

Special section inside today's newspaper

Essay honors

The Plymouth-Canton Civitans recently handed out \$1,000 in their annual essay contest.

First-place winner was Casey Olson, a Salem High School junior whose essay, "Mark Has a Brother Named David," earned him a \$500 scholarship.

Hilary DeGraaf, a senior at Plymouth High School, earned the second-place \$300 reward with her essay, "Journey into Wonderland.

Jacquelyn Castelles finished third with her essay, "Point and Flex." Castelles, a senior at Salem High School, earned \$200.



Jacquelyn Castelles, Casey Olson and Hilary DeGraaf.

Care packages

Michigan Nonprofit Association volunteers and Comcast employees will work with area shelters to help prepare personal care packages for the homeless April 25 as part of the company's eighth Comcast Cares

The volunteers will assemble the packages at Comcast's Plymouth Operations Center, 41112 Concept Drive, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday.

More than 20 nonprofit organizations in the communities Comcast serves throughout Michigan will benefit from the efforts of more than 2,300 Comcast volunteers. Nationwide, a total of more than 50,000 Comcast volunteers will participate on this annual day of service, which is one of the largest single-day corporate volunteer efforts in the country. Comcast Cares Day is one way that Comcast helps to power dreams and demonstrate a yearround commitment to making a difference in the communities it

"As Michigan Nonprofit Association and the Volunteer Centers of Michigan celebrate this year's National Volunteer Week, Comcast Cares Day is a great opportunity for the business and nonprofit sectors to serve their local community together to ensure a community need is met," said Kyle Caldwell, president and CEO of Michigan Nonprofit Association. "Local shelters will be able to better provide for residents as they use these personal care packages to assist the many families they



Randall Rose, working out at the Snap Fitness gym in Plymouth Township, has lost some 130 pounds with exercise and dietary changes.

He ain't heavy

Lifestyle shift key to weight loss success

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Being heavy was nothing new to Randall Rose, since by his own admission ne a dattied a weight problem as far back as the fourth grade.

But as he aged and his lifestyle changed — as an adult he started drinking and partying way too much — Rose, now 40, realized he was having more bad days than

Simple things — breathing, crossing his legs - became nearly impossible for Rose, who figures he ballooned to some 330 pounds at his heaviest. At 5-foot-9, he was squeezing into pants with a 52 waist and shirts up to 4XL.

"I was just fat and miserable," recalled Rose, a manager at, ironically, the Bob Evans restaurant next to IKEA in Canton. "I wanted to die."

Rather than die, Rose chose another course: straightening out his life. He quit the drinking, ditched the partying and looked for ways to get some exercise. It went well, and he lost a good deal

But it started going back on he figures he regained about 40 of the 120 pounds he estimates he'd lost — and he got worried.

That's when he wandered into Snap Fitness, a gym in Plymouth



Randall Rose gained some of his weight back, but he's back on track with his program.

Township whose 24/7 schedule fit Rose's "crazy restaurant schedule." There Rose encountered personal trainer Nick Cabauatan, who immediately set about the task of reining in Rose's habits — and his weight.

"He was shortening his life span, and he knew it," said Cabauatan, who grew up in Canton and is a 2001 Canton High School graduate. "He needed the commitment

to be here." The workout regimen Cabauatan



At his heaviest, Randall Rose wore size · 52 pants and 4XL shirts.

set up for Rose includes two days a week working with weights, two days a week working on cardio exercises and three days a week working out outside the gym, riding the bike, etc.

"He's never missed a workout with me, and we've been doing this 18 months," Cabauatan said. "He's very committed."

In addition to the workout regimen, Rose started watching what

Please see WEIGHT LOSS, A5

Citizens' group takes aim at township practices

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Two new watchdogs have entered the Plymouth Township political fray.

A watchdog group, the Plymouth Township Citizens Committee, has scheduled an organizational meeting for Tuesday, and a new Web site critical of township officials, www.plymouthtwp.net, is being anonymously published by someone calling himself, or herself, the Watchdog.

"My aim is, No. 1, to get more peop to come to the trustees' meetings, to know what's going on," said Caro Leroue, who called herself the principal organizer behind the citizens committee.

Leroue, a former member of township's Board of Review who plained publicly about not being pointed this year, said she war cerned residents to show up a th meeting to talk about their complaints. She hopes to enlist attendees to get informed and involved.

We're going to make sure that things are being run properly, that money is being spent properly," she said.

ine committees meeting Tuesday at the Plymouth District Library — is advertised on the Watchdog's Web site. But Leroue said she's not behind the site and doesn't know who is.

She's been working to publicize Tuesday's meeting, distributing fliers and notifying the presidents of homeowners associations. Township Treasurer Ron Edwards,

responding for the township, said www. plymouthtwp.net is filled with baseless innuendoes. He said the fact the site's publisher is nameless shows the site lacks credibility. "Where're the facts? Where's the

proof?" Edwards said. "These people are just dreaming things up.' The site's allegations include:

• The township is violating Michigan's Act 78 of 1935, which governs the civil service system for police and fire departments, by not replacing a retired fire chief.

Not so, Edwards said. "You can leave that position open forever," he said. Besides, he said, the township is currently testing candidates for the job.

 Money from a 2005 public safety millage is being mishandled. Not true again, Edwards said. The

Please see MEETINGS, A5

Index APARTMENTS C2

serve."

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District reassigns band leader

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Plymouth-Canton school officials have placed band director Amy Boerma on paid administrative leave with the intention of reassigning her.

The action, confirmed by Superintendent Dr. Craig Fiegel, removes Boerma, the Michigan Association of School Bands District 12 Teacher of the Year and a candidate for the same honor at the state level, from the classroom for the rest of the year. She had been the leader of both the wind ensemble and varsity bands.

"(Boerma) has been placed on paid administrative leave, pending reassignment," Fiegel said. Beyond that, Fiegel said, the district would have no comment.

Boerma refused to comment, referring any inquiries to her union representative. Chuck Portelli, president of the Plymouth-Canton Education Association, did not return calls seeking comment.

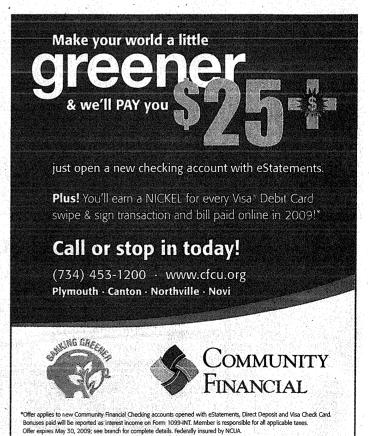
Sources say the district's action was spurred by several claims against Boerma, including an accusation that she called a student an inappropriate name during a class. Sources said the claim was refuted by the vast majority of students in the class, many of whom wrote notes to administrators.

Other claims, according to sources, include inconsistencies in the instrument inventory of the band program and claims Boerma was "acting unprofessionally."

Boerma's supporters find the claim about the inappropriate name-calling particularly difficult to believe.

"Almost humorous is the reprimand (Boerma) received regarding an analogy made in her class," said Steven Davis, a former Associate Director of University Bands at the University of Michigan. "Anyone who has taken even a moment to get to know Amy Boerma knows she adores her students as if they are her own kids and would never say anything to hurt them."

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

Penn auction

The fourth annual "PENNdemonium" Dinner Auction to benefit Friends of the Penn will take place Friday, May 8, at the Meeting House Grand Ballroom in downtown Plymouth.

This exciting evening includes hors d'oeuvres, plated dinner with your choice of entrée, full open bar, dessert, raffle, live and silent auction, music and dancing. Tickets are \$85 and must be purchased in advance. Early Bird special - \$75 if purchased before April 15. For reservations, e-mail tickets@friendsofthepenn.org; stop by the Penn Box Office during movie hours or call (734) 453-0870.

Senior party fundraisers

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

Carvel Ice Cream fundraiser is Thursday, May 7 (on Ford Road); there's a planning meeting for parents of current juniors Monday, April 27 at Salem High School at 7 p.m., in the Media Center (Need chairpersons for next

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 23, 2009

the night of party - contact pcep-senior-party@comcast.

To volunteer or for questions, contact peep-seniorparty@comcast.net

Hike for Hope

The New Hope Center for Grief Support hosts a Hike for Hope Saturday, June 6, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Maybury State Park (Eight Mile entrance, one mile west of Beck Road, car fee of \$6), 20145 Beck Road in Northville, a fun-filled family time walking or running and remembering loved ones.

A registration fee of \$15 per person or \$25 per family will be charged prior to the event and \$20 per person or \$30 per family the day of the event; donations from sponsors can be obtained by walkers. Registration is from 9-9:45 a.m. The hike will be followed by a "Time of Remembrance," complimentary pre-race "fuel-

ing" of fruit, bagels, and juices. New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach center located in Northville. The non-profit agency provides grief support services for (Need chairpersons tor next year); and planning meeting through groups, semmas through groups (Salem High School at 7 p.m., offered by Many Hope Center are provided for through groups are through groups through groups are through groups. through groups, seminars and

and the agency relies on indidial and community support for its funding.

For more information about Hike for Hope or to participate, volunteer, or be a business sponsor, please call the New Hope office at (248) 348-0115 or visit the center's Web site at www.newhopecenter.

Shred day

Community Financial is inviting local residents and small business owners to protect confidential information and shred their documents at the credit union's Plymouth branch from 12:30-3 p.m. on Saturday, May 2, 2009. The special event is being hosted in partnership with Shred-it, an on-site document destruction company. The Shred-it truck will be available in the branch's parking lot located at 500 S. Harvey.

"If you're in the midst of spring cleaning and want to get rid of papers that contain personal information, this is an ideal opportunity," said Sarah Cousineau, Community Financial's marketing manager. "We're extremely diligent about protecting our members' identity, and we strongly encourage them and others in the community to do the same."

Shred-it provides a secure location where documents are shredded into fine confetti. The shredded documents are then securely baled for recycling and turned into a variety of paper products.

For more information, visit the credit union web site at www.cfcu.org or call (734) 453-1200 or (877) 937-2328, toll free.

of business and professional women

Sarah Colburn (center), owner of Scott Colburn Boots and Western Wear in Livonia. hosted members of the

Single Action Shooting Society during the store's recent Trunk Show, which attracted hundreds of new and

returning customers for the discount prices. SASS members are associated with the Western Wayne County

Denise Van Raemdonck, Sarah Colburn and Debbie Hanka, all of Livonia; Steve Dininsky of Redford Township;

and Michael Fandrei and Ray Hanka, both of Livonia. For more information on SASS visit their Web site www.

Conservation Association in Plymouth. Attending the show were Glenn Armitage, Gary Van Raemdonck,

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to business and professional women through education along lines of industrial, scientific and vocational activities To obtain an applica-

tion, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Plymouth BPW, PO Box 5338, Plymouth MI 48170.

Family fun

Plymouth area families are invited to join the Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors 11 a.m. May 2 for a morning of fun and creativity at Creatopia Paint-it-Yourself Pottery in Plymouth.

At this final Family Fun event of the Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors 2008-2009 season, families will gather to create memories and priceless works of art as they paint their own pottery. Anyone can participate. Advanced registration

PHOTO BY DAVID MALHALAE

Creatopia Pottery is located at 924 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth. Cost is \$5 studio fee per person plus the cost of pottery

RSVP To Eileen Ganster by April 25 at president@plymouthnewcomers.com or (734) 737-0385.

PLAV car show

PLAV Post 166, 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.



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Stewart files for Senate race as Democrat

Former state Rep. John Stewart of Plymouth, who served three terms in the state House of Representatives as a Republican, has filed papers with the Secretary of State to run for the state Senate as a Democrat.

Stewart will compete in the Aug. 3, 2010 Democratic primary for the seat currently held by Republican Sen. Bruce Patterson (Canton), who is term-limited. Stewart



switched parties shortly after his third term ended in 2006.

The Lshaped 7th Senate District in Wayne County

Northville south and over to Grosse Ile. The district includes 16 communities: the City and Township of Plymouth, City and Township of Northville, townships of Canton, Van Buren, Sumpter, Huron and Brownstown as well as the communities of Belleville, Woodhaven, Gibraltar, Trenton, Flat Rock, Rockwood and Grosse Ile.

Stewart, a 59-year-old lawyer, was born and raised Downriver in Wyandotte. He served in the House from 2000-2006 before being term-limited in December 2006.

During his three terms as state representative, Stewart was on the appropriations committee for six years and served as chair of appropriations for higher education and chair of judiciary.

"With my roots in the Downriver area and having served as state representative for western Wayne County for six years, I am the most qualified candidate to serve the best interests of the residents of the 7th Senate District," Stewart said.

Joe Gannon



Pottery prowess

Pewabic Pottery presents its 33rd annual Staff, Student and Faculty Exhibition which features the latest creations from Pewabic's talented staff and students in a variety of mediums. The exhibition is being sponsored by the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs continues through May 10. Among the exhibits featured are works by Plymouth artist Nancy Guido. Pewabic Pottery, a non-profit arts and cultural organization dedicated to ceramic education and advancing contemporary ceramic arts while honoring Arts & Crafts ideals. Visitors are welcome, free of charge, during regular business hours Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. To learn more about Pewabic Pottery, call (313) 822-0954 or visit the Web site at www.pewabic.org.

Art show

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools hosts its first K-12 Art Show, "Inaugural Event," Saturday, April 25, in the Plymouth High School cafeteria. The juried show will feature some 2,000 pieces of student artwork from 26 district school locations.

All entrants will receive a Certificate of Recognition. Local celebrities, professional jurors and district art teachers will be on hand to select pieces for special recognition.

The artwork will be on display 4-8 p.m.; district students from the music department

will also perform. The awards ceremony runs 7-7:30 p.m.

The show is a collaborative effort between the district, the **Plymouth Community Arts** Council and Canton Leisure Services.

Park clean-up

Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox is hosting her fifth annual Park Clean-Up Day Saturday, May 9.

The clean-up will take place at the Bennett Arboretum and Northville Recreation area from 9 a.m. to noon. Parking is located across the street at Cass Benton. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Cox will provide the first 50 volunteers with a pair of tickets to a Detroit Tigers' game.

Contact Jordyn Salmon at (313) 224-0946 to sign-up.

FORECLOSURE NOTICE This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the Military, please contact our office at the number listed below. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Timothy B Baibak a/k/a Timothy Baibek, A Married Man and Christine Baibak, His Wife to Oak Street Mortgage LLC, Mortgagee, dated September 30, 2004 and recorded October 15, 2004 in Liber 41515 Page 498 Wayne County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage was assigned through mesne assignments to: Household Finance Corporation III, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Ninety Thousand Six Hundred Eighteen Dollars and Eighteen Cents (\$190,618.18) including interest 11.5% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage case made and provided notice i given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises; or some part of them, at public vendue, Circuit Court of Wayne County at 1:00PM on May 7, 2009 Said premises are situated in City of Livonia, Wayne County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 611, Country Homes Subdivision No. 3, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 78 of Plats, Page 43. Wayne County Records. Commonly known as 35809 Richland St, Livonia MI 48150 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 or MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c). whichever is later. Dated: APRIL 6, 2009 Household Finance Corporation III Assignee of Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 09-08291 ASAP# 3053527 04/09/ 2009, 04/16/2009, 04/23/2009, 04/30/2009

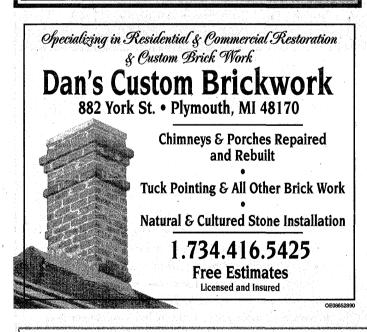
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City takes closer look at liquor licenses

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Slight changes to Plymouth's liquor license policy are likely following city commissioners' discussion Monday of whether to cap the number of places allowed to sell alcohol by the

Most commissioners came down against a license quota, saying the free market should decide how many is enough. But all said the situation should be monitored, expressing concern about the city's image and the burden that a greater number of drinking establishments could mean for the police department.

"We're after family friendly." said Commissioner Mike Wright. "To me, the only way we can achieve that is through managing, frankly."

"To me, it speaks to the character of our community," said Mayor Phil Pursell.

'We don't want it to become a problem," said Commissioner David Workman. But Workman also said he wouldn't want a license limit to discourage an entrepreneur willing to brave the current recession by opening a tavern or restaurant.

City Manager Paul Sincock said 17 taverns and restaurants in Plymouth are licensed to serve alcohol, not including clubs, such as the Knights of

Columbus, and small production operations such as the Liberty Street Brewing Co., a microbrewery that serves beer.

Two more restaurants, the Grecian Cafe on Main Street and the not-yet-open Ironwood Grill on Ann Arbor Trail, have begun the liquor license application process.

Sincock said the city's liquor license policy will be reviewed and likely revised to include clubs and alcohol manufacturers. That would subject them to an annual review by city officials; bars and restaurants that serve alcohol currently are subject to such reviews.

Sincock said a focus group of residents recently came to the consensus that there should be no license cap, but that the situation should be watched.

While granting, denying or revoking a license is ultimately up to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission, that body will typically abide by the wishes of local officials in communities that have a policy in place.

Plymouth set its liquor license policy about four years ago, Sincock said; one license has been revoked under the policy.

"For most places we deal with, we don't have issues," he said. "The ordinance has been very successful for us."

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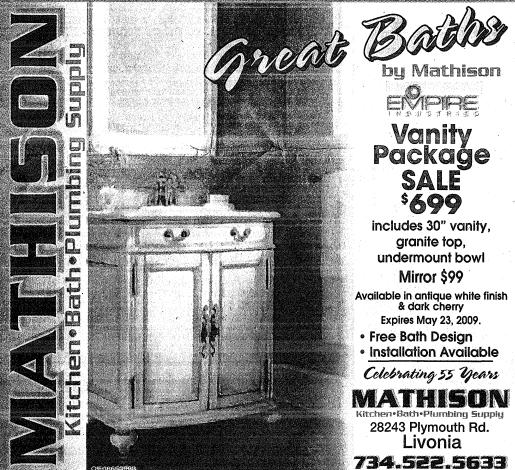
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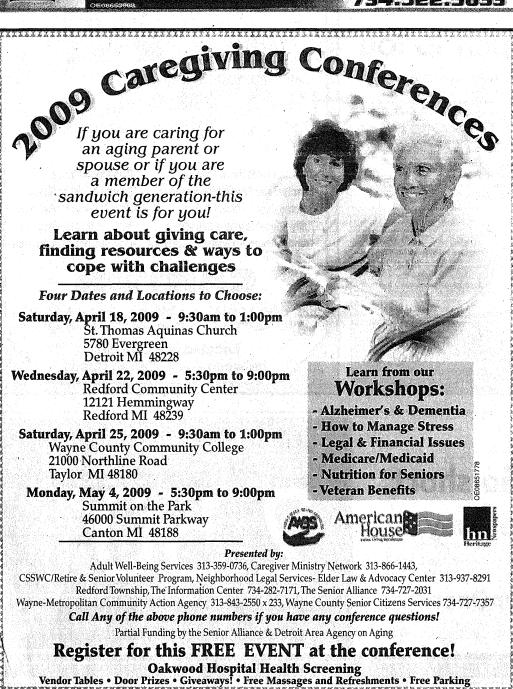
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Pipe, marijuana in Workshop drives car lead to arrest

A traffic stop early on April 17 led to the arrest of a 23-year-old Sterling Heights man on charges of possessing marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

The suspect, who was driving a Jeep, was pulled over just after 3 a.m. near Tavistock and Joy Road after a patrolling officer noticed the vehicle's plate had expired, a Plymouth Township Police Department report said.

Upon speaking with the driver, the officer noticed the smell of burned marijuana, police said, and the driver admitted to smoking marijuana while driv-

The driver and two passengers were ordered out of the Jeep, and when the front-seat passenger got out, a glass pipe was visible on the floorboards, police said. A drug-sniffing dog searched the car and located a plastic bag of suspected marijuana in a golf bag in the Jeep's back seat, police said.

The substance, weighing 2.4 grams, tested positive for marijuana, police said.

The driver told police the contraband was his and was arrested, police said. The passengers, who were not identified in the police report, were released.

Easter arrest

A freeway speeder got more than a ticket when a township officer pulled

him over on M-14 around 11 p.m. on Easter Sunday, April 12.

The 45-year-old Detroit man was driving without a license, police said, and had marijuana and open containers of alcohol in the car. He was arrested.

A passenger, a 33-yearold Detroit man, was also arrested, on an outstanding Macomb County warrant. The driver's son, 19, was released. Police said an officer was

monitoring traffic on M-14 west of Sheldon Road and clocked the driver, heading east in a Dodge Stratus, at 98 mph. The officer stopped the driver near Sheldon, and reported that one passenger was making "furtive movements" while a second passenger "popped up" from behind a seat.

Upon speaking with the driver, who said he had no license, the officer noticed two spilled bottles of beer in the car, plus an open bottle of vodka, police said. The car smelled of alcohol and marijuana, police said.

The back-seat passenger – the driver's son – told police he had thrown marijuana out of the car before his father was stopped, but behind the back seat, police found a plastic bag of what tested positive for marijuana, the report said. The driver said it belonged to him.

to better skills of older motorists

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Good drivers are found in all vintages, but those age 50 and might need a little help. That's where the Traffic Improvement Association comes in.

The TIA, a 42-year-old nonprofit working to improve traffic safety in many Detroit-area communities, is holding a three-day workshop for mature drivers next week at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth Township. The sessions are 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday; the \$20 fee includes lunch Monday and Tuesday.

"Older drivers can start having problems, and they go over all of that with us," said OLGC member Doris Carter, who represents senior citizens on the parish council.

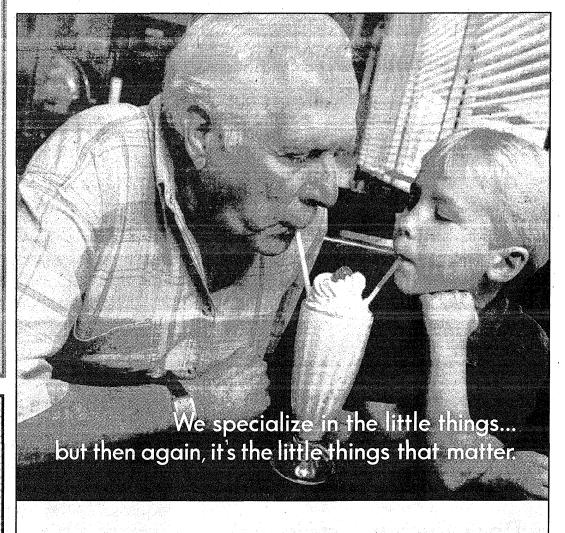
Workshop instructors will evaluate each driver individually — and confidentially - and measure brake reaction time, depth perception, glare recovery (important for night driving) and other abilities that are used in safe driving. They will teach defensive driving skills and ways to compensate for the diminishment in abilities that sometimes accompanies aging.

Publicity about the workshop stresses instructors will not render judgments on participants' driving, but give them information to help them make their own judgements and improve their skills. Sponsors of the workshop include

AAA Michigan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Drivers age 50 older can register for the workshop by calling Doris Carter at (734) 453-9730. There are limited spots available. Good Counsel is at 47650 North Territorial, just west of Beck Road.

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GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm

Send correspondence to P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909, or call Constituent Services at (517) 335-7858. The fax number is (517) 335

State Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-

Contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI, 48909; by phone at (517) 373-7350; toll-free at (866) 262-7307; or by e-mail at senbpatterson@senate.michigan.gov.

State Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-

Northville Contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30014,

Lansing, MI 48909-7514; by phone at (517) 373-3816; or by e-mail at MarcCorriveau@house.mi.gov.

Plymouth Mayor Phil Pursell

Call him through City Hall at (734) 453-1234 or send an e-mail via the city Web site at www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume

Send correspondence to him at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty, Plymouth, MI 48170. Call his office at (734) 354-3200. E-mails can be sent via the township's Web site at www.plymouthtwp.org.

U.S. Sen. Carl Levin

His Washington, D.C. mailing address is 269 Russell Office Building, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-2202, Call him at (202) 224-6221. The fax number is (202) 224-1388. He also has offices in Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Ave., Room 1860, in Detroit. The local phone number is (313) 226-6020, TTY (800) 851-0030 and fax at (313) 226-6948. He also has a Web site - levin.senate.gov.

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow

In Washington, D.C., the address is 133 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Call her there at (202) 224-4822, TTY (202) 224-2066, or e-mail her at senator@stabenow.senate.gov. In Detroit, her office is at 243 W. Congress, Suite 550. Call (313) 961-4330. She also has a Web site - stabenow.senate.gov.

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter

His Washington, D.C., mailing address is 1632 Longworth House Office Building, Washington D.C. 20515. Call him at (202) 225-8171 or send a fax by dialing (202) 225-2667. His district office is at 17197 N. Laurel Park Drive, Suite 161, Livonia, MI 48152. Call him at (734) 632-0314 or send a fax at (734) 632-0373. He also has an Web site - mccotter.house.gov.

money goes into the police and fire department accounts, which are part of the general fund, and the general fund contributes much more toward public safety than the tax raises. The millage proposal language did not require specific staffing levels in the departments, he said.

Township officials are not accountable to the public.

False again, Edwards said. Financial details are published on the township's Web site, www.plymouthtwp.org, and they include independent audit reports.

"We've been accountable to the residents every year," Edwards said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

KNOW THE SCORE check out the numbers in today's **Sports** section



WEIGHT LOSS

he ate. In the last year or so, he has given up all sweets, including cookies and cakes and the like. He knew it was necessary, but that didn't make it any

Cabauatan, who has a degree in physical education with a minor in health education from Eastern Michigan University, knew it had to be done.

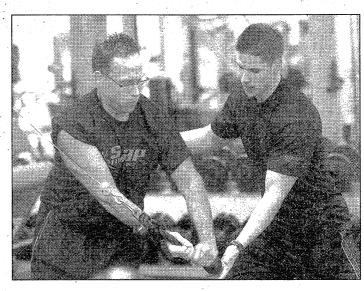
We had to completely revamp his food planning," Cabauatan said. "You can bust your butt in

(the gym), but if you don't get the food right, it won't matter."

Rose is down below 200 now, and he's progressing toward what he believes is a realistic goal of 185 pounds. The spectre of what used to be - "At over 300 pounds, I couldn't do anything," he said — keeps him motivated to stay on the path he's chosen.

"There are days I don't want to be (in the gym)," Rose said. "But then, I know the alternative."

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



Randall Rose works with trainer Nick Cabauatan.

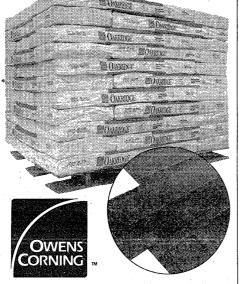
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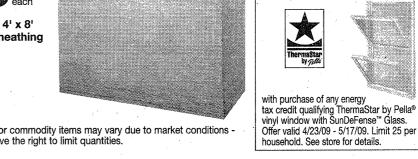
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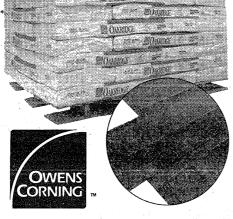




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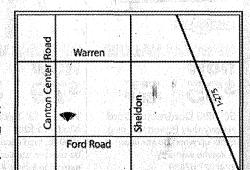
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The tasty treats table in the foreground and the table decorated by The Velvet Plum in the background were popular at the benefit.

Benefit cooks up funds to save memorial park wall

BY JULIE BROWN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The women and girls chatted amiably, dressed in their spring finery Saturday at the Plymouth District Library.

The event was the Plymouth Preservation Network's "Tea and Scones To Save the Stones," a benefit April 18 to support restoration work on the stone wall by the downtown Plymouth Community Veteran's Memorial Park.

There were tables decorated with colorful china, and tea and goodies were served. The event was popular.

"Ninety, which is fantastic," said Wendy Harless of Plymouth Township, chair of the Plymouth Preservation Network. "The businesses really did an over the top, fantastic job.'

Eight local businesses decorated tea tables for the event, with additional businesses providing tea and food. "Our volunteers actually made some goodies, too, which are delicious," Harless said.

Organizers were pleased with progress toward the \$5,600 goal, nearly reached. They have a short time left, and raised about \$1,400 April 18 through ticket sales and donations. Donations can be sent to the Plymouth Preservation Network, P.O. Box 6137, Plymouth 48170.

Their goal is to work with local stonemason Pat Cahill on restoration of the wall, built in the 1930s by Works Progress Administration workers of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's presidency.

"I think it's really a nice event," said Harless, who designed the festive invitations and did posters. The library provided the room for free, and the Plymouth Historical Museum provided tables free of charge.

"Everybody has really pulled together to help us out," she said. Theme tables came from Basket Kreations, Bohemian Home, Haven, Home Sweet Home, Maggie and Me, Magnolia, Sideways, and The Velvet Plum. Providing tea

and food were the Sweet Afton Tea Room, Panera Bread and Tranquilitea.

Karen Stemberger of Plymouth Township attended with mom Barbara Stinebaugh, also a township resident. "It's a good thing," Stemberger said. "Everybody should come out for things like this for the community.'

Mary Fritz of Plymouth Township was equally enthused. "I think this is smashing," Fritz said. "I'm overwhelmed. The dedication of these sponsors is overwhelming." She appreciated the library's support as well.

No party would be complete without music. The attendees, including a few gentlemen, were entertained by the Celebration Youth Orchestra, associated with the Plymouth Symphona Orchestra. Young musicians donating their time that afternoon were Alec Richards, Drew Cunnien, David Cunnien, April Scott and Aaron Scott.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6755

Livonia couple dines with metro yoga stars

Energy, health and lots of conversation about yoga's benefits were the topics of the day for Livonians Lori and Mike Richards, winners of last month's Dining with Stars contest. The Richards were treated to lunch at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills with the stars of metro Detroit's yoga scene.

Linda Kay of Yoga Shelter, Sara Davidson of Sarahngyoga@yahoo.com, Matthew Darling of AshtangaMichigan.com and Buddy's owner and longtime yoga student, Robert Jacobs, joined the Livonia couple for a peaceful, healthy lunch. The group dined on Buddy's new multi-grain thin crust pizza and was entertained by The Fred Astaire Dance Studio's Vadim Boldirev and Anastasia McCurry, who performed the Jive.

Katherine Lucas from Karma Yoga was unable to make the lunch but offered the couple a private lesson at her studio.

"Yoga and pizza were a perfect match on this day," Marcy Brontman of Buddy's said.

Lori Richards was the first to enter the contest. She e-mailed her entry explaining her love of yoga.

"My yoga experience began in a window-lined room near Port Huron's Black River. It was a fabulous experience with a wonderful instructor. I loved

her attention to breathing, the rest breaks between moves and her encouragement to achieve what progress we could. "Recently, I married a man from Livonia. I left my

job, and my yoga instructor. I found a job, but not a yoga instructor. If I didn't love my husband, I'd move back just for the yoga," Lori wrote.

Then her husband, Mike, also e-mailed in hopes of convincing the judges to pick his wife.



Lori and Mike Richards join the Yoga Stars Linda Kay Nathan, Matthew Darling, Buddy's owner Robert Jacobs, and Sara Davidson for lunch at Buddy's Pizza.

It worked. Lori won the contest and Mike was invited to join the group.

Lori and Mike were treated to a limo ride courtesy of All Class and walked the red carpet into Buddy's. Lori received a mini makeover from Christine of Beauty Shop in Birmingham and a \$100 gift certificate from Reaver's Diamonds in Southfield.

Next on tap for Dining with the Stars, sponsored by Buddy's Pizza and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, are Deena Centofanti and Jay Towers the co-anchors of FOX 2 News Weekend, which airs Saturday and Sunday mornings. Go to www.hometownlife.com or see Sunday's Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for entry informa-

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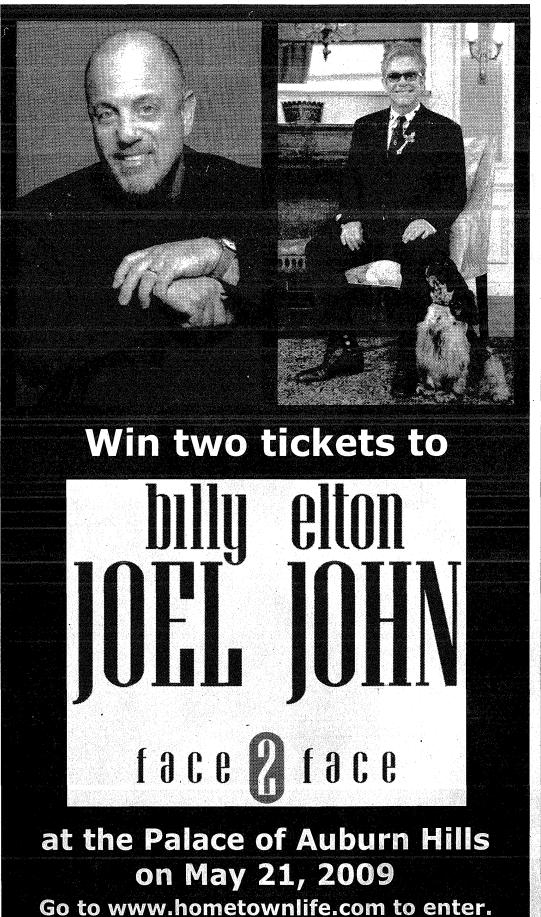
33600 Plymouth Rd. (Livonia)

34620 Michigan Ave. (Wayne) 28992 Ford Rd. (Garden City) 8525 Telegraph Rd. (Dearborn Hgts.) 2627 Dix-Toledo (Lincoln Park)

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These locations are also accepting donations. For more info, please call

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Couple's event helps families dealing with challenges from premature births

BY TONY BRUSCATO OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Scott and Patty Shepard of Canton Township - whose 8year-old twins, Nicholas and Christian, were born with cerebral palsy — want to help others learn about premature birth, which can result in lifelong disabilities.

The Shepard's have helped the March of Dimes raise more than \$60,000 since the twins were born in 2000. They hope to add to that total when they host a bowling fund-raiser Saturday at Vision Lanes, 38250 Ford Road (east of Hix) in Westland.

"We don't do this for our family, but the unborn children and the families of the future who don't even realize they'll have these challenges presented to them some day," said Scott Shepard. "We just don't want them to go through what we've gone through.'

Christian and Nicholas were born at 29 weeks, nearly 11 weeks premature.

"I had a twin-to-twin transfusion where one of the twins gets all the amniotic fluid and the other didn't have any," said Patty

Shepard. "What it did was cause brain damage (to Christian) before he was born."

Nicholas, who has some learning and developmental disabilities, is a second grader at Isbister Elementary. Christian goes to Old Village School in Northville which is a special education school.

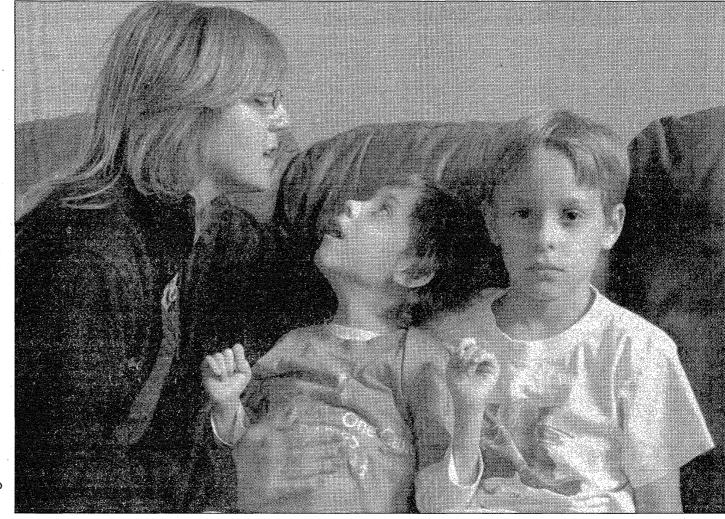
"There are daily challenges, especially with Christian because he can't do anything for himself," said Patty Shepard. "Going out with him can be difficult with packing the wheelchair and all the things he needs."

Scott Shepard said being told his boys were born with cerebral palsy "was the worst day of my life."

"I remember the doctor telling me and I just wanted to tear the walls down," he said. "Everybody dreams for their children being able to play baseball, hockey and have a normal life. This is a life we didn't know and it makes you scared and mad.

"But, you can sit around and let it eat at you or you can decide to join an effort to help other people."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Patty Shepard and twin sons Christian and Nicholas.

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Radisson Hotel & Conference Center 17123 N. Laurel Park Dr • Livonia, MI • 48152 48-866-9376 cindyjomark@yahoo.com What: All proceeds to benefit the March of Dimes Where: Vision Lanes, 38250 Ford Road (east of Hix) in Westland Date: Saturday, April 25

Time: Check in at 12:15 p.m., bowling at 1 p.m. Cost: \$15 per person, Kids 12 and under \$12. (two games of bowling, pizza,

Info: Contact Patty Shepard at (734) 414-0696 or Scott Shepard at (734) 476-



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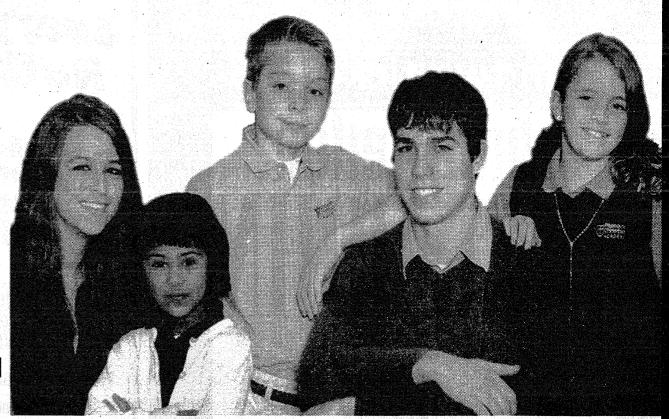


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Understand the true cost of owning a house

was talking to a friend recently about homeownership. He has never owned a home and because of what has happened in the real estate



Rick Bloom

market he was thinking it is time to buy. As we were discussing the pros and cons of homeownership, I realized that people have many

Money Matters misconceptions about homeowner-

The first misconception is it provides great tax benefits. Although, there are tax benefits to owning a house, the benefits are not as great as people make them out to be. Typically, when you purchase a house, you're allowed to deduct the interest on your mortgage and your property taxes. However, it is not a dollar-fordollar reduction. For example, if over one year you've paid \$5,000 in interest and property taxes and you are in the 15 percent tax bracket, your total savings is \$750. That means that \$4,250 is net out of your pocket. Of course, the higher the tax bracket the greater the savings. However, keep in mind that for high income taxpayers that may be in the 28 percent tax bracket or above, it comes a point where you actually start losing your deductions for interest and property

The bottom line is no one should buy a house just for the tax benefits. We have no idea what tax laws will be in the

Another misconception is that since housing prices in southeast Michigan are at dramatic lows - compared to where they were a few years ago - prices have to increase in the future.

Although I believe housing prices will rise in the future, that does not mean that they will increase more than the increased cost of living. At best, I believe houses will keep up with the increased cost of living. What has happened to housing prices over the last 10 years was the aberra-

tion. Because of many things, including the easy availability of mortgages, there was an artificial bubble surrounding home prices. I do not believe we will see that same bubble anytime in the near future. After all, the requirements to obtain mortgages have changed, and justifiably so.

In the last decade or so, it seems that anyone and everyone could obtain a mortgage no matter what their credit or financial situation. That has changed dramatically and now people with poor credit or who have overextended themselves are not going to be able to obtain a mortgage. In addition Blanck, one of three co-chairs is the unfortunate situation in which many have decided to relocate. Let's also not forget that many college graduates from Michigan universities are choosing to pursue their career outside of southeast Michigan. There is no doubt that these facts will be a damper on future housing prices.

Nevertheless, with all the foreclosures and short sales, there is no doubt that this is an excellent time to buy a home. However, the key is to make sure you buy a home with your eyes wide open. That means factoring into the equation the true cost of owning a home, including all the repairs and maintenance associated with home ownership. In addition, there are other expenses to consider. For example, saving for retirement or a child's college education. You must make sure that you factor these items into the equation when you determine how much of a house you can afford.

There are some incredible deals on the market and for many people they are very enticing. However, don't make the mistake of buying the most expensive home that you can afford.

Do the homework ahead of time and make sure you know what you're getting involved in before you sign on the dotted

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.

Bookstock offers rare used books, good reads

BY KAREN SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

If you like books, you'll love Bookstock.

The week-long used book and media sale, which starts Sunday at Laurel Park Place in Livonia, features tens of thousands of donated books, most of which sell for \$1 to \$3 each.

"It's like a treasure hunt; we have everything," said Roz of the annual event.

Bookstock benefits literacy and education programs throughout Oakland County and Detroit. It has raised more than \$350,000 in the six years since its inception.

Blanck, of Franklin, said the 700-800 volunteers who put on the event aren't experts on rare books so collectors and savvy shoppers can find real deals at Bookstock. The event draws people from all over Michigan, including the Upper Peninsula. In addition to books, the sale features DVDs, CDs, books on tape, magazines and records.

She said one year a man shopping at the sale found copies of books that had been burned by Hitler in Germany. Someone else found a book that had been signed by Eleanor Roosevelt.

Sometimes shoppers find items inside the books that are more interesting than the books themselves, Blanck said. Past finds include a pre-World War II letter and a stamp col-

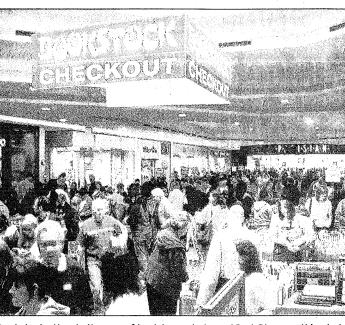
Even if all shoppers want is a good read, they'll find it at Bookstock, said Jodi Goodman who co-founded Bookstock with Blanck. All of the books are donated by ordinary people who paid for and enjoyed the books when they were new, not book sellers getting rid of unwanted stock, said Goodman, also of Franklin.

The sale is new every day because more books are put out as others are sold due to limited table space, an advantage for Livonia residents, Goodman said. "If they're in the area, it's worth it to come more than once," she said.

Books are sorted by subject. "For somebody who has the time to shop, it's worth it to look at every table," Goodman

Bookstock is sponsored by the Detroit Jewish Coalition for Literacy, the Oakland Literacy Council, the Jewish Community Relations Council, Detroit Jewish News, and a consortium of Jewish communal non-profit organizations. For more information, call the Bookstock hotline (248) 645-7840, Ext. 365, or visit www. bookstock.info.

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Bookstock attracts throngs of book lovers to Laurel Park Place, as this photo from the 2008 sale shows.

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Each week, Wayne County Treasurer Raymond J. Wojtowicz will be using this

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regular forum to inform you

about the tax

to answer the questions most

process and

frequently

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Important Tax Information

Know when tax bills are due

and to whom they are payable. Do not assume that the seller

will pay the taxes in the year

of sale. If you do not receive

a summer and/or winter tax

bill, call the city, township or

village treasurer where the property is located and request



Treasurer

Raymond Wojtowicz

questions.

a tax bill. At the same time, check to make sure the treasurer has your correct mailing name and address. Do not send a check in the mail and assume that the check reached the treasurer.

Q: I paid my current taxes to my local treasurer and have a paid receipt. Why did you send me a delinquent tax notice?

A: Unpaid taxes are forwarded to the County Treasurer for collection on March 1 of each year succeeding the year it was due. Notices of unpaid taxes are sent to the name and address on the delinquent tax roll received from the local treasurer. Any questions or concerns regarding your current tax payment must be directed to your local treasurer's office.

Tax bills are sent to taxpayers following adjustments made to taxable value by the Board of Review, Michigan Tax Tribunal or State Tax Commission. Call Tax Information (313) 224-5990 for additional information.

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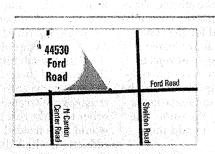
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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers. nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEWS

Budget numbers should be online

Questions are being asked — as Plymouth Township officials simultaneously enter contract negotiations with their firefighters and preliminarily examine regional fire service alternatives — about how the township can be so financially strapped even though there's a dedicated police/fire millage that's supposed to pay for public safety services.

For months now, township officials have cited tough economic times. sliding property values and sluggish revenue streams as reasons for not filling jobs in the fire department, including leaving the chief's job open since July, when Randy Maycock retired.

Those are also reasons cited for the admittedly lukewarm exploration of regional alternatives, most likely with Northville.

Critics want to know where the money from the dedicated millage is going? Where, they scream, are the savings from no chief, no training officer, etc., being squandered?

The rift between the

firefighters continues

getting uglier. Contract

negotiations are only

likely to make it uglier,

because the township

for concessions the

union isn't likely to

want to give. The issues

between the sides tend

rhetoric, with spurious

back and forth about

who's at fault for what.

Township officials say

the numbers mean one

they mean something

township and its

Could you please, they say (borrowing a favorite movie catch phrase) show us the money?

Mind you, most to grow. And it's of the questions lately are being asked rhetorically, under the cloak of an anonymous Web site. That doesn't mean, however, is going to have to ask that they aren't questions that should be asked.

Township officials, notably Supervisor Richard Reaume to get distorted in all the and Treasurer Ron Edwards, say the figures are right accusations being hurled there in the budget. Come on in and take a look, they say.

For his part, Edwards said recently he'd be thing; employees sav putting the township's entire budget online, making else entirely. it visible for all to

see. It'd be a great step toward answering questions, toward illuminating the numbers currently only visible in the darkened pages of a vast township budget.

The rift between the township and its firefighters continues to grow. And it's getting uglier. Contract negotiations are only likely to make it uglier, because the township is going to have to ask for concessions

the union isn't likely to want to give. The issues between the sides tend to get distorted in all the rhetoric, with spurious accusations being hurled back and forth about who's at fault for what. Township officials say the numbers mean one thing; employees say they mean something else entirely.

The best thing to do, for all parties concerned, is to slap the numbers up on the township's Web site. Make the hard numbers available to any residents who want

And then let them decide.

Join the discussion

Do you favor a graduated income tax for Michigan residents?

Go to hometownlife.com to give us your feedback.



(C) GANNETT

Brad Kadrich Community Editor

Hugh Gallagher Managing Editor

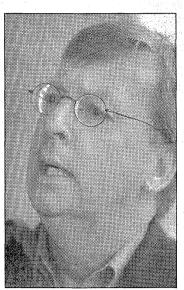
Executive Editor

Susan Rosiek

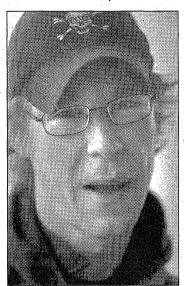
Grace Perry Director of Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you think General Motors Corp. and Chrysler Corp. can survive? We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.

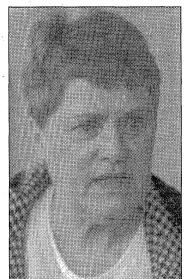


"Yes, I think they can, but certainly not in the form in which they're accustomed to operating." Dan Sinnott Plymouth Township



"I hope so. My dad's got a pension through GM. ... He worked for forty years for GM and he's really worried. ... I worry about GM."

Justin Dillon **Plymouth**



"Yes. ... (GM) is a very large conglomerate. The company has enough strength that it can survive. ... I don't know about Chrysler."

Mary O'Rourke **Plymouth Township**



"I think they probably could if they used their heads.."

Ed Healey Plymouth

LETTERS

Thanks to firefighters

The residents and staff of Tonquish Creek Manor would like to extend our most heartfelt gratitude to all of the emergency personnel who responded to our recent fire alarm.

These personnel include Plymouth Community Dispatch, Plymouth Community Fire Department, city of Plymouth Police Department, Northville Township Fire Department and the Huron Valley Ambulance Company.

Special thanks go to City Manager Paul Sincock, Chief of Police Wayne Carroll and all the fine residents of the city who arrived at the scene ready to help where necessary. Even though the emergency turned out to be minimal and quickly contained, the residents of Tonquish Creek Manor still had to be evacuated from the building and without the assistance of those persons named above this effort would have been far more difficult.

We often see and read about the "heroic" actions of police and fire departments and most often the response is "they are just doing their jobs." What we witnessed was far more than someone just doing their job. We saw a community come together to provide assistance to a vulnerable population in the most efficient, professional and compassionate way.

It is truly obvious why people choose to live in the city of Plymouth and Plymouth Township. It really is a great place to live! Thanks again.

Cynthia Rapson executive director Plymouth Housing Commission

What do you think?

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

A free press

I was saddened to learn of the difficult economic challenges the Observer is facing. I worry about the rapid decline of the newspaper industry in America, as our newspapers are like a very fine thread that link people and communities together. My day is not complete without a paper, whether I am at home or in a faraway town and it has been that way since I was about

Newspapers do what television news cannot, with its sound bites and few resources for local investigative reporting. A free press is a cornerstone of a free society. Like them or not, newspaper reporters serve as the unofficial community watchdogs that keep our elected leaders in check and expose the private sector scoundrels that live among

It was newspapers, not television, that uncovered many of the scandals of our generation, from Watergate to the Kwame Kilpatrick mess.

If our local and regional papers disappear, we will have no political commentary except for the remaining trash-talking handful of Internet bloggers that hide behind pseudonyms and slur whomever

they happened to be ticked at on that particular day.

Please join me in supporting the Observer & Eccentric and its advertisers as well as other local and regional newspapers and keep this 250-year American traclition of a free press alive!

Bob Doroshewitz

Plymouth Township trustee

Tea party irony

I find it ironic that 1,000 folks protesting taxes are meeting in a public park that would not exist if it were not for the taxpayers. I hope they appreciated the beautiful setting, the bathrooms, the nice looking streets in our town.

> Linda Gobeski Plymouth

Let GM fail

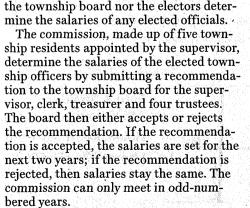
Rick Wagoner should have declared bankruptcy and tried to rebuild General Motors while he could. GM will become Government Motors under the new management. Sen. Chris Dodd and others are unwilling to support a manager with 32 years automotive experience. "Change" will be on-the-job training to direct a very complex industry. Many tax dollars will be wasted developing committee-approved products. Why not just let the company fail? It will anyway.

Hank Borgman Farmington

Board should reset salaries, follow pay ordinance

ast November, I was elected Plymouth Township clerk. Because residents rightfully expect me to be truthful. honest and to hold the office with integrity, I want to share the "rest of the story" regarding the controversy over elected official compensation in our township.

Your township board has chosen to use an Officers Compensation Commission to set salaries. Authorized by MCL 41.95(4), this ordinance establishes an Officers Compensation Commission to set the salaries of the elected officials. This is commonly Bridgman known as "set it and forget it." In this method, neither



Under Michigan law, a township board cannot reduce an elected official's salary once his or her term begins. This is the reason why the salary reductions for the governor, attorney general and secretary of state, recently approved in Lansing, will

not take effect until 2011 when a new term tion of the compensation commission

MCL 41.95(7) states that a salary resolution cannot result in a reduction of salary during an officer's term of office unless both the responsibilities and requirements of that office are diminished, and the official agrees in writing to that reduction. This is put into law to keep a township board from arbitrarily reducing the salary of one or more of the board members for any reason.

The Compensation Commission made salary recommendations in December 2007, and your township board accepted those recommendations. As part of the accepted recommendations, the salaries of the supervisor, clerk and treasurer were increased for the years 2008 and 2009. The trustee's salaries remained the same.

Thus the new term for officers started Nov. 20 and runs through Nov. 20, 2012. The new term started with salaries determined by the Compensation Commission and accepted in December 2007 by the township board. At the Dec. 16 and Jan. 20 meetings of the board, three of the trustees submitted a letter stating they wanted their salaries reduced from \$11,400 per year to \$10,260 per year. The trustees are treated as one officer, so in order to make this legally valid, all four would have needed to consent to such a reduction, which did not happen. Second, the duties of all four would have had to diminish, which also has not happened.

The supervisor and treasurer also submitted letters to not take their raises for 2009, which they voted to give themselves by accepting the recommendain 2007. So to be clear, the supervisor and treasurer did not take a salary reduction, nor did they comply with the Compensation Commission Ordinance or Michigan law requiring them to follow the Compensation Commission recommenda-

I believe the supervisor and treasurer should be held accountable to the law and adhere to the recommendations the board of trustees voted to accept in 2007. I believe the three trustees who submitted a letter to have their salary reduced have violated Michigan law. If these elected officials believe that salary reductions should be taken, each one could contribute a portion back to the township.

Finally, I believe that we, as a township board, need to take one of two courses of action: 1) Adhere to the recommendation of the commission by accepting or rejecting it, or 2) Eliminate the township's Compensation Commission by repealing the Officers Compensation Commission Ordinance.

I also believe the supervisor's, clerk's and treasurer's salaries should be reset to the respective salaries that we started our terms with. As a matter of public interest, the Michigan Townships Association, which represents hundreds of Michigan townships, shares this view.

Voters elected my colleagues and me to carry out our responsibilities honestly, legally and ethically, and that is exactly what we need to do.

Joseph Bridgman is the Plymouth Township clerk. He can be reached at (734) 354-3224.

MALLS & MAIN STREETS

WEDDING FOR BRIDES-TO-BE

PLYMOUTH — The Plymouth DDA will stage its 2nd annual Plymouth Bridal Stroll April 25. The event starts at noon in Kellogg Park at with a mock wedding party, head table, and live music from members of the Erickson Flute Ensemble. From there, brides will follow their Bridal Stroll program on a matrimonial adventure through 35 downtown businesses offering locally-owned, personal wedding services, refreshments, discounts and drawings. Call (734) 455-1453 or e-mail dda@ ci.plymouth.mi.us.

ROLE MODELS

DETROIT — The Alternatives For Girls 20th annual Annual Role Model Dinner will be held 6-9 p.m. April 30 at the Detroit Westin. Award winners include Karen Love, COO of The Michigan Chronicle and Michigan FrontPage, as 2009

Professional Role Model; Gail Perry Mason, vice president of Oppenheimer & Co.,

Inc., as Community Role Model; and Marla Tapper Young, co-owner of

Tapper's Diamonds and Fine Jewelry, as Emerging Leader. A Summit Award will be presented to Rashida Tlaib, the first Muslim woman to serve in the Michigan Legislature. Anqunette Jamison of Fox 2 will emcee. This year's theme is "Audacity to Succeed." Tickets, \$150, include awards presentation, silent and live auctions and valet. Proceeds benefit AFG, a non-profit organization that helps homeless and high-risk young women avoid violence, teen pregnancy and exploitation. Call (313) 361-4000 ext. 230 or e-mail lmacdonald@ alternativesforgirls.org.

ROMA SPOSA TRUNK SHOW

BIRMINGHAM — Roma Sposa will host trunk shows April 30-May 2 to debut the Bara Bridal Collections, Bara Champagne and Bara Luxe. The Bara Luxe collection is the first in the industry to be designed for fuller figure women, size 16W-28W. Never before have fuller figure brides been able to go into couture salons and try on a sample of their dream dress. Brides-to-be will also have an opportunity to meet wedding expert Yvonne D. McClendon, author of "Prenuptial Bliss," and President of the Bara Collections. Yvonne D. McClendon began her career in Detroit, as creator, producer and host of the radio show



Former Detroiter Yvonne D. McClendon will bring her Bara Bridal Collection, in sizes up to 28W, to Roma Sposa in Birmingham April 30-May 2.

Before I Do which aired on WMUZ radio. Hours for the trunk show are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. April 30; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. May 1; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. May 2. Roma Sposa is located at 722 N Old Woodward, Birmingham. Call (248) 723-4300; or visit www.romasposa.com or www. baraluxe.com.

DERBY DAY FASHION

BIRMINGHAM — Molly McDonald is sponsoring a Derby Day Race fashion event at Toast restaurant in Birmingham on May 2. Event includes a red carpet fashion show, raffle and silent auction of fashionable items including a hat by Mr. Song Millinery. All proceeds benefit the Pink Fund, providing financial aid to women and men afflicted with breast cancer. Visit thepinkfund.org.

MARIA'S BRIDAL OPENS

WEST BLOOMFIELD - Maria's Bridal Couture will celebrate its second location, new at Orchard Mall, with a grand opening party 4-8 p.m. May 7 featuring live pedestal models in the store windows and main mall thoroughfare. Owner Nadica Ristivojevich will be on hand to answer questions and guide brides in their wedding planning endeavors. The boutique is the only Vera Wang store-within-a-store in the state of Michigan, with exclusive access to gowns by the famed designer, including the hard-to-find Vera Wang Luxe collection. The new shop will host a Vera Wang trunk show, May 7-9. Maria's Bridal has been open in Rochester for 22 years. The newest location, which operates by appointment only, is at 6325 Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 539-3090.

14TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S SHOW

NOVI — The 14th annual Michigan International Women's Show will come to Rock Financial Showplace in Novi April 30-May 3. The event includes shopping, makeovers, cooking demonstrations, entertainment, giveaways and more. Highlights include Justin Martin from "High School Musical 3: Senior Year"; beach volleyball star Gabrielle Reece; Author and Junkmaster Sue Whitney; and Cooking Light magazine's Executive Chef Billy Strynkowski. Show hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$9, adults; \$5, youth 6-12; and free, children 5 and under. Advance tickets, which include a one-year subscription to "Ladies Home Journal," are \$8 online; \$7 at Kroger. Call (800) 849-0248 or visit www. InternationalWomenShow.com.

BACKSTAGE BEAUTY EVENT

TROY — Dior celebrity makeup artist Pati Dubroff and the Diorshow Artists will visit Macy's Somerset 11 a.m.-7 p.m. May 6-9. with Pati Dubroff and the Diorshow Artists

Visit cosmetics on the first floor 1st floor to learn backstage beauty secrets to create your own flawless look. Call (248) 816-4120 to book an appointment. Space is limited.

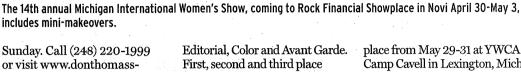
SNOW GEAR SALE

BIRMINGHAM — Don Thomas Sporthaus, the Midwest's premier ski shop, is currently holding their annual end-of-season sale event. The sale concludes on Sunday, May 3. All items will be reduced a minimum of 40 percent from suggested retail prices.

Following the sale, Don Thomas Sporthaus employees will take summer vacation and return to re-open the shop in mid-August.

Snowboard prices have been marked down 40 percent; skis are reduced by 40 to 50 percent; and other gear and apparel are reduced 40 to 70 percent. Don Thomas Sporthaus offers a variety of equipment, fashionforward apparel and accessories for the winter season, including from sought after manufacturers such as K2, North Face, Obermeyer and Tecnica.

Don Thomas Sporthaus is open 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m.-5 p.m.



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 23, 2009

porthaus.com. **MACY'S EARTH DAY**

or visit www.donthomass-

includes mini-makeovers.

METRO DETROIT — In celebration of Earth Day, Macy's is helping to raise awareness and generate funds for parks and environment-friendly causes across the country with its Macy's Turn Over a New Leaf campaign. Throughout April, at all Macy's locations, customers can purchase tickets for One Good Turn, Macy's April 25 national charity day shopping event. For \$5, customers will receive a ticket for \$5 off a \$15 storewide purchase, as well as an all-day shopping pass for 20 percent off most merchandise. Macy's will donate 100 percent of ticket sale proceeds to the National Park Foundation and local participating nonprofit organizations that protect and conserve the environment. Macy's also is offering new reusable totes for \$1.95 with a \$1 donation to the National Park Foundation.

WIC MATRIX AWARDS

TROY — Save the date for Women In Communication's annual Matrix Awards, 6 p.m. Monday, May 18 at The Somerset Inn, Troy. Keynote speaker is Marla Drutz, Vice President & General Manager of WDIV-Detroit. Price, \$45 WIC members; \$55 nonmembers; \$35 full-time students, includes dinner. Nominations due Feb. 28; Register by May 11, at info@womcomdetroit.org or (248) 582-8465.

HIFFANY AWARDS OPEN CALL **FARMINGTON HILLS**

— Hairdressers and colorists are invited to enter the 7th Annual Tiffany Michigan Hairdresser of the Year Awards through 5 p.m. May 29. Contestants compete in four categories: Formal, Women's

First, second and third place winners in each category are presented with a crystal trophy from Tiffany & Co.

Contestants who enter in each of the three categories of Formal, Women's Editorial and Color are eligible to compete live for the title of Michigan Hairdresser of the Year at DREAMS, a benefit for the American Cancer Society, on Sept. 26 at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi. For information or to enter, visit www.thetiffanyawards.com or call (248) 347-7700 x2922.

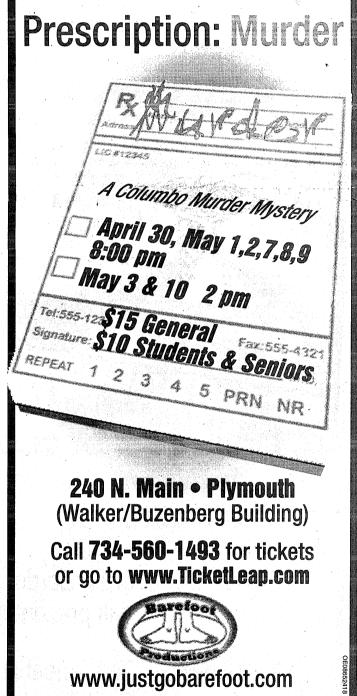
GIRLS LEADERSHIP CAMP

REDFORD — Michigan **Association for Female** Entrepreneurs, based in Redford, will offer two camps aimed at helping young girls become creative, confident, and self-sufficient. Leadership Camp will take

place from May 29-31 at YWCA Camp Cavell in Lexington, Mich., and BizCamp from June 13-July 25 at Lawrence Technological University, Southfield. Call (313) 363-4075 or visit www. YoungEntrepreneurSeries.com.

SHIRT BOX COLLECTS CLOTHES

FARMINGTON HILLS — The Shirt Box continues to collect gently used men's professional clothing through "The Shirts Off Our Back: From Our Closet to Yours," in partnership with Detroit's Neighborhood Service Organization. Drop off dress shirts, slacks, ties and sports coats at The Shirt Box, 32500 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. The clothing will help NSO's clients dress for success when applying for new jobs and making the transition back into the workforce. Call (248) 851-6770.



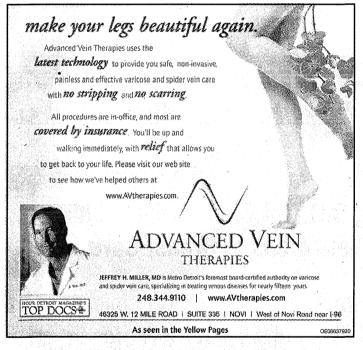
SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

- Are you over 50 years of age? • Do you have medical problems...either physical, emotional or both?
 - Can't do the work you used to perform? • Have you been denied in the past?

You may be eligible for Social Security Disability Benefits!

> call ALEX BERMAN Attorney-at-Law for a FREE CONSULTATION

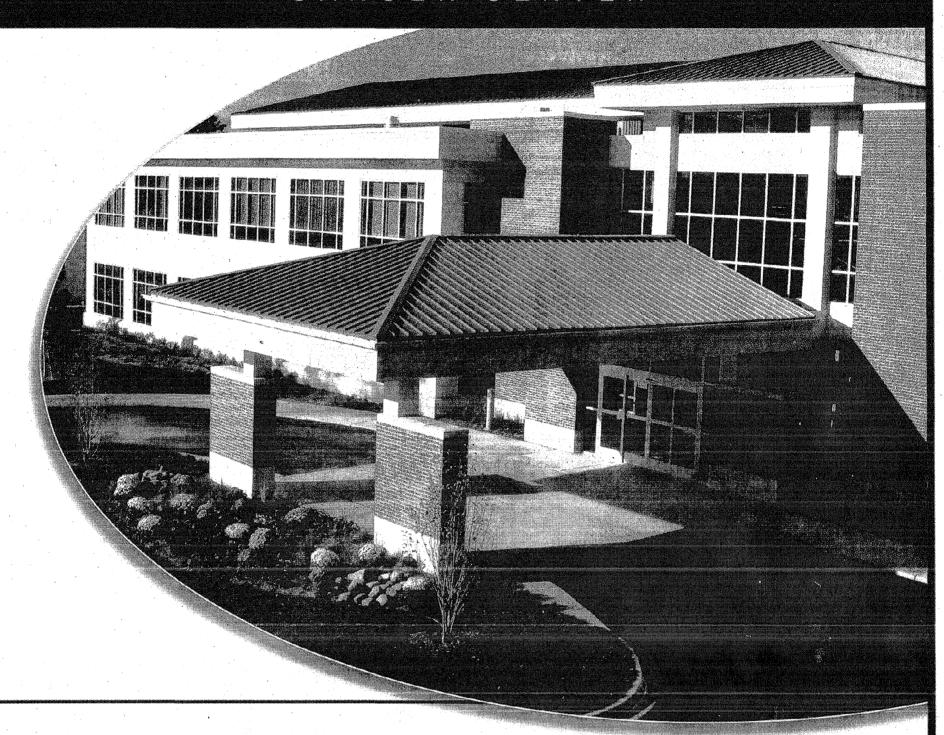
NO FEES UNLESS YOU WIN 1-800-573-5800







BOTSFORI



Community Open House

See Our New Facility. Hear from Cancer Experts.

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

THURSDAY April 23 2009

SECTION CCP)

Ed Wright, editor. (313) 222-2047 ewright@hometownlife.com

SPORTS, FILTER, FOOD & WINE

HOMETOWN LIFE

1-derful

Canton 9-year-old records first ace

BY ED WRIGHT OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton golfer Jack Bozcar only had to wait nine years for his "shot of a lifetime."

The Bentley Elementary School student defied amazing odds by carding a hole-inone while playing a nine-hole round with his family at Deep Creek Golf Course, which is located in Port Charlotte, Fla.

Bozcar, 9, aced the 126-yard 7th hole using a four wood. "He hit it well, so we knew

right away it was going to be a good shot," recalled Jeff Bozcar, the young linkster's dad. "Right after he hit it, Jack turned toward my wife and I, but I said 'You'd better watch the ball, it looks like it might go in the hole. And, sure enough, it did.

"When we went to the clubhouse, the guy working in there said, 'I've been playing 30 years and I haven't got a hole-in-one yet."

As expected, the newest member of the hole-in-one club didn't hide his joy — and who could blame him?

"I started yelling, 'I got a hole-in-one! I got a hole-inone!" said Jack Bozcar, who finished with a 44 on the par-36 layout. "It felt really good."

Bozcar, who competes on the U.S. Kids Tour during the summer months, said he barely missed another ace last

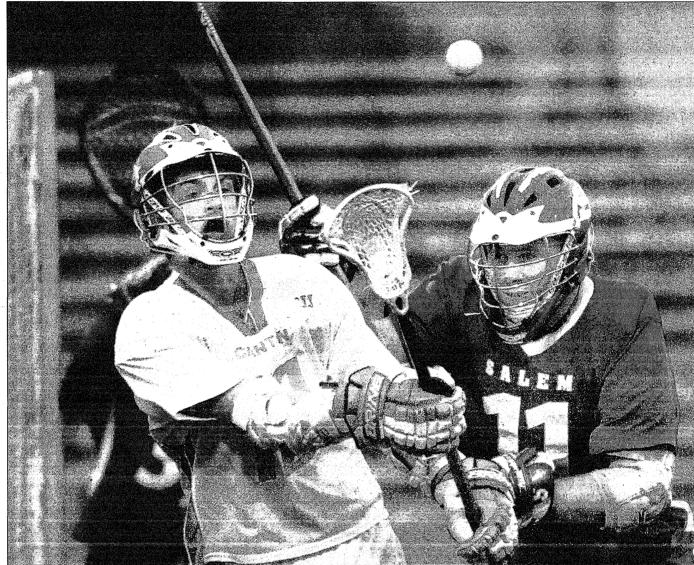
"Just a few inches," he said.
"But it was on a lot shorter hole."

Bozcar displayed his impressive

Please see ACE, B3



Canton resident Jack Bozcar recorded a hole-in-one while on vacation with his family in Florida last week.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Matt Rogers and Salem's Blake Abbey battle for a loose ball during Monday's cross-campus lacrosse showdown. The Chiefs prevailed, 11-2.

No re-lax-ing for Chiefs

Canton overwhelms Salem in cross-campus match-up

BY ED WRIGHTOBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Either Canton's boys lacrosse team didn't have its "A" game Monday night against Salem or Chiefs coach Kevin Riley is hard to please.

Riley was less than thrilled with his team's performance in the wake of Monday's cross-campus clash with Salem — and the Chiefs won 11-2.

"Even though we won, I didn't think we played very well," admitted Riley, whose team improved to 4-2. "We gave the ball away too much.

"The one positive thing we did was clear the ball out of our defensive zone 24 out of 24 times. That was nice to see." The setback dropped Salem to 1-6.

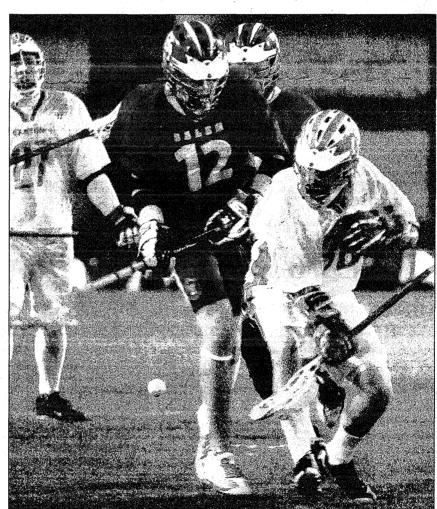
Canton led 2-0 after one quarter and 5-1 at the half on a cold, windy night. The Chiefs extended their advantage to 8-1 after three quarters.

Jason Avedesian paced the winners' offensive attack with three goals. Jake Underwood excelled with two goals and two assists while Matt Rodgers chalked up a pair of net-finders and a helper.

Mark Barath, Jordan Smith, Dakota Bird and Trevor Moore all added single goals for the Chiefs. Rodgers, Smith, Riley Hoernschemeyer and

Alex Loiselle picked up assists for the Chiefs. Defensively, Canton was led by goalie Sean Walsh (nine saves) and defenders Ryan Dunleavy, Alec Gilo, Bird and Bryan Davison.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108



Canton's Brett Phillips (36) tries to scoop up a loose ball as Salem's Steve Haburne (12) closes in.

Canton wins two of three at tough Milan tournament

Canton's baseball team more than held its own in Saturday's talent-stocked Milan Tournament.

The Chiefs, who improved to 6-3 overall, sandwiched victories over state powers Grosse Pointe North (9-0) and Grandville (10-6) around a 16-6 setback to Ann Arbor Pioneer.

Junior southpaw Kevin Delapaz improved his record to 3-0 in the opener against the Norsemen, tossing six innings of three-hit ball. Delapaz, who struck out eight, received strong offensive support from Nick Tomilenko (two hits, two RBI), Seth Tschetter (two hits, two RBI) and Alex Dixon, who roped a pair of hits.

Mike Cisco notched two of North's three safeties.

The Chiefs managed just four hits in the middle-game loss to the Pioneers. Joe Galanty (two RBI) and Dan Stoney (two runs scored) paced the offense.

The Chiefs were bolstered by

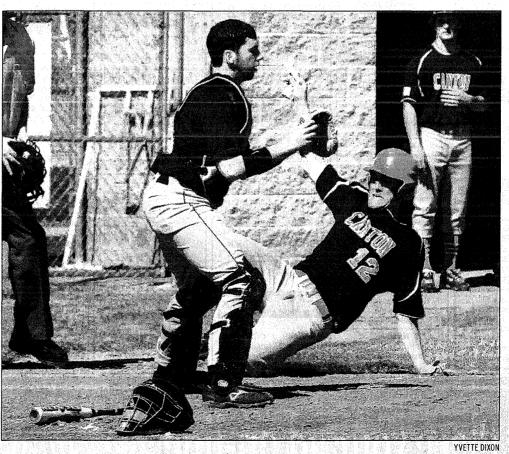
a strong effort from starting pitcher Ben Staley in the victory over Grandville. Staley, a junior, scattered eight hits over 5.1 innings before being relieved by Andrew Tidwell, who recorded a save. Offensive stars for the Chiefs were Tomilenko (two hits, two runs), Dixon (two hits) and Tschetter, who registered a two-run double.

Kevin Gebrand and Jason Devries each carded a pair of hits for Grandville, which suffered just its second loss of the season.

Wildcats split with Chippewa Valley

On Friday at home, Plymouth split a twinbill with Chippewa Valley, winning the three-inning, mercy rule-shortened nightcap, 18-3, after getting edged in the opener, 5-4.

Please see TOURNEY, B3



Canton's Dan Stoney (12) slides home with a run during Saturday's Milan Tournament. The Chiefs went 2-1 with victories over Grosse Pointe North and Grandville.

GAME WRAPS

Chiefs second at Elks Relays

Sparked by dual firstplace finishers Ben Spreitzer and Hyatt Ali, Canton's boys track and field team placed second at Saturday's Dearborn Elks Relays.

The Chiefs racked up 41 points, which trailed only meet winner Novi Catholic Central's 67. Plymouth placed fourth with 26 points.

Canton won three events: the high jump (Spreitzer, Keith Zech and Ali); the pole vault (Eddie Koelzer, Nick Alaniva and Gage Hermann); and the intermediate shuttle hurdles (Ali, Spreitzer, Winston Roberts and Sherif Hassanien).

It also earned secondplace points in a trio of competitions: the high hurdle shuttle relay (Ali, Spreitzer, Roberts and Hassanien); the 3,200meter relay (Zech, Paul Rakovitis, Josh Hurst and Zack Spreitzer); and the 1,600-meter relay (Jordan Wisniewski, Zech, Ali and Kevin Buford).

"I was very pleased with our team's performance," said Canton coach Bob Richardson. "Like all the teams there, we were shorthanded due to spring break, but the kids who did compete stepped up and did a great job."

The Chiefs earned points thanks to fourth-place showings from their distance medley squad (Matt Western, Austin Golles, Josh Osinski and Miles Felton), 6,400-meter relay foursome of Osinski, Jon Peck, Hurst and Zack Spreitzer. Canton's shot put/400-meter relay contingent of Tyler Talbott, John Reid, Marty Brudzinski and Golles placed fourth, but the event did not factor in the standings.

The Chiefs' final points came from its long jump relay team of Aleniva, Adam Payne and Austin Jatczak, which placed fifth.

Local runners excel in Boston

The Plymouth-Canton area was well-represented at Monday's 113th running of the Boston Marathon.

Fourteen local residents competed in the prestigious race, which is often referred to as the Super Bowl of long-distance running.

The top local finisher in the men's race was Canton's Chris Woodring, who placed 634th in 2:53.33. The first local woman to cross the finish line was Plymouth resident Kimberly Bedigian, who placed 5,946th in 4:04.16.

Other local runners competing in the men's race were Canton's Jarmo Kekalainen (2:58.54), Canton's Thomas Gerou (3,046th in 3:13.12), Canton's Masayoshi Ichihara (3,781st in 3:17.41), Plymouth's Bill Dieter (3,880th in 3:18.15), Plymouth's Terry Rush (4,247th in 3:20.14), Canton's Tim Collins (4.951st in 3:24.28). Canton's Paul Castron (6,452nd in 3:32.08) and Plymouth's Kevin Galvin (8,993rd in 3:49.23).

Joining Bedigian in the women's race were local runners Jennifer Chinitz of Plymouth (6,502nd in 4:10.19), Plymouth's Brenda Henry (6,503rd in 4:10.19), Canton's Colleen Hoffman (7,150th in 4:19.07) and Canton's Carolyn Paplin, who placed 7,546th in 4:25.45.

Whalers lauded at their season-ending banquet

The Plymouth Whalers capped the 2008-09 season Monday night with an awards banquet held at C.J.'s Brewing Company at Compuware Sports Arena.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 23, 2009

The following awards were presented:

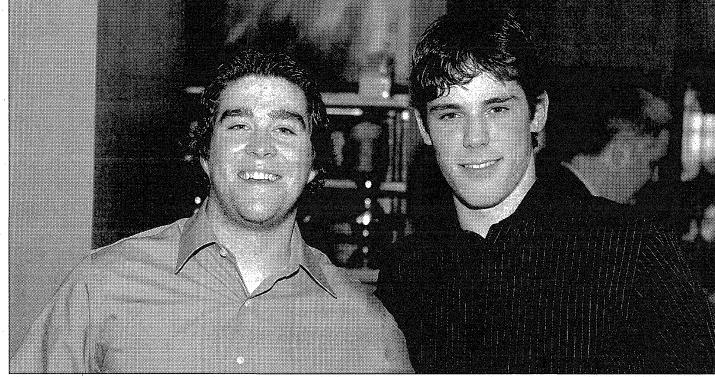
Regular-season Most Valuable Player, Leading Scorer, Academic Player and Humanitarian of the Year

- Captain Chris Terry, who led the Whalers with 39 goals and 55 assists and was plus-25 during the regular season. Terry is third overall in franchise career scoring with 114 goals and 175 assists in 253 games.

Selected by the Carolina Hurricanes in the fifth round (132nd overall) in the 2007 National Hockey League Entry Draft, Terry may be signed by the Hurricanes by this summer's NHL Entry Draft. Terry has been a leader in the Whalers' community relations efforts over the past three seasons and is Plymouth's nominee for the Ontario Hockey League's Dan Snyder Award as Humanitarian of the Year.

Rookie of the Year — Center Tyler Seguin, who scored 21 goals with 46 assists and was plus-14 in 61 games.

Defenseman of the Year · Michal Jordan, who scored 12 goals with 30 assists and was a team-leading plus-28 in 58 games. Jordan, a fourthround pick (105th overall) of the Hurricanes in the 2008 NHL Entry Draft - has played



WALT DMOCH

Pictured are Plymouth Whalers award winners Chris Terry (left) and Tyler Seguin at Monday night's team banquet.

for the Czech Republic in the 2008 and 2009 World Junior Championships.

Most Improved Player of the Year Goaltender Matt Hackett, who won the lead goaltender position with the Whalers in November and posted a careerbest 3.04 goals against average, .913 save percentage, two shutouts and a 34-13-3-0 record in 55 games. Hackett continued

his fine work through the playoffs, posting a 3.01 goals against average and .930 save percentage in 11 playoff appearances.

Hackett is rated by the NHL's Central Scouting Bureau as the top prospect among all North American goaltenders for this summer's NHL Entry Draft.

Unsung Hero of the Year - Center Matt Caria, who came to the Whalers in December in a trade with Sault Ste. Marie and scored 34 goals with 58 assists and was plus-14 in 67 games. Currently a free-agent, Caria is playing for a professional contract next season.

Labatt Blue Collar Player of the Year — Veteran center Joe Gaynor, who enjoyed career highs with 12 goals and 18 assists. Gaynor is one of the best defensive forwards in the OHL and could return to the Whalers next season as an overage player.

Most Valuable Player in the Playoffs — Hackett. Whaler Booster Club Awards

– Barb Mohrlock Award as Fan Favorite - Chris Terry; Player of the Month of April - Matt Caria; Academic Player of the Month - Tyler J. Brown; Grinder of the Year - Joe Gaynor.

UPCOMING SCHEDULES

PREP BASEBALL Friday, April 24 Canton at Stevenson (DH), 4 p.m. Plymouth at Northville (DH), 4 p.m. Churchill at Salem (DH), 4 p.n.
Saturday, April 25
Salem at Milan (DH), 11 a.m.
PREP SOFTBALL

Friday, April 24 Plymouth at Northville (DH), 3:30 p.m. Churchill at Salem (DH), 4 p.m. Canton at Stevenson (DH), 4 p.m. Saturday, April 25

Plymouth at Mercy Invitational, TBA Salem at Chelsea Invitational, 9 a.m.
Friday, April 24
Salem boys at Rainer Relays
at N. Farmington, TBA Saturday, April 25 PCA at Greenhills Relays, TBA GIRLS TENNIS

Thursday, April 23 Canton at Wayne Memorial, 4 p.n. **Friday, April 24** John Glenn at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Northville at Salem, 4 p.m. Canton at Franklin, 4 p.m. Saturday, April 25 Plymouth at Monroe Invitational, TBA

Salem at Salem/Huron Invitational, 8:15 a.m Canton at Brighton Quad, 8:30 a.m.

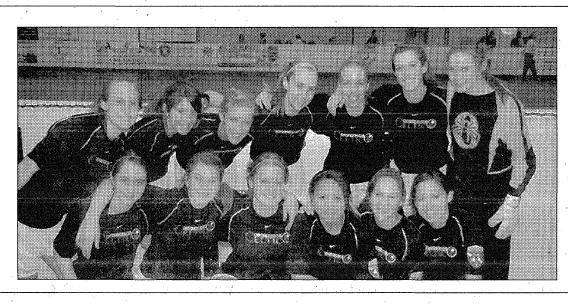
BOYS GOLF

Friday, April 24
Canton at Livonia Franklin
at Idlewild G.C., 3 p.m.
Plymouth at John Glenn, 3 p.
BOYS LACROSSE Friday, April 24 Canton at Saline, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 25 GIRLS SOCCER

Thursday, April 23 Wayne Memorial at Canton, 7 p.m. Álymouth at Churchill, 7 p.m. South Lyon at Salem, 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 24 Canton at A.A. Pioneer, 7 nton at A.A. Pioneer, 7 p.m. Dexter at Salem, 7 p.m.

COLLEGE BASEBALL Friday, April 24 Madonna at Aquinas, 1 p.s Saturday, April 25 Aquinas at Madonna, 1 p.n COLLEGE SOFTBALL (all double-headers)
Thursday, April 23
Siena Heights at Madonna, 4 p.m.
Friday, April 24
Cornerstone at Madonna, 4 p.m.

Cornerstone at Madonna, 4 p.m. Saturday, April 25



Indoor runners-up

The Canton Soccer Club's Celtic '93 Black finished runner-up in the girls under-16 and -17 division, at the National Indoor Soccer Championships held last weekend in Sterling, Va. In the final match, Celtic fell to '92 Chantilly Electrics, 2-1, in a three-vs.three sudden death overtime format after playing to a 1-1 tie in regulation. In group play, Celtic bested ODFC Thunder (6-0), '92 Chantilly Electrics (4-1) and South Penn United (3-1) en route to finishing as the top team. Celtic qualified for the nationals by capturing the regional earlier this year at High Velocity Sports in Canton. Team members include: Christy Balewski, Jessikah McClendon, Jen Learst, Haley Johnson, Ashley Liakos, Maddy McLean and Rachel Rohrbacher, all of Canton High; Kaitelyn Quinlan, Jessica Kramer and Marissa Williams, all of Plymouth; Lauren Ascherman and Kaylyn Brzys, both of Salem; and Tori Cornell, Walled Lake Northern

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4pm, Lake Charnwood Sub just East of S Blvd/Adams, South Side.

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FARMINGTON HILLS Antioch Lutheran Church. corner 13 Farmington. Fri., 9am-7pm, Sat., 10am-12Noon. Clothes \$1 each.

7100 Estate Sales

Grand Mount Sub area, btwr Grand River & Schoolcraft April 23-26, 9am-5pm. Living dining room furniture (traditional style), appliances, lots of furniture & more!

17310 Loveland, 6 Mile & Farmington, Thu-Sat. Apr 23-25, 10am-5pm. Antiques, jewelry, tools,

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Rummage Sale - Bloomfield Hills Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cran-brook Rd, (Woodward/Cranbrook). Wed., 4/22, 5-8pm (early admission 4pm for \$3). Thurs., 4/23, 10-4pm ½ price

CANTON Spring Clean Out! 45276 Thornhill Rd., Glengarry Sub. off Canton Center, between Cherry Hill and Palmer, Sat. & Sun., April 25, & 26, 9am-4pm. Furniture Home Decor, Household

FERNDALE Annual Garage Sale- Ferndale Free Methodist Church. 1990 Woodward Heights. Saturday, April 25, 9am-5pm. Clothes, office furhome decor, music equipment, bake sale, bar-b-q, **Garage Sales**

GARDEN CITY - HUG GARAGE/MOVING SALE HUGE 30145 Beechwood. . Ford/ 25 (Thurs., Fri. & Sat.), 9am-5pm. Lots of Appliances & Furniture, TV's Longaberger, Video Game Systems & Games, Electric fence, Heeleys, Toys, Clothes &

LIVONIA Come "C" what we get! We got a lot! 29739 Robert, off Middlebelt, btwn Joy & Plymouth Rd. Fri. & Sat., 9:30am-4pm, Sun., 9:30am-2pm.

LIVONIA Multi-Family Rum mage Sale - Thursday, April 23, thru Saturday, April 24, 10am-3pm at Tai Chi Center, Ann Arbor Rd. Household items, books, jew elry and more!

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SPORTS BRIEFS

PCA football meeting

The Plymouth Christian Academy football program will be holding a registration and information meeting for the upcoming season Monday at 7 p.m. in the school's library. PCA is located at 43065 Joy Rd. in Canton.

The Eagles will have a middle school (grades 6-8) and high school team this season. For more information, contact Lisa Jipping at (734) 453-1151.

Fox Hills Golf program

From May 11-15, June 8-12 and July 13-17, the Fox Hills Learning Center in Plymouth Township will offer "Get Golf Ready in 5 Days" a new program for golfers with little or no experience.

The program consists of a series of five introductory lessons conducted by PGA/LPGA professionals in a small-group environment

This program offers an opportunity for people to learn the game of golf or build upon existing skills. For more information or to register, visit www.GetGolfReady.com or call Fox Hills at (734) 453-7272.

The five lessons featured in the "Get Golf Ready" program will provide basic-skills instruction as well as information regarding the background of the game's rules, etiquette and values. Significant oncourse learning opportunities will also be a part of each lesson.

Overall, participants will gain insight into techniques regarding chipping, putting, full swing, half swing and bunker play as well as the fundamental guidelines regarding the use and maintenance of golf equipment, keeping score and navigating the course, among oth-

Youth archery

The Detroit Archers of West Bloomfield, a non-profit organization, is hosting its annual Frank Hall Memorial Youth Shoot on Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3. This is an indoor target shoot for boys and girls under 18 years old and all abilities from novice through experienced.

The cost is \$10, which includes shooting, a hot dog, soft drink and trophy. Equipment is available.

Shooting times are 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. both days. Participants must pre-register as space is limited.

To register, call Jack Flaharty at (248) 360-0346 or send an e-mail to: jflaharty@comcast.net. Please indicate the date and time you wish to shoot; the name, age and gender of the child; and a contact phone number. Please also indicate if your child

Detroit Archers is located at 5795 Drake Rd., between Maple (15 Mile Rd) and Walnut Lake Rd. in West Bloomfield. Directions to the club can be accessed at www.detroitarchers.

Plymouth football skills camp

The 8th Annual Plymouth Football Skills Camp will be held Monday, June 22, through Wednesday, June 24, at the PCEP turf

Fifth-through ninth-graders will go from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and 10th-through 12th-graders will go from 7-9 p.m.

The cost of the camp is \$40, which includes a T-shirt and three

Each camper will need cleats and a water jug to participate. For more information, visit www.plymouthwildcats.com or call

Wildcats football parents meeting

There will be a mandatory informational meeting for all levels of the Plymouth High School football program on Tuesday, June 2, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Plymouth High School gymnasium.

Parents will be given all of the necessary paperwork for their student-athlete to participate in the upcoming football season.

Parents will also receive booster information and there will be Wildcat merchandise on sale before and after the meeting. For more information, visit www.plymouthwildcats.com.

Canton football camps

Three Canton High School football camps will be held in June. The Canton Chiefs Skills Camp for kids in grades seventh through ninth will be held June 8-11 from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$35. To pre-register, contact coach Richard Mui at (248) 229-2738.

The Canton Chiefs Wing-T/3-4 Football Camp for kids in grades 10th through 12th will be held June 16-18 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.. The cost is \$30. To pre-register, contact coach Tim Baechler at (734) 455-

The Canton Chiefs Fundamental Football Camp will be held for kids entering grades third through sixth June 22-25 from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$75. To pre-register, contact Enza Lanava at (313)

Senior shortstop Matt Skubik was the hitting hero in the second game, going 2-

for-3 with five RBI and three runs scored. Both of Skubik's run-generating hits were doubles. He also stole a base. Other offensive standouts for the

Wildcats were Brad Lineberry (3-for-3 with two RBI) and starting pitcher Ryan Spencer, whose produced a two-run double in his lone plate appearance. On the mound, Spencer yielded just

one earned run while striking four in 3.1

Plymouth scored 10 runs in the first,

three in the second and five in the third. Chippewa Valley's runs came in the third.

In game one, Chippewa Valley broke a 2-2 deadlock with three runs in the top of the fifth before holding on for the one-run

Starting pitcher Cliff Buttermore suffered the loss for Plymouth, giving up five runs and six hits in five innings. Buttermore struck out four and walked two. Matt Priebe threw two innings of hitless relief for the 'Cats.

Offensively, Lineberry lined a two-run double, lead-off batter Luke Merandi went 2-for-4 with two runs, Priebe collected a pair of hits as did senior center fielder Ronnie Goble.

knowledge of the sport when he didn't mention Tiger Woods after being asked the name of his favorite professional

"It's Ian Poulter," he said, without hesi-

The Bozcars were enjoying a spring break vacation when Jack's memorable

And unlike a lot of his classmates who traveled south, he brought home a lot more than a souvenir.

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Your local golf guide

Marking and lifting a ball

By Jeanne Myers

Marking a golf ball seems to be a simple thing, but most of us haven't spent much time reading the rules dealing with marking. For example, most golfers believe that they have to mark the ball on a cart path before they lift it to take relief, but that is not the case. Rule 20-1 says you only need to mark a ball before lifting it if you are going to have to put it back (replace it). That would be the case on the putting green, or if someone asks you to lift your ball because it interferes with his or her shot. But when you are taking relief from a cart part, you are not going to have to replace the ball on the path -you are going to drop it somewhere else. Therefore, you do not have to mark it. You can, but it is not. necessary. This is also true if you are taking relief from any other immovable obstruction, or abnormal ground conditions such as casual water, ground under repair, or a hole made by a burrowing animal.

A ball may be lifted by the player, his or her partner or another person authorized by the player (such as the player's caddie). Just as a side note here, it may be replaced by the player, his or her partner or the person who lifted it. So you can see that if a caddie lifts the ball, the player may replace it. But if the player lifts the ball, the caddie may not replace it. If a fellow competitor lifts your ball without your authority during a stroke play, there is still no penalty and the hall gets replaced. However in

match play, if your opponent lifts your ball without your authority, he gets a one-stroke penalty.

When marking a ball on the green, the marker may be placed behind, to the side of or in front of the ball as long as nothing is done (i.e. pressing down a tuft of grass) to influence the movement of the ball when played. There are lots of ways to mark a ball, many of them not recommended, but they are permissible. You may place the toe of a club at the side of or behind a ball. You may use a tee or a handy loose impediment (make sure it won't blow away). You may not just point out a blemish near your ball and use that as a mark - you must physically mark the position of the ball.

Is there a "correct" way to move a ball-marker to the side because it interferes with someone else's

You may measure from the side of the ball or from the ball-marker, as long as you reverse the exact same process to get the ball back on the spot from which it was lifted.

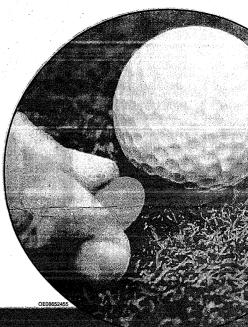
What happens if the ball or ballmarker is accidentally moved in this marking/lifting process?

There is no penalty provided the movement of the ball or marker is directly attributable to the specific act of marking/lifting. That means if you nudge the ball forward as you are marking, you do not have a problem. But, if you are walking up to mark your

ball and drop your putter on the ball, that will be a penalty of one stroke, and the ball must be replaced.

One point to remember: once you mark and lift your ball from the putting green it is no longer the "ball in play" it has become part of your equipment. Once you replace it on the spot from which you lifted it, it is again the ball in play - even if you leave your marker in place. Therefore, if the wind blows it somewhere else, you must play it from its new location!

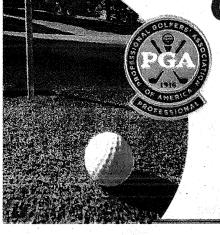
Jeanne Myers is currently an Assistant Tournament Director for the Golf Association of Michigan and also served as the Chairman of the USGA Women's Committee and is a Past President of the GAM.



Online poll: U.S. Open

The U.S. Open 2009 is June 15-21 Who will win this year? We want your vote!

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 23, 2009

All-Observer swimmers compete in the fast lane

Chris Behler, Sr., Livonia Stevenson:
Behler saved his best for last, earning
All-State honors as part of the Spartans'
200- and 400-yard relay contingents.
Behler will take his pool talents to Wayne
State University in the fall.

"Chris was one of our surprise seniors who came on real strong at the end of the season," said Stevenson coach Jeff Shoemaker. "His quality training during the season paid off for him with all his accomplishments."

Aaron Marecki, Jr., Stevenson: The junior reduced his times significantly from his sophomore season and earned All-State accolades in four events: the relay and 400 freestyle, 200 freestyle relay and 400 freestyle relay. "People now know the name Aaron Marecki," said Shoemaker. "He will be

Marecki," Said Shoemaker. "He will be team captain next year and I know he will lead this team with confidence."

Michael Crüce, Sr., Stevenson:
The senior captain proved to be an outstanding leader, both in the pool and out. An All-State performer, he will swim for Grand Valley State University in the fall.

"Mike oversame bugg adversity just

"Mike overcame huge adversity just to be able to swim for us this year," said Shoemaker. "He is an excellent leader."

Matt Collingwood, Soph., Salem: The 10th-grader qualified for the Division 1 state meet in the 200- and 500-yard freestyle events this past season. He earned a spot on the KLAA All-Conference squad and has earned the team's "Most Improved Swimmer" award each of the past two seasons.

'Matt shows no significant backing off now that he has achieved success at the state level," said Salem coach Chuck Olson. "His improvement is reflected in the fact that he qualified for three individual events and two relays.

Adam Seroka, Soph. Salem: Seroka has joined forces with Collingwood to give the Rocks one of the top young one-two punches in area swimming circles. He stroked his way to All-State honors in the 200 individual medley and 500 free and was voted to serve as a captain next

"Adam proved to be one of the elite freshmen in 2008 and 2009 proved to be even better with All-State efforts in two events," said Olson. "He's on the national level with All-American consideration. It will be what Adam can accomplish in the

200 IM the next two years."

Jeff Kinsvater, Sr., Stevenson: After barely missing state-qualifying point totals the past two seasons, Kinsvater not only qualified this season, he scored at the D1 meet.

"Jeff is surely going to be missed next year," said Shoemaker. "Chris and his coach, Matt Breen, were able to put our diving program on the mat."

Jereme Pesta, Sr., Stevenson: Pesta was instrumental in the Spartans' spectacular season, turning in All-State performances in three events. The future Eastern Michigan University swimmer was a member of Stevenson's All-American 200 medley relay foursome.

"Jereme came through in a big way for us this year," said Shoemaker. "Jereme has accomplished all these honors in just

three years. I'm sure he will accomplish much more at Eastern in the coming

Victor Zhang, Fr., Canton: The freshman burst on the high school swimming scene in grand fashion, earning All-State honors in two events. The Chiefs' talented ninth-grader placed fifth at the DI state meet in the 200 individual medley (1:57.56) and eighth in the 100 backstroke

2008-09 All-Observer **Boys Swimming Team**

FIRST TEAM
50-yard freestyle: Chris Behler, Sr., Livonia Stevenson
100 freestyle: Aaron Marecki, Jr., Stevenson
200 freestyle: Michael Cruce, Sr., Stevenson
500 freestyle: Matt Collingwood, Soph., Salem
200 individual medley: Adam Seroka, Soph., Salem
1-meter diving: Jeff Kinsvater, Sr., Stevenson
100 butterfly: Jereme Pesta, Sr., Stevenson
100 backstroke: Victor Zhang, Fr., Canton
100 breaststroke: Joey Wingett, Sr., Stevenson
200 medley relay: Stevenson (Kellen Schoff, Wingett, Pesta, Ryan Scott)
200 freestyle relay: Stevenson (Behler, Pesta, Cruce, Marecki)

200 freestyle relay: Stevenson (Behler, Pesta, Cruce, Marecki) 400 freestyle relay: Stevenson (Behler, Schoff, Scott, Marecki) **SECOND TEAM**

50 freestyle: Andrew Rice, Sr., Garden City 100 freestyle: Ryan Scott, Sr., Stevenson
200 freestyle: Richard Zhang, Sr., Canton
500 freestyle: Richard Zhang, Sr., Canton
500 freestyle: Daniel Schoff, Jr., Stevenson
200 individual medley: Charles Turlo, Sr., Stevenson
1-meter diving: Travis Holf, Sr., Livonia Churchill
100 butterfly: Noah Santer, Fr., Salen
100 hetestyle: Strap Richard Livestyle: Stayonson

100 backstroke: Bryan Bielecki, Jr., Stevenson 100 breaststroke: Dan Stoscup, Sr., Plymouth 200 medley relay: Canton (Jay Jin, Ryan Boes, Richard Zhang, Patrick Jenner) 200 freestyle relay: Salem (Santer, Collingwood, Max Mills, Seroka) 400 freestyle relay: Salem (Santer, Collingwood, Mills, Seroka) Coach of the Year: Jeff Shoemaker, Stevenson

future Wayne State University pre-med

student was a versatile member of the Spartans' deep and talented squad,

earning All-American status as a member of the 200 medley relay squad and All-State honors for his efforts in the 200

"Ryan was a very pivotal member of this year's state team," said Shoemaker. "He really came through for us this year. Without his contributions, we would have

fallen much lower than fifth place at the state meet. He is a prime example of

the type of athlete we try to develop at

Richard Zhang, Sr., Canton: Zhang

was an invaluable member of the Chiefs' team this past winter, excelling in the freestyle events. The future University of

Michigan student qualified for the state

Daniel Schoff, Jr., Stevenson: The junior, who qualified for the state meet

in the 500 freestyle this past winter, will

be the Spartans' top returning distance

swimmer next fall.
"Daniel had a breakthrough season,"

said Shoemaker. "He will definitely be needed in order for this team to have the

success we had this year. I look forward to watching him his senior season."

Charles Turlo, Sr., Stevenson: The senior peaked his final season in high

his performances in the 200 IM and 100

breaststroke. Turlo future plans include

surprised us all with his state-qualifying times in the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke,

said Shoemaker. "He could swim any event and was often asked to swim other

events in order for the team to succeed.

championship meet with a score of

Travis Holt, Sr., Livonia Churchill: The senior was one of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's elite divers, placing fifth at the conference

Noah Santer, Fr., Salem: The future is bright for this Rock ninth-grader, who qualified for the DI state meet in two events: the 100 butterfly, (37th place) and the 500 freestyle (44th). He earned All-

KLAA honors and was voted as the team's

most-improved freshman.

school and opened a lot of eyes with

majoring in medicine at Wayne State University.
"Charles is a very hard trainer and he

Joey Wingett, Sr., Stevenson: Wingett was not only a stellar captain, but he thrived in the water as well earning All-American laurels as a member of the Spartans' 200 medley relay contingent and All-State recognition in the 100 breaststroke.

"Joey was an awesome motivational leader this year," said Shoemaker. "I could use a captain like Joey every year. He is a true competitor and a pleasure to work with. I look forward to seeing him swim at Grand Valley State in the future." Stevenson's 200-yard medley relay team (Kellen Schoff, Wingett,

Pesta and Ryan Scott): The Spartans' extraordinary foursome earned All-American honors and a fourth-place showing at the D1 state meet and set a school record of 1:36.01.

This relay team was automatic All-American," said Shoemaker Stevenson's 200 freestyle relay

team (Behler, Pesta, Cruce and Marecki): This talented quartet of swimmers capped an outstanding season by placing fourth at the D1 state meet with a clocking of 1:27.62. Stevenson's 400 freestyle relay

team: (Behler, Schoff, Scott and Marecki): This relay team proved to be a fearless foursome as it went undefeated in dual meets before placing third at the D1 state meet with a time of 3:12.85.

SECOND TEAM Andrew Rice, Sr., Garden City: Rice enjoyed a stellar senior season, excelling in the 50-yard freestyle, the 100 butterfly and the 200- and 400-yard freestyle relays. He qualified for the Division 2 state meet in the 50 free with a school-record time of 22.96 seconds in a dual meet against Wyandotte. The four-year

varsity performer – two years at Redford Thurston and two at Garden City – also qualified for the state meet in the 100 fly. "Andy's determination to qualify for the state meet was like an infectious disease and an inspiration to the whole team," said Garden City coach Julie Johnston. "So much so that we had four other events that the team was close as far as state-qualifying times The entire team worked hard for their accomplishments this season and Andy was the inspiration for it all

Ryan Scott, Sr., Stevenson: The

"Noah was a great addition to our team this season," said Olson. "He is an excellent trainer and competitor. Whatever event the team needed him to swim, he was always ready. Noah is also an outstanding student with a 4.0 grade point average. Bryan Bielecki, Jr.,

ALL-AREA SWIMMING

Stevenson: The junior played a pivotal role in the Spartans winning the inaugural KLAA Conference championship as he placed fifth in the 200 IM (2;05.29) and sixth in the 100 backstroke (57.40).

Dan Stoscup, Sr., Plymouth: Stoscup capped a sensational high school swimming career by qualifying for the D1 state meet in the 100 breaststroke, where he placed 34th with a time of 1:02.99.

200 medley relay: Canton (Jay Jin, Ryan Boes, Richard Zhang, Patrick Jenner): This Chiefs' foursome clicked all season, especially late when they placed fifth at the inaugural KLAA Conference

championship meet.
200 freestyle relay: Salem (Santer, Collingwood, Max Mills, Seroka): This foursome placed fourth at the KLAA Conference meet and earned an All-KLAA nod. "Generally, the four

swimmers on your 200 free relay team are juniors and seniors," said Olson. "Rarely do you find three sophomores and a freshman competing at the state meet, which gave them great experience for the

future."

400 freestyle relay:
Salem (Santer, Collingwood,
Mills, Seroka): The group of underclassmen are a threat to do serious damage at the conference and state meets in the coming years after finishing 24th at this year's state meet and fourth at the

state meet and fourth at the KLAA meet.

"These four young men are going to make a lot of noise in the state the next several years," said Olson. "They push each other to do their best in practices and meets. They are all yeary good students as all yeary good students are all yeary good students are are all very good students as Coach of the Year: Jeff

Shoemaker, Stevenson: In his seventh season as head coach, the highly acclaimed Shoemaker led the Spartans to a fifth-place showing at the Division 1 state meet and to a championship effort at the inaugural KLAA Conference

"I was very happy with the team this year," Shoemaker said. "They all trained extremely hard and deserve all of their accomplishments. We ended up fifth in the state and just 4.5 points away from fourth. "We lost about half our

team to graduation and there are plenty of shoes to fill. I am looking forward to next year and filling all these shoes and starting with some new faces.



Chris Behler Stevenson



Matthew Collingwood Salem



Jereme Pesta Stevenson

Andrew Rice

Garden City

Charles Turlo

Stevenson



Aaren Marecki

Adam Seroka

Salem

Stevenson

Ryan Scott



Travis Holt



Jay Jin Canton





Mike Cruce



Jeff Kinsvater





Richard Zhang Canton



Noah Santer

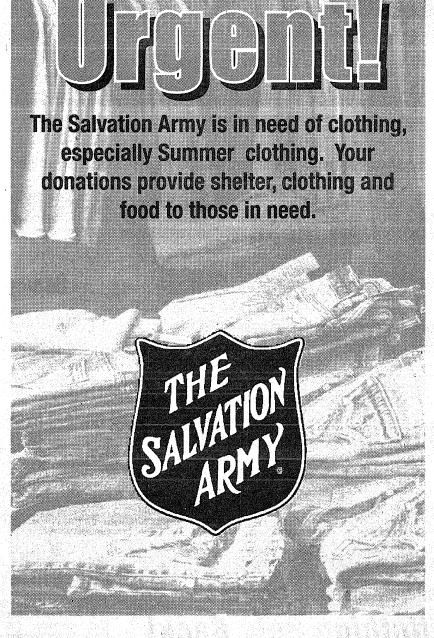


Ryan Boes Canton



Stevenson Coach of the Year

Victor Zhang (Canton) 5:00.11



These locations are accepting donations:

33600 Plymouth Rd. (Livonia) 28992 Ford Rd. (Garden City) 5875 Middlebelt Rd. (Romulus)

2627 Dix-Toledo (Lincoln Park) 34620 Michigan Ave. (Wayne) 8525 Telegraph Rd. (Dearborn Hgts.)

To arrange a pick up or for the nearest drop-off location, please call (734) 729-3939



Daniel Schoff



Dan Stoscup



Plymouth





Pat Jenner



Canton







Salem



Jeff Shoemaker

FINAL BOYS SWIM LISTINGS

FINAL OBSERVER BOYS SWIM LISTINGS 200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY Livonia Stevenson 1:36.0 Canton 1:45.32 Plymouth 1:47.00 Salem 1:47.31 Redford Union 1:50.46 Redford Thurston 1:50.79 200 FREESTYLE Michael Cruce (Stevenson) 1:46.78 Matt Collingwood (Salem) 1:47.77 Victor Zhang (Canton) 1:47.76

Adam Seroka (Salem) 1:48.46 Richard Zhang (Canton) 1:48.82 Aaren Marecki (Stevenson) 1:49.19 Jason Oldani (Plymouth) 1:50.97 Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 1:51.47 Charles Turlo (Stevenson) 1:52.32 200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

Adam Seroka (Salem) 1:54.97 Victor Zhang (Canton) 1:57.46 Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 1:58.19 Charles Turlo (Stevenson) 2:03.46 Bryan Bielicki (Stevenson) 2:05.06 Michael Cruce (Stevenson) 2:06.84 Jay Jin (Canton) 2:07.82 Matt Collingwood (Salem) 2:11.43 Dan Stoscup (Plymouth) 2:11.61 Jake McNamara (Stevenson) 2:13.20 50 FREESTYLE

Aaren Marecki (Stevenson) 21.76 Jereme Pesta (Stevenson) 21.97 Chris Buhler (Stevenson) 21.99 Ryan Scott (Stevenson) 22.51 Richard Zhang (Canton) 22.64 Andrew Rice (Garden City) 22.96 Adam Dabkowski (Stevenson) 22.98 Matt Collingwood (Salem) 23.03 Victor Zháng (Canton) 23.27

Michael Cruce (Stevenson) 23.26

1-METER DIVING

Jeff Kinsvater (Stevenson) 345.35

Travis Holt (Churchill) 330.05

Matt Figlewicz (Canton) 305.00

Kyle Peltier (RU) 304.60

Andrew Richards (Churchill) 301.00

Cody Roe (John Glenn) 297.00

Kyle Wilkinson (Plymouth) 290.65

Jack Beaudoin (Stevenson) 253.35

John McNally (Garden City) 251.55

Joe Rudelic (Salem) 250.35

Ryan Kilgore (Canton) 244.20

100 BUTTERFLY

Jereme Pesta (Stevenson) 51.92

Michael Cruce (Stevenson) 53.88

Victor Zhang (Canton) 54.62

Andrew Rice (Garden City) 55.72

Andrew Rice (Garden City) 55.72 Noah Santer (Salem) 55.63 Adam Seroka (Salem) 56.67 Adam Dabkowski (Stevenson) 56.69 Richard Zhang (Canton) 57.06 Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 57.36 Scott Ansteth (Franklin) 57.28 100 FREESTYLE Aaren Marecki (Stevenson) 47.73 Chris Buhler (Stevenson) 48.31

Adam Seroka (Salem) 49.48 Ryan Scott (Stevenson) 49.50 Andrew Rice (Garden Citv) 49.66 Richard Zhang (Canton) 49.91 Matt Collingwood (Salem) 49.93 Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 50.11 Mohamed Ghoteimi (Stevenson) 50.83 Brandon Bielicki (Stevenson) 51.26 500 FREESTYLE

Matt Collingwood (Salem) 4:49.00 Daniel Schoff (Stevenson) 4:53.73 Max Mills (Salem) 4:57.96

Noah Santer (Salem) 5:00.29 Adam LaPorte (Stevenson) 5:07.57 Jay Jin (Canton) 5:07.79
Charles Turlo (Stevenson) 5:11.77
Michael Cruce (Stevenson) 5:12.00
200 FREESTYLE RELAY Livonia Stevenson 1:27.13
Salem 1:32.51
Canton 1:32.80
Plymouth 1:34.13
Livonia Franklin 1:36.87.
100 BACKSTROKE Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 54.32 Victor Zhang (Canton) 54.45 Adam Seroka (Salem) 55.06 Bryan Bielicki (Stevenson) 56.36 Jay Jin (Canton) 58.37 Jimmy Vayis (Stevenson) 59.50 Jeremy Wellman (Salem) 59.59 Mohamed Ghotiemi (Stevenson) 1:00.33 Alex Suriano (Salem) 1:00.66 Charles Turlo (Stevenson) 1:01.17 100 BREASTSTROKE Joey Wingett (Stevenson) 1:00.16 Charles Turlo (Stevenson) 1:02.74

Victor Zhang (Canton) 1:02.93 Dan Stoscup (Plymouth) 1:02.99 Eric Schuman (Stevenson) 1:03.82 Brandon Larkins (Franklin) 1:04.60 Adam Seroka (Salem) 1:04.66 John Webster (RU), 1:05.65 John Loria (Stevenson) 1:05-77 David Bladecki (Stevenson) 1:06-32 Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 1:07.00 400 FREESTYLE RELAY Livonia Stevenson 3:12.43 Salem 3:22.09 Canton 3:23.44 Plymouth 3:32.17

Strictly Business

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

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

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 Point 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 onestop 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.

New toy store

Having signed a lease at the Westchester Square mall in downtown Plymouth (550 Forest Avenue), owners of the new Genuine Toy location are starting the build-out of their specialty retail toy store.



The store will occupy the space formerly held by Andy's Hallmark, total area of which is 2,745 square feet. Owners expect to open sometime

in June if all goes well, although it could be a bit earlier (late May) or later (early July worst case). The store will feature a broad range of toys and games, something for all ages from infant to adult.

The space is currently being upgraded to increase visibility to Forest (similar to existing Three Dog Bakery frontage) as well as changes to improve the functionality and flow of the store. The new space will also be updated with a bright, fun new look.

Renewed contract

A partnership and technical cooperation of more than 60 years was celebrated by SKF together with Scuderia Ferrari Marlboro by

> signing the Formula One contract Feb. 24. The contract is valid for three years and continues to strengthen the long-lasting relationship between the two companies.

The number of components supplied by SKF, which has an office on Port Street in Plymouth Township, for one Ferrari F1 car is around 150. The deep technical knowledge and experience of SKF has been used to support the development of a number of innovative and advanced systems for Ferrari F1 over the years. One of this year's special developments is the new energy efficient KERS (Kinetic Energy Recovery System) installed by Ferrari in its new F60 for the 2009 race season.

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Says Stefano Domenicali, Director of the Ferrari Formula One team: "I am absolutely delighted to be able to count on this cooperation from a company like SKF," said Stefano Domenicali, director of the Ferrari Formula One team. "They are among the strongest technical-partnership relationships between Ferrari and a select number of leading world companies, for their excellence and prestige."

Sun Home honors

Recently this spring Pella window and door company held an awards ceremony at their offices in auburn hills for Certified Pella Contractors and authorized dealers in this area. Of the 20 or so contractors who attended, Sun Home Improvement won the Highest in Customer Satisfaction Award From Homeowner Survey Scores.

Sun Home Improvement officials explained Pella sends out surveys to each customer after the job is complete asking to rate Pella as well as the contractor/installers. Sun Home also won CPC of the year award for Highest Sale's Volume, and Platinum Award for Sales Volume (which is the highest award for CPC's for volume). Sun Home Improvement, started by James Voepel and his father, Emil Voepel, is still a family owned and operated business with offices based out of Plymouth and Rochester Hills. The company installs Pella, Andersen, Marvin, and Sunrise windows, James Hardie and Certainteed Siding, and Certainteed Roofing. For more information, visit www. sunhomeimprovement.com, e-mail sunhomeimprovement@yahoo.com or call (734) 354-9988.



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Repair service blooms in shifting economy with friendly style

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

Ryan's: We have three-bay, full-service auto repair, where we repair all makes and models of lawn equipment, including lawn mowers, trimmers, edgers, chain saws, tractors, etc.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Ryan's: We repair brands of lawn equipment other shops don't, such as Craftsmen, John Deere, Toro, MTD, etc. Some shops only repair what they sell. We do not sell new equipment, but we do take trade-ins and sell reconditioned equipment. As far as auto repair, we service all makes.

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

Ryan's: I decided to open my own business after completing engine certifications and working in the repair field for several years.

Observer: Why did you choose Plymouth?

Ryan's: I grew up here and know what a great town it is.

Observer: How has the business changed since it opened?

Ryan's: We have tripled in size and went from a small engine repair shop only to one that also includes full-service auto repair.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Ryan's: Our business has increased with more

Ryan's: Our business has increased with more people fixing their cars rather than replacing them. As far as the small engine side, we find people cancelling their lawn service and getting their old mowers out and getting them tuned up to mow their lawns themselves.

RYAN'S SMALL ENGINE & AUTO REPAIR

- Business name: Ryan's Small Engine & Auto Repair
- Business address, including city: 41990 Joy, Plymouth
- Your name and title: Randy Ryan, owner
- Your hometown: Plymouth
- Business opened when? 2002
 Number of amplement from the control of the c

0979; www.ryansautorepair.com

- Number of employees: 5, with additional seasonal help
- Your business specialty: Full-service auto and lawn equipment repair
- Hours of operation: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

 Business phone and/or Web, site: (734) 454-

Observer: Any advice to other business owners?

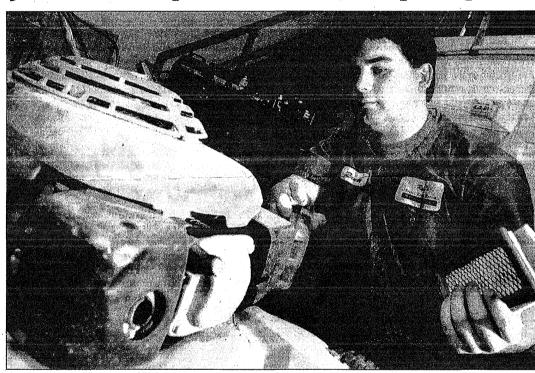
Ryan's: Be friendly and honest. Our entire business grew from happy customers telling their friends.

Observer: What's in store for the future of your business?

Ryan's: Growth, several more locations.

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

Ryan's: In the summer of 2008 Ryan's Small Engine & Auto Repair technicians and mechanics built a Demolition Derby car that ran in the Monroe County Fair. This was no



Randy Ryan, owner and technician of Ryan's Small Engine Repair, works on tuning up a Honda lawn mower in his

ordinary Derby car. The staff here repositioned the car's exhaust pipes to come out of the hood of the car. The doors were filled with cement, all windows removed and the car spray-painted black with a large number painted on the sides and top. The car was driven by one of our mechanics and the other mechanics were the pit crew. Although the car didn't win the race, everyone had a great time, including over 20 vendors and customers who went to watch the race. Plans are already in the works for Ryan's 2009 Derby car.

CHAMBER CHAT

The Tigers' Vice President of Communications, Ron Colangelo, will be our featured speaker at the Good Morning, Plymouth Community breakfast 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, at Station 885.

He will discuss how the Tigers are marketing the team



during this difficult economic time. Since the Tigers are a business we all know, this should be an interesting case study with

and promot-

ing ticket sales

information we can all use to communicate the value of our products and services. Also, with the new season just starting, there should also be plenty of Tiger talk.

This Community Breakfast will be a great opportunity for you to network with many other Chamber members. To attend, call (734) 453-1540 or e-mail teri@plymouthmich. org. The cost is \$12 and can be paid in advance. Cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to the event, since the Chamber is liable for all meals.

Showcase/Taste of Plymouth

This annual event takes place 5-7:30 p.m. Monday, May 11, at The Inn at St. John's at 5 Mile and Sheldon. For \$10 you can enjoy selec-

tions from almost 20 local restaurants, meet another 70 businesses that exhibit and network with other attendees. Chamber members who attend will be given special decorative name badges to identify each other. Members can also purchase five or more tickets at one time for a discount of \$2 per ticket. To RSVP for the event call (734) 453-1540 or e-mail teri@plymouthmich.org.

Volunteer and receive a free admission. Members again have the opportunity to volunteer for the event and receive a free admission. Volunteers are needed in the morning, afternoon and during the event to assist with decorations, vendor set up and registration. If you would like to volunteer, please call (734) 453-1540 to designate the time. Most volunteer activities take about three hours.

Golf outing

The Chamber's annual Golf Classic takes place July 13 at Northville Hills Golf Club.

Free Theater Tickets

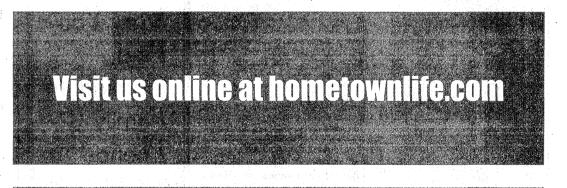
The Chamber has free tickets available for the opening

night of "Prescription Murder"
(a Columbo mystery) on April
30. The production is put
on by Barefoot Productions,
Plymouth's local Theatre
Company, at the WalkerBuzenberg Building: 240 N.
Main St. The special guest star
on opening night is Chamber
Executive Director Wes Graff.
To pick up free tickets you can
stop by the Chamber office at
850 W. Ann Arbor Trail.

Business News

• If you are looking to improve your business through increased marketing and cross promotions then the new ATM group is for you. This is a group made up of local businesses, including many Chamber members, who directly provide goods and services to consumers. At their monthly meetings they will be developing cross promotions between businesses, provide marketing tips and do brainstorming for other great ideas that help participants gain business.

The ATM group is holding their first meeting at the Chamber office (850 W. Ann Arbor Trail) on Thursday, April 30, from 8-9 a.m. If you are interested in attending their first meeting, please contact Lori Morrison of Ribar Floral at (734) 455-8722.





RELIGION CALENDAR

To submit an item for the religion calendar, e-mail lchomin@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Linda Chomin, Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday. For a complete listing of events online please go to hometownlife.com.

Trinity food pantry

Deadline is April 23, for the Trinity Church Food Pantry on Saturday, April 25. Trinity Food Pantry for April. Recipients must reserve a pick-up time in advance by calling (734) 459-9557 on Monday, April 20 to Thursday, April 23. Trinity Church is at 10101 W. Ann Arbor Road, west of Beck, Plymouth.

There are no requirements, this a service the church wants the community to be aware of and utilize if needed. We also accept donations of non-perishable items for the cupboard, we have received supplies from the Boy Scouts as well as our congregation. If there's a more appropriate column to place this information, that would be fine, we just want to spread the word of the help that's available. Thank you.

Open house

And Science Fair 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at All Saints Catholic School, 48735 Warren Road, Canton. Call (734) 459-2490

Rummage sale

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday-Friday, April 23-24, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at St. Joseph Church, 16101 Rotunda, between Southfiled and Greenfield, Dearborn. For details, call (313) 336-3227.

Apologetics for beginners The Mass: Christ's Once for All Sacrifice is the topic as nationally-acclaimed apologist and author, Gary Michuta, continues his series "Sharing Made Simple: Apologetics for Beginners" 7 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at St. Michael the Archangel Parish school, at 11441 Hubbard and Plymouth Rd., between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia. For information, call (734) 261-1455, Ext 200, or see www.livoniastmichael.org. Michuta's presentation focuses on the reasons that Catholics believe Christ is truly and wholly present in the Eucharist and how that sacrifice figures into the point and purpose of the Catholic

Help available

A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (non-perishable items) is available 10 a.m. to noon Saturday mornings at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard, Livonia.

There are no requirements, this a service the church wants the community to be aware of and utilize if needed. Donations of nonperishable items also accepted for the cupboard.

Rummage sale

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 23, 2009

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 24, and 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard; between Five Mile and Six Mile, Livonia.

Spring rummage sale

9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 24, and 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday. April 25, in the fellowship hall at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, between Newburgh and Haggerty, Livonia. A \$2 bag sale is on Saturday.

Mom to mom sale

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Wayne and Newburgh roads, Livonia.

Shared Hope presentation

Shared Hope International is a leaders in a worldwide effort to prevent and eradicate sex trafficking and slavery through education and public awareness. The organization rescues and restores women and children in crisis. Every year between 100,000 and 300,000 American children are sold into the sex trade in this country. The average age a girl is trafficked is 12. This eye-opening presentation takes place 4-5 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 3003 Hannan Rd., Wayne, 48184, and 1-2 p.m. Sunday, April 26, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Rd., north of I-96, Livonia. Pre-registration appreciated but not required. Visit www. christoursavior.org and click on the events page to register. To learn about sex trafficking, visit www.

sharedhope.org. Landscape project

Trinity Church of Livonia is holding a Native Landscape informational meeting 12:30-1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 26, in the church library at 34500 Six Mile, next to Stevenson High School, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. The meeting is to discuss native landscape plans for the church property. They have been working with the City of Livonia and the Friends of the Rouge at ways to be good stewards. Goals include reducing air and water pollution, embracing a sustainable aesthetic. and building community. All are welcome. A planting day is scheduled for May 16. The church is also hosting a site at a Livonia Park for the Rouge Rescue set for June 6. Call (734) 425-2800.

Clothing bank

Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need 10 a.m. noon on the fourth Saturday of each month, at Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 8775 Ronda Drive. The bank continues in April. Call (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org.

Newburg United Methodist Church 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Livonia will be holding a Rummage Sale fund raiser. Pre-sale 5-8 p.m. Thursday, April 30, admission \$2 per adult. Big Sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, May 1, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 2, admission free. Saturday everything half price.

Christian golf league

Senior golfers (male or female) are needed for the Christian Fellowship Golf League which plays 9 holes at Idyl Wyld golf course 9 a.m. Wednesdays beginning May 6. For information, call Ed at (734) 591-3067. The league is sponsored by the Anglican Church of Livonia.

Families in action workshops The National Association for Mental Illnesses 10-week educational program continues at St., Regis Parish School Campus in Bloomfield Hills. The program is for people with a loved one diagnosed with a serious mental illness. The workshop meets at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays or Thursdays through April 30, \$20 per person; \$30 per couple. Families In Action is funded in large part by the Oakwood Healthcare Foundation and the Oakwood Heritage Hospital Auxiliary. Call (248) 348-7197 to register.

Michigan Treasure Hunters

Meet 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, Livonia. To contact the club write Michigan Treasure Hunters, P.O. Box 510237, Livonia, MI 48151-6237.

UPCOMING

Men's spring retreat

Hosted by Brotherhood of St. Andrew Chapter of Anglican Church of Livonia Friday-Saturday, May 1-2, at the Retreat Center at St. John's, 33045 Five Mile, Plymouth. Friday schedule runs from 4:30 p.m. to? and features Bible study, evening lesson and fellowship. Saturday activities take place 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a morning and afternoon lesson, Bible study and fellowship, and Eucharist at close. Cost is \$70 and includes Friday night dinner, overnight stay, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, \$30 for commuters. For information, call (248) 476-9214, (734) 432-0201, or (734) 591-3067.

Celebrating families

Building Blocks for Society will be held May 2-3, after all masses in Bixman Hall at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., north of Six Mile, Livonia. There will be Lego display, a supervised Lego play area for children, refreshments, and a short movie for adults. The church will also be hosting the Catholic Book Store. Times are after 5 p.m. mass Saturday, May 2, and after 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. masses Sunday, May 3. For more information,

call (734) 425-5950. Students and their families are invited to bring their own Lego creations for others to view before Mass between 4-5 p.m. on Saturday, May 2, to the St. Aidan display table in Bixman Hall.

Spring Fling

Emmanuel Lutheran Church and their Special Needs Ministry Team invite everyone 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. The event is designed for adults with cognitive and developmental disabilities, other special needs, and caretakers. Come and enjoy an evening of music, fun, and friendship. Snacks and beverages served. Space limited, reservations required. Call Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822 or e-mail elc-ed@arounddetroit.biz no later than Friday, May 8.

Music at St. John's

The Saline Fiddlers, 6 p.m., Sunday, May 17, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. All concerts free except The Saline Fiddlers (\$7). Call (734) 453-0190.

Garage sale

8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, May 21-23, at 36019 Middleboro, Livonia. Proceeds go to help the Anglican Church of Livonia purchase a new church building. Services are presently held at the Livonia Family Y. For more information, call (734) 591-3067.

Crocodile dock

Down by the water Vacation Bible school 9 a.m. to noon Monday-Friday, June 15-19 for fun, friendship and food, at St. Aidan catholic Church on Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$25 per participant (family discount available), Music CD available last day for \$10. VBS Mass 9:30 a.m. Sunday June 21. For more information or to volunteer, call Jackie at (734) 425-9333.

Classic car show.

8th annual show for classic cars with all profits going to Angela Hospice 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 18, at Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman, north of Five Mile, Livonia. For information, call (248) 380-8078 (evenings please), or visit www.livoniachurch.net.

ONGOING

All-you-can-eat pancakes

The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continues its 30-year tradition of all-youcan-eat pancake breakfasts 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. the third Sunday of each month in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard. Expanded menu features pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns and assorted beverages served buffet-style, \$5, adults; \$3, children 4-11; free, under 3; \$15, family (two adults and all children). Everyone welcome.

Healing ministry

7-9 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of the month for prayer, spiritual healing and outreach at Good Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City, Call (734) 427-3660.

Registration opens

St. Mary School, 34516 Michigan Ave., Wayne, recognized as a School of Distinction, is now accepting registrations for the 2009-10 school year for grades Kindergarten through 8. Call (734) 721-1240.

New worship schedule

Sunday worship at 8 a.m., Faith Forum at 9 a.m., worship and Sunday school 10 a.m. Wednesday worship at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414.

Time change

Worship is 9:30 a.m. Sunday, at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. Learning hour is at 8:15 a.m. for all ages. Visit www.livonfaith.org.

Church moves

Westwood Community Church has moved to 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland. Service time is 10-11:15 a.m. Come as you are. Coffee and doughnuts every Sunday. Children's church.

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

26701 Joy, each week on Wednesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays is a study/discussion group focused on understanding our relationship with God and that of other religions and the many philosophical and scientific issues that might impact our faith. Thursday group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastors Larry Hoxey. Call (313) 274-3820 for additional information on oppor-

Special needs Bible class Emmanuel Lutheran Church in

tunities.

Livonia invites adults with developmental disabilities and special needs to attend a new Open Arms Bible class the second Monday of the month at the church, 34567

Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. The class will include songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to elc-ed@arounddetroit.biz.

Church schedule

9:30 a.m. Sunday School followed by 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion each Sunday, Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City. For information, call (734) 427-3660.

Caregiver's support group

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

Sunday night lights

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

Rush hour concert series

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

Worship

Sundays 8 a.m. worship; 9 a.m. Adult Faith Forum, 10 a.m. worship service, Sunday School and Nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414.

Sunday school

Takes place at 9:30 a.m. with worship service and communion at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday, at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads, Garden City. Bible study 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday. Call (734) 427-3660.

Hall rental

Volkmar Hall located in Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads, Garden City, is available for rent. For information, call (734) 427-3660.

Parkinson Support

Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group meets 7-9 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August, at Farmington Hills Baptist Church, 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. Enter at rear of church. For more information, call (248) 433-1011.

Overeaters Anonymous

Meet 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia. And 7 p.m. Sundays at the Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia, in Classroom 1. Call Wendy first at (313) 387-9797. Anyone who wants to stop eating compulsively is welcome. For more Greater Detroit Overeaters Anonymous Information visit www. oa.org or call (248) 559-7722.

New worship schedule

Worship 8 a.m. Sunday, Faith Forum & Other Options at 9 a.m., and Worship and Sunday school at 10 a.m. Wednesday Worship at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Visitors welcome. For information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivo-

nia.org. Bible study

St. Michael the Archangel Church, located at the southwest corner of Plymouth and Hubbard Roads, continues its regular evening Bible Study program with an in-depth study of The Gospel of Luke 7 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of each month in the rectory. The informal classes are open to all interested persons regardless of religious affiliation. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

Wednesday activities

Have resumed at 7 p.m. at Grace Christian Fellowship, on the west side of Middlebelt, one block south of Six Mile. The special four week study focuses on the Hebraic Roots of Our Christian Faith, taught by Yvonne Moore. For information, visit www.gcfellowship.org or call (734) 525-6019.

Thursday fellowship dinner

All are welcome, 6 p.m. dinners catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$8. Call (313) 534-7730.

Eucharistic adoration St. Michael the Archangel Church

in Livonia continues its monthly program of Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration on the third Wednesday of each month. The church is open for prayer and private worship from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Benediction service

in the evening. Call (734) 261-1455. Worship schedule

11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday (9:45 a.m. Sunday School), at Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, west of Venoy, Westland. Wednesday prayer and Bible study is 7 p.m. Youth fellowship every other Friday at 7 p.m.

Sunday worship

The early service for the Anglican Church of Livonia is at 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road and next to Stevenson High School, Livonia. The 10 a.m. service will continue to be at the Livonia YMCA at 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the 1-96 service drive. The Web site is

www.hischurch.us. Sanskrit chanting

An ongoing, weekly class taught by Ania Kopczynski, 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, at Renaissance Unity, 11200 E. 11 Mile, Warren. No preregistration required. A free-will collection taken at the session. For information, call (586) 353-2300 or visit www.renaissanceunity.org.

Church schedule

Garden City Presbyterian/Church continues its 10 a.m. Sunday worship service with traditional hymns, scripture readings and choral music (fellowship follows). Youth Sunday School and nursery care also available at 10 a.m. Adult Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. Informal gathering 6 p.m. every Sunday with scriptures and discussion at the church on Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Rd. Call (734) 421-7620.

Single Place Ministry

Single Place Ministry continues to meet Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main St., Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www. singleplace.org. Cost is \$5.

Prince of Peace Church

Recovery, Inc., meets at 10 a.m., every Wednesday at the church. Walnut Lake Road and Green, West Bloomfield. Recovery, Inc., is an international, non-profit, self-help community based service organization that helps people with nervous and emotional disorders reduce their suffering and improve their quality of life. Call Martha Paul at (248) 682-9362 or e-mail her at marthapaul@sbcglobal.net.

Tai Chi and strength classes

Orchard United Methodist Church is hosting a Tai Chi class 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the Mac at the church. 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. The cost per class is \$10 or \$40 prepaid for five classes. The strength class takes place 9:30-10:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesday Cost is \$5 per class. Drop-ins wel-

For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Tai Chi class

Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is great for reducing stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes continue every Monday. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.

org for updates. Thrift store

Open Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313)

534-7730. New schedule

9 a.m. Sunday school for all ages and Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion and nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. All visitors welcome. For more information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit

www.holycrosslivonia.org. Day of service A Day of Service and Spirituality

is available by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center. The purpose of the day is to serve, meet and have one's faith grow. The day allows groups to help at the Capuchin Services Center and dine with guests at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. A tour of the Earth Works urban garden, which provides six tons of produce each season, will also be made available. The day concludes with a self-guided tour of the Solanus Casey Center, a spirituality center dedicated to the Capuchin friar who is credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. The minimum age is seventh grade and the maximum size of the group is 30. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. There is no cost. Lunch included. For information, send e-mail to ccrane@thecapuchins.org. To learn more about the Capuchin

Soup Kitchen, visit www.cskdetroit. Please see CALENDAR, B7

USS CUCLE Obituaries, Memorials 1-800-579-7355 • fax 586-826-7318 email: oeobits@hometownlife.com View Passages Online: www.hometownlife.com JEAN E. LEWIS Age 81, April 19, 2009. Devoted wife of the late Roy. Loving mother of Michael (Virginia) and Dale (Penny).

BARBARA M. DAVIS Of Grand Blanc, formerly of Plymouth, Michigan, age 76, died peacefully Saturday, April 11, 2009. Barbara resided at Clare Bridge of Grand Blanc. Barbara was born July 29, 1932 in Elgin, IL to Monroe and Eleanor Thompson. She was the youngest of five girls. After graduating from Olivet Nazarene College with a degree in Education, Barbara married Edward Davis on December 22, 1955. They lived in Grand Rapids, MI for several years before moving to Plymouth. Following a short teaching career, Barbara was a secretary and homemaker. She enjoyed needlework, gardening, antiquing and traveling with friends. Barbara was a long time member of Detroit First Church of the Nazarene located in Far mington Hills, MI. She was the "unofficial greeter," always smiling and greeting people with a warm hello. She is survived by daughters, Melinda Weber and husband Larry of Flushing, MI, Lisabeth Hillman and husband Brian of Sherman Oaks, CA; grand-children, Emily Weber, Grant, Troy and Tate Hillman. She is also survived by sisters, Juanita Thompson and Virginia Carron. She was preceded in death by husband, Edward Davis, as well as sisters, Lucille Thompson and Dorothy Chellew. The family would like to offer their sincere gratitude to Dr. Braver, the entire Clare Bridge staff and Home & Hospice Advantage. The love and care they gave to our mother will always be remembered. Those desiring may wish to make a donation to the Alzheimer's Association in her memory. Barbara will be buried along side of her hus-band in Plymouth, Michigan. Your condolences may be shared with the family at swartzfuneralhomeinc.com

at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile, Livonia. Thursday visitation 11:30 am until her funeral at 12 pm at The Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083 Newburgh, Livonia. Ennichement at Glen Eden. Please visit www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com. ALLEN E. TAFT

Dear father of James (Maureen) Strayer, Matthew (Cathy) Taft, Margaret Fritz, Michael (Carolyn) Taft, Eric Taft, and Philip Spalding. Also survived by 15 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, three brothers, and four sisters. Memorial services to be held Saturday, May 9, 2009, 11 a.m. at the First Congregational Church of Wayne, 2 Towne Square in Wayne. Memorial contributions to American Cancer Society appreciated. Arrangements through Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 34567

Mich. Ave., Wayne.



May \mathbf{Y} ou Dear grandmother of Michael II and $oldsymbol{F}$ ind David. Visitation Wednesday 3-9 pm $oldsymbol{C}$ omfort in Family 8 Friends April 14, 2009, of Westland. Loving husband of Dianne.

OBITUARY **POLICY**

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

Deadlines: Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to:

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A stroll down memory lane: Prom lets women be 16 again

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

It seems a lot of women want to be 16 again. The Mom Prom started as a night out for a dozen women to revisit their high school years, but it's growing into a national phenomenon. On Friday, April 24, local women will have the opportunity to leave the kids and husband home and dance the night away at a prom put on by the Mom's Group at St. Thomas a Becket Catholic Church in Canton. This year's charity event takes place from 8-11 p.m. at the church with proceeds going to the First Step domestic violence shelter and St. Vincent de Paul.

Even those who have outgrown their prom gowns improvise. Betsy Crapps still fits into the dress she wore as a senior to her high school prom in 1988.

"This is our fourth year. The first year there were just 12 of us," said Crapps of Canton. "We went to dinner and dancing in our dresses. We said we should put our gowns to good use and more women heard

Tickets are available on the night of the prom or before at St. Thomas a Becket church at 555 S. Lilley and Cherry Hill. For more information, visit www. themomprom.org or send e-mail to themomprom@yahoo.com.

about it, friends and relatives in different states. My son even helped me out to do a Web site for women to hold their own charity event. We have a tackiest dress contest.

"Last year some women came in with T-shirts on underneath their gowns because they couldn't zip up the back. A lot of women wear old bridesmaid dresses. Last year three women wore their wedding gowns. Some go out to consignment shops just to find something to wear for the tackiest dress contest. It's a night for women to be silly and 16 again."

Besides dancing the night away to music provided by DJ Diana Korte from Silver Sounds, women can have their prom photo taken with dates

in the form of life-size cardboard figures of James Dean, John Wayne or Burt Reynolds. A game even randomly selects a prom queen. Last year the winner was a great grandmother.

"One woman last year said I haven't laughed that hard since before I was married," said Crapps. "We can act 16 again. We just have fun. It's a night for women to celebrate and have fun and raise money for a good cause."

Last year, one of the women in the moms group was diagnosed with breast cancer so the money went to the Karmanos Cancer Institute. This year, admission to The Mom Prom is a \$20 donation, but no one will be turned away because of an inability to pay. Tickets are available on the night of the prom or before at St. Thomas a Becket church at 555 S. Lilley and Cherry Hill. For more information, visit www.themomprom.org or send e-mail to themomprom@ yahoo.com.

Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2241



Bonnie Wojciechowski, Katie Long, Betsy Crapps, Julie Molchany, Jessica Gaderick, and Patsy Wilson attended last year's Mom Prom at St. Thomas a Becket in Canton, This year's dance takes place Friday, April 24.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Adult Bible Class at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship at 10:30 a.m., at Immanuel Lutheran Church, tots through high school and Adult Faith Forum at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Visitors welcome. Worship services

Sunday worship services are at 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary), at Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. For more information, call (734) 637-8160. Sunday school and Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study series: Heaven Can't Wait.

Celebrate Recovery

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville launches Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday for 6 p.m. dinner. (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www. celebraterecovery.com and www. wardchurch.org/celebrate.

Sunday service

All are welcome to attend worship service at 10 a.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

Worship service

At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan. Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from I Peter. Call (313) 255-6330.

Adult literacy classes

Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those wishing to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening.

For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472.

Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you.

Personal ministry

Due Season Christian Church is a nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m.

and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road,

All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www. DueSeason.org.

Scripture studies

From 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

Stands for Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday evening at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. It is a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight and keep it off. Call Margaret at (734) 838-0322. Learner's Bible study

At 7 p.m. Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000

W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

Eucharistic adoration

The monthly program of Parish Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration continues the third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will be open for worship from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. followed by Benediction service. For information, call (734) 261-1455.

Unity of Livonia

Services at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays at 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. Call (734) 421-1760.

Shabbat services

The doors of Congregation Beit Kodesh, a Conservative synagogue at 31840 W. Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, are open to the Jewish community of southeastern Michigan. Call (248)

477-8974. Bet Chaverim

Services open to all in the western counties including Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, and Northville. The congregation follows traditions of Reform Judaism. Interfaith families welcome to services at 321 S. Ridge, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. Call (734) 646-3864 or visit www. betchaverim.com.

Detroit World Outreach

A nondenominational church with cutting edge drama productions, energized contemporary music, high-tech video and lighting, programs for kids and teens, for college students, singles, married adults and seniors. Services are at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday (6:30) p.m. the first Sunday of the month), Sunday school for all ages at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. · Call (313) 255-2222 for additional information.

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St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church St. Genevieve School - PreK-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a,

Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a,

Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a

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website: www.stpaulslivonia.org

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734-525-3550

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

HILIER

Brothers bring back '60s to feed hungry children

Singer/ songwriter Mark **Edwards** opens Jammin' to **End Famine** Friday, April 24.





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David Birchler jokes that he and his brothers are children of the '60s. They still play the music they learned in high school and never learned anything else. The audience won't be laughing though when 3 of the 5 Birchler brothers take the stage at Jammin' to End Famine Friday, April 24, at the Monaghan Knights of Columbus in Livonia. They'll be to busy grooving to the sounds of Motown, American rock and psychedelic

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

O&E STAFF WRITER

back the era of flower children. The 60s is just one of the decades covered by 5 bands at the second annual fund-raiser for Kids Against Hunger. The Paisley Fogg will be joined by singer/songwriter Mark Edwards; The Shawn Riley Band performing a tribute to '50s music; British Beat 66, the Canadian ambassadors of the British invasion, and 2 Dayz Gone with '80s and '90s rock n' roll.

tunes as The Paisley Fogg brings

By day David Birchler is a city planning consultant with Birchler Arroyo Associates in Lathrup Village, but on Friday night he goes back to his carefree guitarist days to raise money to feed children around the world. Kids Against Hunger partners with humanitarian organizations like the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth to package a specially formulated soy-rice casserole for starving children in more than 40 countries.

"I think famine relief is an important topic with what's going on internationally and in this country with the economy," said David Birchler of Birmingham. "Kids Against Famine gets young people involved in a good cause at a young age by packaging food for those in need. They get kids involved and give them a taste for that good feeling you get for volunteering. At last year's event the

The Paisley Fogg play the music of Motown and the 60s at Jammin' to End Famine, a fund-raiser for Kids Against Hunger Friday, April 24, at the Monaghan Knights of Columbus in Livonia. Pictured are Ron Graham (rear to front), Tom Birchler, Keith Birchler. **David Birchler and** Tommy Anderson.

Kids Against Hunger folks cooked up some of the soy and rice to

show people it's very nutritious." John Birchler knows first hand the difference the nonprofit makes in the lives of hungry children. He is past president of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth, the organization which has donated more than \$50,000 and helped

package more than 1 million meals over the last 5 years. In November 2007 John invited his brother Tom for a day-long packaging extravaganza in Okemos.

"We packed 100,000 meals in one day but could have done 200,000 but raised enough money to do only 100,000. My brother Tom saw that and said it's really

about raising enough money for supplies," said John Birchler, a financial advisor who lives in Plymouth. John sings a couple of songs at the fund-raiser with his brothers Tom, David and Keith and their Paisley Fogg band. "We do about 30 of these events a year. I've been a member of the Plymouth Kiwanis a dozen years and Kids Against Hunger is the

best project we've ever done." It was only natural Tom would suggest a concert to raise money for the nonprofit that feeds starving children. For the Birchler brothers it's always been electric guitars. Their parents bought them a cheap acoustic at a young age along with The Beatles' Rubber Soul album from which they learned their first songs. Through the years Tom played professionally with groups like Scratch, Steve King & the Dittlies and The Paisley Fogg.

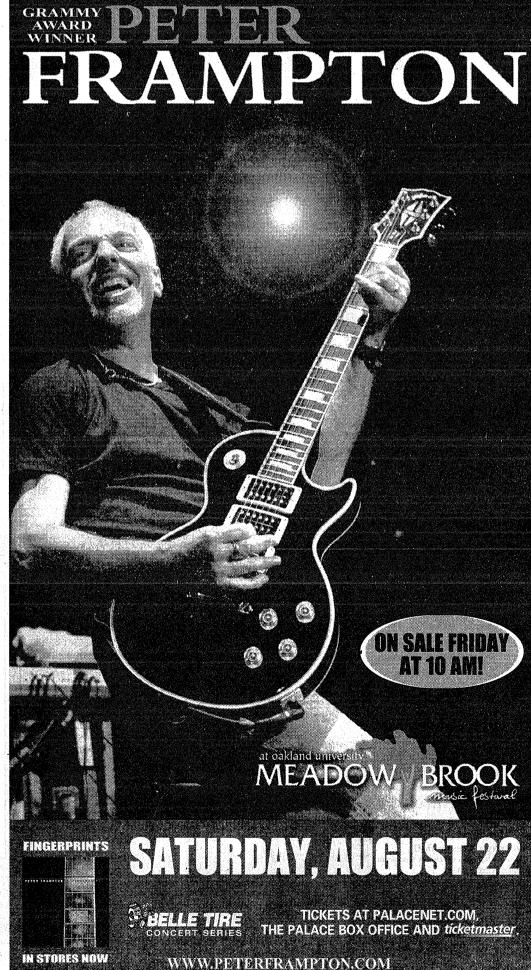
"I'm playing in Paisley Fogg with 2 of the 5 Birchler brothers," said Tom, a Livonia musician. "My brother Jim is playing with the Shawn Riley Band. Back in high school he did 50s music inspired by Happy Days and is kind of recreating their high school band, We're all graduates of Brother Rice. Paisley Fogg is playing 60s rock, Motown, the Beach Boys, Mamas and Papas, Janis Joplin with our female vocalist Dawn Dehring. We play a lot of summer festival series, Birmingham, Franklin, June 12 in Farmington. We also play the Dream Cruise Saturday Aug. 15, in Ferndale."

For the last 3 years the Birchler brothers supported different organizations by playing a concert. Two years ago they decided to rename the event and support Kids Against Hunger. Last year's event brought in \$6,000.

"Jammin' was dreamed up by brother Dave and I get the entertainment together," said Tom. "It's a Birchler family event. We like to play and like to do something good for a worthy organization. My son Mark Warren with 2 Dayz Gone is closing the show and last year his 5-year-old son Markie, my grandson sang Bon Jovi and stole the show. Our brother John usually makes a guest appearance with Paisley Fogg. We have that sibling harmony that you can't learn. The Bee Gees have it. The Birchlers have it."

Jammin' to End Famine takes place Friday April 24, at the Monaghan Knights of Columbus, 19801 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and available at the door or in advance by contacting Tom Birchler at tbirchler@twmi. rr.com. Cost includes the concert, pizza, salad, sweets and a cash bar. For more information about Kids Against Hunger, visit www.feedingchildren.org.

Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2241



E-mail items for consideration in Get Out! at least two weeks in advance to Wensdy Von Buskirk at wyonb@ hometownlife.com

ART

Arnold Klein Gallery: Celebrating 35 years at its current location with Water and Marine Life, through March; Landscapes, April-May; 32782 Woodward, Royal Oak, (248) 647-7709, www.arnoldkleingallerv.com. Art is in Market: New location in Laurel Park

artisinmarket.'blogspot.com. Art Leaders Gallery: Exhibition and sale commemorating the 105th birthday of Dr. Seuss, through April 31, 33030 Northwestern Hwy., West Bloomfield, (248) 539-0262, www. artleaders.com

Place, 37642 Six Mile Road, Livonia, http://

Birmingham Art Festival: May 9-10, Shain Park. CPop Gallery: CPop's farewell exhibit, "It's All About @," opens 6 p.m. May 2; "It's Humble 2 Be Good," featuring winners of ©POPpor2nity 2008, through May 1, 4160 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (313) 833-9901,

wcpop.com. Farmington Artists: Club: Spring 2009 Exhibit through April 26, William M. Costick Activities Center, 28660 Eleven Mile Road,

Farmington Hills. Fine Art at the Village: May 16-17, Village of Rochester Hills, 104 N. Adams Road, Rochester Hills. (248) 689-8734, www. FineArtAtTheVillage.com

Gallery@VT: Art works by teachers from the Plymouth-Canton Community School District, through April 26, 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton, (734) 394-5300, www. canton-mi.org/villagetheater.

Janice Charach Gallery: "Glass Reunion '09," glass works by students from College for Creative Studies and featured artist Janet Kelman, through May 7, Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield, (248) 432-5579, www.jccdet.org Lawrence Street Gallery: "Ut Pictura Poesis,"

reading 7 p.m. April 24, 22620 Woodward,

Ferndale (248) 544-0394, www.lawrences-

treetgallery.com. Lotus Arts Gallery: Kathleen Graf, May 1-27, 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth (888) 889-4ART, www.lotusartsgallery.com. Next Step Studios & Gallery: Featuring glass

works by Kaiser Suidan, Craig Paul Nowak, John Gargano, Susan Beiner and many oth ers, 530 Hilton, Ferndale, (248) 342-5074, www.nextstep.studio.com.

Northville Art House: Northville Public Schools Annual Student Art Show, April 23-26; Call for Entries, Art: in the Sun, June 27-28; classes for adults and children, 215 W. Cady, (248) 344-0497, www.northvillearts.org. Orchard Lake Fine Art Show: July 24-26, includes artist awards, demonstrations, entertainment, kids activities and a youth art competition, Orchard Lake St. Mary's Schools, Orchard Lake, (248) 684-2613, www. HotWorks.com

Paint Creek Centier for the Arts: "Rochester Community Schools Art Exhibit," through May 9, reception, 6-8 p.m. April 23; Downtown Rochester Spring Gallery Stroll. 6-9 p.m. April 24; "Amy Sacksteder: Still," April 24-June 13, reception 6-9 p.m. April 24; Gallery Talk 2 p.m. April 25, 407 Pine, Rochester, (24-8) 651-4110, www.pccart.org. Plymouth's Annual Art Feast: May 15-16, Downtown Plymouth.

Plymouth Art in the Park: July 10-12, Kellogg

Plymouth Community Arts Council: Emerging

GET OUT

Artists Exhibit, May 4-26; Behind the Lens "Peace Project," May 30-June 12, 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth, (734) 416-4278, www.

Print Gallery: Announcing Must Have Sweets, with cake, candy, cookies and sorbet, inside the gallery, 29173 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, (248) 356-5454, www. MonaLisaMania.com, www.EverythingArt.

Susanne Hilberry Gallery: Anne Lise Coste, April 25-May 30, 700 Livernois, Ferndale (248) 541-4700, www.susannehilberrygallery.

Visual Arts Association of Livonia: "Artistic Expressions" May 4-29, Livonia City Hall, (734) 838-1204, www.vaalart.org.

AUDITIONS

Eisenhower Dance Ensemble: Auditions for contemporary dance repertory company, 1-4 p.m. April 26, Ailey Studios, New York; 1:30-3:30 p.m. May 2, Lou Conte Dance Studio, Chicago; noon-3 p.m. May 3, EDE Center for Dance, 103 South St., Rochester, call (248) 559-2095, www.ede-dance.org, Destination Theatre: Auditions for rock opera "Tommy," ages 8-13, and adults, 5-8 p.m. April 26 and 6-9 p.m. April 27, show dates July 23-Aug. 2, Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, Canton, www. destinationtheatre.org.

BENEFITS

Detroit Opera House: BravoBravo!, 7:30 p.m. June 15, \$85 by May 1; \$95 after, Jazz Sophisticate attire, www.bravobravo.org, (313) 961-3500

Detroit Athletic Club: Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Bacchanalia, 6 p.m. May 13, wines, strolling dinner, live auction, \$95-\$175, benefits DSO, 241 Madison Avenue, Detroit, (313) 576-5154 or visit www.detroitsymphony.com.

Livonia Knights of Columbus: Jammin' to End Famine 2009, 6:30 p.m. April 24, pizza, salad, sweets, cash bar, music of Mark Edwards, The Shawn Riley Band, The Paisley Fogg, British Beat 66 and 2 Dayz Gone, \$20 benefit Kids Against Hunger, 19801 Farmington Road, www.livoniakofc.com.

Meadow Brook Hall: Promenade of Hope, 6:30 p.m. May 7, \$200 benefit HAVEN, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester, (248) 322-3703, www.promenadeofhope.

Penn Theatre: "PENNdemonium" Dinner Auction to benefit Friends of the Penn, 6-11 p.m. May 8, hors d'oeuvres, plated dinner,

auction, music and dancing, Meeting House Grand Baliroom, Plymouth, \$75-\$85, (734) 453-0870, tickets@friendsofthepenn.org Meadowbrook Country Club: A Night to

R.E.M.ember, featuring formal dinner, comedienne Kelly Nieto, DJ LoKey, silent auction, 6 p.m. April 24, benefits Sweet Dreamzzz, Inc., 40941 Eight Mile Road, Northville, \$75-\$100, (248) 478-3242, www. sweetdreamzzzdetroit.com

St. John's Golf & Conference Center: Art Dash, May 21, \$275 per couple includes dinner and one dash for your choice of artwork, May 21. benefits Arbor Hospice Foundation, (734) 794-5152, www.arborhospice.org.

BOOKS/LITERATURE

Ann Arbor Book Festival: May 2-16, (734) 369-3366, www.aabookfestival.org. Borders: Linda Solomon reads and signs children's book "Jack & Jill: The Miracle Dog with a Happy Tail to Tell" 2 p.m. April 25, Birmingham; Lee Woodruff, "Perfectly Imperfect: A Life in Progress," 7 p.m.,

Birmingham, www.borders.com. CHORAL

Advent Episcopal Church: Cantate! presents "Welcome to Spring," May 2, Middlebelt Road, **‡** mile north of Long Lake Road, (248) 615-0940, www.cantate-detroit.org.

First Presbyterian Church: Music for a Cathedral, 7:30 p.m. May 22, 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham, (248) 644-2040 x 136, ttrenney@comcast.net.

Seligman Performing Arts Center: Farmington Community Chorus, "Questionable Songs," May 8-9. Detroit Country Day High School. 22305 W. 13 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, (810) 632-4067, www.farmingtonchorus.com.

CLASSICAL/CHAMBER MUSIC

Birmingham Temple: Charlie Gabriel Quartet with Vocalist Joan Bow, May 2; 28611 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, (248) 788-9338, www.vivaceseries.org.

Chamber Music Society of Detroit: Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio with the Miami String Quartet, May 16; Yefim Bronfman, piano, May 30: 2009-10 series announced: American String Quartet with Lynn Harrell, cello, Sept. 12; Tokyo String Quartet, Oct. 3; Vladimir Feltsman, piano, Nov. 14; James Ehnes, violin with Jon Kimura Parker, piano, Dec. 5; Berlin Philharmonic Woodwind Quintet, Jan. 30, 2010; Shanghai Quartet with Yuja Wang, piano, Feb. 13, 2010; Arnold Steinhardt, violin with Alan Alda, Actor, March 20, 2010; The Celebration of the

Dénes Várjon, piano, March 27, 2010; Parker Quartet, May 22, 2010; Emanuel Ax, piano, Feb. 6, 2010; Richard Goode, piano, April 10, 2010; Yuja Wang, piano, May 15, 2010, deadline for subscription renewals, May 1, all concerts 8 p.m. Saturdays, Tickets, \$25-\$75, Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 West 13 Mile, Beverly Hills, (248) 855-6070 or visit www.ComeHearCMSD.org.

Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings: "Schubert and Spice," 3 p.m. April 26, First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham; Final Concert, 8 p.m. June 20, Seligman Center, (248) 559-2095, www.detroitchamberwinds.org.

First United Methodist Church: Plymouth Oratorio Society 23rd season concert with Michigan Sinfonietta Orchestra and Ann Arbor Huron High School A Cappella Choir 4 p.m. May 3, 45201 N. Territorial Road, (734) 455-8353.

Fox Theatre: Andre Rieu and the Johann Strauss Orchestra, May 19, (800) 745-3000, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515.

Hagopian World of Rugs: Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings presents "Nightnotes," 8:30 p.m. May 8, (248) 559-2095, www.detroitchamberwinds.org.

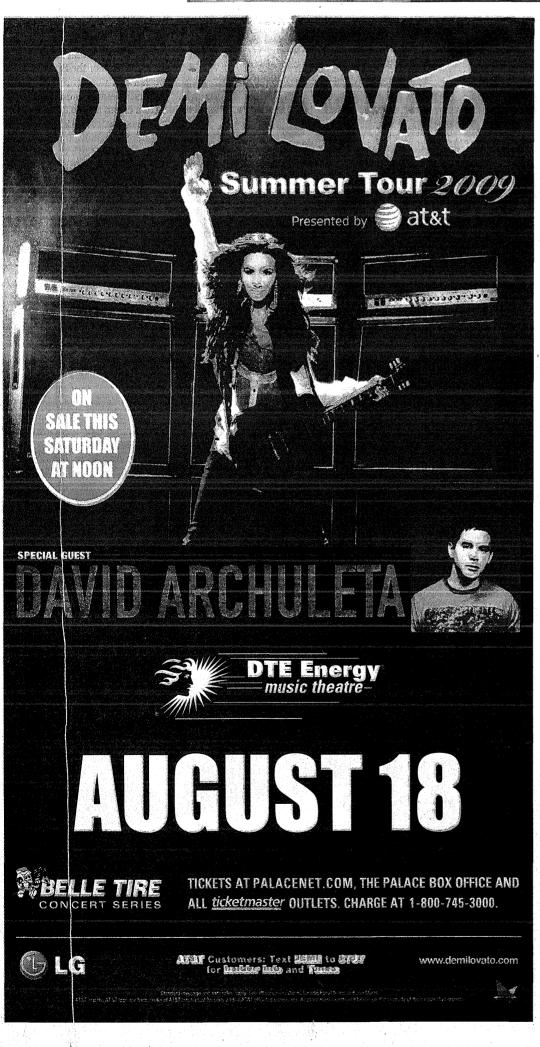


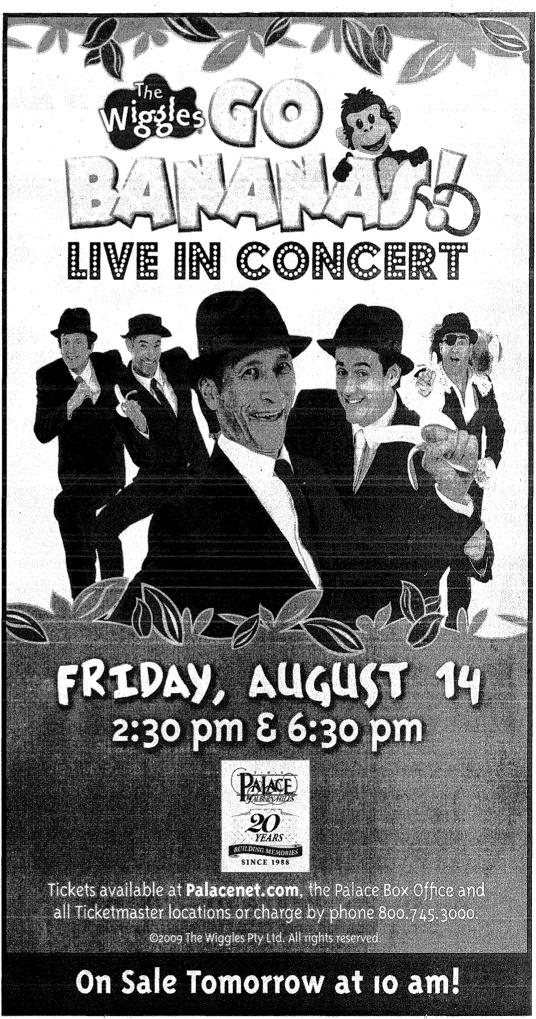
My Best Girl

Mary Pickford stars in 'My Best Girl' (1927), showing 8 p.m. April 25 at Redford Theatre. The authentic silent film will be accompanied by an original organ score by John Lauter. The evening also includes a retrospective of 100 years of Pickford on film, a Pickford short subject from 1909, newsreels of early Detroit, and silent film expert Christen Schmidt from the Library of Congress. The historic Redford Theatre is located at 17360 Lahser Road in Detroit. Call (248) 521-5834 or visit www. redfordtheatre.com









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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 23, 2009

CLUBS

Eclipz Lounge: DJ RC, April 25; DJ Mark EP, May 2, DJ AMF, May 9; DJ Chill Will, May 15; Hoedown After Party with Jyl Forsyth, May 16; Motown Party, May 23; DJ RC, May 30 free. 21 and over, inside Greektown Casino-Hotel, Detroit, www.greektowncasing.com/Dining/Eclipz+Lounge.

Soundboard: Etta James, May 1; Boz Scaggs, June 17; Sinbad, July 25; Gary Allan, Aug. 21; An Evening With Natalie Cole, Oct. 3, MotorCity Casino Hotel, Detroit, www.ticketmaster.com, www.motorcitycasino.com. 513-5030.

COMEDY

Fox Theatre: Heavyweights Of Comedy featuring Bruce Bruce & Lavell Crawford, with special guest John Withersoon and host Sammore, May 23, (313) 471-6611, www. Ticketmaster.com.

JD's House of Comedy: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday: Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday; 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield, (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com.

Jazz Cafe at Music Hall: Show Up, and Go Up, 9 p.m. third Thursday of every month, open call, free, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit, (313) 887-8532, www.jazzcafedetroit.com. Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia: Bobby

Mivamoto, through April 25: Shane Moss. April 29-May 2; Mike Veneman, May 6-9; Erik Blake, May 13-15; Colin Moulton, May 20-23; Jimmy Dore Special Engagement, May 27-30, 36071 Plymouth Road, (734) 261-5500, www.kickerscomplex.com. Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle: John Pinette, May 14-16; Open Mic 8 p.m. most Wednesdays;

269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak, (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com. The Second City: "Kwame A River: The Chronicles of Detroit's Hip Hop Mayor," through May 31, 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi, (248) 348-4448, www.secondcity.

CONCERTS

Clutch Cargo: Franz Ferdinand, May 3, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. (248) 645-6666. Comerica Park: Kid Rock with Lynyrd Skynyrd, July 17; Vans Warped Tour, July 31; tickets on sale 10 a.m. April 17, 1-800-745-3000, Ticketmaster.com, www. warpedtour.com.

DTE Energy Music Theatre: New Kids on the Block, June 25; The Fray with Jack's Mannequin, June 27; Brad Paisley, July 10; The Fillmore: J Giels Band, April 24; Lamb of God with God Forbid and As I Lay Dying, May 6; Buckcherry, May 13; Tragically Hip, May 29-30, Rise Against, June 24, 2115 Woodward, Detroit. (248) 645-6666. The Fox Theatre: Flight of the Conchords with Eugene Mirman, April 24; Soul 70's Super Jam featuring The Whispers, The Dramatics, The Stylistics & The Manhattans, April 25; Leonard Cohen, May 9; II Divo, May 17; Unwigged & Unplugged: An Evening with Christopher Guest, Michael McKean and Harry Shearer, May 29, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster. com (248) 433-1515.

Magic Bag: Soulive, April 25; Noah & The Whale, April 26; Fastball, May 4; Charlie Hunter, May 7; Bruce in the USA, May 8;



Vast, May 15; The Sounds of Seattle Tour, May 30; Neil Innes, June 7; The Cliks, June 23; Leon Russell, June 26; Dr. John, June 27, 22920 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com.

The Palace of Auburn Hills: Billy Joe! / Elton John "Face 2 Face Tour," May 21, Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com. Royal Oak Music Theatre: TechNow09

Showcase, a benefit for MS Society, April 23; New Found Glory, April 26; Demetri Martin, May 15; Music4Mutts, a benefit for the Michigan Humane Society, May 16; Animal Collective, May 18; Gogol Bordello, June 2; The Derek Trucks Band, June 9; Robin Trower, June 20: The Decemberists. Aug. 11, 318 W. Fourth, Royal Oak. (800) 919-6272, www.rovaloakmusictheatre.

St. Andrew's Hall: New Found Glory, April 26; The Sounds, May 6; Animal Collective, May 18; The Derek Trucks Band, June 9; Metric, June 15; Robin Trower, June 20, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.

Detroit Opera House: Pilobolus, Oct. 31-Nov. 1; The Cincinnati Ballet presents 'The Nutcracker, Dec. 3-6; Ballet Hispanico, Feb. 13-14, 2010; Tchaikovsky Ballet presents 'Sleeping Beauty,' March 26-28, 2010, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, (313) 237-3426, www.michiganopera.org.

University Musical Society: Compagnie Heddy Maalem "Rite," 8 p.m. Oct. 15; Compagnie Marie Chouinard, "Orpheus and Eurydice," 8 p.m. April 25, and "Rite of Spring," 2 p.m. April 26, www.ums.org.

FAMILY

Canton Cinema: "Hotel for Dogs," April 25-26, 43555 Ford Road, (734) 844-3456, www. GQTI.com.

Bakers Keyboard Lounge: Jazz for Kids Program, 2-5 p.m. Sundays, 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit, (313) 345-6300, www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com. **Detroit Institute of Arts:** Target Family

Sundays, storytelling, performances and more starting at 2 p.m. every Sunday, free with admission, 5200 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org.

Fox Theatre: Thomas & Friends Live! On Stage, A Circus Comes To Town, June 13-14, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515.

Greenfield Village: Day Out with Thomas: The Hero of the Rails Tour, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. April 24-26 and May 1-3., 20900 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn, (313) 982-6001, www. thehenryford.org.

Marquis Theatre: "Rumplestiltskin," Aug. 8-Sept. 20; "Pinky the Flying Ghost," Oct. 17-25; "Pinocchio," Nov. 14-Jan. 24, 2010, tickets, \$8.50, ages 3 and up, 135 E. Main, Northville. (248) 349-8110, www.northvillemarquistheatre.com.

Maybury Farm: inside Maybury State Park, Beck Road and Eight Mile, Northville, (248) 374-0200, www.northvillecommunityfoundation.org.

Meadow Brook Theatre: "Charlotte's Web," 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. May 9; on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills (248) 377-0300, www.ticketmaster.com, for more information, visit www.mbtheatre.

Palace of Auburn Hills: The Wiggles "Go Bananas Live", Aug. 14, (800) 745-3000, www.ticketmaster.com.

FESTIVALS

99.5 WYCD Downtown Hoedown: Willie Nelson, Rodney Atkins, Lee Ann Womack and more, May 15-17, Hart Plaza, Detroit, www. wycd.com.

Comerica Cityfest: Featuring De La Soul, Buddy Guy local acts, tastings and 2nd Avenue Street Market, July 1-5, free, \$10 tasting coupons, New Center area, Detroit, (313) 872-0188, www.comericacityfest.

Green Street Fair: Eco-friendly exhibitors. performers, speakers and shopping, May 1-3, downtown Plymouth, free, (734) 259-2983, info@greenstreetfair.com, www.

Movement 2009: May 23-25, Hart Plaza, Detroit: Opening party featuring The Prodigy, May 22, www.paxahau.com.

This American Life - Live: Canton Cinema and Livonia 20, 8 p.m. April 23, www.fathom-

Dr. Laura Live! In Praise of Mom: 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, Canton Cinema and Livonia 20. Detroit Film Theatre: "12." April 24-26: "Tokyo!" April 24-26. Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit, See www. dia.org/dft or (313) 833-7900. Henry Ford IMAX: 20900 Oakwood Blvd.,

Dearborn. (313) 271-1570. Magic Bag: "Gran Torino," April 29, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 544-1991,

www.themagicbag.com. Penn Theatre: "Sirocco," April 23; "Sabrina," April 30, shows at 7 p.m., \$3, 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, (734) 453-0870, www.nenntheatre.com

Redford Theatre: "My Best Girl," silent film accompanied by organist John Lauter, April 25; "Caddyshack," May 1-2, w/guest Master of Ceremonies Jason Carr of Fox 2; "The Terminator," May 15-16; "Mutiny on the Bounty," May 29-30; "Labyrinth," June 12-13; "Mary Poppins," June 26-27; Charlie Chan double feature, July 10-11; "Laura," July 24-25; "Lawrence of Arabia," Aug. 7-9; "Planet of the Apes," Aug. 21-22, 17360 Lahser, Detroit, www.redfordtheatre.com

Max M. Fisher Music Center: Mingus Dynasty Band, May 7, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 and online at www.detroitsym phony.com.

Jazz Cafe at Music Hall: Steve Davis, April 23-24; Allan Holdsworth, May 11-12, 350 Madison Ave. Detroit, (313) 887-8532, www. jazzcafedetroit.com.

Penn Theatre: Blue Steel Jazz Band, May 4, 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, (734) 453-0870, www.penntheatre.com.

MORE MUSIC

Coffee Beanery: Victoria Zande, April 25, 28557 Woodward Ave., Berkley, (248) 336-9930, www.victoriazande.com

Detroit Institute of Arts: Friday Night Live concerts. Jin Hi Kim Digital Buddha featuring Gerry Hemingway, April 24, 7 & 8:30 p.m., 5200 Woodward Ave., (313) 833-7900 or see the website at www.dia.org.

Trinity House Theatre: Chris Trapper, April 23; Brooks Williams, April 24; Kirsta Detor, May 1; David Nefesh, May 2; Matt Watroba, May 7; Barbara Payton, May 8; Common Room Variety Show, May 29-30; Rachael Davis and May Erlewine, June 5; The Laws w/ Bill Bynum and Co., June 6: Jason Harrod, June 12: Neil Woodward, June 13: Jennifer Daniels, June 19: Black Jake and the Carnies and Orpheum Bell, June 20; Chrome Folk BBQ, June 26; Edie Carey, June 27; 38840 Six Mile, Livonia, (734) 464-6302, www.trinityhouse.org.

Village Theatre at Cherry Hill: The Tequila Mockingbirds, May 1, 50400 Cherry Hill-Road, Canton, (734) 394-5300, www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater.

MUSEUMS

Charles H. Wright Museum: 315 East Warren Ave., Detroit, (313) 494-5800, /www.maahdetroit.org.

Cranbrook Art Museum: Fresh: 7th Annual Student Art Auction, 7-10 p.m. April 25, \$10 includes two drinks and auction paddle; Forum Gallery openings, student work, 5-9 p.m. Fridays, each week of the acedemic year; 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hilfs, (877) GO-CRANBROOK, www.cranbrook.

Cranbrook Institute of Science: "Hatching the Past," through Sept. 6; Planetarium shows Friday nights and weekends: 11 permanent exhibits, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 645-3200, http://science.cran-

brook.edu. Detroit Institute of Arts: "On Life and Loss: The Polish Photographs of Roman Vishniac and Jeffrey Gusky," through July 12; "American Chronicles: The Art of Norman Rockwell," through May 31; "Learning by Line: The Role and Purpose of Drawing in the 18th Century," through June 15; "Re-presenting the Black Male Body in Art," artist's talk by Kehinde Wiley, 2 p.m. March 29, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313) 833-7900.

Detroit Historical Museum: "Detroit's Chinatown: Works in Progress" through July 4; "Detroit's Classic TV Personalities" through Sept. 6. Standing exhibits include Streets of Old Detroit, Frontiers to Factories, The Motor City, and The Glancy Trains, 5401 Woodward, Detroit, www. detroithistorical.org, (313) 833-1805. Detroit Science Center: "Leonardo Da Vinci Man, Inventor, Genius," tickets \$13.95 to

sciencecenter.org. Dossin Great Lakes Museum: 2nd annual Rowing Regatta, April 26, Detroit Historical Society, 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (313) 833-7937, www.detroithistorical.org.

\$16.95; "Star Trek: The Exhibition," 5020

John R, (313) 577-8400, www.detroit-

Museum of Contemporary Art-Detroit: New Wave logo design contest for students, enter hy April 10, www.mocadetroit.org/newwave: "Black Is, Black Ain't," "I Repeat Myself When Under Stress," through May 3, 4454 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 832-6622.

Plymouth Historical Museum: "In the Presence of Lincoln," through Nov. 4, 155 S. Main St. Hours are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Admission, \$5; \$2 for students 6-17; \$10 for families. Tour groups can be accommodated. (734) 455-8940, www.plymouthhistory.org. Troy Museum & Historic Village: Now open seven days a week, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-

Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday; at Livernois and Wattles, Troy. Call (248) 524-3570.

Detroit Opera House: "I Pagliacci," through April 26; "Carmen," May 9-17; "Nabucco," Oct. 17-24; "A Little Night Music," Nov. 14-21; "Don Giovanni," April 17-24, 2010; "Tosca," May 8-15, 2010, Michigan Opera Theatre, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, www. michiganopera.org.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT Ann Arbor: Classic Bicycle and Minibike

Show and Swap Meet, 8 a.m. April 26, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor/Saline Road, Ann Arbor, www. ann-arbor-bicycleshow.com. Spring Horse Show: Free family event featur-

ing American Saddlebreds, Arabians, Carriage Driving, Friesians, Hackneys, Morgans, Paso Finos and open breed classes, shown Saddle seat Hunt Seat, Western and Driving, May 14-17, State Fair Coliseum, Michigan State Fairgrounds, Woodward south of Eight Mile, Detroit, www.michiganhorseshow.com. OCC: Southfield Campus, (248) 246-2586. and April 8. Auburn Hills Campus. (248)

232-4290, both at 6:30 p.m., free. Powwow: North American Indian Association of Detroit presents "Teaching Our Traditions Powwow" May 30-31, Bishop State Park, Brighton, rustic camping available, (810) 229-8977, www.naiavets.org.

the Heart 2009, April 24-25, Roseville Recreation Center, 18185 Sycamore, Roseville, www.aamd.org. Rock Financial Showplace: Comic Con, May 15-17, 46100 Grand River, Novi, (248) 348-

5600, www.rockfinancials/howplace.com.

Quilt Guild of Metro Detroit: Quilts from

THEATER - COMMUNITY

Barefoot Productions: "Prescription: Murder," April 30-May 10, (734) 560-1493, www. Ticketleap.com, www.justgobarefoot.com. The Farmington Players: "Sweet Charity," April 24-May 16; 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, (248) 553-2955, www.farmingtonplayers.org.

Destination Theatre: Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, (734) 394-5460.

Grosse Pointe Theatre: "Miss Saigon," April 26-May 9, Grosse Pointe War Memorial, Fries Auditorium, 32 Lake Shore Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, (313) 881-4004, www.

Planet Ant Theatre: "Shakespeare Sonnets," April 24 to May 16; Film & Video Festival, June 17-20, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck, (313)

365-4948. Rosedale Community Player: "Don't Dress for Dinner," April 24-May 9, Bushnell

Congregational Church, 15000 Southfield Fwy, Detroit, (313) 537-7716. Spotlight Players: "The Pajarna Game," April 24-May 9, Village Theater at Cherry Hill,

50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, (734) 394-5300, www.spotlightplayers.net. St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook: "The Producers," May 29-June 13, 400 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 737-3587, www.StDunstansTheatre.com. Stagecrafters: "Miss Saigon." May 29, to June 21; Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. (248) 541-6430, www.stage-

Tipping Pointe Theatre: "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged),"

through April 24, 361 E. Cady, Northville, (248) 347-0003. The Village Players of Birmingham: "Sunday in the Park," May 29 to June 14, 34660 Woodward, Birmingham, \$15, (248) 644-

Who Wants Cake: "Killer Joe" through April 27; "Falsettos," May 15 to June 15, The Ringwald, 22742 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 556-8581.

THEATER-PROFESSIONAL

Fisher Theatre: "Stomp," through April 26; "Annie." May 5-10; and "Gre ase," June 9-28, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, 1-800-982-2787, www.ticketmaster.com, www. broadwayindetroit.com.

Jewish Ensemble Theatre: "Halp ern and Johnson" April 21-May 17, 6/500 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, (248) 788-2900, www.

jettheatre.org. Gem Theatre: 333 Madison Ave, (313) 963-9800, www.gemtheatre.com.

Meadow Brook Theatre: "By Jeeves," through May 17; "Nunsense 2: The Second Coming, May 27 to June 14, on the campus of Oakland University, Roches ter Hills (248) 377-0300, www.ticketmaster.com, for more information, visit www.mbtheatre.





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Movie Preview:

Best Films

Beauty Megan Fox and geek Seth Rogen star in two of the season's best. Plus, insider secrets about a dozen more flicks.



Chamber season brings Alan Alda to town

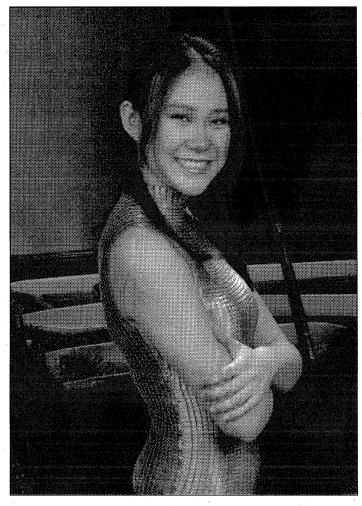
The Chamber Music Society of Detroit has announced its concert series for the 2009-2010 season. Two spectacular series are offered during the Society's 66th year, each featuring world-class musicians: the nine-concert Opus 9 Series and the three-concert Opus 3 Piano Series.

Continuing its legacy of presenting the highest caliber of international chamber ensembles and unique artist collaborations, the Chamber Music Society season will open with a performance by the American String Quartet featuring renowned cellist Lynn Harrell.

The series continues with performances by the Tokyo String Quartet; pianist Vladimir Feltsman; violinist James Ehnes and pianist Jon Kimura Parker; the Berlin Philharmonic Woodwind Quintet; and the Shanghai Quartet with pianist Yuja Wang.

The Shanghai Quartet also will be presenting the Chamber Music Society's two-week educational Residency Program in February.

In the only such event to occur nationally or internationally, the Opus 9 Series will bring together a performance and dialogue between renowned violinist Arnold Steinhardt and his friend, celebrated Emmy Award-winning actor Alan Alda. All Series subscribers will receive complimentary copies of Steinhardt's recent book "Violin Dreams," a



Pianist Yuja Wang will perform May 15, 2010 as part of the Chamber Music Society's Opus 3 Piano Series.

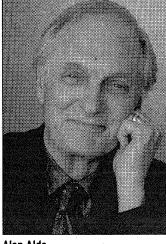
REDUCE ← REUSE ← RECYCLE

personal account of his lifelong relationship with the Bach Chaconne.

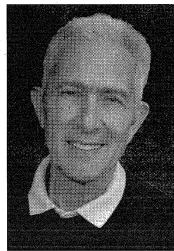
The series will continue with performances by cellist Steven Isserlis with pianist Denes Varjon and conclude with the Parker Quartet.

The three-concert Opus 3 Piano Series will feature recitals by three of the world's most celebrated pianists, Emanuel Ax, Richard Goode and the young and impressive Yuja Wang whose astonishing talent has brought her to the forefront of the classical music world.

The Chamber Music Society is featuring a greater number of Pre-Concert Talks this season. Steven Rings, Assistant Professor of Music at the University



Alan Alda



Violinist Arnold Steinhardt

of Chicago, will address the evening's repertoire from 6:45-7:30 p.m. before five performances.

Furthermore, in an unparalleled addition to the season's schedule, is a viewing of violinist James Ehnes's film "Homage" from 6:30-7:30 p.m. before his performance on Dec. 5.

In the film, Mr. Ehnes



CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT 2009-2010 SEASON

OPUS 9 SERIES

Sept. 12: American String Quartet with Lynn Harrell, cello * Oct. 3: Tokyo String Quartet *

Nov. 14: Vladimir Feltsman, piano

Dec. 5: James Ehnes, violin with Jon Kimura Parker, piano ** Jan. 30, 2010: Berlin Philharmonic Woodwind Quintet Feb. 13: Shanghai Quartet with Yuja Wang, piano

March 20: Arnold Steinhardt, violin with Alan Alda, actor March 27: David and Andrea Page 1797 Concert; Celebration of the Bach

Chaconne; Steven Isserlis, cello with Denes Varjon, piano * May 22: Parker Quartet; Cleveland Quartet Award Concert **OPUS 3 PIANO SERIES**

Feb. 6, 2010: Emanuel Ax, piano * April 10: Richard Goode *

May 15: Yuja Wang, piano

* Pre-Concert Talk

** Pre-Concert Film

pays respect to the world's best violin-makers and the masterpieces of their craft by demonstrating the differences between historic instruments from the important David Fulton collection.

All concerts will be presented at 8 p.m. at the Seligman Performing Arts Center, located at 22305 West 13 Mile Road (at the corner of Lahser Road and 13 Mile Road), Beverly Hills, on the campus of the

Detroit Country Day School. Concertgoers are encouraged to subscribe now to

both of the 2009-2010 series to be assured available seating.

Opus 9 Series subscription prices range from \$261 to \$630.

Opus 3 Series subscription prices range from \$87-\$210, depending upon seat location.

The deadline for subscription renewals is Friday, May

For ticket and subscription information, contact the Chamber Music Society of Detroit at (248) 855-6070 or visit www. ComeHearCMSD.org.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will accept sealed bids up until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, April 30, 2009. The bid opening will be at 10:15 a.m., Thursday, April 30, 2009 for the following:

CITY OF PLYMOUTH - CULTURAL CENTER ICE ARENA LIGHTING RETROFIT

Specifications and bid documents are available at the city hall during normal business hours. You may also download a copy of the documentation from the City's web site at: http:// www.ci.plvmouth.mi.us

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC City Clerk

City of Plymouth

Publish: April 23, 2009

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FOOD & WINE

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is business card reads, "Council for export of prestigious Italian wines." Prestigious, though, may ring expensive. Not, however, when it



Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor

family's estate. "It's important," he says, "that the producers I represent be family-Heald owned wine specialists who own their own vineyards and produce

from 16 vintners,

including his

around 5,000 cases annually." WHITE WINES From Grave-Friuli in northeast Italy, Banear Principe Dei Conti

2007 Pinot Grigio, \$13, is decidedly mineral with hints of almonds - not your run-of-the-mill pinot grigio. It's a red wine in a white suit," says Biscardo.

Vallerosa-Bonci 2007 Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi Classico, \$15, is from the Marche region. White flowers and crisp green apple notes lead to a layered, complex and creamy wine with minty spice. Biscardo dubs it, "big wine at a little price."

RED WINES

Sicily's warm climate turns Sangiovese in 2007 Terre di Sole. \$14, to an easy-drinking great wine for Italian food. It's screaming, "drink me now," Biscardo

Agriverde 2007 Piane di Maggio Montepulciano from Abruzzo, \$13, confirms our opinion that the Abruzzo region has the best value red wines in all of Italy. Biscardo calls this wine "the friendly one." We say, what a bargain!

From Puglia, Feudo di San Nicola 2007 Negro Amaro, \$18, is a more complex wine, brimming with bright plum and cherry flavors. An anise touch in the finish pairs it well with grilled meats. game and aged cheeses. Biscardo's remark, "a southern wine with a

nortnern accent, rings true. Negro Amaro, also spelled sometimes as one word, negroamaro, is an ancient Italian variety, grown almost exclusively in Puglia, the heel of Italy's boot. Its mellow tannins and good acidity make it a stellar food pairing.

Clay, limestone and sandy soils of the Le Gagie vineyard of Tenuta La Meridiana allow the crafting of its 2006 Barbera d'Asti, \$20, from the Piedmont. Aging a year in neutral oak barrels have given the wine roundness and a layered profile.

BISCARDO PERFECTION

Marchesi Biscardo 2005 Valpolicella Classico Superiore "Ripasso," \$30, illustrates the commitment of the Biscardo family to the most well-known red from the Veneto region. Ripasso means fermented for three weeks in oak casks containing the grape skins used to make the highly-prized Amarone. Additional 14 months' aging in barrel have created a wine with aromatic and flavor complexity. Another wine from the Biscardos is the full-bodied Ortaglia 2003 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano DOCG Riserva,

For information on where to buy these wines, phone Eagle Eye Imports, (734) 467-7088.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are Troy residents who write about wine for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them by email at focusonwine@aol.com.

CANTON FARMERS MARKET

CANTON — Canton Farmers Market will kicks off its third season 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 26 at the Bartlett-Travis House, located at 500 N. Ridge. It will be open every Sunday through Oct. 25 rain or shine at the historic site.

New and returning vendors will offer a variety of merchandise, as it becomes available, including fresh fruits and vegetables, bread, baked goods, flowers, herbs, jellies, jams, cider, honey and much more. Opening day will include the Spice Up Your Summer Cook Off Series challenge, featuring the Best Burger

Call (734) 398-5570, Ext. 5, or visit www.leisure.canton-mi.org.

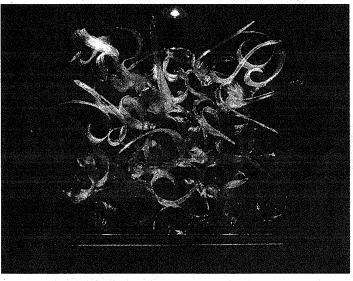
RUGBY GRILLE REVAMPS BIRMINGHAM — The

Townsend Hotel's renowned Rugby Grille has implemented enhancements to its décor and menu.

Led by Chef Bologna and Director of Restaurant Operations Keith Schofield, the new Rugby Grille menu keeps favorites like Steak Tartare and Dover Sole prepared tableside, but adds dishes like a Veal Chop presented with a Warm Frisee Salad, Fingerling Potatoes, Morel Mushrooms, Pancetta and a Truffled Vinaigrette, and Braised Beef Short Ribs served with a Fava Bean and Sweet Corn Succotash, Shaved Parmesan, and a Natural Reduction.

The new decor incorporates artwork from some of metro Detroit's finest artists, from Park West Gallery in Southfield, including glass sculpture by April Wagner and Jason Ruff, and paintings by Tim Yanke, Simon

CITY BITES



The Townsend Hotel's Rugby Grille's new menu is enhanced by new artwork. including this fazzoletto glass sculpture by Pontiac-based artists April Wagner and Jason Ruff.

Bull and Alfred Gockel. The Rugby Grille is located inside the Townsend Hotel, 100 Townsend St., downtown Birmingham. Call (248) 642-7900 or visit www. townsendhotel.com.

STATION 885 DOWN UNDER

PLYMOUTH - Station 885 presents "A Trip Down Under" Australian Wine Dinner, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30, \$55, tax and gratuity included. Station 885 is located at 885 Starkweather in Plymouth. Call (734) 459-0885 to make Mother's Day reservations today.

5IVE RESTAURANT PRIX FIXE PLYMOUTH — 5ive

Restaurant is offering a special prix fixe menu. Choose one starter, one main and one finish for \$35 per person. Choices include warm feta-artichoke fondue, broiled maryland crab cake, 5ive onion soup, pan seared Atlantic

salmon, free range chicken breast, grilled petit filet mignon, forest berry chocolate mousse and chef's daily creme brulee. Includes salad. 5ive is located at the Inn at St. John's, 44045 Five Mile Road, Plymouth. Call (734) 357-5700 or visit www.theinnatstjohns.com.

LA HOOKAH LOUNGE

WESTLAND — La Hookah Lounge offers free Wi-Fi and satellite TV, along with a 10 percent student discount. Fresh salads, deli style sandwiches, desserts, and hookah. Catering, carry out and delivery available. Call (734) 727-1750 or visit La Hookah Lounge at 34795 Ford Road, Westland.

HILLER'S HOSTS FOOD FAIRS

SOUTHFIELD — Hiller's will host two simultaneous two-day Michigan food fairs May 2-3. This follows months of featuring Michigan companies in the

Hiller's biweekly circular, launching a collaborative Hometown First program with locally-owned businesses that has more than tripled in scope, and identifying Michigan products with smiling-mitten-state shelf tags. The food fairs will feature more than 30 vendors and will take place 11 a.m.-4 p.m. May 2-3 at the Ann Arbor store, 3615 Washtenaw Ave. (in the Arborland Mall at US 23); and the Commerce Township store, 39950 W 14 Mile Road (at Haggerty).

TASTE OF PLYMOUTH PLYMOUTH - The

Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce proudly presents the 20th Annual Showcase and Taste of Plymouth 5-7:30 p.m. Monday, May 11 at the Inn at St. John's. Admission, \$10 at the door, includes free food and beverages and a chance to win over 80 door prizes. Attendees are also invited to help honor this year's Plymouth Service Club's Volunteers of the Year and the Student Citizen Scholarship Award winner's during a short recognition ceremony in the Atrium at 6 p.m.

Featured restaurants include Bennigan's, E.G. Nick's, Fancy Food Catering, Fiamma Grill, Grand Traverse Pie Company, Independence Village, Leo's Coney Island, Mill Street Gourmet Pastries, Omlette & Waffle Café, Panera Bread, Rusty Bucket, Station 885, Toarmina's Pizza, Zapata's and more. Beverages will be provided courtesy of Absopure and Central Distributors of Beer. Inn at St. John's is located at 44045 Five Mile Road, Plymouth. Visit www. theinnatstjohns.com.

DSO HOSTS BACCHANALIA

DETROIT - The very popular

DSO deCanted, a wine tasting and auction, sponsored by the Volunteer Council of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, will be held at the Detroit Athletic Club, 241 Madison Avenue, Detroit 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 13.

Friends and supporters of the DSO will enjoy sampling an outstanding selection of wines from Argentina that will be expertly paired with an array of savory hors d'oeuvres. Oenophiles will have the opportunity to nurture their love of fine and unusual wines by bidding on any number of exceptional wines, some from the personal cellars of serious collectors, along with other unique wine related items.

Adding to the evening's festivities, this year's feast of fine wine and strolling dinner features a live auction led by WDIV-TV personality, Andrew Humphrey which will begin at 7:15 p.m.

To order tickets, \$95-\$175. call (313) 576-5154 or visit www. detroitsymphony.com.

5IVE DAILY SPECIALS PLYMOUTH - 5ive

Restaurant announces the following daily specials: Monday Happy Hour, half-off mixed drinks and other wine, beer and drink specials; Tuesday Date Nights, buy one entree from the prix fixe menu and get another for halfoff, champagne toast included; Wednesday Girls' Night Out, halfoff drink specials, specialty drink features and free chef's tasting with tips and recpies from 5-7 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, half off select bottles of wine; Friday and Saturday, live entertainment; Sunday, light fare entrees all day starting at \$10. 5ive is located at the Inn at St. John's, 44045 Five Mile Road, Plymouth. Call (734) 357-5700 or visit www.theinnatstjohns.com.







Red Cross: Be prepared for spring storms

O&E STAFF WRITER

Glen Hendricks, director of emergency services for the local American Red Cross, believes in being prepared for spring weather.

'You're absolutely right," he said of people becoming complacent. "Spring is a time of renewal and most families are so excited about the change in

weather." People want to get outdoors. "We have been so blessed with pretty decent weather," he said of southeast Michigan. "In our region, people

have a tendency to be a little relaxed." He noted the Red Cross, Salvation Army, local police and fire as well as local emergency management agencies work effectively: "We all come to the table and work well together."

If you need to leave your home quickly in an emergency, Hendricks recommends having a "ready bag" with such identification as a driver's license, marriage, birth and insurance papers, and phone books. He recommends taking a cell phone and charger

You might get in traffic gridlock. It would behoove you to have some kind of recharging ability," he said.

He also recommends having some gas in your car tank, and small bills for purchases as change can be hard to come by and you don't want only large bills in a crisis. "Those would be the things I would do," Hendricks said.

If you leave home in a police situation, he also recommends taking one vehicle only, rather than splitting up and trying to follow in traffic. "Condense what you need and get in one vehicle. The family needs to be

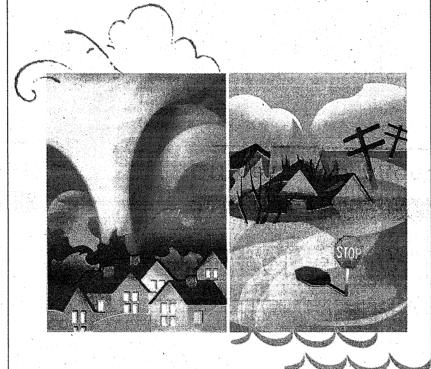
Hendricks, who was involved in emergency planning for the Final Four college basketball in Detroit, sums up his philosophy: "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail.

The American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Chapter emphasizes being ready to handle a disaster. These are some questions you should ask yourself about being prepared:

1) Local authorities have just told you to evacuate your home. Have you pre-designated a pet-friendly location to take your pet(s) as part of your disaster plan?

2) Does your family have an emergency contact person who lives outside your area?

3) Does your family disaster plan include two meeting places: one outside of your home in case of a fire and one outside of your neighborhood in



Provide copies of the family's pre-

paredness plan to each member of the

family. Always ensure that informa-

tion is up-to-date and practice evacu-

ations, following the routes outlined

in your plan. Don't forget to identify

Include pets in your evacuation

a life with CPR and first aid.

3) Be informed — learn how to save

View an online education module at

www.redcross.org/BeRedCrossReady

to learn about each step and download

checklists to help prepare your family.

Having the information you need can

make you more confident and better

More than 17 million people learn

lifesaving skills from the American

Red Cross every year. The Red Cross

offers hundreds of classes, ranging

from first aid, CPR and Automated

lifeguards and sports coaches.

Red Cross urges that you:

External Defibrillator (AED) instruc-

tion to special training for baby sitters,

Taking a Red Cross class is a great

Contact your local Red Cross chapter

Tornado safety planning is particu-

larly important for Michiganders. The

■ Pick a place where family mem-

bers could gather if a tornado is head-

ed your way. It could be your basement

or, if there is no basement, a center

hallway, bathroom, or closet on the

lowest floor. Keep this place unclut-

way to keep your family informed.

able to respond to emergencies.

alternative routes.

plans

case you can't get home as the result of a disaster or other emergency?

4) Have you taken first aid or CPR AED training in the past year?

5) Does your disaster supplies kit include at least a three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day)

nonperishable food, a battery-powered or crank radio, a first aid kit and sanitary supplies, including disinfecting bleach?

Go to www.redcross.org for more information.

There are three simple steps you and your family can take to Be Red Cross Ready:

1) Get a kit — put together a disaster supplies kit.

Store at least three days of food, water and supplies in your family's easy-to-carry preparedness kit. Keep extra supplies on hand at home in case you cannot leave the affected area.

Keep your kit where it is easily accessible. Remember to check your kit every six months and replace expired or outdated items.

2) Make a plan — develop family communication and evacuation plans.

When preparing for a disaster, always:

Talk with your family.

Learn how and when to turn off utilities and how to use life-saving tools such as fire extinguishers.

Tell everyone where emergency information and supplies are stored.

■ If you are in a high-rise building, you may not have enough time to go to the lowest floor. Pick a place in a hallway in the center of the building.

Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit containing: first aid kit and essential medications; canned food and can opener; at least three gallons of water per person; protective clothing, bedding, or sleeping bags; battery-powered radio, flashlight, and extra batteries; special items for infant, elderly, or disabled family members; written instructions on how to turn off electricity, gas, and water if authorities advise you to do so. (Remember, you'll need a professional

to turn natural gas service back on.) When a tornado WARNING is

■ If you are inside, go to the safe place you picked to protect yourself from glass and other flying objects. The tornado may be approaching your

■ If you are outside, hurry to the basement of a nearby sturdy building or lie flat in a ditch or low-lying area.

If you are in a car or mobile home, get out immediately and head for safety (as above).

After the tornado passes: ■ Watch out for fallen power lines

and stay out of the damaged area. Listen to the radio for informa-

tion and instructions. Use a flashlight to inspect your

home for damage. ■ Do not use candles at any time. Here's what you can do to prepare for such an emergency:

■ Conduct periodic tornado drills so everyone remembers what to do when a tornado is approaching. Stay tuned for storm warnings

Listen to your local radio and TV stations for updated storm informa-

■ Know what a tornado WATCH and WARNING means: A tornado WATCH means a tornado is possible in your area.

A tornado WARNING means a tornado has been sighted and may be headed for your area. Go to safety immediately.

Tornado WATCHES and WARNINGS are issued by county.

When a tornado WATCH is issued: Listen to local radio and TV stations for further updates.

Be alert to changing weather conditions. Blowing debris or the sound of an approaching tornado may alert you. Many people say it sounds like a freight train.

Consult lawyer on mold issues

Q: We have a problem in that we discovered mold, after the fact, when we moved into our home. We had an inspection done before closing which noted that there was a water intrusion through a basement wall only later to find out that there was a substantial amount of mold and water damage behind the walls. Do you think we have a claim?

A: Each case has to depend on its facts but to the extent that your mold inspector discovered



damage behind walls, the seller of the home may not have been under a duty to disclose any issues that could have been obtained through

mold and water

inspection or observation of inaccessible portions of real estate or could have been discovered by a person of expertise in a science or trade beyond the knowledge of the seller. Therefore, to the extent that this could have been obtained through your inspector, you are probably going to be out of luck but your best advice is to consult with a real estate attorney.

Q: We have a problem enforcing restrictions in that not every one of them was enforced on a particular parking matter. Are we clearly out of luck or is there some hope for us enforcing it prospectively?

A: There is case law that holds that a restriction was not arbitrarily enforced since the association took steps to eliminate every violation that the association could identify. However, it is important to maintain good record keeping by the association and there is some case law that suggests that if the past violation that was not pursued is not directly related to the present violation by way of nature and type, you may still be able to enforce it. You are best advised to consult with a knowledgeable community association lawyer.

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

BRIEFS

New faces

■ Weir Manuel Realtors announced that Erna Whitmire has joined Weir Manuel Realtors. Whitmire, who previously practiced at RE/MAX in the Hills, brings with her 15 years of performance and real estate acumen.

"We are delighted that Erna has joined our team. She is very representative of the type of professional we partner with at Weir Manuel," said Kelly Sweeney, president and CEO. "Our agents are experienced, educated and service oriented trusted advisors who exemplify our mission: to create

outstanding client experiences at every point of contact."

■ Weir Manuel Realtors announced that Sheila Kowalski has joined its Rochester team.

"Sheila brings new opportunities to us as well as 20 years of excellence in service," said Sue Falk, manager of the Rochester office.

■ Weir Manuel Realtors announced that Kendra McConnell Hurd has joined the Weir Manuel team. McConnell Hurd, formerly of Professional One Real Estate, has five years' experience as a real estate profes-

for details.

She said, "Weir Manuel is an institution in our community, and I'm very pleased to be invited to become a part of that tradition. I'm impressed by the professionalism exhibited by everyone here." McConnell Hurd is a lifelong Oakland County resident. She was raised in the city of Bloomfield Hills and also lived in Beverly Hills and the Lakes area.

Kelly Sweeney, owner and CEO of Weir Manuel, said, "We are proud to have Kendra on our elite team of real estate professionals. She brings energy,

enthusiasm and a true desire to provide trusted advice to her clients."

Homebuyer Seminar

Keller Williams Farmington Hills will offer Homebuver Seminars, including one 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the office, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100-S, 12 Mile and Halsted in Farmington Hills. RSVP at (248) 893-1550. Seminars cover real estate basics for today's buyers, mortgage information from Flagstar Bank, title work presentation by Fidelity Title Co., and the importance of an inspection.

HOMES SOLD

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 29, 2008, to Jan. 9, 2009, at the Way County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are citi addresses, and sales prices.

Canton	
2498 Cabot St	\$138,000
50523 Coolidge St	\$195,000
1510 Copeland Cir	\$171,000
44706 Danbury Rd	\$249,000
1442 Kensington Dr	\$285,000
6345 Old Haggerty Rd	\$265,000
1788 Trinity Řď	\$422,000
7255 Wadebridge Dr	\$334,000
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	Farmington Hi
28216 Bayberry Rd	
36981 Dartmoor Dr	
28163 Peppermill R	d
28016 Quail Hollow	
	Garden City
7034 Gilman St	
30071 Rush St	
De arts and New York	Livonia
11782 Farmington R	
20269 Gillman St	
15905 Harrison St	
14445 Houghton St	
11313 Mayfield St	
14217 Richfield St	NA TER
29933 Richland St	

'5815 Willow Creek Dr

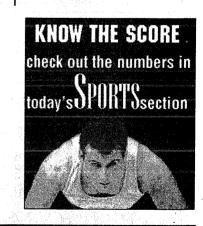
\$55,000	
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\$121,000	

\$193,000

	Milfo
665 S Tipsico Lake Rd	
	North
48458 Binghampton Dr	
16979 Carriage Way	
48885 Freestone Dr	
15893 Johnson Creek Dr	
40320 Prestwick Ct	
44301 Verona Ln	
	No
45260 Bartlett Dr	
43E24 TOTRSHITE DI	Plymo
15150 Farmbrook Dr	,
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	16979 Carriage Way 48885 Freestone Dr 15893 Johnson Creek Dr 40320 Prestwick Ct

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	\$1,400,000
Novi	\$117,000
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Plymouth Dr	\$166,000
Redford	
	\$90,000
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20431 Five Points St	\$70,000
17336 Glenmore	\$69,000
18678 Kinloch	\$39,000
9094 Lenore # D	\$95,000
16561 Macarthur	\$14,000
10048 Marion	\$78,000
26645 Southwestern Hwy	\$131,000
15981 Woodworth	\$58,000
South Lyon	
26740 Daria Cir E	\$80,000
26220 Daria Cir W	\$80,000
871 Hidden Creek Dr	\$223,000
1180 Shetland Dr	\$225,000
Westland	•
38507 Canyon Dr	\$47,000
33136 Lancashire St	\$80,000
1700 N Carlson St	\$133,000
35884 Oregon St	\$40,000





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CRÖSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Part of TGIF Stamp backing
- 8 Wingding 12 Fleming or
- Woosnam 13 Depend on
- 14 Fisherman's fly
- 15 Popular pasta 17 Frankenstein's
- helper
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- gold 34 Rabbit kin
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- 39 Besides
- bone Gazes at 8 Thin pancakes Calendar abbr. 10 Marquee notice

40 Lets slip 42 "My gal" of

51 Water-ski locale

54 Like some phone numbers

56 Desktop picture

57 Cel character

58 Lyric poem

59 Droplet 60 Tight-fitting 61 Gents

1 Send in the

taxes 2 Wet forecast

4 Thin porridge

6 Wrist-to-elbow

Quaint hotels

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47 Situate



Answer to Previous Puzzle

2-27 © 2009 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

- 11 That ship 16 Pretense
- 20 Kenya's loc. 22 MOMA artist
- 24 Raw cotton
- 25 Gaslight and
- - Omitting none 32 Reformers targets
 - 36 Spreadsheet units

Big Band 26 Went by car

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29 Humorist Bombeck

28 Mournful cry

27 Crazed

- 38 Recipe meas. 41 Mixture
- 43 Doing a takeoff 45 Courage
- 46 Erelong 48 Quark's home
- 49 Yield, as
- territory 50 Blissful spot 51 Rights
- movement word 52 Poker card
- Campground initials
- 55 Rawls or

Fun By The

Like puzzles? Then you'll love

sudoku. This mind-bending

puzzle will have

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the moment you

square off, so

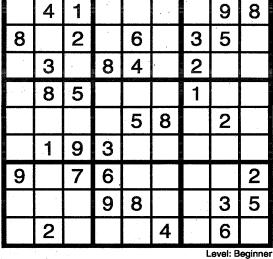
sharpen your

your sudoku

pencil and put

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Numbers



Here's How It Works:

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

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW

BABBLE CHAT CONFER CONSULT **CONVERSE DISCUSS GOSSIP JABBER**

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THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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REAL ESTATE



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Sunday edition 4:30 p.m. Friday Thursday edition.....2:00 p.m. Tuesday Offices and Hours:

Construction office.......6200 Metro Pkwy., Sterling Heights, MI 48312 Observer office41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170 Hours8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

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Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

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By Appt. 734-459-7547

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3250

NORTHVILLE - Open Sun April

26th, 1-4pm. 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath. 18282 Jamestown Circle, King's Mill Co-op, \$65,000.

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\$595/mo., 6 mo

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Westland

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WESTLAND 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, bsmt, garage, A/C. No pets. Ford & Hix area. \$850/mo. incl. water. 248-388-2203

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\$425/mo. 248-476-6498 FARMINGTON HILLS - 21607 Roosevelt Ave. 3 bdrm, newly remodeled, new carpet, 2 car gar, \$975/mo. (248) 684-1713

FARMINGTON HILLS - Cute 2 bsmt, appli, immed occ, bac credit ok. \$800, 248-788-1823 FARMINGTON HILLS

3 bdrm recently remodeled ranch. Sidewalks, Gar, fenced yard. \$900/mo, 248-449-6263 **FARMINGTON HILLS** 3 bdrm totally remodeled home Sidewalks, Gar, fenced yard. \$925/mo, 248-449-6263

GARDEN CITY Sharp 2 bdrm 1 bath, Ig. bsmt, C/A, fenced yard. \$775/mo. + 1.5 mo. sec. Sec. 8 OK. 734-578-6082 Manufactured

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INKSTER Sharp 3 bdrm brick, garage, dining room, option, bad credit okay, \$600. 248-788-1823 WESTLAND 2 bdrm, fresh 586-978-9172

LIVONIA 2 bdrm, appliances fireplace, garage, large yard no pets, \$850/mo + sec.

Call: 734-425-7355 LIVONIA 2 br. ranch, garage duplex. Very clean, new carfenced yard, appliances, no

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Redford (S), 14353 Mercedes 3 bdrm, remodeled, basement & garage. Sec 8 ok. \$950/mo + \$950 sec. (313) 407-9437

of Inkster. 2 bdrm, bsmt, 1 car garage, \$700/mo. + sec deposit. Call: (313) 320-3324 REDFORD- 7 & Inkster, 18441

REDFORD TWP N of 7 Mile, E

Poinciana, SHARP 3 bedrm, bsmt, \$825/mo, Ravine Lot. (248) 476-6498 ROYAL OAK- 3 bdrm colonial 1.5 bath remodeled kitchen & bath, all appliances, c/a, wash er/dryer, 2 car garage. Lawn service incl. Catalpa near Washington. \$1250/mo. 939

N. Maple Ave. 248-720-8924 WAYNE - Sharp 3 bdrm ranch, huge master bdrm, option to buy/land contract avail, bad

credit ok, \$700. 248-788-1823 WAYNE Thinbark Sub. Clean, sharp, 3 bdrm brick ranch, bsmt, attached garage, C/A, lg. fenced yard. \$940/mo. 734-397-7751

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FARMINGTON ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE NORTH CONGREGATIONAL

CHURCH 36520 W. 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills, between Drake and Halsted. Friday April. 24; 9 a.m.-2 p.m Saturday, April. 25, Bac a.m.- 12 p.m tools, tovs Clothing, books, sports equipment

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Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 39020 5 Mile, Livonia. of 275. Fri. Apr. 24th, 9:30-

4pm; Sat. Apr. 25th., 9:30noon, \$2.00 bag sale. LIVONIA ST. ANDREWS

ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE April 24, 9am-4pm, April 25th, 9am-1:30pm, 16360 Hubbard Rd., btwn 5 & 6 Mile

Four Town United Methodist Church Rummage Sale 6451 Cooley Lk. Rd. Nea Lochaven Rd. Thurs., April 23

9am-5pm; Fri., April 24, 9am-7pm; Sat., April 25, 9am-noon

7100 Estate Sales

Announcing 2 **Outstanding Sales!** By: Everything Goes #1.) Fri.-Sat., Apr. 24-25, 10-4. Sun., 11-3 If Necessary 3400 Stallion Way, Comm

erce Twp., 48390- Country Hills Sub. N. off Glengary Rd., just W. of Wixom Rd 696 W. to Wixom Rd. turn right. North 4 miles to Glengary Rd., left. 1st street, turn right, Foal Blvd. Two- 4000 sq. ft. pro decorated model homes all 50% to 70% off. Must Liquidate Now! Don't Miss!! #2.) Fri.-Sat.

Apr. 24-25, 10-4 (248) 988-1077 for Details. Great sale! Tons of antiques, accessories, & antiques, accessories, collectibles. Don't Miss!!

7100 Estate Sales 7100 Estate Sales

Fri.-Sat., Apr. 24-25, 10-4pm 6857 Northpoint, Emer-ald Lakes Sub, Troy- N. of Square Lake, W. off lohn R. Take North Leas John R Take Lyster Lane off John R to Northpoint.
30 yrs. continuous residency. Charming home quality Americana furni ture & accessories. Something for everyone!

ANOTHER GOOD

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> See you there! EDMUND FRANK AND ASSOCIATES

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BLOOMFIELD TWP. ESTATE SALE April 24th & 25th, 9-4 456 S. Cranbrook Cross W. of Cranbrook, S off

Note: street parking on S. Cranbrook Cross, N. of Whiteleigh St. only – may be ticketed if parked in posted

Symphony musicians home filled with huge collection of nique accessories - music instruments. Russian Egyptian, African & Oriental Tons of jewelry, artwork frames, books & tools Ladies clothes, fur coats silver & pewter, Complete house of furniture - 4 sofas glass top dining room set &

SALES BY HERITAGE

FARMINGTON HILLS: 25360 Rutledge Crossing (of Drake S of 11) Fri-Sun, 9-5 Furniture, Household, Collect tibles. (586) 228-9090 pics: actionestate.com

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7100 Estate Sales

LIVONIA 17310 Loveland, 6 Mile & Farmington, Thu-Sat. Apr 23-25, 10am-5pm Antiques, jewelry, tools tons more!

PLEASANT RIDGE

Fri Apr 24, 10-5 Sat Apr 25, 10-5

ENTRANCE: Table, mirror LR: Sofa, love seat, 2 chairs, leather wing chair, side tables, coffee table, Henredon side tables and

curio cabinet

DR: Ethan Allen mahogany
table and 6 chairs, china cabinet, buffet & server **DEN:** Leather sofa, 2 reclining leather chairs tables and lamps
SNRM: Electric lift chair desk. 2 club chairs, bar KTCHN: Glass top iror

BDRM: Thomasville kind size bed, triple dresser armoir, vanity, stools **BDRM:** Henry Link beds nightstand, vanity, lingerie chest, child's lounge chair BDRM: Henry Link wicker

able, 4 chairs

BDRM: Day bed, cherry chest mirror, night stand Accessories include

Estate jewelry, Cavett Shaw dinnerware, Waterford Crystal, Spode Limoge, Royal Dalton, Wedgewood china, silve inens & pictures, stained glass panel, old song sheets & 2 light fixtures fireplace accesories Christmas items, lots & lots of miscellaneous

106 Elm Park W. off Woodward, 3 blks S. of 10 Mile (696).

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TRENTON

ESTATE SALE

Antiques, Henrendon desk rv. clothes & much. much nore. 1941 Westfield, N. of 24-25 Fri-Sat. 10am-4pm.

Garage Sales

Troy Estate Sale April 23 25, Thurs 9-4pm, Fri/Sat 10-4pm, 115 Cherry St, off Livernois, btwn 15 & 16 photos/info www.iluvantiques.com

Garage Sales

CANTON - BIG SALE 39923 Lynn St, April 23-25, 9-5pm. Antiques, American Indian, old books, household, office supplies, much more!

CANTON Spring Clean Out! Glengarry Sub. off Canton Center, between Cherry Hill and Palmer. Sat.& Sun., April 25. & 26. 9am-4pm. Furniture Decor, Household, ,, Swimming pools. Lots of Misc. Priced to go!

Sub-wide garage sale! Bedford Villa Condos. Off

Haggerty, S. of Ford Rd. Saturday, April 25th, 9-4pm. **FARMINGTON HILLS**

35719 Congress, W. Drake, btwn 11 Mile and Grand River, April 24-25, 9am-2pm. Bassinet, Books, Small Appl, FARMINGTON HILLS Apr. 24-

25, 9-4pm. Huge amount of fishing gear old & new, 12 ft. aluminum boat, records, books, CD's, kitchenware, linens, many accessories tons of clothes, purses, hats gloves, boxes & boxes of old & new stuff. 36120 Pinévie W. of Drake, S. of 13 Mile.

FARMINGTON, 33218 Oak land Ave. N of Grand River, E of Farmington Rd. Sat April 25, 9-6pm. Some antiques, oriental rugs, furniture, misc.

FERNDALE Annual Garage Sale- Ferndale Free Methodist 1990 Woodward Heights. Saturday, April 25, 9am-5pm. Clothes, office furniture, home decor, music equipment, bake sale, bar-b-q,

GARDEN CITY Unique items & gift baskets. Proceeds to "Hope for Bryden" Medical Fund. Apr. 24-26, 9-4pm. 6682 Helen St., btwn Warren & Ford & Inkster & Middlebelt

LIVONIA - Large Garage Sale. Thurs-Sat, 9-5pm. 29522 Wentworth, off Middlebelt, N of 5 Mile. Furniture, some antiques & more!

LIVONIA 20326 Melvin, 5 blks W of Middlehelt, 1 1/2 hlks S. of 8 Mile. Apr 23-26, Thu-Sun 9am-5pm. Art, fine women's

LIVONIA 36560 Marler, N/5 Mile, btwn Levan & Newburgh Apr. 25-26, Sat. & Sun. only! 10-5pm. Ladies clothes, old albums, baby items, etc.

LIVONIA Come "C" what we

got! We got a lot! 29739 Robert, off Middlebelt, btwn Joy & Plymouth Rd. Fri. & Sat., 9:30am-4pm, Sun., 9:30am-2pm

LIVONIA Estate Sale! 29370 Jacqueline Thurs.-Fri., 8-5pm. Tools, furniture, household

LIVONIA Multi-Family Run mage Sale - Thursday, April 23, thru Saturday, April 24, 10am-3pm at Tai Chi Center, 38121 Ann Arbor Rd. Household items, books, jewelry and more!

LIVONIA-A GREAT SALE! Full of treasures. 17871 Levan (N of 6 Mile).

LYON TWP TWP - 21226 Laser off 8 Mile, 1/4 Mile West of Pontiac Trail. April 24-25, 10-5pm. No early birds Household items & more!

MILFORD 542 S. Pleasant Valley Rd., btwn Hyne & Commerce. Apr 23-25, 9size clothing & much more!

NORTHVILLE At 8 & Novi Electronics, housewares, tech toys, clothes, tools & more 605 Horton.

ROCHESTER HILLS, A subdivision garage sale you won't want to miss! Whispering Willows Sub, Thurs 4/30, Fri 5/1, Sat, 5/2, 8am-5pm. W off Livernois, S off Hamlin.

SOUTH LYON Garage Sale 4/24 Fri & 4/25 Sat., 9-3pm 10446 Mendota, S off 10 Mile E of Rushton, Lakeside Estate North. Toys, clothes, records, comics, tools, furniture, etc.

TROY - Garage sale not to be missed. Vintage dresser w/ mirror, custom-made bedding, chairs, nightstands kitchenware & many wonder ful household items. Fri April 24th, 8-4pm; Sat April 25th, 10-2pm. 4408 Cahill Dr, N of

Fri/Sat. April. 24 & 25, 9am to 4pm, Lake Charnwood Sub East

company find the qualified candidates you need!

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FURNITURE Thomasville dining rm hutch w/glass front grill work, brass & glass large square coffee table, large wing back chair, misc, lamps.

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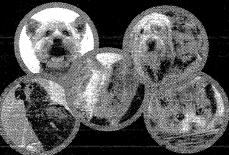
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Put your pet in our parade!





on a special page in our Classifieds on Sunday, May 3, 2009.

(see sample ad at left) and we will include your pet in our Spring Parade. Great idea for the family scrapbook! For more information, call 1-800-579-7355.

DEADLINE for pictures and message: Friday, April 24th, 2009 Email or mail your photo, message and payment to address below Must be prepaid. Photos will not be returned.

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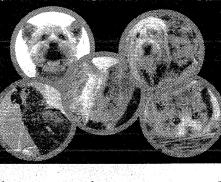
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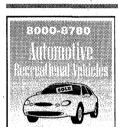
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Infiniti FX50 Prowls Like A Cat -- But It's A Car

Advertising Feature

CAReport





By Dale Buss

It may be unfair to judge Infiniti's FX50 by today's automotive standards, which are high on practicality and value if not outright sobriety. But the vehicle that has been called a "bionic cheetah" for its athletic, organic, rounded design is in Infiniti showrooms today, and so it is today that we must make our evaluation - not 2003, when the brand's brassy, bulbous, top-of-the-line crossover first appeared.

And from today's vantage point, while you've got to like the fact that the FX line is still an amazing head-turner, it's increasingly difficult to argue against its lack of practicality, which includes relatively poor gas mileage, an unforgivingly hard ride, difficult visibility, and frustratingly little cargo space.

First, let's give FX50 - the modern version of the FX35 and FX45 that debuted in 2003 - all the props it deserves. This vehicle was meant to make a splash back then as the ultimate in stylishness because of its outrageous design, which resembles one of those mythical creatures that is an amalgam of several different species.

Its gaping front grill, for example, is reminiscent of some kind of shark. FX50's highly rounded overall form indeed recalls the haunches of some sort of big cat about to lunge onto the roadway. Its huge, 21inch tires - out of all proportion to the

Honda

otherwise low profile of the vehicle remind me of the way Roadrunner used to gear up to escape Wil E. Coyote. And the extremely downswept rear end is like the tailfeathers of some extremely fast bird.

Put that all together, and add frills such as front-fender vents, and you've got a vehicle that still screams, "Look at me!" Bathe it in a color such as the Mojave Copper hue of the FX50 that I recently drove, and it's a vehicle that you simply can't ignore.

The other overriding positive about FX50 is that it's amazingly souped-up. In its previous incarnation, as the FX45, the vehicle rode a 4.5-liter, 320-horsepower V-8 engine, which was ridiculous enough power for a vehicle that isn't all that big. But pure car people complained that the FX45 didn't have enough of a power boost over the FX35, which was equipped with a powerful V6.

So FX50 now boasts a 390-horsepower, 5.0-liter V8 engine, meaning that the vehicle can blow past nearly all obstacles when that is your desire. Straight-line acceleration, for example, is zero to 60 mph in all of just 5.6 seconds.

Infiniti also keeps improving interior amenities. FX50 offers diamond-quilted leather seats, chrome and brushed-metal accents on the instrument panel, adjustable thigh and back bolsters, and



FX50's nifty radar-assisted cruise control is manipulated

from the steering wheel.

even an advanced air purifier and allergenneutralizing filter system.

FX50 also puts electronics to great use in the driving experience per se. There's a lane-departure warning system that comes in handy for drowsy or inattentive drivers.

And the radar-assisted cruise control is a great boon to safe driving, keeping you a pre-selected distance away from the vehicle ahead of you in the lane and automatically braking to enforce the gap. It can throw the FX50 into an unsettling, jerky deceleration when another driver, say, suddenly cuts in front of you, but that was a price I was willing to pay for the maintenance of a safe cushion of separation that an aggressive driver like me too often risks.

Having said all of that, however, a thorough picture of the FX50 includes plenty of flaws. The seven-speed transmission, for example, is a bit choppy for a vehicle that retails for around \$65,000. The mileage - 14 EPA-rated in the city, and 20 mpg on the highway - is parsimonious for a vehicle this sleek. especially considering that this fuel economy comes only with expensive

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And for all the sense of safety that a driver acquires with the radar-assisted cruise control, much of that feeling is frustrated by extremely poor visibility out the front, rear and sides of the FX50. The hood looms way too large out the windshield. The C-pillar areas are extremely thick and create huge blind spots. And the rear window isn't big enough.

Also, while FX50's driver and passengers can be assured of snug comfort once they're in their seats, the vehicle is extremely difficult to get into and out of. The front doors have a wide transom to the seats, which creates a significant obstacle even for people of average height. And the rear doors are clumsily carved out of the vehicle's overall design, meaning the threshold is too small.

The good thing is that all of this stuff is apparent when you take FX50 for a test drive. You're buying one to make a statement, after all, so you must live with the baggage.

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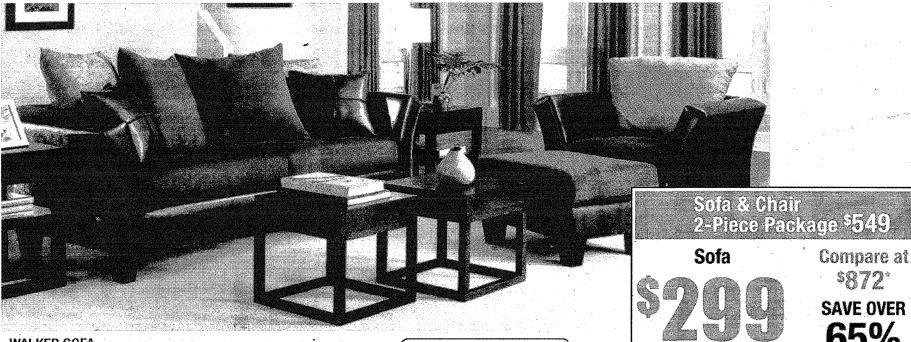
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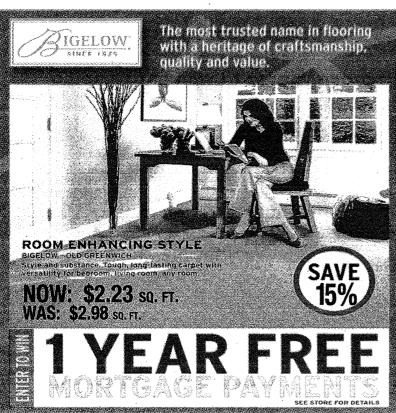
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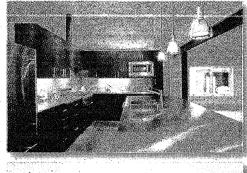


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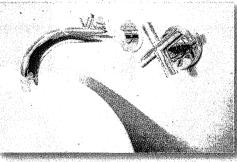




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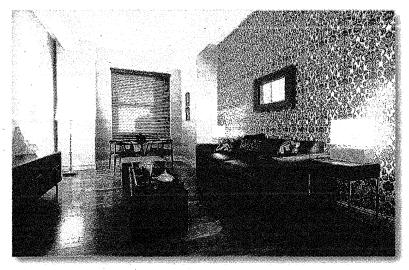
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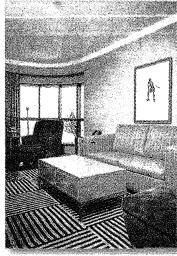
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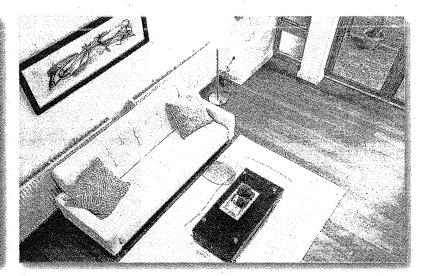
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Refine your home with quality flooring

BY ALISON BERGSIEKER
ADVERTORIAL COORDINATOR

With more Michigan residents looking to stay homebound this year rather than moving out of state, now is a perfect time to update your floors.

Homeowners have several options to choose from, including carpet, hardwood, laminate, ceramic tile or resilient flooring

Offering all of these flooring options is Independent Carpet One Floor & Home of Westland, located at 1400 N. Wayne Road

The Francavilla family and staff have served the community since 1968. Independent Carpet One Floor & Home features one of the largest flooring showrooms and warehouses and the staff has an extensive knowledge of the industry.

We're proud of our selection. Our showroom is laid out in such a fashion that your shopping experience is made easy and enjoyable. You will find a comfortable family feeling ambiance the moment you enter into our store," said Cathy **Buchannan of Independent Carpet** One. "Our staff is here to guide you through, share their knowledge of products, find the best solutions for your needs and stay within your budget. I have heard from clients that they have actually found shopping for flooring very fun after coming here. We make it easy."

Carpet

Comfortable and colorful, carpet warms any room in style with a rainbow of color choices.

"We've got hundreds of styles and thousands of colors to inspire and excite any homeowner," Buchannan said.

Carpet styles are uniquely selected to

complement a homeowners' personal tastes, ranging from classic and sophisticated looks to casual, Berber and active carpets that better support pets, toys and recreation.

Name brand carpets offered at Independence Carpet One include Lees, Liz Claiborne Home and Good Housekeeping.

Hardwood

Floors do more than reflect your style and taste — they set the stage for everything else in your home. Deciding on which wood floor is right for you can be a daunting task.

Different woods require varying degrees of maintenance and will give you

a range of comfort and noise absorption. When choosing a hardwood floor for your home, you'll want to consider a few

• Species — Some trees have bold grain patterns, such as oak, and are associated with an informal or a country look. Others, such as maple and birch, have a subtle, more refined grain and tend to be

found in a more traditional setting.

• Shade variation — Darker tones give a more formal look or traditional feel, while

lighter tones complete the more casual room.

• Gloss level — Refers to the finish and visual sheen of the product, ranging from smooth, soft satin to a crisp, high gloss.

Independence Carpet One also recommends considering edge profile, board thickness, grade level, trim options and installation when choosing the right flooring for your home.

Laminate

As handsome as planks of natural wood but without the upkeep and as solid as tiles of limestone but with a softer step, laminates have become a designer's tool and a homeowner's dream. They can be installed over most existing floors.

Laminate floors are exceptionally durable, easy to clean and maintain, have superior stain resistance and can be installed on all grade levels including below grade.

Ceramic Tile

Tile is made from materials with unique characteristics. Natural stone, such as granite or limestone, is naturally formed with no two pieces exactly alike. This gives floors a distinctive elegance. Ceramic tiles are popular in either glazed or unglazed styles, chosen for durability and beauty.

Colorful glass, mosaic and metal tiles offer fresh, creative expression in borders and flooring design.

Resilient/Vinyl

Depending on grade, resilient flooring can fit any style and budget. Relatively inexpensive yet durable and easy to maintain, resilient flooring is available in an amazing selection of colors and patterns to complement virtually any décor.

Resilient flooring is offered with three different types of wear surfaces: No-wax, urethane and enhanced urethane. Easy to clean and maintain, durable resilient flooring is right at home in high traffic areas such as kitchens, baths, playrooms, mudrooms and entranceways.

Area Rugs

Area rugs serve a wide variety of purposes in home décor.

They can be used to help define separate spaces within a larger room or add a touch of warmth and color to a hardwood or tile floor. They can also serve as a link between rooms.

Area rugs come in all shapes, colors, textures and sizes. Be it wild or subtle, extravagant or simple, these rugs are an easy way to express your decorative flair.

There are some size guidelines to consider when choosing an area rug for your home.

- Room size rugs should leave a border of 18-24 inches on all sides.
- Dining room rugs should measure at least 4 feet longer and wider than the dining room table, so chairs will not fall off the rug when pushed back from the table.
- Hallway rugs should be approximately 2-4 inches narrower and 18-24 inches shorter than the hallway.
- Other area rugs vary in size according to need.

Designers recommend trying different patterns that use some common colors in the same room for a coordinated look that is also fresh; or consider oval and round shapes as a way to inject new life in a room rather than a traditional rectangular or square rug.

To contact Independence Carpet One Floor ♥ Home or view their product line, visit www.carpetonewestland.com or call 734-729-6200.



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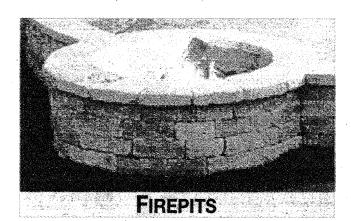
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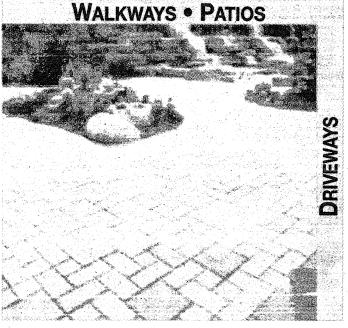


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Spring cleaning that saves money

Spring cleaning season meets a recession — what better time to take care of some often-overlooked household cleaning tasks that can save you big bucks in the long run? Some of the costliest repairs are ones that could easily be prevented with simple maintenance steps.

Take your home's heating and air conditioning system. When was the last time you had your cooling coils cleaned? If you're not even sure what part of the system the coils are, where they're located or if they've ever been cleaned at all, spring is a good time to take care of this important maintenance item. Doing so can help extend the life of your system and ensure it's functioning at peak efficiency.

"The cooling coils take the heat and humidity out of the air," says Aaron Marshbanks, a member of the National Air Duct Cleaners Association (NADCA), and a heating and cooling industry professional with 15 years experience. "The coils are essentially the connection point between your air conditioning system and the air in your home."

Cooling coils, which resemble a car

Cooling coils, which resemble a car radiator, are typically located on top of or inside the air handling unit in the mechanical room. Over time, household dust and air contaminants including fabric particles, skin cells, animal dander and other debris collect on the coils. While your furnace filter will reduce debris -- assuming you keep the filters clean -- it's impossible to completely eliminate it, and what gets through will end up on the coils.

"When that happens, two problems arise over time," Marshbanks says. "First,

the build-up restricts the flow of air through the unit and decreases its ability to effectively remove heat from the air. Second, it makes the equipment work harder and longer to get air into your house. So the air handler runs and runs, and the unit consumes more energy and produces less comfort."

If the unit has to run 25 percent longer to produce the desired results, you'll actually be shortening its usable life by 25 percent, he points out. And the cost of repairing or replacing a faulty heating and cooling unit far exceeds the cost of having the coils cleaned.

While coils may not need to be cleaned annually, they should be inspected every year. It's best to leave the inspection and any necessary cleaning to a trained professional, Marshbanks advises. The configuration of some units may make it difficult to examine and clean the coils without removing them from the unit. Plus, improper cleaning can actually damage the coils.

"And you shouldn't assume your coils

Foiolia

NADCA offers a certified professional locator on its Web site, www.nadca.com, to help consumers find qualified technicians in their area.

are being cleaned or even inspected regularly just because you have a service contract with an heating and cooling company," he adds. Many companies do not include that service as part of their regular maintenance routine.

NADCA offers a certified professional locator on its Web page to help consumers find qualified technicians in their area.

NADCA members must pass a rigorous certification exam and complete regular training in order to earn and maintain the association's certification. When evaluating a company to inspect and clean your coils, be sure to ask how long the company has been in business, the average experience level of its service people, and what their regular service includes.

To learn more about NADCA certified professionals or to find one in your area, visit www. NADCA.com.

- Courtesy of ARAcontent





Update your bathroom

Does your bathroom resemble the bathroom of your childhood? Does it have the same unappealing colors, cold tile floors and dated decor as the day you bought the house?

If your bathroom is stuck in the '60s, '70s and even '80s, then it's time to upgrade. But don't worry; you can transform it into a modern day showplace on a budget. Here are some tips to get you started:

Apply a fresh coat of paint

Nothing cleans up damaged and dingy walls better than a new color. Because the bathroom is a high-humidity area that is also enclosed, look for paints that are mildew-resistant but don't contain harsh chemicals. Be a little artistic with your painting as well. Find textured paints to create barely-there patterns on the walls, or use two different paint tints to create shading or bold contrasting wall

Update your hardware

Bathroom faucets and accessories have evolved over the decades, and style is the new design. Today's products are able to match tastes ranging from exquisite vintage to ultra modern so you can transform your out-dated style into something perfect for a guest bath, master bath or

Change your lighting

A single light fixture or a worn-out overhead lamp just doesn't give a bathroom the illumination or style you need. A properly-lit bathroom provides com-

children's fun bathroom. Visit

Faucet.com to find the right style

fort, charm, fashion and function. You may need lights above the sink or wall sconces to illuminate any dark shadows. Find all the latest lighting styles at LightingShowplace.com.

Bring comfort into the shower

A new massaging showerhead is vital to making your shower inviting. Accompany the new fixture with a beautiful curtain and curved shower rod to match the rest of the room's decor. Look for curtains that do not contain vinyl or PVC materials, because a

2008 study found vinyl curtains contain many toxic chemicals that can be released into the air when opened and hung. But don't block out all that new light you just installed. Use a shower curtain that allows light into the tub area.

Warm up the floor

Don't forget the cringe you feel every time you step onto your cold bathroom floor. If the tile is in good shape, or you don't have the finances to install radiant heat throughout the bathroom, try a decorative rug instead to keep your feet warm. You can forget about the old shag carpets with rubber backing. The styles, shapes and colors available are endless, in materials ranging from cotton to wool. Find a theme carpet for your children's bathroom, or a beautiful bouquet of flowers to spice up your guest bathroom. To find your style, visit RugShowplace.com. "You will be better able to enjoy your

bathroom once you get it brought into the 21st century," says Daniel Auer from Faucet.com, a leading online retailer of decorative plumbing products. "And you can find the necessary items for your remodel quickly by shopping online while saving money at the same time.'

— Courtesy of ARAcontent



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Improve your yard with hardscaping

Landscaping not only makes your home more beautiful—it can also make it more valuable. In fact, a Michigan State University study found that, depending on where the house is located, high-quality landscaping adds between five and 11 percent to its price.

However, good landscaping is about more than just plants. Paths, benches, walls, water features — they're all part of hardscaping and can make or break the look of your yard and garden landscape.

In the competitive housing market, every feature of a home is crucial in attracting potential buyers. The home's exterior makes the first impression, and hardscapes, as important elements of landscaping, play a critical role gaining a return on value. Along with helping a property stand out in buyers' minds, a carefully thought-out landscape using hardscapes allows homeowners to express their creativity and personality through the variety of options available.

Create your own path

A well-made concrete walkway or garden path not only stands up to years of hard use, it enhances the natural landscape and complements a home's exterior features.

Traditional walkway materials such as brick and stone can be pricey and often difficult to install. As an easy and inexpensive alternative, you can build a new concrete path using manufactured molds, such as the Quikrete WalkMaker building forms. The result is a beautiful pathway that mirrors the texture and appearance of brick or natural stone with all the durability and economy of poured concrete.

Project how-to

Here is a simple, step-by-step process for making your own beautiful pathway. This is a weekend project one person can easily complete for a minimal cost. Typically, the cost to install a 10-foot-long concrete path is about \$50 to \$60 for materials.

Materials

- -concrete mix or crack-resistant
- concrete mix
- -liquid cement color
- —polymer-modified jointing sand (optional)

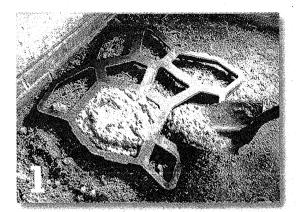
Tools

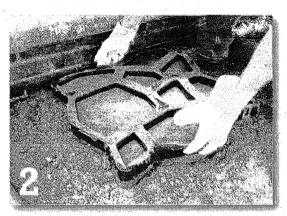
-excavation and site preparation tools











- -building form
- —wheelbarrow or mixing box
- -shovel
- -level
 -margin trowel or finishing trowel

Step 1: Prepare the project site by leveling the ground, removing sod or soil as needed.

Step 2: Mix a batch of concrete for the first section, following the product directions. Place the form at the start of your path and level it. Use a shovel or trowel to fill each cavity of the mold with wet concrete. Consolidate and smooth the surface of the form using a concrete margin trowel.

Step 3: Promptly remove the form and then smooth the edges of the section with a trowel to create the desired finish (it may help to wet the trowel in water). For a nonslip surface, broom the section or brush it with a stiff brush. Rotate

the form one-quarter turn (90 degrees) with each section to vary the pattern. Place the form against the finished section and repeat steps 2 and 3 to complete the next section.

Step 4: Repeat until the path is finished.

With a variety of form patterns available (Basket Weave Brick, European Block Brick, Country Stone and Running Bond Brick), you can create a pathway, patio or walkway that matches your home's style.

When you're finished, damp cure concrete by spraying periodically with a fine water mister or cover with plastic sheeting for five to seven days. Curing concrete is a process that maintains ideal moisture and temperature conditions so that the concrete will be durable, stable and watertight. Allow 24 hours before foot traffic.

Colorful choices

Coloring gives molded concrete a more natural looking finish and is great for blending your path

or walkway into your landscape design. Adding colorant to the concrete mix is the easiest method and produces consistent results.

—For every two 60- or 80-pound bags of dry concrete mix, blend one 10-ounce bottle of liquid cement color with five quarts clean water. Mix the liquid into the dry concrete until the color is uniform. Add more clean water as needed to achieve the desired consistency.

—After placing and finishing the path sections, cure the concrete carefully to produce the best color quality. If curing conditions are less than ideal, apply concrete cure and seal to ensure even curing and consistent color.

For more project ideas, step-by-step instructions and a quantity calculator, visit www.quikrete.com.

Easy ways to add extra appeal

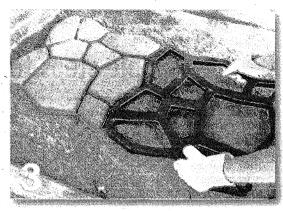
For other ways to add interest to your home's exterior, think about incorporating hardscaping elements such as stone, rock and sand in your yard and garden landscape. They're available in an almost limitless range of colors, sizes and textures. For example, the new HardScapes by Quikrete line includes an assortment of landscaping stones, pebbles, rocks and sands.

—For a natural look, create a pathway out of decorative pebbles and walks. They take on a whole new beauty when they get wet, either from the rain or a nearby water feature.

—Create a rock garden with different types of gravel, pebble and stone arrangements. Add a few foliage plants and a small water feature for interest.

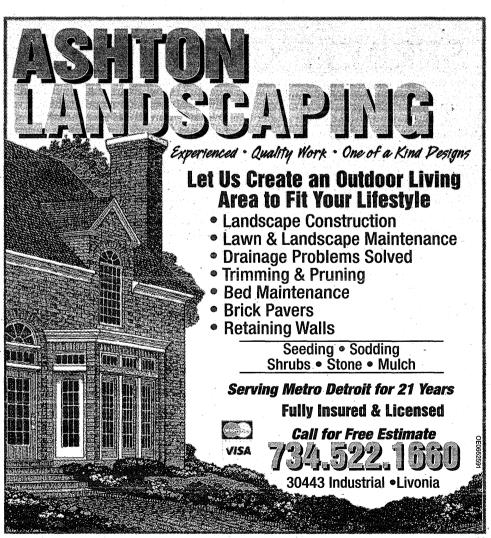
—Give an overlooked area definition with crisp white marble chips or all-purpose stone and flowers in brightly colored planters.

- Courtesy of Family Features









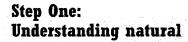
Greener Living

Simple steps toward a more natural home

Whether it's out of concern for the environment or for a desire to live a more natural lifestyle, more people are making green decisions for their homes. In Gallup's annual Environmental Poll (2008), 28 percent of Americans said they've made major changes to their lives to protect the environment, while 55 percent said they have made minor changes. The most common changes involve recycling, conserving fuel, using less electricity and making homes more energy efficient.

Another step people are taking is to buy eco-friendly or more natural products for their homes. A recent Yahoo green living survey found that 57 percent of respondents have made green purchases within the last six months.

There are simple and affordable steps you can take around the house that will help improve the environment of your home as well as the earth.



A growing number of companies have come out with "green" or "natural" products. But because these terms do not have regulated definitions or standards, it's important to know what label claims mean when making buying decisions.

For example, when The Clorox Company introduced its line of Green Works natural cleaners, it listed all ingredients on the label and defined what it means by natural: ingredients that are plant-based, biodegradable and not tested on animals.

Check a company's Web site and look for product reviews for more information about the products you want to buy to see if they live up to their claims.

Step Two: Take simple steps

You don't have to give your home a topto-bottom instant makeover. Take small steps to make your home more energy efficient and natural. Each one you take makes the next one easier.

Here are some simple steps to get you started:

No running on empty. Load the dishwasher after every meal, but only turn

it on when it's totally full. Running several smaller loads instead of a full load wastes both water and energy.

Foil spills. Line the oven, broiler and burners with aluminum foil for easier (and less harsh) clean up.

Green cleaning. Use natural cleaning products made from plant-based ingredients. Josh Dorfman is a green lifestyle expert and author of "The Lazy

Environmentalist." He places several Green Works natural cleaners on his "50 Best Green Products" list. "I like the Green Works Natural Bathroom Cleaner and Natural All Purpose Cleaner," he says, "because they're natural cleaners that are also effective in getting the job done."

Think reuse! Recycling is great, but it still consumes a lot of energy. Before you toss, ask yourself: "Is there anything else I can use this for?" (Storing toys, sorting change, craft projects, etc.)

Buy recycled. For paper product musthaves, purchase recycled, unbleached paper towels or napkins. Kitchen trash bags made from recycled materials are becoming more widely available as well.

Car smarts. Save water by cutting the number of times you wash the car each month, and make sure to turn off the faucet between rinses. And think twice before hopping in the car for a ride to the store. Try shopping once every one or two weeks instead of making multiple trips for just a few items. Limiting the number of trips helps save gas and money.

Step Three: Get the family involved

It's easier to make changes in the household routines if everyone is on board. Talk about why you want to make these changes. Get feedback from the kids on what steps you can take together to make your home healthier and greener. Everyone can pitch in: have the kids help with online research and decisions about new products. Even the littlest ones can help sort the recycling.

Making your home a little greener will not just make you feel better about your home, it will make your home a better place to live

For more tips on greener living, visit greenworkscleaners.com.

In the know

Here are some definitions of terms associated with green and natural claims.

Renewable Resources

A natural resource qualifies as a renewable resource if it is replenished by natural processes at a rate that's equal to the rate of consumption by humans.

Biodegradable

A biodegradable material is something that has the ability to safely and relatively quickly break down into the raw materials of nature and disappear into the environment.



Sustainable

A sustainable product is something made from renewable resources, which means they can grow back quickly and can be harvested with minimal harm to the environment.

Petrochemicals

Petrochemicals are chemical products made from raw materials of petroleum.

— Definitions courtesy of the makers of Green Works Natural Cleaners.

Small changes

There are many easy things you can do to make your home a cleaner, greener place to live.

Living Room: One of the easiest ways to save energy is to turn off the television when you leave the room.

Kitchen: Use kitchen cloths, napkins or hand towels made from bamboo or organic fibers. They are made from renewable resources.

Bedroom: Use rechargeable batteries for toys and electronics. If you use disposable batteries, be sure to recycle them properly.

Bathroom: Save water by placing a bucket in the shower or tub while waiting for water to get warm. Use it for watering plants or rinsing dishes.

Yard: Clothes dryers are one of the least energy efficient household appliances. On a sunny day, line-dry your laundry.

- Courtesy of Family Features





Five kitchen fix-ups for \$500 or less

After years of telling yourself you can live with the outdated hardware, the ugly orange laminate countertops and the daffodil-yellow wall paint, you've finally admitted to yourself that your love affair with your kitchen decor is over.

But leaving is simply out of the question and you don't have the budget for a complete makeover. What can you do?

Fortunately it is possible to rekindle your love for your kitchen, improve your home's value and accomplish it all on a modest budget. Here are some common kitchen complaints and hints for how you can resolve them — and learn to love your kitchen again — for less than \$500 per fix

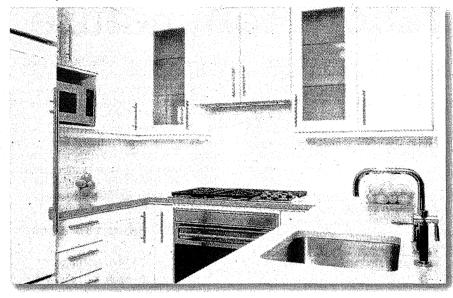
Cabinets

Replacing outdated cabinets or even just refacing them can cost thousands of dollars. A more budget-friendly, simple solution is to repaint them and swap outdated hardware for a newer, more contemporary style. Even if you have 20 cabinet door handles to replace and you opt for pricey \$5 knobs and pulls, you can still dramatically upgrade your cabinets' appeal for around \$100.

Painting is another, easier option that helps change the style and appeal of your cabinets. Virtually any kind of cabinet can be painted. Just go online or consult an expert at your local home improvement store to be sure you're using the right kind of paint for your cabinet's material.

Walls

When it comes to budget redesign, paint and wallpaper can be your best friend. Pick a fresh, neutral color to paint the walls. Then spice things up with an easy-to-hang wallpaper mural that evokes your fantasy kitchen. You may never have the breezy, open kitchen in a villa in Tuscany that you dream of, but you



can adorn a wall of your kitchen with a wallpaper mural that looks like an open window onto the Tuscan countryside. You'll find plenty of kitchen-appropriate wallpaper murals for under \$100 at www. DecorPlace.com.

Countertops

Replacing laminate countertops with another material can be costly. Few homeowners have the resources to install granite themselves. While replacing laminate with ceramic tile may be more practical for some savvy do-it-yourselfers, an easier option for many people is to simply paint over the laminate they already have.

Even if your laminate is scratched, gouged or faded, it's possible to paint it. Use a good quality spackle to fill in cracks, chips, scratches or gouges. Be sure the entire surface is clean and dry, and then apply a coat of bonding primer to help ensure the paint adheres to the laminate. Next apply two or three coats of paint in your chosen color. Finally, seal the counters with polyurethane. You can get creative by stenciling designs on

the surface or faux painting to make the laminate look like granite.

Fixtures

Replacing outdated faucets and sinks is one of the easiest, most cost-effective ways to update the look of your kitchen. You can find styles and designs to match every personality and taste for less than \$500. For timeless style and lasting durability, stainless steel sinks are a great choice and many models are available for a few hundred dollars or even less. Visit your local home improvement store to get some ideas for what style will suit your taste and needs. These stores are also great resources for advice on installing your new faucets or sinks — or go online to find tips in DIY installation.

Appliances

If your appliances look shabby but still work well, refinishing them can be a more cost-effective alternative to replacing them. A stainless steel refrigerator can costs thousands of dollars, but you can actually put a fresh coat of stainless steel paint on your old, scratched stainless steel, or even your black or white enamel refrigerator for far less. Or, if your enamel appliances better match your kitchen décor, consider repainting them in a designer color using products specially made to bond with the appliance's metal or enamel finish.

- Courtesy of ARAcontent





Spring's top home décor trends draw inspiration from nature

It is time to pay tribute to the joy and jubilance of nature as the welcoming signs of spring arrive. The familiar will appear refreshingly new as we take in its splendor. This spring, the hottest trends in home decor reflect this breathtaking beauty as Mother Nature awakes from her slumber.

"Spring is such an exciting time of year," says Susan Atchison, manager of trend development for Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores. "Nature inspires decorating trends that are simple, yet grand. What you might see on a stroll through your local park has become the backdrop for interior designers and do-it-yourself home decorators across the country."

Here are the top home decor trends for spring 2009:

1. Emulate outdoor serenity.

"Lush leaves and exquisite florals convey outdoor serenity," says Atchison. She notes that creating a peaceful element within your home might be as simple

as adding a flower or greenery arrangement. "It's amazing what plant life can do to liven a room. A vase of flowers in the bathroom can make your morning routine more cheery, or a green centerpiece on the kitchen table might make dinner a mini-retreat from the long day at work."

Whether fresh or silk, use leaves and flowers to bring a touch of classic nature into your home. Bright colors have pickme-up appeal, while earthy tones convey calmness. Match complementary options with the current color scheme of your home, or combine to celebrate the harmony of the season.

2. Make practical pretty.

The things you use on a regular basis in your home are often the things that don't have a lot of flair. But this spring, practical items are getting a stylistic boost with new designs and fresh ideas that make them stand out.

Take a flowerpot for example. You don't have to spend a lot of money to get a unique, beautiful pot. "Flowerpots

made of fabric are undoubtedly one of the freshest ideas for spring," says Atchison. She suggests creating your own by using durable yet breathable Sun N Shade outdoor fabrics to create fun yet functional pots. From bright, eye-catching colors, to earthy, subtle tones, choose fabrics that mimic your favorite theme, whether you plan to use these planters indoors or out. Plus, at the end of the season, you can fold for easy storage and use next year.

3. Refresh what you already have.

With the tight economy, many people have limited budgets for updating their home decor. Taking note from springtime renewal, an affordable, smart idea is to update what you already have in your

Atchison suggests using polymer clay to add spring-inspired designs to different glass items you have around your house. For example, take a set of wine glasses and use different shades of green



WELCOME

the glass. Bake the glass with the new clay design for 30 minutes at 230 F and you'll have an entirely new glass set to toast the spring sunset. Consider updating other items in your home such as old vases, candy dishes and hand and lotion dispensers. According to Atchison, pretty much anything made of plain glass is a potential subject.

"As you walk though the woods or sit on a park bench in the city, note the sights and sounds of springtime," says Atchison. "This will inspire fresh home decor that is sure to make your home beautiful and leave a lasting impression on guests."

For more ideas on spring home decorating trends, visit www.joann.com.

- Courtesy of ARA content

CRAFT **PROJECT** IDEA

Courtesy of Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores

Fabric Flowerpots

Supplies and tools:

- 54-inch Sun N Shade fabrics, 1/3 yard each of 2 coordinating prints
- Basic sewing supplies
- · Sewing machine

Directions:

1. Cut a 10-by-18-inch rectangle from each

2. For each rectangle, sew short ends (right sides) together, forming a tube with 1/4-inch seam allowance. Leave a 2-inch opening in the middle of the lining seam. Press seam ∘open.

- 3. For both lining and exterior, press tube flat with seam in the middle and sew one end together with a 1/4-inch seam allowance to form bottom.
- 4. Form gussets by matching bottom seam to fold on one side and flatten forming a point. Draw a mark at the fold on each side, 2 inches from the point end, and draw a line between the marks forming a triangle. Sew along the mark and trim off the excess triangle. Repeat on other side.
- 5. With right sides together, drop lining into fabric flowerpot, pin the top edge and sew all around.
- 6. Turn inside out through lining side seam, push lining into flowerpot and press as needed. Turn top of flowerpot down to form cuff.
- 7. Fill fabric flowerpot with potting soil and



Make it your own Customized your furniture from one room the next

BY ALISON BERGSIEKER ADVERTORIAL COORDINATOR

Furniture trends may not change as often as the latest runway fashions, but keeping your space up-to-date can give your home a fresh feeling with a few new additions.

With a little help from Value City Furniture, you can spruce up your home décor with ease. After 60 years in the furniture business, Value City Furniture boasts some of the hottest fashion trends from around the world as well as lifetime warranties, with products built to last at affordable prices.

American Signature premium line

While trends come and go, most people have a sense of what they do and don't like when it comes to home décor.

Value City Furniture's premium line, American Signature, consists of furniture for any room, including bedroom, dining and living space.

"Our designers go all over the world to design shows for inspiration," said Steve Riddell, Value City Furniture Novi store manager. "All of the furniture in this collection coordinates with each other, so you can incorporate a theme within your living, dining and bedrooms."

The line's unique SofaMate program is popular among customers who are looking to spruce up their living room décor by making just a few purchases.

The line's array of accent chairs, ottomans and pillows are designed to mix and match with a variety of sofas, allowing the customer to create their own look and have it available in just four days.

"A big trend nowadays is to maximize seating space without overcrowding the room," Riddell said. "You can buy a few new pillows and ottomans and completely change a room's look at an affordable price. With the economy the way it is, people are looking to save some money, and this is a pretty inexpensive way to do that. Plus we include premium, high-end warranties that make your purchases worthwhile.

Start your design

To customize any room in your home, follow these simple steps to personalize your space. To make the process easier, check out Value City's room and upholstery planner at www.vcf.com, where you can follow these steps interactively:

- Select a room Does your room have a modern or traditional look; wood, tile or carpeted floors? Have these answers ready when beginning to look for new furniture.
- Select a paint color The color of your walls can change the way your room and furniture look.
- Select a sofa Sofas range in make and model similar to automobiles. If your room is smaller, you may be more suited for a loveseat rather than a sectional.
- Select your pillows, accent chairs and ottomans - Fun patterns can jazz up any solid-colored sofa. Likewise, solid fabrics add flair to a patterned sofa.

Visit www.vcf.com to learn more about Value City Furniture and its offerings or to find a story near you.

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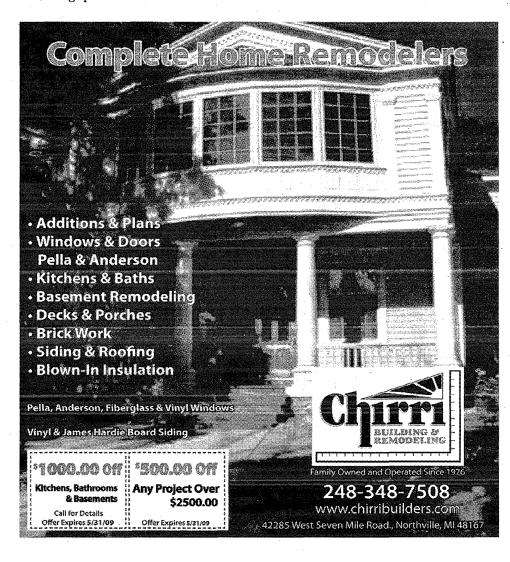
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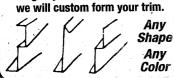
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