

PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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PIPELINE

Scholar dollars

Need help with those college bills? The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County has a suggestion: Submit an application for its \$1,000 scholarship that will be awarded in June. Applicants must be a United States citizen and college student entering the third or fourth year of undergraduate studies.

They also must live in the league's service area of Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Redford, Wayne, Westland and the Wayne County portion of Northville as well as attend a Michigan college or university where they are majoring in government, political science or public policy.

Additional information and the scholarship application can be found at the League's Web site at www.lwvww.org. Click on 2009 Scholarship Application. The deadline is April 17.

In session

If you've ever wanted to see your county government in action, you'll have a chance Tuesday, April 14, when the Wayne County Commission will hold a full board meeting in Westland.

The commission will meet in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford, west of Wayne Road, at 10 a.m.

According to commission Chairman Edward A. Boike Jr., the meeting will serve as the commission's annual equalization meeting.

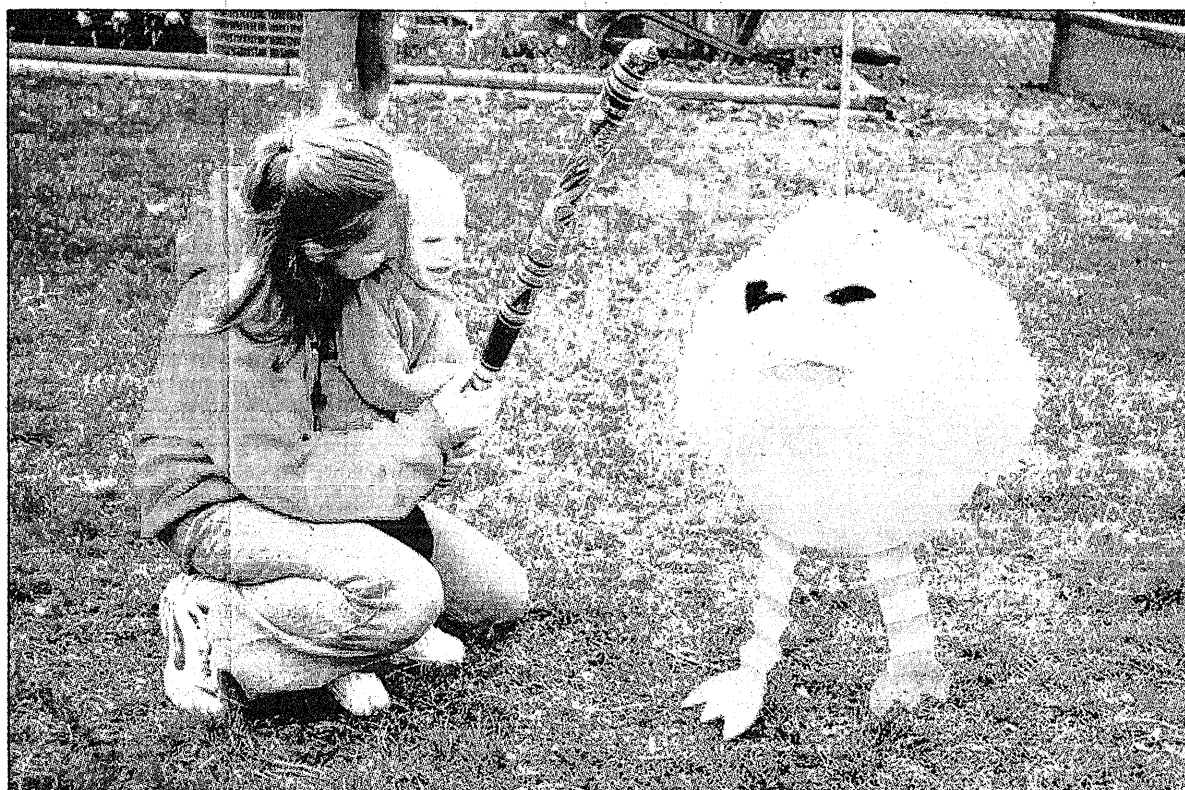
Taxed payers

A group describing themselves as a "bunch of ticked off taxpayers" is organizing a Tax Day Tea Party in Kellogg Park 3-5 p.m. Wednesday, April 15.

Organizers said the event will feature speakers, music, drama and a sign rally.

"I think our country will be very surprised on the 16th at the huge numbers of citizens showing up to declare their outrage at what is going on in America right now," organizer Sharon Lollo said in an e-mail to the *Observer*.

Pinata adds to family's Easter tradition



Carly Stevenson, left, and Joey Krul both of Plymouth, approach the Easter pinata created by Michele Adams of Plymouth.

Church still comes first

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Like so many other people, the main focus of the Easter observance for Michele Adams and the rest of her family is traditionally church.

They spent Thursday and Friday in church, they used Saturday to bless Easter baskets, and they were at Mass today (Sunday) for Easter Sunday services.

But Adams and her family — including nine nieces and nephews — also celebrated another tradition Sunday when the youngsters in her family broke into the Easter pinata Adams has created for them the last seven or eight years.

"We're a Polish heritage family, so our biggest tradition revolves around church," said Adams, a Plymouth resident. "This (pinata) was just something fun to do for the kids on Easter Sunday, something for the joy of the day."

Adams said she gets "the really big balloons" from a balloon specialty shop, then papier-mâché it, covers it in plain white paper and a clear acrylic coating, then makes it look like "a big, huge Easter egg."

One year, she made it look like a baby chick sitting in the bottom of an egg; most years, it's an Easter egg. Adams said she fills the pinata with Easter candy and toys (some from dollar stores, others bought the year before in after-Easter sales).

The nieces and nephews help Adams with the decorating.

"I love my Auntie Michele because she makes these very fun pinatas," said 7-year-old niece Emilie Stevenson of Plymouth. "We get to help put goodies inside and make the pinata."

This year, the kids will be smacking it with an authentic pinata bat brought back to Adams by her niece,



Carly Stevenson (Plymouth), Joey Krul (Plymouth), Ryan Sheesley (Milford), Michele Adams (Plymouth), Emilie Stevenson (Plymouth), Jonathan Sheesley (Milford), Noah Sheesley (Milford) and Dillon Stevenson (Plymouth) pose with two of Michele Adams' Easter creations.



Emilie Stevenson, 7, of Plymouth, takes a whack at the Easter pinata created last year by her aunt, Michele Adams, also of Plymouth. Adams has been doing the pinatas for about eight years.

19-year-old Sophie Stevenson, a Madonna University student who was in Mexico on a mission trip.

And swinging the bat will provide the children some entertainment — after the main reason for the weekend has been observed.

"This is a time of great joy in the church, and that's where our main focus is," Adams said. "This (pinata) is just something fun to do with the kids."

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

1 suspect arraigned, 1 still loose

Court sets prelim for township suspect; city still searching

Raymond Ivey, the 40-year-old Plymouth man accused of trying to rob the Comerica Bank branch on Ann Arbor Road Tuesday, was arraigned in 35th District Court in Plymouth Thursday on one count of armed robbery.

Ivey was scheduled to be back in 35th District Court for an April 17 preliminary hearing. He is being held at the Wayne County Jail.

Ivey is charged with entering the Comerica Bank around 3:30 Tuesday afternoon, threatening to rob the bank and hinting he possessed a bomb. Bank security officials notified Plymouth Township police, who arrested Ivey as he left the bank.

Ivey allegedly issued "verbal threats to rob the bank," according to Lt. Robert Smith, the department's assistant chief of police.

"Bank security had the (suspect) on videotape and called us," Smith said. "He never showed a weapon, and we arrested him as he exited the bank."

The Michigan State Police bomb squad was called in to examine a bag allegedly possessed by Ivey. No explosives were found. No one was injured during the incident.

IN THE CITY

Meanwhile, police in the City of Plymouth are still searching for a man who took an estimated \$1,200 from the Charter One Bank branch in downtown Plymouth April 3.

Lt. Al Cox said there was only one customer in the bank, and one teller at the counter, when the man walked in. When the customer left, the man approached the teller and said he needed money, Cox said.

Please see **ROBBERIES, A9**



Plymouth police are looking for this man in connection with a robbery at the Charter One Bank branch at Penniman and Main in downtown Plymouth.

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Growing with the times, Saxton's starts 9th decade

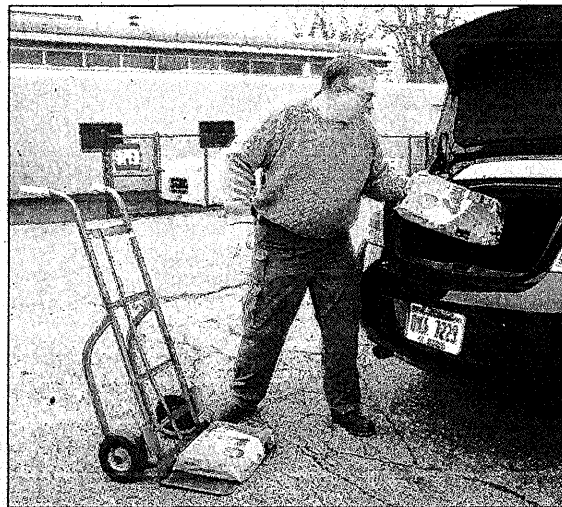
BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As venerated, decades-old companies struggle to survive a recession and a fast-changing global economy, Saxton's Garden Center is Plymouth's model of flexibility.

Founded in 1928 in Northville as a feed and grain store that catered to farmers and horse owners from the nearby racetrack, Saxton's survived the Depression, World War II, mass suburbanization, the disappearance of local farms and competition from big-box stores.

"The only thing that's absolutely, totally sure is change, and you've got to be adaptable," said 83-year-old Bill Saxton, the son of founder Dean Saxton, from his winter home in Florida one recent afternoon.

"We've been serving the community for a



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Alan Saxton loads Scott's fertilizer in a customer's car. Saxton's has been a fixture in Plymouth for more than 80 years.

Please see **SAXTON'S, A7**



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District hires food service manager

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education made the decision last month not to renew the contract of Sodexho, the district's long-time food service contractor, in favor of moving to an internal operation.

On Tuesday, the board hired veteran food-service worker Kristen Hennessey to run it.

Hennessey comes to the district from Aramark Education, a food service and facilities management company where she's worked for some 16 years.

Hennessey has served since 2005 as that company's Michigan Regional manager, overseeing 15 food service directors and some 500 Aramark and district employees.

"We're getting someone with very unique leadership abilities," said Ray Bihun, Plymouth-Canton's executive director for human resources. "What I like is she also had training at the Culinary Institute of America."

Hennessey was food service director for Wayne-Westland schools from 1999-2003 and has also worked in Farmington, Minn., and Chicago.

She's got a bachelor's degree in hospitality

and tourism management from Grand Valley State University.

Sodexho's contract with the district runs out at the end of the summer, and the board decided not to renew it, ending the company's 20-plus-year relationship with the district.

Instead, the district hired Hennessey to run the program, which produces some 1.6 million meals a year, according to James Larson-Shidler, the district's assistant superintendent for business services. While the three managers who worked in the program the longest - all of them employees of Sodexho - will no longer work there, Larson-Shidler said the 85 other food service employees who are on the district's payroll will keep their jobs.

They'll work for Hennessey, a Canton resident who grew up in Traverse City and said landing the Plymouth-Canton job "is so exciting."

"I always said when the perfect position comes up I'd love to work in this community," Hennessey told board members. "I'm excited to work with the staff, and I think we're going to do some really great work for you."

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Goal-oriented

Realtor finds silver lining in housing, opens own office

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

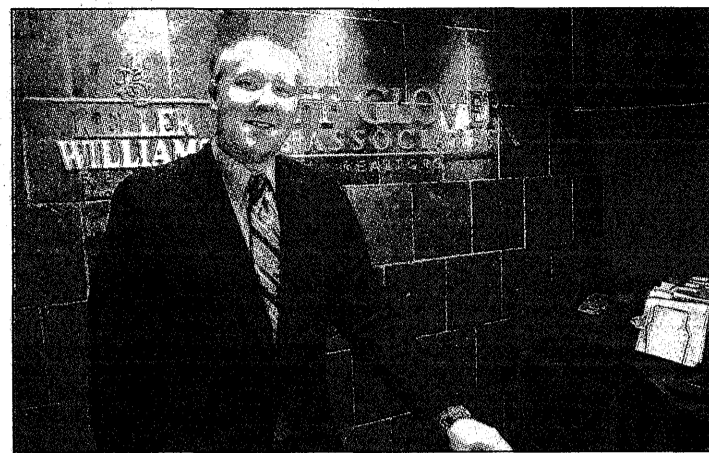
It would be an understatement to say that Jeff Glover is ambitious.

In the midst of a recession that's blamed, in large part, on the collapse of the housing market, Glover recently opened his own Keller Williams Realty office, Jeff Glover & Associates, in downtown Plymouth.

He's set high goals for himself and the nine other Realtors on his team: Sell 200 homes this year, half of them on his own. That would translate into approximately \$30 million in sales and \$900,000 in revenue.

"I just want to be the number-one agent in Michigan," said Glover, of Plymouth Township, during an interview in his Main Street office on Tuesday.

If his past is any measure, Glover has a good shot. In sales since age 16, at Circuit



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jeff Glover recently opened his own Keller Williams Realty office, Jeff Glover & Associates, in downtown Plymouth.

City, then Art Van, then in real estate, Glover spent a year as an agent at the (now closed) Century 21 Town & Country office in Plymouth before he was recruited by Coldwell Banker Schweitzer to manage a Livonia office - at age 20. He's just 24 now.

What does it take? "Goals and a burning desire to achieve them," Glover said. "Everyone says they have goals, but you've got to really want it."

Glover said he's long wanted to own and operate his own business. His goal in opening his Keller Williams office, he said, was to have his own team of agents. He is looking for a total of 30 agents; Glover prizes motivation, discipline, accountability and the willingness to be coached and follow a schedule.

"You have to do those things" in order to succeed, he said.

Glover is finding a silver lining in the housing market. With prices depressed, a lot of first-time buyers are shopping around, he said. Homeowners who can afford to upgrade but lost the equity in the homes they're selling are paying to sell - bringing checks to the closing table, he said.

After all, Glover said, spending \$20,000 to sell your house is nothing when you're going to turn around and buy a \$400,000 house that's been discounted to \$250,000.

On the flip side, however, more people are resorting to

short sales, in which the lender agrees to take a loss because the seller owes more than the house is worth, and some would-be sellers are too discouraged to continue.

"So many sellers have just given up, so they're just taking them off the market altogether," Glover said.

Glover doesn't see home prices coming up for six to nine months, but some of the housing numbers, he said, show a tightening market, which is encouraging.

For example, there are about 55,000 homes on the market in southeastern Michigan now, he said, compared to about 90,000 two years ago, though he attributed some of that drop to sellers who have given up. And about 4,400 homes a week in the area are being sold now, he said, compared to 3,700 a week two years ago.

Glover said he wants his business to be a "calming force" in the troubled housing market.

"We take this business very seriously," he said.

Glover, who grew up in Novi, is single and enjoys Detroit Red Wings and Tigers games, for which he has season tickets. He recently bought a second home - a condominium at the restored Westin Book Cadillac in downtown Detroit.

"That's going to be my week-end getaway, so to speak," he said.

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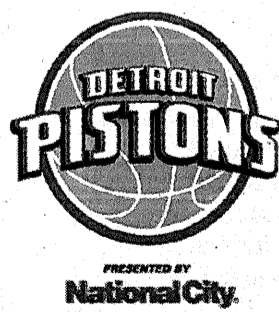
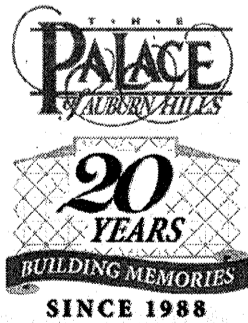
THANK ★ YOU *Jay!*

SPECIAL THANKS TO
JEFF BOUCHARD

&

Gail & Rice

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT



EDUCATION

New Morning gets 'Green' designation

New Morning School has been awarded the "Michigan Green School" designation, school officials announced this week.

To qualify, New Morning School met 10 environmentally friendly criteria set by the state. New Morning School has ramped up environmental efforts by using recycled newspapers for unique art projects and reducing paper waste through increased electronic communication. New Morning School also has a building-wide recycling program.

An energy savings program has been instituted at the school, resulting in decreased energy usage and lower bills. Students conducted energy audits using electric consumption monitors and made improvements based on their findings. For example, through these measurements, students estimated turning off school computers every night could save 30,700kW of energy and \$500 in one year.

Students at New Morning School have also brainstormed some edible "green" initiatives. The school has planned, built, and planted an organic vegetable garden. The spring planting includes spinach, radishes, and leafy greens. A second planting is anticipated in June. A school-wide compost collection program will be implemented to help provide fertilizer for the community garden.

New Morning School will be recognized along with other Michigan Green Schools at an awards ceremony in May.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

One-stop shopping

Lori Morrison, who owns Ribar Floral in Plymouth, has organized a one-day event, the Plymouth Prom and Graduation Expo, to give students a shot at deals on everything from flowers and dresses to limos and jewelry.

The event, set to take place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 26, at Ernesto's in Plymouth is open to students from any school district and features two dozen businesses with some kind of connection to a prom or graduation ceremony. Most of them are local Plymouth and Canton retailers, though others are coming from as far away as Carleton, Trenton and Grosse Pointe Woods.

There are restaurants, florists, dress shops, car dealerships and even a personal trainer. The idea, according to Morrison, is to provide students headed to prom or readying for graduation one-stop shopping potential with a shot at discounts, prizes, etc.

For instance, Ribar Floral will contribute one dollar for every corsage and boutonniere sold back to the buyer's school. Citizen's Bank is raffling off gift cards and Summit Place Kia is offering a special on cars should kids (or their parents) want to buy one as a graduation present.

Find all the details at the event's Web site at www.plymouthexpo.com or call Morrison at (734) 455-8722.

Preschool camps

Red Bell Preschool is now enrolling for Spring Break and Summer Camp 2009.

To register or for more information, visit the school's Web site at www.redbellpreschool.com or call (734) 453-5520.

Field Fun Fair

Field Elementary School's sixth annual Fun Fair is set for 5:30-9 p.m. Friday, May 1, and the public is welcome. The school is located at 1000 S. Haggerty in Canton.

Raffle tickets for \$5, prizes include \$1,000 Visa Gift Card, Lap Top, and a Weekend Getaway with Cedar Point Tickets, iTouch and gift card bundle. Raffle tickets available to purchase the evening of the event, with the drawing to be held at 8:45 p.m. Need not be present to win.

A silent auction (6-8:30 p.m.) features Tiger suite tickets, teeth whitening, cappuccino machine, and many other great donations from local area businesses. Business owners who would like to donate to the silent auction can call Sheila Smith at (734) 637-7891.

Ticket drops for opportunities to win themed baskets donated and assembled by each classroom, including Fun for Boys, Fun for Girls, Family Game/Movie Night, I Love Chocolate, I Love Scrapbooking, A Day at the Beach, Truckload of Cash, and many others.

All Saints students perform 'Stations' in 'Passion' study

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Stations of the Cross are the traditional depiction of the final hours (or Passion) of Jesus.

The object of the Stations is to help the faithful to make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer through meditation at the 14 chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death. It has become one of the most popular of Catholic devotions.

For the past nine years, seventh graders at All Saints Catholic School in Canton - which also draws students from Plymouth - have performed the "Living Stations of the Cross" as part of their study of the Passion of Christ.

The study takes K-8 students back to Jerusalem and the journey of Jesus as he carried the cross to Calvary, a hill outside Jerusalem where the crucifixion took place.

"I can really understand what pain Jesus went through, how the people reacted and what it was like for the people who loved him," said seventh-grader Erica Hammerstein, 13, of Canton. "I think I understand it more to see it happening before my eyes. It really makes me feel like I should do something to help other people see what it's like."

Patrick Otto, 13, of Canton played one of the guards who mocked Jesus and led him to his death on the cross.

"I think he went through a lot of pain and agony in getting crucified," said Otto. "He was known, but then he was more known for saving our sins."



"Guards" (from left) Logan Lazorka, Nathan Forster, Patrick Otto and Domenic Mancinelli watch over Jesus (Sam Flesher).



Students at All Saints Catholic School perform the Stations of the Cross as part of their study of the Passion of Christ.

Pam Sarlitto and Elizabeth Parusch, both of Canton, volunteer their time each year to direct the seventh-graders in performing the 14 Stations to other students.

"I think, especially for the younger students, it's important for them to see the Stations, to see that Jesus

was tortured," said Sarlitto. "We all can do the Stations of the Cross at church where it's read to us, but somehow that visual picture makes it more vivid and brings home the message."

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Wednesday, April 22, 2009 - 5:30pm to 9:00pm
Redford Community Center
12121 Hemmingway
Redford MI 48239

Saturday, April 25, 2009 - 9:30am to 1:00pm
Wayne County Community College
21000 Northline Road
Taylor MI 48180

Monday, May 4, 2009 - 5:30pm to 9:00pm
Summit on the Park
46000 Summit Parkway
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BOTSFORD CANCER CENTER

Community Open House

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Saturday, April 25, 2009 • 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Botsford Cancer Center physicians will be offering presentations throughout the day to the public. The times and subjects of each presentation are:

10:30 AM - Craig Gordon, D.O., F.A.C.O.I., Clinical Oncology Associates, will present **New Ideas in Breast Care**.

11:30 AM - Ted Tenenbaum, Cancer Center Administrator and the Radiation Oncology physicians, will present an overview of the **Radiation Oncology Services**.

12:30 PM - Richard Zekman, D.O., The Oakland Medical Group will present **Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma**.

1:30 PM - Michael Berkovic, D.O., F.A.C.O.I., The Oakland Medical Group, will be providing an update on **Lung Cancer**.

Each presentation will allow time for questions from the audience.

27900 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills
On the campus of Botsford Hospital, Grand River at 8 Mile.
For additional information, call 248.442.7986.

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 bkadrich@hometownlife.com

PLAY car show

PLAY Post 116, located at 39375 Amrhein in Livonia, will hold a combination open house and car show noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 23.

The general public is invited (bring your cameras) with special emphasis on owners of "oldies" and car club members. For additional details contact Roger L. Kehrier at (734) 453-2031.

Love stories

Concert lovers can make plans now to attend the BeckRidge Chorale's "Love Stories" Spring Concert 8 p.m. Saturday, April 25, and 4 p.m. Sunday, April 26 at Northville High School, located at 45700 Six Mile Road, Northville.

Tickets for the concert, which features songs for women and men, are \$13 and \$16. For more information or to order tickets visit the group's Web site at www.beckridgechorale.org or call us at (734) 416-9885.

Salvation Army sales

The Salvation Army is sponsoring two major shopping events at the same time: its Mom2Mom and Rummage Sale at its church location at 9451 S. Main, just south of Ann Arbor Road, on Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Rummage Sale will feature great bargains on gently used clothing, household goods, books, kitchen gear and small appliances. We will also be accepting donations for our rummage sale at the church beginning Monday, April 14 between the hours of 9-11 a.m. and 1:30-4 p.m.

Admission is just a \$1 donation but you can visit our Web site

for a coupon for free admission. Great coffee and baked goods will also be available. All proceeds from this day of shopping will benefit The Salvation Army-Plymouth's Tiny Tots Preschool Program and our Women's Ministries program.

Please visit the Web site at www.misalplymouth.org or call us at (734) 453-5464 for more information.

Blackboard Faces

The Plymouth Coffee Bean presents an interesting display of white-on-black drawings when it hosts an art show featuring the work of local artist Aydin Akcasu 7-11 p.m. Friday, April 24.

The show will feature his drawings of people's faces, made using white chalk on a black background. He uses an iterative process that involves slowly evolving the drawing and giving it more light (white). This has the fascinating effect of giving the appearance of a person who is slowly moving out of a dark room.

There's no admission, but there is a one-drink minimum. The art work will be on display in the Blue Room through June 1. Samples can be seen at Art. AydinAkcasu.com

The Plymouth Coffee Bean is located at 884 Penniman in Plymouth.

Tea and scones

The Plymouth Preservation Network is inviting people to "Tea and Scones to Save the Stones," a benefit to save the WPA Stone Wall that stands in Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park.

The fund-raiser takes place 1-3 p.m. Saturday, April 18, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 South Main.

Enjoy tea and sweet treats provided by Sweet Afton Tea Room, Panera Bread Co. and Tranquillitea while you discover

lovely & unique creative theme tables designed by: Basket Kreations, Bohemian Home, Haven, Home Sweet Home, Maggie and Me, Magnolia, Sideways, and The Velvet Plum.

Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the above retail shops; no tickets will be sold the day of the event. For more information, please visit the group's Web site at www.plymouthpreservation.org.

Miller Woods walks

The wildflowers of Miller Woods have arrived to announce the official end to winter. The Friends of Miller Woods are inviting walkers to join them Sundays, April 19, 26, and May 3, at 2, 2:30, and 3 p.m. Tour guides will point out some of the 25 varieties of flowers that grow there. Miller Woods is located on Powell Road between Ridge and Beck Roads in Plymouth Township.

The woods is a designated nature preserve, therefore dogs are not permitted within it. For more information about this historical property, please visit our website www.millerwoods.com.

Career seminar

Anyone who has thought about a career in Real Estate has a chance to get plenty more information when Keller Williams hosts a 59-minute career seminar 6:30 p.m. April 16.

The seminar takes place at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, in Plymouth. The seminar is designed to answer questions about commission, costs, what it takes to succeed and your potential for success.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Goody goodness

When the marshmallows hit the ground during the annual Wayne County Marshmallow Drop Friday, hundreds of kids sprinted across the field to scoop as many as possible. The Easter Bunny also made his appearance during the annual drop at Nankin Mills in Westland.

For more information or to reserve a seat, call (734) 459-4700.

Friendly Fridays

Plymouth Christian Academy is now accepting applications for the 2009/2010 school year.

Potential students and their families can visit Plymouth Christian Academy on Friendly Fridays April 24 and May 1 between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.

For more information, call Dr. David Butler, Head of School, or Caryn Huntsman, Elementary

Principal, at (734) 459-3505. PCA is located at 43065 Joy Road (between Lilley and Morton Taylor) in Canton - visit PCA on the Web at www.plymouthchristian.org

Financial Freedom

Achieving lifelong financial success can sometimes seem like an overwhelming task. However, when developed step by step, you can gain long-term control of your finances. Community Financial offers a free workshop, Steps to Financial Freedom,

6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, at Community Financial, 500 S. Harvey in Plymouth.

The workshop is designed to help attendees gain long-term control of their finances and achieve lifelong financial success. Participants will learn how to create a step-by-step plan that will include setting goals, communicating with family members, creating a budget, building savings and more.

Light refreshments will be provided. To RSVP, call (734) 582-8702.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular meeting April 21, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary
 Plymouth District Library
 223 S. Main Street
 Plymouth, MI 48170
 734-453-0750
 X217

Publish: April 12, 2009

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REDUCE ♻ REUSE ♻ RECYCLE

Asset allocation strategy helps reduce risk

Q: Dear Rick: I recently heard you speak at the Livonia Library about investing and I am confused about asset allocation. Is it the same as diversification?

A: No. Asset allocation is an investment strategy that financial advisers use. Asset allocation divides assets into many different classes. Diversification spreads risk within an asset class.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

In understanding asset allocation it is important to recognize that there are many different classes. Asset classes are subcategories of investments. For example, some of the asset classes that I use in portfolios I manage are U.S. Large Cap, growth, value and blend; U.S. Small Cap, growth, value and blend; Foreign Large Cap, growth, value and blend; and, both foreign and domestic energy and real estate.

These asset classes are equity classes — stocks. In addition, there are many asset classes within the fixed-income or bond area such as U.S. Treasury, intermediate and short-term investment grade corporate bonds, short and intermediate term foreign bonds, inflation

protected bonds and GNMA's. The strategy of asset allocation is to spread money into many different classes to reduce the overall risk to the portfolio without hurting returns.

Diversification is spreading investments within asset classes. For example, if you want to invest in an emerging market, diversification means investing in many companies and in many different emerging markets as opposed to investing in one company or even in one emerging market.

I believe, for the great majority of individuals, following an asset allocation strategy that is diversified will protect an investor. That does not mean that those individuals who follow an asset allocation strategy did not lose money last year because they did. However, generally they lost less because they followed this strategy.

In following an asset allocation strategy, the key is to have the right allocation in each of the different asset classes. The first thing investors need to do is to decide the allocation between equities and fixed income. I recommend to start with a 60/40 split (60 percent stocks, 40 percent bonds) and then make adjustments.

For investors with long-term goals, a 70/30 split is recommended. For those with short-term goals, a 50/50 split.

The key is to base your allo-

cation upon your goals and objectives. Once you have determined the allocation between stocks and bonds, then you need to allocate within the different asset classes.

I do not have an equal allocation between asset classes. I generally have more allocated in large cap U.S. funds vs. emerging markets. The risk tolerance level of an investor is one of the guiding principles in this allocation. A more aggressive investor will have a larger percent in an emerging market than a conservative investor. However, no matter what type of an investor, I still want to have something in the emerging market area, it's the percent that changes.

Diversification is also important. You can't invest in one investment within an asset class, you must have many. This is why I like mutual funds. When you invest in a mutual fund you can have a hundred different investments within an asset class. Investing in just one or two investments within an asset class assumes too much risk.

In reviewing individual studies on investments, all the studies reach the same conclusion — it is more important to have the right overall allocation than picking the right investment. In other words, having the right allocation will ultimately make an investor successful. Unfortunately, most investors

spend the majority of their time picking the right investments vs. determining the right allocations.

One last note, to make an asset allocation strategy work, you must occasionally rebalance your portfolio. After all, different asset classes will perform differently over time. It is important to rebalance your portfolio to make sure that you put your portfolio back into the proper allocation. By following this strategy you are actually selling your winners and buying your losers. That is exactly what an investor should do. We all want to sell high and buy low.

It is important to recognize that as your goals and objectives change, so should your overall asset allocation. As an investor begins to need income from their portfolio, the allocation should change to contain more in fixed-income investments and less in equities. It is your goals and objectives that dictate your overall allocation, not what is happening with the market.

An investment strategy is key. The successful investor is one who has a proper game plan based on his/her individual situation.

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

STOW & GO SELF STORAGE AUCTION NOTICE

Pursuant to state law, Notice is hereby given that a public auction will be held at STOW & GO SELF STORAGE, 41999 ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI on April 18, 2009 at 10:00 a.m., on past due tenants listed below. The entire contents of the following units will be auctioned and sold to the highest bidder on each individual unit. CASH ONLY! DESCRIPTION IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF ITEMS, MAY OR MAY NOT CONTAIN MORE OR LESS ITEMS.

UNIT #222-RICK RAMIREZ, 760 BLUNK, PLYMOUTH MI 48170

Two couches, vacuum cleaner, microwave, floor lamp, fan, ladder, floor tiles, misc garden & carpentry tools, barbells, vcr, cabinets, books, 16 boxes and other misc items.

UNIT #328-VALERIE CLARK-BROWN, 87409 HONEYCOMB #163, CANTON, MI 48187

Gm Automobile, Engine, Transmission, And Other Misc Car Parts.

UNIT #339-JAMES ALTER, P.O. BOX 512, DEARBORN HTS, MI 48127

Lumber, tape player, alarm clock, fax machine, misc. boxes, and other misc. items.

UNIT #417-LAURA THUMA, 1497 SHERIDAN, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

China cabinet, (4) chairs, picture frames, (4) dining rm chairs, (2) vases, table lamp, glass coffee table, suitcase, (2) dressers, buffet, shelving unit, (20) misc boxes and other misc. items.

UNIT #552-KIMBERLY BAYNARD, 36417 HEES, LIVONIA, MI 48150

Two book shelves, dresser, tire, table, computer desk, rocking chair, ironing board, toy elec. keyboard, table lamp, globe w/ stand, snowboard, exercise machine, baseball bat and other misc items.

UNIT #581-ANN MILSON, 26309 ETON, DEARBORN HTS, MI 48125

Vacuum, (3) satellite receivers, wooden box, (3) modems, (24) tubs, electric heater, table lamp, folding chairs, luggage, radio, dresser, dishes, angel statue and other misc items.

UNIT #612-TYLER LANG, 6375 NAPIER RD, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

Microwave, shoes, portable drill, gas can, socket set, flag, dvd player, extension cords, powerstrip, set of dishes, framed picture, and other misc items.

UNIT #670-KENNETH MICOL, 8110 E. PERRALTA AVE, MESA, AZ 85212

Computer monitor, chair, turntable, train set (battery), golf clubs in bag, car jack, toolbox, cds, tapes, (3) dressers, vcr, stereo equipment, floor fan, bass drum, TV, fax machine, shelving, books, pool cues, dart set, street signs, bookshelf and other misc items.

UNIT #687-IKIE GROSS, 8740 HONEYCOMB CIRCLE BLDG #5, APT 154, CANTON, MI 48187

Car stands & ramps, Coldspot refrigerator, battery charger, garden tools, carpentry tools, (18) fishing rods, plastic tool chest, pipe vise, (3) metal toolboxes, air pump, fishing equip. desk, bookshelf, armchair, electric radiator, (2) car battery charges, books, sledgehammer, misc. boxes and other misc items.

SALE DATE IS APRIL 18, 2009 AT 10:00 A.M.

Publish: April 12 and 16, 2009

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NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

WEEDS TO BE CUT ON LOTS IN THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: On or before May 1, 2009, it shall be the duty of every owner, occupant or person having charge of any land within the Township of Plymouth, Michigan, to cut and destroy noxious weeds before they reach a seed bearing stage and to prevent such weeds from perpetuating themselves or becoming a detriment to public health, or shall cause the same to be done. Failure to comply with this notice and Section 32.050 of the Plymouth Township Ordinance means that the Township will enter upon such lands and mow the weeds and bill the property owners for the service, as provided in Section 32.070 of the Plymouth Township Ordinance.

The Charter Township of Plymouth will begin mowing all unmowed lots or plots of land on May 15, 2009, without further notice to the property owners.

Joe Bridgman, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: April 12, and 19, 2009

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for *Diving Board Platforms for Salem High School Pool*. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Dan Phillips in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746. Technical questions can be directed to Harry Lau of the PCCS Maintenance Department at (734) 416-2970. A pre-bid meeting will be held at the Salem High School Pool, 46181 Joy Road, Canton 48187, on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. Sealed bids are due to the E. J. McClendon Educational Center (attn: Salem Diving Platforms), 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48187 on or before 10:00 a.m., Monday, May 4, 2009. A notarized familial disclosure statement and valid bid bond must accompany all bids. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary

Publish: April 12 and 19, 2009

EO08652725_2x3.5

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EO08650481

SAXTON'S
FROM PAGE A1

long time, and we'll continue to do so," said Alan Saxton, Bill's son, who represents the fourth generation of Saxtons in the family business.

GRAINS BY THE TON

Bill Saxton, who still works at the downtown Plymouth store during his months in Michigan, used to help unload railroad cars that carried grain there. The cars had a capacity of 20 tons each.

"Sometimes we were unloading two cars in a week," he said. "And they're all 100-pound bags."

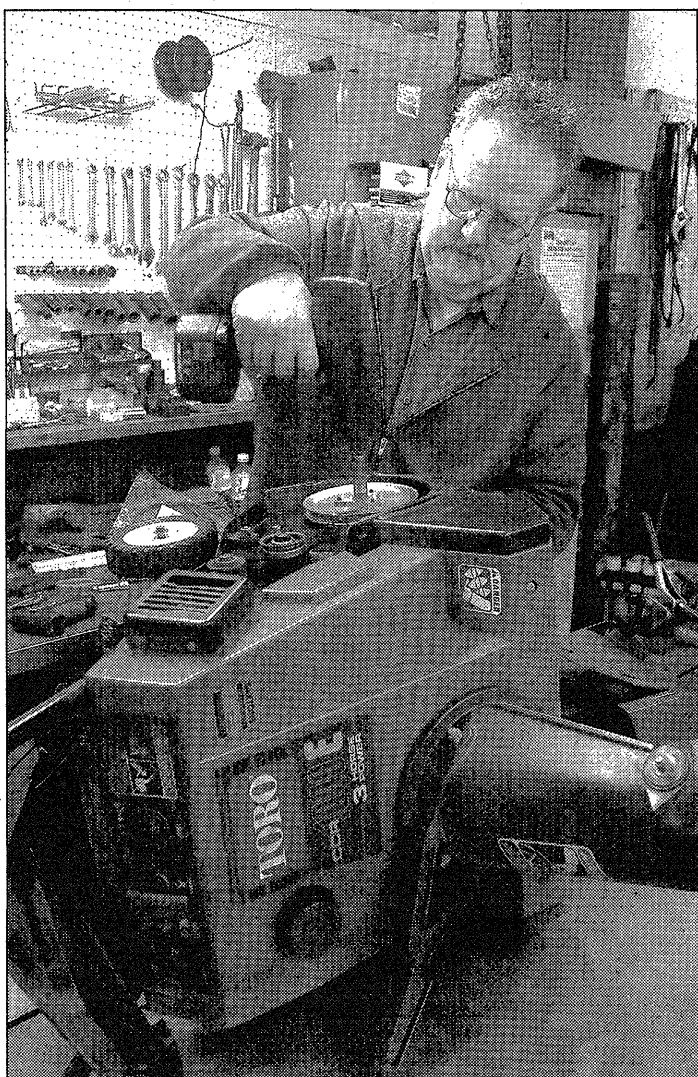
After a stint in the U.S. Navy during the war (he was studying to become a pilot) and a degree from the University of Michigan, Bill returned to Saxton's, where he boosted the feed business, then later introduced lawn mowers and small tractors.

"I could see that the trend was more suburban," he said.

Founder Dean Saxton was a Ford Motor Co. crane operator in the 1920s. He raised chickens on the family's property in what is now Southfield, and his quest for chicken feed got him interested in going into business for himself, his son said.

With the location in Northville, the nearby horse track didn't hurt, either. "It was just a shoo-in to sell oats," Bill Saxton said.

But the Depression hit just a year after the store opened,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Larry Woosley repairs a Toro snowblower in the repair shop at Saxton's.

his father struggled and put in many hours, Bill Saxton said.

BROADENING BUSINESS

Dean Saxton's own father — Bill's grandfather — was hired to work the Northville

operation, and in the 1930s, Dean Saxton opened a second store in Redford Township, a few miles from home.

As a boy, "I biked down there and worked," Bill Saxton said.

The Northville store was sold in 1942 and the Redford store closed in the late 1940s, as local farms were being replaced by subdivisions.

Dean Saxton continued to be involved at the Plymouth store; in his 90s, he would stop in to greet and chat with customers. He died in 1994 at age 102.

Like his father, Alan Saxton has been in the business since he was a boy — some 50-odd years, he said. At age 5, he said, he was dusting the equipment. His mother, Valerie, managed the bookkeeping, and is still active as the company's secretary and treasurer.

Alan Saxton said farmers kept coming to Saxton's into the 1960s, though there were fewer of them. There were a lot of serious vegetable gardeners with large plots years ago, too, buying tillers and cultivators. Though there is increasing interest in home gardening, Alan said, the scale of those gardens doesn't compare to the gardens of the mid-1950s.

"We still sell tillers, but they're small — and not very many of them," he said.

Saxton's stopped carrying live plants in the 1980s, Alan said, when competition increased and big-box stores came along. Vegetable seeds were also dropped, too, but with demand increasing in the past two years, were reintroduced this year, he said.

TOUTING VALUE, SERVICE

High-end yard and garden machines — mowers,

riding mowers, shredders, leaf-blowers, tillers — are the mainstay at Saxton's now, Alan said, and servicing those kinds of machines makes up about a third of the business. During the winter months, Saxton's sells snow-blowers.

While more consumers move toward cheaper mowers and tractors sold at big-box stores, Saxton's relies on more expensive, but longer-lasting, models, and the mechanical skills to keep them going, Alan said. That trend toward "throwaway purchases," he said, is the biggest change he's seen in the business.

"They don't consider the long-term value of the equipment. They tend to shop at the box stores," he said.

Saxton's also carries parts and supplies for the equipment it sells, lawn and garden tools, fencing materials, gasoline-powered generators, fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides, organic gardening supplies and garden knickknacks.

Bill Saxton said he's seen lots of business ups and downs, and that he's found that an economic dry spell is usually followed by two or three good years.

The store's basic philosophy, he said, has been for employees to treat customers the way they themselves would like to be treated.

"If you do that, you can never go far wrong," he said.

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit Bids for Moving Bentley and Tonda Elementary Schools.
Bidding documents may be picked up at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335 on or after April 12, 2009. Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m., local time on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at which time they will be opened and read publicly at the Plymouth Canton Community School, E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Bids received after this time and date will be returned. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by McCarthy & Smith, Inc. and Faxed proposals will not be accepted.
There will be a Pre-Bid Meeting and Site Walk-Through on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 @ 1:00 p.m. at the Tonda Elementary Cafeteria located at 46501 Warren Road, Canton, MI 48187. Questions regarding the scope of the project may be addressed to Mr. Doug Underwood of McCarthy & Smith, Inc. at (248) 427-8400. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding documents. This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.
The bidder shall disclose any familial relationship as required by the State of Michigan on the proposal pricing form. This form must also be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted.
Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary
Publish: April 12 and 19, 2009

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"That's what Christ did definitively; suffered because of others' sins, the Righteous One for the unrighteous ones. He went through it all, was put to death and then made alive to bring us to God."

1 Peter 3:18; The Message

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Plymouth Museum to 'bury' Lincoln one more time

The 16th President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, was assassinated 144 years ago this month.

Officials at the Plymouth Historical Museum plan on burying Lincoln again April 25, when the museum presents an all-day (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) event called "Burying Lincoln." Beginning at 10 a.m., Liz Kelley Kerstens, the museum's executive director, will present the lecture "Victorian Mourning Rituals." At about noon, Senator Jacob Howard, portrayed by Museum volunteer Dave Tennes, will give an abbreviated version of the speech he gave in Detroit following the announcement of Lincoln's assassination on April 15, 1865. And at 2:30 p.m., Jeff Bell, treasurer of the Plymouth Historical Society and a funeral director at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth, will present the lecture "Burying Lincoln."

Throughout the day, reenactors from the 21st Michigan Infantry will act as bodyguards for Lincoln's coffin, and will be available to answer questions about their activities.

Kerstens said estimates are that one million people viewed President Lincoln's body from the time of his death on April 15, 1865, until his burial in Springfield, Ill., on May 4, 1865. Lincoln's coffin was very elaborate for that time, Kerstens said, and a nearly exact replica of his coffin is now on display at the Plymouth Historical Museum, thanks to the sponsorship and coordinating efforts of the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

Lincoln's coffin was constructed of solid walnut, lined with lead, and completely covered in expensive black cloth.

It was six feet, six inches long and was decorated with sterling silver handles and studs extending the entire length of its sides. The center of the lid showcased a shield outlined in sterling silver studs and a sterling silver plate bearing the inscription:

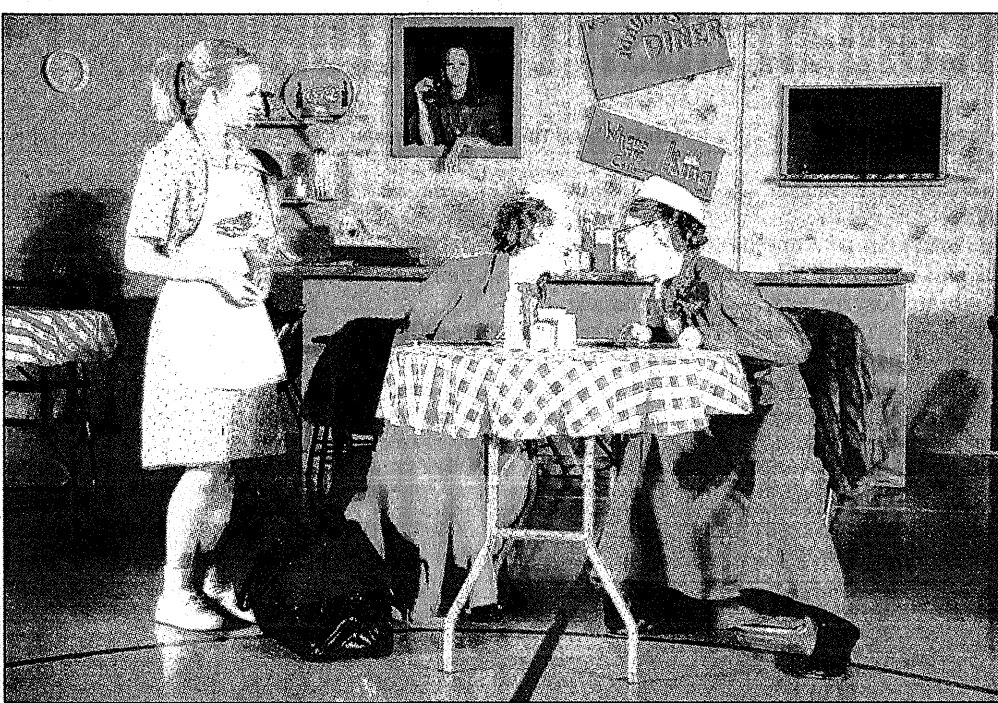
ABRAHAM LINCOLN
16th PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
BORN: FEBRUARY 12, 1809
DIED: APRIL 15, 1865
The Batesville Casket Company was commissioned in the 1990s to create a replica coffin for an Illinois museum. The company then made its own replicas for traveling displays; the coffin now on display is one of those replicas. Batesville's replica is authentic down to the smallest details (except for being lined with lead, and the silver plate on the center of the lid is not included).

The coffin will be on display at the Plymouth Historical Museum until Sunday, May 3, 2009. In addition to the coffin, two other events this month will help commemorate Lincoln's assassination.

No tickets are necessary for the April 25 event; normal admission charges will be collected at the door.

The Plymouth Historical Museum's major exhibit, "In the Presence of Lincoln," runs through Nov. 4. The museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, one block north of downtown Plymouth.

Parking is available across the street, behind the Plymouth District Library. Hours are Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 1-4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children 6-17, and \$10 for families. Admission is free for members of the Plymouth Historical Society.



'Daddy's Girl' packs 'em in

PCA Players Maggie Slagenwhite, Natalie Smith, Jessica Koloian and Catherine Koloian were part of the student cast that performed 'Daddy's Girl' to packed houses April 2 through April 4 at Plymouth Christian Academy's activity center. The director, Mrs. Laura Landrum, double cast the production allowing more students an opportunity to perform the two act comedy. "During my tenure at Plymouth Christian Academy this has been by far our most successful show. The students have grown as actors and I was delighted by the overall success of the production," said Landrum, Plymouth Christian Academy's drama teacher. The PCA Players will be performing an evening of original works at the Cherry Hill Village Theater on Thursday, April 30. Tickets are available at the Village Theater box office.

ROBBERIES

FROM PAGE A1

When the teller asked how she could help him, the robber said, "You're being robbed. I have a gun," according to Cox.

The robber had a black and red duffel bag and told the teller to put the money in it, Cox said. He held one hand inside his coat as if he had a gun, Cox said. When the teller was finished, the robber took the bag, walked out of the bank and turned right, heading out of the sight of people in the bank.

No getaway vehicle was seen and the robber had no apparent accomplices, Cox said. Police searched the immediate area just after the holdup.

The robber was described as black, about 5-foot-6 and 150 pounds. He was wearing a dark leather coat over a brown sweat shirt with white trim around the hood, dark pants and a black bandana on his head. He had some short facial hair.

Staff writers Brad Kadrich and Matt Jachman contributed to this report.

Welcome Spring With A New Look

Designer Frame Show Tuesday, April 21, 2009 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm



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THURSDAY 4/16 8:00 PM

HANNAH MONTANA: THE MOVIE (G)
(SAT/SUN 10:00) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15
FRI/SAT LS 11:30

OBSERVE AND REPORT (R)
1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25 FRI/SAT LS 11:30

FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13) 11:50, 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35 FRI/SAT LS 11:55

3D MONSTERS VS. ALIENS (PG) 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20 FRI/SAT LS 11:30

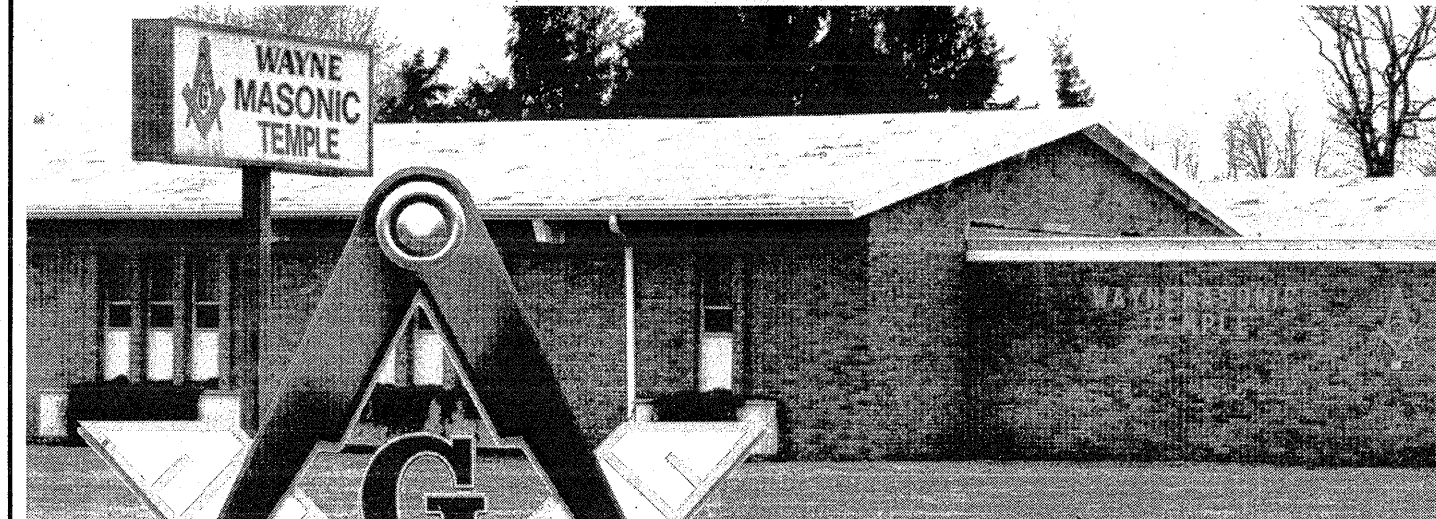
HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT (PG-13) 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35 FRI/SAT LS 11:40

I LOVE YOU, MAN (R)
FRI-WED 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
TH 1:00, 3:15

KNOWING (PG-13) 11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

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Some of the Local and Statewide projects we sponsor are:

- Michigan Child ID/Program
- Beacon Reading Project Volunteer Readers
- Scholarships/Student Assistance
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Our Rainbow for Girls and DeMolay for Boys youth groups provide guidance and instill knowledge, inspire community involvement and encourage self improvement in today's youth.

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Pancake Breakfasts
April 26 & May 17, 2009 • 8:30 am-1:00 pm

Ladies Tea
May 2, 2009 • 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Charity Poker Game
May 27, 28, 29 & 30 • Watch for Details

Child Identification Event
Fri., May 8, 2009 • 5:00-8:00 pm
Elliott Elementary
30800 Bennington St., Westland

Wed., May 27, 2009 • 4:00-8:00 pm
Taft-Galway Elementary
4035 Gloria St., Wayne

Fri., May 29, 2009 • 5:00-8:00 pm
Hamilton Elementary
1031 S. Schuman, Westland

Sat., May 30, 2009 • 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Wayne County Community College
1001 W. Fort St., Detroit

Spaghetti Dinner
June 19, 2009 • 5:00 pm-8:00 pm

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- ...believe that a man has a responsibility to act with honor in everything he does?
- ...believe in God and allowing others to believe in "their" God?
- ...believe you have a responsibility to leave the world a better place than you found it?
- ...believe it is better to give than receive and show a willingness to help your neighbors?
- ...strive to be a good citizen and feel a moral duty to be true to the nation we live in?
- ...believe men should show compassion and goodness of heart toward human values and strive to lead a brotherly life?

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McCotter: Michigan hasn't 'bottomed out'

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia) couldn't be too optimistic, noting that the 15-member auto task force was in Detroit.

"They are now here trying to get more cuts," said McCotter in speaking before the Westland Rotary

Thursday. "In Michigan, we have not bottomed out."

Those comments came in response to a question from Margaret Harlow, who owns a

family tire business.

"Have we bottomed out? Have we turned a corner?" she asked.

Financial planner Antoinette Martin asked about bankruptcies and foreclosures, as well as enforcement of usury laws.

McCotter, a Republican, said debt needs to be cut so consumers aren't in over their heads: "Once they have that outstanding debt, they then sell it off. We

understand this is a huge problem and it's going to intensify."

McCotter said he wrote a letter to Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke.

"You're now paying 100 percent on the dollar to insure those bonds," he said of the AIG payout. There's an incentive to allow General Motors to go bankrupt, he added.

"I've yet to receive an answer," McCotter said of his letter.

Kim Shunkwiler, a local chiropractor, said he was honored to serve in Vietnam.

"This thing's being gutted," said Shunkwiler, holding up a copy of the U.S. Constitution.

McCotter agreed the chaos in financial markets has led to turbulent times. He said the Wall Street bailout came "without any real control and certainly

any sense of justice."

"The U.S. bailout has to end," the congressman said during his visit to the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army. If credit markets are freed up, much will improve.

"It's undermining your confidence in your subservient government," he told Shunkwiler.

"They turned the tax code into a penal code," McCotter added of the AIG bonuses. He said both the Republican and Democratic parties are diverse: "Where the twain meet, we try to get things done."

McCotter discredited an

Internet posting that President Barack Obama plans to shut the Web down.

"That would be to curtail free speech and that would be against the Constitution," he said.

McCotter's concerned about Michigan's future saying that "everything we've grown up with will be gone."

He said Mississippi has had success in encouraging university students to do research and development, and set up businesses after graduation. Massachusetts has done similar work, McCotter said.

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SPOTLIGHT ON:

YOUR DENTAL HEALTH

Presented by
Andrea S. Vivian, D.D.S.

ORAL INDICATIONS

Many people are not aware of the many ways in which oral health is linked with overall health. For instance, according to a survey recently conducted by the Academy of General Dentistry, nearly 60% of those surveyed did not know that a painful jaw is one warning sign that may indicate an impending heart attack. Thus, a visit to the dentist may be a patient's first sign of an impending dangerous heart event. In fact, research indicates that over 90% of systemic diseases have oral symptoms. With this in mind, careful dental examinations of patients with a history of heart disease (or other conditions) for signs of oral pain, infection, or inflammation is crucial to overall health.

Acknowledging the inherent connection between oral health and a patient's overall health, your dentist will use many techniques to diagnose, treat, restore, and promote total patient well-being. We offer this column in the hopes of educating the general public about the benefits of oral health. If we can help, either by answering questions or by providing comprehensive dental care, please call us at 734-453-9413. State-of-the-art dentistry and a dedicated professional dental team make 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth, the ideal place to achieve optimum oral health. We are located one block east of Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

P.S. Recent studies also suggest that people who have gum disease are at a higher risk for heart attack.

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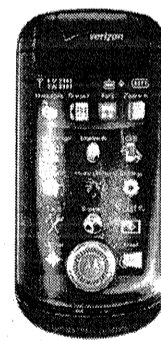
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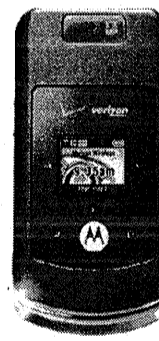
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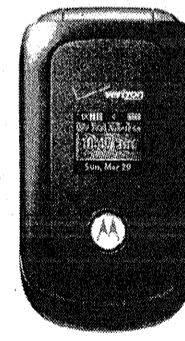
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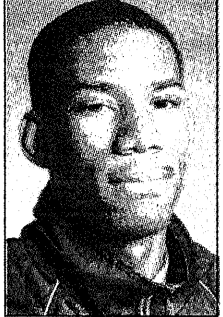
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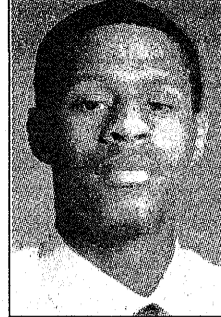
All-area hoops team named



Jamie Stewart
Clarenceville



Robert Woodson
Wayne



Anthony Wash
Redford Union

FIRST TEAM
JAMIE STEWART, SR. F, LIV. CLARENCEVILLE: The 6-4 Stewart averaged 27.2 points, just under 10 rebounds and 3.4 assists per contest to lead the Trojans to another Metro Conference championship. He collected his second straight Metro MVP award for his efforts and was named to Bankhoops.com's Class B All-State first-team. An indication of Stewart's value to the Trojans came in the title-clinching victory over Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood when he tallied 31 points including several key buckets down the stretch. "Jamie had an outstanding year for us," said Clarenceville coach Corey McKendry. "He produced despite having a huge bull's-eye on his back every night. He really rounded his game out this year by filling up the stat columns, instead of just being a scorer."

ROBERT WOODSON, SR. PG, WAYNE: The 6-1 senior guard averaged 15 points, five assists and 2.5 steals a game. The All-KLAA South Division selection was a three-year starter and a two-year captain. "Robert is a leader on the court and in the classroom," Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said. "He has a 3.5 grade point average. He was our go-to guy all season."

ANTHONY WASH, SR. PG, REDFORD UNION: Just 5-8, Wash made a huge impact at the point for the Panthers, earning All-Mega White first-team honors with an average of 17.4 points, including 39 treys. Wash, RU's MVP, accounted for nearly half of the squad's overall offense (40.3 PPG) and excelled in every facet to help the Panthers to a 13-8 record. In one win over Farmington, he scored 29 of RU's 38 points. "He is one of the three best players to wear an RU uniform in my tenure," said head coach Brett Steele. "Without him on the floor, our team could not succeed. He was our leading scorer and was the focal point of every opponent's defensive game plan."

AUSTIN ANDERSON, SR. PG, WESTLAND JOHN GLENN: The 6-1 senior point-guard averaged 21 points per game en route to All-KLAA South Division honors. "Austin had a great year and has improved in every aspect of his game over the three years he started for us," Glenn coach Dan Young said. "We have won 43 games in that span and he was a big part of it. This season has been asked to score more and had the second best single season scoring mark only behind Darin Armstrong (1980)."

BOBBY NAUBERT, JR. G, LIV. STEVENSON: The junior guard averaged 17 points and 5.5 assists per game for the Class A district champions. "His work ethic in the classroom has carried over to the hardwood," Stevenson coach Mike Allie said of the All-KLAA Central Division pick. "He is the ultimate team player and knows exactly what it takes to be a winner. He's all about basketball and improving his game. His heart and determination became contagious toward the end of the year as he guided us to a district championship."

GREG MORGAN, SR. G, RED. THURSTON: The 6-0 shooting guard was a sparkplug for Thurston's Mega Blue co-champs, averaging 14.5 points, 4.4 rebounds and hit 53 percent of his three-point shots. Morgan, the team co-captain, earned All-Mega Blue first-team honors and received Thurston's Sportsmanship Award. "Greg is a great shooter who has hit some huge shots for us over his career," said Eagles' head coach Brian Bates. "Greg is a very unselfish player. He has done great things for our program during his time here and we are going to miss him greatly."

SECOND TEAM
DANIEL HILL, JR. C, WAYNE: The 6-3 junior center averaged 13.5 points, eight rebounds, and two blocks per game for the KLAA South Division champs. "Daniel was a captain this year as a junior," Woodard said. "He was also an outstanding student athlete with a 3.4 grade point average. Daniel was always able to get the job done without drawing attention to himself."

DIETRICH LEVER, SOPH. G, CANTON: The sophomore turned in a scintillating season, doubling as the Chiefs' point guard and top scoring threat. He led the team in scoring (14.6), assists and steals, and could break full-court presses almost single-handedly with his superb dribbling skills.

2008-09 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS BASKETBALL FIRST TEAM

Jamie Stewart, Sr. F, Liv. Clarenceville
Robert Woodson, Sr. PG, Wayne
Anthony Wash, Sr. PG, Redford Union
Austin Anderson, Sr. PG, John Glenn
Bobby Naubert, Jr. G, Liv. Stevenson
Greg Morgan, Sr. G, Red. Thurston

SECOND TEAM
Daniel Hill, Jr. C, Wayne
Dietrich Lever, Soph. G, Canton
Adam Bedell, Jr. C, Liv. Churchill
Connor Leidal, Sr. C, Liv. Franklin
Justin Moss, Soph. C, Plymouth
Marcus Jones, Sr. G-F, Red. Thurston

THIRD TEAM
Joe Posler, Sr. F, Salem
Nathan Clark, Sr. G, Liv. Clarenceville
Ronald Pummill, Sr. F, Garden City
Jeff Poole, Sr. F, Liv. Franklin
Brennen Beyer, Soph. F, Plymouth
Ryan Woods, Sr. G, Liv. Churchill

FOURTH TEAM
Marlan Glenn, Sr. G, Canton
Anthony Mullins, Sr. G, Salem
Leonard Wernette-Leff, Sr. C, RU
Sam Ahlmsmeier, Sr. F, Luth. Westland
Brent Zinn, Sr. G, Ply. Christian
Jimmel Bennett, Jr. G, Wayne

COACH OF THE YEAR
Mike Allie, Liv. Stevenson
HONORABLE MENTION
Churchill: Tony Frezzeli, Scott Senczyszyn, Cameron Morscia; Franklin: Mike Gadsby; Stevenson: Ricky Chrzasz, Jordan El-Sabeh, Mark Grisa, Brian Rowe, Kendal Snow, Austin White; John Glenn: Dorian Prather, Jeremy Langford, Marquise Graves; Wayne: Derric Horton, DeLorean Holland; Clarenceville: Corey Reynolds, Jeremy Gainer, Jalen Reynolds; Lutheran Westland: Josh Kruger, Eric Shoats; Huron Valley Lutheran: Tyler Wagoner, Chad Fielek; Garden City: Michael Pack, Kevin Burek; Redford Union: Julian Rivera, Tyrone Temple, Justin Floyd, Kyle Schuett; Thurston: Cameron Mitchell, Josh Miller, Brandon Rivera; Redford Covenant: Jamonne Chester; Canton: Kiere Daniels, Kevin Weisz; Plymouth: Cliff Buttermore, Brad Lineberry; Salem: Jake Peterson, Heath Parling; Plymouth Christian: Justin Govan; Agape: Mark Mullett.

"Even though he was a sophomore, Dietrich was our best player this year," said Canton coach Dan Colligan. "I think he was one of the top point guards in the KLAA. He can handle the ball, shoot the ball and find the open man on the break as well as in the half-court offense. I'm looking forward to seeing his development over the next two years."

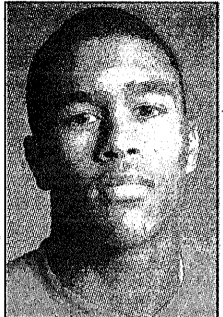
ADAM BEDELL, JR. C, LIV. CHURCHILL: The 6-6, 185-pound junior forward had 15 double-doubles, while averaging 12.5 points and 12 rebounds per game. He shot 55 percent from the field. "Adam's not a thick kid, but he's such a hard worker and good athlete," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "He is able to play much bigger than he is and handle guys that were much stronger physically. He was a dominant force around the basket, which allowed just to do a lot of different things offensively and defensively. What's more impressive to me is his preparation. He's always made sure he was clear on the strengths and weaknesses of our opponents. It's no surprise that he has a 3.8 GPA. Throw in his soccer skill and he could easily be one of the best true student-athletes ever to come out of the area."

CONNOR LEIDAL, SR. C, LIV. FRANKLIN: The 6-4 senior forward averaged 14 points, eight rebounds per game en route to All-KLAA South Division and Team MVP honors. Leidal had season highs of 16 rebounds vs. Wayne and 25 points against Howell. "Connor is fearless around the rim and very creative in how he gets his scores," Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault said. "He's always active on both ends of the court, a relentless rebounder. He plays much bigger than his 6-4 size. He has solid perimeter skills, which allows him to handle the ball and pressure. He was our hardest worker who never took a play or practice off."

JUSTIN MOSS, SOPH. C, PLYMOUTH: The 6-7 sophomore was a force in the paint for the Wildcats, averaging 14.0 per game and 8.2 rebounds. He also collected a team-high 27 blocked shots and 17 steals. "Justin had some exceptional games this year," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. "His top games included a 22-point effort at Walled Lake Central and a 23-point, 18-rebound game against Livonia Churchill. With a lot of hard work and consistent effort, the future is bright for Justin."

MARCUS JONES, SR. G-F, RED. THURSTON: Jones, a 6-1 small forward, was in the mix almost constantly to help the Eagles to another winning season. The co-captain averaged 16.8 points but also contributed across-the-board (2.5 assists, 4.4 rebounds, 2.3 steals). He earned MVP honors as well as selection to the All-Mega Blue first team. "He had the ability to score by either a drive or jump shot, which made him a really hard player to guard," Bates noted. "He could not only score points from anywhere, but he was a great rebounder and defender. Marcus helped make us a better team and we are going to miss him very much."

COACH OF THE YEAR
MIKE ALLIE, LIV. STEVENSON: The 24-year-old second-year coach guided the Spartans to a 14-10 record and a Class A district title before losing a close regional game against Novi Detroit Catholic Central, 43-39. Allie, a 2002 Stevenson grad, is the co-owner of M&M Sports Apparel along with assistant coach Matt Bartnick, also a former Spartan player and teammate. Allie also referees Big Ten soccer games. "This is a great honor for our entire coaching staff and a testament to the outstanding character of the kids we coach," Allie said. "Coach Bartnick and I were fortunate to have had the opportunity to coach such self-motivated student-athletes this season. We are confident that these young men have laid a solid foundation for the continued and growing success of the Stevenson basketball program."



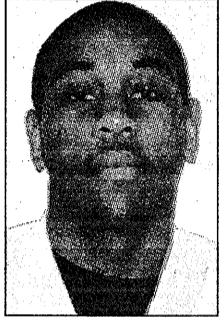
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John Glenn



Bobby Naubert
Stevenson



Greg Morgan
Thurston



Daniel Hill
Wayne



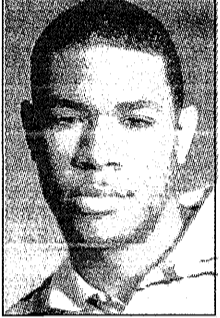
Dietrich Lever
Canton



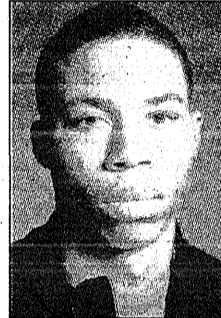
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Mike Allie - Stevenson Coach of the Year

along with assistant coach Matt Bartnick, also a former Spartan player and teammate. Allie also referees Big Ten soccer games.

"This is a great honor for our entire coaching staff and a testament to the outstanding character of the kids we coach," Allie said. "Coach Bartnick and I were fortunate to have had the opportunity to coach such self-motivated student-athletes this season. We are confident that these young men have laid a solid foundation for the continued and growing success of the Stevenson basketball program."

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NEIGHBORS

On a roll

Friends share love of strudel

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
OSE STAFF WRITER

The last time Marilyn Alimpich had "real" strudel was before her grandmother died in 1977. Through the years, her mother and the rest of the family tried making the pastry without much success. It takes a certain knack to stretch the dough thinly enough over a tabletop without making holes. The entire strudel is then rolled up using the momentum of a tablecloth after spreading the surface with cheese, apple, cabbage, or a filling of the baker's choice.

Several ethnic groups in Europe enjoy the tasty delight as Alimpich found out when she mentioned the family's strudel-making attempts to her manicurist, Suzana Pallaska, at Gerald's Salon in Northville. Before long, Alimpich was organizing a daylong project to learn the skill from Pallaska, who brought her expertise from Macedonia in southeastern Europe 10 years ago. Last month, Pallaska, a Westland resident, shared her secrets during a baking extravaganza that included Alimpich's parents, Muriel and Nick Alimpich of Redford, friend Sandy Kline of Plymouth and her mother, Sonia Phillips. Alimpich's mother is of Croatian descent. Their family made strudel year-round.

"My grandmothers, who came from Europe, made strudel

and I mentioned it to my friend Sandy whose grandmother used to make it and would she like to make it sometime," said Alimpich of Plymouth. "I also mentioned it to Suzana and asked if she would help us along. She's of Albanian descent but grew up in Macedonia. Her foods are similar to the way we cook but Suzana had a different way of doing this so several of us of various Slavic ethnicities got together to practice making strudel. My family made huge batches. Suzana had us break the big ball into smaller balls."

Alimpich's family would try stretching the large dough ball over the table as her grandmother did. With Pallaska's method, they ended up making and then splitting about eight or nine strudel with a variety of fillings between themselves.

"She had one of those old metal tables and would hang the dough over the sides," said Alimpich. "It was always covered in an old sheet or tablecloth so you're picking up the cloth and the dough just sort of rolls."

STRUDEL-SAVVY

Muriel remembers her mother making as many as seven batches of strudel in one morning. She tells the story of her mother, Mary Medunic, then age 14, coming over on a German ship three weeks before World War I started. She was from Yugoslavia, a Croatian



Suzana Pallaska (left) and Marilyn Alimpich stretch dough during a day of strudel making at Alimpich's Plymouth home.

province under Austrian rule.

"She was an expert at it," said Muriel Alimpich, 86. "She could stretch it all the way down past the table, no holes ever. She had gotten it down that well. She made cottage cheese and apple strudel. My husband loves hubbard squash so she would make that. She also used to make cherries and walnuts. Nobody like the sauteed cabbage but me. I loved cabbage. I miss the strudel so maybe one day I'll buckle down and make some." Pallaska remembers her mom making it as well when she was a girl.

"It's our food. I make those all the time for my kids," said Pallaska. "Strudel can be made as a sweet with apples, but if we want main food like a meal we make with spinach; cabbage; cheese, eggs and yogurt, whatever you want, leeks, onions and mush-



Muriel Alimpich (left), her daughter Marilyn Alimpich, Sandy Kline, Suzana Pallaska, and Kline's mother Sonia Phillips show off their finished strudel. The day-long baking extravaganza took place in Marilyn Alimpich's Plymouth home.

rooms, and tomatoes. Everybody makes it over there all the time."

SLAVIC TRADITIONS

Sandy Kline wanted to learn the skill of making strudel so the tradition doesn't die. Her father is Macedonian, her mother Sonia Phillips, Ukrainian. The Republic of Macedonia declared its independence from Yugoslavia in 1991 as did Croatia. "Macedonians don't call it strudel but Zelnick," said Kline, who met Marilyn Alimpich through Plymouth Business & Professional Women. "Marilyn and I have been friends for years and have Slavic backgrounds and talk about different foods of our ethnicities. There are so many similarities between different countries. My grandmother, baba, used to come

to our house and make it from scratch. It's like phyllo dough and you put whatever fillings you want. Macedonians use more savory fillings, cottage cheese. My favorite is cabbage, cheese and leeks. Greeks call it spanikopita and fill it with spinach and cheese. It's all kind of similar because we're all in that area."

Kline was making the dough-filled creations last Friday with her mother and sister-in-law, Robin Phillips, who has a culinary arts degree from Schoolcraft College. The zelnick would be a special Easter treat for the family.

"Every holiday my godparents would bring zelnick," said Kline. "My family's really excited somebody's going to carry on the tradition because everyone else is too old to make it or gone."

BASIC STRUDEL RECIPE

Suzana Pallaska bakes by "feel," not a written recipe. This is not an exact science. She brought the recipe with her to Michigan from Macedonia 10 years ago.

MACEDONIAN STRUDEL

Yields: About 8-9 rolls

- Approximately 4 pounds King Arthur flour
- 2 whole eggs
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 2 tablespoons vinegar (they used cider, could be white)
- 1 cup warm water
- ¾ pound butter plus ½ cup canola or olive oil, warmed together
- cornstarch


Fillings: cottage cheese, grated apple, cherry, grated yellow squash, sautéed cabbage, spinach, anything you like

Cover table with clean cloth on which to stretch and roll dough.

Mix together in a bowl, or on board or table, flour, eggs, salt, vinegar, ½ cup water at first, then add another ½ cup water as the dough firms up while you're mixing it. Mix using a spoon and as it gets firmer, by hand.

Once firm, knead the dough until dimples disappear. Since this quantity makes a lot of strudel, divide the dough into several small balls then pat with cornstarch before flattening them into approximately 8-inch rounds (using a rolling pin). Stack two to three of the flat sheets together, spreading a warmed mix of butter and oil on top of each. This keeps the dough from drying too fast.

Stretch each set of flattened dough separately until very thin. Dab small quantities of filling across about ⅓ to ½ of the dough. Pick up one end of the tablecloth and use it to roll the strudel over the filling until you have a single roll. Place onto a lightly greased baking pan (you may have to "snake" it around the inside of the pan) and spread more butter-oil mixture on top. Bake at 350 degrees for about 30 minutes. Cut, eat and enjoy!



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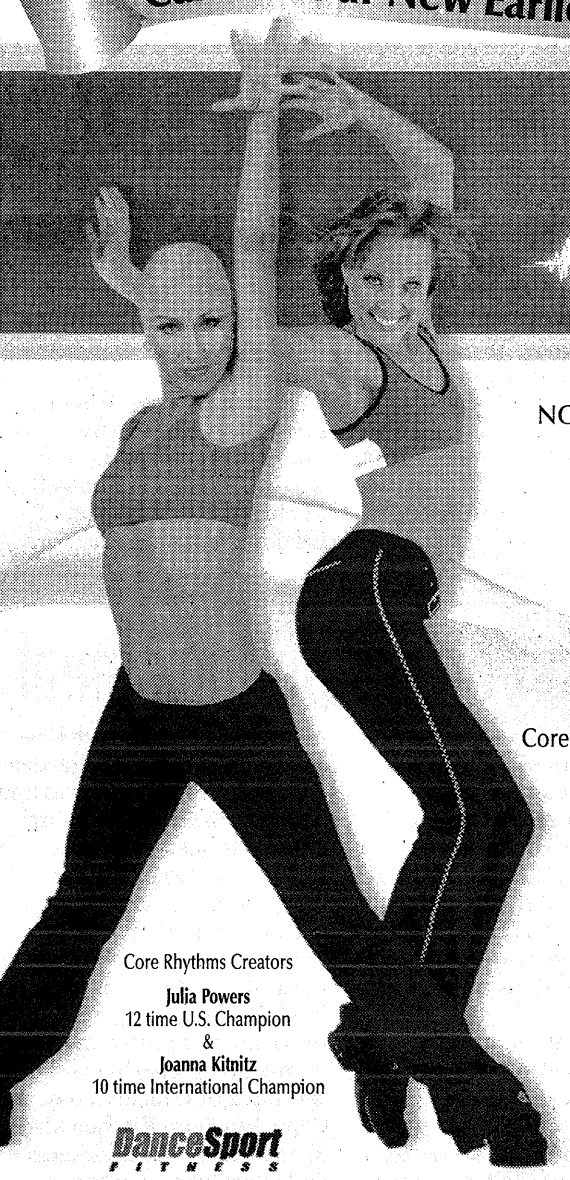
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Fund-raiser to help guardian angels

Sandy Mezza is a guardian angel. No, she doesn't hover around human beings. The Westland woman takes animals no one else wants and finds them forever homes. She's been doing it for 10 years, but it's not always easy. Mezza sometimes reaches a breaking point. That's why she's grateful to Mark Blundy who's organizing a fund-raiser for no kill shelters like hers Saturday, April 25, at Bentley's Restaurant in West Bloomfield.

Mezza started caring for strays with other groups, but eventually went on her own to found Guardian Angel Animal Rescue. Over the years, she's taken in cats, dogs, snakes, birds, and hamsters. A week ago Saturday, she was on her way to PetSmart in Commerce for an adoption event. Mezza is there every Saturday from 1-4 p.m. During the summer, she holds dog washes every other

Sunday at Specialty Pet Supplies in Plymouth to raise money. By day, she works in advertising at Kroger, but her free time is devoted to the animals. She is one of the many guardian angels helping homeless animals through several rescue groups in the area.

"There are a lot of groups that call themselves no kill and aren't," said Mezza. "I was caring for a colony of feral cats behind a fast food restaurant in Canton. There were probably 100. I spent almost five years trapping them, taming them and adopting them out to good homes."

Poster homes are Mezza's first choice for rescued animals, but when none are available the overflow of dogs and cats are kept at a kennel in Flint. Currently the group has about four dog foster homes and six cat fosters. Mezza estimates she has about 20 dogs and 50 cats ready to go to good homes.

"Because we're a no kill we have a lot of hard-to-adopt animals, some have seizures. We keep them if they can live a good quality life and all they need is

medication or socialization," said Mezza. "We just placed a hard-to-adopt dog last week. He was 7 years old and left outside his whole life from a puppy. He's very needy. We found an older woman who saw him and fell in love with him and he follows her around everywhere."

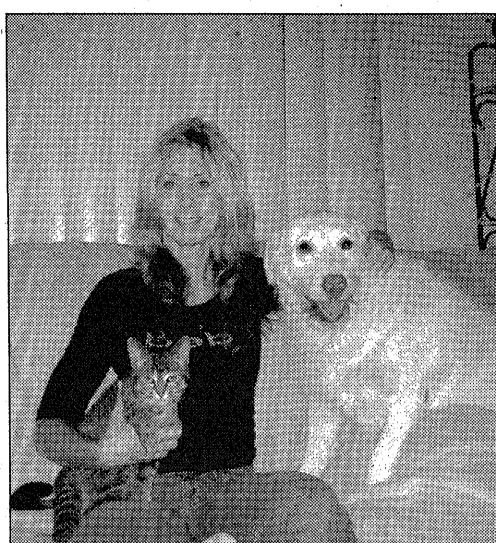
The barking in the background doesn't seem to bother Mezza as she drives a car full of dogs to PetSmart in Commerce. Another carload is coming from the kennel in Flint. The non-profit consists of about 25 volunteers including cat coordinator Donna Johnson of Canton.

"There's probably more sadness than good stuff because of the stuff you see," said Mezza. "Sometimes I say I can't do that anymore but then you look at their cute faces."

Mark Blundy has a soft spot for furry faces just like Mezza. Rescue groups were his first thought when coming up with the idea for Pets & Bets, a project for his Self Expression and Leadership class at Landmark Education development and training company in Livonia. The event features an afternoon

of family fun with a pet fashion contest and adoptable animals, and an evening for grown-ups with a Casino, Texas Hold 'em Tournament and dinner.

"I have a close friend who's rescued dogs before my very eyes and gave me a taste of what it's like," said Blundy, who grew up with dogs and currently lives with one. "Pets & Bets (the fund-raiser) allows me to be involved with what I have a passion for and I'm practicing the skills I've learned in class. The casino portion goes to Sandy's group. The other rescue groups will get the money from what's left of ticket sales, an auction, antique appraisals, a light-hearted tarot card reader. The site lists all the different vendors and rescue groups that will have ferrets, birds, dogs and cats for adoption. They're all donating time and services and making it happen. It's one person's dream but starts with us sharing with one another for this noble effort for these animals. We're getting the word out about these groups and we can make a difference for the rescue groups and the animals in need of a home."



Sandy Mezza of Westland with Blundy, a stray dog from Detroit, and Carly, a 4-month-old female kitten from a kill shelter. Both are considered hard to adopt because Blundy is 12 years old and very shy, and Carly tested positive for feline leukemia but is doing well now. Mezza is founder of Guardian Angel Animal Rescue.

Somebody out there can really make difference."

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.

NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The correct date of the public hearing for the proposed water system improvements of approximately 7,750 feet of water main construction along Thornapple Drive, Valencia Street, Seven Mile Road and Pickford Avenue, is **Monday, April 27, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at Township Hall located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168.**

Publish: April 12 & 16, 2009

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Highland Park Housing Commission is requesting proposals for Professional Architectural Services to implement the Capital Fund Program, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funds, Fair Housing Act and ADA Compliance Certification. A Request for Qualifications packet can be obtained by an email to general@highlandparkhc.org or by mail at the address listed below. All final proposals must be submitted by April 30, 2009 at 5:00 pm EST by mail:

Attn: Dorene Jamerson, Highland Park Housing Commission, 13725 John R. Street, Highland Park, MI 48203, (313) 868-4500 phone.

Publish: April 12 and 19, 2009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF LIENED PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that a closed bid sale will be held on **April 23, 2009 at 1:00 P.M.** at 40671 Joy Road, Canton Michigan 48187, County of Wayne. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE will sell to satisfy the lien on the property stored at 40671 Joy Road, Canton Michigan 48187, by the following persons. The inventories listed below were notated by the tenants at the time of rental. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE makes no representation or warranty that the units contain said inventories.

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Publish: April 5 and April 12, 2009

Arthritis Today
JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
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THE TIMING OF SHOULDER INJECTIONS

People at every age have experienced an unexpected misstep on a stair with the need to suddenly grip a railing to stop. When the person is young or an adult, the arm that grabs the railing may hurt for a day or so, but the aching leaves and the incident is forgotten.

Not so with the elderly. A slip and near fall down a stairs or any type of accident leading to a sudden force on an outstretched arm, can lead to a rotator cuff tear. Continuing pain in the shoulder and loss of the ability to raise the arm or put on a coat or shirt will lead to studies that reveal the presence of a rotator cuff tear.

At times, physical therapy strengthens the shoulder sufficiently so that motion returns to allow usual use and pain declines to the point of being intermittent and tolerable. If not, then surgical repair of the tear is in order. However, in the elderly problems such as chronic lung disease, advanced heart disease, kidney insufficiency, or residual weakness from cancer chemotherapy, preclude operation.

The doctor then turns to the one therapy that remains: shoulder joint steroid injection. Furthermore, the doctor does not place rigid limits on this therapy such as limiting it to two or three times a year. He is dealing with an individual who cannot undergo surgical repair, but who needs use of the injured shoulder to maintain self care. What guides the timing of shoulder injection is not conformity to custom or obedience to an arbitrary rule, but how long a benefit the injection gives.

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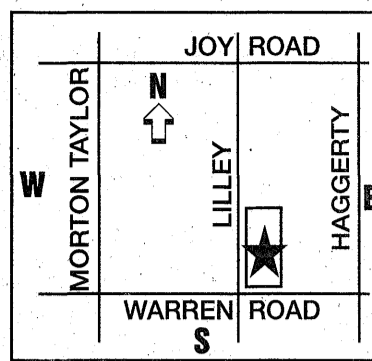
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MILESTONES

Maxwell Lucas Quiambao

Maxwell Lucas Quiambao was born at 11:24 p.m., Feb. 7, 2009, at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor. He was 20 inches long and weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces.

His parents are Cassie and Edmund Quiambao of Pinckney. Grandparents are Julie and Bill Skrent of Livonia and Robin Jackson and John



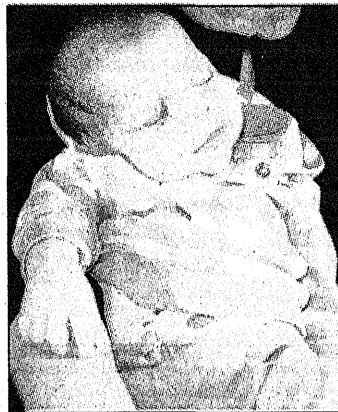
Maxwell Lucas Quiambao

Castro of Lake Orion. Great-grandparents are John and Betty Schaar of Livonia.

Brandon Richard Gordon

Brandon Richard Gordon was born on March 17, 2009, in St. John's Hospital. He weighed 8 pounds 3 ounces. Proud parents are to Laura and Rick Gordon, of Chesterfield Township. Brandon joins two sisters, Gillian, age 5, and Rebecca, age 1.

Grandparents are Ed Stephens, of Dallas, Ga., and Joann Stephens of Redford. Step-grandfather is Mike Cortell who lives in Redford.



Brandon Richard Gordon

65th anniversary

Jane and Les Bowden will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on April 15 with their daughter, Darleen Sweeney; grandchildren, Debbie (Jason) Sprawka, Donald (Erica) Sweeney and two great-grandsons, David and Aidan Sweeney.

The couple resides in Ft. Worth, Fla., and Livonia.



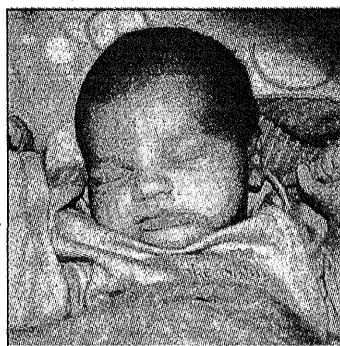
Jane and Les Bowden

Michael Donat Deschaw

Michael Donat Deschaw was born Oct. 13, 2008, at University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor, to Genevieve Leclair and Ryan Deschaw of Plymouth.

Grandparents are Diane Leclair of Plymouth, Teresa Deschaw of Plymouth, Don and Barb Leclair of Canton and Larry and Wanda Deschaw of Plymouth.

Great-grandparents are June Lazarus of Venice, Fla., and



Michael Donat Deschaw

Barbara Leclair of Fairfield Glade, Tenn.

Camden R. Schlaud

Camden R. Schlaud was born at 9:53 a.m., Feb. 28, 2009, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, in Ann Arbor, to Rick and Amy Schlaud of Canton. He weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces and measured 16 1/2 inches.

Camden joins older brother, Cole, at home. Grandparents are Rudy and Lou Cervantes of Canton, Kathy Schlaud



Camden R. Schlaud

and Lindsay Schlaud, both of Lapeer.

Fry-Naylor

Carolyn LeeAnna Fry and Stuart Allen Naylor plan to marry in June 2009 in Kualoa Ranch, Oahu, Hawaii.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Gary and Mary Beth Fry of Plymouth. She graduated in 1999 from Plymouth Salem High School and from the University of Michigan in 2003. She holds a bachelor of arts degree in Japanese language and has done post-graduate work at University of Hawaii. She teaches Japanese at Aiea High School, Aiea, Hawaii.

Her fiancé, son of Greg and Gail Naylor of Jackson, graduated in 1999 from



Carolyn Fry and Stuart Naylor

Marmion Academy, Aurora Ill., and from the University of Michigan with a bachelor of science degree in biomedical engineering in 2003. He is a quality assurance engineer for Tissue Genesis, Inc., Honolulu, Hawaii.



Amanda Wilson and Robert Baker

Wilson-Baker

Joe and Kathy Wilson of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Amanda, to Robert Baker, son of Jim and Teresa Baker of Twin Lake.

The bride-to-be will graduate in May from Eastern Michigan University with a secondary education degree. Her fiancé graduated from Concordia and works as a management trainee with Enterprise.

The couple plans to wed in June 2010 at the Baker's home on Twin Lake.

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The Observer Newspapers wants to know what's going on in your neighborhood. Send items to Linda Chomin, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226-3124 or lchomin@hometownlife.com.

NEIGHBORS MEETING

Livonia Neighbors & Friends, a Livonia women's club, will hold its next meeting 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church on Seven Mile, west of Gill Road, Livonia. New members are always welcome. A surprise speaker will be make an appearance.

For more information, visit LivoniaNeighborsFriends@hotmail.com. For questions, call Dorrie at (248) 777 3848.

THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT

The Western Wayne County Genealogical Society meets 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 20, at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road and Five Mile, in Livonia. The main speaker, following the business meeting, is Diane Oslund on The Grave Yard Shift. Oslund will include tips on finding ancestors' burial sites and will answer the questions "Why bother?" and "How important is it anyhow?" She is the current vice president of the Ford Genealogy Club. The 6:30 p.m. program will be Stephanie Smith discussing how to use jump drives and thumb drives.

The meetings are open to the public. Guests are always welcome. For more information, visit www.rootsweb.com/~miwwcgs/.

SPRING FLING

Emmanuel Lutheran Church and their Special Needs Ministry Team invite anyone with special needs to a Spring Fling Dance, 6:30-8 p.m. Saturday, May 16, at the church, 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. This event is designed for adults with cognitive and developmental disabilities, other special needs, and caretakers. The event includes music, fun, friendship, snacks and beverages. Space is limited, so reservations are required. Call Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822, or e-mail elc-ed@arounddetroit.biz no later than Friday, May 8.

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HEALTH & FITNESS

VegFest promotes the benefits of a plant-based diet

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Dr. Joel Kahn brings up plant-based diets to most, if not all, of his patients at the Michigan Heart Group in Troy. Over the last 20 years he's seen an increase in the number of younger people seeking treatment for cardiovascular disease and it troubles him as a cardiologist.

That's why he's looking forward to speaking about the topic at VegFest, a plant-based tastefest and expo Sunday, April 26, at Ferndale High School. The event is presented by VegMichigan, a nonprofit organization promoting the health, environmental and ethical benefits of a plant-based diet. Kahn quit eating meat 25 years ago and went vegan (no dairy products) for the last 10.

"I'm now seeing a lot of patients in their 40s who are not necessarily smokers or diabetics. I'm concerned about the trend of people gaining weight and exercising less," said Kahn, medical director of cardiac rehabilitation at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak. "I'll be speaking about the most common disease of heart attacks and strokes caused by clogging of arteries, disease that's preventable and that it's better to prevent than reverse it. Diet and lifestyle is a major component."

Kahn believes a plant-based diet is safe for everyone.

"Plants provide every nutrient even if you're an exerciser," said Kahn, a West Bloomfield resident who does a combination of swimming, yoga and exercise on machines 30 to 60 minutes a day. "Diabetics can safely use vegan diets. It's probably the healthiest diet choice. I think the key is to read. The VegFest is a great place to get started. Most doctors get little training in nutrition and it's usually funded by the milk and

VEGFEST

What: VegMichigan hosts annual vegetarian tastefest featuring food from local restaurants, lectures, cooking and raw food demonstrations, exhibitors, free samples and literature

When: Noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 26

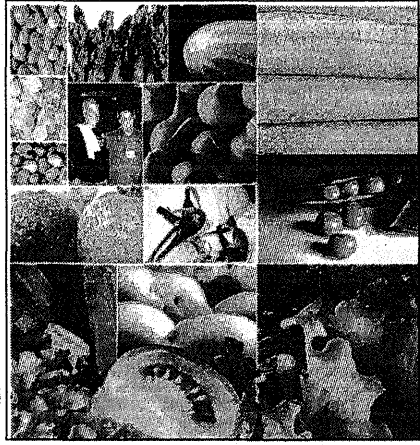
Where: Ferndale High School, 881 Pinecrest, south of Nine Mile, west of Woodward

Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 students, free for children under age 6 and VegMichigan members. For discounted tickets and memberships in advance, visit www.VegMichigan.org or call (877) 778-3464.

dairy industry. Soybean farmers don't have the funds to provide curriculum. I want to stress for people to come and learn, that they read and be willing to make small changes one day a week, breakfast as a vegetarian, try not to eat meat and fish for a week, take baby steps."

Like Kahn, pediatrician Mary Sue Sylwestrzak suggests a vegan diet for patients, especially for certain medical problems. She'll talk about the benefits as well as safety at VegFest. An M.D., Sylwestrzak has been providing traditional and integrative care for infants, children and adolescents for 16 years and is nearing completion of a degree as a Naturopathic Medical Doctor. She practices at Watch Me Grow Pediatrics in West Bloomfield.

"I definitely recommend a vegan diet if they're interested or if they have allergies and would do better off without dairy products," said Sylwestrzak of Beverly Hills. "The benefits of a vegan diet for



children is eliminating saturated fats, cholesterol, a totally animal based product. Fat content is lower. There's a lower risk of diabetes, heart disease, obesity. All of those problems are increasing."

Sylwestrzak referred to a recent Ohio State-Temple University study as proof that even young children are overweight. The research showed one in five 4-year-olds are obese.

"I personally have seen more and more older kids with Type 2 diabetes taking medication in the last 5 or 6 years and an increase especially in overweight children due to the standard American diet of too much fast food, processed food, not enough fruits and vegetables, not enough activity. Like any diet it should be well thought out and planned, take into account requirements for B-12, vitamin D and calcium. If you make a good attempt to have a variety of foods every day you're probably going to be good."

The irony, she said, is pediatricians routinely tell parents to feed their child nothing but fruits, vegetables and grains for the first nine months.

"They're basically vegan," said Sylwestrzak. "There are benefits for kids of all ages, but different things you have to keep in

mind whether infant or adolescent. At VegFest I'm part of the ask the experts panel, an open forum, and a group of us will answer questions on anything related to a plant-based diet."

Harry Pianko went vegetarian 10 years ago and quit eating dairy products five years ago. As president of VegMichigan, he's looking forward to sharing information about healthy food choices at VegFest (formerly The

Great American Meatout).

Pianko learned about vegetarian food from a college friend born in India. He quit eating meat after learning about the health benefits, cruelty perpetrated on the animals during factory farming and the resulting pollution and damage to the environment.

Before long he noticed the physical changes, which included an increase in energy and loss of weight. The 31-year-old Birmingham resident hasn't taken a sick day as vice president of finance and business operations for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's Michigan chapter since 2000.

"It's a big vegetarian festival. We bring in speakers, local and national, to tell the benefits of a plant-based diet," said Pianko. "I'm especially excited about our keynote speaker John Salley who went vegetarian with the Pistons and is now vegan and going to share his story. There are people who want to quit eating meat but want to know where to get information. We have 13 or 14 restaurants confirmed like Q'doba and Inn Season who give out samples. For those who ask 'but how do I cook it,' we also have food demonstrations cooking everything from quinoa (a grain) to a smoothie. We're looking for-

ward to educating people who normally don't know about the benefits of a plant-based diet. We'd like to encourage people even if you're a meat

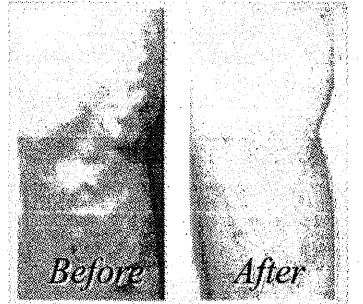
eater or just curious to check out VegFest and VegMichigan. We hope to get more meat eaters than vegetarians to show people how great it is."

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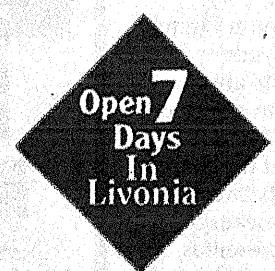


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'RELATED EXPERIENCE' NOT ALL IT'S CRACKED UP TO BE



WORKWISE
by
Mildred L.
Culp

Many employers use lack of related experience as a reason not to hire an applicant. Many would-be applicants are afraid to change careers because they lack that experience. Some recent research points out that related experience from one company can be detrimental in another.

"Unpacking Prior Experience" in Organization Science, a professional publication, reports that task-oriented behaviors from a previous company make it possible for a person to settle into a company quickly -- at least as far as completing tasks is concerned. However, the authors' research of 771 call center employees and job applicants at a major insurer returned at least one eye-opening result: Habits of doing business may not be in sync with the new culture.

Associate professor Steffanie Wilk of Ohio State University's Fisher College of Business, a co-author of the paper, says that people with directly related experience "have the skills and lingo and understand the job. However, the schemas and scripts they followed before might make them get stuck in their rut. The organization might be culpable, because when they hire (a person with) previous experience in a related

occupation, they tend not to spend time breaking old habits."

Most applicants who want occupational continuity develop their resumes and personal presentation to reflect related experience. It only makes sense. Give the employer what he wants. Should you ask for training to get your habits up to speed?

PREVENTION

Alan Lurie, author of "Five Minutes on Mondays: Finding Unexpected Purpose, Peace and Fulfillment at Work" (FT Press, \$21.99), is an ordained rabbi and former architect. Today he's a managing director at Grubb & Ellis in New York City. He comments, "It's much easier to skill-train, especially if an employee is younger. Attitude is more difficult to identify. Older people with fixed attitudes often make managers uncomfortable." What can you do?

Lurie says that as you're considering a company, be attuned to whether it's hierarchical or egalitarian, which indicates its attitude. How does communication occur? What clues do you get from the physical environment? Do executives and others "live" the same way? Are doors open or closed? "Good companies have attitude statements about who they are and what they believe in," he notes. Ask yourself what they think works.

"You need to be conscious of what the dynamics are," he continues. "Good (companies) are conscious about what they stand for and how they view (the process of working). You must be conscious about what you want."

When Lurie interviews candidates, he devotes some time to the person's beliefs, values, dreams and potential, which can catch younger people, especially, unaware. This tactic is conscious. "I can't train somebody to be," he explains, "just do."

TUNING IN

You know that you need to adjust if you're already there, making suggestions in your customary manner, and, Willk says, you hear one or more of these statements:

- "This is not how we do this here."
- "That is not consistent with our policies."
- "It's not a part of our culture."

"Five Minutes" advocates flexibility, the cornerstone of creativity. Lurie wants you to come up with multiple suggestions, one after the other, "quickly and confidently ... regardless of existing conventional answers."

Willk states that open-mindedness is particularly important in today's difficult climate. "Key in to social cues (to determine) what's important and valued," she says. "Be tuned in, aware, listening, asking questions early on so you take a new situation as an opportunity to rethink what they're bringing, what will be valuable here and what won't." Take note of subtle cues, such as interesting assignments or assignments with other people.

She also advises open communication with your supervisor about whether you're "tuning into the cultural norms and expectations."

"Five Minutes on Mondays is a gold mine of enlightenment... It is an easy read with a deep and profound impact."
—Marilyn Barone, Chair of the Board, The Center for Sustainability and the Marketplace, Simon Mary's University, co-author of "Your High Five Business Best-Ofs, Children Save the Soul at Home"

FIVE MINUTES ON MONDAYS

Finding Unexpected Purpose, Peace, and Fulfillment at Work

ALAN LURIE

"Five Minutes on Mondays," by Alan Lurie, was released this month by FT Press. Its author is managing director at Grubb & Ellis in New York City (and a rabbi). The book brings fresh perspective on the spiritual (not religious) dimensions of work to readers at a time of market turbulence.

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Help Wanted-General 5000

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORNERSTONE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Southfield's Cornerstone Development Authority (CDA) is seeking a dynamic individual to function as its Chief Executive Officer. The Executive Director is responsible for day-to-day management of the operations of the CDA to include staff supervision, functional oversight of the Millennium Theatre, financial and budget administration, contract administration, special events coordination, grant preparation, promotion of redevelopment and business retention in the downtown area, representing the CDA before business and community groups; and serving as liaison to the City, business community, and CDA residents. The Executive Director also serves as a member of the Southfield Business Development Team which is designed to promote, service, and retain the business resources of the entire Southfield community. Minimum qualifications include a Bachelor's degree or equivalent in Planning, Business Administration, Marketing, or related field, and five years of directly related experience including at least three years of supervision. An applicable Masters Degree is a plus. The position also requires excellent communication, managerial, and organizational skills; demonstrated technical knowledge and experience in municipal financing, marketing, land-use, and applicable State and Federal laws. A valid State of Michigan driver's license and a good driving record are also required. Salary range is \$52,000 to \$63,000 DOQ plus a comprehensive fringe benefits package. This is a contract position, serving at the pleasure of the CDA Board.

Submit a signed City of Southfield Employment Application, Authorization to Release Personal Information form, a resume, and cover letter to include recent accomplishments and salary requirements by 5:00p.m., Friday, May 8, 2009 to:

Valerie Crump
Director of Staff Services/
Human Resources
26000 Evergreen Road
P. O. Box 2055
Southfield, MI 48037-2055
or fax to 248-796-4715
Employment Applications and the Release form can be downloaded from the City of Southfield website at:
www.cityofsouthfield.com
A driving and criminal history check will be performed on all applicants. Only those applicants who most closely meet the selection criteria will be invited to continue in the selection process.

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Help Wanted-Computer/Info Systems 5010

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Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

FRONT DESK W/ EXPERIENCE
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Legal Assistant
Livonia law firm seeks entry level Legal Assistant. Email cover letter and resume parsonsbowkamp@aol.com

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT
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Please respond via fax to: 248-626-5023 or call: 248-891-1075 and leave best available times to contact.

Dental Laboratory front desk person needed. Mon-Fri Livonia area. 35+ hours. Must have computer skills and dental knowledge. Job requires ability to multi task. Fax resume 1-734-427-8831

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

FRONT OFFICE MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Full-time. Exp. preferred. Mature, dependable. Health Benefits included. Fax resume: 248-557-6145 or Mail: Family Medicine, PC 22255 Greenfield, Suite 516 Southfield, MI 48075

NURSE CONSULTANT
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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

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Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

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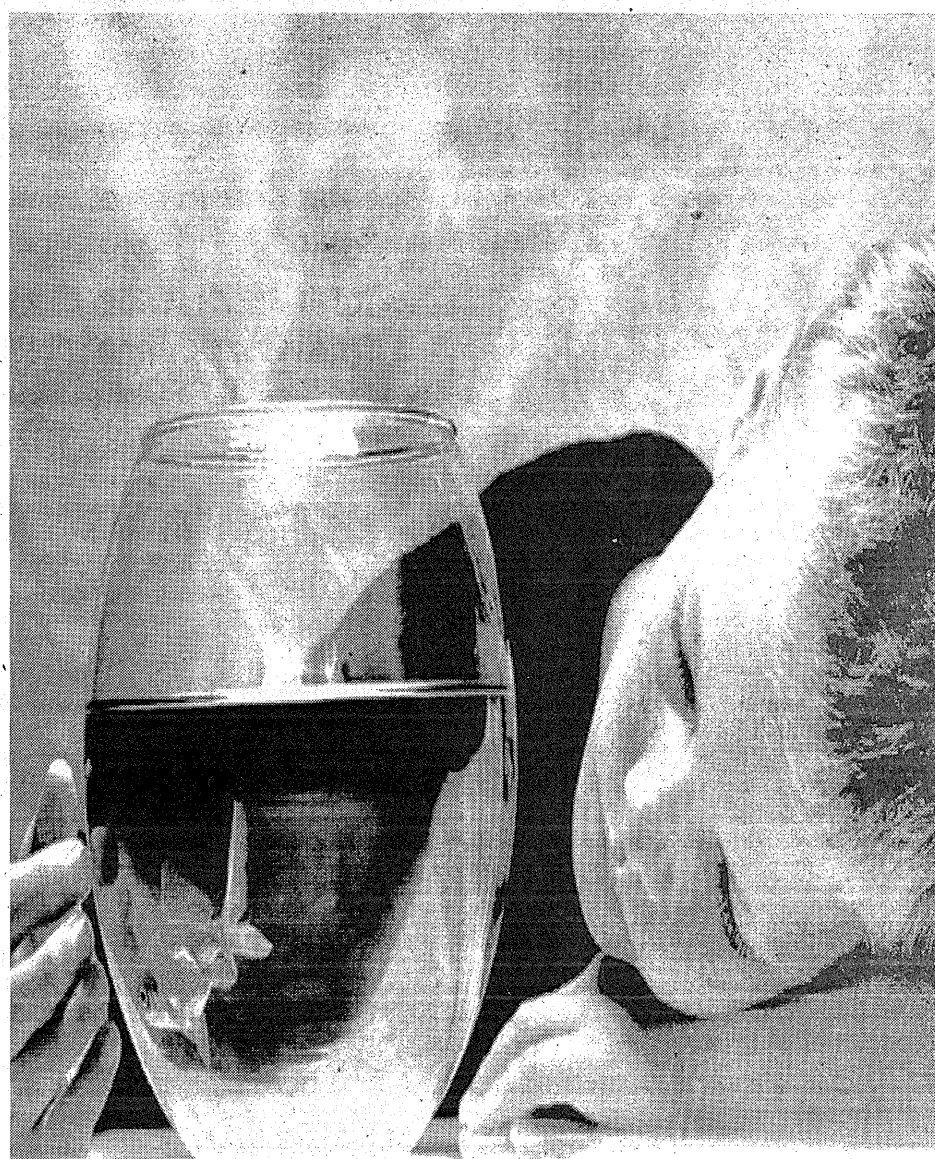
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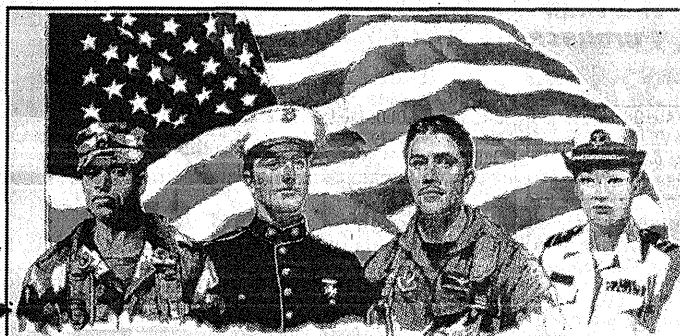


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 Total Confidence...5-Year 100,000 Mile Powertrain Warranty[†]

2009 CHEVROLET HHR LS	2009 CHEVROLET IMPALA	2009 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE LS	2009 CHEVROLET CORVETTE COUPE	2009 CHEVROLET MALIBU LS	2009 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
<p>Auto, air, power windows, locks & mirrors, remote start, AM/FM/CD/MP3, XM radio, Aux jack, ABS, cruise, tilt, traction control, stabilitrak, front & headcurtain airbags, OnStar. Stock # 9T2185</p> 	<p>3.5, V6, air, power windows & locks, tilt steering, speed & cruise control, OnStar Safe & Sound, stereo CD, rear defogger, auto overdrive. Stock #6460</p> 	<p>ABS, power windows, locks & mirrors, AM/FM/CD/Aux jack, air, keyless entry, spare tire, trailer package, XM radio, OnStar, tilt/telescopic column, cruise, stabilitrak, front, side & head curtain airbags. Stock # 9T2330D</p> 	<p>Auto, 6.2L V8, ABS, AM/FM/CD/MP3/Aux jack, XM radio, OnStar, leather interior, driver info, power locks, windows & mirrors, tilt, cruise, keyless entry, air, traction control. Stock # 9C6172</p> 	<p>Auto, air, power locks, windows & mirrors, keyless remote, AM/FM/CD/MP3/Aux jack, XM radio, OnStar, tilt, cruise, driver info center, stabilitrak. Stock #9C6700D</p> 	<p>Reg cab, 2yrd, air, locking differential, AM/FM/CD/MP3, XM radio, OnStar, driver info center, tilt steering, airbags. Stock #P2145</p> 
LEASE FROM JUST... \$253 PER MO. 39 MOS. \$871 Down \$1500 Total Due at Signing	LEASE FROM JUST... \$299 PER MO. 39 MOS. \$858 Down \$1700 Total Due at Signing	LEASE FROM JUST... \$379 PER MO. 48 MOS. \$811 Down \$1525 Total Due at Signing	LEASE FROM JUST... \$559 PER MO. 48 MOS. \$697 Down \$1550 Total Due at Signing	LEASE FROM JUST... \$249 PER MO. 39 MOS. \$851 Down \$1550 Total Due at Signing	LEASE FROM JUST... \$297 PER MO. 39 MOS. \$770 Down \$1500 Total Due at Signing
WAS.....\$20,380 NOW.....\$18,788 LESS REBATE.....\$3,000 PAY ONLY \$15,788*	WAS.....\$24,665 NOW.....\$22,767 LESS REBATE.....\$5,750 PAY ONLY \$17,017*	WAS.....\$29,560 NOW.....\$26,911 LESS REBATE.....\$2,250 PAY ONLY \$24,661*	WAS.....\$49,145 NOW.....\$42,742 LESS REBATE.....\$1,500 PAY ONLY \$41,242*	WAS.....\$22,505 NOW.....\$20,772 LESS REBATE.....\$4,250 PAY ONLY \$16,522*	WAS.....\$21,135 NOW.....\$19,433 LESS REBATE.....\$4,000 PAY ONLY \$15,433*
WITH GM EMPLOYEE & CURRENT LESSEE OFFERS	WITH GM EMPLOYEE & CURRENT LESSEE OFFERS	WITH GM EMPLOYEE	WITH GM EMPLOYEE & CURRENT LESSEE OFFERS	WITH GM EMPLOYEE & CURRENT LESSEE OFFERS	WITH GM EMPLOYEE & CURRENT LESSEE OFFERS

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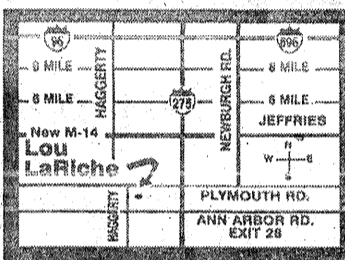
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New 2009 Ford Fusion SE Sun & Sync Value PKG

Was \$23,115

A/Z Plan Purchase **\$15,207***

OR...
36 Months/36,000 Miles Lease **\$195*** PER MO.
\$2729 Due at Signing



Stock #91006

New 2009 Ford F150 Supercab 4x4

Was \$33,985

A/Z Plan Purchase **\$24,352****

OR...
36 Months/36,000 Miles Lease **\$404*** PER MO.
\$2921 Due at Signing



Stock #91616

New 2009 Ford Focus 4DR SE

Was \$17,690

A/Z Plan Purchase **\$11,541****

OR...
36 Months/36,000 Miles Lease **\$163*** PER MO.
\$1575 Due at Signing



Stock #91920

New 2009 Ford Edge SE FWD

Was \$26,905

A/Z Plan Purchase **\$19,332***

OR...
36 Months/36,000 Miles Lease **\$321*** PER MO.
\$1833 Due at Signing



Stock #91017

New 2009 Ford Flex SE

Was \$29,755

A/Z Plan Purchase **\$21,281***

OR...
36 Months/36,000 Miles Lease **\$316*** PER MO.
\$1857 Due at Signing



Stock #91600

New 2009 Ford Ranger XLT Supercab 4x4

Was \$25,770

A/Z Plan Purchase **\$18,694***

OR...
36 Months/36,000 Miles Lease **\$275*** PER MO.
\$1694 Due at Signing



Stock #91667

New 2009 Ford Escape XLT FWD Sun & Sync Value PKG

Was \$25,370

A/Z Plan Purchase **\$18,109***

OR...
36 Months/36,000 Miles Lease **\$293*** PER MO.
\$1743 Due at Signing



Stock #91461

New 2009 Ford Mustang GT CPE

Was \$32,840

A/Z Plan Purchase **\$24,226****

OR...
36 Months/36,000 Miles Lease **\$332*** PER MO.
\$2814 Due at Signing



Stock #90002

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Add tax, title, plate, doc fee. Security deposit waived. With approved credit. All prior sales excluded. Must qualify for A/Z/D plan renewal. Pictures may not represent actual vehicles. All factory rebates assigned to dealer. See dealer for details. 2009 F-150 add tax, title, plates and doc fees. Must qualify for all applicable factory rebates. Including both RCL/RCD Ford credit renewal rebates. Must finance thru FMCC. Expires 4-30-09