they think I've been mean to them, but now they understand why."

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**WRESTLING**

FROM PAGE B1

ranked No. 1 in the state in the 145-pound weight class according to MichiganGrappler.com. Watkins is 52-2, and ranked No. 2 at 135.

Combined, they have already won close to 300 matches in their high school grappling career — and they are both only juniors.

How's that for a 1-2 punch?

"Every time I step on the mat, I'm focused and thinking that no one can beat me," said Watkins, when asked about his competitive mind-set. "I know that if I wrestle hard and wrestle for six minutes, I can beat anybody."

"The first match I lost this season (to Flint Carman-Ainsworth's Josh Goodman), I didn't go out there as focused as I should have been. I kind of just wrestled, and I lost. I've learned from that."

**Big part of life**

Wrestling is so woven into the fabric of Winekoff's life that he hates to go longer than two weeks without enduring some type of practice or competition. That passion explains why he's "140-something and 16 — I'm not exactly sure" since first pulling on a red-and-white Canton singlet in the fall of 2006.

"I like wrestling because it's both a team and an individual sport," Winekoff said. "I like being able to go out there only having to worry about what I'm doing. But then once my match is over, I enjoy rooting on my teammates. I like the individual and team aspects of wrestling."

**Learning from the best**

As freshmen, Watkins and Winekoff were fortunate enough to be able to observe how a state champion carries himself. That was the year they shared the Canton wrestling room with eventual unbeaten state champion Corey Phillips, now a sophomore starter for Eastern Michigan University's wrestling program.

"The main thing I learned from Corey was what kind of work ethic he had and how hard he worked in practice to achieve his goals," said Watkins.

"Corey was my drill partner when I was a freshman," Winekoff added. "The way he worked so hard helped me because I didn't have the greatest work ethic back then. He opened my eyes to how hard you have to work if you want to be good."

"He went all out all the time when he wrestled against me in practice and I'm glad he did because every time I wrestled him I got a little bit better."

**Battle of titans**

The marquee match-ups these days during Canton practices unfold when Watkins and Winekoff go one-on-one.

Given that both are nearly technically flawless and armed with unwavering endurance, their encounters can't help but be entertaining.

"He's bigger and strong than me, so he usually wins," said Watkins. "But it helps to wrestle against him because after I go up against Brent, whoever I face in a match the next day or following week seems a lot lighter and not nearly as strong."

Winekoff said matching up against Watkins is equally beneficial to him.

"Yeah, he's lighter, but he's so quick that it helps me get ready for quick opponents," said Winekoff.

**Making the grades**

The discipline both athletes practice in the wrestling room day after day spills over into the classroom. Winekoff carries a 3.0 grade-point average while Watkins has chiseled a 3.2 GPA so far.

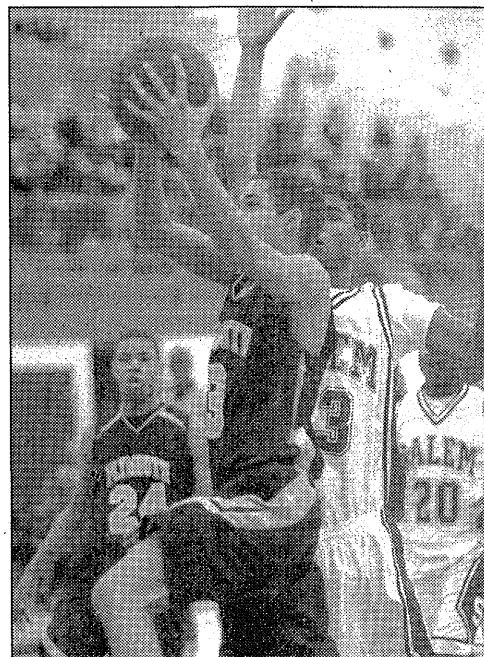
Several major college wrestling programs have already sent letters of interest to Canton's middle-weight marvels, but neither is close to making a decision on their future.

One thing that is etched squarely in both of the talented young grapplers' minds is the answer to the question they were asked early last week: Will you be satisfied with anything less than a state title on March 14?

They both responded with an unflinching one-word reply: "No."

Corey Phillips would have been proud.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Jordan Jones, pictured during a game earlier this season, and his Wildcats teammates dropped a 62-46 decision to Novi Catholic Central Monday night.

**CC**

FROM PAGE B1

with 11. Sophomore Justin Moss scored eight while four players — Cliff Buttermore, Mike Nadratowski, Dion Johnson and Brennen Beyer — all added six.

The Shamrocks raced to a 5-0 lead before Plymouth roared back to score the next six — the middle two coming on a put-back slam by Moss, who was trailing the Wildcats' fast break.

Instead of injecting

Plymouth with a dose of momentum, the dunk seemed to pump up the Shamrocks, who answered with an ensuing 24-6 run to put the game away.

Moss added another crowd-pleasing slam with just under five minutes to play in the game, but the athletic 6-6 post player could manage just two other field goals against the Shamrocks' pesky defense.

CC hit on 23 of 34 attempts (67 percent) at the line. Plymouth connected on 8 of their 14 freebies (57.1).

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and Dexter.

"I'm really going to miss that group," Brodie said. "They did a good job of leading us, especially late in the season when we made a run. They never folded the tent."

Dexter netted seven points and five boards in his prep hoop finale while Posler racked up six points and seven rebounds. Parling scored five points — including a huge three with 1:45 to go bring Salem to within 54-51 — and played solid at the point.

Joining Bellamy in double-figures for the winners were Mims (12) and senior captain Nick Brockman, who tossed in 10. Novi hit 23 of 55 field goals (41.8 percent) while Salem knocked down 22 of 53 shots (41.5).

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**ROCKS**

FROM PAGE B1

thumbs-up review after it dropped its first game in over a month.

"The boys gave us everything they had again tonight, just like they've done for the last seven games," Brodie said. "We got beat by a good basketball team. They beat us by 15 and 16 points the first two times we played them, so to play them this close shows how much we've improved."

"I liked the way we took care of the ball on offense. We dictated the tempo for the most part. Teams like Novi love to run, but we were able to play at our tempo most of the game."

The game was the high school finale for four Salem seniors: Heath Parling, Courtney Frazier, Joe Posler

**Classified Preview...**

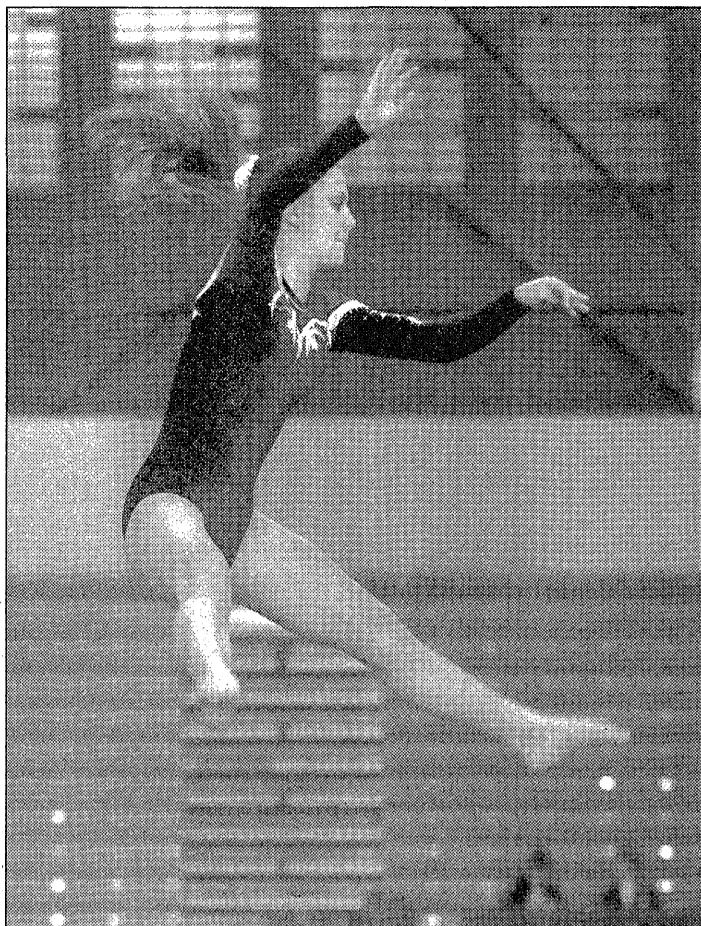
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Nicole Jacobs, pictured in a meet earlier this season, placed second in the Division 2 all-around competition at Saturday's Regional tournament at Plymouth High School.

## Canton gymnasts qualify for state

Led by a pair of Division 1 top-10 all-arounders, Canton's impressive streak of state meet appearances will continue in 2009.

The Chiefs placed third at Saturday's Regional meet that was held at Plymouth High School after chalking up 142.050 points. They trailed only Regional champ Livonia Blue (147.350) and Northville (146.050).

Salem placed fourth with 134.425, but missed qualifying for the state meet as team as only the top three finishers are guaranteed berths.

The host Wildcats placed 10th with 71.025 points.

Pacing the Chiefs was sophomore Robyn Piowar, who took third in the all-around with 36.475 points. Piowar's teammate, fellow sophomore Cathy Huang, earned a ninth-place showing in the D1 all-around with a 35.875.

Two more Chiefs — Brittany Granowicz and Alex Hamric — placed 10th and 11th, respectively.

The Rocks were bolstered by a solid performance from senior Katie Koetting, a four-year standout who qualified for the individual state meet by placing sixth with a 36.400 all-around score.

Blue's Emily Quint outperformed the all-around field when she registered a 37.775, a half-point more than runner-up Chloe Presley of Northville.

Salem's Nicole Jacobs sparked in Division 2, placing second in the all-around with a score of 35.150, just behind Blue's Laura Nomura, who notched 35.450 points.

Canton's Mallory Hudak was her team's top D2 all-arounder, finishing fourth with 34.625 points.

Hudak won the D2 floor-exercise event with a 9.4.

### GYMNASTICS RESULTS

#### 2009 Division 1 Gymnastics Regional Saturday at Plymouth H.S.

**FINAL RESULTS:** 1. Livonia Blue, 147.350; 2. Northville, 146.050; 3. Canton, 142.050; 4. Salem, 134.425; 5. Grosse Pointe, 134.425; 6. Livonia Red, 133.825; 7. Saline, 133.375; 8. Edsel Ford, 127.750; 9. Trenton, 85.225; 10. Plymouth, 71.025; 11. Adrian, 63.70; 12. Tecumseh, 47.075; 13. Salem "B", 31.250.

#### INDIVIDUAL RESULTS - LEVEL 1

**VAULT:** 1. Emily Quint (LB), 9.525; 2. Brittany Janis (LB), 9.4; 3. Cathy Huang (C), 9.35; 4. Robyn Piowar (C), 9.250; 5. Meghan Powers (9.225); 6. Chloe Presley (N), 9.2; 7. (tie) Cassidy Winter (N) and Alicia Dimaura (LR), 9.150; 9. Kelly Chamiga (LB), 9.1; 10. Makenna Pohl (N), 9.0.

**UNEVEN PARALLEL BARS:** 1. Presley (N), 9.6; 2. Huang (C), 9.50; 3. Quint (LB), 9.35; 4. Katie Koetting (SLM), 9.25; 5. Chamiga (LB), 9.050; 6. (tie) Winter (N) and Piowar (C), 9.0; 8. Pohl (N), 8.850; 9. Janis (LB), 8.8; 10. Dalia Shafie (LB), 8.750.

**BALANCE BEAM:** 1. Presley (N), 9.575; 2. Powers (LB), 9.525; 3. Quint (LB), 9.225; 4. Winter (N), 9.150; 5. Koetting (SLM), 9.125; 6. Piowar (C), 8.850; 7. Pohl (N), 8.825; 8. Dimaura (LR), 8.725; 9. Janis (LB), 8.7; 10. Chamiga (LB), 8.5.

**FLOOR EXERCISE:** 1. Quint (LB), 9.675; 2. Koetting (SLM), 9.5; 3. Pohl (N), 9.4; 4. Piowar (C), 9.375; 5. (tie) Presley (N) and Huang (C), 9.35; 7. Janis (LB), 9.3; 8. Chamiga (LB), 9.2; 9. Winter (N), 9.175; 10. Powers (LB), 9.15.

**ALL-AROUND:** 1. Quint (LB), 37.775; 2. Presley (N), 37.725; 3. Powers (LB), 36.5; 4. Piowar (C) and Winters (N), 36.475; 6.

Koetting (S), 36.4; 7. Janis (LB), 36.2; 8. Pohl (N), 36.075; 9. Huang (C), 35.875; 10. Chamiga (LB), 35.85.

#### INDIVIDUAL RESULTS - LEVEL 2

**VAULT:** 1. Laura Nomura (LB), 9.525; 2. Allison Kemp (N), 9.275; 3. Nicole Jacobs (SLM), 8.825; 4. Olivia Stephens (C), 8.775; 5. Deming Wilce (SLN), 8.750; 6. Lauren Patia (LR), 8.650; 7. Sara Behrendt, 8.625; 8. Amy O'Brien (N), 8.6; 9. Mallory Hudak (C), 8.575; 10. (tie) Lauren Krieger (GP), Marina Milad (C), Alex Kitz (LB), Lauren Martin (C), Cassie Morford (LB), 8.550.

**UNEVEN PARALLEL BARS:** 1. Nomura (LB), 9.2; 2. Richardt (SLN), 9.0; 3. (tie) Heather Koresky (GP) and Katina St. Pierre (LR), 8.650; 5. (tie) Amy Reynolds (N) and Alex Kitz (LB), 8.450; 7. (tie) Marisa Markowsky (T), Samy Ritchart (SLN), Sarah Fentin (GP), 8.3; 10. (tie) Milad (C) and Jordan Toor (SLN), 8.250.

**BALANCE BEAM:** 1. Lauren Krieger (GP), 9.15; 2. Reynolds (N), 9.050; 3. Jacobs (SLM), 9.0; 4. Hudak (C), 8.6; 5. Allison Kemp (N), 8.575; 6. Jennifer Gichetti (A), 8.550; 7. Markowsky (T), 8.525; 8. Sarah Bridges (LB), 8.425; 9. Julie Davidson (N), 8.35; 10. Martin (C), 8.325.

**FLOOR EXERCISE:** 1. Hudak (C), 9.4; 2. Jacobs (S), 9.225; 3. Krieger (GP), 9.075; 4. Kemp (N), 9.0; 5. Ritchart (SLN), 8.875; 6. (tie) Nomura (LB), Brooke Pledger (SLN) and Bridges (LB), 8.850; 9. (tie) Reynolds (N) and Brittany Swazey (LR), 8.750.

**ALL-AROUND:** 1. Nomura (LB), 35.450; 2. Jacobs (S), 35.150; 3. Krieger (GP), 34.975; 4. Hudak (C), 34.625; 5. Reynolds (N), 34.525; 6. Markowsky (T), 33.825; 7. Koresky (GP), 33.525; 8. St. Pierre (LR), 33.425; 9. Pledger (SLN), 33.2; 10. Davidson (N), 33.10.

# Grade-A contributor

## Canton's Muresan hits books, boards hard

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There may be student-athletes at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park who are more well-rounded than Canton basketball player George Muresan, but not many.

The Chiefs' 6-foot-2 senior forward not only excels as a reserve post player, he plays the guitar at his church, performs community-service work at the Plymouth Salvation Army and attacks his homework with such vigor that his grade-point average has exceeded the 4.0 mark.

He'd tell you about all his notable accomplishments if he wasn't as modest as he is well-rounded.

"George is just a great kid," said Canton basketball coach Dan Colligan. "I have so much respect for the guy, both for what he does on and off the court."

As a reserve, Muresan's minutes are precious and few most nights. But that hasn't depleted his passion for collecting every non-scoring stat available when he does step onto the hardwood.

"The best parts of my game are probably defense and rebounding," said the soft-spoken Muresan. "My sophomore season, I had the most blocks on the junior varsity."

### Power in the paint

Muresan's highlight game of his senior campaign came in an early-season battle against Redford Union.

"It kind of stands out for me because I had two blocks, one



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's George Muresan is an effective rebounder and defender on the court and a stellar student off it.

of which went off the backboard," Muresan said. "It was a low-scoring game, so we needed all the defense we could get."

While he'll never be an offensive force, Muresan has made strides in the rest of his game that have drawn lofty praise from Colligan.

"From his freshman season to now, George is probably our most improved player," said Colligan. "And the reason for that is because he works so hard. He has a tremendous basketball IQ, which makes him so effective when it comes to rebounding and playing defense. Against Churchill, we put him in against one of their 6-6 kids and he did a great job even though he was giving up four inches."

Muresan was born in Romania in 1991. A short time later, he and his family moved

to Canada before settling in Canton when he was seven.

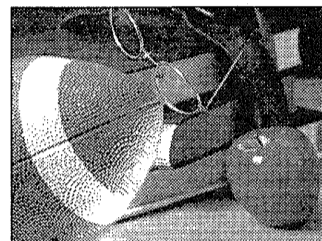
"We moved from Romania because my dad received a better job offer and because they had a communist government," Muresan said. "We went back and visited when I was in middle school. It was interesting."

### Honored to help

As a member of the National Honor Society, Muresan has donated at least 24 hours of volunteering time the past two years.

"I've been helping out with computer work in the office of the Salvation Army," he said. "I enjoy it."

When he begins his college career at the University of Michigan in the fall, Muresan will be working toward a degree in computer engineering.



### Prep Profile

"Eventually, I'd like to work for Microsoft or Apple — one of the big computer companies," he said.

When asked if his smarts help him during hoop games, Muresan shook his head.

"You don't have a lot of time to think on the basketball court," he said. "Everything happens pretty fast, so you have to act right away."

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### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### Compuware Arena to host hockey finals

Compuware Arena is hosting MHSAA boys hockey semifinal action today and Friday, and championships all day Saturday with finals starting at 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Prices are \$6 for the semifinals and \$7 for championship Saturday. Fans can purchase a Weekend Pass for \$25.

Local teams still in the hunt include Detroit-Novu Catholic Central and South Lyon in Division 1; Novi, Warren De La Salle and Trenton in Division 2; Dearborn Divine Child, Monroe St. Mary's Catholic Central and Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood in Division 3.

#### Plymouth Wildcats football golf outing

The Plymouth Wildcats Football Booster Club will be holding its eight annual Wildcats Football Golf Outing on Saturday, May 30, at Fellows Creek Golf and Banquet Center in Canton.

The outing will be a best-ball scramble with a shot-gun start at 1 p.m. Players are needed as well as Hole sponsors and donated items for a silent auction at the end of the outing.

Registration is \$100 per golfer. You can register by calling Bill Ballelli at (734) 416-9603 or Mike Walsh at (734) 453-6796.

For more details, visit the Wildcats' Web site at [www.football.plymouth-wildcats.com](http://www.football.plymouth-wildcats.com).

## Whalers lock down Soo, 9-4

After losing Friday night, 9-4, to top-ranked Windsor, the Plymouth Whalers bounced back in a big way on Saturday with an 8-2 victory over Sault Ste. Marie in an Ontario Hockey League played before 3,369 at Compuware Arena.

The win improved Plymouth to 35-25-5-0, good for 75 points and sole possession of fourth place and home ice in the first round of the OHL Western Conference playoffs race, which is scheduled to start in two weeks.

Plymouth is four points ahead of Sarnia (32-25-4-3) and Guelph (32-25-4-2) and two points behind third-place Saginaw (35-23-3-4).

The Whalers were led offensively by their top-scoring line of Matt Caria (three goals and two assists), Chris Terry (one goal, two assists) and Tyler Seguin, who tallied a goal and assist.

Beau Schmitz scored a goal and recorded three assists. Brett Bellemore and AJ Jenks added single goals for Plymouth.

James Livingston and Jake Carrick replied for Sault Ste. Marie.

Special teams played a major role in the Plymouth victory as the Whalers went 5-for-9 on the power play and killed 8-of-9 Soo power plays.

Although Caria scored the only goal of the first period at 2:38 to give Plymouth a 1-0 lead, the Whaler penalty killers were the difference in the first frame and they killed off a continuous five-on-three Soo power play for a span of five minutes midway through the first period.

Goaltender Matt Hackett and defenders Michal Jordan, Joe Gaynor, Schmitz and Bellemore — among others — played key roles during that segment of the game.

"That really set the tone (of the game)," said Plymouth associate coach Joe Stefan. "We were really disappointed with the effort we gave last night (in the loss to Windsor). We wanted to make amends. Our penalty killing has really come on in

the second half of the year. The boys stepped up in the first period and killed off those penalties. The momentum changed and we took off from there."

Whaler penalty killers blocked a lot of shots in front of Hackett.

"I think we did a good job staying in the lanes, so they couldn't shoot the puck and had to pass it," Gaynor said about Plymouth's penalty killing. "We were keeping them to the outside — they weren't getting very many shots. We did what we do best — stay in the lanes and clear the pucks."

Plymouth blew the game open on the power play in the second period after Greyhound veteran Jordan Nolan was given a two-minute minor for instigating and a five-minute major in an altercation with Whalers' RJ Mahalak at 2:26 of the period. Power-play goals by Terry (team-leading 38th of the year at 2:31), Schmitz (3:49), Bellemore (7:07) and Jenks (7:21) extended the Whalers' lead to 5-0. After Livingston scored at 15:19 to cut the Plymouth lead to 5-1, Caria (15:31) and Seguin (18:59) went back to work to give to Whalers a 7-1 lead after 40 minutes.

"Coming out of last night's game, we wanted to redeem ourselves," Caria said. "Our penalty killing was outstanding in the first period. Chris Terry and Tyler Seguin are so gifted offensively, so it comes easy to give them the puck. You go to the net and you know you're either going to get it back or they're going to beat the goalie. Right now, we're working for each other."

With five points Saturday, Caria now has 30 goals and 57 assists, Terry has 38 goals with 51 assists, and Seguin has 21 goals and 42 helpers.

Plymouth — with three games left in the regular season — is off until tonight when it plays in Windsor. Plymouth travels to Sault Ste. Marie on Friday before returning home for the last game of the regular season on Sunday against Sarnia at 2 p.m. at Compuware Arena.



### Junior varsity champions

The St. John Neumann Dragons 5th/6th grade junior varsity boys basketball team recently earned the CYO 2008 Division F title with a 9-1 regular season record. Pictured are (front row from left) Gavin McAuliffe, Connor Wingate, Kevin Livingstone, (second row from left) Wesley Weber, Greg Williams, Luke Callahan, Justin Vitez, (third row from left) head coach Angelo Lanava, Nick Lanava, Joe Miazek, Sean Meagher and assistant coach Mike Meagher.

## Metro-West STEELHEADERS

### 24th Annual Sportsman's Banquet

**Raffle Items**

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- Huron River steelhead charter
- Ohio River steelhead guide
- Gun raffles
- 10' canoe
- 9' kayak
- Gun safe
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**Only \$40 Per Person!!!**

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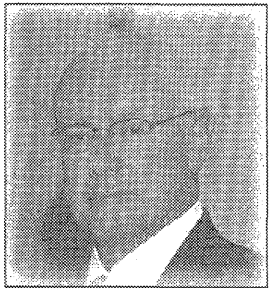
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**ROBERT H. HATTLE**

Age 57, of Brighton, passed away suddenly on March 6, 2009. Loving husband of Georgette. Beloved father of Geoffrey and Rebecca (Peter) Lechowicz. Dear son of Bernice Hattle and the late Robert Hattle. Devoted brother of William (Deborah), Edward, Stephen, David (Kathleen) and Theresa (Fred) Rothenberger. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Robert retired from UPS in Livonia. He was a member of the Mustang Club, the Shelby Club of America, St. Patrick Catholic Church in Brighton, treasurer for his homeowners association, and a former Teamster and Union Steward. He loved the outdoors, bike riding, kayaking and hiking were just some of his hobbies. An avid reader and author, he also enjoyed traveling and racing cars. Aside from all that, his greatest joy in life was his family, and he was especially looking forward to being a grandfather for the first time this summer. Funeral services were held on March 10, 2009 from St. Kenneth Catholic Church, Plymouth, Arrangements entrusted to the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth. Share memories at [schrader-howell.com](http://schrader-howell.com).



**RUBEN WAYNE MACY**

Born April 9, 1923, adopted son of the late Michael and Mary Moskaloff. He entered into eternal rest in the Lord's hands March 6th, 2009 after a long and courageous fight. Wayne was the beloved husband of Margarita (nee Baum) for 63 years. Loving father of Linda (Bob), Robert, and James (Lori). Dear grandfather of Nicole (Dan) Hunter, Brett, Meghan, Sean Macy, and great-grandfather of Macie and Max Hunter. After graduating from Newburgh Academy in N.Y. Wayne enlisted in the Army Air Force in Sept. 1942 and was assigned to the 341st "Blackjack" Fighter Squadron, 348th Fighter Group, 5th Army Air Force, and flew P-47 Thunderbolts and P-51 Mustangs in the Pacific Theater during WWII. Each of his planes was named "The Mad Russian" because of his Russian Heritage. He logged 154 combat missions and was promoted to Captain one month after his 22nd birthday. Battles and Campaigns included New Guinea, Southern Philippines, Luzon, Bismarck Archipelago, Air Offensive Japan, Ryukyus and Western Pacific. Decorations and citations awarded include Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Philippine Liberation Medal with one Bronze Star, Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon with seven Oak Leaf Clusters, WWII Victory Ribbon, three Overseas Bars and a recommendation for the Distinguished Flying Cross. Upon receiving orders to return to the USA in September 1945, he served in the reserves until 1956. Wayne graduated from the University of Detroit with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and was employed by Detroit Diesel until his retirement. In 2002 with the help of his wife Margarita, Wayne wrote his memoirs of his experiences in WWII. Several of these stories have been published in "The Friends Journal" the quarterly publication of the U.S. Air Force Museum in Dayton, OH. Memberships included: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia, Air Force Museum Foundation at Wright Patterson, American Legion Post 32, EAA, VFW Post 6695, and 43K, Aviation Cadet Association. He also served as a docent at the Yankee Air Museum, and was CO of the 341st Fighter Squadron Association for 10 years. In addition to spending time with family and friends, Wayne enjoyed fishing, photography, drawing, painting, playing cards and flying remote controlled planes. He also enjoyed tinkering on whatever projects he could find around the house. Best memories were spent traveling around the country with Marge. Wayne also had a fondness for all things sweet. Notable favorites being Snickers bars and Awrey's coffee cakes and donuts, as Marge can attest to cleaning up the crumbs after many successful midnight raids. Services will be held at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Rd., Livonia, on Saturday, March 14, 2009 with visitation 11 a.m. until the service 12 Noon. Donations in his memory may be made to Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church or the Yankee Air Museum, PO Box 590, Belleville, 48112.

**LEIGH ANN TRESTAIN**

Age 50, of Thompson's Station, TN passed away Saturday, March 7, 2009. Leigh was a loving daughter, sister, wife, mother, "Granny", friend & animal lover. She attended Thompson's Station Baptist Church. Leigh is survived by her husband of 31 years, Gary Trestain of Thompson's Station, TN; parents, William & Carol Charboneau of Livonia, MI; son, Michael Trestain of Thompson's Station, TN; daughters, Stacy (Andrew) Van Erp of Mason, OH, Dawn (Sevron) Shelton of Spring Hill, TN, Kathryn Trestain of Cincinnati, OH & Kimberly Trestain of Thompson's Station, TN; sisters, Julie (Robert) Warner of Livonia, MI & Amy (Jeffrey) McLean of Redford, MI; five grandchildren and special pets, Buster, Nemo & Oliver. Funeral services will be conducted 12 Noon Thursday, March 12, 2009 at Spring Hill Memorial Funeral Home, Duane Murray officiating. Memorials may be made to The Muscular Dystrophy Association. Visitation will be 2-8 p.m. Wednesday, and three hours prior to the service at SPRING HILL MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME, 5239 Main St., Spring Hill, TN 931-486-0059



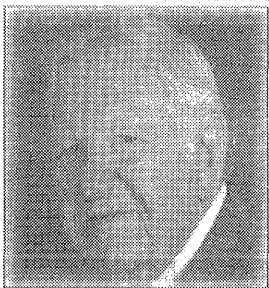
**KATHLEEN HALE WEBB**

The Lovely and Talented, November 20, 1942 - March 8, 2009. Of Liberty, Kathleen Hale Webb, beloved wife, mother, sister, grandmother, aunt, and friend passed away Sunday, March 8, 2009, surrounded by her loving family. Kathleen was born on November 20, 1942, 10 months after her sister Lizzy. They had a glorious childhood filled with imaginative and real adventures, admixed with singing, puppet shows, dressing up, and sharing everything. They were the best of friends for a lifetime. Kathleen was a beautiful, loquacious, brilliant, fun loving and witty child. She made friends easily with everyone and pulled her more quiet sister into many wonderful experiences as a result. Kathleen was an avid reader and student of history. She was also a gifted watercolorist as a child. She graduated with honors from East High School and completed a BA degree from the University of Utah in three years with a double major in History and English, Phi Beta Kappa. During her college years, she developed numerous enduring friendships in her sorority, Chi Omega, which gave her many hours of pleasure and comfort over the years. The highlight of her college experience was her courtship with Richard Creer Webb, her lifelong best pal, sweetheart, and dedicated husband. They were married December 18, 1964 in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. Richard was the love of her life, to whom she was fiercely loyal and totally dedicated. They initially lived in France and Germany where Kathleen taught high school history and English while Richard served as an officer in the US Army Signal Corp. They settled in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan in 1968 where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Rich. Kathleen deeply loved her children to whom she gave unconditional love, laced with fun and humor. Kathleen was active in many activities, including callings in the LDS Church and as Trustee of the Michigan Opera Theater. Kathleen loved to dress up. The Webbs had an active social calendar, at which the 'The Lovely and Talented', as Richard called her, would shine with her sparkling wit and beautiful persona. She had a great sense of humor that left all around her laughing uncontrollably on many occasions. She was also an avid golfer at the Oakland Hills Country Club, Richard and Kathleen also enjoyed horseback riding and skiing, and moved to Liberty, Utah in 2002 to enjoy these activities. They traveled widely including to India, China, Europe and South America. Kathleen's life was defined by her courageous response to lifelong illness. She was struck by a car at age 18 and spent 6 months recovering from a serious brain injury. After being married only 3 years she developed Lupus, which caused her to lose her firstborn son and endure many hospitalizations for life threatening complications throughout her life. Despite these travails, she remained buoyant in spirit with intense vigor for life. She was always singing. She refused to ever acknowledge her limitations, even when two strokes took away all of her ability to communicate with language. She had great self confidence and resolve. Even when she was completely unable to speak or read, she continued to attend social activities with her characteristic smile and sparkle. Kathleen was also fearless. Despite weakness and ill health, she went on many horseback riding trips with her husband Richard and was given an award for her tenacity in climbing Grizzly Ridge in the high Uintah Mountains. She and Richard had many joyful hours of fun made possible by Richard's dedicated service to her as her caregiver and cheerleader. To him, she was a hero as well as his sweetheart and best pal. Kathleen is survived by her husband Richard Creer Webb, and two of their three children, Elizabeth Hale Webb Kurnez, and Richard Hale Webb, and three grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister Elizabeth Hale Hammond, brother Michael Richard Hale, sister in law Mickey Lieber Hale, and their families. She was preceded in death by her oldest son, John Edward Webb, her parents Edward Girard and Ruth Hansen Hale, and her brother, Edward Girard VB Hale. Funeral services will be held Thursday, March 12 at 1 p.m. at the Nordic Valley Ward Chapel, 2900 North Highway 162, Eden, Utah. Friends may call at Lindquist's Ogden Mortuary, 3408 Washington Boulevard, Ogden, Utah on Wednesday, March 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. and Thursday, March 12 at the Ward Chapel from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Interment will be in the Salt Lake City, Utah Cemetery on Friday, March 13 at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Kathleen's name to the Lupus Foundation of America, [www.lupus.org](http://www.lupus.org). Send condolences to the family at [www.lindquistmortuary.com](http://www.lindquistmortuary.com). Kathleen was one of those rare and special souls who was admired and adored by all who were blessed to know her, and she will be dearly missed.



**GLEN E. WALKER**

Age 78, died Sunday, March 8, 2009, surrounded by family in his home in Grand Blanc, after a courageous 12-year battle with leukemia. Glen was born on July 14, 1930 to Monie Calvin and Cora Mae Walker in Macbeth, West Virginia. Mr. Walker attended Rets Electronics School and God's Bible School in Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1953, he moved his family to the Detroit area, where he worked at Ford Motor Company for 41 years as a Pyrometer Skilled Tradesman. A devoted Christian, he had a great passion for touching souls with gospel music. He organized and sang in several quartets that spread their ministries in nursing homes and prisons, as well as churches. He also served as Minister of Music at several churches. A gifted athlete, Mr. Walker took great joy in coaching his sons and granddaughter in Little League baseball. He is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Juanita June; children, Rebecca (Roger) Royer, Charles (Shirley) Walker and Randy (Linda) Walker; four grandchildren, Clayton (Sherril), Steven (Andrea), Julie and Brian; as well as four great-grandchildren, Jared, Anthony, Alexis, Sophia, Kaylee and Anderson. He was preceded in death by his sons, Timothy W. Walker and Glen E. Walker, II. A viewing was held Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at the Swartz Funeral Home, 1225 West Hill Road. A Memorial Service was held Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. at Fairhaven Baptist Church, Westland. Dr. Carl Petty, Reverend Dan Louman and Reverend Bob McDonald co-officiated. Mr. Walker will also have services and burial in Madison, West Virginia. Anyone interested in attending is asked to contact the family. Your condolences may be shared with the family at [swartzfuneralhome.com](http://swartzfuneralhome.com)



**ROBERT CLYDE KINE**

Age 85, of Traverse City, died Friday February 27, 2009 at Munson Medical Center. Robert was born September 7, 1923 in Romulus, MI to the late Charles E. and Marie Kine. He graduated from Romulus High in June of 1945. In 1946 he married Shirley Gayle Thompson in Dearborn. Together they had five wonderful children. Robert honorably served our country in the US Navy during WWII. Then in the US Coast Guard during the Korean Conflict. Robert worked for Star Cutter Company (Elk Rapids Tool and Die) until age 65. After retirement he went to work at Wal-Mart in the Hardware Department. Some of Robert's favorite activities were flying, gardening, golfing, wood-working and he was also an excellent bowler. Robert was a faithful member of The Church of the Living God. Supporting the missionaries were also important to him. Robert's greatest joy was spending time with family and especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Surviving Robert are his children, Sheryl (Mark) Irving, Dale (Carol) Kine, Jon (Wendy) Kine; grandchildren, Nathan (Sarah) Kine, Christel, Heather (Rich) Taylor, Jamison, Megan, Cameron, and Lacey Rose; great-grandchildren, Joe, Caleb, Jacob, Allannah, Ashlyan, Nolan, and Logan; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Robert is preceded in death by his parents, his wife Shirley, daughters; Paula and Debra Kine, sisters; Isobel Goltzy, Gertrude McCullough, and Betty Tryck. Funeral services took place at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home Saturday, March 7, 2009. Pastor John Shinn officiated. Burial took place at Riverside Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Wycliffe Bible Translators.

**ROBERT D. PESCHKE**

Age 87. Of Farmington Hills, MI. Passed away March 8, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington, MI.

**ROBERT P. SHAW**

Of Manchester, MI. Age 86, passed away Friday evening, March 6, 2009 at the Chelsea Community Hospital. He was born on June 18, 1922 in New York City, the son of Leon G. and Helene P. (Perreten) Shaw. Robert loved the theatre and always played the part whether it be a special family dinner or directing the community play. He also was a member of the Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Choir and loved to play the harmonica. Favorite pastimes also were trout fishing, walleye fishing, bowling, softball, and coaching little league. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the United States Army in the European Theatre. On September 10, 1949 he married Pauline L. Socorelis in New Jersey and she survives. Also surviving are two children, Timothy (Diana) Shaw of Madison, TN and Pamela (Howard) Holmes of Chelsea, and six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Thomas Shaw. A private memorial service was held on Tuesday at the Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home in Chelsea with Rev. Kathy Schell officiating. Expressions of sympathy can be made to the Chelsea Community Hospital.

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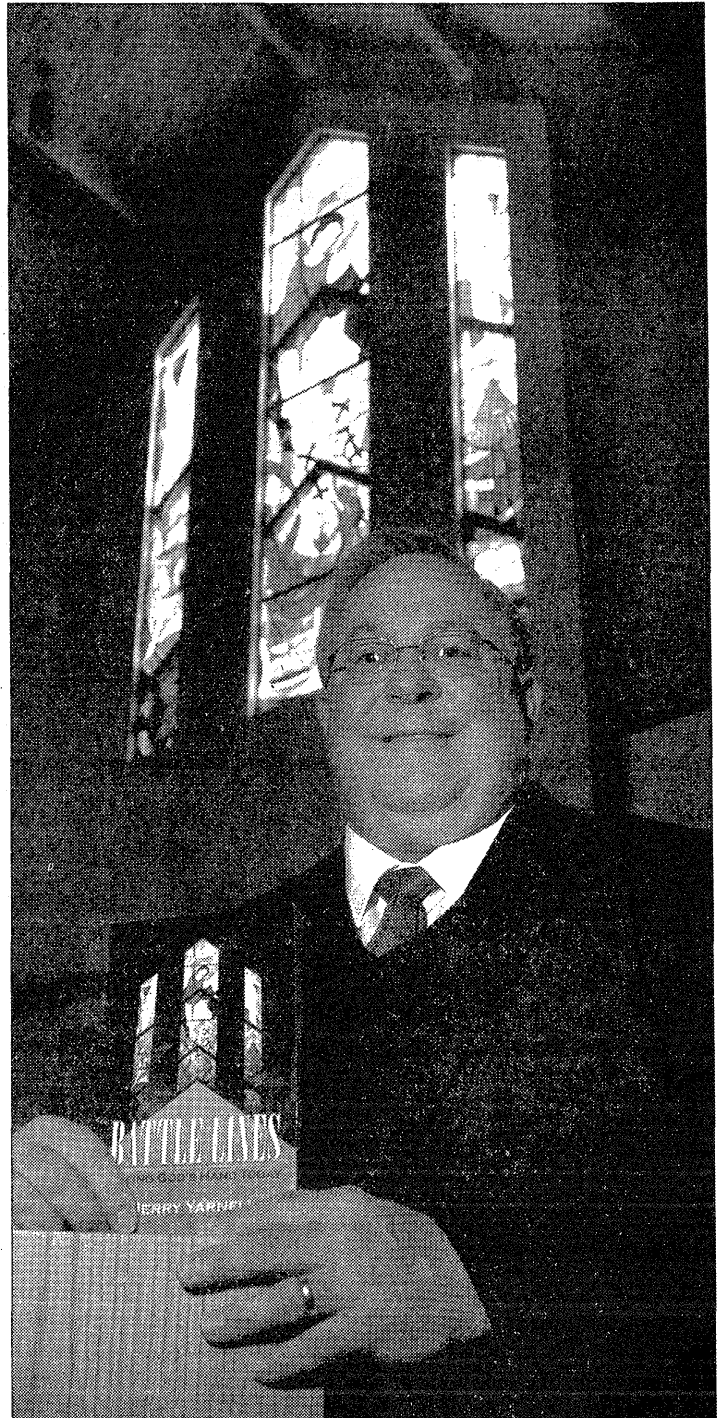
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ask for Jennifer or Charolette



Pastor Jerry Yarnell stands in front of the stained glass window pictured on the cover of his new book.

## Pastor takes on battles in new book

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
O&E STAFF WRITER

When the Rev. Jerry Yarnell was trying to decide whether to answer the call to St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton his main concern was about moving to the suburbs. He'd heard stories about sinful living there. After meeting with the church's leadership council and praying about the decision he changed his mind and became pastor.

Thirty-years later he writes about the journey in *Battle Lines: Seeing God's Hand Today*. Yarnell, who worked on the book on sabbatical in summer 2007, didn't hold any facts back. Before accepting the position he and his wife Pam had gone to a fellowship meeting of members where excessive drinking and off-color language and jokes were the norm. The book was recently released by Zoe Life Publishing in Canton.

"It was interesting," said Yarnell. "The first Sunday I preached there were 42 adults present. There are now 750 to 800 on Saturday night and Sunday. The book has illustrations of principals of how to live and honor God. I'd always wanted to write a Christian book. The Lord was leading it. How many people live their life without seeing God's hand in their world. I just started writing and asked God to take care of it."

Yarnell uses the spiritual principals found in the Scriptures as he begins to talk about being led to St. Michael Lutheran Church. He grew up in a rural community in central Pennsylvania where his parents took him to church every Sunday. For 10 years he had perfect attendance but after being confirmed at age 14 he quit going.

"It wasn't until my freshman year in college when God became real to me," said Yarnell. "For whatever reason that year instead of going home for Easter I took my young cousin to church in Philadelphia and heard the hymn 'What a Friend We Have in Jesus.' I asked Jesus to be my friend."

After graduating from Rutgers University, he spent the next four year in seminary before becoming associate pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Traverse City for two years.

"I went to intern in Traverse City and was there when I received the call," said Yarnell. "I asked am I doing what God wants me to do? I wasn't fond of coming to suburbia but it was important to help people grow to see God's hand in their lives, what I call the real world. Since I've been here God's answered a lot of prayers. There are testimonies in back of the Book of Miracles happening. We had a girl diagnosed with autism. Her parents had her baptized and the autism disappeared and she now sings in the youth choir. We took a strong pro life stand years ago and never had a child (in the congregation) die in 30 years. When you stand for God, God honors that. It's an example of how God's worked."

Yarnell points to the fact the building has had to expand three times to accommodate members. A small school for pre-K through fifth grade begins teaching values early.

"It's a good thing God's done not me," said Yarnell. "We tend to be Biblically centered. The goal is to have people come to know and live with God. We have everything from grief to divorce support groups, Bible studies, two Sunday schools, a youth program centered around spiritual growth, and foodstuff available for the needy."

Yarnell gives credit to Pam, his wife of 37 years, and daughter Stephanie Lee for helping to get the story out about the church.

"Pam was my chief critic the whole time," said Yarnell. She says she's very proud of him.

"I've probably read the book three times and parts of it more than that," said Pam Yarnell. "For me it was exciting to help him do the book. Our daughter typed most of it. Reading it, it was a lot of what we experienced here. You're here to serve God."

St. Michael Lutheran Church is at 7000 Sheldon, south of Warren, Canton. Worship services are held 5:30 p.m. Saturday, and 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. (traditional) and 11 a.m. (contemporary) every Sunday.

For more information, visit [www.zoelife.com](http://www.zoelife.com) or call St. Michael Lutheran Church at (734) 459-3333.

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends

To submit an item for the religion calendar, e-mail lchomin@hometownlife.com 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.

**MARCH**

**Winter revival**  
Continues 7 p.m. nightly through Friday, March 13, at Canton Christian Fellowship, 8775 Ronda Drive. The theme is Stop Looking Back, Look to Jesus. Special guest speaker is Tyrell Brown of Morningstar Baptist Church, Richmond, VA. Revival includes power-packed, spirit-filled preaching and teaching that will give you the strength that you need to move past every hindrance in this season. For more information, call (734) 404 2480 or visit www.cantoncf.org.

**Sharing made simple**  
Apologetics for Beginners Continues with "Is the Eucharist just a Symbol?" by nationally-acclaimed apologist and author, Gary Michuta, 7 p.m. Saturday, March 12, in the school at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard at Plymouth Road, between Farmington and Merriman roads, Livonia. For information, call (734) 261-1455, ext 200, or see www.livoniastmichael.org. Presentation focuses on reasons Catholics believe Christ is truly and wholly present in the Eucharist and is open to all those interested.

**Prayer vigil**  
As Christians observe the season of Lent to prepare our hearts and minds for Christ's death on the cross and His glorious resurrection on Easter Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church is opening its doors to the public for a

Prayer Vigil 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 12, at 14175 Farmington Rd, Livonia, north of I-96. People are welcome to come anytime, stay as long as you wish. For more information, visit www.christoursavior.org.

**All-you-can-eat fish**  
The St. Michael the Archangel Parish's "All You Can Eat" Lenten Fish Dinners continues 4:30-7 p.m. March 13, 20, 27, and April 3 in the cafeteria of St. Michael School, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia. Dinners feature hand-dipped fresh Alaskan cod, fried or baked, along with an assortment of side dishes and beverages. Cost, \$8 adults, \$7 seniors, \$4 children ages 3-11, free ages 3 and under. Carryout orders, \$7. Call (734) 261-1455; Ext. 200.

**Lenten schedule**  
St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia invites all members of the community to any and all of its upcoming Lenten activities including Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent at 7 p.m. followed by Benediction; a Communal Reconciliation service 7 p.m. Monday, March 23; and a special private reconciliation opportunity 2:30-3:30 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 1. Holy Thursday features the Mass of the Last Supper at 7 p.m. followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:30 p.m. Good Friday devotions will begin with Stations of the Cross at 12:15 p.m. followed by the Liturgy of the Passion at 1:30 p.m. An Easter Egg Hunt begins 9 a.m. Holy Saturday followed by Blessing of Food at noon and the Easter Vigil Mass at 8 p.m. Easter Sunday Masses at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and noon. For more information, call (734) 261-1455 or visit www.livoniastmichael.org.

Husband and wife singer-songwriters Tasha and Justin Golden perform 8 p.m. Saturday, March 14, at the Universalist Unitarian Church, 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills. Tickets are \$25, adult and \$15, student at the door; \$5 less in advance. Doors at 7:30 p.m. UUCF is a progressive congregation of men, women and children dedicated to the principles of Unitarian Universalism. Call (248) 478-7272 or visit www.uufarmington.org.

**Rush hour concert series**  
Continues every Tuesday with gathering and refreshments at 5 p.m., concert 5:30-6 p.m., featuring performances by local and national jazz artists at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, Detroit. Free. Visit www.metroumc.org.

**Bethany Suburban West activities**  
■ Sunday, March 15, annual 9 a.m. Lenten Mass, Felician Sister House Chapel, Madonna College Campus, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Use the Newburgh entrance; breakfast will follow. Call (734) 513-9479.  
■ Saturday, March 21, Monthly Breakfast Meeting 9:30 a.m., Leon's, 30149 Ford Road, Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. Call (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.

**Lenten vespers services**  
The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit continues 2009 series of Lenten Vespers services 6 p.m. March 15, Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas, at St. Michael Orthodox Church, Redford; March 22, Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross, at St. George Romanian Orthodox Cathedral, Southfield; March 29, Sunday of St. John Climacus, at St. Clement Ohridski Macedonian-Bulgarian Orthodox Church, Dearborn; and April 5, Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt, at St. Thomas Orthodox Church, Farmington Hills. The general public as well as Orthodox Christians is invited to attend. All proceeds will be used for COCC charities and projects. Call (734) 422-0278 or e-mail paschabooks@sbcglobal.net.

**Sunday night lights**  
Riverside Park Church of God presents the non-traditional service designed to touch all the senses, every second and fourth Sunday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the church, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990. Step into the light with relevant messages and modern music within a casual atmosphere.

**Dining in the kingdom of God**  
For five Wednesdays in Lent, St. Aidan will host the series. Luke's Gospel revealed 10 meals that describe different dimensions of the Eucharist. This presentation will be given by St. Aidan's Faith Formation Director, David Conrad, M.A. Theology, 7-9 p.m. March 18, 25, April 1, and April 8. Free. Call (734) 425-5950.

**Midweek spiritual enrichment**  
Two opportunities for spiritual enrichment are available at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy, each

week on Wednesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays is a study/discussion group focused on understanding our relationship with God and that of other religions and the many philosophical and scientific issues that might impact our faith. Thursday group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey. Call (313) 274-3820 for additional information on opportunities.

**St. Michael's Parish presents**  
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<p><b>St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church</b> St. Genevieve School - PreK-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile &amp; Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p.m., Wed., Thurs. 9 a.m., Sat. 4 p.m., Sun 11a</p> <p><b>St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church</b> 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman &amp; Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a.m., Fri. 8:30 a.m., Sat. 6 p.m., Sun 9a CE080554</p>	<p><b>SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST</b></p> <p><b>Cherry Hill Seventh-Day Adventist Church</b> 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135 (1 block west of Vening) Phone: 734-524-0880 Pastor: Eddie Petreaca Meetings on Saturdays for: Early Morning Bible &amp; Health Class - 8am Worship Service-English-9:30 am Bible Studies English &amp; Spanish (All ages) 11:00 am Wednesdays Prayer Meeting-7 pm CE080505</p>	<p><b>"More than Sunday Services"</b></p> <p>Worship Services 9:00 a.m. &amp; 11:30 AM Sunday School &amp; Nursery 9:00, 10:30 &amp; 11:30 AM Pastor: Dr. John Grenfell III Associate Pastor: Rev. David Wichert</p> <p><b>First United Methodist Church of Plymouth</b> 45201 North Territorial Road (West of Sheldon Road) <b>(734) 453-5280</b> www.pfumc.org CE080515</p>	<p><b>NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> "Open Hearts, Minds &amp; Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne &amp; Newburgh Rds. <b>734-422-0149</b> Worship Service and Sunday School 9:15 am &amp; 11:00 am Rev. Marsha M. Woolley Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org CE080526</p>	<p><b>GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</b> 25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.</p> <p>Worship Service 9:15 &amp; 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 9:15 &amp; 11:00 A.M. Nursery Provided</p> <p>The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor CE080517</p>	<p><b>HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH &amp; SCHOOL</b> 9600 Laverne • So. Redford • 313-937-2424 Pastor - Reverend Paul Lindlin Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Education Hour 10:45 a.m. Christian School Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade For more information call 313-937-2233 CE080572</p>
<p><b>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</b></p> <p><b>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 46801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196 CE080529</p>	<p><b>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</b></p> <p><b>Timothy Lutheran Church</b> A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail &amp; Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Heather, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available) CE080555</p>	<p><b>NON DENOMINATIONAL</b></p> <p><b>BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> in place of the building</p> <p>Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program</p> <p>Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road (Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads) at 10:00 a.m. <b>734-425-1174</b> Join us for coffee, bagels and doughs after the service CE080540</p>	<p><b>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</b></p> <p><b>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)</b> 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman &amp; Farmington Rds.) <b>(734) 422-0494</b> www.rosedalegardens.org Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am</p> <p>WE WELCOME YOU TO A FULL SERVICE CHURCH CE0804763</p>	<p><b>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p><b>WARD</b> Evangelical Presbyterian Church</p> <p>40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400</p> <p>Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 &amp; 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:30 A.M. Nursery &amp; Sunday School During the 9:30 &amp; 11:00 Hours Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560 The WMUZ Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org CE080520</p>	<p><b>Risen Christ Lutheran</b> David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth • (734) 453-5252 Worship 8:15 &amp; 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30 Wednesday Lenten Worship 7 pm Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are. www.risenchrist.info CE080553</p>
<p><b>PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p><b>Fellowship Presbyterian Church</b> Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia • Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan &amp; Schoolcraft Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org CE080551</p>	<p><b>CHRISTIAN SCIENCE</b></p> <p>First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth 1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 734-453-0970 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m. Reading Room located at church Saturday 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. 734-453-0970 CE080513</p>	<p><b>ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN Church, USA</b> 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730</p> <p>Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible Rev. Paul S. Bousquette CE080558</p>	<p><b>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</b></p> <p><b>St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church &amp; School</b> 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360 WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. &amp; 11:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org CE080500</p>	<p><b>GREEK ORTHODOX</b></p> <p><b>STS. CONSTANTINE &amp; HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH</b> 36375 Joy Rd., Westland Sunday Services: Matins 9:00am, Divine Liturgy 10:00am Rev. Fr. Theodor Petruti Parish Office: 734-525-6789 www.stcons.org Hellenic Cultural Center Banquet Hall 734-525-3550 CE080748</p>	

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Senny Lee at 586-977-7651 or e-mail: sslee@dnp.com

# FILTER

## Etiquette essential to classical music performances

Having played bass guitar in a rock band doesn't qualify me to talk about etiquette at recitals since performers work in a different environment than chamber musicians. Fred Moss, on the other hand, has heard cell phones go off when performing with an orchestra. The clarinetist teaches music appreciation at Schoolcraft College where our Friday Night Recital Series Committee brings in renowned classical artists.

Linda Chomin

At a recent meeting about the Avalon String Quartet's performance on March 20, we

reviewed a near catastrophe at the Anton Nel recital in February. A young boy in the front row was taking photographs with a flash, causing the pianist to lose his concentration. Our Recital Series Committee is now looking into printing in the program a protocol written by Scott VanOrnum, an instructor in the college's music department.

Our artistic director Donald Morelock already makes an announcement before each concert to shut off cell phones and not use recording devices. "There's an enormous amount of concentration required. I heard (violinist) Isaac Stern say one time 'I am thinking all the time when I'm in performance.' There's a lot of thinking going on

similar to an Olympic athlete concentrating and thinking in a very focused way. "In the case of playing recital, the artist is thinking for a very long time. A lot of people don't realize, it's generally very quiet so when something happens like a cell phone goes off or you hear a conversation going because of the nature of the halls which have been designed for maximum acoustic benefit you hear everything and it's jarring."

VanOrnum writes in his classical music performance protocol that everyone in the audience is there for one reason — to listen.

Never chat, shuffle paper or unwrap candy as one woman did at the Livonia Symphony Orchestra concert last Saturday.

"There is a failure to recognize what other people have come for," said Moss. "For a couple of hours you have this little community. It's part of a being a good community member ... For those needing to get up to leave, they should position themselves where they can get up and leave without distraction. It's all about minimizing disruption. I think we're in a day and age that we're accustomed to disruption. We're not accustomed to quiet and focus. We have to retrain our thinking."

Classical music performance protocol is especially important to Anthony Devroye, a member of the Avalon String Quartet. Devroye, a violist, along with cellist Cheng-Hou Lee and violinists Blaise Magniere and Marie Wang have earned international acclaim as "one of the most exciting young string quartets in America" (The Washington Post). When the members aren't perform-

ing in and out of the States, they serve as string quartet-in-residence at Northern Illinois University, where they teach and coach ensembles. This is their third recital at Schoolcraft College.

Quiet is absolutely essential for the program which includes composer Hugo Wolf conjuring up visions of Venetian street musicians in *Italian Serenade*, the veiled emotional content of Schubert's *String Quartet No. 13 in A Minor "Rosamunde,"* and Janacek's vivid and colorful *String Quartet No. 2.*

"The Schoolcraft venue is a nice facility. You feel like you're in someone's living room. It brings you close to the audience," said Devroye. "You can't let up the attention for a single bar or the ensemble risks coming apart. It's important for us not to have any visual or aural distractions. We're excited to have children in the audience but it's important to realize we

can see them as much as we can see them."

Moss says parents should consider whether a recital is developmentally appropriate for a child before buying tickets.

"Asking a really young child who hasn't studied music to sit through a two hour concert is a lot," said Moss. "They should consider shorter and more appropriate concerts. The DSO (Detroit Symphony Orchestra) does wonderful concerts only an hour long. For children and adults people are going to get so much more out of the concert if they listen to the music ahead of time. You could check CDs out of the public libraries ahead of time then our focus is going to be increased because we know what's coming."

Linda Ann Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at lchomin@hometownlife.com or (313) 222-2241.

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**Workshop**  
 Metro Detroit native Benita "Bonnie" Garvin will return to teach a screenwriting workshop 9 a.m.-5 p.m. March 21-22 at Detroit Marriott Southfield, 27033 Northwestern Hwy. Cost, \$375 (\$325 students) includes continental breakfast. Contact bonniesworkout@sbcglobal.net. Two conflicting dates for the workshop were given in a story last week.

**Footloose**  
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GET OUT

ART

**Art is in Market:** New location in Laurel Park Place, 37642 Six Mile Road, Livonia, <http://artismarket.blogspot.com>.  
**Lotus Arts Gallery:** Local Artist Exhibit, through March 26, 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth (888) 889-4ART, [www.lotusartsgallery.com](http://www.lotusartsgallery.com).  
**Northville Art House:** "Creative Minds-Changing Minds," through March 21; "The Persistence of Personal Vision: The College of Creative Studies Illustration Alumni Annual Show," through March 29; DIA Lecture Series; Art History Lecture Series - Art and Artistry of Carl Faberge, March 18, 215 W. Cady, (248) 344-0497, [www.northvillearts.org](http://www.northvillearts.org).

AUDITIONS

**DrumLine Live:** Seeking multi-skilled drummers, dancers and singers for future performances, 9:30-11:30 a.m. March 15, **Music Hall Jazz Café**, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit, <http://www.drumlinecasting.com/casting.html>.  
**Steppingstone Summer Music Academy:** Scholarship Auditions for 3-week summer academy, by appointment March 17 and 19, Farmington Hills, (248) 539-1666, [www.steppingstoneschool.org](http://www.steppingstoneschool.org).

BENEFITS

**Emerald Theatre:** St. Jude's Concert for the Children with JoCaine, March 21, Mount Clemens, 6 p.m., 18 and older, \$10, (248) 645-6666, [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).  
**Trinity House Theatre:** Floyd King & the Bushwackers, Cats and the Fiddler, and Jill Jack 8 p.m. March 13, \$12-\$15, to benefit Trinity House, 34500 6 Mile Road, Livonia, (734) 464-6302, [www.TrinityHouse.ORG](http://www.TrinityHouse.ORG).  
**Village Theatre at Cherry Hill:** Ricky Nelson Remembered with Matthew and Gunnar Nelson, March 27, to benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support, includes champagne, desserts and meet the artists, \$52, (734) 394-5300, [www.canton-mi.org/villageheater](http://www.canton-mi.org/villageheater).

BOOKS/LITERATURE

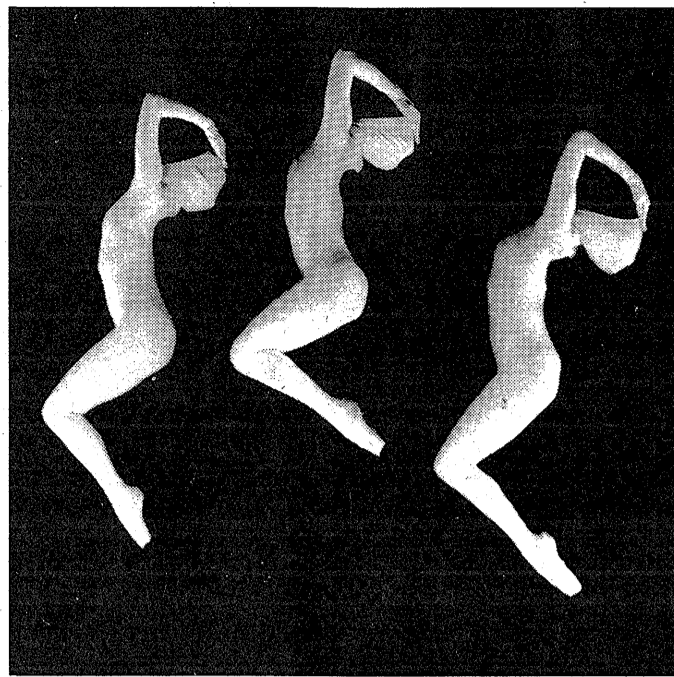
**Max M. Fisher Music Center:** An Evening with Maya Angelou, 7:30 p.m. March 18, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (248) 398-3400, [www.detroitssymphony.com](http://www.detroitssymphony.com).

CLASSICAL

**Max M. Fisher Music Center:** Beethoven & Debussy, March 12-15, Pops Goes Vegas, March 19-22, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 and online at [www.detroitssymphony.com](http://www.detroitssymphony.com).  
**Plymouth Symphony Orchestra:** "Fanfare for Freedom," 8 p.m. March 14, Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville; Benefit Concert of the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society, 8 p.m. April 24, Penn Theatre, 760 Penniman, Plymouth, (734) 451-2112, [www.plymouthsymphony.org](http://www.plymouthsymphony.org).  
**Schoolcraft College:** Avalon String Quartet, March 20; Cellist Robert de Maine, May 15; \$10, students, \$20 adults, Presentation Room in the VistaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia, (734) 462-4403.

COMEDY

**Fox Theatre:** Ron White, March 14, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) (248) 433-1515.  
**Jazz Cafe at Music Hall:** "Show Up, And Go Up," 9



Dance of Shadows

The dazzling Momix dance company will perform a "best of 20 years" retrospective 8 p.m. Monday, March 16 at the Music Hall Center of Performing Arts. Blurring the fine line between illusion and reality with mind-blowing inventiveness, Momix fools the naked eye with an amazing array of black-light illusions, acrobatic choreography and fantastical props. Tickets, \$30-\$50, are available at the Music Hall Box Office, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit; by calling (313) 887-8500; or through [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

p.m. third Thursday of every month, March 19, doors, 8 p.m., open call, free, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit, (313) 887-8532, [www.jazzcafedetroit.com](http://www.jazzcafedetroit.com).  
**Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia:** Tracy Smith, through March 14, 6005 Gotfredson Road, Plymouth (734) 455-8450, [www.KarlsCabin.com](http://www.KarlsCabin.com), [www.minnehahacomedyclub.com](http://www.minnehahacomedyclub.com).  
**MotorCity Casino Hotel:** Joy Behar, May 16, 2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit, (800) 745-3000, [www.MotorCityCasino.com](http://www.MotorCityCasino.com).

CONCERTS

**City Theatre:** Raphael Saadiq, March 15, inside Hockeytown, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit, [www.olympiaentertainment.com](http://www.olympiaentertainment.com).  
**The Fox Theatre:** Bill Gaither and his Homecoming Friends, March 12, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) (248) 433-1515.  
**Masonic Temple Theatre:** Rain, A Tribute to The Beatles, March 19, 500 Temple, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.  
**MotorCity Casino Hotel:** Bret Michaels Rock of Love Bus Tour featuring Dirty Americans, March 13, [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), [www.motorcitycasino.com](http://www.motorcitycasino.com).  
**Royal Oak Music Theatre:** Umphrey's McGee, March 12, 318 W. Fourth, Royal Oak, (800) 919-6272, [www.royaloakmusictheatre.com](http://www.royaloakmusictheatre.com).

DANCE

**Detroit Dance Collective:** The Power of Green, March 13, Michael A. Guido Theater, Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, (313) 943-2354.  
**Detroit Opera House:** "Romeo & Juliet," American Ballet, March 13-15, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, (313) 237-3426, [www.michiganopera.org](http://www.michiganopera.org).

**Polka Booster Club of America:** Dance, March 15, K of C Hall, 7080 Garling Dr., Dearborn Heights, (734) 422-1901.

FAMILY

**Canton Cinema:** Free Spring Matinee Series, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Saturdays, "Madagascar 2," March 14-15, 43555 Ford Road, (734) 844-3456, [www.GOT1.com](http://www.GOT1.com).  
**Laurel Park Place:** Meet-N-Greet with B.O.B. from "Monsters vs. Aliens," 4-6 p.m. March 13, free giveaways, movie pass drawings and photo opps, near food court, 37700 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia.  
**Marquis Theatre:** "Little Mermaid," March 14-April 17, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 and online at [www.detroitssymphony.com](http://www.detroitssymphony.com).  
**Harmony and Me:** Free "Music Together" classes, ages 0-5 and care-givers, singing, dancing, rhythm instruments, March 17, Plymouth Play Cafe, 306 S. Main St., March 18-19, Harmony and Me Studio, 7311 N. Lilley Road, Canton, registration required, (248) 489-9330, [www.HarmonyAndMeKids.com](http://www.HarmonyAndMeKids.com).  
**The Lyon Theatre:** "Queen Cinderella," 125 E. Lake

FILM

**Detroit Film Theatre:** "Harvard Beats Yale 29-29," through March 15, Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. See [www.dia.org/dft](http://www.dia.org/dft) or (313) 833-7900.  
**Henry Ford IMAX:** "Watchmen: The IMAX Experience Rises," "Journey to Mecca," "Under the Sea 3D," 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, (313) 271-1570.  
**Penn Theatre:** Hitchcock Month, "Shadow of a Doubt," March 12; "Saboteur," March 19; "To Catch a Thief," March 26, shows at 7 p.m., \$3, 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, (734) 453-0870, [www.penntheatre.com](http://www.penntheatre.com).

JAZZ

**Bakers Keyboard Lounge:** Ryan Enderle CD Release party, March 20, 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit, (313) 345-6300, [www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com](http://www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com).  
**Max M. Fisher Music Center:** Blue Note Anniversary Tour, 8 p.m. March 13, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 and online at [www.detroitssymphony.com](http://www.detroitssymphony.com).

MORE MUSIC

**Bullfrog Bar:** Monthly Mixer, March 12: YYTD, False City, March 13: Old Dave Showcase, March 14: St. Patrick Day Bash, March 17: Trif Life Showcase, March 19, 15414 Telegraph Rd., Redford, (313) 533-4477, [www.bullfrogrocks.com](http://www.bullfrogrocks.com).  
**Detroit Institute of Arts:** Christine Andreas: 7 & 8:30 p.m., March 13, 5200 Woodward Ave., (313) 833-7900 or see the website at [www.dia.org](http://www.dia.org).  
**Magic Bag:** Wayne "The Train" Hancock & Whitney Morgan, March 13; Stan Ridgway & Friends (former Wall of Woodoo frontman), March 15; Gaelic Storm, March 20, 22920 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, [www.themagicbag.com](http://www.themagicbag.com).  
**Magic Stick:** Samantha Crain and the Midnight Shivers, March 15, 4120 Woodward, Detroit.  
**Token Lounge:** Paradime with Marv Won, Danny Brown, Street Justice and Chief, with MTV filming "Made," March 13, 21 and older, 28949 Joy Road, Westland, (734) 513-5030.  
**Trinity House Theatre:** Dick Siegel, March 14, 38840 Six Mile, Livonia, (734) 464-6302, [www.trinity-house.org](http://www.trinity-house.org).

MUSEUMS

**Detroit Institute of Arts:** "American Chronicles: The Art of Norman Rockwell," March 8-May 31; "Master Pieces: Chess Sets from the Dr. George and Vivian Dean Collection" through March 22; Living Chess Game, 7 p.m. March 13, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313) 833-7900.  
**Detroit Science Center:** "Leonardo Da Vinci: Man, Inventor, Genius," tickets \$13.95 to \$16.95; "Star Trek: The Exhibition," 5020 John R, (313) 577-8400, [www.detroitssciencecenter.org](http://www.detroitssciencecenter.org).

**Plymouth Historical Museum:** "In the Presence of Lincoln," through Nov. 4, 155 S. Main St., (734) 455-8940, [www.plymouthhistory.org](http://www.plymouthhistory.org).

OPERA

**Hotel St. Regis:** Donald Braswell New Beginnings Viewing Party, 8-9 p.m. March 15, during his live broadcast on Detroit Public Television, 3071 West Grand Blvd., Detroit, <http://www.dptv.org/support/boxoffice.shtml>.  
**Fox Theatre:** Il Divo, May 17, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, (248) 433-1515, [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

**Floodin Park:** Free outdoor ice skating, between Morton Taylor and Sheldon on Saltz Road in Canton, (734) 394-5310, [www.leisure.canton-mi.org](http://www.leisure.canton-mi.org).  
**Irish Heritage Night: Old Fashioned Hooley,** March 14, Finnish Cultural Center, 35200 W. 8 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, (734) 754-3404 or (313) 537-3489.  
**Imate Healing Arts Center:** "Welcome Spring Equinox Celebration" featuring New Age music, vibrational healing crystal bowls, community drum circle, vegetarian fare, March 20, \$5, 18700 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (313) 366-2247.

THEATER - COMMUNITY

**Destination Theatre:** "Canton Follies: One Hit Wonders," March 12-14, Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, (734) 394-5460.  
**Fisher Theatre:** "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street," March 17-April 5, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, 1-800-982-2787, [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), [www.broadwayindetroit.com](http://www.broadwayindetroit.com).

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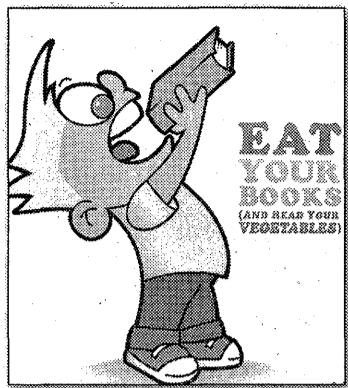
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WESTLAND

# Teacher makes music for tweens

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK  
O & E NEWSPAPERS



Eat Your Books (And Read Your Vegetables), Mr. Seley's debut CD, is available at [www.mrseley.com](http://www.mrseley.com).

When vocal music got cancelled at his school, teacher Tom Seley picked up his guitar and took matters into his own hands.

He began staging after school sing-alongs for his third and fourth graders, but soon found good music for that age group is hard to come by.

"There's a lot of Barney and Raffi but that's too young for my kids, and there's the stuff on the radio which is too old for them, so I wrote my own songs," said Seley, who teaches a third and fourth grade split

at Birmingham Covington School.

Seley started writing his own music, and now, the 30-year-old Royal Oak resident takes his sing-alongs on tour, visiting libraries throughout Metro Detroit performing and teaching kids to write their own songs.

He says his music, which parallels the level of complexity in the novels popular with his kids, fills a void for tweens, who want challenging lyrics and themes they can relate to.

"They are ready for more clever word play than the younger kids, who need

something a little more literal. They're ready for songs with more substance," he said. "They like 'High School Musical' and the Jonas Brothers, but even they have so many love songs, they sing them and they love the melodies, but they're not ready to identify with that yet."

Kids respond to Mr. Seley's songs, like "My Fish Ran Away," "Don't Take My Hat," and "The Best Day Ever," along with the title track of his debut CD, "Eat Your Books (And Read Your Vegetables)."

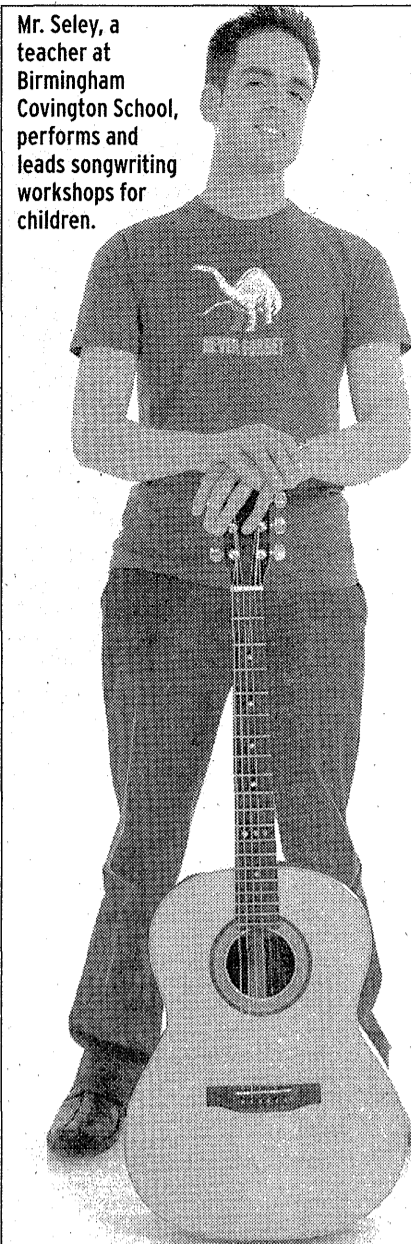
Adults like "You're So Wonderful (You Should Live in a Castle)," he said.

In Seley's songwriting workshops, he starts out with a framework of lyrics, asking students to insert words, then lines, until they have a complete song.

Seley captures the song on portable recording equipment, and later adds instrumentation ranging from electric guitar and drums to piano and ukelele, which he plays himself.

Then, he posts the songs as MP3s on his Web site, [www.mrseley.com](http://www.mrseley.com), for participants to download.

Mr. Seley, a teacher at Birmingham Covington School, performs and leads songwriting workshops for children.



## SING-ALONG WITH MR. SELEY

**Novi Public Library**  
2-3 p.m. April 8  
45245 W. 10 Mile Road  
(248) 349-0720

**Clawson Blair Memorial Library**  
10:30-11:30 a.m. May 16  
416 North Main St.  
(248) 588-5500

**Southfield Public Library**  
2-3 p.m. May 16  
26300 Evergreen Road  
(248)796-4200

**Farmington Library**  
2-3 p.m. June 16  
23500 Liberty St.  
(248) 553-0300

**Plymouth District Library**  
6:30-7:15 p.m. July 7  
223 S. Main St.  
(734) 453-0750

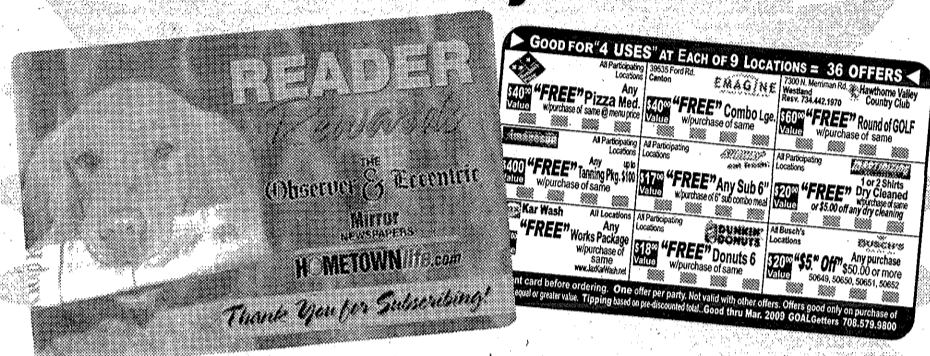
**Milford Memories Festival**  
12:30-1:15 p.m. Aug. 9  
317 Union St.

\*Includes "Record-A-Song" session. For more information, visit [www.mrseley.com](http://www.mrseley.com).

Please see **MUSIC, B9**

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**DRUMLINE Live**

More than 40 musicians and dancers from the nation's top historically black college and university marching bands will bring their infectious enthusiasm and athleticism to the Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, for two shows, 8 p.m. Saturday, March 14 and 3 p.m. Sunday, March 15. DRUMLINE Live brings the music and dance from the movie "Drumline" to the concert stage. Tickets are \$30, \$40 & \$50 available at Music Hall Box Office, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit or Ticketmaster.com. Call (313) 887-8500.



**TV Stars Spotlited**

Soupy Sales is among seven famous faces featured in "Detroit's Classic TV Personalities," opening at the Detroit Historical Museum on Saturday, March 14. The exhibit celebrates seven of the city's most notable television figures past and present - talk show hosts John Kelly and Marilyn Turner, movie host Bill Kennedy, and anchors Bill Bonds, Amyr Makupson and Emery King. Soupy Sales, early Detroit TV's biggest star, hosted a lunchtime kids show and an evening sketch comedy/live jazz show for adults on WXYZ before moving on to national status. The exhibit continues in the Kresge Gallery through Sept. 6. The museum is located at 5401 Woodward Ave. in Detroit's Cultural Center. Admission is \$6; \$4 for seniors, college students and youth. Call (313) 833-1805 or visit www.detroithistorical.org.

**MUSIC**

FROM PAGE B8

He said songwriting is educational.

"From a teaching standpoint kids in third or fourth grade, when they write a story they want to turn it in right away, not edit it or look at it. When we're writing a song they feel more comfortable going back and reviewing it, cutting out words and syllables for rhyming," he said. "It's unheard of for kids to excited

about editing. It's one of the best ways I found to teach it."

Seley, who grew up in Farmington and graduated from Farmington High School, taught himself guitar and started writing songs in college. It wasn't until he explored the children's music genre that he became so prolific.

"I've been a teacher for a long time and a musician for a long time and all my skills ended up blending together and it turned into something special," he said.

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**After waiting all winter long, it's time again to welcome golfers back to the green!**

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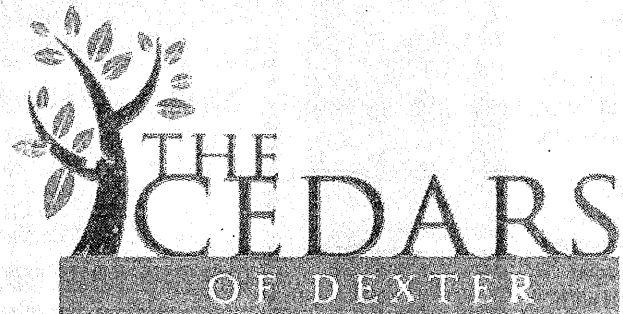


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# FOOD & WINE



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Troy-based Crust Pizza & Wine Bar, with locations of Bloomfield Township & Rochester Hills, is now serving Gluten-Free Pizza Crusts.

## CRUST PIZZA GOES GLUTEN-FREE

**TROY** — Troy-based Crust Pizza & Wine Bar, with locations of Bloomfield Township & Rochester Hills, announced it has begun serving Gluten-Free Pizza Crusts.

More than two million people in the U.S. suffer from Celiac Disease, a severe genetic intolerance to gluten, a protein common in wheat, rye and barley. Forty-five percent of Americans exhibit some kind of food allergy or intolerance.

"Pizza is what we do best," said Jon Sherer, Crust Pizza & Wine Bar Owner. "We felt it was important to offer a gluten-free option for our patrons with the same great taste of our signature pizza."

Crust offers pizza, ciabatta sandwiches and salads using fresh ingredients like real Prosciutto di Parma from Italy, Fior de Latte Mozzarella from Wisconsin, Molinari sausages from San Francisco, Maytag Bleu Cheese from California, crushed San Marzano tomatoes and fresh hand-torn basil.

To complement the food, a carefully selected list of over 35 primarily American wines, all priced aggressively to encourage experimenting, sampling and sharing, are available by either the bottle, the six-ounce glass or in a symphony of three, two-ounce samples of a "build your own wine flight."

Visit, [www.crustpizza.net](http://www.crustpizza.net).

## TASTE OF NORTHVILLE BUSINESS SHOWCASE

**NORTHVILLE** — Northville's 20th annual Taste of Northville Business Showcase is set for noon-3 p.m. March 14 at Northville High School. The family-friendly showcase will feature interactive exhibits from retail, service and professional businesses with the theme "Fun in the Sun." Over 10 top-rated local restaurants will offer free samples from their menus. There also will be give-a-ways, raffles, and promotional goodies. Awards are presented for Best Restaurant and Best Business displays as voted by the public. Over 1,200 attendees are expected. Tickets, \$5; \$4 seniors 65 and over; and free for children under 12, are available at the door. The Taste of Northville Business Showcase is sponsored by Buckle Family Chiropractic, Northville Record, Trupp Family Care Chiropractic. Call the Northville Chamber of Commerce at (248) 349-7640 or visit [www.northville.org](http://www.northville.org).

## RITZ-CARLTON HOSTS COOKING CLASSES

**DEARBORN** — The Ritz-Carlton, Dearborn will offer an informative series of cooking classes presented by the hotel's culinary team and Leslie Jacobs Associates.

"We are excited to be offering these hands-on classes in our own kitchens" said Chef de Cuisine Alex Garza. "It's a privilege to be able to teach our guests the cooking techniques and tips that will make them a star chef in their very own kitchen."

Participants begin in the kitchen learning to prepare several courses of a specially-themed meal. Then, they are rewarded to a fabulous dinner served with complementing wines. Leslie Jacobs will also share her secrets of a well-dressed table.

Classes are 5:30-8:30 p.m. select Mondays as follows:

- **March 16:** Journey to Spain: Tapas and More
- **April 20:** Contemporary American Classics: Comfort Foods with a Twist
- **May 18:** Cocina Mexicana

## CITY BITES

- **June 15:** Chilling and Grilling
  - **Sept. 21:** Classic French Bistro
  - **Oct. 19:** Flavors of Fall: A Michigan Feast
  - **Nov. 16:** Roman Holiday: Italian Favorites
  - **Dec. 7:** Celebrate with Style: The Perfect Party
- Cost is \$120 per class; \$75 for dinner only. The Ritz-Carlton, Dearborn is located at Fairlane Plaza, 300 Town Center Dr. To register call (313) 253-4357, e-mail [colin.berens@ritzcarlton.com](mailto:colin.berens@ritzcarlton.com) or visit [www.ritzcarlton.com](http://www.ritzcarlton.com).

## POPEYES SERVES UP SEAFOOD TACKLE BOX

**REDFORD TOWNSHIP** — Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen is bringing hungry guests a taste of the Bayou with an all-time favorite — Butterfly Shrimp. The popular offering comes in a new portable package known as the Seafood Tackle Box.

The Seafood Tackle Box, \$4.99 for a limited time, features eight butterfly shrimp marinated in Louisiana seasonings served on a bed of Cajun battered fries with a biscuit.

Popeyes has 1,905 restaurants in the United States, including 11307 Telegraph Road, Redford Township. Call (313)537-8093 or visit [www.popeyes.com](http://www.popeyes.com).

## BROWN BAG-IT TIPS TO SAVE MONEY

With food costs increasing in an already dire economy, buying lunch can be a budget buster. Brown-bagging it can save you hundreds of dollars a year, and might even help you lose weight if you make good choices. ShopSmart, from the publisher of Consumer Reports, has ideas and tips to pack a delicious lunch

you'll look forward to eating.

- **Breakfast for lunch.** Frittatas are great served cold or warm, and so are slices of quiche.
- **Leafless salads.** A mix of chopped raw vegetables in vinaigrette. Try black beans, corn, diced red peppers, and chopped scallions.

- **Portable pasta.** Mix whole grain pasta with vinaigrette and canned salmon or store-bought meatballs. Carb-watchers can use spaghetti squash, Orzo, or brown rice to make a pseudo pasta salad.
- **Antipasto and dips.** Small bites can be as satisfying as a big sandwich, so pack mozzarella cubes wrapped in roasted red peppers, olives, deviled eggs, salami and roasted almonds.

- **Sandwich substitutes.** Pack wedges of good, flavorful cheese, a crusty whole-grain roll, and some grapes or veggies. Try chicken or egg salad in a hollowed-out tomato, or baked zucchini halves scooped out and filled with chili or other stuffings.

- **Hot and hearty.** Take homemade, canned, or store-bought soup in a wide-mouth thermos. Leftover stews, stir-fries and casseroles stay hot and pack well too.

- **Chip alternatives.** Popcorn or healthy edamame beans are much cheaper than chips from the store. Boiled green soybeans also make for a great late-afternoon pick-me-up.

choices for less than \$20 and is available all the time.

"Everyone has been affected by our nation's struggling economy, which prompted us to create these special menus for those looking for a great meal at a reasonable price," said Wolfgang Puck Grille Executive Chef Marc Djozlija.

Wolfgang's Winter Warm-Up, available through March, lets guests choose one of three dishes for the first course and one of three dishes for the second course. The menu changes weekly, but sample dishes include Pumpkin Ravioli with Crisp Sage and Parmigiano Reggiano; and Grilled Rib Eye Steak with Tuscan Potatoes and Whole Grain Mustard Sauce. The third course is a 12-Layer Chocolate Dobos Torte.

Add a glass of wine with each course for \$20 per person, and choose from Pinot Noir Acacia "A", California, 2006 or Cabernet Sauvignon, Chateau St. Michelle, "Indian Wells," Washington, 2005.

The Tavern Menu includes such choices as Truffled Potato Chips, Ricotta Gnocchi and Smoked Salmon Pizza with Crème Fraiche, Fresh Dill and Black Caviar. Call (313) 465-1648 or visit [www.mgmgranddetroit.com](http://www.mgmgranddetroit.com) or [www.wolfgangpuck.com](http://www.wolfgangpuck.com).

## WOLFGANG PUCK GRILLE OFFERS VALUE MENU

**DETROIT** — Wolfgang Puck Grille at MGM Grand Detroit is offering two new menus for cost-conscious consumers. The Winter Warm-Up menu consists of a three-course tasting for \$35 per person Sunday-Thursday. The new Tavern Menu offers 15

## 25 wine values for under \$15

On the rise for several years now, global wine consumption, according to a January 2009 report released by the International Wine and Spirit Record, is forecast to continue growing, with the U.S. by 2012 overtaking Italy as the planet's biggest consumer.

Other statistics about wine drinking in the U.S. indicate that consumers, while not giving up drinking wine, are seeking value-priced bottlings and the sweet spot for these purchases is under \$15.

Mindful of both stats, we went hunting for the best quality-price ratio wines available in the metro-Detroit area for \$15 or less.

We tasted more than 100 wines and came up with 25 best bets for 2009.

**BEST WHITE WINES**  
2008 Funky Llama Sauvignon Blanc, \$7  
2007 Funky Llama Chardonnay, \$7  
2007 Round Hill No Oak Chardonnay, \$8  
2007 Round Hill Chardonnay, \$8  
2007 Meridian Chardonnay, \$10  
2007 Kendall-Jackson Vintner's Reserve Chardonnay, \$12  
2007 Tormaresca (Puglia) Chardonnay, \$12  
2007 Dancing Bull Chardonnay, \$12  
2008 Chakana Sauvignon Blanc, \$12

**BEST RED WINES**  
2008 Funky Llama Malbec, \$7  
2006 Round Hill Cabernet Sauvignon, \$8  
2007 McManis Syrah, \$10  
2006 Windmill Syrah, \$12  
2007 Chakana Syrah, \$12  
2007 Tormaresca Neprica (Puglia), \$12  
2006 Lange Twins Merlot, \$13  
2005 Lost Angel Cabernet Sauvignon, \$13  
2006 Lost Angel Mischief Blend, \$13  
2006 Valle Reale Vigne Nuove Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, \$14

Eating out is another time that we're all looking for a wine bargain.

Sad to say, most restaurant "house wines," are plonk, but Coastal Vines 2007 Pinot Grigio, \$6, by the glass at Ruby Tuesday is a winner.

Not all the wines will be available at every retail store, but your favorite retailer can order them for you from the local distributor.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are Contributing Editors for the internationally-respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them by e-mail at [focuswine@aol.com](mailto:focuswine@aol.com).



Ray & Eleanor Heald

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—Sifta Packer-Detroit Free Press

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1/2 OFF  
Oysters

## EMU reaches out to help those facing foreclosure

BY JULIE BROWN  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Counselors at Eastern Michigan University started a support group for people going through foreclosure, but found embarrassment over finances limited participation. They chose to go with a different approach.

"We do offer individual counseling services" to those facing foreclosure, said Dr. Perry Francis, EMU coordinator of counseling services in the College of Education/Clinical Suite.

The program was started to help Washtenaw County residents, but has drawn response from Oakland and Wayne residents, all of whom are welcome. Francis, who earned his Ed.D. in counseling, noted the importance of caring for yourself emotionally when facing foreclosure. "We'd be happy to help anybody," he said of the lack of geographical restrictions. He and colleagues were approached by their county agencies about helping.

"They do need some mental health help," Francis said of the free EMU services, offered by master's students near graduation who are closely supervised by doctoral faculty and licensed professionals. "Everything is confidential, completely confidential."

There hasn't been an overwhelming response yet. "This has been tried in other locations," said Francis, also an associate professor of counseling at EMU. "It's getting them in the door and letting them know we're available."

"It helps provide them with the mental health services they need," he said. People are often raised not to discuss religion, politics or money, so saying "How do I explain to people I'm going through foreclosure?" is tough.

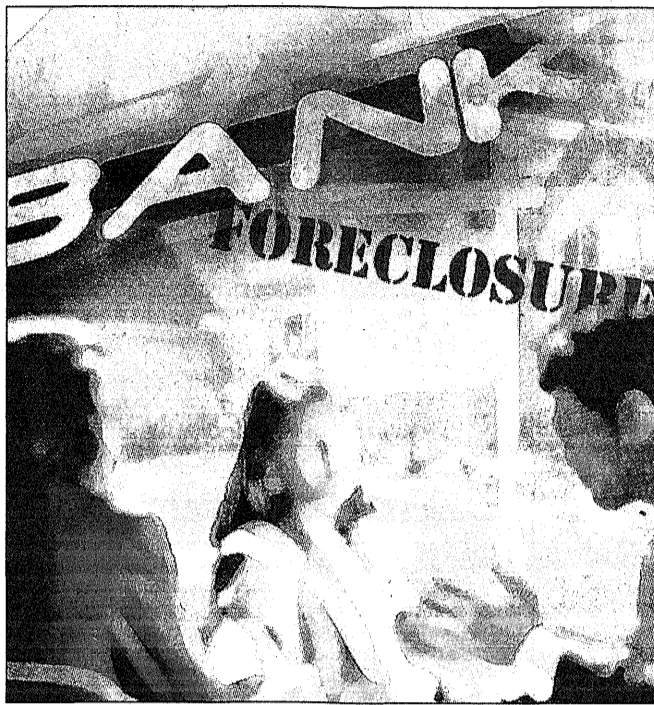
People experience a sense of loss of control, feelings of anger and in extreme cases even thoughts of suicide. Family members, including children, are impacted.

"In some cases, kids have grown up in this place," he said. Relocating to a new school is difficult on children and teens, and parents need to be able to take about that.

"Working with a mental health professional would be beneficial for someone going through this," he said.

The Eastern Michigan University College of Education Counseling Clinic in the Clinical Suite in Porter 135 is offering free counseling to help those who are struggling with financial problems. Staffers can also provide you with referrals to county agencies that will help you work through the foreclosure process and begin the credit rebuilding process.

For more information, call (734) 487-4410 or contact Francis via e-mail at pfrancis@emich.edu. The



Web site is www.emich.edu/coe/clinics.

Francis offered this information for those facing foreclosure and its related stress:

**Q: What are some of the common mental health issues a person might face as he/she goes through the foreclosure process?** A: There are many thoughts and feelings that one experiences as they face the prospect of foreclosure. Most common among them are:

**Embarrassment:** One of the most common thoughts and feelings. Questions like "What will people think of me?" and "How could this happen to me?" are common as well as thinking that you are somehow labeled as a failure.

**Isolation:** Related to embarrassment, feeling isolated is also a common experience. This is often brought on by not wanting to share with anyone the news that you are struggling financially. As the process moves forward and the stress grows, a person becomes more isolated with the increased burden of this secret.

**Loss of Control:** We all like to think we are in control of our present and future. When that control is lost, for whatever reason, we feel unsettled and anxious.

**Stress:** Moving from one's home, even when not in foreclosure, is considered one of the most stressful things we can do. When you have to move due to circumstances beyond your control, it adds to that stress.

**Feelings of Failure:** Providing a home for yourself and your family is an essential need. When you are faced with the prospect of not being able to fill that need, feelings of failure can overwhelm a person.

**Anger & Frustration:** As the process moves forward many people become angry at the situation and frustrated. When solutions fail or are no longer available, feelings of

wanting to strike out at something or someone can be experienced.

**Depression & Anxiety:** When faced with a great loss, many people are confronted with feelings of depression. This is experienced in behaviors like sleeplessness or sleeping more than normal, loss of appetite or consuming more food

than normal, being "short" or "ill-tempered" with loved ones, loss of motivation and/or energy to do daily tasks, struggle to concentrate on tasks, and increase in use of alcohol or other drugs. With depression and/or foreclosure comes anxiety as seen in behaviors like jumpiness, restlessness, being easily fatigued, and muscle tension.

**Thoughts of Suicide:** Sometimes overwhelming feelings lead to thoughts of suicide. This is an indication that you need to seek help immediately and should reach out to loved ones and professionals who can help you deal with the loss and pain of foreclosure. Remember, suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem.

**Q: What can I do to deal with these and other thoughts and feelings?**

A: There are several strategies available including:

**Seek Social Support:** Seek emotional support from those you can depend on. Carrying the heavy burden of stress alone leads to more stress and isolation. Talking with trustworthy people and organizations lightens the load and reduces stress. Take advantage of those social services that are available to help you through the foreclosure process.

**Create & Maintain a Routine:** Plan your days and weeks. Continue working and taking care of your home. Go to work and continue being as productive as you can. If you are not employed outside the home, create a routine at home and follow it. Change that routine as necessary to maintain your health and well-being. Routine can be comforting and helps fill in down time when you may be pondering or worrying about issues that you cannot control.

**Exercise & Eat Right:** Go for a walk, ride your bike, or go for a run

as you are able. Exercise has been shown to help elevate mood and battle depression. Proper nutrition also helps maintain a healthy attitude.

**Be Kind to Yourself:** Millions of Americans are losing their homes for countless different reasons. If you would not judge them as weak or unwise, try not to judge yourself. Realize that you are not judged so much by the house you live in as by your actions as a person. Continue to treat others as you would want them to treat you.

**Change Your Thinking from Victim to Survivor:** There is great power in seeing yourself as a survivor. It helps you assemble resources needed to support your family and situation. It also helps to create a sense of control over one's destiny.

**Seek Professional Help:** When your thoughts and feelings are clearly interfering with your normal functioning, it is time to seek out professional help. There are many low-cost mental health support services available, including the Counseling Clinic at Eastern Michigan University, Catholic Social Services, county Mental Health, and the Psychology Clinic at Eastern Michigan University. Many operate on a sliding fee scale. You can also call 2-1-1 (United Way) for a list of agencies in the county and surrounding communities.

**Q: What can I do to help my children through this transition?**

A: Begin by hugging your children often. Provide information and routine to your children. Children want to know that they are safe, you are safe, and that their lives will be routine. Talk about what is happening by providing them information they can understand. Do not overwhelm them with information that is beyond their comprehension. Other suggestions include spending extra time with them at bedtime, read stories together, allow your children to express their feelings without your losing control of your own feelings, sharing your feelings in appropriate ways, spend extra time with family activities to replace fears with pleasant memories, and involving your children (in appropriate ways) in finding a new place to live.

**Q: How do I tell my grown children about what is happening?**

A: Depending on your relationship with your grown children, they can be a source of great support. Share information at your comfort level. As with all children, they want to know that you are safe and that you have a plan of action. While it may be embarrassing to admit to your children that you are in financial difficulty, they can offer emotional support in a way that friends may not be able to.

A: I think you should find out from the management company why they are not willing to work with that attorney and, better yet, I would contact that attorney directly and find out what his or her relationship has been with that management company and if he or she knows why that management company apparently is blackballing him or her. If the attorney is qualified, you may be best to go with an attorney who is not proverbially "in bed" with the management firm and will be willing to advise you of any irregularities that may occur in the conduct of that management company without fear of losing business and/or a tight knit relationship.

## Pros know Chicago market

**Q: I have always wanted to live in downtown Chicago and am wondering whether the condominium real estate market has softened in regard to purchasing a condominium and/or renting an apartment.**

A: Based upon the economic market conditions at the end of 2008, it appears that there is a glut of condominiums and apartments in the Chicago area. However, that does not mean that units are necessarily within a reasonable purchase range. For example, one developer who claims that his



Robert Meisner

development is the most significant residential development in the world has condominiums selling from \$750,000 to \$40,000,000 overlooking the Chicago skyline and Lake Michigan. If you look at the number of high-rise condominiums that are being constructed along Lakeshore Drive south of downtown, you will recognize that potential bargains are available and that not all of these condominiums will be able to be sold in a reasonable time. Accordingly, the rental market may open up for opportunities particularly on the part of those developers who are not able to liquidate their units as quickly as they would otherwise like. You are best advised to become familiar with a knowledgeable real estate person operating in the downtown Chicago area as well as canvassing the various Chicago newspapers that feature real estate advertisements.

**Q: Our management company gave us the names of several lawyers that they recommend. I brought up the name of another prominent attorney and they indicated that they "don't work with him." I asked them why and they didn't give me any plausible reason. What do you think we should do?**

A: I think you should find out from the management company why they are not willing to work with that attorney and, better yet, I would contact that attorney directly and find out what his or her relationship has been with that management company and if he or she knows why that management company apparently is blackballing him or her. If the attorney is qualified, you may be best to go with an attorney who is not proverbially "in bed" with the management firm and will be willing to advise you of any irregularities that may occur in the conduct of that management company without fear of losing business and/or a tight knit relationship.

**Robert M. Meisner** is a lawyer and the author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote *Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit [meisner@meisner-associates.com](mailto:meisner@meisner-associates.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

### HOMES SOLD

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 17-21, 2008, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.


Canton	
41503 Bedford Dr	\$75,000
50537 Coolidge St	\$224,000
41415 Copper Creek Dr	\$138,000
399 Cornell St	\$206,000
1054 Dundee Dr	\$189,000
46887 Eastbourne Rd	\$293,000
40210 Finley Dr	\$157,000
6523 Kennesaw Rd	\$360,000
548 McKinley Cir	\$270,000
44830 Seabrook Dr	\$285,000
788 Sorel Dr	\$169,000
48616 Stonebriar Dr	\$58,000
48356 Wadebridge Dr	\$355,000

Farmington	
31831 Grand River Ave	\$32,000
33160 Shiawassee Rd	\$140,000
Farmington Hills	
28850 Bannockburn St	\$170,000
21617 Collingham Ave	\$30,000
29918 Eldred St	\$95,000
36861 Etia Ct	\$275,000
22022 Lancrest Ct	\$150,000
28810 Lorikay St	\$160,000
21798 Lundy Dr	\$114,000
Garden City	
32511 Brown St	\$155,000
6646 Elizabeth St	\$126,000
6224 Gilman St	\$74,000
6565 Helen St	\$102,000
33647 Leona St	\$104,000
Livonia	
12124 Boston Post St	\$103,000
16885 Canterbury St	\$290,000
17121 Catherine Ct	\$171,000
36778 Curtis Rd	\$174,000
18612 Farmington Rd	\$110,000
38031 Five Mile Rd	\$135,000
17308 Francavilla Dr	\$228,000
14700 Gary Ln	\$157,000
36509 Joanne St	\$95,000

19466 Norwich Rd	\$252,000
29745 Nottingham Cir	\$115,000
36020 Perth St	\$175,000
35232 Pinetree St	\$125,000
35895 Pinetree St	\$152,000
33805 Pinetree Cir	\$52,000
16720 Riverside St	\$140,000
9840 Seltzer St	\$114,000
33018 Summers St	\$150,000
Milford	
2909 Central Blvd	\$123,000
267 Heritage Dr	\$365,000
1008 Larivee Ln	\$354,000
1106 Prince St	\$76,000
574 Uphill Rd	\$400,000
Northville	
44413 Aspen Ridge Dr	\$220,000
16203 Brook Trout Ln	\$180,000
47153 Dunsany Dr	\$240,000
49095 Freestone Ct	\$385,000
557 Langfield St	\$164,000
39517 Legend Ct	\$330,000
515 Linden Ct	\$528,000
18782 Marble Head Dr	\$55,000
40540 N Northville Trl	\$388,000
17635 Parkshore Dr	\$607,000
47140 Red Oak Dr	\$432,000

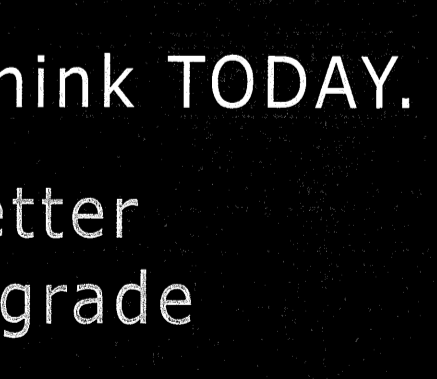
18820 Valencia St	\$300,000
39458 Village Run Dr	\$220,000
17633 White Pine Ct	\$500,000
16787 Yellowstone Dr	\$135,000
Novi	
43500 Algonquin Dr	\$193,000
23084 Balcombe	\$294,000
21860 Barclay Dr	\$405,000
41936 Borchard Dr	\$307,000
28122 Carlton Way Dr	\$135,000
41698 Chatman St	\$190,000
23670 Dunston Rd	\$318,000
26366 Fieldstone Dr	\$255,000
23589 Hickory Grove Ln	\$228,000
28021 Hopkins Dr	\$121,000
24626 Olde Orchard St	\$58,000
47245 Scarlet Dr S	\$205,000
21751 Shadybrook Trl	\$251,000
39873 Squire Rd	\$260,000
25401 Sutton Ct	\$624,000
24715 White Plains Dr	\$256,000
22600 Winfield Rd	\$209,000
Plymouth	
13629 Driftwood Ct	\$372,000
605 Jener Pl	\$412,000
9024 Marlowe Ave	\$163,000
11704 N Haggerty Rd	\$130,000

51333 Plymouth Ridge Dr	\$485,000
680 S Harvey St	\$175,000
47181 Timberwood Dr	\$350,000
796 York St	\$90,000
Redford	
13910 Fenton	\$128,000
15084 Gaylord	\$141,000
9944 Kinloch	\$90,000
9983 Marion	\$35,000
9973 Norborne	\$109,000
South Lyon	
1100 Fountain View Cir	\$115,000
1104 Gentry Dr	\$289,000
60401 Nine Mile Rd	\$220,000
23499 Prescott Ln E	\$381,000
Westland	
31555 Alpena Ct	\$32,000
33800 Hunter Ave	\$137,000
274 Marigold Cir	\$100,000
2321 Minerva St	\$106,000
936 Mitchell Dr	\$169,000
2601 Nichols Ct	\$100,000
1176 Shoemaker Dr	\$55,000
27747 Trailbrooke Cir	\$110,000



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# Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

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### ACROSS

- 1 Comforter
- 6 Dingbat
- 11 Loosens
- 13 Cheese dip
- 14 Easy — pie
- 15 Moneyline network
- 16 Sitcom planet
- 17 Pharaoh's god
- 18 Stick up
- 20 Tenets
- 22 Lisper's problem letter
- 23 Swiss artist
- 25 Hairy insect
- 26 Stew over
- 27 Tiny amounts
- 29 Follows
- 31 Python or wrap
- 33 Catch for speeding
- 34 College unit
- 37 Sierra Club founder
- 40 Vice-squad action
- 41 Weep loudly

### DOWN

- 43 Jeannie portrayer
- 45 Suffix for hero
- 46 Distant
- 48 Stein filler
- 49 Montpelier's st.
- 50 Iron source
- 51 Hawaii's Mauna —
- 53 " — shucks!"
- 54 Startles
- 56 Kick in
- 58 Bad, bad
- 59 Brown of song
- 59 Candle
- 1 Basic physics particle
- 2 Still on the shelves
- 3 Employee badge
- 4 Rapper Tone —
- 5 Look after
- 6 Myra played her
- 7 Shirt-pocket stain

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

L	O	B	O	G	O	B	A	L	I	T
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## SUDOKU

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8				3				
4					3	1		
	9	7	4	2				
6		5	9	1		2	7	

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

### Here's How It Works:

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

## SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

- |           |           |          |
|-----------|-----------|----------|
| ARROWHEAD | DEAD      | PUREBRED |
| BOBSLED   | HOMESTEAD | REDHEAD  |
| BREAD     | LEAD      | SHRED    |
| BUNK BED  | MOPED     | WOODSHED |

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

A	P	C	B	N	I	P	O	Y	T
E	U	A	I	F	Q	E	R	H	B
V	R	E	D	H	E	A	D	O	U
B	E	M	O	P	E	D	M	M	N
W	B	O	B	S	L	E	D	E	K
B	R	E	A	D	D	A	W	S	B
O	E	S	H	R	E	D	L	T	E
N	D	W	O	O	D	S	H	E	D
E	S	C	R	V	L	E	A	D	
A	R	R	O	W	H	E	A	D	A

### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

7	2	4	1	6	5	8	9
8	9	5	2	3	4	7	1
6	1	3	9	7	8	2	4
4	2	7	3	6	9	1	8
9	3	8	7	1	4	8	3
5	1	6	8	9	7	2	4
4	6	9	6	8	5	8	3
6	9	6	5	8	1	3	8
5	8	7	2	1	4	7	9
3	5	4	8	2	9	1	7

### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

A	R	O	W	H	E	A	D
V	R	E	D	H	E	A	D
N	D	W	O	O	D	S	H
O	E	S	H	R	E	D	L
B	O	B	S	L	E	D	E
W	B	O	B	S	L	E	D
B	E	M	O	P	E	D	M
N	D	W	O	O	D	S	H
E	U	A	I	F	Q	E	R
T	C	B	N	I	P	O	Y

# REAL ESTATE

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

**3000-3890**  
Real Estate For Sale

**Canton 3080**  
**MOVE RIGHT IN**  
Large rooms, 1st floor laundry, 2 car garage, 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath, & nice landscaping w/pavers. \$195,000 (07N0)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Preferred, Realtors  
734-459-6000

**Garden City 3170**  
**TONS OF UPDATES**  
Updated kitchen and bath, appliances stay, lots of natural light, part finished basement, and motivated seller! \$49,000 (168GI)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Preferred, Realtors  
734-459-6000

**Northville 3280**  
**LOOK NO FURTHER**  
LR/DR/den, entertaining-sized kitchen, walkout basement, and so much more. \$459,900 (098CA)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Preferred, Realtors  
734-459-6000

**Redford 3350**  
**Meticulously Maintained**  
2 bed/1 bath fully furnished home with new furnace & new central air, finished basement and one car detached garage. Appliances incl. All this and more for only \$29,500. MLS #28040881, 16636 Wormer Linda Abraham (248) 628-4711

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Shoelitz Realty  
248-628-4711

**Open Houses 3030**  
**BIRMINGHAM OPEN 1-4, 3/15/09**  
Elegant in town location. Completely furnished 2 bdrm, 2 bath, granite/stainless steel kitchen, balcony. Birmingham Place, 411 S Old Woodward Ave. D&H Properties, (248) 888-9133

**Canton 3080**  
**GREAT CANTON COLONIAL**  
4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, maple kitchen, fresh paint, neutral carpet, bsmt, 3 car garage, & patio. \$299,900 (540SP)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Preferred, Realtors  
734-459-6000

**Canton 3080**  
**RARE OFFERING**  
Updated Cape w/3 bdrm, 2 bath, freshly painted. Large LR, FR w/natural fireplace, kitchen w/appliances. \$155,000 (608SO)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Preferred, Realtors  
734-459-6000

**Canton 3080**  
**WOW**  
Huge mechanic's garage, newer roof/windows, 3 bdrm, oversized lot, & also for lease. \$109,900 (453FL)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Preferred, Realtors  
734-459-6000

**Plymouth 3347**  
**WALK TO DOWNTOWN**  
Nice ranch w/hardwood floors, kitchen w/appliances, sunroom overlooks backyard. \$99,900 (257HA)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Preferred, Realtors  
734-459-6000

**Wayne 3424**  
**ATTENTION FIRST TIME BUYERS**  
32640 Annapolis. 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, newly remodeled, new roof, siding, windows, flooring, oak cabinets, moved 2 car garage, approx 1200 sq. ft. Price reduced \$25,000. \$95,000 firm, \$0 down, \$0 closing cost for qualified buyers. \$7500 tax credit for 1st time home buyers.  
Call Greg (Builder): 734-891-7808

**Livonia 3250**  
**GREAT PRICE**  
3 bdrm, 3 bath ranch w/FR, Florida Room, large yard, master w/bath, basement & quiet court location. \$140,000 (997SU)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Preferred, Realtors  
734-459-6000

**Redford 3350**  
**CHARMING RANCH**  
3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, updated kitchen, part finished bsmt, 2 car garage, & also available for lease. \$114,900 (999LU)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Preferred, Realtors  
734-459-6000

**Condos 3720**  
**CANTON: SPARKLING**  
2-way fireplace in GR & kitchen, windows galore, soaring ceilings, master w/tub, pool & tennis. \$194,900 (639SC)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Preferred, Realtors  
734-459-6000

**Manufactured Homes 3740**  
**HUGE DISCOUNTS ON REPOSSESSED HOMES! EASY FINANCING AVAILABLE!**  
Call Steve @ (734) 414-9760 in Plymouth Hills

**Mobile Homes 3750**  
**WESTLAND - New carpeting**  
throughout, freshly painted, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, C/A, fridge, washer/dryer, dishwasher, disposal, gas furnace/stove, storage shed, large deck-partially covered, 2 car parking. At Westland Meadows. Avail now, \$12,000. (734) 604-8354

**Commercial/Retail For Sale 3755**  
**PLYMOUTH - Building for sale**  
on Ann Arbor Rd. 1500 SF oil change (business avail. separately), 1200 SF leased to auto repair. \$825,000, #2700584  
Bela Sipos 734-669-5813, 734-747-7888  
Reinhart Commercial...

**Lots & Acreage/Vacant 3820**  
**Put your Money in Property.**  
1 1/2 wooded acre lot in Holly Fenton area. Underground electric, gas, cable, paved road, pre-perked 7 miles from both I-23 & I-75. \$50,000. Call: 734-455-6728

**Lease/Option To Buy 3840**  
**WESTLAND**  
Land Contract Terms. 2 bdrm ranch, 2 car, fenced, \$45,000 Century 21 Dynamic 6900 North Wayne Rd. Ann Honeycutt 734-968-2636

**Business Opportunities 3900**  
**WESTLAND HAIR SALON**  
Fully equipped, 5 chairs, nail & pedicure station. Exc. location. Call for price 734-637-8585.

**Business/Professional Building 3910**  
**CANTON: GREAT BUSINESS**  
Family restaurant w/premium location. Steady income, seats 100, built in 2002. \$80,000 (380HA)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Preferred, Realtors  
734-459-6000

**Top Ten Sales Associate, Regionally, Northern Region (10 States)**  
**"Over Half Billion Sold"**  
**John Goodman**  
**"The Proven Choice" • Coldwell Banker Schweitzer**  
[www.john-goodman.com](http://www.john-goodman.com)  
**(248) 347-3050 x254 (248) 908-2799 Pager**  
**"Professional Athlete Specialist"**

**HARD TO FIND RANCH IN NORTHVILLE**  
Tons of upgrades, condo on culdesac lot backing to woods, lots of hardwood flooring, upgraded 42" maple cabs in kitchen with granite counters, 9' ceilings on first flr, part. fin. daylight ll, end unit w/huge backyard, 2 car attached garage. \$295,000 (jgctton)

**RANCH ON 30 ACRES WITH LOTS OF PRIVACY**  
Remodeled ranch w/maint. free exterior, sits on 30 acres (splits poss.), new roof w/copper valleys, lots of hardwood flrs, new elec. service, gourmet kitchen w/ granite counters, dining rm w/judges paneling, finished walkout w/driftstone fireplace, second kitchen, rec. rm., full bath. \$600,000 (jgtrandor)

**IMPECCABLE NOVI COLONIAL**  
Great colonial featuring hardwood floors in kitchen, foyer, nook & powder rm., remodeled kitchen, updated mstr. Bath, new Anderson windows, newer roof shingles, never hi-eff furnace, new entrance door, paver walk, closet organizers t/o, common pool in sub. 215,000 (jgguilt)

**SHARP & UPDATED COLONIAL ON 1.78 ACRE LOT IN NORTHVILLE**  
4 Bed/3.1 Bath, 10 ft ceilings & crown molding in living & family rms; study w/ built-ins; gourmet kitchen w/ granite counters & tumbled stone backsplash; master suite w/ cathedral ceiling; finished ll, updated landscaping; deck with stone patio; 3-car garage; sides to creek. \$425,000 (jgredoak)

**DETACHED CONDO BACKS TO WOODS**  
Gorgeous condo backs to woods w/ finished walkout, formal din rm, 2 story fam rm w/built-in speakers, 2 story liv rm, cath ceil in master, closet organizer t/o, lease w/sale option. \$350,000 (jgarbor) also \$2,500 mo lease

**UPDATED NOVI RANCH**  
Updated ranch w/3 car tandem garage, sits on premium lot w/huge fenced backyard, newer tear off roof(05), remodeled main bath, part. fin. bsmt. w/rec rm, new 6 panel doors, refaced kitchen cab's, lots of hardwood flrs, 3 car garage. \$165,000 (jg23177e)

**TOP 1% NATIONWIDE IN SALES**  
**My Success is built on Putting My Customers first**  
**Service + Dedication = Results**

### THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	5	0	4.625	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	5.125	0	4.625	0	J/A
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	5	0	4.625	0.25	J/A
BRINKS Financial	(800) 785-4755	4.875	0.5	4.5	0.375	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	5	0.25	4.5	0.375	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	5.375	0	5	0	J
Cornerstone Community Financial	(800) 777-6728	5.375	0	4.5	1	J/A/F
Countrywide Home Loans	(800) 641-2384	4.875	2	4.75	2	J/A/V/F
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	5.125	0	4.875	0	A
DFCU Financial	(800) 739-2770	5.25	2.25	4.75	2.25	J/A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	5.125	0	4.875	0	J/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	5.125	0	4.625	0	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	5.125	0	4.625	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	5.375	0	4.875	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.675	0.125	4.25	1	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	4.875	0.5	4.375	0.75	J/A
Northlawn Financial	(248) 988-8488	5.125	0	4.625	0	J/A/V/F
Shore Mortgage	(800) 678-6663	4.75	2	4.5	2	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 3/6/09 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at [www.rmcreport.com](http://www.rmcreport.com). Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032 / © 2009 Residential Mortgage Consultants, Inc., All Rights Reserved

**See what really counts...**

**Observer & Eccentric Classifieds**

**1-800-579-SELL**

# APARTMENTS

**HOMETOWNlife.com**

**4000-4980**  
Real Estate For Lease  
**4000**  
Apartments/Unfurnished

**BIRMINGHAM**  
1ST MONTH FREE  
Studios, 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms  
Furnished apartments avail.  
Gorgeous new kitchens and  
baths. Available in town  
Birmingham at the  
555 Building.  
Call Michelle (248) 645-1191

**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
23078 Middlebelt Rd.  
Spacious 1 bdrms, C/A,  
\$300 security,  
50% off first 3 months  
rent w/ approved credit.  
248-473-5180

**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
ANNIE APTS.  
NO APPLICATION FEE  
FREE HEAT! 1 bedroom  
\$505. 9 Mile/ Middlebelt.  
248-478-7489

**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
FREEDOM VILLAGE APTS.  
1 Bdrm, 1 Month Free  
Luxury 1 & 2 bdrm. Laundry  
in unit. Water incl. no pets.  
\$565-700/mo. 586-254-9511

**FARMINGTON MANOR APTS.**  
Deluxe studio & 1 bedroom,  
carport. \$300 security,  
50% off first 3 months  
with approved credit.  
(248) 888-0868

**FARMINGTON PLAZA APTS**  
Luxury 2 bdrms, A/C, pool &  
parking. New kitchen & baths,  
laundry rooms, heat incl.  
\$650/mo. Call for specials.  
(248) 478-8722

**FIVE, FIVE, FIVE**  
1ST MONTH FREE  
Studios, 1 & 2 Bedrooms  
Furnished apartments avail.  
Gorgeous new kitchens  
and baths. Available in town  
Birmingham at the  
555 Building.  
Call Michelle (248) 645-1191

**GARDEN CITY**  
Very nice 1 bedroom avail,  
\$450/mo. \$1075 Krauter.  
Call: (313) 384-6029

**LIFESTYLES FOR RENT**  
Explore villagegreen.com  
Furnished / Unfurnished -  
Short Term / Long Term

**LINCOLN PARK**, Lowest rent  
in the area, Deluxe 1 & 2 bed-  
rooms, quiet, safe, balconies.  
(313) 386 6720

**LIVONIA**  
Mid 5/Middlebelt, 1 & 2 bdrm  
w/laundry room in unit. 50%  
off first 2 months with  
approved credit. \$895/mo.  
248-521-1978

**LIVONIA** Upper flat, 3 bdrm,  
no pets, immed. occup.  
\$650/mo. + sec. dep. & util-  
ities. 734-788-1643

Relocate your  
home by  
3/31/09  
and receive  
up to **\$9,000\***  
bonus cash, and  
**\$299** site rent  
for 3 years!  
Call TODAY!  
888-268-7434  
Academy West Point  
www.academywestpoint.com  
\*Annual market increases apply. Site rent  
return to full market rate in 6th year. Home  
must satisfy community move-in  
requirements. EHO.

**4000**  
Apartments/Unfurnished  
Novi  
**WESTGATE VI**  
Apartments  
**LIMITED TIME OFFER**  
Starting @ \$505  
With Move In  
By 4/30/09  
\* Carport Included  
\* Storage In Unit  
\* Call for Daily  
Specials  
**CALL NOW!**  
(248) 624-8555  
On West Park Dr.  
Just S. of Pontiac Tr.  
www.cmpproperties.net  
\*Select Models

**NOVI**  
**2 BEDROOMS FOR  
THE PRICE OF ONE!**  
Newly updated 1 & 2 bdrm  
apts. New berber carpet, new  
cherry flooring, 1135/wk. incl.  
washer/dryer, central air. EHO  
**TREE TOP MEADOWS**  
10 Mile, W. of Meadowbrook  
248-348-9590  
www.BGcommunities.com

**NOVI-MAIN STREET AREA.**  
1 & 2 Bdrm Apts. Washer/  
Dryer, Private Entrance &  
Balcony. 248-348-0626 EHO

**PLYMOUTH**  
1 Bdrm. \$575. 2 Bdrm. \$670  
First month free w/approved  
credit. W/ 1 yr. lease. Walk-in  
closets. (734) 455-1215

**PLYMOUTH - Prime location.**  
1 bdrm avail, \$580 plus secu-  
rity. Near downtown. Incl.  
heat. No dogs. 734-455-2635

**PLYMOUTH**  
1 Bdrm  
**\$300 Moves You In!**  
Washer/dryer included!  
Private entry/patio  
Single story, attic storage  
Bring your dog!  
\*Call for details  
(734) 459-6640 EHO

**PLYMOUTH-SHELDON PARK**  
Spacious 1 Bdrm Units, \$550.  
\$300 Security, 50% off 1st 4  
Months Rent with good credit!  
Call: (734) 453-8811

**Westland**  
Estates  
**"WOW"**  
One  
Bedrooms  
from \$475  
No fine print in this ad!  
Heat/Water included  
-\$200 Application Fee,  
-\$200 Deposit w/ Credit  
**New Resident's Only**  
734-722-4700  
734-444-7066  
Mon.-Fri. 10-9pm  
Sat. Sun. 10-4pm

**WESTLAND** Beautifully rem-  
odeled, 1 bdrm, appl, private  
porches & drive, \$475 + sec.  
inc. heat/water. 734-726-7427

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THE  
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Studios starting at \$399  
1 bdrms starting at \$499  
Limited Time Offer  
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**WESTLAND**  
1 bdrm w/appliances.  
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**WESTLAND**  
2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, close to  
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**4000**  
Apartments/Unfurnished  
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Hickory Woods Apts.  
\*\* \$224 \*\*  
MOVES YOU IN!  
(for qualified applicants)  
1 Bdrm. - \$550  
2 Bdrm. - \$600  
FREE GAS AND WATER  
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**Westland Park Apts.**  
**LOOK**  
**FREE RENT**  
13th month Free and  
Reduced Rate  
2 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath,  
\$565, 936 Sq. Ft.  
1 Bdrm, \$490,  
728 Sq. Ft.  
\$200 Security Deposit  
Heat and Water Incl  
(New residents only  
with approved credit)  
No Pets, C/A, Vertical  
Blinds, Intercom.  
Appliances include  
dishwasher.  
Very clean Apartments  
Excellent Maintenance  
(734) 729-6636

**Westland**  
VENOY PINES APTS.  
Rent Starting  
at \$449  
• 1 & 2 bedroom apts.  
with fireplace.  
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**Westland-LIVONIA SCHOOLS**  
1 & 2 bdrm, 2 baths.  
Washer & dryer.  
Private entrance & balcony  
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1st fl., 2 bdrm, 2 bath,  
attached gar, patio, gas fire-  
place. \$1000 248-601-9111

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1 Bedroom - \$485/mo.  
Walk-in Closets  
Newburgh Colonial Apts.  
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**4020**  
Condos/Townhouses  
**BIRMINGHAM - DOWNTOWN**  
2 bdrm townhouse, 1.5 bath,  
hardwood floors, a/c, bsmt,  
washer/dryer. No pets, non-  
smoking. \$1100/mo.  
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**NOVI** - 3 bdrm, 1 bath ranch  
condo. C/A, appliances incl  
washer/dryer, carport, pool &  
patio, Pergo carpet & fresh  
paint, no pets/smoking, 9 Mile  
& Haggerty area. \$950/mo.  
Call: (248) 739-0204

**SOUTHFIELD** All new 2 bdrm,  
2 bath ranch condo. Carport,  
c/a, appliances, pool 1300 sq.  
ft. \$1099/mo. 248-346-6108.

**WESTLAND** 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath,  
bsmt, garage, A/C, pool. Ford  
& Hix area. \$900/mo. Incl.  
water. 248-388-2203

**WESTLAND** 2 bdrm, 1 bath  
duplex, near elementary,  
fridge/stove, new carpet &  
paint, \$650/mo. Sec 8 wel-  
come. Greg: (734) 934-2724

**Westland - Norwayne**  
**FREE RENT!**  
2 bdrm. \$600 total move-in.  
For apt. 734-968-2636

**LIVONIA** - 5 Mile/Farmington.  
Lower luxury flat, 1 bdrm, all  
utilities incl, fully furnished.  
\$795/mo, (313) 538-2819

**BELLEVILLE LAKE** 1 or 2  
bdrm, dock, appl, quiet, 15  
min. to Ann Arbor or airport.  
\$875 or \$935. 734-274-0625

**BIRMINGHAM**, 1 bdrm condo,  
\$695/mo. Also 3 bdrm bungal-  
ow, \$1140/mo. Both hard-  
wood floors. 248-252-3863

**Dearborn Heights/Southfield**  
3 bdrm houses, new con-  
struction, \$895 & \$945 + uti-  
lities & sec. No sec 8. Pets ok  
Call after 5pm. 248-737-1795

**DETROIT** - 18971 Westbrook,  
2 bedroom, basement, 7 mile  
& Lasher, \$500/mo.  
Call: (248) 476-6498

**SHARP** - 6 Mile & Telegraph  
Street 2 bdrm Ranch,  
basement, \$575/mo. 16580  
Woodbine. (248) 476-6498

**REDFORD (S.)** Completely  
remodeled 3 bdrm, 2 bath,  
c/a, w/fenced yard, \$850/mo.  
313-319-7266

**REDFORD** - 7 & Inkster, 18441  
Poinciana, 3 bdrm, basement.  
\$825/mo, Ravine Lot.  
Call: (248) 476-6498

**REDFORD**  
Lg. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, attached  
gar, full bsmt, all new, double  
lot. \$975/mo. (248) 535-2300

**4050**  
Homes For Rent  
**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
Totally remodeled 3 bdrm &  
garage, sidewalks, fenced  
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galow, bsmt, immed occup,  
option to buy avail, bad credit  
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**LIVONIA** - Small, clean 3  
bdrm, all appliances, no bsmt,  
no garage. \$700/mo + sec.  
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**LIVONIA** 2 bdrm, appliances,  
fireplace, garage, large yard,  
no pets, \$850/mo + sec.  
Call: 734-425-7355

**LIVONIA** 2 bdrm, garage,  
clean, appliances. \$750 + sec.  
734-223-6523

**LIVONIA** 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath,  
2500 sq. ft., hot tub in  
master bdrm,  
near schools, no  
pets. \$1200/mo.  
313-522-4769

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1000 sq. ft., appliances. Lg.  
backyard. \$950/mo.  
(248) 342-0314

**NORTHVILLE**  
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\$800/mo.  
248-921-7161

**PLYMOUTH** - 3 bdrm brick  
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gar, bsmt, fireplace, appl.  
\$1250/mo. 734-455-0391

**PLYMOUTH** 2 bdrm ranch,  
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tiable, \$780/mo.  
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**PLYMOUTH** Spacious 2 bdrm,  
1.5 bath w/bsmt. \$700. 233  
West Spring. Credit & securi-  
ty. 734-674-3193

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3 bdrm bungalow, remodeled,  
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\$950 sec. (313) 407-9437

**Redford (S.)** Completely  
remodeled 3 bdrm, 2 bath,  
c/a, w/fenced yard, \$850/mo.  
313-319-7266

**Redford** - 7 & Inkster, 18441  
Poinciana, 3 bdrm, basement.  
\$825/mo, Ravine Lot.  
Call: (248) 476-6498

**Redford**  
Lg. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, attached  
gar, full bsmt, all new, double  
lot. \$975/mo. (248) 535-2300

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Homes For Rent  
**TROY** - 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath col-  
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March 1. Call: (248) 709-0201

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fenced, option, bad credit  
okay, \$750. (248) 788-1823

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bsmt, 2.5 car gar, attached  
workshop, fenced, deck, A/C,  
no appliances, no pets, \$1000  
+ \$1500 sec. (734) 722-4317

**WESTLAND** 2 Bdrm, new car-  
pet, fenced yard, 1.5 car gar.  
No appliances/no pets. \$650/  
mo. \$975 sec. (734) 722-4317

**WESTLAND** 2364 Ackley - 3  
Bdrms. Spacious room  
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**WESTLAND** 2364 Ackley. 3  
bdrm spacious home.  
\$695/mo. 248-557-6107.

**WESTLAND** 3 bdrm ranch.  
Finished bsmt,  
attached garage,  
fenced yard. Close to schools,  
nice area. \$875. 248-425-0200

**WESTLAND** Ford/1-275 area.  
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ranch, c/a, carpet, bsmt, no  
pets. \$900/mo. 734-591-9163

**WESTLAND** - Livonia Schools,  
3 bdrm, brick ranch, 2.5 car  
oversized garage. C/A option.  
\$850, (248) 788-1823

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Share** **4120**

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cable, internet. 813-205-9926

**Living Quarters To  
Share** **4120**

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Share** **4120**

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Share** **4120**

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Share** **4120**

**4120**  
Living Quarters To  
Share  
**LIVONIA** Full house privileges,  
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Call after 5pm.

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Mi & Beech. 248-225-4063

**WESTLAND** - Cherry Hill &  
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**CANTON** - Master bdrm suite  
w/private bath, \$460/mo. Full  
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cable included. 313-319-2523

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Room for rent in my private  
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**INKSTER CHERRY HILL AREA**  
Want mature male, private, lg-  
up furnished room/bath,  
A/C, \$95/wk + \$200 sec. dep.  
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**LIVONIA SUNRISE STUDIOS**  
\$159/wk. A/C Deluxe Rms,  
TV/Phone/HBO, Low Rates.  
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**5000-5980**  
**Employment Instruction Services**

Help Wanted-General 5000

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE OFFICER**

Covenant House Michigan serving homeless & at-risk youth in Detroit has an opening for a Full time Academic Excellence Officer to work with three schools on curriculum management, academic excellence and meeting state standards at all levels. Master's degree in Education and a minimum of three years experience in a school setting required. Salary commensurate with exp + excellent benefits.

Please send resume and cover letter with salary requirements to:  
 Attn: HR, CHM, 2959 Martin Luther King Blvd, Detroit, MI 48208. Fax: 313-463-2222. No phone calls please. EOE

**Accountant**

Large Wholesale Food Distributor. GL, Payroll, A/P, A/R, Inventory, etc. Management experience required. Email resume to: Resumes@parsicecream.com

**Accounting Manager**

Large Wholesale Food Distributor. GL, Payroll, A/P, A/R, Inventory, etc. Management experience required. Email resume to: Resumes@parsicecream.com

**APPOINTMENT SETTER**

Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pickups for Purple Heart. Call 9-5, M-F. 734-728-4572

**CABINET MAKER & LAMINATOR**

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Help Wanted-General 5000

**Circle Me \$14.25 Base-Appt**

Growing USA Company, flex hours, great for students, second income, homemakers, we train. Call Today: 248-426-0636/ 517-333-1700

**Dental Assistant**

Experienced dental assistant needed 4 days a week in Farmington Hills. Quality oriented dental office, surgical assisting experience important as well as restorative dentistry experience. Please respond via fax to 248-626-5023 or call 248-891-1075 and leave best available times to contact

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\$8.20 wages & benefits. Must be trained/valid license. 313-255-6295

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

**DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

Covenant House Michigan -serving homeless & at-risk youth in Detroit has an opening for a Full time Director of Educational Services responsible as overseeing three schools, supervising three administrators and managing all academic expectations for the schools. Must have 5 years administrative experience at high school level, preferably in alternative education, Masters degree in Education required along with knowledge of curriculum management. Salary commensurate with exp + excellent benefits.

**DUCT CLEANERS, Part-Time**

Any trade experience considered. Must be able to travel. (248) 347-9170

Help Wanted-General 5000

**EDUCATION MANAGER**

International association seeks a motivated, dynamic professional to head our education division. Successful candidate will be highly results-oriented with exemplary skills in leadership, program development and administration, meeting planning, volunteer management, budget oversight, communications & editing. Exp. in business-to-business education and nonprofit management a plus. Great potential for advancement with demonstrated excellence in managerial proficiency, departmental initiatives and best practices.

Email resume to: cheims@hinfo.org or fax to: 734-522-0200

**FINANCIAL ANALYST**

Small to medium sized, multi-state manufacturing company located in western Wayne County is recruiting for a Financial Analyst. Responsibilities will include assisting with monthly closing, subsidiary ledger reconciliation, prepare ad hoc reports, internal control development, sales reporting, analyzing variances, compute margin analysis and assisting with the planning/budgeting function. The ideal candidate will have 5+ years related experience in a manufacturing environment and a Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance. Must have MS Office and accounting software experience. Experience in SAP financials would be preferred. Travel will be required. We offer a competitive benefits package including Medical, Dental, 401K, Profit Sharing and Life Insurance.

Please send resume and salary requirements to: E-mail: hr25@coconfidential.com Please include attn: Financial Analyst in the subject line of your email. EOE

**FOOD SERVICES**

Elementary Money Handler/ 2 Hours Per Day Posting closes March 24, 2009 Apply on line at http://wvcsd.net or come to the Human Resources Dept. to access the online application system at Wayne-Westland Community Schools 36745 Marquette, Westland -EOE-

Help Wanted-General 5000

**Hair, Nails & other services**

BELLA MENTE Clientele preferred. Apply: 8080 Merriman, Westland. 734-293-5159

**Hotel FRONT DESK CLERK**

Needed 4 days, 3-11pm. Candidate with previous hotel experience. Must have dynamic customer service skills. We offer competitive starting wage, a great work environment and travel discounts. Apply in person: Best Western Greenfield Inn 3000 Enterprise Dr, Allen Park

**Landscape/Lawn Cutting, Crew leaders, Asst. Crew Leaders & Laborers**

Driver's license a plus. Send brief resume: Landscape Consult. PO Box9, Dearborn Hts, MI 48127

**LEASING CONSULTANT**

For retirement community in Westland. Enthusiastic, pleasant, energetic, a real go-getter. Training provided. Full-time with Saturdays. Compensation includes benefits and 401K. Fax resume to 734-729-9840 Equal Opportunity Employer

**MAINTENANCE & PACKAGING TECHNICIANS**

Ideal candidates will be team oriented and willing to learn all aspects of our Plymouth, MI operation.

**Production Technician:**

1+ yrs experience with high speed automated filling and packaging equipment.

**Maintenance Technician:**

Ideal candidates will have 2+ years experience repairing and maintaining high speed filling and packaging equipment. Strong mechanical and electrical troubleshooting skills required. Allen Bradley PLC experience a plus. Technical certification or degree preferred.

**Benefit package includes:**

- Competitive Wage
- Medical/Dental/Life Ins.
- 401K/Profit Sharing
- Paid vacations/holidays/birthdays

Send resume via e-mail to: hr25@coconfidential.com EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000

**MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR**

Property Management Co. seeking an HVAC certified Maintenance Technician. Apartment Maint. Exp. preferred. Fax resume to: 248-799-5497

**MANAGER for dry cleaners**

Must have full knowledge of plant operations and possess excellent customer service skills. Willing to train candidate with some dry cleaning experience. Call 734-591-6166

**Manager for Group Home**

Dearborn Heights \$910/BI-Weekly Salary Direct Care Staff Livonia, Inkster, Farmington Hills, Plymouth, Milford, Dearborn Hts, Lake Orion, Waterford, CLS-MORC-Wayne Center-Training Required. Enhance, Inc. 248-919-4287 x200 Resume: jobs@enhance-inc.com

**WATER METER REPAIRER II CITY OF LIVONIA**

For complete information visit our website at: www.ci.livonia.mi.us or apply in person at Livonia City Hall, 3rd floor, 33000 Civic Center Dr. Livonia, MI 48154 E.O.E. M/F/H

**WINDOW CLEANERS**

Great Hours/Great Pay. Must have own vehicle. Must be avail Mon-Sat. Paid training. (734) 453-9727

**A/P Clerk needed for Multi state Developer**

Successful candidates must be fluent in computers with a strong skill set in working with MS Excel application. A Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, knowledge of AIA documents, construction accounting knowledge, lien waiver experience is required. Candidate must be able to multi-task. Exp. using Timberline & or MRI preferred. Duties require a self-starter who is highly organized and has the ability to work well independently. We offer competitive compensation package.

**PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION**

Sat. accelerated classes beg. April/May, 10-4pm. Garden City & Troy, \$925, Incl. book. (313) 382-3857

**RECEPTIONIST**

Veterinary experienced only need apply!! Full-time. Apply at: Strong Veterinary Hospital 29212 Five Mile, Livonia.

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Veterinary experienced only need apply!! Full-time. Apply at: Strong Veterinary Hospital 29212 Five Mile, Livonia.

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Veterinary experienced only need apply!! Full-time. Apply at: Strong Veterinary Hospital 29212 Five Mile, Livonia.

**DENTAL ASST CHAIRSIDE**

Full Time, For large service oriented Livonia practice providing comprehensive care. Exp. in all phases of general dentistry. Computer proficiency preferred. Excellent communication and organizational skills, ability for learning new techniques a must. Call: (734) 462-6400 or Fax resume to (734) 462-6405

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Help Wanted-General 5000

**PROPERTY MANAGER**

With exp. presentation, organization, sales/leasing and proven management skills for 100+ unit luxury apt. community. Responsible for all aspects of leasing purchase & work orders, general office & residential retention. Coordinate w/vendors/staff to make units ready for occupancy. Submit resume w/salary requirements/job references: pm.apps@hotmail.com

**Water Meter Repairer II CITY OF LIVONIA**

For complete information visit our website at: www.ci.livonia.mi.us or apply in person at Livonia City Hall, 3rd floor, 33000 Civic Center Dr. Livonia, MI 48154 E.O.E. M/F/H

**WINDOW CLEANERS**

Great Hours/Great Pay. Must have own vehicle. Must be avail Mon-Sat. Paid training. (734) 453-9727

**Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020**

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Successful candidates must be fluent in computers with a strong skill set in working with MS Excel application. A Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, knowledge of AIA documents, construction accounting knowledge, lien waiver experience is required. Candidate must be able to multi-task. Exp. using Timberline & or MRI preferred. Duties require a self-starter who is highly organized and has the ability to work well independently. We offer competitive compensation package.

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**RESPIRATORY THERAPIST**

Home Care, P/T, FT Flexible hours. Visiting patients is required. Call 800-248-2229 Fax: 800-552-9443 or email: amsdme@sbcglobal.net

**RN & OT**

For home care visits in downriver & Wayne County area. Excellent per visit rate. Call Ladonna for details: (248) 262-2200

**Help Wanted-Dental 6040**

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Full Time, For large service oriented Livonia practice providing comprehensive care. Exp. in all phases of general dentistry. Computer proficiency preferred. Excellent communication and organizational skills, ability for learning new techniques a must. Call: (734) 462-6400 or Fax resume to (734) 462-6405

**Help Wanted-Medical 6060**

**MEDICAL ASSISTANT, PT**

Livonia podiatry office. Resumes accepted until Mar. 17 at: footdoctor@mi.rr.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

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RNs • LPNs • EMTs • Case Managers • Receptionists • Dental Assistants • Respiratory Therapist • Medical Assistants • Nurse Managers • Psychologists • Medical Biller • And more!

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Michigan's fastest growing window & siding co. has openings in the Canvassing Dept. Westland area. Clean-cut, responsible, motivated individuals. Full-time only. Base + commission. Only serious applicants apply. Dave: 734-271-5911 Brett: 734-306-1194

**Door to Door Cable TV, Internet, Telephone Sales**

Fast track to success with \$300/wk. starting base/ \$50K+ potential & advancement opportunities. Full training supplied with a great professional and supportive staff. Filing exp'd. technical positions also. Call 1-800-835-5443 ext: 106 or 119 or email resumes to: Cablesales@comcast.net

**Finance & Insurance Sales Executive**

Large established insurance agency looking for a Finance & Insurance Account Executive for automotive division. Looking for: Finance Directors, Business Managers, GM's, Sales/Service Reps from F & I Agencies. Must possess: A Current book of business, Strong understanding of F & I, aggressive sales professional, eager to make cold calls! Generous commissions, incentives, with unlimited earning potential. No more retail hours, work from home, support/service staff provided. Expenses paid. Please send resumes to: contact@rcwa.net

**Landscape Sales and Design, FT**

21 yr. Landscape Co. seeks exp'd. Sales Professional. Must have proven design skills 7-10 yrs proven Landscape Sales exp. Base plus generous commission. Email resume to: EBauer@baldwin-gonyer.com

**LEASING CONSULTANT**

Property Management Co. seeking leasing consultant. Must have great communication skills and computer experience. Experience preferred. Immediate opening. Fax resume only to 734-455-7107

**Help Wanted-Parl-Time 6200**

**AVON REP CAREER OPPORTUNITIES!**

Needed now! Call Dist. Mgr. 866-838-AVON (2866)

**Help Wanted-Domestic 6240**

**Housekeeper/ Cook: Live-in**

Mon-Fri. Seeking female w/exp. in luxury home. Resume to Cindy, Harper Associates. Fax: 248-932-1214 cindy@harperjobs.com Phone: 248-932-3662

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

**Automotive Sales "We pay for and expect the Best"**

Now interviewing for New and Pre-owned Sales Associates to join our team. Apply in person at: DICK SCOTT NISSAN 42175 Michigan Ave, Canton

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Large established insurance agency looking for a Finance & Insurance Account Executive for automotive division. Looking for: Finance Directors, Business Managers, GM's, Sales/Service Reps from F & I Agencies. Must possess: A Current book of business, Strong understanding of F & I, aggressive sales professional, eager to make cold calls! Generous commissions, incentives, with unlimited earning potential. No more retail hours, work from home, support/service staff provided. Expenses paid. Please send resumes to: contact@rcwa.net

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**Housekeeper/ Cook: Live-in**

Mon-Fri. Seeking female w/exp. in luxury home. Resume to Cindy, Harper Associates. Fax: 248-932-1214 cindy@harperjobs.com Phone: 248-932-3662

Help Wanted-Domestic 6240

**LIVE-IN CARE for 2 seniors**

Nursing experience required. Light housekeeping duties. Send letter/resume with 3 references. metrolivem@aol.com or call: 610-217-5170

**Position Wanted 6340**

**CAREGIVER**

13 yrs experience, hourly rate negotiable, very reliable with references. Call 248-705-0629

**ENERGETIC RETIREE**

wants work. Former auto engineer, any opportunity considered. References. Respond to: readyforemployment@gmail.com

**I AM A HOUSEKEEPER**

Looking to do housekeeping work. 20 yrs. exp. Exc. reference. Sharon: (734) 564-5922

**Needling in Home Care?**

Flexible, affordable, & dependable. 20 yrs. experience. 313-952-2745

**Childcare/Baby-Sitting Services**

RELIABLE, RESPONSIBLE 19 year old Wishes to babysit in your home. Call Andrea 313-724-8571

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# Some Hybrid Buyers Prefer Luxury Labels, Old Reliables

Advertising Feature

## CAReport



By Dale Buss

The hybrid market is ebbing as gasoline prices stay at or near \$2 a gallon, and as the rough economy makes it impractical even for the greenest-minded buyers to justify shelling out another several thousand dollars to buy a hybrid powertrain over what its conventional counterpart would cost.

Nevertheless, the number of available hybrid models is exploding, and the market is fracturing so that there are a handful of different hybrid vehicles available for consideration by buyers with a variety of criteria.

Last week, we looked at genuine fuel-sippers such as the 2010 Ford Fusion and the 2010 Toyota Prius, as well as relatively powerful hybrids such as the GMC Sierra and Chevrolet Tahoe.

This week, in the conclusion of this series, we'll examine three other categories:

### Luxury Labels

**2009 Cadillac Escalade.** This vehicle could well emerge as the poster child for the reasons that Congress and the American people have been holding their noses about bailing out GM. It's a self-indulgent vehicle — also plastered heavily with the word "hybrid" — featuring touches such as power running boards which certainly make it a Cadillac. But why does it bother being a hybrid? The two-wheel-drive model's 20-mpg combined fuel-economy rating is only five miles a gallon better than that of the regular Escalade, and it is tied for the worst hybrid mileage of any

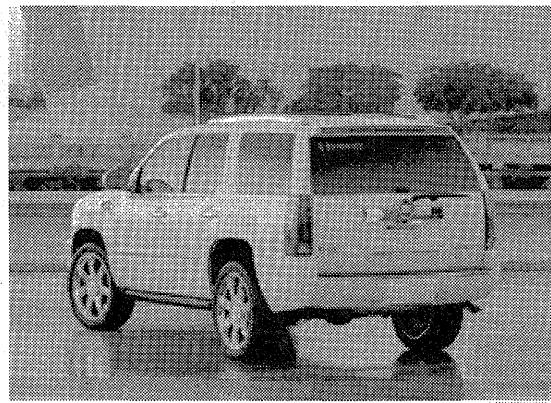
vehicle rated by the EPA. *Base MSRP: About \$72,000.*

**2009 Lexus 600h.** These economically depressed days may not be the best times for Toyota's luxury division to hope to sell a flagship hybrid. But if you're still, somehow, in the market for a \$100K-plus vehicle, you could do a lot worse. The vehicle features the company's usual exquisite craftsmanship and seamless, taut ride. And it mates a powerful V8 engine with a hybrid powertrain to deliver 12-cylinder performance of European rivals — without devouring all that gasoline. Yet the 600h's mileage is actually worse than its nonhybrid counterpart's! *Base MSRP: About \$106,000.*

**2010 BMW X6 ActiveHybrid.** This vehicle will be representative of the first wave of German luxury hybrids that will begin arriving in the U.S. market later this year, at the same time that the same brands also are bringing over clean-diesel models to compete with hybrids — theirs and others'. BMW is estimating a 20-percent mileage improvement compared with its standard X6. Within the next two years, also expect to see the BMW 7 Series ActiveHybrid and the Audi Q5 Hybrid. *Base MSRP: Not available.*

### Old Reliables

**2009 Ford Escape.** This SUV is what passes for an oldie but a goodie in the hybrid business. Ford introduced the first hybrid ute in 2005, and the latest model of Escape is still the mileage champ, at 34 mpg in the city and



The Cadillac Escalade Hybrid gets better mileage, but its amenities are really what stand out.

For more than \$100,000, the Lexus 600h L gives you a 12-cylinder feeling.



31 mpg on the highway. Escape boasts a slightly larger engine than in the previous model and relies on 20 more horsepower. Braking also offers an improved transition between electric- and gasoline-powered modes. *Base MSRP: About \$30,000.*

**2009 Toyota Highlander.** The hybrid version of this full-size SUV asks buyers to plunk down a remarkable premium over the gas-powered version of more than \$10,000 — which would take about 18 years to repay in gasoline-purchase savings. But its sheer size, and mileage of 27 mpg in the city and 25 on the highway, make it worth consideration if you have SUV needs. Maximum cargo capacity is an ample 94 cubic feet. US News & World Report, at least ranks, it as the most affordable midsize SUV of all types. *Base MSRP: About \$35,000.*

### Don't-Look-News

**2009 Chrysler Aspen.** The hybrid version of the regular Aspen is disappointingly dull. But that won't be a concern of consumers much longer, because as part of its survival

mode, the company already announced that it plans to discontinue Aspen as well as its sibling Dodge Durango, and their hybrid versions. *Base MSRP: About \$46,000.*

**2009 Chevrolet Malibu.** The conventional version of the Malibu has been a great success for GM from the time it launched less than two years ago. But the hybrid is a pale imitation, employing a mild-hybrid powertrain that (like its Saturn Aura sibling) generates only a 4-mpg improvement compared with the standard four-cylinder powertrain. *Base MSRP: About \$26,000.*

**2009 Nissan Altima.** It handles nicely and goes from zero to 60 in 7.5 seconds, fastest of the mainstream hybrid sedans. Yet why bother? Nissan's only hybrid so far doesn't even use its own powertrain technology — it's borrowed from Toyota. And good luck trying to find it around here anyway: The midsize sedan is sold only in California and seven East Coast states. *Base MSRP: About \$27,000.*

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Here's My **CARD**

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Learn more about our caring programs, volunteer, and employment opportunities:  
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**Home & Service Guide**

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