

THURSDAY
December 10,
2009

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 124
Number 33

75 CENTS

Naughty or nice: Holiday gifts for pets – Malls & Mainstreets, A9

PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com



Check out
the special
last-minute
shopping
guide inside

PIPELINE

Dent picked

Alice Dent has been elected to the Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity of Michigan.



Alice Dent

Dent is serving her seventh year as the executive director of Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne in Plymouth. Under Dent's leadership, the affiliate

has built or rehabilitated homes in Belleville, Canton, Garden City, Inkster, Lincoln Park, Taylor, Romulus, Wayne and Westland.

"I look forward to serving on the board and being a part of the team to assist in increasing the capacity of this great organization," said Dent.

Going 'Barefoot'

Barefoot Productions announces a very merry holiday celebration fund-raiser, showcasing a narrative reading of Charles Dickens' classic, A Christmas Carol, Dec. 11.

In partnership with area merchants, Sweets 21, Tranquileta and Vintner's Cellar Winery, Barefoot's December 11 event seeks to raise the necessary funds to support Barefoot's two remaining season shows, Rope (February 2010) and Steel Magnolias (May 2010).

Barefoot's event partners will provide mulled wines, teas and holiday pastries to enhance the Victorian-themed event. The event takes place at 7:30 p.m. at their location in the Walter-Buzenberg Building at 240 N. Main St. in Plymouth. Tickets are \$50 in advance and \$65 at the door. Call (734) 560-1493 or visit www.just-gobarefoot.com.

Santa letters

Santa Claus has started to make his list, although sources tell the *Observer* that, while he's far from check it twice, he is waiting by his mailbox for youngsters' gift lists and letters.

The *Observer* wants to make sure Santa Claus knows what children would like this Christmas and is asking youngsters to send us letters to him. We will publish the letters in the newspaper during December before sending them on to the North Pole.

The letters should be sent by e-mail and include a snapshot of the child writing the letter. They can be a list of toys, a holiday greeting for the Jolly Ol' Elf or whatever information youngsters want Santa to have.

Send Santa correspondence to bkadrich@hometownlife.com and be sure to put "Letter to Santa" in the subject line. Letters can also be sent the old-fashioned way, via postal service, to Letter to Santa, c/o Brad Kadrich, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

There's still time to volunteer to ring for Plymouth Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign locations such as this one in downtown Plymouth.

Down in the count

Salvation Army hopes burst will raise Red Kettle funds

BY PAM FLEMING
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

This is the time of year when shoppers hear the familiar Salvation Army bell ringers. But the red kettles are not as full this year, according to Army leaders.

Capt. Daniel Hull, pastor and corps officer; Laurie Aren, director of family and community ministries; and Teresa Moriarty, volunteer coordinator in the Plymouth office, which serves Northville, say it's not too late, however, to boost funding for needy families.

"We're seeing more of an influx of people needing assistance," Aren said. "We're here to help, and people can also help us."

The Plymouth office handles requests from families in Plymouth, Northville, Canton, Van Buren Township and Sumpter Township.

"Our goal is \$265,000 for the red kettles alone just for our service area," Moriarty said.

"Our total goal, including all monetary donations for Christmas this year is \$316,000," Hull said.

Moriarty pointed out two Hiller's Market locations - the Northville store on North Center Street and the 5 Mile-Haggerty location in Plymouth Township - are the top generators in the service area.

"We are fast and furiously signing up bell ringers, and it's not too late for anyone who wants to volunteer," Moriarty said. Bell ringers take two-



Some of the members of the Plymouth Corps of the Salvation Army include, from left, Capt. Daniel Hull, pastor and corps officer; Teresa Moriarty, volunteer coordinator; and Laurie Aren, director, family & community ministries.

hour shifts. Those interested in ringing a bell can contact the Plymouth office at (734) 453-5464, ext. 24.

The Kroger at Six Mile and Haggerty roads is another location where the bell ringers are on hand.

Bell ringers work Monday-Saturday and hours vary at individual locations. Last Tuesday, Red Wings personnel were ringing the Salvation Army bells at both Hiller's Market on North Center Street and at Kroger at Six and Haggerty roads.

"This time last year as of Dec. 1, we were at \$61,823 in donations," Hull said. "This year, we're at \$52,084, so we're

Please see **FUNDS, A2**

WANT TO ADOPT AN ANGEL?

Area residents are asked to participate in the Salvation Army's Adopt-An-Angel Program by selecting a child and purchasing one toy and item of clothing totaling about \$50 in value before Dec. 22 and delivering the unwrapped items to the Plymouth office at 9451 S. Main Street off Ann Arbor Road. For more information, call (800) SA-TRUCK to donate large items or go to www.misalpgh.org to select a child. The office is open from 9 a.m.-noon and from 1-4 p.m.

School board shifts election schedule again

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Barely a year after switching the election cycle for school board elections to every November, the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education changed course again.

After considering a presentation from its election subcommittee, the board voted 5-2 Tuesday to shift its election dates to odd-year Novembers, beginning in November 2011. Trustees Dianne Gonzalez, who favors even-year November elections, and the outgoing Tom Wysocki, who favors annual elections, voted against the measure. The action extends the terms of board members Gonzalez, Steven Sneiderman and Nancy Eggenberger, whose seats were scheduled to be up for grabs next year. Trustee John Jackson, who won a two-year term last month, will also be up for re-election in November 2011.

COSTS, 'FATIGUE'

Board members in favor of the shift cited reasons having to do with election turnout, cost of running a campaign and ballot "fatigue" in years when there's a national election as factors in the decision.

One factor that drew debate - particularly in a financially strapped district - was the cost. While the district budgets some \$80,000 per election, supporters of the move point out that, in years like this one where there was a Wayne County millage renewal question on the ballot, the election cost the district nothing.

"I think there will be other millage requests on future ballots that will keep our costs at zero," said board Treasurer Judy Mardigian, who chairs the district's election committee. "I think we're taking the fiscally responsible approach."

Detractors pointed out moving to an even-year November approach - when gubernatorial and presidential elections are on the ballot - would guarantee a no-cost election for the district.

"We're running into a really fiscally difficult time and we're supposed to be a model for others," said Trustee Dianne Gonzalez, who favored an even-year November schedule. "If the economy tanks, we're really going to be in a tight spot. For us to say, 'Everyone needs to watch every

penny except us' is not right."

Canton resident Mike Andro agreed. "If you have the chance to save \$80,000, it's a no-brainer," said Andro, one of only two residents to speak during the public hearing Tuesday. "If you have a chance to have a guaranteed free election, why don't you take it? Let's be reasonable and save the money."

The cost to the district wasn't the only expense that concerned board members. Citing voter turnout, several people mentioned the expense of reaching voters in an even-year November election.

Mardigian pointed out the 2008 election, which included the presidential election, drew 51,000 voters, while the November 2009 election drew some 9,900. The cost of reaching so many voters, several people said, could force potential candidates to reconsider running.

Board President Steven Sneiderman said he talked to a Northville woman who won that district's election in 2008. The woman, Sneiderman said, spent some \$5,000 to get elected in a district about a quarter of the size of Plymouth-Canton.

"I'm looking for an even playing field for all candidates," Sneiderman said. "This is a nonpaid position. We shouldn't be requiring people to have to raise \$5,000 or \$10,000 or more. Those numbers will prohibit candidates from running."

Another concern for those who wanted the odd-year November elections was the size of ballots in the even-year races. With presidential, gubernatorial, state Legislature races on the ballot, in addition to the local races and any other ballot proposals, the concern is two-fold: It'll be tougher for candidates to get their message heard, and voters suffering from "ballot fatigue" might not make it to the end of the ballot where local races reside.

But Larry Martin, a Plymouth Township resident who lost in the November 2009 school board election and the only other speaker in the public hearing, said voters are smarter than that. The idea of having "less informed voters is insulting to the voters," Martin said.

"The people who are concerned will hang around until the end of the ballot. I was stunned this come up again. To consider eliminating even-year elections is mind-boggling. To take the 51,000 who show up for a general election and reduce it to a 'manageable' 7,500 is unconscionable."

Index

APARTMENTS C2
AUTOMOTIVE C5
CAREER BUILDER C4
CROSSWORD PUZZLE C2
FILTER B8
FOOD B9
OBITUARIES B6
PUBLIC SAFETY A4
REAL ESTATE C2
SPORTS B1
STRICTLY BUSINESS B5

For Home
Delivery call:
(866) 887-2737



Museum director faces assault charge in dispute with worker

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The executive director of the Plymouth Historical Museum faces an assault and battery charge that stems from an August dispute with the museum's former education coordinator.

Elizabeth Kerstens is accused of pushing the worker, Anna Lopez, out of her office on Aug. 17 following a disagreement over Lopez's job status. Kerstens is scheduled to appear in 35th District Court for arraignment on the misdemeanor charge on Monday, Dec. 21, a court spokeswoman said.

"I was flabbergasted," said Lopez, 69, of the incident. "Pushed me out of the office and slammed the door



Kerstens

it. In a Plymouth Police Department report, Kerstens denied an assault, saying she merely escorted Lopez from her office.

Lopez said she was not hurt and only filed a police report in October after complaining to the Plymouth Historical Society's board of directors and waiting for the board to address the issue to her satisfaction.

in my face."

Kerstens, reached Wednesday, said she had retained an attorney and could not comment on the assault complaint or the circumstances that led to it.

"I'm sorry it got this far. I wish the board hadn't taken 10 weeks after it was reported to do something," Lopez said.

The dispute, Lopez said, arose Aug. 14, a Friday, when Kerstens told her a change in job status meant she would be considered a museum employee rather than a contract worker, something to which Lopez objected. Other issues, such as a requirement that employees submit to random drug screening, also troubled her, Lopez said.

Lopez, who worked part time, said she refused to agree to the change in job status, saying she'd stay on as a volunteer instead. The shove, she said, occurred the follow-

Please see **DISPUTE, A2**

Warm up to our Platinum VISA

- Worldwide Acceptance
- Points2U Rewards
- A Local Credit Union you can Trust

Apply by phone or online today!

**COMMUNITY
FINANCIAL**

(734) 453-1200 www.cfcu.org

PLYMOUTH CANTON NORTHVILLE NOVI

Credit cards subject to credit approval.
Your savings federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender.
©2009 Community Financial

DISPUTE

FROM PAGE A1

ing Monday when she returned to Kerstens' office at the museum, having earlier left Kerstens a letter that outlined her concerns.

Lopez said she had had a good relationship with Kerstens prior to the incident. "If you had asked me 10 minutes before this happened, I'd've said, 'No way,'" she said.

In November, before the assault charge was filed, museum board President Bee Friedlander said the board had "taken appropriate steps" regarding Lopez's allegation against Kerstens.

As it was a personnel issue, however, she could not say how the matter was handled, Friedlander said.

Lopez complained about the length of time it took for the board to act; Friedlander said she understood Lopez's concern but that the board needed time to investigate her claim.

On Wednesday, Friedlander issued a statement saying the board will wait for the legal process to run its course.

"It is unfortunate that this action diverts our attention from the positive activities and achievements at the museum," said the statement, in part.

Kerstens' attorney, Rob Mullen, questioned Lopez's motivation and said he and Kerstens plan a vigorous defense.

"I think it's strange, I think other people think it's strange, that you wait almost two months to make this allegation," Mullen said.

"Anyone can go to police and tell a story," but the facts will come out in court, he added.

FUNDS

FROM PAGE A1

about \$9,700 lower."

Considering that a lot of people are unemployed, and those who are may not have received raises this year, that's not surprising.

Plus, with the stock market diving in 2008, many people are still suffering the consequences.

"When we're emptying the buckets at night, we're seeing a lot of \$1 bills, where last year we saw more \$20, \$50 and \$100 bills," Moriarty said. "Money's just tighter this year."

"Plymouth and Northville residents are calling more frequently for assistance," Aren said. "Last year we had 467 families. This year, we already have 637 families in need."

The Salvation Army helps with food, utility bills, housing costs and other forms of assistance. A Faith Stimulus Grant for the newly unemployed from the Salvation Army territorial office in Chicago can also provide help with medical bills. The grant was matched by the Plymouth community United Way.

"We can provide up to \$300 per unemployed person for medical costs, car repair or other needs," Aren said. "Everything is by a case-by-case basis."

COMMUNITY HELPS A LOT

Local churches and schools help out with food drives and more.

"We have to stretch resources this year, so we're trying to compare lists with churches and other charitable agencies so the same families aren't being served multiple times and other families are falling through the cracks," Hull said.

The Adopt-An-Angel Program encourages



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

While contributions were coming in at this downtown Plymouth location, Plymouth Salvation Army officials are hoping donors will boost the totals for this year's Red Kettle campaign.

local residents to purchase toys, clothing and even shoes for local needy children. Volunteers are asked to pick a child, and they will receive their first name, age, sizes and toy wishes and to spend about \$50 and deliver the unwrapped items to the Plymouth Salvation Army office.

"We ask that they purchase one clothing item and one toy item and bring it here," Aren said.

The parents then shop for their children from the Toy Town at the Plymouth office, so they can pick out items they think their child or children will like for Christmas.

"A lot of people aren't used to asking for help," Aren said. "A lot of people said, 'I never thought I'd be here.' We want to let people know we're here for them."

plfleming@gannett.com | (248) 437-2011, Ext. 260

Cox weighs in on officials' pay cuts

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

An opinion from Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox has muddied the waters when it comes to pay cuts agreed to by most members of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees.

In the Dec. 1 opinion sought by Clerk Joe Bridgman, who questioned the legality of the way in which the reductions were made, Cox said board members should be paid in full but then can voluntarily return any portion of their pay to the township.

Bridgman, while he did not want to use the word vindication, said Cox's opinion supports his position.

"I felt I stood my ground, and nobody believed me," Bridgman said on Tuesday. "This opinion says that our board is not... obeying the law, and I think that's not sending a good message."

But Bridgman sounded unlikely to seek the remedy Cox proposed — that the pay reductions be refunded minus applicable deductions, like taxes.

"To demand that the board reimburse those individuals, I don't know if that's the proper

way to go at this point," Bridgman said.

Cox's opinion is on the board's agenda for its next regular meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 15.

Treasurer Ron Edwards declined to comment on the opinion, except to say it will be the subject of lively discussion on Dec. 15.

Bridgman, who is paid \$91,000 a year and just started his second year as clerk, is the lone board member not to agree to be paid less than legally due this year.

Edwards, at about \$87,000 a year, and Supervisor Richard Reaume, at \$94,000, cited a difficult budget situation about a year ago in turning down the 5-percent pay increases that had been awarded to the supervisor, clerk and treasurer by the local officials compensation commission. Bridgman, who had been the deputy clerk, accepted the raise.

Three part-time trustees, Steve Mann, Kay Arnold and Bob Doroshewitz, then voluntarily cut their own \$11,400 yearly pay by 10 percent, with the fourth part-timer, Michael Kelly, following suit in September. The part-timers had not been due for raises.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

CORRECTION

Elle Dare, owner with her husband of Genuine Toy Co. in Plymouth, adds that toys made in China are now much safer than was true in the past. The comments were in a Sunday, Dec. 6, *Observer* article. She said regulations now make China-made toys much safer.

Mix & Match
5 hamburgers or mini fries...any combination for only **\$5.00**

Give a Bray's Gift Card this Holiday Season
"A Gift of Good Taste"

Open Daily 7am-Midnight
Open Fri. & Sat. Until 4am

BRAY'S Hamburgers
35650 Ford Rd. • 2 Blocks West of Wayne Road
734-722-2950

DOES YOUR DOG LIKE TO CUDDLE AT NIGHT?

Happy Hounds now offers...
Cage-Free Overnight Boarding!

Your dog will have all the comforts of home in our home-like environment, including sleeping on the bed with our trained and loving staff member!

Dog Day Care • Boarding • Training Classes
Visit our website for details

Anabelle
"We celebrate birthdays... See my hat!"

If you are at work, on vacation, or traveling for business, we are at work caring for your loyal friend & companion

Look in on them on our LIVE Doggie Web Cams!

734-459-DOGS
673 South Main St. • Plymouth, MI 48170
www.happyhoundsdaycare.com

"A HAPPY DOG DAY...IS A DAY OF DOG PLAY!"

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS
WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD
GANNETT

HOW TO REACH US

Home Delivery/Customer Service.....1-866-88-PAPER (866-887-2737)
Newsroom.....(313) 222-2223 Fax.....(313) 223-3318
Classified Advertising.....1-800-579-SELL (7355)
Display Advertising.....(734) 582-8363

visit us online at hometownlife.com
615 West Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226

Add the world.

\$5.
Unlimited international calling.

No activation fee, you never sign a contract, and the first month's free.

The first unlimited international wireless calling plan is here, and it's from MetroPCS. Add unlimited calling to over 100 countries with select MetroPCS plans for only \$5 a month, and call all you want, anytime. The world for \$5. It's hard to believe, but it's harder to pass up.

metroPCS
Unlimit Yourself.

877-BUY-MPCS
www.metropcs.com

IN COLLABORATION WITH
Alcatel-Lucent

Unlimited international calling not available with certain rate plans. Unlimited international calls are limited to selected countries, destinations, technologies, and carriers. Consult a MetroPCS associate for details. Specific unlimited international calling countries, destinations, technologies, and carriers are subject to change without notice, as are terms and conditions of international service. Certain restrictions apply. Visit www.metropcs.com or a MetroPCS store for information on specific terms and conditions of service, local coverage area, handset capabilities, and any restrictions. Domestic nationwide long distance available only in continental United States and Puerto Rico. Rates, services, and features subject to change. Taxes and fees not included. First month free only for new activations with purchase of qualifying handset.

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

Museum open house

The Plymouth Historical Museum hosts its annual Open House 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12. Admission is free. Visitors will be able to give Santa Claus their wish lists, as well as view the Museum's new special exhibit, "A Red Ryder Christmas Story."

During the open house, two local authors will be signing their new books. Brian Hill, author of Plymouth, in Arcadia Publishing's Then and Now Series, will be on hand for autographs. Hill is also the Museum Memo newsletter editor for the Plymouth Historical Society.

Dr. Weldon Petz will be signing two books he recently co-authored: Seeking Lincoln in Michigan & Michigan Remembers Lincoln. The Museum's Lincoln Collection was purchased from Dr. Petz.

The Museum is located at 155 S. Main St., one block north of downtown Plymouth. Parking is available in the free lot behind the Plymouth District Library, as well as along Union Street east of the Museum.

Short sales seminar

Heidi Anderson of Keller Williams Realty of Plymouth offers a free informational session on Short Sales for homeowners who are falling behind in their payments, in foreclosure, or just upside down in their mortgage and want to explore their options.

The informational session takes place 10:30 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Keller Williams Realty office in Plymouth, 40600 Ann Arbor Rd., Suite 100. Anderson (serving Western Wayne and Oakland Counties, and Eastern Washtenaw and Livingston Counties) has earned the Certified Distressed Property Expert (CDPE) designation, having completed extensive training in foreclosure avoidance and short sales. She has also successfully mitigated and closed numerous short sales for her clients.

According to Anderson, short sales allow the cash strapped seller to repay the mortgage at the price that the home sells for, even though it is lower than what is owed on the property.

"With plummeting property



Holiday concert

Plymouth Symphony conductor Nan Washburn leads the orchestra in its Home for the Holiday concert Dec. 17 at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth. These festive, family friendly concerts will include traditional holiday favorites such as "Winter Wonderland," "Let it Snow," "A Charlie Brown Christmas," "Christmas on Broadway" and "The Polar Express." The first performance will be a Family Concert at 6 p.m. followed by the traditional holiday concert at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$10 for students (group rates are available). Tickets may be purchased at the Symphony office in the Plymouth Arts Center, 774 N. Sheldon, or by calling (734) 451-2112 and also online at www.plymouthsymphony.org

values, this can save many people from foreclosure and even bankruptcy," Anderson said. "More and more lenders are willing to consider short sales because they are much less costly than foreclosures."

For more information or to reserve a seat call The Anderson Group (734) 357-0678. Please remember to mention which session you would like to attend and include your phone number and e-mail address so a confirmation can be sent.

Jobs forum

The Plymouth Democratic Club sponsors a local Jobs Creation Forum sponsored by the Plymouth Democratic Club 7 p.m. Dec. 10, at the Plymouth Coffee Bean on Penniman in Plymouth.

The purpose of this local forum is to provide a source of insights and ideas that will help guide the President's approach to job creation. Output from the forum will be fed back to the White House.

Anyone who is a business owner, an entrepreneur, someone impacted by the Michigan economic crisis or simply a concerned citizen, is welcome to join and share thoughts.

Bowl with Santa

O.U.R. Camp, Inc. (www.ourcampinc.org), a specialized summer day camp for young children with developmental needs, will conduct their annual Bowling with Santa event 1-3 p.m. Dec. 13.

The cost is \$10 per bowler or \$35 for a group of 4 bowlers, which includes 2 games of bowling, shoes, hotdog and pop. Pre-registration is recommended. Donations are accepted and all proceeds will benefit O.U.R. Camp, Inc., a 501(c)(3) company.

The event will be held at MerriBowl Lanes, located at 30950 Five Mile Road in Livonia.

For more information, or to register your bowlers, please contact Jan Slattery at (734) 414-0231 or Claudia Pietron, Board President, at (734) 459-7003.

Blue Christmas Service

St. John's Episcopal Church, located at 574 S. Sheldon in Plymouth, offers a Blue Christmas service 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 20.

The Blue Christmas service is specifically designed for people who, for whatever reason, are not in the holiday spirit. This could include people who are dealing with the loss of a loved one, a job

loss, troubled relationships or any number of situations that make it difficult to enjoy a more festive church celebration.

The service will include Taize music, Holy Eucharist and a service of candle lighting.

For additional information, call (734) 453-0190 or check the church Web site, www.stjohnsplymouth.org

Luminaria sale

The Plymouth Symphony Orchestras will be selling Luminaria kits for the holiday season. Each kit will consist of 10 white paper bags as well as 10 candles. The kits can be purchased for \$5 in Plymouth at Gabriel's, Saxton's, Sideways, and The Plymouth Canton Symphony office located at 774 N. Sheldon Road.

The Luminaria kits will also be for sale in between the 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Plymouth Symphony "Home for the Holidays" POPS concert that will be taking place in the historic Penn Theatre located downtown Plymouth on Thursday, Dec. 17.

The Luminaria kits are available through Dec. 24. For further information contact the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society at (734)-451-2112.

Kiwanis nuts

Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth supports the agencies and organizations that provide assistance to many people in need as well as helping folks directly. To be able to fund these various projects, the club has many fundraising activities. One of them is the Annual Gourmet Nut Fund-raiser being held now.

There are 1-pound and 3-pound cans of gourmet nuts for purchase by the can, case and pallet. They are great gifts for family, employees and clients. Please consider the Kiwanis Gourmet Nuts as your gift of choice this year and

assist in allowing Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth to continue serving those in need in our community and around the world.

The gourmet nuts can be purchased by the can at Papa Romano's, 555 W. Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth, (734) 459-2930, or by the case or pallet at Fitness Things, 1160 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth, (734) 455-8790. Many other Plymouth businesses will also have the Kiwanis Gourmet Nuts available for purchase at their location.

Businesses interested in participating, or anyone who needs more information, can contact Gary Walley, (734) 455-8790.

She's a wonderful wife

which makes it

a wonderful life

Plymouth Jewelry & Gifts

620 Starkweather • Old Village
Plymouth
734-453-1860

The Area's Most Trusted Custom Jeweler

www.plymouthjewelry.com

Fight PROSTATE CANCER

If you have prostate cancer, and are considering radiation treatment, put that radiation precisely where it will do the most good. GPS for the Body® provides maximum radiation benefits while minimizing the chance of damaging healthy tissue or causing unwanted side effects.

Fight your prostate cancer with the pinpoint accuracy of GPS for the Body®— the most advanced technology available today.

Find out more about GPS for the Body® by calling one of our nurse advisors.

GPS for the Body®
Precision Guidance for Radiation Therapy

1 888-316-4031
gpsforthebody.com

GORGEOUS GREENS!

Christmas in the COUNTRY

All you need to decorate your house, inside and out

Choose your fresh cut tree, and get a free photo of the kids with Santa. Bonfire, petting farm, cider and donuts. Saturday and Sunday 11-3pm.

COUPON

\$5.00 OFF Fresh Cut Tree
6' or larger • Limit one • Expires 12/16/09

Purchase a life-like tree 7.5' or larger and receive a \$100 gift card toward a purchase at a later date.

Collecting Salvation Army canned goods.

PLYMOUTH NURSERY
Christmas in the Country

734-453-5500

www.plymouthnursery.net
Mon-Fri 9-8 • Sat 9-6 • Sun 10-6
OFFERS EXPIRE 12/16/09

9900 Ann Arbor Rd.
7 Miles West of I-275 • 1 1/2 Miles South of M-14
Corner of Gottfredson Rd.

DETROIT'S ORIGINAL
Hand-Crafted
Square Pizza
Est. 1946

Book Your Holiday Party!

- * Carry-Out Salad, Pasta and Veggie Party Trays Available
- * All-You-Can-Eat Dine-In Party Packages
- * Large Group Accommodations
- * Fun and Lively Atmosphere

FREE PIZZA!!!

Purchase \$25 in Buddy's Gift Certificates and receive a voucher for a **FREE 4 SQUARE CHEESE PIZZA** with one topping!

- Detroit 313-892-9001
- Farmington Hills 248-855-4600
- Pointe Plaza 313-884-7400

- Warren 586-574-9200
- Auburn Hills 248-276-9040
- Bloomfield 248-645-0300

- Livonia 734-261-3550
- Dearborn 313-562-5900
- Royal Oak 248-549-8000

Join our Email Club at www.buddyspizza.com!

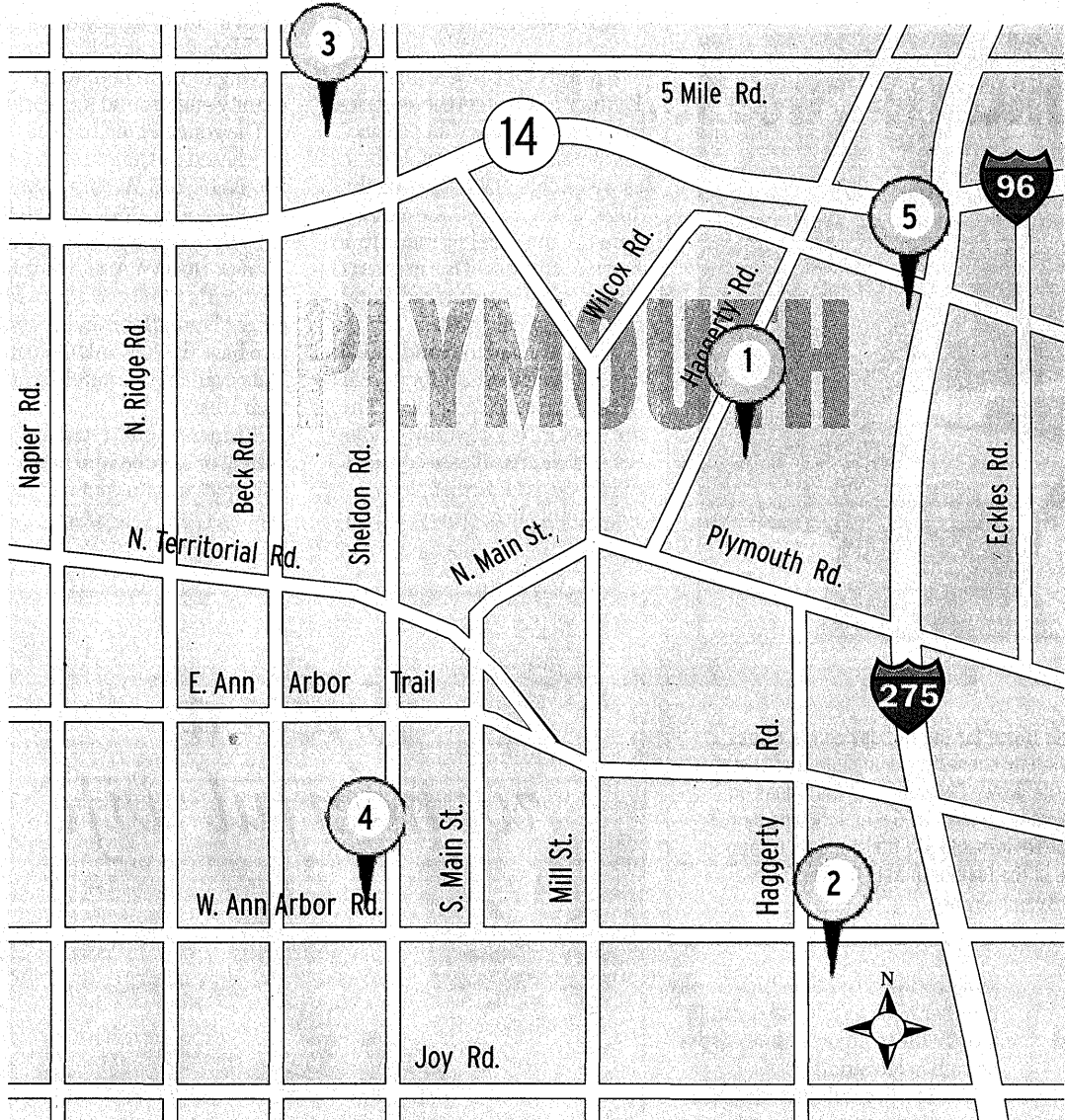
\$3.00 OFF
8 Square Pizza

\$2.00 OFF
Family Sized Salad

\$1.00 OFF
4 Square Pizza

10% OFF
Pasta, Salad or Veggie Tray

One coupon per person, per visit, per table please. Not valid with any other discount or coupon. Exp. 12/31/09



CRIME WATCH

WALLET STOLEN

A Redford Township resident came to the Plymouth Township Police Department Dec. 5 to report his wallet had been stolen from his 2007 Jeep Commander, which had been parked in the parking lot of the Detroit News warehouse on Concept Drive in Plymouth Township.

The wallet contained the victim's debit card, which was used at a motel in Southfield later that night.

SHED B&E

Sometime between 1:30 and 8:30 a.m. Dec. 2, someone broke into a shed at the Plymouth Bannigan's restaurant.

The thief or thieves made off with some 15 empty beer kegs, restaurant officials told the Plymouth Township Police.

The thieves gained access to the shed by breaking and then removing part of a wood wall.

CAR BREAK-IN

A woman reported to Plymouth Township Police that some time between noon and 3:30 p.m. Dec. 1, someone stole her wallet from inside

her 2008 Saturn Vue, which had been parked in a parking lot on Keel.

The woman said she was last at her vehicle shortly after noon, but couldn't remember whether she'd locked the car.

Later that afternoon, she got a call from a credit card company, asking if she'd tried to use her card at Target. Someone had tried to make a \$700 purchase using her Visa card.

That's when she went back out to her car and discovered the wallet missing.

FIRE RUNS

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period Dec. 2-8:

- Tuesday, Dec. 8 - Mutual-aid runs on Whittier and on Canton Center; rescue run to a public building on Church; residential rescue runs on Northville Road, on Grant and on Lilley; industrial fire on 5 Mile.
- Monday, Dec. 7 - Residential rescue runs on Ann Arbor Road, on Maple, on Eastside and on Starkweather; commercial rescue runs on Ann Arbor Road; rescue run at a public building on Haggerty.

- Sunday, Dec. 6 - Residential rescue runs on Amelia, on Northville Road, on Sheridan, on Meadowhill and on Leicester; commercial rescue run on Lilley; special run on Northville Road; multiple-family fire on Erin.
- Saturday, Dec. 5 - Residential rescue runs on Haggerty, on Newporte, on Woodgate and on Sheridan; vehicle accident on east-bound Hines Drive under I-275; smoke investigation on Lynn.
- Friday, Dec. 4 - Residential rescue runs on Mill, on Morgan and on Holbrook; carbon monoxide detector run on Newport; single-family fire on Wilcox; rescue run at a public building on Haggerty.
- Thursday, Dec. 3 - Residential rescue runs on Hackberry, on Bradner, on Irvin, on Northville Road and on Newporte; vehicle accident with wash-down at Ann Arbor Road; investigation on Harvey.
- Wednesday, Dec. 2 - Residential rescue runs on Shadywood, on Ann Arbor Road, on Eastside, on Northville Road, on Lorenz Way and on Tavistock.

Goodfellows happy with newspaper sales

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Penny Irwin of Plymouth was at command central for the Plymouth Goodfellows newspaper sale Saturday. "Good," the group's vice president said of fund-raising sales. "It's very busy."

As she spoke Saturday at the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce office, used as a base, she sent a couple to Ann Arbor Road and Main to relieve another volunteer.

"We've got some Santa hats here and take a fresh canister," Irwin told the couple.

Nearby was Roman Kozma of Plymouth Township, taking a break from volunteer duties outdoors. He was enjoying some homemade chili before heading back outside to sell papers.

"Very good," Kozma said. "One woman gave me 40 dollars, can you believe that?" He's been volunteering some 60 years, "because they took care of me. The only Christmas I had in the Depression was the Goodfellows."

Volunteer Clara Hill of Salem Township had her foot up, having had foot surgery and her cast just removed. She was to help with counting, as she couldn't be on her feet long.

"It looks like it's coming in good," Hill said late Saturday morning.

There were 26 sites in Plymouth and Plymouth Township, Irwin said, and some 50 volunteers. Fiamma Grille on Main Street in downtown

Plymouth will host a benefit for the Plymouth Goodfellows, 7-10 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15.

"This is our big fund-raiser coming up," Irwin said. The Plymouth Whalers hockey players will be guest bartenders, a first for the Goodfellows. There will be complimentary appetizers at the bar, and participants will drink and dine to donate.

A percentage of Fiamma purchases will go to the Goodfellows.

"It seems a little slow this year and we have more need, of course," Irwin said of fund raising. They were aiming for \$40,000, and provide toys, clothing and food to needy Plymouth and Plymouth Township families.

Kmart certificates are used for toys and clothing, Kroger cards for food.

The volunteer corps Saturday included children of longtime board member Bill McKendry, who died in January. They collected in his memory and to carry on his tradition, outside of Panera's and Starbucks downtown.

Donations to the Plymouth Goodfellows, with a theme of "No Child Without a Christmas," are welcome. Current President David Corliss can be contacted at (734) 262-3199 or plymouthgoodfellows@yahoo.com. The mailing address for checks is P.O. Box 700912, Plymouth, MI 48170.

This is the 71st year for the Plymouth Goodfellows Christmas effort.

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

Township extends leaf collection

Late-falling leaves have prompted Plymouth Township to extend its curbside yard-waste collection program for this season through Friday, Jan. 15, 2010.

Raked leaves can be placed at the curb in:

- Containers with a capacity of 35 gallons or less that are marked with an "X" or a "C," or with a yard-waste sticker available at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 North Haggerty.
- Thirty-gallon Kraft paper yard-waste bags available at grocery and hardware stores.

Yard-waste containers or bags must not exceed 50 pounds each, and bags or cans should be at the curb by 7 a.m.

on the regularly scheduled collection day.

Leaves can also be a valuable resource for lawns and gardens when used as mulch in the fall.

For information on turning leaves into a natural fertilizer, see the Division of Public Service's newest fact sheet, *Turn Your Autumn Leaves into Beautiful Summer Lawn*, at the Web site www.plymouthtwp.org/departments/publicservices/factsheets.htm. This and other fact sheets are also available at Township Hall, 9955 Haggerty Road. For more information on yard-waste collection, call the solid waste department at (734) 354-3270, Ext. 4.

Great Savings Strategy!

Buy CDs that mature at different times so you can take advantage of changing market conditions (also known as CD Laddering).

Stop by and get in on these special rates with our First Place Bank CD Laddering Special!

2.00%^{APY*} **3.00%^{APY*}**

20-Month CD 30-Month CD

FIRST PLACE BANK

www.firstplacebank.com

*Limited-time offer. Annual Percentage Yield valid as of publication date. To receive specified interest rate, both CDs must be purchased in combination as a laddering special, with equal amounts in each CD. Minimum deposit of \$2,500 in each CD. Must have or open a Golden Access or Ultimate Access Checking account to receive specified interest rate. Fees could reduce earnings. Penalty for early withdrawal.

Member FDIC

REDUCE

↻

REUSE

↻

RECYCLE

THINKING ABOUT... A NEW FURNACE?

LENNOX

FREE ESTIMATES (734) 525-1930

Our 35th Year!

UNITED TEMPERATURE

8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA

www.unitedtemperatureservices.com

FREE WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAM

NEW PATIENTS

Keith J. Pierce, MD
Internal Medicine
38525 Eight Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48152
248.321.6612
Call for Directions!

Medical Evaluation May Be Required

Switch today! 1-888-778-8975

Get a \$100 Visa® prepaid card when you switch to DIRECTV.

Ask how.

don't miss our circular in today's paper

DIRECTV. SATELLITE TELEVISION

Offer ends 12/31/2009. New customers only. With activation of the CHOICE package or higher. Customer must enroll in Auto Bill Pay program at the time of purchase. Conditions apply. Receipt of DIRECTV programming subject to DIRECTV Customer Agreement; copy provided at DIRECTV.com/legal and in first bill. DIRECTV and the Cyclone Design logo are trademarks of DIRECTV, Inc. DIRECTV Visa® Prepaid Cards are issued by MetaBank™ pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc. This card does not have cash access and can be used at any merchants that accept Visa debit cards. Card valid through expiration shown on front of card.

Light blocks: Canton women build memories one block at a time

Necessity is the mother of invention. Just ask two Canton women whose creative efforts spurred them to meet a decorating challenge for a hockey banquet.

The result: Light Blocks, a budding home-based business. Marlene Ciuffoletti and Diane Sgambati of Canton Township were part of the decorations committee for the 2008 Catholic Central High School Hockey banquet. Their sons - Michael Ciuffoletti and Sandro Sgambati - were on the team and they wanted something special. The women designed and made a lighted glass block for each player with their number and the Shamrock logo.

"Diane and I have been friends for nearly 10 years, meeting when our sons played hockey together," said Ciuffoletti. "It only makes sense that hockey would end up being the very thing that would bring us together to do this."

The decorations were a hit. "When it came time to decorate for our sons' graduation parties a few months later, we were stumped on what to use for table centerpieces - we wanted something that was masculine," said Ciuffoletti. "Left over glass blocks from the banquet that still had the school logo on them were in our garages - we decided to put them to good use - our centerpiece dilemma was solved," added Sgambati.

"We were surprised how many people commented on them, asked us where we got them, can we make them one, can they borrow ours," said Ciuffoletti.

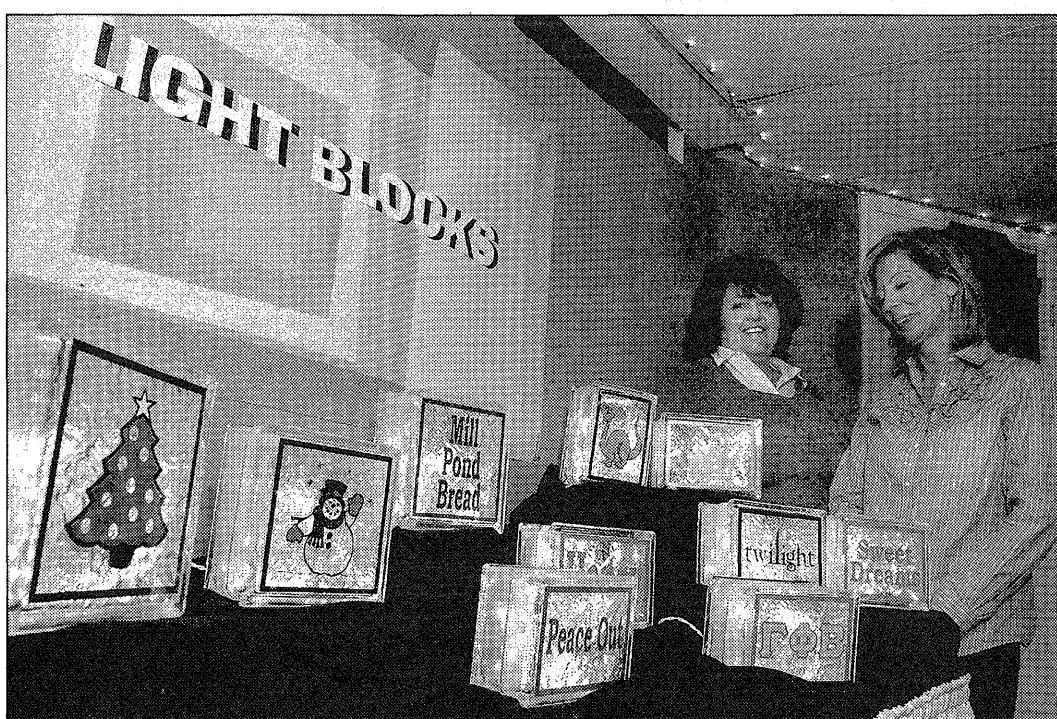
Light Blocks, the business, was born - or at least the idea.

Getting started was a very deliberate process for the two women.

"We spent way too much time just talking about selling them but never moving on our idea," said Sgambati.

Both said that Catholic Central was the best place to start because the "school spirit is second to none."

"We were not sure if the inter-



Diane Sgambati and Marlene Ciuffoletti of Canton formed Light Blocks.

est was there. It was the urging of Mary Ann Formica, former board member at CC and graduation party guest, that changed everything," explained Ciuffoletti.

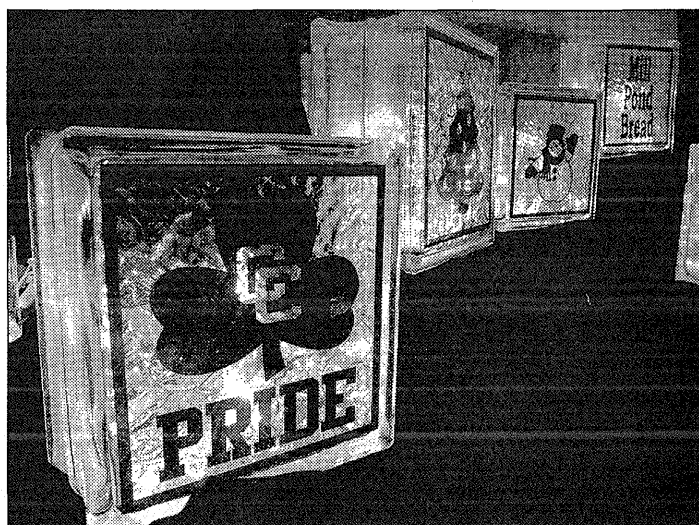
"Without Mary Ann telling us all the reasons why we can do this, we would not have been as motivated," Ciuffoletti said. "She truly was our cheerleader. We owe her a lot."

Formica took two of the CC Pride light blocks to a CC Mother's Club fashion show last year. It was an event where guests deposit raffle tickets in containers of items they would like to win. The containers were overflowing with tickets.

"It was the confirmation we needed," said Ciuffoletti.

Things moved quickly after that - the Shamrocks won the state hockey title and the team wanted a light block that said STATE CHAMPS. Once again Ciuffoletti and Sgambati were asked to make light blocks for every player for the 2009 hockey banquet. Shortly after, the CC baseball team ordered up light blocks for the baseball banquet.

"Word of mouth and the sup-



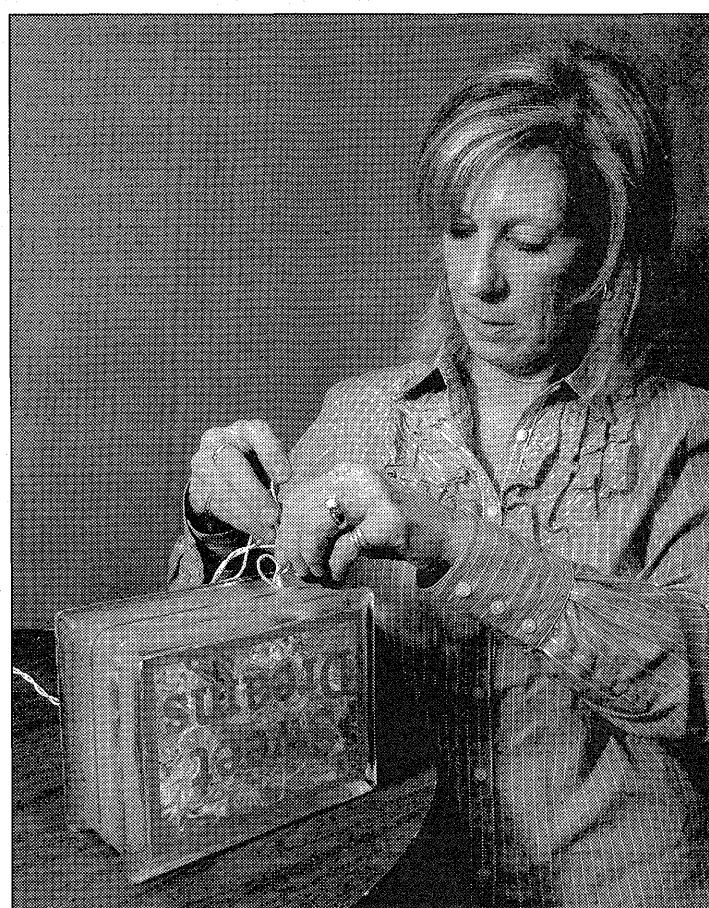
The decorative glass blocks glow from within.

port of the school as well as CC's Mothers' Club has been a blessing," said Ciuffoletti. "The Mothers' Club gave us an opportunity to showcase our college dorm room light blocks at a meeting which really went over well with people looking for high school graduation gifts."

"Many of our customers can be traced back from CC. Whether their son is a current student or alumni of CC, parents remember us and refer

their friends and families from other schools and we are excited," said Sgambati.

The pair admit that putting light inside a glass block is nothing new but "putting a new twist" on the idea is. They created a variety of designs, used lots of new colors (from power purple to bubble gum pink, metallic silver to lime green) and suggested different ways to use the light blocks - college dorm room lights, teacher gifts,



Marlene Ciuffoletti feeds the light into the block.

baby's room, table and holiday decorations, company logos, basement bar, school teams, night lights for kids and more.

"We can put anything on a light block - all they have to do is ask. If they can think it, we can do it," said Sgambati.

"The Canton Crush hockey team contacted us after the team won the state championship earlier this year and we have done lights for two sororities at Michigan State University," said Ciuffoletti.

To date, the women have made 200 blocks and are busy filling more orders. All supplies are purchased locally.

Filling the large orders has been a family affair. Their husbands - Dave Ciuffoletti and Frank Sgambati - help with the drilling. The kids - Michael and Randi Ciuffoletti and Sandro Sgambati - also help out when their home. Michael attends Western Michigan University while Randi is getting ready

to graduate this month from Michigan State University. Sandro is a sophomore at Grand Valley State University.

Stephanie Sgambati, a junior at Plymouth High School, is usually pressed into service on a weekly basis.

The Light Blocks range in price from \$25 for a 4x8x6 block or \$35 for an 8x8x6 block. All lights are UL approved. The women went to the Canton Fire Department to test the products.

Friends and family say the women are both perfectionists so no block is ever released unless it is perfect. Designs are available in 20 colors, "so we can match the décor in any room" the women say. Most orders are done within a week.

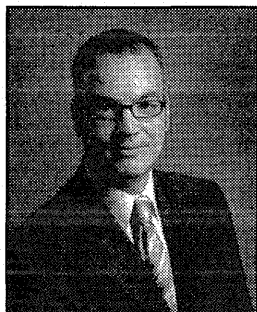
To find out more about Light Blocks call Marlene Ciuffoletti at (734) 844-1839 or Diane Sgambati at (734) 223-3371 or e-mail ntmr8@yahoo.com.

Expert Care Close to Home

Same or Next Day Appointments Available

Alberto Aviles, M.D.

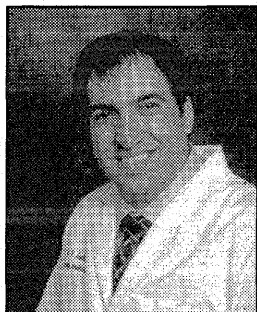
Plastic Surgeon
5641 W. Maple Road
West Bloomfield
26850 Providence Pkwy
Ste 250
Novi
Phone: 248-538-3020
www.drAlbertoAviles.com



Fellowship-trained hand and reconstructive plastic surgeon experienced in a wide range of surgical and microsurgical services including: advanced techniques for breast reconstruction and enhancement, surgical correction for hand and wrist problems, body contouring procedures such as abdominoplasty and liposuction and procedures to rejuvenate and enhance facial appearance.

Robert Zaid, D.O.

Family Medicine
PrimeCare of Novi
39555 W. 10 Mile Road
Ste 302
Novi
Phone: 248-426-7200
www.primecareofmi.com



Passionate about developing relationships with his patients and values friendly, open communication. Dr. Zaid provides complete care for the entire family with special interest in childhood asthma, dermatology, diabetes and osteopathic manipulation.

Rebecca Studinger, M.D., M.S.

Plastic, Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgeon
26850 Providence Pkwy
Ste 125
Novi
3270 W. Big Beaver
Ste 415
Troy
Phone: 248-305-8400



Fellowship trained in microsurgical reconstruction and specialty trained in lymphatic reconstruction for lymphedema. Dr. Studinger offers the most advanced breast reconstructive procedures and a full range of cosmetic procedures such as tummy tucks, face lifts, brow lifts, breast augmentation, Botox and facial fillers.

Kelly Burke, M.D.

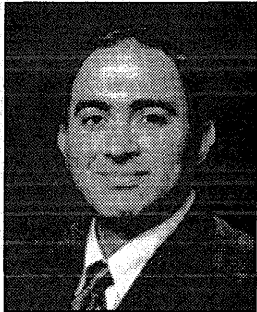
Obstetrics & Gynecology
26850 Providence Pkwy
Ste 315
Novi
Phone: 248-465-4340
www.yourobgyns.com



Committed to listening to patient concerns Dr. Burke provides the highest quality care for women of all generations. A background in social work and medicine blends to provide compassionate obstetrical and gynecological care with a special focus on adolescent gynecology and minimally invasive surgery.

A. Damadi, M.D.

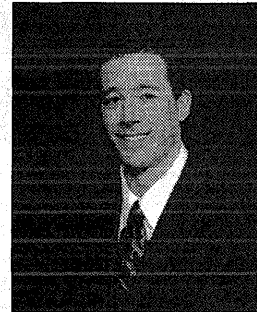
Colorectal Surgeon
26850 Providence Pkwy
Ste 425
Novi
22250 Providence Dr.
Ste 702
Southfield
Phone: 248-557-9650



Specialized in colonoscopy, cancer screenings, minimally invasive management of diverticulitis, colorectal cancer and treatment of hemorrhoids.

Todd Frush, M.D.

Orthopaedic Surgeon
26750 Providence Pkwy
Ste 200
Novi
22250 Providence Drive
Ste 401
Southfield
Phone: 248-349-7015
www.porrettacenter.com



Fellowship trained in sports medicine and orthopaedic surgery. Coordinates care with other physicians, physical therapists, and athletic trainers. Specializes in arthroscopic surgery, knee replacements, cartilage restoration, rotator cuff repair, knee ligament reconstruction, tennis elbow and other sports related injuries.

Mubashir Sabir, M.D.

General and Bariatric Surgeon
26850 Providence Pkwy
Ste 460
Novi
Phone: 248-662-4272
27483 Dequindre
Ste 204
Madison Heights
Phone: 866-823-4458
www.stjohnweightloss.com



Fellowship trained in bariatric surgery at University Medical Center at Princeton and performing bariatric and general surgery since 2005, Dr. Sabir offers a full range of surgery services to his patients. His special interest is bariatric surgery which he offers as part of St. John Weight Loss, a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence.

Madhuri Gudipaty, M.D.

Obstetrics and Gynecology
26850 Providence Pkwy
Ste 500
Novi
Phone: 248-662-4388
www.womensdocs.com



Dedicated to providing comprehensive women's health care including pregnancy, child birth, menstrual problems and menopause management with an emphasis on wellness through annual physicals, pap smears, breast exams, and preventive medicine.

Susan Lyons, M.D., Ph.D.

Oncology and Hematology
47601 Grand River 2 South
Novi
Phone: 248-344-2000
22301 Foster Winter Drive
Ste 200
Southfield
Phone: 248-552-0620
www.newlandmedical.com



Dedicated to providing optimal, state of the art and progressive care for cancer and hematologic conditions. Combines vast research and clinical experience to provide maximal benefit for her patients while focusing on quality of life.



PROVIDENCE

Understand estate taxes, Roth IRA conversions

Recently I have been asked a number of questions regarding changes in the tax laws for 2010. The questions have dealt with two issues — changes in rules with regards to estate taxes and changes with regards to Roth IRA conversions.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

It is a good idea to briefly explain the changes. However, there is one caveat and that is with tax laws anything and everything can change. It used to be that when you talked about long-term tax planning you were talking in terms of

years. That is no longer the case. Fortunately, or unfortunately, depending upon your view, our tax laws are ever changing and that's what makes long-term tax planning difficult. As I write this column there are heated discussions in Washington regarding tax law changes, in

particular, estate taxes. Estate laws tax an individual upon their death. The tax is determined by the fair market value of someone's net worth at the time of their death. Currently, the majority of Americans are not subject to an estate tax. Under the law that is set to end on Dec. 31, the first \$3.5 million of your estate is not subject to estate taxes. However, in 2010 there is no estate tax. In other words, if someone with substantial wealth passes away next year their estate would

not be subject to estate taxes. The downside is that same law states that in 2011 estate taxes will return. In addition, there would not be a \$3.5 million exemption. That number would be reduced to \$1 million. Obviously, if the exemption went to \$1 million many more Americans would be subject to estate taxes.

The other change in tax law which is much more beneficial to many Americans deals with rules regarding converting traditional IRAs into Roth IRAs. Under current tax law,

adjusted gross income must be less than \$100,000 to be eligible for a conversion. The \$100,000 figure applies whether you are single or married. That provision in the law terminates at the end of this year. In 2010, anyone will be eligible to convert an existing IRA into a Roth IRA.

There is another change in the law with regards to Roth conversions that is beneficial to taxpayers. Under today's rules, taxes owed must be paid in the year of conversion. For 2010 only, if you do a conver-

sion you will not be required to pay the entire tax in 2010. Half the tax can be paid in 2010, the other half in 2011. This option is only available for 2010.

In regard to estate tax changes, I'm not sure there's much of anything to do at the present time. I will not be surprised if it happens sooner than later. Congress will amend the law to provide for an estate tax in 2010 and a higher threshold moving forward. Therefore, there's not much that anyone should do at this point in time. However, for individuals who have large estates, the same strategy that I have recommended for years still applies and this is to consider a living trust. In today's world with the \$3.5 million exemption, husbands and wives, through the effective use of a living trust, can shield upwards of \$7 million from estate taxes. Even if the law does not change and the exemption drops back to \$1 million in 2011, a trust could shield \$2 million of assets from estate taxes.

As to the Roth IRA, the one thing that taxpayers can do in preparation for the 2010 conversion is to put aside some money to pay the taxes. It does not make sense to use the money that you are converting to pay the taxes. Therefore, if you plan to do a Roth IRA conversion in 2010, do set some money aside for taxes.

I believe you never let the tax tail wag the dog. In other words, you don't want to do anything for tax reasons alone. That being said, I also believe it is not more patriotic to pay more taxes than required.

The key is to be smart with taxes and make sure that any tax moves ultimately increase your net worth because that is the number we all should be focused on.

Good luck!

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

*I chose the
Regional Leader
for my robotic hysterectomy
to get back to family*

HAVING A HYSTERECTOMY IS BOTH AN IMPORTANT AND DIFFICULT DECISION TO MAKE.

That is why at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital, we are committed to making your procedure as seamless as possible by offering you the most advanced treatment options available. As a regional leader in robotic hysterectomies, we are able to offer patients a minimally invasive treatment option that not only gives our patients a much faster recovery time, but also minimizes the discomfort associated with traditional hysterectomies. With a compassionate and dedicated team of experts, when you need to make this decision you are not alone. Let our experienced and understanding staff help you through your decision at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital.

To schedule an appointment, visit henryfordwyandotte.com/robotics or call 1-877-246-7550.



HENRY FORD WYANDOTTE HOSPITAL

LIKE NUMBERS?
there are a pile
of them in
today's **SPORTS** section

Check us out on the
Web every day at
hometownlife.com

Honda Holiday Sales Event!

No matter which Honda Generator model you choose, you're getting quiet, reliable power for all sorts of things like camping, RVing, working outside or even home back-up.

Hurry in to get \$100 off ANY Honda Generator or \$250 off an EM5000SX or EM6500SX!

REGULAR PRICE: \$1,099.00 SPECIAL PRICE: \$999.00 INSTANT REBATE: -\$100.00 YOUR PRICE: \$899.00	REGULAR PRICE: \$1,199.00 SPECIAL PRICE: \$1,099.00 INSTANT REBATE: -\$100.00 YOUR PRICE: \$999.00	REGULAR PRICE: \$1,999.00 SPECIAL PRICE: \$1,899.00 INSTANT REBATE: -\$100.00 YOUR PRICE: \$1,799.00	REGULAR PRICE: \$2,499.00 SPECIAL PRICE: \$1,999.00 INSTANT REBATE: -\$500.00 YOUR PRICE: \$1,499.00
---	---	---	---

EU2000i, EU2000i Companion, EU2000i Camo, EU3000i, Honda Handi® EU3000i

EM5000SX, EM6500SX

Ask about our full line of Honda Accessories!

EU2000i Kart • EU, EM & EB Storage Covers • DC Charging Cord plus, EU2000i Parallel Kits, Home Back-up Transfer Switches and more.

* Instant rebate offered on any new Honda Generator (EM5000SX excluded) purchased November 15th through December 1st, 2009. No rain checks. At participating dealers only. **Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. ***Minimum Advertised Price.

SAXTONS GARDEN CENTER, INC. 587 W. Ann Arbor Tr. • Plymouth 734.453.6250

HONDA GENERATORS

Over 80 Years of Sales and Service

Open 7 Days
10 am - 8 pm

oleman's Farm Markets

Corner of Holmes & Ridge Rd.
(1 blk. West of E. Michigan Ave.)

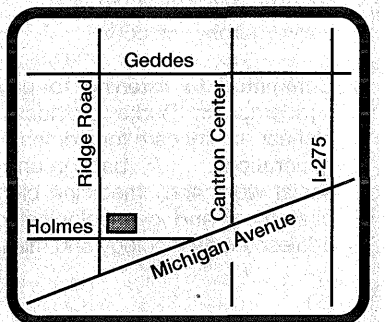
(734) 483-1783

10 Varieties of
Premium Christmas Trees

From **\$15⁰⁰**

A little better tree...
lot
for a little less money!

Many Wreaths & Roping



C-SPAN looks for film entries from students

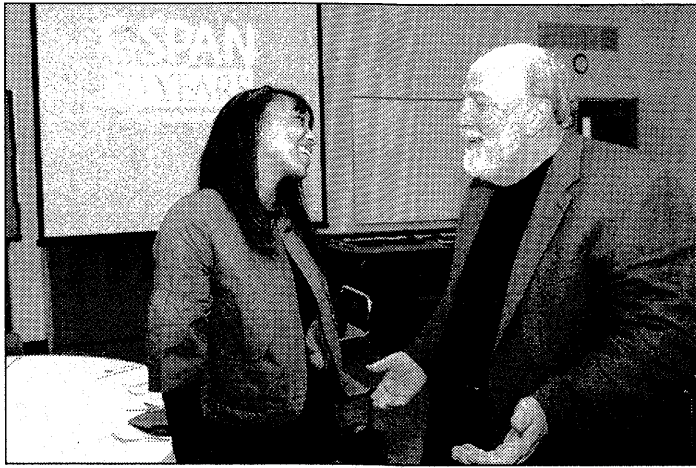
BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Local students have a chance to put in their two cents about a national issue and earn scholarship money through a short film competition sponsored by C-SPAN.

The Westland Rotary Club recently hosted Rebecca Stewart, C-SPAN marketing representative, who made a presentation on the 2010 StudentCam annual documentary film competition. A total of \$50,000 in cash prizes will be awarded to 75 students and 11 teachers in the contest, open to middle and high school students. The grand prize is \$5,000.

"Last year, we had just under 1,000 entries, so there is as good chance of winning," Stewart said, adding there hasn't yet been a grand prize winner from Michigan. "StudentCam is an opportunity for students to have a voice, and to explore issues in their community that they care deeply about."

StudentCam encourages students to create a short film about issues affecting their communities and the nation. This year's theme asks middle and high school students to address "One of our country's greatest strengths" or "A chal-



Westland City Council President James Godbout talks with Rebecca Stewart, C-SPAN marketing representative, following her presentation to the Westland Rotary Club Thursday.

lenge the country is facing."

Stewart showed clips from 2009 competition winners, with the theme of a message to President Barack Obama about the most urgent issue facing the country. The first-place high school entry addressed concerns about why bees, which are crucial to the human food supply, are dying. A winning middle school entry asked questions about whether private corporations should receive taxpayer-funded bailouts.

"We would really like you to spread the word about StudentCam," Stewart said.

C-SPAN likes to work with service organizations, such as

Rotary, Stewart said, which goes along with the public service philosophy of C-SPAN's public affairs coverage.

Funded by cable fees, C-SPAN provides live unedited gavel-to-gavel coverage of largely the federal government with separate channels showing proceedings in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. C-SPAN is non-partisan and offers no commentaries or commercials.

The deadline for this year's competition is Jan. 20. Additional details can be found online at www.studentcam.org.

lrpgers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

RSVP: St. Dunstan's serves Christmas dinner

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

People often have holiday traditions and Christmas Day dinner at St. Dunstan Church is an annual event for many guests and volunteers.

"I've been working on it for 10 years and the church had for many years before that. It's definitely a tradition," said Judy Larry, a member of the Garden City parish who chairs the dinner. "It's a great community thing. We get volunteers from all over the parish and people from the community who aren't part of the parish. They know we do it and volunteer food or their services."

St. Dunstan is the only church in the area that hosts a dinner on Christmas Day. The dinner is free to people who would otherwise be alone on the holiday — the only other requirement is reservations. About 110 people came to dinner last year, many senior citizens.

"It's a wonderful sit-down dinner with turkey and mashed potatoes. I will call people for cookies. I like to have a lot of desserts — I don't buy those," said Larry. "The main course is all cooked, so I just ask people for a dozen cookies. Everyone is baking around the holidays."

People also make cash donations to help offset the costs for the dinner which is funded through St. Dunstan's Christian Service money. That money also feeds hundreds of people during the year through the church's food pantry program.

Like last year, guests at the dinner each received a Christmas ornament as a gift — something Larry said will happen again this year with the help of the Cracker Barrel Restaurant.

"Last year, I happened to be in the Crack Barrel on the day after Christmas. The ornaments were 50 percent off. I thought it would be nice to give everyone a pres-

ent," said Larry. "I talked to the manager. I told her what we did and that I wanted to buy 110 ornaments. She was so nice and told me to come back the next day — the ornaments would be 70 percent off."

It ended up that the restaurant and the church split the cost for the ornaments, Larry said, with Cracker Barrel throwing in boxes and bows for wrapping the ornaments.

To make a reservation for the Christmas dinner, call Larry at (734) 595-3049. Anyone wishing to donate baked goods for the dinner can drop items off at the parish office.

"I'll be there on Wednesday (Dec. 23) making centerpieces. I have a couple of ladies helping me," said Larry.

St. Dunstan is located on Belton, one block west of Inkster Road just north of Marquette.

lrpgers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

Store Closing SALE

Including... **Thomas Kinkadee Canvas Editions**



All Wildlife Art 75% Off
Regular Price!
7/2 OFF
the regular price... or lower!

Sale Terms:
Cash, Checks,
Visa, Mastercard,
Amex, Discover.
ALL SALES FINAL

Parkside Gallery
ART & GIFTS
388 S. MAIN STREET AT ANN ARBOR TRAIL
DOWNTOWN PLYMOUTH

Sale Hours:
Mon-Fri 10-8
Sat 10-6,
Sunday 12-5

All Fixtures for Sale!

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

HOHOHO

And a **WHOLE LOT MORE GREAT GIFTS**

Showroom of Elegance has the largest selection of fine jewelry in the Plymouth-Canton area.

Wish lists • Custom Design
• Free Gift Wrapping



Everlon Diamond Knot Collection

The Strength of Love Forged in a Knot

Earrings, Pendants, Bracelets & Rings
Starting at just \$149.

Holiday Hours

Begin Dec. 8th
Mon. - Sat.
9:30 - 8:00
Sun: Noon - 5:00

Showroom of Elegance
FINE JEWELRY

6018 Canton Center Rd.
Canton, MI 48187
Ph: 734.207.1906

Protect your Retirement.

Plymouth Office
706 South Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 354-9200

Northville Office
201 East Main Street
Northville, MI 48167
(248) 449-3700

2.5%* APY 9 Month IRA
Fixed Rate FDIC Insured



Visit one of our 25 branch locations or call for details 800-321-0032 or visit us at www.mbandt.com

*The Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 4/20/2009. This promotional rate applies to new IRAs with a 9-month term opened. This rate applies to the initial IRA CD term only. Automatically renews to another IRA - 9-month term, or, if we no longer offer it with a 9-month term, to a standard 12-month CD IRA. We may change the promotional rate at any time without prior notice. There is a penalty for early withdrawals. Additional restrictions may apply. Fees may reduce earnings. **Retirement accounts opened through Monroe Bank & Trust, including Roth and Traditional IRAs, are insured by the FDIC up to \$250,000 per depositor. These accounts are insured separately from other deposits you may have with Monroe Bank & Trust. Member FDIC

LOCAL OPINION

online at hometownlife.com



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

Election switch ignored voters

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education Tuesday voted to move its election schedule — again — with little notice and less fanfare.

It's the second time in a year the board has voted to change the date on which its members are elected. Just last year at this time, they voted to switch to an every-November slate of elections.

Now, after a 5-2 vote Tuesday (Trustees Dianne Gonzalez and Tom Wysocki voted against it), elections will be held in odd-year Novembers.

We think that's a mistake on a couple of different levels.

The biggest gripe with this decision is the potential cost. In even-year Novembers, the school election would have cost the district nothing, because of the state and national elections on the ballot.

In odd-year Novembers, the elections could bring a potential \$80,000 cost to the district (that's what they'll budget; most members expect it to cost \$20,000 or less). To be fair, the odd-year November cost has frequently been reduced because other municipalities — this year it was a Wayne County millage renewal and a Plymouth City Commission election — have had questions on the ballot.

But that's not always going to be the case, and the district still has to pay in places like Plymouth Township and Canton Township, which didn't have anything on the ballot. In a district where they're worried whether they'll be able to afford chalk by this time next year, even \$20,000 seems like an awfully high figure when you consider it could be zero.

The decision also doesn't take the voters into account much. Turnouts will be down (they always are in off-year elections). In some recent elections, turnout has been in single digits in terms of registered voters. Had they switched to even-year Novembers, as Gonzalez would have preferred, they'd have been on the same ballots as state Legislature, gubernatorial and presidential elections, which typically draw a much larger percentage of voters.

Another concern is that holding school elections in even-year Novembers would put the Plymouth-Canton election at the bottom of a crowded ballot, making it difficult to find and, among all the other election hoopla, more difficult to understand.

We think voters are much smarter than that. They're going to find the local school election on the ballot.

The other fear is the one with which we have the biggest objection: The fear that political parties will take an avid interest — if not actual control — of what is supposed to be a non-partisan election. The fear is that such involvement would drive up the cost of getting elected to what is a volunteer position. According to board President Steven Sneiderman, the winner in the most recent Northville school election spent some \$5,000.

Sneiderman feels it would cost much more than that in Plymouth-Canton, which is a much larger district. He says it's "unacceptable" to ask candidates to spend \$15,000 to \$20,000 to win a volunteer seat on the board. We agree with the sentiment; we just don't believe it'll ever cost that much. Many candidates have proven they can win on far less money and a lot of hard work.

One argument made at Tuesday's meeting was that the majority of districts around the state stuck with their May elections, despite the cost, because it makes more sense to seat a new board before the school year begins, rather than in the middle of a school year.

While that's a valid point, the "everyone else is doing it" part of the argument recalls when your mother would ask you, after doing something she thought was silly because your friend did it, "If Jimmy jumped off the roof, would you do it?"

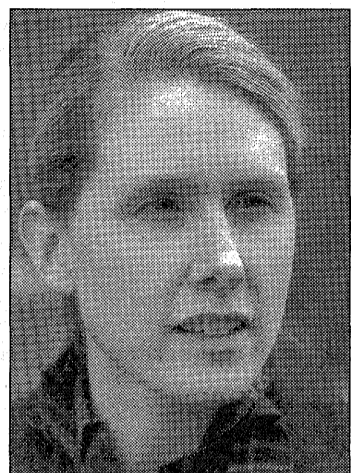
In odd-year November elections, history shows a vastly smaller percentage of the voters are going to be making the decisions about who will represent their school district. The school board considered a number of things in making their decision.

We just wish the voters would have been one of them.

COMMUNITY VOICE

One year later, what do you think of the bank bailouts?

We asked this question outside the U.S. Postal Service branch office in downtown Plymouth.



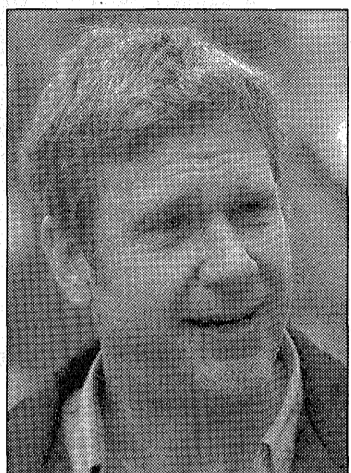
"I think Wall Street shouldn't have gotten as much money as they did. With the executive bonuses they've gotten, that's pretty tough to justify."

Heather Fazio
Plymouth



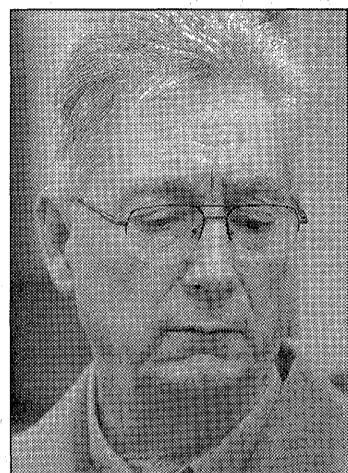
"From what I do know, I don't think the banks should've been bailed out."

Kristi Worful
South Lyon



"I don't think we've had enough time to see whether it's going to be a short-term fix or whether it's going to be a positive (development) going forward."

Terry Worful
South Lyon



"I don't believe they worked."

Rod Folland
Superior Township

LETTERS

Diversity thank you

The Plymouth Canton Citizens for Diversity and Inclusion would like to extend our sincere thanks to our fellow citizens of the Plymouth Canton community, who came out in support of our first meeting Oct. 29, as we unveiled our strategic plan.

We would especially like to thank the elected and township officials, and other community leaders who attended, as we were encouraged by your presence. A special thank you goes out to the Observer for their continued coverage.

We have received many positive comments about the meeting. As we move forward to implement the goals of the strategic plan we will keep you informed of our progress and of future events.

We appreciate your continued support and encourage you to join us in getting fellow citizens involved as we strive to make Plymouth Canton an inclusive community for all.

Strategic Planning Committee
Plymouth Canton Citizens for Diversity and Inclusion

Wal-Mart wrong on wall

I went into the Wal-Mart store today to see my son's Marine picture on the wall only to find out a new manager named Bernie didn't like the Wall of Honor showing the men and women who are serving our country!

First let me say, it was like someone reached into my chest and pulled my heart out! I am ashamed that anyone in this country would turn their backs on our men and women who are dying for us and to do this to a mother is beyond words.

I just want you to know this is going to be my first battle and I will fight for my son (and his fellow soldiers). I thought Wal-Mart was the most wonderful store, showing such pride and standing by our troops, only to feel the total opposite now.

I am truly a hurting mom who didn't have her own son for Thanksgiving and won't have him for Christmas but will say this - he's out there fighting for YOU and YOUR family! He's one of the bravest young men I know who chose on his own to put his life on the line, and you were blessed to have his picture along with all the other men and women on your wall!

Shame on you, shame on Wal-Mart! I pray for your own souls and I pray I really make an impact by sharing this story - I want to see all those wonderful pictures on that wall again! You realize that other Wal-Mart stores still have their honor walls up! This new manager at Canton's store needs to lose his job and I also believe he needs to see the changes these kids go through when they return, and if that's not enough, he needs to see the limbs lost and last - he needs to see the coffins that get shipped home!

If Wal-Mart started something good, do the right thing and put our men and women's pictures back up in HONOR of what they do - serving all your families!

Yana Sache
Plymouth

Talking points

A short time ago I read a letter to the editor from a conservative gentleman opposed to substantive health care reform. He rebutted a prior letter from a practicing pediatrician who supported robust reform.

On the eve of the beginning of debate on the Senate reform bill, I think it is necessary

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

Submit letters via the following formats.

Web: www.hometownlife.com

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m.

Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

to provide some push-back on some of the issues raised by the conservative responder as he recited verbatim a list of oft-mentioned conservative talking points that may "sound" good but make little sense when scrutinized more closely.

In his letter the conservative responder quickly infused the erroneous notion that the Senate bill would represent a "socialist government takeover" of health care and was unacceptable in its current form as a result. Since when does the contracting of private parties, companies and agencies to perform prescribed services to 3 to 5 percent of the populace constitute a "takeover?"

I would expect that a takeover would require something approaching 50 percent of something else. And if this is socialism (but it is not, look it up), so is Medicare. Please, give me a slice of that.

Rationing of care was also a well-worn talking point mentioned by the responder as a criticism of the Senate bill. Excuse me but isn't care already rationed based on income and insurance coverage? Terms that are insurance industry jargon for rationing like cherry picking, rescission and pre-existing condition, have grown all too familiar to victims.

It would appear to me that providing any modicum of care to any of the 45 million previously uninsured citizens would represent a dramatic improvement on the rationing front.

Tort reform, a predictable conservative talking point and a conservative "must" for the Senate bill, has been categorized as a "red herring" by liberals and enlightened conservatives alike. Limiting awards in malpractice settlements in states like Texas have resulted in little change in insurance malpractice premiums or so-called "defensive" medical practices that allegedly result in excessive testing and commensurate cost increases. Often, added testing has more to do with enhancing physician compensation and or improving hospital profit than it does with preventing lawsuits.

Medical malpractice costs represent only 2 percent of total medical costs, according to the CBO, and have little impact upon forcing doctors out of practice or adding significantly to the health care tab. Demands for tort reform in medicine represent a small part of a larger, ongoing campaign by corporate-types and wealthy conservatives to demonize trail lawyers who fight to guarantee the civil liberties of common folk by assisting them in holding individuals and companies responsible for life-changing mistakes or negligence that would go unnoticed or unpunished without their presence. It is part of the "class war" thing and conservatives are seeking to kill two birds with one stone with this thrust.

The last "straw man" talking point in need of debunking involves that government bureaucrat getting between you and your doctor that this bill will allegedly permit. Is that any different than my insurance company bureaucrat, duty-bound to earn a profit for his employer or at the very least mitigate costs, who says I do not need a colonoscopy if I am not in pain or bleeding, even if I am 60 years old and therefore, his company will not pay for one?

I would rather have a government bureaucrat making \$50,000 and accumulating a pension who answers to an elected official making the call as opposed to an insurance company bureaucrat, who answers to a CEO and a board of directors, trying to cut costs to increase the bottom line. How about you?

Mitch Smith
Canton

Politics vs. solutions

In recent weeks we have been forced to listen to the usual suspects, plastering the media with "politics-as-usual."

We all watched and listened to the spin-doctors and pundits whining about ending the Single Business Tax. The result was (at least for a short time) one of the most ridiculous final legislative products we have ever seen. In 2009, state budget battles rage on.

In a nation that's been screaming "no-new-taxes!" for the last several decades, changes in the way we tax real property (Headlee Amendment-1978), and changes in the way our schools are funded (Proposal A-1994) have resulted in a disaster that even Howdy-Doody could have predicted!

Voters limited the way property taxes are calculated, and later all but eliminated the matter of local control over our school districts. Along with appraised values diving to the bottom, and reduced shared revenues every year, schools are running out of ways to keep the heat and lights on.

I have had the privilege to have known Gov. Jennifer Granholm as an intelligent and hard-working person having only great expectations and intentions for us all being "hammered" by the most small minded of politics one can imagine, both then and now.

The "tea-baggers" of the times are perfectly willing to sacrifice the greater good in anything, for the desired political outcomes. That song remains the same.

While we really need to look at another way to fund schools in Michigan, Governor Granholm proposed three new initiatives to create enough new revenue to make up for cuts made in schools this year. Michigan Senate Leader Mike Bishop stood steadfastly against supporting those initiatives, shouting at us all his rhetorical justification, "no-new-taxes!"

Our governor continues to seek resolution (looking at the powers of office and legal options) to the matter of solving our problems. The ones responsible for the problems sit, and wait, and listen for the next opportunity to create another one of their messes for her to clean up.

Term-limited politicians do not remain in office long enough to really learn the job, and too often simply rely on others (like the speaker or whip) when making decisions. The matter often not revealed, will be the one that shows us they are not in office long enough to be held accountable for their actions when they were there.

R. Burnett
Livonia

PLYMOUTH
OBSERVER

GANNETT

Brad Kadrich
Community
Editor

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor
/ Publisher

Grace Perry
Director of
Advertising

Gifts for four-legged friends

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There's no doubt Santa is an animal lover, as evidenced by the way he reveres his reindeer. Take a cue from Old St. Nick and spoil your favorite four-legged friend with some holiday cheer this year. Here are some fun gift ideas for the dogs and cats in your life:

Fashion

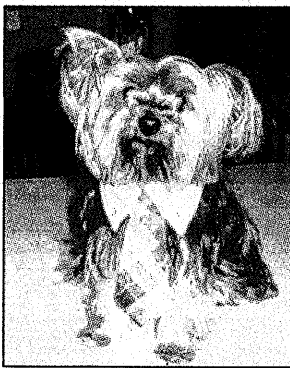


GOZO DOG COLLARS

Gozo Dog collars are walking art. Handcrafted by Ferndale's own Stacy Schaffer-Helmer, the collars combine bright fabrics, sophisticated designs and durable materials produced in the United States. Limited edition collections change each season. Available in various sizes, \$23 at www.gozodog.com.

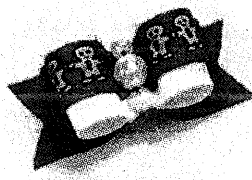
KLASSY CANINE PET COLLARS

For the pooch who's all business, check out Klassy Canine Pet Collars. Created by an independent Michigan designer based in Holly, the one-of-a-kind collars feature plaid, paw print and checkered ties. Michigan State and University of Michigan fabrics also available. \$7.50 at www.etsy.com.



PERFECT DOG BOWS

Pampered pets and show dogs will look adorable in Perfect Dog Bows, made especially for small breeds like Shih Tzu, Yorkies and Maltese. Northern Michigander Mary Beerman crafts each bow by hand using ribbons, buttons, charms and vintage rhinestones. Order by Dec. 13th for guaranteed Christmas delivery. \$1 and up at www.perfectdogbows.com.



Fun

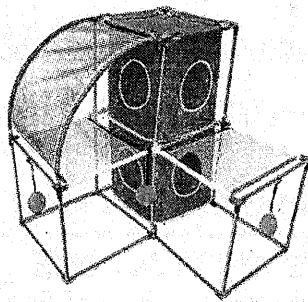
PET HEAD PRODUCTS

Pet Head grooming products are a whimsical take on the Bed Head line for humans. For dogs, try No More Ruff Skin Shampoo (\$14.99), So Spoiled Conditioning Creme Rinse (\$14.99) and Poo! Magical Deodorizing Spray (\$14.99). For cats, check out Purrtastic Passion Fruit Skin Soothing Shampoo and Pretty Kitty Strawberry Yogurt Detangling Spray (\$8.99). Available at PetSmart locations, including Canton, Livonia, Northville, Southfield, West Bloomfield and more. Visit www.petsmart.com.



COLOR PAWS NAIL POLISH

Put the final touch on your pretty pet with an eye-popping manicure. Color Paw Nail Polish comes in Poppin' Neon Purple, Daylo Neon Orange, Evergreen, Jet Black, True Red and more. \$4.99 per bottle at Petland in Westland Center.



MULTI CAT JUNGLE GYM

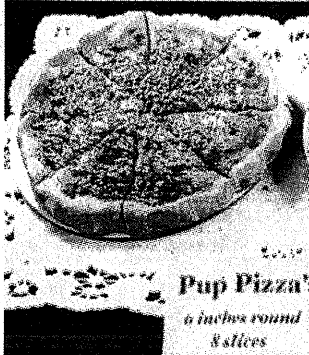
Keep active cats busy with the Multi Cat Jungle Gym, featuring jumping platforms, obstacles, vertical and horizontal tunnels and fuzzy hanging toys. \$25.79 at select Target locations and www.target.com.

Food

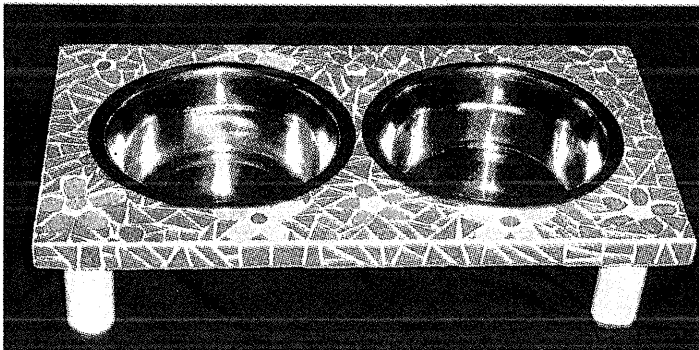
HEALTHY HELPINGS

There's nothing more practical than high-grade pet food. Specialty Pet Supplies, 1449 W. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, carries various brands and has a knowledgeable staff well versed in nutrition. Print out coupons online at www.specialtypet.com. Bring your pet for a visit with the pooch photographer 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday Dec. 12 and 19.

PUP PIZZAS



Completely organic Pup Pizzas from Uppity Puppy in Royal Oak look good enough to eat. In fact, you could. All the tasty treats at this upscale pet shop, including Ginger Kids Cookies, Carrot Bones and Biscotti, are beyond human grade and made with organic ingredients. \$9-\$21 per dozen. Visit 706 Washington in Royal Oak, call (248) 336-2380 or visit www.theuppitypuppy.com.



PET DINNER TABLES

Locally-made mosaic tables make dining elegant for your pet and clean up the feeding area in your home. The tables can be custom ordered online with different colors, styles and bowl sizes, and personalized with your pet's name. \$45 and up at www.petdinnertables.com.

For Charity

DETROIT ZOO

From one animal to another, why not contribute to the Detroit Zoological Society in your four-legged friend's name? The zoo offers a wide variety of gift ideas with proceeds supporting animals at the zoo and around the world. Engrave your beloved pet's name on a brick paver (\$90), or a brass-finished butterfly to be displayed inside the Wildlife Interpreted Gallery (\$500). Call (248) 541-5717 or visit www.detroitzoo.org.

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

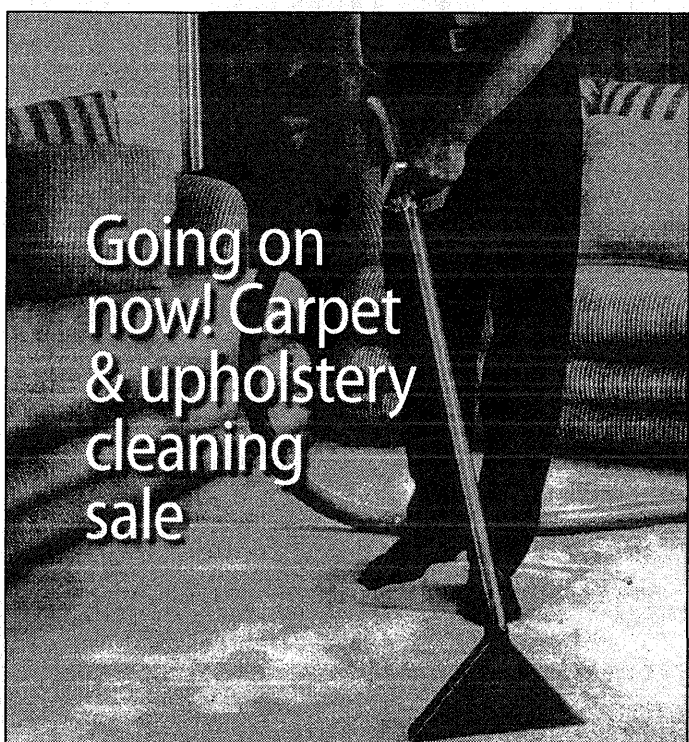
GIFT WRAP APP

Lisa's Gift Wrappers and Vectorform have teamed up to develop an iPhone and iPod Touch applications that offers instruction on perfect gift wrapping. WrapItApp is available for download at the iTunes store for \$1.99. The innovative

app uses the iPhone or iPod as a measuring device to ensure use of the proper amount of paper. It also provides step-by-step instructions on making looped bows. Visit www.lisagiftwrappers.com.

SANTA PAWS PET PHOTOS

Guests are invited to bring their dog or cat to Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi from 9-10:45 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 to have their photo taken with Santa. The same photo packages available to families are available for pets. Reservations are a must. Call (248) 348-9438.



Going on now! Carpet & upholstery cleaning sale

sale \$19 steam carpet cleaning: per room. Reg. \$55. Two room minimum. A room area is up to 250 sq. ft.; extra charge for heavily soiled carpets.
sale \$69 upholstery cleaning: a 7' sofa or two chairs. Reg. \$115. Extra charge for loose back cushions, sectionals, specialty fabrics & fabric protector.
Call our Professional Home Services for an appointment. Mon.-Fri. 9am to 5pm, Sat. 9am to 12pm. (800) 589-2626



Offer good on residential orders only. A travel/access charge will apply. Reg. prices are offering prices, and savings may not be based on actual sales. Sale prices in effect through 12/19/09. Results may vary.

The 2nd Sunday Photo Show
Sunday, December 13th 10am-3pm
Don't Miss It!

FOCUS on PHOTOGRAPHY

All Things Photographic:
BUY • SELL • TRADE
NEW • USED
FREE MODEL SHOOT
Sponsored by Camera Connection

\$5.00 Admission
\$2.00 Student (with I.D.)
VFW Post 345 • 27345 Schoolcraft • Redford
For more information, call 313-937-1300

HUGE HOLIDAY SALE

Complete Kitchen - - \$3995
Offer good on all orders placed by 12-31-09!

248-437-2454

Cabinets, Countertops & Installation
only **\$3995.00**

*Featuring: Laminate counter tops with 4" backsplash in 10 colors, 10 cabinets, all professionally installed. 8x10 "L" shaped.
Upgrades available, call for details.

SMART CABINETS

make your legs beautiful again.

Advanced Vein Therapies uses the latest technology to provide you safe, non-invasive, painless and effective varicose and spider vein care with *no stripping and no scarring*

All procedures are in-office, and most are covered by insurance. You'll be up and walking immediately, with relief that allows you to get back to your life. Please visit our web site to see how we've helped others at www.avtherapies.com.

ADVANCED VEIN THERAPIES

JEFFREY H. MILLER, MD is Metro Detroit's foremost board-certified authority on varicose and spider vein care, specializing in treating venous diseases for nearly fifteen years.
248.344.9110 | www.avtherapies.com
48325 W. 12 MILE ROAD | SUITE 335 | NOVI | West of Novi Road near I-96
As seen in the Yellow Pages

Mike's Marketplace
38000 Ann Arbor Rd. Livonia
(734) 464-0330
Your Meat & Deli Supermarket

OPEN MON.-SAT. 9-9
SUN. 9-7

IT'S HERE! SANTA'S 1 DAY SALE
TUESDAY, DEC. 15 • 9am-9pm

WOW! U.S.D.A. Tender Whole **STANDING RIB ROAST \$5.99** lb. Cut Free

Fully Cooked Dearborn **WHOLE CLASSIC HAM \$2.49** lb.

NEW LOWER PRICE Jumbo 31-40 Count **COOKED SHRIMP \$5.50** lb. 2 Lb. Bag \$11.00 Frozen

Tender Boneless **PORK TENDERLOIN \$2.99** lb. 2 Piece Value Pack

Boneless Whole **BEEF TENDERLOIN \$5.99** lb. Cut Free

Fully Cooked Dearborn **HALF CLASSIC HAM \$2.69** lb.

Large Alaskan **KING CRAB LEGS \$8.99** lb. Family Pak

Whole **NEW YORK STRIP LOIN \$2.99** lb. Sliced Free

Fully Cooked Dearborn **SMOKED KIELBASA \$3.59** lb. 5 Lbs. or More

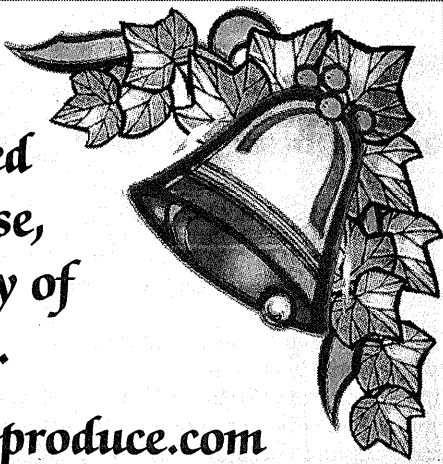
Lean Whole Boneless **CENTER CUT PORK LOIN \$1.88** lb. Sliced Free

Sale good **Tuesday, Dec. 15, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Only**



It's Gift Giving Season!

Send a beautiful gourmet fruit basket filled with Joe's high quality fruit, gourmet cheese, crackers, jam & candy! Available in a variety of sizes and many different kinds of baskets.



Call or view the baskets on line at www.joesproduce.com

33152 W. SEVEN MILE RD

LIVONIA, MI

248-477-4333

HOURS: SUNDAY 9-6 • MONDAY - SATURDAY 9-8

PRODUCE

California Sweet & Juicy Seedless Clementines \$4 ⁹⁹ 5 lb. box	Florida Hand Picked Green Beans 99¢ lb.	Arizona Red & Ripe Jumbo Roma Tomatoes \$1 ⁴⁹ lb.	Idaho Loose Baking Potatoes 39¢ lb.	Jumbo Delmonte Cantaloupe 2/\$4
---	--	--	--	---

DELI

Boarshead Tavern Ham \$6 ⁹⁹ lb. Save \$2.00 a lb.	Dietz & Watson Gourmet Chicken Breast \$5 ⁹⁹ lb. Save \$3.00 a lb.	Sara Lee Low Sodium Chicken \$5 ⁹⁹ lb. Save \$1.00 a lb.	Boarshead Yellow & White American Cheese \$3 ⁹⁹ lb. Save \$3.00 a lb.
Alexander Horning Hickory Smoked Bone in Hams \$1 ⁹⁹ lb.	Dietz & Watson Honey Tavern Ham & Homestyle Turkey \$5 ⁹⁹ lb. Save \$3.00 a lb.	Old Tyme Genoa Salami \$3 ⁹⁹ lb. Save \$2.00 a lb.	Reny Picot Bries, Bries Round or Bries Camembert \$3 ⁹⁹ ea. 8 oz.

Stop In For All Of Your Holiday Needs, Wreaths, Floral Centerpieces, Holiday Plants, Gift Baskets, Fruit Baskets And More.

GROCERY

Introducing Frito Lay to Joe's! Come back to Grocery Dept. for Tostito's, Dorito's & Chips
2/\$6⁰⁰

Archway Holiday Cookies
2/\$7⁰⁰ Mix or Match

Crosse & Blackwell Shrimp and Cocktail Sauces
2/\$6⁰⁰

Everyday **GOURMET**

Joe's Lasagna
\$5⁹⁹ lb. Save \$1.00 a lb.

Joe's Vegetarian Lasagna
\$4⁹⁹ lb. Save \$1.00 a lb.

Crab Cakes
\$4⁹⁹ each Save \$1.00 each

5" Chicken Pot Pie
\$3⁹⁹ each Save \$1.00 each

Be sure to place your orders for all your Holiday gatherings from our wide selection of Fruit, Vegetable, Cheese, Meat, Croissant & Sandwich Party Trays! Call or Order online!

BAKERY

Joe's Muffins
\$4⁹⁹ 4 pk. Save \$1.00 each

Joe's Pecan Pie
\$12⁹⁹

Cranberry Topped Cheesecake
\$23⁹⁹

Joe's Hand Decorated Specialty Sugar Cookies
Starting at \$1⁹⁹

Joe's Gourmet Catering & Events!
Call Today To Book Your Holiday Party!!
Employee Appreciation Luncheon or Breakfast.
FREE Appetizer or Dessert with your catering order of \$500.00 or more.
www.joesgourmetcatering.com
248-477-4333 x226

CAFE

Joe's In Store Fresh Roasted Coffee Flavor of The Week "Cinnamon Spice"
\$5⁹⁹ lb. Save \$2.00 a lb.

Decorate your home for the Holidays with **Joe's Poinsettia's**
Starting at \$4⁹⁹ & up

Walnuts
\$4⁹⁹ lb. Save \$1.00 a lb.
Great for Holiday Baking!

WINE CELLAR

Joe's now offers personalized food and wine pairing advice by our own Sommelier, **Mike Larranaga**:
Mon., Tues., Thurs. - Fri. & Sat. 11-4
Evening Appts. also available
Call (248) 302-1567

Heavens Court Chardonnay \$8⁹⁹

Heineken 6 pack \$6⁹⁹ + dep

Corona 6 pack \$6⁹⁹ + dep



Prices good through December 13, 2009

Tim Smith, editor (313) 222-2637
tsmith@hometownlife.com



2009-10 BOYS BASKETBALL PREVIEW PT. II

Kids have big chance

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There is no denying who the dean of boys basketball coaches is at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park this winter.

Hands down it's Salem's Bob Brodie, embarking on his 26th season as head coach of the Rocks — and 31st as a coach at the high school.

Elsewhere in "The Park," Canton's Jimmy Reddy and Plymouth's Mike Soukup start their first season with their team.

But Brodie also will deal with newness of sorts in 2009-10 as the Rocks begin play in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's Central Division.

"We lost all of our five starters to graduation," Brodie said, citing guards Anthony Mullins, Heath Parling, post player Courtney Frazier and forwards Joe Posler and Jim Dexter.

The lone returnees with varsity experience are guard Blake Hayes and post player Jake Peterson.

As a result, a bevy of varsity rookies has the chance to impress

'We will be young, with little varsity experience. We have a big team though and should be competitive in the division.'

BOB BRODIE, Salem coach

and move up the depth chart as Salem eyes improvement over last year's 10-11 mark (4-4 in the Central).

"We will be young, with little varsity experience," Brodie said. "We have a big team though and should be competitive in the division."

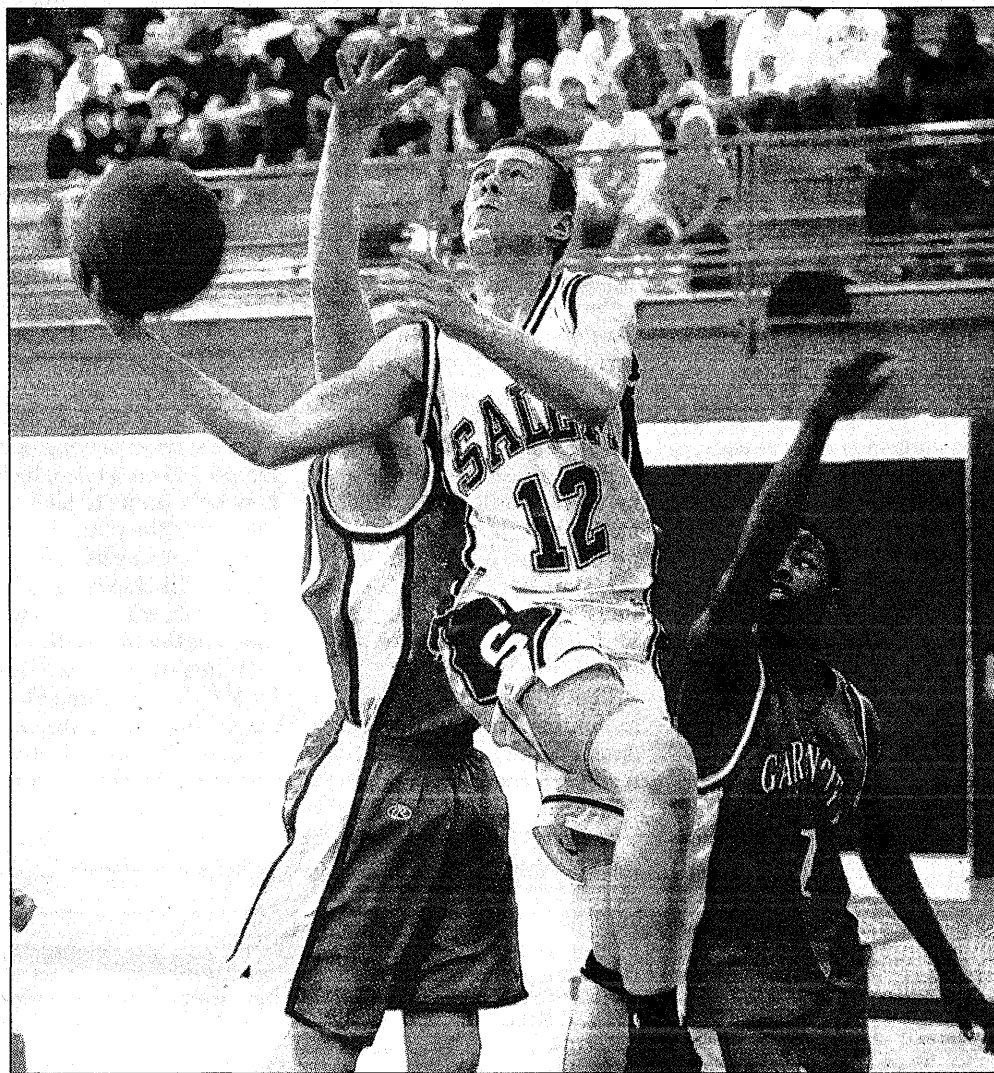
Other than Hayes, the Rocks will have juniors Josh Perrin, Devonta Riley and Jeff Cantin ready to play in the backcourt.

Joining Peterson up front will be junior power forwards Ethan Walsh and Paul Classen, along with promising freshman Terez Smith.

Small forwards include juniors Rodney Polk, Zinovy Pelekh and Scott Devine and sophomore Tyler Stewart.

The Rocks open the season Dec. 15 at Redford Union in a non-conference tilt.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



There are only two Salem varsity boys basketball players back from last season, and one of them is Blake Hayes (No. 12), shown in a 2008-09 game against Garden City.

GAME WRAPS

Boys basketball

CANTON 53, CRESTWOOD 40: Call the Chiefs "Road Warriors," as they started the season with an impressive non-conference victory Tuesday night at Dearborn Heights Crestwood.

A 20-12 edge in the third quarter blew open a close ballgame.

"We went into halftime up one (23-22) and then our kids showed a lot of resiliency," said Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy, "especially playing without one of our starters."

Senior forward Brandon Duffey missed the game due to a sprained ankle.

But that provided an opportunity for sophomore guard Kyle Adams, who scored nine points — all on treys — and collected five rebounds.

Leading the Chiefs with 24 points, along with seven assists, was junior point guard Dietrich Lever. Contributing eight points was senior forward Kevin Weisz.

For the Chargers, guard Claude Glenn scored 19 points.

Girls basketball

CANTON 47, MARIAN 41: The visiting Chiefs improved to 2-0 on the season Tuesday night, with what head coach Brian Samulski described as "a solid win against a great program on the road."

Canton trailed 39-37 entering the fourth frame, but stifling defense by senior guard-forward Alyssa Cottrell against Marian's Rachel Melcher sparked the Chiefs. Melcher scored 16 points, but only two in the fourth as Canton outscored the Mustangs, 10-2.

"We defended really well the first three quarters, but we did a great job in the fourth to close out the game," Samulski said.

Sophomore guard Robyn Mack led Canton with 13 points, while junior forwards Kari Schmitt (nine points, 10 rebounds), Sara Schmitt (seven points, five rebounds) and Kayla Bridges (six points) all were big contributors.

Marian dropped to 2-1 with the loss.

SALEM 39, MERCY 35: After two subpar outings in the offensive department, the host Rocks shot the ball much better Tuesday night and earned their first win of the season.

The teams were deadlocked 24-24 going into the fourth, and that's when senior forward Brett deBear stepped up with six of her 10 points. Scoring all five of her points for the night during the final frame was Heidi Schmidt.

Senior forward Sara Stone had another strong game, scoring 18 points and grabbing eight rebounds. Chipping in with four points was Rachel Norman.

For Farmington Hills Mercy (1-1), Janelle McQueen scored 10 points.

"It's good, we've played hard the first two games but we came up short," said Salem head coach Fred Thomann. "It felt good to come up with a win."

Thomann said his team played improved defense, particularly down the stretch. But he emphasized

Please see **WRAPS, B2**

Buzzer beater caps dramatic Plymouth opener

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Mike Nadratowski didn't want to play overtime to decide Tuesday night's boys basketball season opener.

The Plymouth junior forward wanted the ball for a last-second bid to break a 39-39 tie and said as much to head coach Mike Soukup during a timeout with two seconds to go in the fourth.

"He (Nadratowski) said 'Run it to me, I want the shot,'" said Soukup following the KLAAs crossover against Walled Lake Central, his first game as Plymouth coach. "That's what he said in the huddle. True to his word he hit it."

Nadratowski's rainbow jumper from

the right wing swished through the cords as the buzzer sounded — giving the Wildcats a stirring 41-39 win over the visiting Vikings.

"We'll take the finish," Soukup said. "These guys showed a lot of heart tonight. They fought back from deficits of 10, 11, 12 (points)."

"... It's a big character win for our ballclub and we'll take it, especially starting a new era here at Plymouth. The first one is the hardest to get, so we'll take that monkey off our back."

The bucket touched off a mob scene on the floor, with the 6-0, 175-pounder the central figure.

"It was just a great feeling," Nadratowski said. "It was my first time hitting a buzzer-beater."

Nadratowski (11 points) added that he had confidence to make the winning shot, and was ready to be the team leader he didn't have the chance to be as a sophomore.

"I just wanted to take the leadership role," he said, smiling. "I knew I could hit it, so I just wanted that last shot."

On the play, junior forward Pat Salo dished the ball out from the baseline to Nadratowski, who did all the rest.

But it took a concerted defensive effort during the second half to even have a chance, following a poor-shooting opening 16 minutes.

Central rolled out to a 13-3 lead after one quarter and still enjoyed a 19-12 edge at the intermission — undoubtedly helped by Plymouth missing nine

layups.

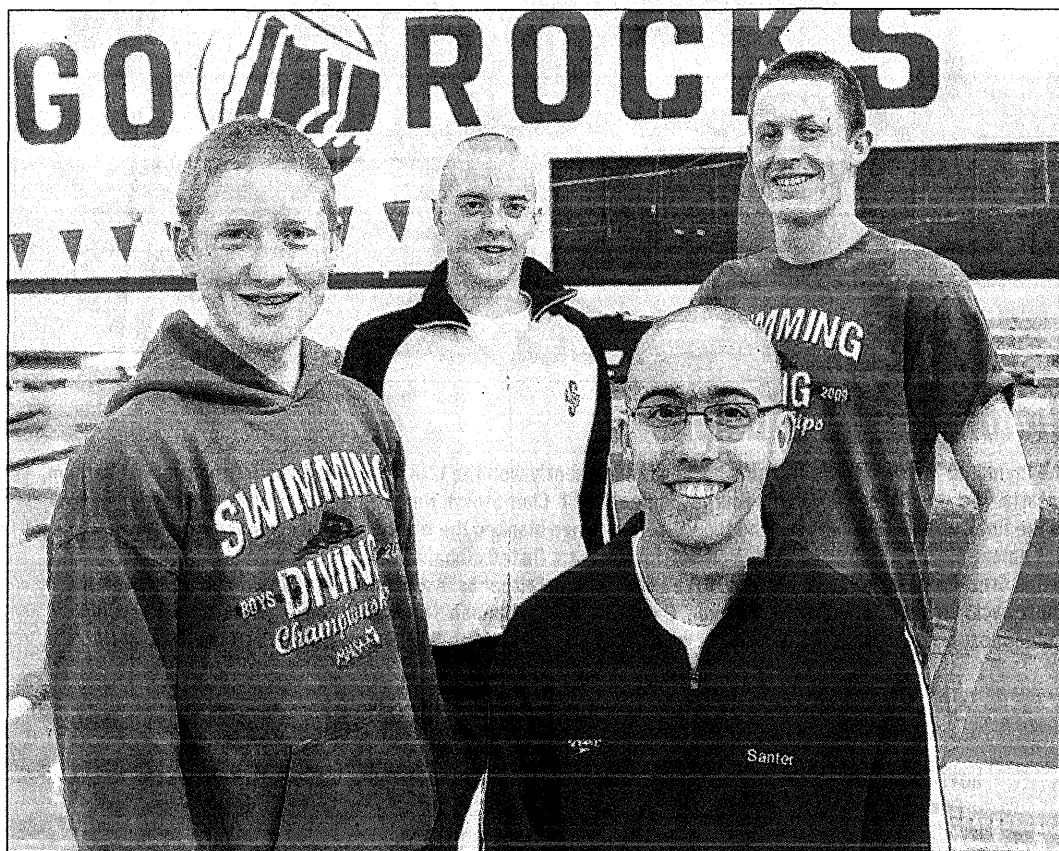
It actually was 19-5 Vikes midway through the second, following a jumper by senior forward Joe Kubrickas (11 points) before the Wildcats began to rally.

The 7-0 run featured Nadratowski's triple and a finger roll through the lane. A power layup by 6-5 junior forward Brennen Beyer (six points, 15 rebounds) cut the deficit to seven.

The teams went back and forth during the third, which ended with Central still up 29-25.

Plymouth ended the frame with a 7-1 surge, sparked by Beyer's outlet to senior Aaron Thompson — who canned

Please see **PLYMOUTH, B2**



One reason for optimism entering the year for Salem is the return of 2008-09 state qualifiers (from left) Max Mills, Matt Collingwood, Noah Santer and Adam Seroka.

2009-10 BOYS SWIMMING PREVIEW

Talent pool

Rocks solid with cast of talented returnees

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

No matter how things play out in the KLAAs Central this winter, Salem's boys swim team figures to make a splash.

Veteran Salem coach Chuck Olson knows it's a given that the Central will be highly competitive as always — with excellent programs throughout such as Livonia Stevenson, Novi and Northville.

But the Rocks also should be pretty darn good, with four Division 1 state qualifiers back in the fold along with improving upperclassmen and promising newbies.

"The competition is going

to be stiff again this year, and we'd like to think we can improve our times, move up and get more qualifiers in there," Olson said. "In the division we still have Stevenson, Northville, Novi, South Lyon. It's always interesting with those in the division."

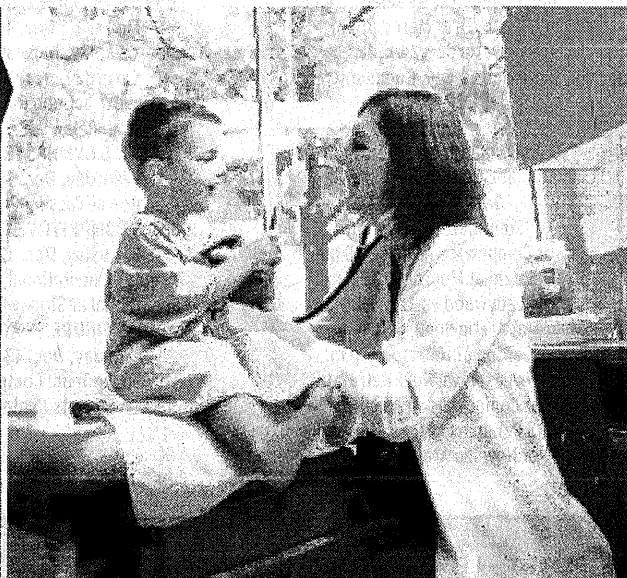
The returning state qualifiers for Salem certainly will form the team's nucleus.

Junior Adam Seroka is an outstanding, versatile performer who earned All-State honors in the 200 IM (he placed third at the state meet, 1:54.97) and 500 freestyle.

"Adam was captain last

Please see **ROCKS, B3**

You have a partner who is on your side.



The primary care physicians of Providence Park Hospital never stop caring about you and your family. We are on your side, listening carefully to you and caring for your needs. To make an appointment with a Providence Park primary care physician, call 866-501-DOCS. We'll work together with you to find the most appropriate doctor for you and your family.



PROVIDENCE PARK HOSPITAL

A Campus of Providence Hospital and Medical Centers

A PASSION for HEALING

WWW.STJOHN.ORG/PROVIDENCEPARK

PCA fortunes could get lift from ex-Wolverines

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It could be an interesting year for Plymouth Christian's varsity boys basketball team. The Eagles lost 11 seniors off of the 2008-09 team, which finished 12-12 and captured a Class D district championship thanks to Caleb Middleton's buzzer-beater. But third-year head coach Mike Doyle would rather look at the positive, such as having three returnees and two strong players who came over from now-defunct Canton Agape Christian (Don Mullett and Ethan Walker). "The two Agape seniors are a big addition after losing 11 seniors, including the starting

five," Doyle said. But the coach hesitates to say the team is embarking on a rebuilding season. "Even though we lost 11 seniors, we never consider ourselves rebuilding as the basketball program is growing and gaining consistency," said Doyle, whose Eagles open the season Dec. 15 against visiting Oakland Christian. Mullett will start at point guard, having done an exceptional job there last season with the Wolverines (20 points-per-game average). "He starts our fast break well and makes good decisions with the ball," Doyle said. In the backcourt with Mullett is returning junior guard Travis Dekruyter, who

the coach said "helps the team in many ways, but what I like most about him is he is the most vocal guy on the court at all times." Walker and returnee Jordan Allen are battling it out for the starting power forward spot. "Both guys have a nose for the ball and are great secondary rebounders," Doyle said. He added that Walker also "brings a rebounding toughness that the team is lacking this year." Returnee Matt Dodson so far is the leading candidate for the small forward position, bringing a competitive streak and a penchant for draining treys. Perhaps the most intriguing development with PCA is the arrival of Eric Jipping, a prom-

ising sophomore center who was a JV force in '08-09. "He (Jipping) brings a great post presence with the ability to hit the mid-range shot and occasional 3-pointer," the coach said. "I look for big things out of this young man this year." Meanwhile, freshman Mick Noel could step into an important backup role, probably at guard or small forward. Doyle described Noel as a "quick, pesky defender that can leap out of the gym. We believe that Mick will be an impact player all season." Rounding out the roster are Josh Johnston, Chad Ibach and Riley Groenewoud.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



WALT DMOCH

Nearly 3,000 hockey fans at Compuware Arena Saturday night had to wait until almost the end of the second period to litter the ice at the Whalers' annual Teddy Bear Toss game. Fans brought the toys in anticipation of throwing them over the glass when Plymouth scored its first goal. The toys will be donated to Plymouth Community United Way's children's charities.

PLYMOUTH

FROM PAGE B1

a triple from beyond the top of the arc to make it 28-23.

GETTING CLOSER

In the fourth, the Wildcats continued to press and chip away, frustrating the Vikes in the process. A couple of key field goals down low for the Wildcats by senior forward-guard

Dion Johnson (a team-leading 12 points) and a layup by Thompson (seven points) helped put Plymouth on the cusp of going out in front for the first time since the game's opening seconds. The Wildcats did take a 33-32 lead with 5:47 left when Nadratowski hit a pair of foul shots. Doing all he could for Central was senior forward Justin Kucera, who drained two triples from the right side along with another basket (he

led the Vikes with 15 points). Beyer muscled in for a layup to deadlock matters at 37-37 with 2:50 to go and Nadratowski's jumper from the left side of the key put Plymouth up a deuce with less than two minutes remaining. Central wasn't done, as senior forward Karl Boedecker (seven points) scored to make it a 39-39 contest. But Nadratowski's ensuing clutch shot finally completed the uphill climb to victory.

"We started playing our tempo and our style which is how we're going to have to play the rest of the year," Soukup said. "That was key for us. Guys really showed good character, even when times were tough in the first half. "When we got down by a bunch, they continued to fight back. I hope that's the character that will carry us through some inevitable tough times during the season."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Hounds spoil 'Teddy' night

On Nov. 27, Sault Ste. Marie goaltender Robin Lehner was pulled in the second period as the Plymouth Whalers defeated the Greyhounds, 5-4, at the Essar Centre in Sault Ste. Marie. Saturday - during the Whalers annual Teddy Bear Toss, played before 2,867 at Compuware Arena - Lehner was the difference in the game in stopping 48-of-49 Plymouth shots as the game's first star in the Soo's 4-1 victory over Plymouth. Jacob Muzzin's short handed goal (and seventh of the year) at 7:15 of the third period snapped a 1-1 tie and stood as the game-winning goal for Sault Ste. Marie, now 16-13-1-1. Jordan Nolan (sixth) also scored for the Soo, while Brett Thompson (16th) and Brock Beukeboom (third) scored empty net goal three seconds apart in the final minute of play to extend Sault Ste. Marie's lead from 2-1 to 4-1. Michal Jordan scored the lone Plymouth goal, his fifth of the year, to trigger the rain of Teddy Bears to the ice at 19:32 of the second period.

The Whalers, who defeated Saginaw 3-2 in overtime on Friday (on a goal by Jordan), fell to 17-14-0-0. Overall, the game was played with good flow and few whistles. After an evenly played first period that was scoreless, Nolan got the 'Hounds on the board with a power play goal at 15:58 of the second period. Working with a two-man advantage, Nolan scored with a hard shot from the top of the right circle. Jordan tied the game 1-1 with 0:28 left in the period with a rising shot from the right faceoff dot under the bar. Plymouth was working on a power play on James Livingston's tripping call at 6:58 of the third period when Muzzin, killing the penalty, picked up the puck in neutral territory, skated over the Plymouth blue line and beat Whalers goaltender Matt Hackett (31 saves) was a hard shot. The Whalers are off until Thursday when they play in Sarnia and will return home next Friday to host Erie at 7 p.m. at Compuware Arena.

WRAPS

FROM PAGE B1

that a tendency to commit turnovers needs to be corrected as soon as possible. W.L. CENTRAL 63, PLYMOUTH 36: Krista Hakola (22 points) and Tori Duffey (18 points) proved too much of a 1-2 punch for visiting Plymouth Tuesday night in a KLAAs crossover contest. The Wildcats (1-1) were led by Stacey Klonowski (14 points) and Isis Haywood, who scored eight points. Contributing four points in a losing effort were Alex Roberts and Rachael Hille.

Boys hockey
PLYMOUTH 4, LAKE ORION 1: By no means is Plymouth a perfect varsity boys hockey team, although they now are 6-0 following Saturday's win over the Lake Orion Dragons at Detroit Skate Club in Bloomfield Township. That's the take of Wildcats head coach Paul Fassbender, who still wants his team to tighten up in its own zone. "We need to become a better defensive hockey team," Fassbender said. "There are team that have a lot more firepower and we need to be able to shut people down. Especially in our own end." But the Wildcats had plenty of defense to take care of the

Dragons, a point Fassbender made sure not to ignore. "It was a solid defensive effort from everyone," he said. "The shots that Lake Orion did get were perimeter shots, we blocked quite a few shots tonight." Wildcats goalie Mike Justus earned the victory, stopping 25 of 26 shots and only giving up a power play tally in the third. The shot bounced in off players in front of Justus. That merely cut Plymouth's lead to 3-1, built on the strength of goals in the first period by Evan Swieczkowski and Ryan Renault, followed by John Deal's goal in the second. Completing the scoring just two minutes after the Lake

Orion goal was Pat Smiatacz, registering the Wildcats' second power play goal. Smiatacz also collected two assists. Swieczkowski, Justin Bauer, Taylor Currier and Sean Smiatacz also drew helpers. **Prep bowling**
PLYMOUTH OPENERS: Plymouth's varsity bowling team got off to a 1-1 start Monday against Milford. The boys won 23-7, led by Brandon Congdon's 200 game. But Milford's girls earned a 17-13 win over the Wildcats, although Kristyn Sturz bowled a 157 for Plymouth. In a junior varsity boys tilt, Plymouth won 26-4, led by Zach Behr's outstanding score of 278.

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

In collaboration with
Avis Ford and Moving Screen Marketing
Presents...

A Gift from the Heart

After-Work Charity Donation Drive

December 17th
5:30-7:30pm

at...

AVIS FORD

29200 Telegraph Road
in Southfield

Each person donating a gift will receive a coupon for a **FREE BUDDY'S CHEESE PIZZA** and will also be entered into our drawing to **WIN A VARIETY OF PRIZES** to be given away that evening.

All gifts will be donated to a local charity for a family in need.



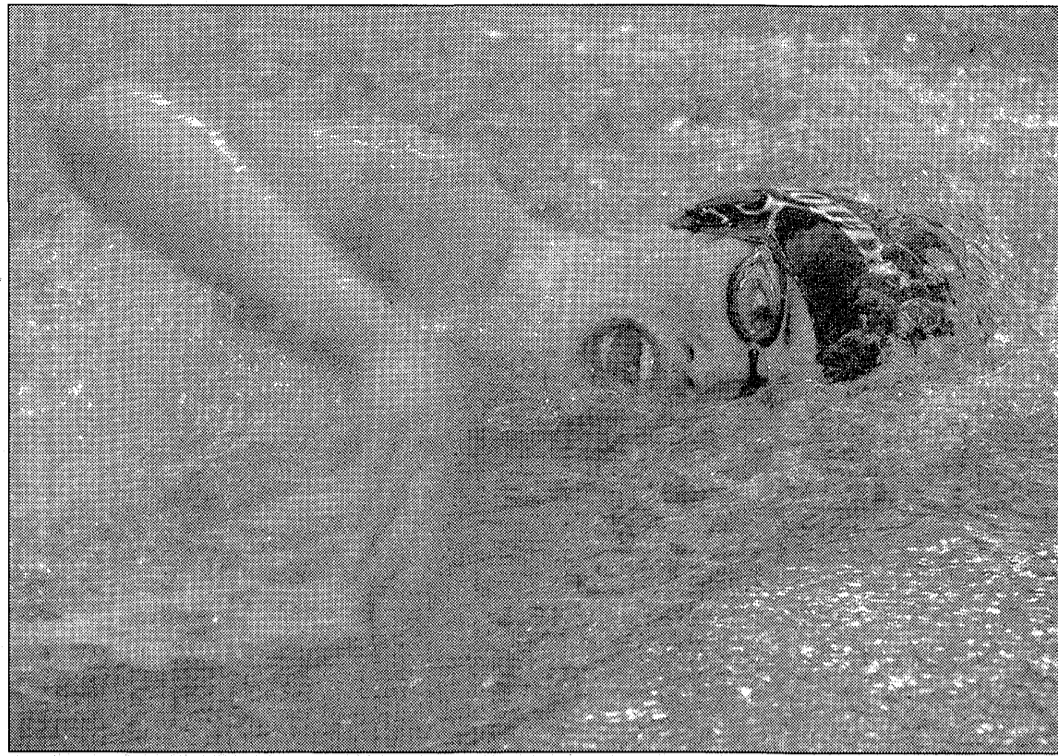
Victory Honda triumphs

The Plymouth Victory Honda 10U girls hockey team recently won the 12th Annual Outlaws Tournament in Chatham, Ontario. The squad went 4-0 in the tourney, defeating St. Clair Storm, North York Storm and Windsor Wildcats to get to the final. Goalie Alex Marcyan and the VH defense then blanked the Wildcats 1-0 to claim the title. Brooke Spiegel was named MVP of the tournament. Members of the team (listed alphabetically) are Paige Butkin, Michelle Cirino, Jenna Cruz, Peri Darmofal, Olivia Drys, Kyra Eddy, Brenna Fairbanks, Ashley Gorris, Mikayla Hubbard, Steffanie Killingback, Chelsea Kovich, Alex Marcyan, Emma Ratusznik, Hannah Schulman, Brooke Spiegel and Cathryne VandenBosch. Head coach is Chris Cirino, with assistant coaches Rob Eddy, Larry Kovich and Dave Spiegel.

THE WEEK AHEAD

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday, Dec. 11
West Bloomfield at Canton, 7 p.m.</p> <p>GIRLS BASKETBALL
Thursday, Dec. 10
Det. Renaissance at Canton, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Friday, Dec. 11
Det. Community at Salem, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Plymouth at Mercy, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Saturday, Dec. 12
Ply. Christian vs. Det. Community, 1 p.m.</p> <p>PREP HOCKEY
Friday, Dec. 11
Churchill vs. Novi-Detroit CC at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Saturday, Dec. 12
Southgate vs. Plymouth at Compuware Arena, 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Salem at Monroe, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Ladywood vs. G.P. South at Arctic Pond, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Canton at Harrison, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Stevenson vs. Novi-Detroit CC at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.</p> <p>PCS Penguins (JV) vs. Northville at Novi Ice Arena, 8:30 p.m.</p> | <p>PREP WRESTLING
Saturday, Dec. 12
Salem "10" Tournament, 9 a.m.</p> <p>Avondale Invitational, 9 a.m.</p> <p>Garden City Invitational, 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Bedford Invitational, 10 a.m.</p> <p>Rochester Invitational, TBA.</p> <p>BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING
Thursday, Dec. 10
Monroe at Canton, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Saturday, Dec. 12
Rocket Relays at John Glenn, 1 p.m.</p> <p>EMU Relays, TBA.</p> <p>GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Saturday, Dec. 12
Canton at Vassar, 12 p.m.</p> <p>GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER
Saturday, Dec. 12
Wyandotte Invitational, 9 a.m.</p> <p>CCAM Invitational at Stoney Creek, 1 p.m.</p> <p>GIRLS FIGURE SKATING
Sunday, Dec. 13
Ladywood in Team Competition at Hartland Sports Center, 8 a.m.</p> | <p>ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Thursday, Dec. 10
Plymouth at Sarnia, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Friday, Dec. 11
Erie vs. Plymouth at Compuware, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Saturday, Dec. 12
Saginaw vs. Plymouth at Compuware, 7 p.m.</p> <p>MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Friday, Dec. 11
(Madonna University Classic)
Rochester College vs. UM-Dearborn, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Madonna vs. Notre Dame (Ohio), 8 p.m.</p> <p>Saturday, Dec. 12
Schoolcraft at Glen Oaks CC, 3 p.m.</p> <p>(Madonna University Classic)
Notre Dame (Ohio) at UM-Dearborn, noon.</p> <p>Madonna vs. Rochester College, 2 p.m.</p> <p>WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Friday, Dec. 11
Madonna at St. Ambrose (Ia.), 8 p.m.</p> <p>Saturday, Dec. 12
St. Clair CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.</p> <p>Madonna vs. St. Mary-of-the-Woods (Ind.) at St. Ambrose (Ia.) Classic, 4 p.m.</p> <p>TBA - time to be announced.</p> |
|---|---|---|

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com



One of the top returnees for Plymouth is Chris Wilson, one of the Wildcats who will be counted on to participate in several events.

Plymouth won't back down

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's boys swim team dives in for another season Thursday against visiting Monroe, and Wildcats head coach Doug Schade is enthusiastic about what might unfold over the coming months.

"We have a bunch of guys who are hard-working and motivated to get better," said Schade, whose team finished 4-1 last year in the KLAA South Division.

Leading that group are top returnees Chris Wilson, Ethan Weiner, Alex Jouney, Adam Wing, Ethan Christenson, Kyle

Wilkenson and Adam Liakos.

"Most of these swimmers will swim any event on any occasion," Schade said.

That kind of versatility and willingness to compete make any coach smile, including Schade.

"I expect our team to compete night in and night out," Schade said. "And to improve on a meet-by-meet basis. All we can control is how much we improve."

In addition to the nucleus, the Wildcats' roster includes five guys who the coach said "will support our effort this year."

Those are Zack Koch, Peter Burns, Jack Gruczynski, Todd

Maslyk and Brett Jia.

Freshmen Scott Wang and Cameron Earls and senior Tim Castle also show promise. Castle is a transfer from Redford Thurston.

Schade added that "it will be fun for me to see how the season turns out."

Following the Monroe meet, Plymouth will take part in the Wildcat Relay Meet set for 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18 (at Salem's nanatorium).

Then it's the holiday hiatus, with a Jan. 12 home meet against Westland John Glenn next on the schedule.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

ROCKS

FROM PAGE B1

year as a sophomore," the coach said. "You always try to get captains that set a good example in the pool and in the classroom."

"He fulfilled all those things and we're counting on him again."

The Rocks also feature junior Matt Collingwood (who scored in the 200 and 500 free events at the state meet), junior Matt Mills (500 free qualifier) and sophomore Noah Santer (who qualified in the 100 fly and 500 free as a freshman).

Mills could push the Division 1 state envelope in up to four events, including the 200 IM.

"We only graduated three seniors, every one that went

to state and scored they're all coming back," Olson said. "We actually have quite a bit of experience returning and we have 13 freshmen coming in."

THEY WANT MORE

Olson likes the way a number of seniors have stepped it up during preseason workouts, apparently on a mission to improve and chip in to a winning season.

In that group are Ryan Hartwig (100 back, 50 free, 100 free), Troy Kerchen (freestyle events), Jake Misolek (freestyle events), Michael Summers (freestyle events) and co-captains Chad Newton and Alex Suriano (Seroka also is a co-captain).

"He (Newton) will be in just about every event," Olson said. "He's definitely one of a lot of younger guys look up to, (who will) do all the right things."

Ditto for Suriano, expected to contribute in the 100 backstroke and 200 IM.

"He's a hard worker, a good student," said Olson about Suriano. "We're looking for strong leadership out of him."

Meanwhile, one of the promising kids on the roster is sophomore Jeremy Wellman, who can compete in a number of freestyle individual events and relays as well as the 100 back and 100 fly.

"He has a lot of potential," Olson said. "He came in late last year."

With a strong blend of experience, leadership and versatility, Olson is optimistic about 2009-10, which begins Saturday at the Eastern Michigan University Relays.

"The boys are looking good at this point," he said.

Goal-happy Penguins romp, 11-1

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Talk about setting the tone. Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins senior defenseman Jordyn Moore snapped a shot from inside the blue line inside the right post for a 1-0 lead just 31 seconds into Saturday's girls hockey game.

That quickly grew into a 4-0 advantage — just 2:37 into the game — and a 9-1 lead after one period against the Bloomfield Knighthawks at Royal Oak's Lindell Arena.

The barrage resulted in an 11-1 mercy in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League matchup, shortened to two periods.

"I think it was pretty much 6-for-6 (goals) at the beginning there," said PCS head coach Mary Beth Johnson. "... Obviously, we weren't out here to embarrass anybody."

"The fun thing about this game is the girls that don't normally get to score were able to get a point."

All in all, 11 players made the scoresheet. But the coach particularly cited the first varsity goal for freshman Beth Johnson, poking her own rebound home with seconds left in the first period to make it 9-1.

"We got the puck for her," the coach said. "We were pret-

GIRLS HOCKEY

ty excited about that."

A substitute goaltender for Bloomfield (playing because the regular was ill) tried her best but to no avail.

Meanwhile, Penguins freshman goalie Cortny McAdoo could have sent text messages to friends for all the action she saw.

Scoring at 12:34 of the first frame was Bloomfield captain Chandler Billes, on a low shot from in front. But by that time it already was 8-0 and the Penguins knew they would improve to 3-2 overall and 3-0 in league play.

SCORING FRENZY

After the first-minute goal by Moore, the Penguins kept the shots and goals coming. Scoring in quick succession were Shauna Siebert, Rhianna Fleisher and Sarah Coleman.

Before the end of the opening 15 minutes, five more pucks entered the Knighthawks' cage. First, Jennifer Fedon buried a rebound, then Marissa Sullivan chipped in a pair (she wound up with 2 goals, 3 assists).

Adding the final two (sandwiched around the Bloomfield marker) were Kara Bongiovanni and Johnson.

During the second period,

the Penguins added goals by Tory Campbell and Rebecca Majszak.

According to Johnson, she pulled back on the reins just a bit during the second, not wanting to further humiliate Bloomfield (comprised of players from Andover, Lahser and International Academy).

FINE TUNING

Instead, it was the perfect time to smooth out some wrinkles.

"We were struggling with our passing (previously) and the girls had a good opportunity to use game situations to work on their passing, working the puck down low, bringing it back to the point," she explained.

"It definitely was a good stepping stone for us to be able to work on those kinds of things."

Other than Sullivan, players with multiple points included Moore (1 goal, 1 assist), Fedon (1 goal, 3 assists), Bongiovanni (1 goal, 1 assist), Fleisher (1 goal, 1 assist) and Siebert (1 goal, 2 assists).

Recording single points were Beth Johnson, Coleman, Campbell, Majszak and Ellexus Montoya.

Bloomfield fell to 0-4 with the loss.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Wildcats place second at tournament

Plymouth went 3-2 at Saturday's Columbia Central Invitational, taking second place in flight three to improve to 4-3 on the young season.

In the Flight Three Championship match the Wildcats fell just short of winning, falling to Constantine 4-2-1.

Most matches went back and forth with many Wildcats

PREP WRESTLING

having the opportunity to win.

Plymouth victories were scored by freshman Alec Breckenridge (winning by tech fall over Dustin Meyer), Said Youssef (major decision over Tyler Spencer), Chase Kallil (decision over Matt Fashbaugh), Ryan

Schultz (decision against Benn Mallo in overtime), Rob Barackman (6-4 over Dominic Rodgers), and Wally Eppler (6-3 over Russell Schenk).

Breckenridge and Youssef both went 5-0 on the day to improve to 7-0 for the season while Wally Eppler's 3-0 showing upped his total mark to 3-1.

WAYNE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES
IN COOPERATION WITH THE
TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC HEARING
FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF THE

**SHELDON CENTER ROAD
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**
(FROM SOUTH OF CANTON CENTER ROAD TO JOY ROAD)

CANTON TOWNSHIP
Monday, December 21, 2009
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
at the
Township of Canton
Administration Building
Lower Level, Meeting Room E
1150 Canton Center S.
Canton Township, MI 48188

The Environmental Assessment will be available for review during normal business hours beginning December 3, 2009 and ending January 15, 2010 at the following locations:

Township of Canton Administration Building 1150 Canton Center S. Canton Township, MI 48188	Canton Public Library 1200 S. Canton Center Canton, MI 48188	Wayne County Department of Public Services Field Engineering Permit Office 33809 Michigan Ave. Wayne, MI 48184
---	--	---

The Environmental Assessment is available for viewing on the Wayne County web site at <http://www.waynecounty.com/mygovt/dps/>. Look for News Releases.

Comments may be made in person at the aforementioned hearing or in writing to Kenneth M. Kucel at Wayne County Department of Public Services, Engineering Division, 415 Clifford, Detroit, MI 48226 or by email to SheldonCenterEA@co.wayne.mi.us. Written comments must be submitted no later than January 15, 2010.

Publish: December 3 & 10, 2009

Need Help?

Not sure where to turn for answers regarding:

- Loan Modification
- Credit Repair
- Property Tax Appeals
- Property Short Sale
- Refinancing

I help responsible homeowners, undergoing serious hardships in this recession, keep their homes, save on their property taxes and repair their credit.
Call Sam at 313- 378-0484 or feel free to email any questions to me at Sam@theassessorgroup.com

The Assessor Group-Livonia
www.theassessorgroup.com

OE0681950

A MOTOWN TRADITION SINCE 1997

**Saturday
December 26
1 PM Kickoff
Ford Field**

littlecaesarspizzabowl.com

	Marshall University Thundering Herd	6-6	Conference USA	VERSUS		Ohio University Bobcats	9-4	Mid American Conf. East Division Champs
--	--	------------	----------------	---------------	--	------------------------------------	------------	--

**TICKETS: CLUB LEVEL \$60, LOWER LEVEL \$45,
END ZONE ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT \$45, END ZONE \$30**

Purchase tickets in person by visiting the Ford Field ticket office
To order tickets by phone call Ticketmaster 800-745-3000
www.ticketmaster.com or visit littlecaesarspizzabowl.com/tickets

TREAT YOURSELF TO AN EARLY HOLIDAY GIFT

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Holiday hoops camp

The Plymouth High School Basketball Booster Club announced it will be hosting its Holiday Basketball Camp, 1-3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28 through Wednesday, Dec. 30 at the PHS gymnasium. Up to 50 boys in grades 5-8 are eligible to sign up. The cost of the camp is \$50. For more information and to register, contact booster club president John Nadratowski at (734) 844-3212.

Coaches, please call

High school coaches or their assistants are asked to supply recaps of games, meets and matches (win or lose, home or away) to help spotlight the accomplishments of deserving student-athletes at Canton, Plymouth, Salem and Plymouth Christian Academy. To do so, please e-mail Observer_sports_editor@hometownlife.com or leave him detailed messages at (313) 222-2637. Deadlines are Tuesday nights for the Thursday paper and Friday nights for the Sunday edition.

Precision Baseball clinic

Baseball players take note: Precision Baseball in Canton recently announced an eight-week Progression Clinic on pitching, catching and hitting — to feature members of Eastern Michigan University's coaching staff. Those coaches include assistant coach Aaron Hepner and assistant coach/recruiting coordinator Andrew Maki. Areas where pitchers can expect improvement include: increasing velocity and arm strength; changing speeds; improving control and learning proper warm-up techniques. Batters can increase power, hit to all fields, reduce strikeouts, make good contact and recognize a fastball instead of a changeup or curve. Meanwhile, in the catching department, instructors will focus on blocking, receiving, throwing, calling a game and

being quick behind the dish. All ages are welcome to sign up for the clinic, which begins Monday, Nov. 16 (4:30 to 6:30 p.m.) Sessions are every Monday and Friday and are \$15 per session, per player and \$225 for all 16 sessions if paid up front. For more information, send an e-mail to info@precision-baseballone.com or call (734) 459-5921. Precision Baseball is located at 7835 Market Street in Canton.

Give 'Pickleball' a try
Plymouth and Canton residents are welcome to sign up for a unique recreational sport being offered by Northville Parks and Recreation — pickleball.

The sport combines ping pong and badminton, with a hard paddle used to send the ball over the net. Open pickleball sessions are held at the Northville Recreation Center based out of Hillside Middle School. Beginner to intermediate play is 1-3 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays (\$2 per person) and 10 a.m. to 12 noon Wednesdays and Thursdays (\$2). Three courts are available. Intermediate to advanced play is 12 noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays (\$3) and 6-8 p.m. Saturdays (\$4).

Paddles and pickleballs are provided at the center. Call (248) 349-0203 for more information. **Plymouth YMCA eyes grant**
Liberty Mutual will soon donate a \$2,500 Responsible Community Grant to 20 youth sports organizations demonstrating their commitment to doing the right things on and off the playing surface. The Plymouth Family YMCA is hoping to be one of the recipients. "The Liberty Mutual Responsible Sports program targets many of the issues we see happening at youth sporting events by shining a positive light on what it means to be a responsible coach and a

responsible sports-parent," said Greg Gordon, vice president of Consumer Marketing at Liberty Mutual. "Beyond that, Liberty Mutual is making a significant financial contribution to support the efforts of local organizations like Plymouth Family YMCA." The ongoing, community-based program offers meaningful, easy-to-use educational resources for youth sports parents and coaches, including access to on-the-field game and practice preparation tools as well as self-paced online courses filled with learning tools, videos and topics addressing youth sports issues.

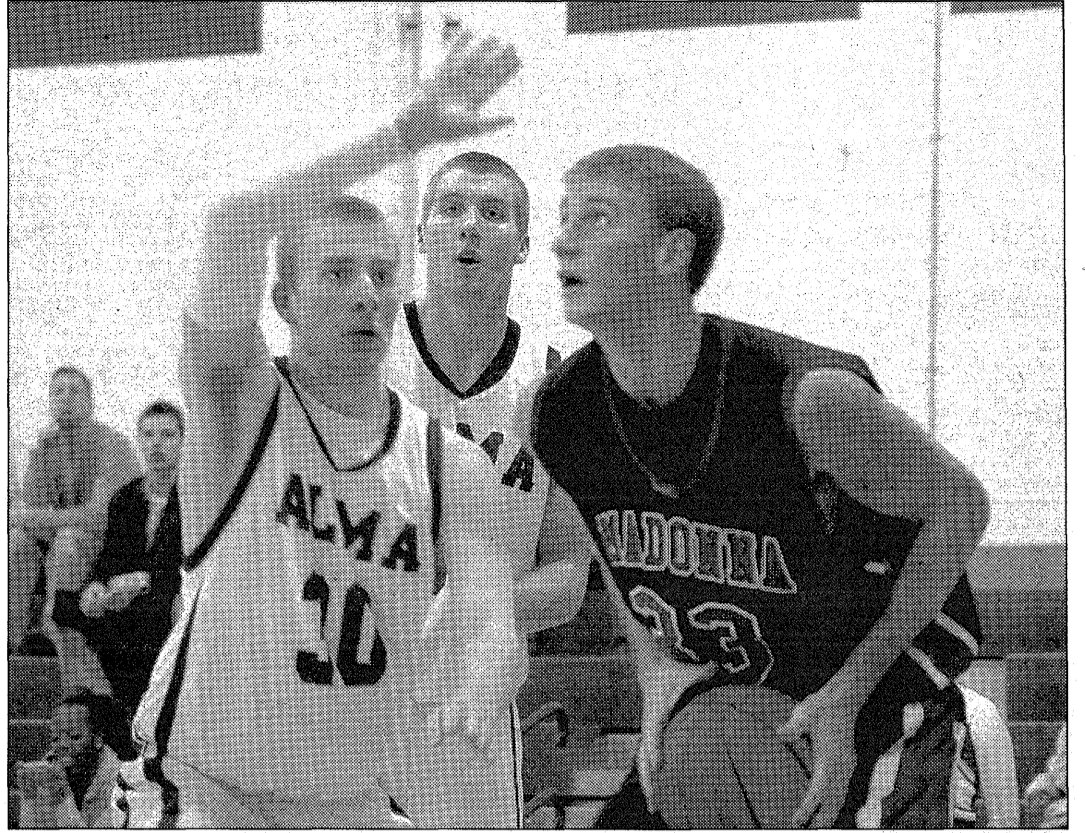
The Responsible Sports program, including community grants, comes at a crucial time for communities where youth programs are under pressure from increasing numbers of participants, limited volunteer activity and mounting program-administration costs. Through the resources provided by the grants, it is hoped that "our organizations thrive even under challenging circumstances." For more information, contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or go to www.responsible-sports.com.

YMCA leagues, classes

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering plenty of leagues and instructional classes this fall and winter, as detailed below:

- **YMCA Fall and Winter Basketball leagues** are forming for children, ages 4-11. The fall session will take place through Dec. 18 with the winter session slated from Jan. 19-to-March 26, 2010.
- There will be one practice and one game (Friday nights) per week. All participants need a YMCA Youth Sports Reversible Jersey (\$15).
- There is something for everyone this Fall at the Plymouth YMCA. Registration is ongoing for Girls Volleyball Clinics (for ages 8-10 and 10-12), Basketball Clinics (for ages 6-7 and 8-9), Sports Sampler Class (for ages 3-5) and Little Dragons Martial Arts (for ages 4-7).

For more information on YMCA leagues and programs, check out www.ywmcadetroit.org or call the office at 734-453-2904.



Madonna's 6-foot-8 junior center Geoff Gaylor (33) had 15 points and 16 rebounds in Saturday's last-second 62-60 setback to Alma College. The Scots' Tim Rodell (30) tries for the block.

Buzzer-beater sinks Crusader cagers

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It just wasn't in the cards Saturday afternoon for the Madonna University men's basketball team.

The host Crusaders certainly had their chances before falling at the buzzer, 62-60, to Alma College in the WHAC/MIAA Challenge. Inbounding the ball with only 3.1 seconds left, Tommy Erickson's putback follow-up of Greg Silverthorn's missed three-point attempt from the wing proved to be game-winner.

Alma, which won both games in the Challenge, improved to 2-4 overall. MU, meanwhile, drops to 1-8 after losing the previous night at home to Olivet College, 79-55.

After Kevin Henry's layup tied the game at 60-all with 1:37 to go, the Crusaders committed two costly turnovers during the final 40 seconds to set up the game-winning play by the Scots. "We've been in three games where it's been any-

body's game in the last minute," MU first-year coach Noel Emenhiser said. "In the end it looked like a lack of execution. But we played so bad the first half. We lacked discipline and our defense was horrendous."

The Crusaders fell behind 10-0 at the start before pulling within four at intermission, 29-25.

Alma junior guard Jordan Redditt, who led all scorers with 31 points, tallied 19 first-half points.

"We put in a half-court trap and picked up full-court into a 2-1-2 zone press," Emenhiser said of his second-half strategy. "We got moving and got out of the watching them play in the offense-mode."

Redditt, who was 11-of-27 from the floor, added 12 second-half points. He was the only Scot to score in double figures.

"It was better than the 19 that he had in the first half when he ate us up, but he still got 12 points" Emenhiser said of the University of Detroit Jesuit grad.

The Crusaders clawed their way back during the second half led by four, 60-56, with 1:48 to go, when Henry split a pair of free throws.

MU, however, wouldn't score again, missing its last three shots coupled with two turnovers.

Erickson added nine points and 10 rebounds for the Scots, who went 2-0 in the Challenge.

Henry, a 6-foot-4 freshman from Toledo, led MU in scoring with 18 points. Geoff Gaylor, a 6-8 junior, came off the bench to record his first career double-double with 15 points and 16 rebounds.

Slaughter, who hails from Westland, added 13 points. Both teams shot identical percentages from the field — 22-of-63 (34.9) — and nearly the same from the foul line. MU was 12-of-22, while Alma hit 11-of-22.

MU returns to action again this weekend at home in the Crusader Classic. The Crusaders will face Notre Dame (Ohio), 8 p.m. on Friday, and Rochester College, 2 p.m. on Saturday.

CANTON POLICE AUCTION
THESE VEHICLES HAVE BEEN AND WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION. THE AUCTION WILL BE ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH AT 9:00 A.M. THE AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT 6375 HIX, WESTLAND, MI 48185. THE VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AS IS, THE STARTING BID IS FOR TOWING AND STORAGE.

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	COLOR	VIN
1996	Pontiac	Grand Am	Black	1G2NE52T8XM712209
1996	Toyota		Black	4T1BG12K6TU745850
1994	Pontiac	Grand Am	Blue	1G2WJ12M2RF208618
1985	Kawasaki	Motorcycle	Black	JKAENGA18RA004172
2001	Glastron	Boat	White/Blue	
1995	Chevrolet	Blazer	Blue	1GNCS13W9S2201746
1993	Chevrolet	Caprice	Green	1G1BN5372PW140325
1996	GMC	Vonchera	White	1GTG35K0TF506452
1990	Oldsmobile	Cutlass	Red	1G3WH14T1LD311012

Publish: December 10, 2009

NOTICE
CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN
WINTER TAXES - 2009

Winter taxes are due December 1, 2009 and payable through February 28, 2010 without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement.

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CITY OF PLYMOUTH. Payments can be made at City Hall during regular working hours, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's office. Information on credit card payments is on our web page — www.ci.plymouth.mi.us. After hours, payments can be placed in the drop box located in the City Hall lobby (Church Street entrance) or in the payment drop box next to the book returns behind the Library.

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED from Thursday, December 24, 2009 returning on Monday, January 4, 2010. The Treasurer's office will be **OPEN TO ACCEPT TAX PAYMENTS AND OTHER PAYMENTS on Tuesday, December 29th, and Wednesday, December 30th.**

Teresa Cischke, CPFA
City Treasurer

Publish: December 6 & 10, 2009

PUBLIC NOTICE
CURRENT AND FORMER WORKERS OF INTRO CORPORATION, WESTLAND, MICHIGAN

In accordance with section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, ("Act"), 19 U.S.C. § 2273, the Department of Labor issued a Notice of Certification on November 12, 2009 regarding eligibility to apply for transitional adjustment assistance: All workers of Intro Corporation, Westland, Michigan (TA-W-71,125), who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after June 10, 2008 through two years from the date of certification, and all workers in the group threatened with total or partial separation from employment on the date of certification through two years from the date of certification, are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under Chapter 2 of Title II of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended. Workers wishing to apply for benefits within the designated time limits should report to their local Michigan Works! Agency. Call: 1-800-285-Works to determine the Michigan Works! Agency nearest to your home.

Equal Opportunity Employer & Programs. Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon request to Individuals with Disabilities. Teletypewriter - TTY (800) 649-3777. Funded in part by the Michigan Department of Energy Labor and Economic Growth through SEMCA.

Publish: December 10, 2009

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by **Plymouth Canton Community Schools, 454 S Harvey Street, Plymouth, MI, 48170** for:

FURNISHINGS

Proposals are to be submitted in accordance with contract documents prepared by TMP Architecture, Inc. 1191 W. Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302-0374 dated **December 9, 2009.**

- DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**
 - Bidding Documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after **December 9, 2009.** Examination may be made at the Office of the Architect, TMP ARCHITECTURE, INC.
 - Qualified Bidders may obtain bidding documents from the Architect's office, consisting of one (1) set of Drawings and Specifications. The charge for a set of documents is **\$50.00 payable in cash, cashier's check, money order or certified check to TMP Architecture, Inc.**
 - Deposits will be refunded upon return of the Bidding Documents to the Architect within ten (10) days after opening receipt of proposals provided the documents are complete, in clean and usable condition and free of marks or other defacement.
- MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING**
 - A mandatory pre-bid meeting will take place at the **EJ McClendon Educational Center 454 S Harvey Street, Plymouth, MI, 48170 on Friday, December 11, 2009 at 2:30 PM.** All requirements of the bid will be reviewed and any questions from potential bidders will be addressed at this time.
- DUE DATE**
 - Bid Proposals will be received until the time and the place, as follows, where and when they will be publicly opened and read aloud.
Date and Time: **Tuesday, January 5, 2009 at 2:30 PM**
Place: **EJ McClendon Educational Center, 454 S Harvey Street, Plymouth, MI, 48170**
- GENERAL INFORMATION**
 - Bidder shall agree not to withdraw Bid Proposal for a period on ninety (90) days after date of receipt of bids. A **5% bid bond is required** in accordance with the Section 00100-F - Instructions to Bidders (See Page 00100-F-1, Paragraph 2.G.).
 - Accepted Bidder shall be required to enter into a contract with **Plymouth Canton Community Schools** and furnish satisfactory Performance Bond in accordance with the Section 00100-F - Instructions to Bidders. (See Page 00100-F-2, Paragraph 2.L.).
 - The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids in whole or in part, or to waive any informalities therein. If in the Owner's opinion it is in their best interest, the contract may be awarded to other than the lowest bidder, for reasons of establishing uniformity, delivery time, etc.

Publish: December 6 and 10, 2009

CITY OF PLYMOUTH
PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED USES OF 2010-2011 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

Pursuant to Federal guidelines, the City of Plymouth is announcing its objectives and possible uses for developing projects using Year 2010-2011 Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide benefits to senior citizens.
- To provide benefits directly to persons of low/moderate income and/or areas in which at least 51% of the residents are of low/moderate income.
- To maintain a high level of performance in the management of all CDBG funded programs

PROPOSED YEAR 2010-2011 PROJECTS:
The City anticipates receiving approximately \$65,000 in CDBG funds for the contract year 2010-11, and has identified the following potential projects and corresponding estimated allocations for use of these funds:

1. ADA Public Facility Improvements	\$46,150
2. Public Services- Senior Transportation	\$12,350
3. Administration/Planning	\$6,500
TOTAL	\$65,000

PUBLIC HEARING:
Citizens are invited to comment on the proposed projects listed above, and to suggest other projects. All projects must meet one of the Federal CDBG objectives.

A public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed uses of 2010-2011 CDBG funds, and additional suggestions for use of said funds, will be held at the Plymouth City Commission Meeting on Monday, December 21, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the Commission Chambers at Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main St.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: December 10, 2009

EXTRA SPACE STORAGE

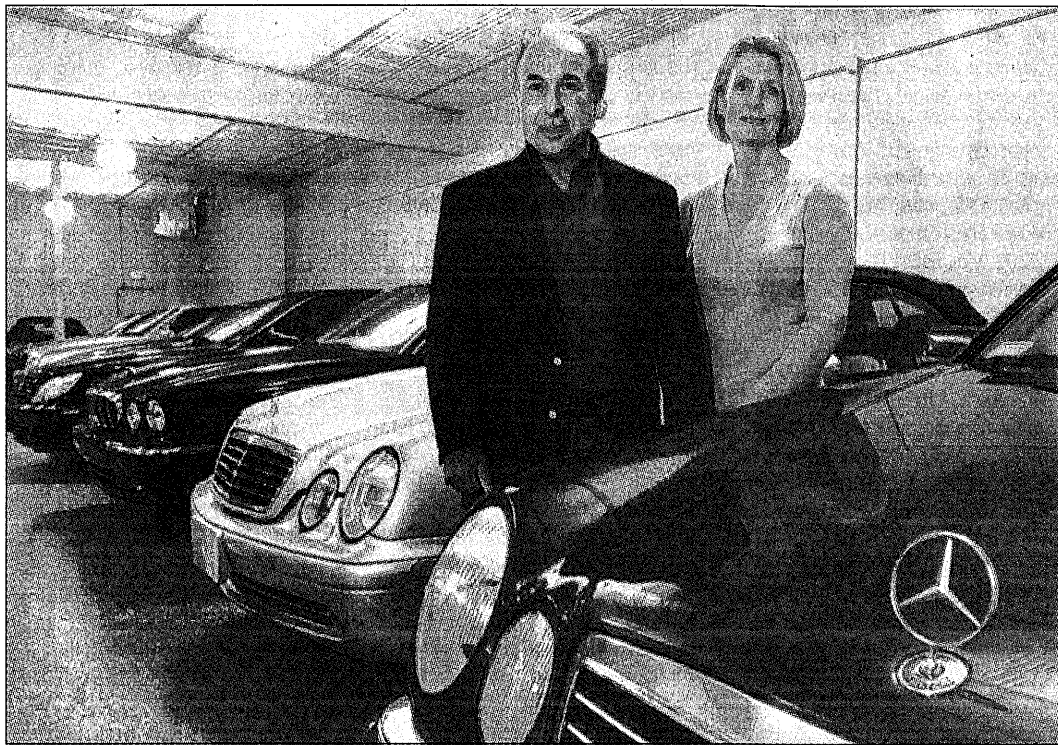
Notice is hereby given that on **Monday, December 21, 2009 @ NOON, TATE & CO. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator** for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: **Extra Space Storage, 6729 N Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI 48187.**

Owens, Stephon/ Owens Concrete	B40	10x15	Generator, cooler, 4 rims, 4 tires (new), backpack-leafblower, misc. industrial tools and landscaping equipment.
Prpich, Hollyanne/Mark	C90	10x25	TV repair supplies, various electronics, 20+ Televisions.
Yarwood, Anthony (Tony)	C95	10x25	Golf Clubs, electric scooter, brown granite countertops, 2 outdoor chairs, 2 kitchen chairs, misc. tools and household goods.
Milliner, Bewildow	C96	10x4	Twin size mattresses, low-profile box spring & frame. Nightstand, 7+ totes, misc. household goods.
Owens, Stephon/ Owens Concrete	G273	10x30	Bowflex, stationary bike, treadmill, 27" CRT TV, Full size sleigh bed and bedroom suite, Full size pillow top-mattress and bed spring, golf clubs, charcoal, grill, entertainment center, receiver and cd changer, misc. garden and household goods.

Publish: December 3 & 10, 2009

Plymouth Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Jeff and Kathy Varilone own and run Select Motors, Ltd.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Love of cars helps fill automobile niche

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

Select Motors: Select Motors, Ltd. is operated by my wife Kathy and me. We specialize in buying and selling pre-owned Mercedes, BMW & Jaguar automobiles. Most of our cars are 5 years old and older. We will keep anywhere from 10-35 vehicles in our inventory. Most vehicles are sedans and SUV's for daily driving. We will also have a selection of up to 15 convertibles for summer driving. I personally travel out of state every week to purchase vehicles for our inventory. Most are shipped back on a car hauler. When the vehicles arrive they are mechanically and cosmetically re-conditioned as needed. We prefer to purchase well-kept vehicles needing as little as possible. We advertise on the Internet and have a Web site that customers can go to and see our current inventory. Most of the vehicles we sell are sold to local customers. However, over the years we have had customers from almost every state in the U.S. Many will drive here. If they are farther away they fly in. We pick them up at the airport and they drive back home in the vehicle they purchased. People will travel for the right car since many of the vehicles we carry are either rare or hard to find in showroom condition. We use the services of many local businesses in Plymouth for reconditioning and preparing the vehicles for resale.

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

Select Motors: I always had a love for automobiles. My jobs prior to 1989 were not auto related but they were all sales and management positions. I guess I wanted a little more freedom at the time. I'm not sure how much freedom I really have because I'm too

SELECT MOTORS, LTD.

- **Business Name and address:** Select Motors, Ltd., 603 Amelia St., Plymouth, MI 48170
- **Your name and title:** Jeffrey Varilone, owner/president
- **Business opened when?** 1989
- **Number of Employees:** 2
- **Hours of operation:** 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Friday; Saturday by appointment
- **Your business specialty:** Sales of pre-owned Mercedes, BMW and Jaguar automobiles
- **Business phone and/or Web site:** (734) 459-5520. www.selectmotors.com

busy working most of the time!
Observer: Why did you choose Plymouth?

Select Motors: In 1989 I found a suitable building in Plymouth. The city of Plymouth made it easier than some of the other cities I had dealt with at the time in trying to get my business started. The city's location is excellent. It is very close to 2 major freeways and is 20 minutes from Ann Arbor or downtown Detroit. Plymouth doesn't have a lot of congestion except for the trains.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Select Motors: I guess you could call it a niche. The cars we inventory are what make the business unique. Some of the cars we carry cannot be easily duplicated locally. You may have to drive hundreds of miles to find a similar vehicle.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Select Motors: Like most other businesses, the internet has become an integral part of every facet of our business. When we started we had no fax machine, no cell phone or pager (imagine that today!) We took photos of cars with a Polaroid camera to send to

potential customers.

Observer: How has the economy affected your business?

Select Motors: The economy has made us adjust the price points of the vehicles we offer for sale. Most of the cars we offer currently are priced between \$10,000-20,000. That makes the monthly payments affordable if someone chooses to finance the vehicle. With lease prices higher now on new cars, many buyers are looking at used cars as an alternative.

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

Select Motors: On a few different occasions over the last 20 years I tried to acquire a different location with more retail exposure. But for various reasons they never worked out. In hindsight, I'm glad those deals did not work out. The business was exactly the way I wanted it but I thought I needed to do something different. Just like the old saying "Be careful what you wish for because you just might get it".

Observer: Any advice for other business owners?

Select Motors: The only suggestion I have for other business owners is to always do what feels right in your everyday or overall business decisions. If it doesn't feel right for whatever reason, you're usually better off not doing it.

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

Select Motors: We do not anticipate making any major changes in the future. We purchased our current main location on Amelia Street 2 years ago and did a full renovation on it. We still lease additional space on York Street across from our original location. I feel very fortunate to have had my own business and to be located in Old Village for the last 20 years.

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Rockin' for the hungry

Running through Dec. 13, Busch's Fresh Food Markets will help feed the hungry in its Rockin' For the Hungry 2009 winter food drive. A family-owned market chain, the Busch family has held these drives for more than 20 years. Seven of the Busch's locations, including the Sheldon Road location in Plymouth, will be dedicating the donations to Forgotten Harvest.

Customers can purchase pre-made "Ready to Go" bags filled with items to be given to a family in need. Customers are asked to donate \$10 for each bag. Customers can make a contribution at the Busch check-out registers. Dollars go directly to Forgotten Harvest to assist the organization in rescuing more food for the hungry.

Access to "rescued" and donated food makes the difference for friends, families and neighbors struggling to maintain their bills and provide food to their families. Forgotten Harvest is working to enable members of the community to stay in their homes and manage their way through the economic crisis by providing nutritious and wholesome food. It's through these donations Forgotten Harvest is able to carry on its mission.

Medical publication

The International Society of Medical Publication Professionals has announced that Laura Miesle, PharmD, has become credentialed as a certified medical publications professional (CMPP). The CMPP certification demonstrates an individual's superior level of knowledge and expertise required to effectively plan



Miesle

and execute a medical publications program. Certification by the society promotes integrity and excellence in medical publication planning and adherence to best publication practice standards across the industry.

Miesle, who is a senior scientific director in the scientific services division of The JB Ashtin Group, Inc., received her PharmD from the University of Michigan College of Pharmacy and has more than eight years of scientific writing and product development experience.

Prior to joining the company, she held positions in regulatory strategic communications with McNeil Consumer and Specialty Pharmaceuticals and in medical writing for Centocor Research and Development, both Johnson & Johnson companies.

"The JB Ashtin Group recognizes Laura's recent achievement and her continued commitment to provide our clients the highest levels of scientific and professional integrity in medical publications. We appreciate her leadership role in advancing the standards of the profession," said Joan Bradley, PharmD, founder, president, and CEO of The JB Ashtin Group. For more information about The JB Ashtin Group, Inc., visit www.jbashtingroup.com.

New cigar store

La Casa De La Habana, a Michigan-based cigar retailer and home of the region's most elegant and cozy cigar lounges, is opening its biggest and

the most lavish venue yet in Harmonie Park in Detroit's historic cultural district.

Spread over two floors of what most Detroiters knew as the legendary Harmonie Park Studios, this new 7,000 square-foot facility will become a new Detroit landmark encompassing cigars, accessories store, wine retail operation, a Camacho Cigar / Martini Lounge, and a VIP cigar club, all come together under one roof and two floors to create a one-of-a-kind elegant and graceful entertainment experience.

Guided by a passion for the timeless art of cigar making and desire to bring a conceptually new, refined venue to Detroit's Entertainment District, owner Ismail Houmani hopes for the rebirth of sophisticated lounging in Detroit.

A U.S. Army Desert Storm veteran and a resident of Plymouth, Houmani has derived his inspiration for La Casa De La Habana from the tranquil Cuban and South American lifestyle, classical Spanish music, and Latin culture, attempting to re-create a magical atmosphere of the Buena Vista Social Club while weaving in the grittier flavors that are more innate for the Motor City.

"We are hoping to become not just another Midwest premium cigar venue, but a destination for those passionate about cigars all over the U.S.," Houmani said. "It is our goal to bring graceful lifestyle and share our expertise in cigars with Detroiters."

LaCasa also has a Plymouth location, at 470 Forest Place. Call (734) 207-9725 for more information.

CHAMBER CHAT

Gift certificates

A great way to keep money in the local community this holiday season is to give Chamber Gift Certificates that can be used at over 80 stores and restaurants. The Chamber sells over \$60,000 a year in certificates that are used as great gifts for coaches, teachers, friends, family and coworkers. Gift certificates can be purchased in any denomination at the Chamber office Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For additional information or to order gift certificates to pick up, please call the Chamber at (734) 453-1540.

Dick Scott for Tots

Through Dec. 14, Dick Scott Automotive Group will be collecting toys for the Toys for Tots organization. On Saturday, Dec. 5 they will host a special one-day only holiday event and toy drive at each of their dealerships. As a thank you for bringing in your new unwrapped toy donation on Saturday,

Dec. 5 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. you'll receive a coupon for \$10 off on your next oil change at any Dick Scott Dealership. They will have a Marine on site to greet visitors and Santa will be available for free photos compliments of Dick Scott Automotive Group between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Please do not bring any stuffed animals, as they can no longer be distributed because they can harbor germs. Please note that Toys for Tots is always in need of gifts for 9 to 12 year old boys and girls. Craft or hobby kits, makeup kits, electronics and CD's, are great choices.

Dick Scott has convenient locations in Plymouth, Canton and Fowlerville.

Food collection

Any nonperishable food is accepted or PB&J for the PB&J ministry that goes down to the Church every Saturday and distributes sandwiches to the homeless. Gabriel's is located at 322 South Main across from Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth. Call (734) 455-8884 for hours.

Mary's FARM MARKET

Michigan Grown Fresh Cut Christmas Trees

5' up to 18' tall
Douglas & Fraser Fir & Other Fir Favorites Plus, Black Hills Spruce

BUY LOCAL...BUY MICHIGAN!

Custom Greens

...all made with a fragrant selection of mixed evergreens and premium bows handmade by Mary:

- White Pine & Cedar Roping (60 foot length)
- Wreaths • Baskets • Centerpieces
- Sprays • Swags • Grave Blankets

In a hurry?
...we also have a nice selection of pre-made items

\$5 off
any purchase of \$25 or more
With this coupon. Expires 12-25-09

Mary's FARM MARKET

734.981.2866
47453 Ford Road in Canton
(at the SW Corner of Beck)
Open Daily 9 am-8 pm

CLOSED for the Season AFTER Christmas
Get your pickles before we close or at Dario's at 32293 Ford Road in Garden City

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events. Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. Feel free to send a related photo in jpg form. For a complete listing online, go to hometownlife.com.

DEC. 10-16

Advent celebration
Traditions of Christmas will be presented at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church will present "Traditions of Christmas," 4:30-8 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church, 9601 W. Hubbard, Livonia. The evening will be an all ages Advent celebration including family keepsake craft stations, Christmas and Dickens Village displays and formal family pictures by the family Christmas tree. There will be storytelling by members of the Detroit Storytelling League and the Northville High School Singers will perform. A family-style dinner will be served at 6 p.m. An Advent musical, "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," will be presented by the RGPC Chancel Choir at 7:15 p.m. Tickets are on sale through Dec. 5. Adult tickets are \$7; children under 12 pay \$5. Advance tickets only. Call the church office at (734) 422-0494.

Advent service
Lola Park Evangelical Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford, will hold midweek Advent services at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16. The service is 45 minutes long. For information, call (313) 532-8655.

Advent speaker
Sister Mary Finn, faculty member from Sacred Heart Major Seminary, will speak at 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 10, at St. Aidan Parish, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Her topic is "So Gifted, So Responsible." RSVP via e-mail or phone to David Conrad at davidconrad@staidanlivonia.org or (734) 425-5950.

Christmas craft
St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia will host a Kids Christmas Craft Day 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Dec. 12 for grades kindergarten through 6th. Kids will enjoy a morning of creating Christmas crafts to be used as gifts or decorations. The event is free. To sign up, call (734) 422-1470 by Thursday, Dec. 10. St. Paul's is located on Five Mile one block west of Inkster Road.

Christmas musical
"The Name Jesus," a Christmas musical, runs at 7 p.m., Dec. 11; 10:45 a.m., Dec. 13; 7 p.m., Dec. 18 and 6 p.m.,

Dec. 20, at First Baptist Church of Canton, 44500 Cherry Hill, Canton. (734)981-6460

Christmas open house
2-4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13 at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 West Six Mile, Redford. See Christmas decorations, enjoy Christmas carols and refreshments. (313) 534-7730

Christmas ornament
The Limited Edition Our Lady of Good Counsel Christmas ornament is now on sale. This ornament was specially crafted in Poland and is hand painted with a mosaic portrait of the O.L.G.C. Mother and Child. This keepsake ornament is available for \$35 after Masses at O.L.G.C. All proceeds benefit Our Lady of Good Counsel. For more details or to arrange delivery, call Mark Coulter at (734) 453-5423 or Mary Vangieson at (734) 737-9442.

Concert
■ The St. Aidan Adult Choir, directed by Mr. Ray Schmidt, will present its 28th Annual Christmas Concert, 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13 at the church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, in Livonia. Admission cost is \$5 and two non-perishable food items. This event is held annually to assist the St Aidan Christian Service Commission in its efforts to aid those in need during the Holiday Season. (734) 425-5950.
■ Christmas Cantata, "Only Love," 7 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 12 and 3 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 13, at Milford Presbyterian Church, 238 N. Main, Milford. (248) 684-2805.
■ The Detroit Handbell Ensemble performs Christmas music 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13, at First United Methodist Church of Garden City, 6443 Merriman, Garden City. Directed by Susan Berry. Donations accepted. For more information call Susan Berry at (313) 278-7387 or visit www.detroitandbellensemble.org.

■ Friday Morning Men's Bible Study at Kirby Coney Island presents a concert by the Gospelmen Southern Gospel Quartet, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 10, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, in the chapel, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Free admission. For more information call Tim Reno at (734) 266-0607
■ Annual Christmas Concert with the Festival Choir, Jubilation Hand Bell Choir, Children's Choir and Brass Ensemble, 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. www.christsaviorsavior.org; (734) 522-6830
■ Hear the St. James Presbyterian Church handbell choir perform during the 10 a.m. worship service at the church, 25350 West Six Mile, Redford. (313) 534-7730
■ The St. Aidan Choir, Children's Choir and Contemporary Ensemble, directed by Ray Schmidt, will perform 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13 at the church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, in Livonia. Admission is \$5 and

two non-perishable food items. (734) 425-5950

■ "Ellery," the husband-wife duo of Tasha and Justin Golden will perform a holiday concert at 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 12, at Universalist Unitarian Church, 25301 Halstead, Farmington Hills. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door; students pay \$7. Buy advance tickets from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday through Friday at the church. (248) 478-7272

Cookie walk
■ 10 a.m. until sold out, Saturday, Dec. 12, at Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail, in Livonia. Christmas cookies of all varieties will be available for sale by the pound, along with various baked goods. (734) 427-2290
■ Doors open at 8 a.m., sale starts at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 Seven Mile, Livonia. Includes European cookies, nut and poppy-seed rolls, pierogis, sweet bread and stuffed cabbage. (248) 476-3432

Readings and carols
Kneeling in Bethlehem - A Festival of Readings and Carols will be presented at 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. The combined Adult, Children's and Handbell Choirs of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and Holy Cross Lutheran church along with strings, flutes, percussion, organ and narration will tell the Christmas story through the music of composer Michael Burkhardt and the poetry of Ann Weems. Christmas cookie reception will follow the concert. For information call Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at (734) 464-0211.

DEC. 17-23

Breakfast
St. Theodore Men's Club presents a Pancake and French Toast Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.-noon, Sunday, Dec. 20, at St. Theodore Catholic Church social hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Cost is \$3 adults; \$1.50 children ages 2 - 10. Menu includes pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, tea, coffee, milk, and juice. For more information call (734) 425-4421.

Concert
Hear the Chancel Choir of St. James Presbyterian Church sing "A Carol Fantasia" at the 10 a.m. worship service, Dec. 20, at the church, 25350 West Six Mile, Redford. (313) 534-7730

DEC. 24-30

Concert
Hear "Quiet Noels and Carols for Organ," at 6:45 p.m., Dec. 24 at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 West Six Mile, Redford. (313) 534-7730

ONGOING

AWANA
Faith Bible Church offers an AWANA

program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays, at the church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. For information, call (248) 426-0096.

Classes/study
■ Antioch Preschool, an academic program complemented by Christian education, is enrolling 3- and 4-year-old children for the 2009-2010 school year. A new toddler class is offered Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. Extended stay enrichment for 3's and 4's is offered Wednesdays - children bring their lunch and enjoy literacy activities until 3 p.m. Antioch Lutheran Church is at 13 Mile and Farmington Road in Farmington Hills. For information contact Sharon Detter, preschool director, at (248) 626-7906, Ext. 28, or e-mail to antiochpreschool@sbcglobal.net.
■ New Life Community Church, 42200 Tyler, Belleville, offers a jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m., Fridays, a reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays. (734) 846-4615
■ 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 designed to reduce stress and is great for overall 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 space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.org for updates.
■ Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those who want 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.
■ Scripture studies, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.
■ Learner's Bible study, 7 p.m., Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.
■ Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine - a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions - at Livonia Unity, 28660 Five Mile. Classes include: Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org.
■ Men's Bible study, breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 p.m., at Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township. Call John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491 for more information.
■ Bible talks, 4 p.m. Sundays at the Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Call (734) 728-9157.
■ Emmanuel Lutheran Church in 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, which runs from 7-8 p.m., will include songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@att.net.
■ Tuesday Ladies Bible Study from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5. Call (248) 348-7600.

■ A study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith, at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy. A group at 10:30 a.m., Thursday examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey. (313) 274-3820.
■ Bible study, 7 p.m., every Friday at Seeds of Mercy Mission Home, 21819 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. Call ct: Nicole Christ at (313) 531-1234 for more information.
■ Celebrate Recovery Bible Study, noon and 7 p.m., Wednesday, at United Methodist Church of Wayne, at 3 Townsquare, Wayne. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered and Bible-based 12 Step Recovery Program. (734) 721-4801

Clothing bank
The Clothing Bank has moved to a new location west of Canton Christian Fellowship. Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need is available 10 a.m. to noon the fourth Saturday of each month, at 41711 Joy Rd. Call (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org for information.

Concerts
■ Rush Hour concert series continues every Tuesday with gathering and refreshments at 5 p.m., concert 5:30-6 p.m., featuring performances by local and national jazz artists at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, Detroit. Free. Visit www.metroumc.org.
■ Single Point Ministries, for ages 30 and older, offers fellowship and related topics at 11:30 a.m., Sundays, in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation. Call (248) 374-5920. Tennis continues from 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 4-7 p.m. weekdays any time the weather is above 45 degrees, at Rotary Park, Six Mile and Hubbard, Livonia. Walking club meets at 6 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday in the Single Point office. All fitness levels welcome.
■ 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.

Soups
Learn about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit by participating in its "Day of Service" program. Dine with guests at the soup kitchen, tour the Earth Works urban garden, and take 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.org.

Fellowship dinner
Dinners are at 6 p.m., the first Thursday of the month at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$8 and includes dinner, beverage and dessert. The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, provides the meals. Questions? Call (313) 268-7780. The church phone number is (313) 534-7730.

Films
10 a.m. Wednesday Kids Matinees and 4 p.m., Saturday family movie, at Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia. Guitar Praise game precedes the film on Saturday. Children in second grade or younger can play prior to the film; those in third grade and up can play after the movie. Pizza will also be served following the movie. All events are free. (248) 476-8222

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.
■ St. James Presbyterian, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. For information call the church at (313) 534-7730

Moms
■ Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) meets 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday and 7-9 p.m., fourth Tuesday, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners. For more information call Angie at (248) 427-1020.
■ MOPS, 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays, Dunning Park Bible Chapel, 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford. MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope. For information call Amy at (313) 937-3084 or Kristen at (734) 542-0767.
Prayer
■ Music, singing, prayer at 7 p.m. Thursdays at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through entrance #2, at the back of the church. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906.

■ 7 p.m. Wednesday, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests. Call (248) 476-8860.

■ Parish prayer and Eucharistic Adoration, 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.
■ 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.

Singles
■ Single Point Ministries, for ages 30 and older, offers fellowship and related topics at 11:30 a.m., Sundays, in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation. Call (248) 374-5920. Tennis continues from 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 4-7 p.m. weekdays any time the weather is above 45 degrees, at Rotary Park, Six Mile and Hubbard, Livonia. Walking club meets at 6 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday in the Single Point office. All fitness levels welcome.
■ 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.

Soup kitchen
Learn about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit by participating in its "Day of Service" program. Dine with guests at the soup kitchen, tour the Earth Works urban garden, and take 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.org.


Soups
Learn about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit by participating in its "Day of Service" program. Dine with guests at the soup kitchen, tour the Earth Works urban garden, and take 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.org.

Support
■ Metro Fibro-Myalgia support group meets 1-3 p.m., second and fourth Thursday of the month at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City. No dues, but donations are accepted. www.metrofibrogroup.com; Call Lucy with questions at (734) 462-1768
■ A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable 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.
■ Are you or someone you know struggling with depression, divorce, grief, addiction, relationship difficulties, or job loss? Real Life Church through its volunteers and partnerships with area ministries and professionals provides classes, seminars, care, support & recovery groups, counseling, and prayer to help you get through life challenges. Visit the Web site for details on current classes and groups offered as well as location, days and times www.reallifelymouth.com.
■ Overeaters Anonymous meets 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, in Classroom 1 at the Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia. (313) 387-9797. www.aa.org

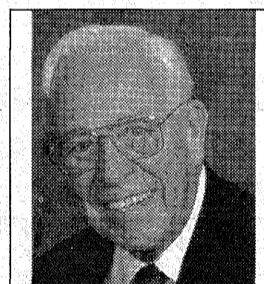
Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

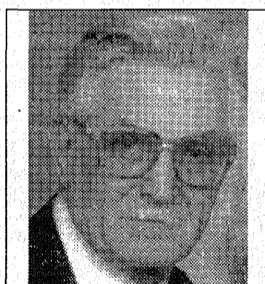
1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968
email: oeobits@hometownlife.com
View Passages Online: www.hometownlife.com



DEL MARIE BURNS
Passed away at home December 5, 2009, at the age of 102. She was the beloved wife of the late Warren. Dearest sister of Elise Emrick. Dear aunt of J.P. DesCamp, Lynn DesCamp, Geraldine Robinson and Janice Robinson. Predeceased by her parents, Peter and Elise DesCamp; her siblings, Mary Milligan (wife of Hugh and John), Celia Drake (wife of Harold), Peter DesCamp (husband of June) and Andrew DesCamp (husband of Angeline). Del Marie retired from Michigan Bell Telephone as a telephone operator after 47 years of service; she loved her work. She was a resident of Melvindale since 1958. She did beautiful work crocheting and doing needlepoint. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 9, 2009, at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church, Melvindale, MI. Burial was in White Chapel Cemetery, Troy. Arrangements entrusted to Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth. Memorials may be made to the charity of donor's choice. To share a special thought or memory, visit www.schrader-howell.com



WILLIAM R. UPTON
Age 84, of Plymouth, passed away December 7, 2009. He was born in Plymouth, and lived here his entire life. He graduated from Plymouth High School in 1943. While in the ninth grade, a young lady named Jean Crandell wearing a yellow flared skirt with a yellow polka-dotted blouse caught his eye. They were married on May 22, 1948. Bill retired from Ford Motor Company after 40 years as an engineer. He was an elder at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, where he was also a long-time member of the choir. He was a founding member of the Plymouth Community Band, and a member of both the Plymouth Historical Society and the Plymouth Oratorio Society. A University of Michigan graduate, he was also a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. While at U of M, he marched in the 1948 Rose Bowl Parade with the marching band. He later became a founding member and longtime board member of the U of M Alumni Band Association. A devoted family man, he is survived by his wife of 61 years, Jean; his children, Karen (Clark) Chapin, Laura Upton, Carla (Greg) Gonther, and John (Alicia) Upton; his grandchildren, Bill Chapin and John Gonther; his brother, Lester (Delores) Upton; and many nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service will take place Saturday, December 12, 2pm, at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth. Friends may visit beginning at 1pm. Memorials may be made to the Plymouth Community Band or the Plymouth Oratorio Society.



RICHARD WOOD
November 26, 2009 at the age of 94. A 55 year resident of Redford Twp. Passed on Thanksgiving to be with his wife Ruth and many others he deeply missed. Dear father of Richard (Joyce), Robert (Mona) and Dolly. Dear Gramps to seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. He was retired from Ford Motor Company for 38 years, he had also worked for Ford Rouge (Local 600) for 38 years. Services were held on Nov. 30th. Please visit and sign a tribute at: www.griffinfuneralhome.com. The family would also like to thank all who came by to visit Dad with coffee, donuts, a talk, a hug and a kiss.

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: Attn: Obits c/o Char Wilson 313-496-4968

For more information call:
Char Wilson 586-826-7082
or Liz Keiser 586-977-7538
or toll free 800-579-7355
ask for Char or Liz

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

In Loving Memory

...at the Holidays

Remember the loved ones you've lost by placing a special holiday remembrance tribute.

The Observer and Eccentric/Hometown Weekly newspapers will be publishing a special "In Remembrance" page for the holidays. Here's the perfect opportunity to honor the memory and celebrate the life of loved ones who hold a special place in your heart.

Prices start at **\$15.00**
for a photo "In Remembrance" ad

Publication: Sunday, Dec. 20th
...in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
Thursday, Dec. 24th
...in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers

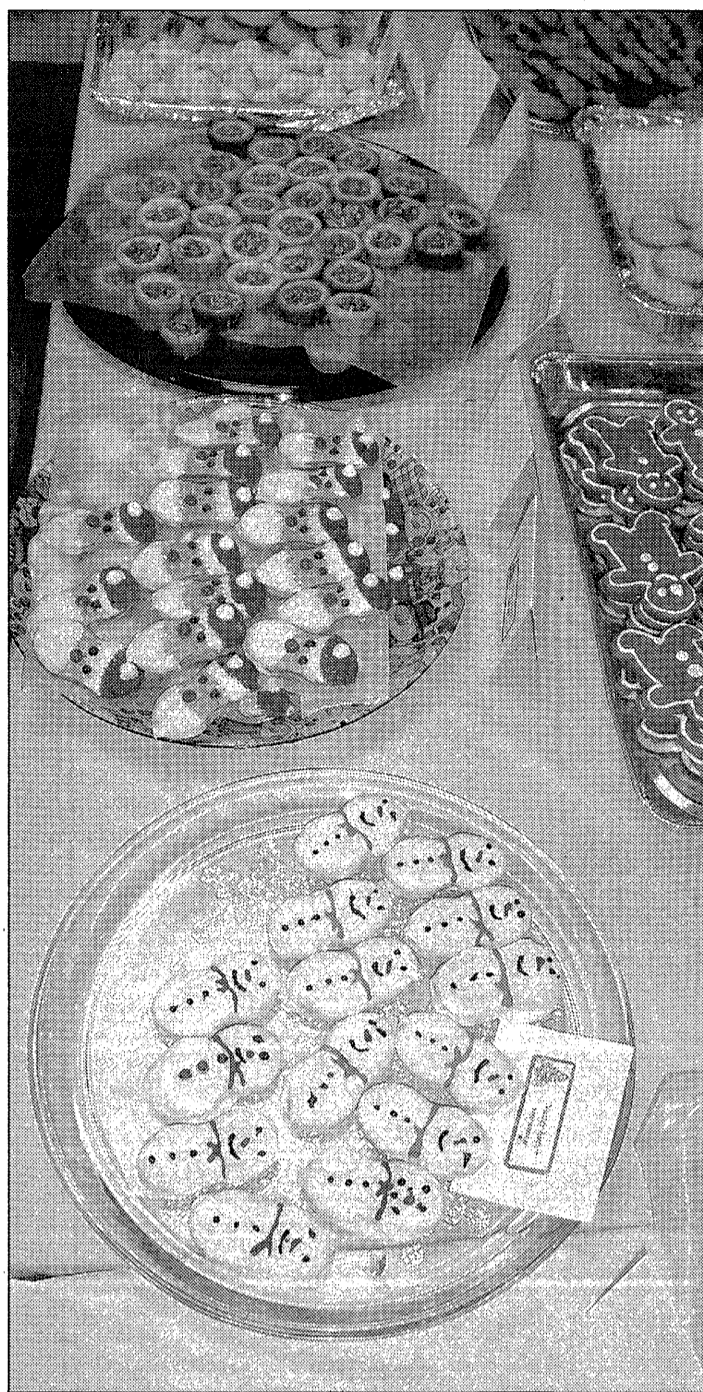
Deadline for both issues...Monday, Dec. 14th

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
NEWSPAPERS

HOMETOWN
WEEKLIES

Call: **800-579-7355**
Fax: **313-496-4968**
Email: ocads@hometownlife.com

Cookie walk grows in its third year at Livonia church



Highly decorated cookies, like the Santa Nutter Butters, and holiday favorites, including gingerbread men, fill serving plates at Timothy Lutheran Church's cookie walk.

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Lori Barch of Livonia built two dozen houses last weekend.

She suspects the scrumptious, tiny abodes made of Rice Krispie treats will sell fast when Timothy Lutheran Church opens its doors on Saturday, Dec. 12 for its third annual cookie walk.

"It's the second year for the houses," said Barch, adding that "ladies of the church" snatched up the \$2.50 creations as fast as customers did last year.

"We don't do a lot of the ethnic cookies," Barch noted. "We do have one parishioner from England who makes shortbread."

What they lack in European-style treats they make up for in highly decorated holiday favorites.

"We make peanut butter mice, reindeer head cookies. I make Nutter Butter Santas. I'm making numerous things. I make a lot of cookies. I enjoy baking," said Barch, a Dearborn firefighter who spent four days off work last week baking and decorating her share of the church's cookie inventory.

"Just about everyone" in the small congregation volunteers to make at least a few batches of cookies for the annual sale that Barch started two years ago.

The first annual walk, designed to help pay for a new church roof and windows, was underway for just two hours when a snowstorm swept through southeastern Michigan.



Members of Timothy Lutheran Church in Livonia finish organizing cookie tables during the second annual sale last year in the church activities center. The event will move to the more spacious church basement this year.

ORTHODOX CHURCH SELLS COOKIES

Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church in Livonia plans its annual cookie walk the same day - Saturday, Dec. 12 - as the Timothy Lutheran Church sale.

Members of the Orthodox church have been baking and selling holiday treats for 16 years. The emphasis is on European-style treats, nut and poppyseed rolls, pierogis, sweet bread and stuffed cabbage. Members suggest that shoppers come early for coffee and company when the doors open at 8 a.m. The sale starts at 9 a.m. and continues until items are sold out.

Call (248) 476-3432 for more information.

AN ANNUAL TRADITION

"The first year was fantastic except for the snowstorm," said Nancy Bingham of Redford, Barch's co-coordinator and her sister. "It didn't deter us. We looked at it in a positive way."

They closed the sale in just two hours to make sure volunteers and customers travelled home safely, but sold enough cookies in that time to make the sale an annual tradition.

"The ladies of the church have fun making these cookies," Bingham noted. "I think

my favorite are my sister's Nutter Butters. One lady last year bought the entire tray of them.

"We've got another guy here who is a phenomenal cook. He comes in each year with the neatest cookies. We might have about 50 different varieties. We have so many different cookies that everyone walks out happy."

Bingham said the church members view the walk and other events such as its annual pumpkin sale and Easter egg hunts as outreach programs designed to "bring

the outside world into our church."

"It's a small church but we try to get out there and do what we can."

BETTER FLOW

This year's walk, which will raise funds for the church's general fund, will move from the fellowship hall to the more spacious basement.

"Hopefully there will be more room to move around," Barch said. "We're trying to improve the flow of the cookie walk."

Cookies will be arranged on platters that fill multiple tables throughout the room. Customers choose the cookies they want.

"We give them pie boxes and plastic gloves. They walk from table to table," Barch explained.

Wax paper liners keep the cookies from sticking. Gift boxes also are available.

The cookie walk will start at 10 a.m. and close when the goodies are sold out.

For more information call (734) 427-2290.

Your Invitation to Worship

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Tridentine Latin Mass
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
38100 Five Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200
Mass Schedule:
First Fest. 7:00 p.m.
First Sat. 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. OE0862554

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 OE0862554

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
48801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER
(734) 455-3198 OE0862582

LUTHERAN-ELCA

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA
Farmington Hills 23225 Gill Rd. 248-474-0584
SATURDAY WORSHIP • 5:30 PM
Sunday Worship & Sunday School
9:00 AM TRADITIONAL/CHORAL SERVICE
10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES
11:15 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
NURSERY AVAILABLE
BILL & LAUREN KIRSH-CARR, PASTORS OE0862589

UNITED METHODIST

Redford Aldersgate  2 blocks South of Plymouth
United Methodist 313-937-3170
10000 Beech Daly
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sunday School
11:00 - Contemp Family Worship
www.redfordaldersgate.org OE0862587

ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills
www.orchardumc.org
248-626-3620
Worship:
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages
Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter OE0862587

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

St. James Presbyterian Church, USA
25350 West Six Mile Rd.
Redford (313) 534-7730
Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm
Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible
Rev. Paul S. Bousquette OE0862548

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)
(734) 422-0494
Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am
Traditional Service 10:30 am
Visit www.rosedalegardens.org
For information about our many programs OE08645763

GREEK ORTHODOX

NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI
Sunday Services
Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Rev. Fr. George Vapouris
Parish Office 734-420-0131
Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
www.nativitygochurch.org OE0865519

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96
734-522-6830
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am
Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413
Staffed Nursery Available
Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Senior Pastor: Rev. Dean Davenport
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden OE0862507

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY
313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.
Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
The Rev. Timothy R. Halboth, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor OE08625817

Risen Christ Lutheran
David W. Martin, Pastor
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (at the W. of Stedden)
(734) 453-5252
Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30
Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are.
www.risenchrist.info OE0862596

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD
LIVONIA (734) 261-1360
WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.
website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org OE0862580

CONGREGATIONAL

North Congregational Church
36520 12 Mile Rd.
Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted)
(248) 848-1750
10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School
Faith - Freedom-Fellowship
Ministers
Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron OE0862597

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire
Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church
16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road
Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org OE08626511

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church
40000 Six Mile Road
"Just west of I-275"
Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Contemporary Worship 9:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours
Evening Service • 7:00 p.m.
Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560
The WNUZ Word Station
For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org OE0864477

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnp.com

Plymouth Symphony expands holiday pops offering

Local theater troupe earns matching grant

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Symphony always sells out its annual holiday pops concert at the Penn Theatre.

But Beth Stewart, executive director, says there should be plenty of additional seats to accommodate last-minute arrivals at the concert this year.

"This year we're offering two performances," she explained. "The Penn seats 400 and our goal is to sell 300 each show and between two shows, it may be a little over that."

The 6 p.m. show is billed as the "family" holiday pops concert and the 8 p.m., the "traditional" pops show.

"They're fairly similar," Stewart noted.

The Symphony's Celebration Youth Orchestra, with members ranging in age from 10-13, will play side by side on *Christmas Troika* with professional players at the early show.

"It's a real symphony orchestra piece. It gives them a little more meat to work with."

The Celebration Flute Choir, mostly high school students, will perform a variety of Christmas songs during the 8 p.m. show.

"It's a nice opportunity for young people who want more than what they can get at school," Stewart said, describing the Symphony's youth music programs. "All of the groups are under (director) Nan Washburn. We have two levels of strings, a beginning and middle group, and the full (youth) orchestra. Nan rescues everything so everyone gets to play."

The Symphony will play popular Christmas music including tunes from both Canadian Brass, the Charlie Brown animated Christmas show, *Polar Express*, *Christmas on Broadway*, as well as traditional holiday songs. The audience will get a chance to sing along during a Christmas carol portion of the show. Santa also will be on hand to greet the audience at both shows.

DOWNTOWN VENUE

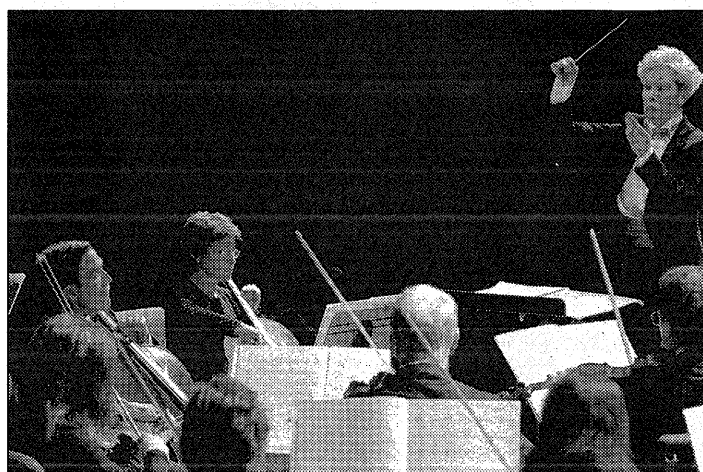
"We have been doing it every year since they re-did the Penn and that's been five or six years



Brass musicians perform during a Plymouth Symphony concert.



Young musicians play with the Plymouth Symphony's youth orchestra.



Nan Washburn conducts the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra.

now. It's one of our traditional things to do at the holiday."

Stewart said the theater doesn't offer the best acoustics for live symphony, but the group does its best to improve the sound.

"The theater was made for

movies. Movie houses built after vaudeville were built to be quiet places. Everything came through the sound system. It was not built for acoustics at all. That's why we bring in additional speakers. It turns out to be a pretty complicated place to play."

But in spite of its big theatre curtains "soaking up sound," the audience loves the venue, which is decorated with Christmas trees and situated in a perfect location to shop or dine before the show.

"People seem to love to come downtown. It's a great venue for

that."

Tickets for Home for the Holidays POPS are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$10 for students of all ages. Under 5 is admitted free. Call (734) 451-2112 for advance tickets.

The Penn Theatre is located at 760 Penniman, Plymouth.

Ticket sales are a bit slow for its upcoming holiday fund-raiser show, but Barefoot Productions can't be happier about a matching grant it received recently from the Wilcox Foundation.

"It's a wonderful opportunity because it's dollar for dollar match. Everyone's dollar goes that much further," said Kristin Heitmeier, marketing director.

Anyone who buys a ticket to the holiday performance on Friday, Dec. 11, can earmark the money for the grant program. Wilcox Foundation will match the \$50 advance ticket sale or \$65 at the door admission, doubling the revenue Barefoot Productions will take in.

The matching grant was awarded retroactively on Oct. 15, and is valid through June 30, 2010.

Heitmeier said the theater has contacted patrons who bought their tickets before the troupe knew they had won the grant. They're asking them to earmark their donations for the "Barefoot/Wilcox Partnership Campaign," so the theatre can receive the matching money for each seat sold.

The Holiday Celebration Fundraiser, starts at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at the Walker-Buzenberg Building, 240 N. Main Street, Plymouth. Desserts, teas and wines start the evening at 7:30, followed by a narrative reading of *A Christmas Carol*.

"We were just notified of this grant and are still awaiting this paperwork. The Wilcox Foundation earmarked the grant for marketing purposes. That's our single largest expense," Heitmeier noted. "Marketing encompasses so many aspects of bringing a production to stage. We're thrilled."

Marketing includes programs, posters, brochures, photography, advertising and other public relations efforts.

"Now we can earmark some of the money that might have been spent for marketing, for costumes, props and royalties."

7th Annual

Senior Expo

Tuesday, May 18, 2010 • 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus in the VisTaTech Center
Haggerty Road between 6 and 7 Mile Roads

If your business or organization serves seniors, you'll want to be a part of this exciting event!

Your Exhibitor Package Includes:

- Print Advertising**
One-quarter page black and white ad or one full page ad (color option available) for your business will appear in the accompanying special section publishing Sunday, May 9, 2010, in the South Oakland and Birmingham Eccentric and Thursday, May 13, 2010, in the Observer & Hometown Newspapers.
- Web Presence**
The Senior Fall Expo special section will be featured on Hometownlife.com, which receives upwards of 1 million page views per month!
- Exhibitor Listing**
You'll be featured on the center spread of our special section plus newspaper promotion during April and May.
- Expo table plus two chairs**
Use your space for giveaways, food demonstrations and promotional materials. Electricity available on a first come, first served basis for an additional charge.
- Food**
Two complimentary boxed lunches for exhibitors.

Special Section Promotion
The Senior Expo will be promoted in all of our trusted, local newspapers:

Birmingham Eccentric
Canton Observer
Farmington Observer
Garden City Observer
Livonia Observer
Milford Times
Northville Record
Novi News
Plymouth Observer
Redford Observer
South Lyon Herald
South Oakland Eccentric
Berkley, Clawson, Ferndale,
Huntington Woods, Royal Oak,
Pleasant Ridge, Southfield
Westland Observer

Act fast to take advantage of our early bird special!

For more information about this and to reserve your space, please contact:
Choya Jordan at 313-222-2414
 fax 313-496-5305 • cbjordan@hometownlife.com

Presented by:

Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Hometown
Weeklies

www.hometownlife.com

Schoolcraft
College

www.schoolcraft.edu

Find an 'arty' gift at a gallery holiday shop

Santa may have elves hammering toys and gifts together by hand — but they're also mass producing their Christmas inventory.

If you're looking for a one-of-a-kind holiday gift, something that exudes individuality,

search local art gallery holiday shops. You'll find unique items made by Michigan artists. Here's a sampling:

ART-IS-IN MARKET
Michigan artists show and sell their works, including

functional pieces, like Jan Bostwick's ceramic serving plates, and decorative items, such as James Ritchie's photos and Patti Monroe-Mohrenweiger's calligraphy, at this store in Laurel Park Place, 37700 Six Mile, Livonia. No mass produced works allowed. Find handmade pottery, glass, sculpture, jewelry, paintings and more. (734) 432-9177

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE
The fifth annual Holiday Art Market continues 1-5 p.m., through Saturday, Dec. 12, at 215 W. Cady, two blocks west of Center and one block south of Main, in downtown Northville. Hand-crafted work in pottery, fiber, painting and painting is priced for holiday gift giving by local artists, including Jan Sadowski, Marilyn Grinnell, Katherine Wickersham, Shadia Zayed, Beth Jones and Jan Robb. (248) 344-0497.

VILLAGE POTTERS GUILD
The Guild holds its annual holiday show in November, but members' works are sold year-round in the studio gallery at 340 N. Main, Plymouth. Call ahead at (734) 207-8807 to make sure someone is on hand and available to show you the functional and decorative items on display.

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD ART CENTER

Every gift at the Holiday Shop is made by hand. More than 130 juried artists have created gifts for every taste and budget — from \$1 to \$400. Gifts include fiber, jewelry, ceramics, wood, home décor, children's wear, ornaments, glass and paintings. The Ornament Gallery features hundreds of hand-made ornaments. There are gifts for celebrating all holidays including Judaica items. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Saturday and noon-4 p.m., Sunday through Dec. 18 at the BBAC, 1516 S. Cranbrook, (Evergreen), Birmingham. (248) 644-0866

THE MOST MAGICAL MUSICAL MOVIE OF THE HOLIDAYS!

"A START-TO-FINISH DELIGHT."

RICHARD CORLISS, TIME

"BEAUTIFUL... MUSIC, MAGIC, LIGHT AND LAUGHTER EVERYWHERE."
BETSY SHARKEY, LOS ANGELES TIMES

"MARVELOUS."
LISA SCHWARZBAUM, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

Disney.com/PrincessAndTheFrog
Text FROG to DISNEY (347639)*
STANDARD CARRIER FEES APPLY

STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

FOR THEATRES AND SHOWTIMES:
CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS OR TEXT FROG WITH YOUR ZIP CODE TO 43KIX (43549)

SORRY, NO PASSES

At 33, family-run café innovates, maintains following

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

More than three decades ago, Adriano and Rina Tonon bought an apple orchard on three acres of land on West 10 Mile and Orchard Lake Road with a dream to serve the freshest Northern Italian, Venetian-style dishes, in an elegant, yet comfortable setting.

After three additions to the building and creating a reputation for authentic Italian food, the Tonon family is celebrating 33 years on Dec. 21.

The history of Ristorante Café Cortina is interwoven with the story of the lives of Adriano and Rina. They met after he came from Italy and worked as a gardener and baker at her parent's restaurant, Rina's Pizzeria, in Detroit.

When they married, she was 18 and he was 20, and not long after they bought the land in Farmington Hills. Adriano died in 1993 and their son, Adrian, came into the family business.

Over the years the seating capacity grew, from 85 to 175. The fireside dining in three intimate rooms makes you feel like you might be sitting in someone's home in Italy.

"Through word of mouth, it took off, because of our food and our service," Rina Tonon said. "We always want to bring new things to the table. We have people from all over the world who appreciate this as an artisan restaurant."

The intimate setting has become a destination place for small weddings, showers, business meetings and other celebrations. In fact, the restaurant hosts an average of two weddings weekly.

PEACEFUL SETTING

Outside the dining area are two private enclaves with brick walls, seating, vines and flowers that make visitors feel like they left the city and entered another country in another time when dinners lasted a few hours and things didn't move quite so fast.

Aside from the fresh herbs and vegetables, all the pastas and bread are handmade every morning in the restaurant kitchen. Tonon applauds chef, Jeffrey (Hoffa) Hoffman, for maintaining the highest standards.



Oleta Chavez, Chef Hoffa, Rina Tonon, Adrian Tonon, and Timoria Bailey welcome you to Cafe Cortina.



Chef Hoffa removes hot bread from the oven. Even bread sticks are made fresh.

"He's very passionate, as we all are here," she said.

"A restaurant is not just about the owners. We have a team. In fact, two staff members, Tammy Chavez and Timothy Bailey, have been with me for more than 25 years. The people we have working here (18 employees) have brought it to where we are today. We don't rest on our laurels. We consistently strive for excellence and care for people," she added.

HONORS

Three years ago, Ristorante Café Cortina, was invited to plan a dinner at the James Beard House in New York.

Considered the "Oscars of the food world" by *Time* magazine, the James Beard Foundation Awards are a coveted honor for food industry professionals. In 2003 Ristorante Café Cortina was also named Restaurant of the Year by *Hour Magazine*.

Referring to the way her son trains staff, she added: "If they're not a seasoned professional when they come here, they go out seasoned professionals."

Before Adrian began working at the restaurant he went to Italy and apprenticed at Hotel Cipriani in Venice.

"I told him he couldn't go into the business unless he

had a passion for it," said Rina. Adrian said "something clicked there and getting into the family business seemed right."

"It's always been instilled in us to never rest and to strive and innovate and that's what we'll do for the next 30 years," Adrian said. "It's souls serving souls. We're very fortunate to create moments of happiness. People come here to get away. They come to play. Every night is a party here. We celebrate every day."

Adrian, 37, is warm and articulate, all the characteristics that any young actor would want. He is working on a local television show mixing food with charitable works, especially those focused on children's causes. Pieces of it can be seen at www.culturecafe.com.

Café Cortina is weathering the economic storm. Business is good but Adrian said people are ordering simpler, less expensive dishes, like pasta, but since pasta is their specialty he said "that's fine, too."

Rina added: "We're seeing that people are ordering more moderately priced wines, or sometimes sharing appetizers or desserts."

"I didn't think 33 years would come as fast as it did," Rina said. "I still want to go another 33. I never want to lose my enthusiasm."

Restaurant goes 'green' with garden

An Italian home wouldn't be complete without a garden in back for the cook in the family to have ready access to fresh herbs, vegetables and most importantly tomatoes.

The vegetables and herbs growing behind Ristorante Café Cortina provide the same fresh, home cooked meals to customers.

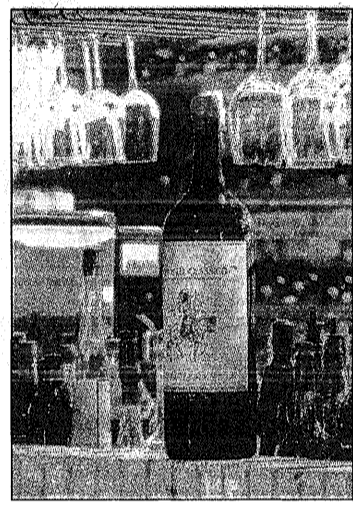
A long, narrow stretch of dirt has been cultivated, planted and harvested ever since the restaurant opened. It was a tradition started first by owners, Rina and Adriano Tonon, and carried on by their son, Adrian.

"My dad planted a theory 33 years ago and it's here today," Adrian said.

Before the term "green" became popular, the Tonon's relied on their all-natural garden, free of pesticides, to adorn their dishes.

While the garden is done for the year, the rows of greenery during season are robust with rapini, arugula, radicchio, Swiss chard, basil, rosemary, sage, pumpkins, peppers, zucchini, eggplant and more. The tomatoes burst forth from 75-year-old heirloom seeds given to the Tonans by family in Italy.

Their tomato sauce is distributed throughout the country and can be found at their Web site, www.cafecortina.com.



Pair a glass of chianti or other wine with your entree at Cafe Cortina.

CITY BITES

Julbord buffet

Canton - Shoppers can enjoy a Swedish "Julbord" buffet extravaganza, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 11, at the store, 41640 Ford Road.

Adults pay \$15.99 and kids 12 and under eat for \$2.49.

The Julbord buffet includes Swedish holiday ham, smoked salmon and poached salmon, assorted herring, roast beef, potato casserole, Swedish potato salad, Swedish style meatballs with lignonberries, assorted cheeses, crisp bread, gravid lax with mustard, Swedish cucumber salad, red beet salad, red cabbage, boiled potatoes, hard-boiled eggs with shrimp or lumpfish roe, sautéed sausage, liverwurst pate, lussehatt, assorted desserts, and beverages, including glogg.

Julbord is a special smorgasbord eaten at Christmas in Scandinavian countries.

Can't make it to the Julbord buffet? Ikea's Swedish Food Market has everything you need - from the Svartvinbarssill (marinated herring with black current) to Pepparkakshjarn (ginger hearts) - to prepare your own at home. (734) 981-6300

Pasta class

Farmington Hills - Learn how to make homemade pasta to go with all of your favorite sauces from 7-8:30 p.m., Dec. 11, Jan. 15 and 29, 2010 and Feb. 19, 2010 at Longacre House, 24705 Farmington Road north of 10 Mile. Class members will mix, knead, roll, and cut their own pasta to take home with them.

Evening classes cost \$30 per person and include a glass of wine.

Morning classes are planned from 10-11:30 a.m., Jan. 16 and 30, 2010 and Feb. 20, 2010. Cost is \$25.

Each class is limited to 15 participants. Register in person at the Costick Center at 28600 W. Eleven Mile, register online at www.fhgov.com or fax your registration form to (248) 473-1801. For more information, call (248) 473-1800.

Join 1 UNDER
Banquet Facility & Catering
For BRUNCH WITH SANTA

Seatings at 11am & 1pm
DECEMBER 13

Children's Meal Includes Photo with Santa & a Gift!

Complimentary COOKIE STATION...
where kids can design their own cookies to take home
(For Children age 10 and under)

Brunch Menu:

Omelet Station	Scrambled Eggs	Pot Roast
Hash Browns	Mini Corn Dogs	Baked Spaghetti
Bacon & Sausage Pancakes	Chicken Fingers	California Medley
Banana Pancakes	French Fries	Fresh Fruit
	Chicken Parmesan	Assorted Pastries

Juice, Pop, Coffee and Tea are included

Adults...\$13.99 Seniors...\$10.99
Children 6-12 years...\$8.99
Children age 5 and under eat FREE!
(Tax & Gratuity Added To All Parties...not valid with any coupons)

1 UNDER
Banquet Facility & Catering
35780 Five Mile Road • E. of Levan • Livonia
Space is Limited...Call for Reservations
734-464-5555
www.oneunderbar.com

1 UNDER
Banquet Facility & Catering

"The Ultimate New Years Experience"

Ring in the New Year "2010"

Thurs., Dec. 31, 2009
7:00 pm to 2:00 am

Buffet Menu:

Cold Bar with Shrimp Cocktail, Smoked Salmon & Oysters

Assorted Salads
Fruits, Vegetables and Cheeses
Lobster Ravioli
Chicken Piccata
Parmesan Encrusted White Fish
Carved Prime Rib
Herb Encrusted Lamb Chops
Asparagus & Squash Bunches
Vegetable Medley
Roasted Garlic Red Skin Mashed Potatoes
Twiced Bakes
Basmati Rice
Bowtie Pasta w/Pesto Cream sauce

Assorted Desserts

\$44.95 per person
plus tax and gratuity
2 drink tickets & Champagne Toast
(Not valid with any coupons)
Reserved seating for groups of eight or more.
Open seating for small groups.

RESERVATIONS are LIMITED
734-464-5555
35780 Five Mile Road • Livonia

TWO DAYS ONLY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12TH 10am-6pm
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH 10am-5pm

MILLIONS IN CASH!

BUYING GOLD & SILVER!!

At LAUREL PARK MALL
Next to the New Phoenix Theatre

Gold	All Diamond Engagement Rings	Silver						
<p>WE BUY GOLD ITEMS REGARDLESS OF CONDITION</p> <p>High School Rings up to \$150</p> <p>Old Rings up to \$150</p> <p>Chains up to \$200</p> <p>Old Watch up to \$1,000</p> <p>Bracelets up to \$1,500</p> <p>Necklaces up to \$1,500</p> <p>Dental Bring in for Cash</p> <p>Broken Chains Bring in for Cash</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>1/4 carat.....up to \$150</td> <td>2 carat.....up to \$12,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1/2 carat.....up to \$1,000</td> <td>3 carat.....up to \$20,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 carat.....up to \$4,000</td> <td>5 carat.....up to \$100,000</td> </tr> </table>  <p>FREE EVALUATIONS</p> <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>10% INCREASE OVER GUARANTEED HIGHEST PRICE</p> <p><small>Bring in coupon. Gold only.</small></p> </div> <p>GUARANTEE HIGHEST PRICES IT'S FAST AND EASY OUR TRAINED PROFESSIONALS USE THE LATEST HIGH TECH EQUIPMENT</p>	1/4 carat.....up to \$150	2 carat.....up to \$12,000	1/2 carat.....up to \$1,000	3 carat.....up to \$20,000	1 carat.....up to \$4,000	5 carat.....up to \$100,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullion • Silver Jewelry • Flatware Sets • Tea Sets • Antique Items <p>IMPORTANT ECONOMIC INFORMATION</p> <p>During the past few years, low interest rates, war and uncertain stock market performance combined to push prices of gold and silver to their highest levels in 25 years. We have studied the investment and retail markets for decades, and in the past during times of economic uncertainty (which is deepening now), there have been dramatic price declines in many areas of the jewelry, gold and retail markets. Which is why this may be the best time in decades for you to sell for some of the highest prices ever.</p>
1/4 carat.....up to \$150	2 carat.....up to \$12,000							
1/2 carat.....up to \$1,000	3 carat.....up to \$20,000							
1 carat.....up to \$4,000	5 carat.....up to \$100,000							

SILVER COINS

GOLD COINS

SILVER COINS

GOLD COINS

ONE OF OUR BUYERS PAID \$260,000 FOR 18 GOLD COINS!!

Pay up to for the following rare gold:

United States	Used	New
\$1.00 1842 to 1889.....	up to.....	\$1,000.....\$10,000
\$2.50 1798 to 1834.....	up to.....	\$5,500.....\$17,500
\$2.50 1840 to 1929.....	up to.....	\$1,000.....\$5,000
\$3.00 1854 to 1888.....	up to.....	\$3,000.....\$10,000
\$5.00 1795 to 1833.....	up to.....	\$10,000.....\$50,000
\$5.00 1834 to 1838.....	up to.....	\$1,000.....\$10,000
\$5.00 1839 to 1908.....	up to.....	\$1,500.....\$6,000
\$5.00 1908 to 1929 (Indian).....	up to.....	\$1,500.....\$6,000
\$10.00 1795 to 1804.....	up to.....	\$9,000.....\$29,000
\$10.00 1839 to 1932.....	up to.....	\$1,000.....\$7,500
\$20.00 1850 to 1933.....	up to.....	\$1,500.....\$10,000
\$50.00 1851 to 1852.....	up to.....	\$5,000.....\$15,000
\$50.00 1915 Pan-Pec.....	up to.....	\$7,500.....\$25,000

SILVER DOLLARS

ONE OF OUR BUYERS PAID \$90,000 FOR ONE SILVER COIN!!

Pay up to for the following rare dollars:

United States	Used	New
1794 to 1803.....	up to.....	\$2,000.....\$50,000
1836 to 1838.....	up to.....	\$1,000.....\$5,000
1840 to 1873.....	up to.....	\$500.....\$5,000
Trade Dollars.....	up to.....	\$100.....\$2,500
1878 to 1904.....	up to.....	\$1,500.....\$12,500
1921 to 1935.....	up to.....	\$50.....\$5,000

All prices in ad based on rarity and condition.

SILVER COINS

Will Pay Up To **950%** On **Silver Coins**

Up to **950%** of face value on silver coins 1964 & older

CONSIDER BRINING EVERYTHING

We have surprised many people who thought their items were not valuable enough to consider. The expert evaluators we have gathered together offer you a wealth of knowledge and experience. We are accustomed to paying thousands of dollars for valuable items. Don't miss this opportunity. Perhaps we'll help you find a real treasure in those hidden away pieces. There's never a charge for our consultation or services.

YOU MAY HAVE THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF ITEMS GATHERING DUST

Almost everyone has something of value they no longer need or want: Inherited items, jewelry that doesn't fit your style, watches that are old or even broken, silver pieces. Several items that might be useless to YOU.. may be considered treasures by the collectors from our vast international network.

- #### REASONS TO SELL
1. Midwest Gold Buyers specializes in evaluation and buying New and Antique jewelry. Our generations of experience qualify us to evaluate everything from small pieces to the finest and most valuable estate jewelry.
 2. Midwest Gold Buyers has an undisputed reputation. We work in compliance with your Local and State Government.
 3. This is an ideal opportunity to have your valuables evaluated (especially if you inherited them) by experts right here in this area. Come in for a free appraisal and cash offer - **NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.**
 4. If you are not wearing or enjoying the items that you have, then this is a great chance for you to convert them to CASH. This is much better than just holding hard to sell diamonds, jewelry & coins.

MIDWEST GOLD BUYERS TWO DAYS ONLY!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12TH
10am-6pm

At LAUREL PARK MALL
Next to the New Phoenix Theatre
734-604-CASH • LIVONIA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH
10am-5pm

Deck the halls: Interiors, exteriors get festive touches

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Customers at Plymouth Nursery are eager to decorate for the holidays. "Probably the hottest thing we've got going now are the evergreen porch pots," said Tim Parker, general manager at the nursery and garden center. Juniper, Fraser fir, boxwood and white spruce tips in the center combine for an attractive outdoor look at holiday time.

Customers like Michigan holly with red berries: "People are going crazy for those," said Parker, a Pinckney resident.

You can also keep things colorful in winter by putting evergreen branches in your hanging baskets, using materials to make the branches stand up. The LED lights are popular as they use a lot less electricity and burn more brightly.

"Because there's no filament they're cool to the touch," he said. "It's really a good value" due to lower energy costs.

Wreaths and green roping are still standbys for holiday decorating at Plymouth Nursery. There's a product, Wilt Proof, that dries out water and prevents it from escaping. Parker noted people can leave some decorations up throughout winter after using Wilt Proof.

"Some people are creative," he said of December decorating. "Some just want it done for them."

"It's still very strong," he said of December decorating. People like fresh greens, including for centerpieces: "Everybody wants the smell."

At Plymouth Nursery, grapevine birdhouses filled with greens do well, adding fragrance to a home.

Nicki Wilson, who has the Decorating Den Interiors Canton franchise, sees a lot of interest in holiday decor. "The smell of it and the whole connotation of Christmas and holidays, I think," she said of the appeal.

She agreed centerpieces with evergreen boughs are great for December, some with candles. Colors vary.

"It can be whatever you want," Wilson said. "You can add gold or silver to make it more festive." Green, red, gold and silver are the traditional Christmas colors but not obligatory by any means.

You can also keep things colorful in winter by putting evergreen branches in your hanging baskets, using materials to make the branches stand up. The LED lights are popular as they use a lot less electricity and burn more brightly.

"We've evolved. It doesn't have to be," she said.

Wilson sees more artificial than live Christmas trees in homes. People often like ornaments children made or others with sentimental value.

"I think everyone has certain holiday traditions that are always there," she said. Some go all out and some on budgets keep it simpler: "I think mostly people just do what's comfortable."

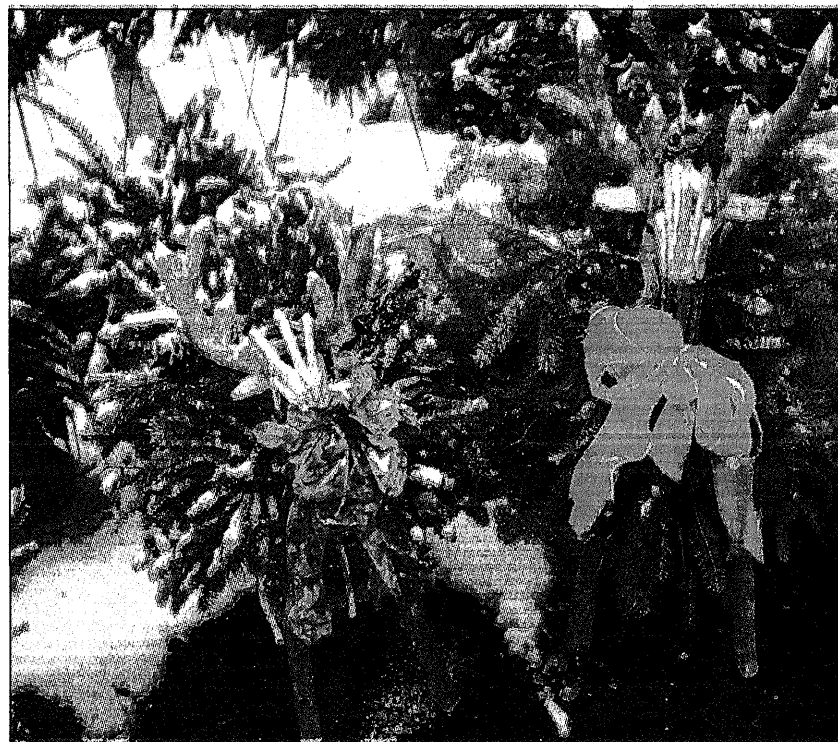
She has a couple Christmas trees at her home, a family tree and the "pretty tree that does with the decor of the house." Wilson likes something Christmas-related in each room at the family home.

"I think that people will still decorate," she said, with more making do with what they have. She sees people borrow decorating ideas from parks and stores, but more for exteriors.

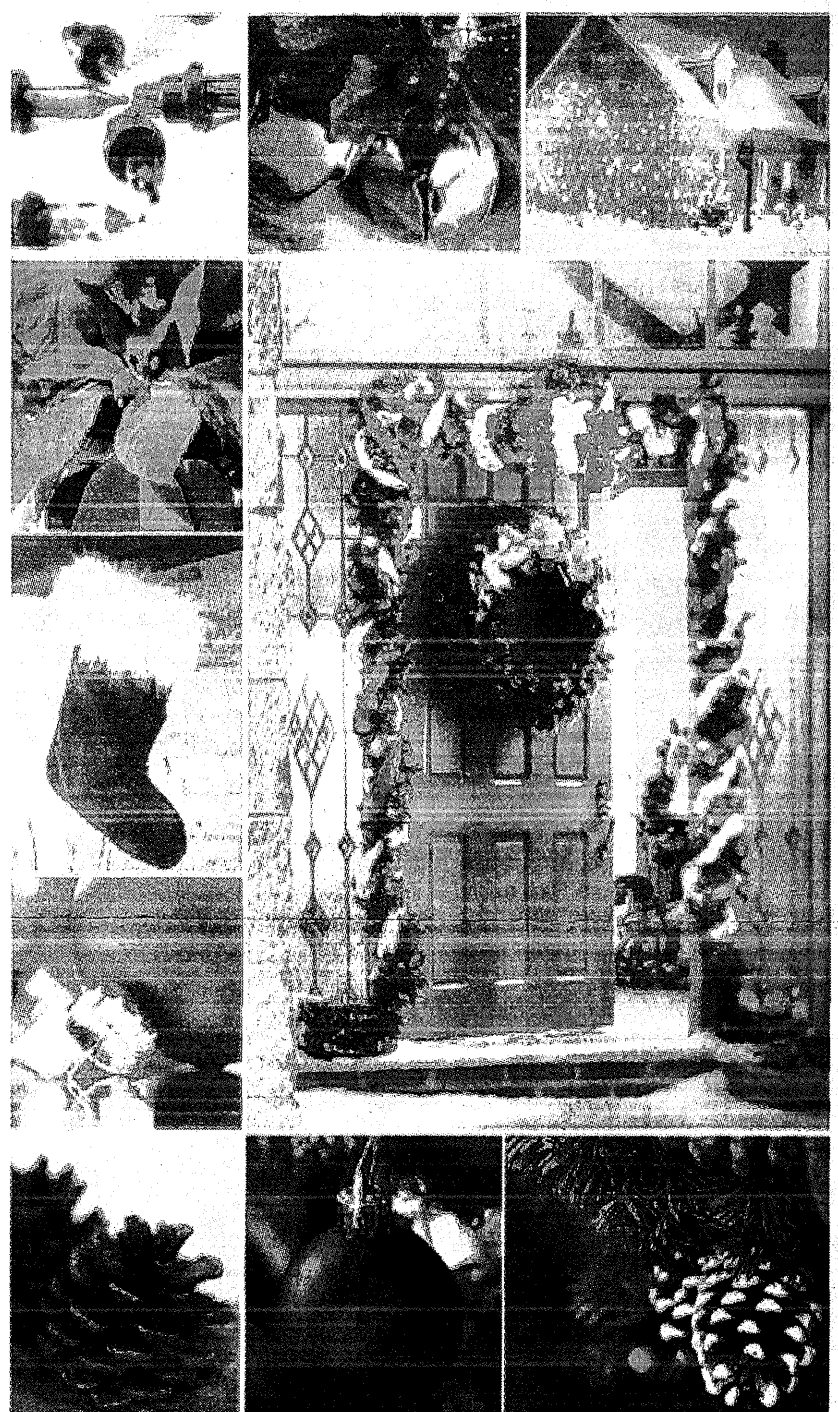
"If you put it up you have to take it down or find someone to do it for you," she added of holiday decorations, which sometimes stay up well into the New Year.

There are many options available for holiday decorating, and your choices will depend on your budget and personal preferences, Wilson said. Here are a few budget — and eco-friendly — ideas:

- Old-fashioned garlands of popcorn and cranberries for your tree
- Wreaths, either evergreen or grapevine, decorated or not, hanging on your door or over the fireplace, or lying flat on your dining or cocktail table
- Pine cones, evergreen sprigs, cinnamon sticks, fruits and nuts can be used to create a natural display in clear glass bowls, or artfully arranged on a tabletop or tray, or to decorate a wreath or tree.



Plymouth Nursery's home to many festive outdoor decorations.



Ask real estate lawyer on foreclosure

Q: We are in foreclosure and the bank is taking back the home. I am wondering if they are going to pursue a deficiency if, in fact, the home is not worth what is left on the balance of the mortgage.

A: It, of course, depends upon the facts of your case, including the lending institution involved, the amount of any deficiency, and the ability of the bank to collect the deficiency from you by way

of a judgment.

Generally, banks have not been pursuing homeowners for deficiencies, but it is on a case by case basis and, you are best advised to retain a

knowledgeable real estate lawyer to negotiate with the bank concerning this issue. You may be in a position to provide the bank with more available access to your home in consideration for a waiver of any claim for a deficiency and/or on the other hand, the bank may not be interested in foreclosing in the first instance, and, may be willing to work out a modified payment plan or new mortgage with you, given the various government programs depending upon your economic status.

Q: I understand that there is a new type of listing agreement being offered by buyers' agents which became effective in July 2008. Do you have any information on it?

A: I presume you are talking about the Limited Service Agreement which became effective on July 1, 2008. Generally, an agent owes a client all of the minimum services prescribed by law, unless they enter into what they consider to be this Limited Service Agreement. In the agreement, a client may only waive the following three services that must otherwise be provided by a licensee acting as an agent:

1. Acceptance of delivery and presentation of offers and counter-offers;
2. Assistance in developing, communicating, negotiating and presenting offers and counter-offers;
3. Assistance with completion of a transaction after the parties execute a purchase agreement.

This is designed to give sellers and/or buyers, by way of example, access to multi-lists and other similar limited services without having the broker perform the usual services associated with the purchase or sale of a residence at a reduced fee. Be sure you read your listing agreement carefully before you sign it.

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.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career seminar

You can find out about Keller Williams Realty and the real estate business in general at a specialized career seminar. Seminar includes: cost vs. income potential, available training, company profit share, and how to launch a business.

There will be a seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Please call (734) 459-4700 to reserve your free seat.

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of Aug. 31 to Sept. 4, 2009, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Auburn Hills	952 Bloomfield Village Blvd	\$25,000	3146 Waukegan St	\$38,000
Beverly Hills	32285 Auburn Dr	\$166,000	21676 Corsaut Ln	\$219,000
	18942 Riverside Dr	\$455,000	32265 Southfield Rd	\$115,000
	19710 W 13 Mile Rd	\$190,000		
Bingham Farms	30515 Oakview Way	\$150,000		
Birmingham	659 Ann St	\$175,000	1795 Banbury St	\$122,000
	1451 E 14 Mile Rd	\$80,000	1533 Holland St	\$379,000
	441 Vinewood Ave	\$350,000	875 Vinewood Ave	\$309,000
	722 Wallace St	\$850,000	1656 Washington Blvd	\$458,000
Bloomfield Township	1161 Copperwood Dr	\$813,000	5535 Crabtree Rd	\$205,000
	7268 Glengrove Dr	\$156,000	450 Lahser Rd	\$142,000
	7445 Paddle Wheel Ct	\$450,000	6151 Rocky Spring Rd	\$338,000
	6270 Thurber Rd	\$330,000	844 Upper Scotsborough Way	\$160,000
	1863 Wingate Rd	\$208,000	2858 Woodcreek Way	\$450,000
Clarkston	4724 Alamo Ave	\$38,000	9429 English Oak Dr	\$230,000
	4232 Newcastle Dr	\$1,200,000	7040 Northwind Ct	\$250,000
	5670 Sheffield Dr	\$200,000	6561 Sheppard Ave	\$103,000
	6686 Weston Ct	\$316,000	10330 Whipple Tree Ln	\$225,000
Commerce Township	5015 Fairgrove Ln	\$268,000	1837 Glen Iris Dr	\$175,000
	1865 Sleeth Rd	\$280,000		
Davisburg	7990 Sandmar Ln	\$143,000		
Farmington	34143 Alta Loma Dr	\$56,000	31831 Grand River Ave	\$20,000
Farmington Hills	35064 Bunker Hill Dr	\$147,000	22174 Cape Cod Way	\$65,000
	37371 Chesapeake Rd	\$214,000	36465 Edinborough Ct	\$670,000
	24384 Elmhurst Ave	\$226,000	36026 Hardenburg Rd	\$240,000
	21000 Huco St	\$140,000	29825 Indian Trl	\$100,000
	22302 Innsbrook Dr	\$246,000	25959 Lynford St	\$150,000
	21704 Middlebelt Rd	\$9,000	29603 N Meadowridge	\$165,000
	28300 Shadylane Dr	\$155,000	21535 Verdun St	\$84,000
	23705 W Newell Cir	\$125,000	21284 Woodhill Dr	\$290,000
Franklin	27305 Crestwood Dr	\$685,000	32773 Haverford Rd	\$173,000
	31080 McKinney Dr	\$250,000		
Keego Harbor	3165 Kenrick St	\$265,000		
Lake Orion	600 Buena Vis	\$183,000	691 Harry Paul Dr	\$115,000
	958 Highlander St	\$85,000	585 Knollwood Dr	\$160,000
	2090 Marie Dr	\$185,000	3748 North Oaks Ct	\$214,000
	320 Park Island Dr	\$848,000	928 Sherry Dr	\$125,000
	3959 Spring Hollow Ct	\$220,000	3723 W Madison Ave	\$119,000
	748 Woodside Ct	\$280,000		
Millford	2941 Katie Ln	\$330,000	2915 Morrow Ln	\$535,000
	225 Noble St	\$108,000		
Northville	795 Grace St	\$128,000	728 Horton St	\$450,000
Novi	24663 Bashian Dr	\$50,000	22130 Edgewater	\$63,000
	43016 Emerson Way	\$250,000	27471 Harrington Way	\$240,000
	40329 Ladene Ln	\$165,000	41028 Malott	\$126,000
	30219 Westcrest	\$230,000	16571 West Lake Dr	\$410,000
	22644 Woolsey	\$35,000		
Oakland Township	4835 Freer St	\$170,000	403 Oak Dr	\$44,000
	3339 Rosemont Ct	\$335,000		
Oxford	465 Lakes Edge Dr	\$145,000	650 Lakes Edge Dr	\$300,000
	1263 Pondview Ln	\$197,000	887 W Peninsula Ct	\$250,000
Rochester	1923 Cloverdale Dr	\$305,000	1855 Flagstone Cir	\$110,000
	669 Romeo Rd	\$90,000		
Rochester Hills	3369 Aquinas Dr	\$144,000	3043 Bathurst Ave	\$32,000
	2529 Brilliance	\$270,000	3399 Connors Dr	\$50,000
	3155 Fantail Dr	\$251,000	1548 Galena	\$185,000
	1884 Homestead Ct	\$160,000	772 Ironstone Cir	\$232,000
	1775 Jason Cir	\$250,000	2649 Long Meadow Ln	\$200,000
	618 Middlebury Ln	\$312,000	2711 New England Dr	\$320,000
	3265 Parkwood Ln	\$50,000	3427 Talbert Cir	\$280,000
	2678 Tower Hill Ln	\$230,000	1658 W Avon Rd	\$285,000
	2476 W Tienken Rd	\$168,000	1173 Whispering Knoll Ln	\$199,000
	259 Whitney Dr	\$172,000		
South Lyon	1290 Coach House Ln	\$250,000	23678 Lyon Ridge Dr	\$61,000
Southfield	29433 Brentwood St	\$55,000	5000 Town Ctr	\$35,000
	20400 Westhaven Ave	\$12,000		
Troy	1316 Burns Dr	\$180,000	1760 Carpenter Dr	\$452,000
	2521 Cheswick Dr	\$259,000	1868 Connolly Dr	\$482,000
	1732 Devon Ln	\$175,000	172 Harrington Dr	\$240,000
	1165 Provincial Dr	\$575,000	2840 Vineyards Dr	\$1,300,000
Walled Lake	442 Boardwalk Dr	\$112,000	3075 Brisbane St	\$51,000
	385 Cherry Grove Ln	\$215,000		
Waterford	7670 Austere Dr	\$88,000	2679 Desmond	\$36,000
	1389 Glenview Dr	\$139,000	3366 Harbours Blvd	\$241,000
	1126 La Salle Ave	\$68,000	3592 Lakewood Dr	\$139,000
	4043 Laurel Lane	\$50,000	2160 Odette Dr	\$33,000
	7522 Pontiac Lake Rd	\$100,000	5945 Rowley Dr	\$160,000
West Bloomfield	7084 Autumn Hill Dr	\$505,000	3146 Bloomfield Shore Dr	\$280,000
	7375 Creek View Ct	\$118,000	7572 Glascock Ave	\$48,000
	4521 Green Lake Rd	\$50,000	2406 Island View Dr	\$125,000
	2920 Oakbrooke Ct	\$302,000	6157 Orchard Lake Rd	\$76,000
	7162 Pebblecreek Rd	\$110,000	6748 Woodside Trl	\$140,000
White Lake	9757 Bonnie Briar St	\$135,000	44 Hulbert	\$100,000

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 24-28, 2009, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton	1690 Aberdeen St	\$177,000	50651 Colchester Ct	\$405,000
	41902 Cranford Ave	\$175,000	41495 Elisa Ct	\$135,000
	44243 Fair Oaks Dr	\$125,000	46083 Graystone Ln	\$161,000
	45269 Horseshoe Cir	\$110,000	50186 Jackson Ln	\$291,000
	50256 Jackson Ln	\$230,000	2173 Lone Wolf Ln	\$135,000
	5908 Meadowview Dr	\$248,000	41300 Northwind Dr	\$50,000
	7484 Pointe Dr	\$148,000	4156 Pond Run	\$165,000
	3316 Riverside Ct	\$169,000	42285 Trent Dr	\$220,000
	1630 Walnut Ridge Cir	\$160,000	884 Wildwood Ln	\$136,000
	42183 Woodcreek Ln	\$232,000		
Garden City	973 Belton St	\$46,000	29503 Cambridge St	\$95,000
	5949 Gilman St	\$44,000	5747 Harrison St	\$17,000
	29851 John Hawk St	\$50,000	29467 Meadow Ln	\$82,000
	31024 Rosslyn Ave	\$60,000		
Livonia	14051 Alexander St	\$97,000	9620 Arden St	\$120,000
	14211 Berwick St	\$160,000	32969 Brookside Cir	\$160,000
	12314 Camden St	\$87,000	17100 Dolores St	\$129,000
	33009 Fargo St	\$25,000	18636 Gienary Dr	\$360,000
	33146 Grennada St	\$135,000	14128 Ingram St	\$170,000
	28723 Jacquelyn Dr	\$118,000		
Northville	39463 Champion Ct	\$230,000	39481 Edgewater Dr	\$160,000
	520 Grace St	\$195,000	39474 Springwater Dr	\$135,000
	48820 Wellsley Ct	\$1166,000		
Plymouth	46356 Barrington Rd	\$214,000	12619 Beacon Hill Ct	\$400,000
	50457 Beechwood Ct	\$88,000	405 Blunk St	\$460,000
	9251 Brookline Ave	\$105,000	1045 Carol Ave	\$130,000
	8875 Elmhurst Ave	\$124,000	13962 Knollview Ct	\$300,000
	625 Sunset St	\$230,000	14864 Thornridge Dr	\$183,000
	9380 Village Manor Dr	\$289,000	9600 Wellington Dr	\$372,000
	50800 Weston Dr	\$325,000	9111 Woodgrove Dr	\$260,000
Redford	13438 Arnold	\$70,000	14804 Beech Daly Rd	\$80,000
	18644 Beech Daly Rd	\$38,000	15926 Delaware Ave	\$50,000
	16136 Delaware Ave	\$66,000	17678 Denby	\$38,000
	20455 Fox	\$30,000	20429 Gaylord	\$56,000
	18258 Kinloch	\$12,000	18258 Leona Dr	\$47,000
	19528 Norborne	\$20,000	9631 Salem	\$41,000
Westland	33340 Anita Dr	\$122,000	29104 Badelt St	\$82,000
	38514 Deer Creek Blvd	\$93,000	32421 Grandview Ave	\$103,000
	36000 Hazelwood St	\$47,000	984 Mitchell Dr	\$174,000
	503 N Hanlon St	\$10,000	1523 Raymer St	\$65,000
	32719 Steinhauer St	\$85,000		

Check us out on the Web every day
at hometownlife.com

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- Gaming mecca
 - Pencil point
 - Pirates' base
 - Tune for a diva
 - Color of honey
 - German import
 - Agreement
 - Landscape
 - Canasta play
 - Flower holder
 - Use hair rollers
 - Sugarbush trees
 - Adams or McClurg
 - Rover's pal
 - Building exterior
 - Devotee's mags
 - Man or woman
 - Northern Iraqi
 - Folk wisdom
 - Be recumbent
 - Rudders
 - Worthless coin
 - R2D2's owner
 - Morays
 - Downhill racers
 - Fair
 - Soft leathers
 - Gear teeth
 - Office note
 - Discourse
 - Golfing peg
 - Hiking trail
 - Cyrus' realm, today
 - Wedding ritual

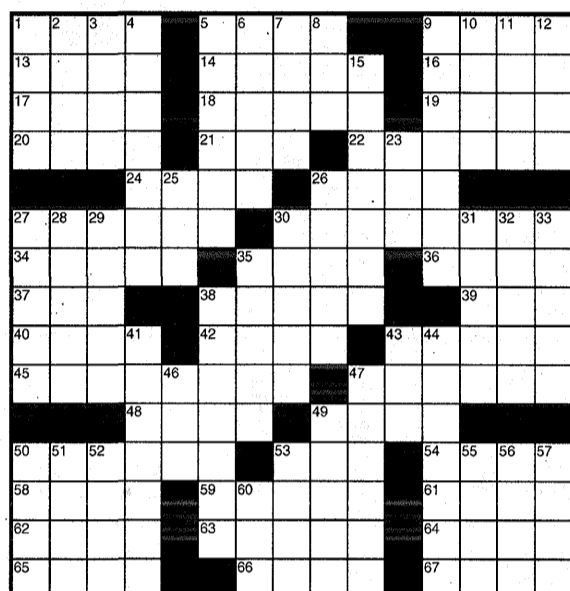
- DOWN**
- Famous Khan
 - River crossing
 - Vaughan or Bernhardt
 - Wishes undone
 - Bakers' meas.
 - Thorny shrub
 - Intense
 - Talks to a beat
 - Latin I verb
 - Pleasant
 - Hot breakfast
 - Dog star
 - Sajak or Trebek
 - Foster a felon
 - Lion's quarters
 - Fuel for illumination (2 wds.)
 - Ayla's creator
 - While away
 - Disposes of
 - Jogs the memory
 - Cutting tool
 - Banned bug spray
 - Grows wheat
 - Niagara and Victoria
 - Parting word
 - Let know about (2 wds.)
 - Totally
 - Snooped around
 - Carve a gully

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED



5-15-09 © 2009 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

- Kiddie-lit author
- Laments loudly
- Mountains
- Rises to a higher point
- It may be tidy
- Spotted cat
- Ad — committee
- Barely boil
- Flat-topped hills
- Prepare flour
- Major-leaguers
- O.K. Corral name
- Poi base
- The chills
- "Of — I Sing"
- Jewelry-box catch
- Boathouse gear



SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Beginner

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

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

- BELL CARVER DIESEL EDISON FORD MORSE PASTEUR WHITNEY WRIGHT

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.



CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

REAL ESTATE

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

Classified

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Contact Us:
PHONE: 1-800-579-SELL (7355)
FAX: 313-496-4968
ONLINE: www.hometownlife.com
EMAIL: ceads@hometownlife.com
HOME DELIVERY/CIRCULATION: 866-887-2737
BILLING/INVOICE: 313-222-8748

Deadlines:
 Sunday edition 4:30 p.m. Friday
 Thursday edition 2:00 p.m. Tuesday

Offices and Hours:
 Eccentric office.....6200 Metro Pkwy., Sterling Heights, MI 48312
 Observer office41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170
 Hours8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

POLICY
 All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170 866-887-2737. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspaper sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ads) the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after the FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

3000-3890
 Real Estate For Sale

Manufactured Homes 3740
WESTLAND MOBILE HOMES AT MOHAWK
 Own your own homes - 1 & 2 bdrm fully remodeled mobile homes for \$350/mo. including lot rent! Financing available. Call for details. 734-513-4108

Lakefront Property 3770
LAKEFRONT CONDO UNDER \$78K. Owner transferred out of state. Deck overlooking serene lake (307' sandy frontage). 3 bdrm, 2 full bath. Living room/breakfast area/1st floor bdrm, 2nd floor bdrm (all lakeview). Located btwn. Otsego Club in Burned Mountain. Selling furnished (with small boat). Pre-approved or cash buyers make an offer! Immediate Occupancy. Enjoy the holidays UP NORTH! (313) 641-0132

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

Take a chance...

AUGUSTA WOODS HOLIDAY SAVINGS EXTRAVAGANZA
 Move in to your new home before the New Year and Receive a \$1000 Visa Gift Card
 Custom financing w/ 5% down-BK, Foreclosure OK
 Payments start at \$700 per month.
 Call (734)461-9895 for more information
 800-579-SELL (7355)
www.hometownlife.com

HOME & SERVICE

0001-2450
Home & Service Guide

Brick, Block & Cement 0290
ALL BLOCK, BRICK WORK
 Concrete + Foundations Res. & Comm. Lic. & Ins. Call Anytime: (248) 478-2602

CORNERSTONE MASONRY & ROOFING
 Brick, Block, Stone, Chimneys, Porches & Tuck Point. Free Est. 734-729-7785

Carpet Repair/Installation 0440
PAT'S CARPET REPAIR
 •Carpet Stretching •Burns •Pet Damage •Satisfaction Guaranteed. (888) 775-4404

Chimney Cleaning/Building & Repair 0480
BEST CHIMNEY & ROOFING CO. -New & repairs Sr. Citizen Discount. Lic. & Ins. 248-557-5595 313-292-7722

Drywall 0690
COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV.
 Plaster repair. All jobs welcomed! Lic/Ins. Fr est. 26 yrs. exp. Mark: 313-363-6738

Electrical 0700
FAMILY ELECTRICAL
 City cert. Violations corrected. Service changes or any small job. Free est. 734-422-8080

Floor Service 0680
HARDWOOD FLOORS
 Installation, refinishing and recoating. Dustless system. Excellent customer service. 248-470-7690

Gutters 1000
Got Gutter Clutter?
 Fall Specials Colonial \$50, Ranch \$40, Ins. Call Tim at: (734) 464-0772

Handyman M/F 1020
Complete Service Handyman
 Any Size Job. Licensed. Free Estimates. 734-453-9818, 734-259-9326

DRYWALL - 25 yrs exp.
 Drywall, trim, doors, tile, wood floors, electrical & plumbing. (734) 716-9933

True Mark Home Improvements & Repairs
 All Types. Interior/Exterior. FREE Estimates. Let us beat your written quote! 734-469-4828

Hauling/Clean Up 1030
A-1 HAULING
 Move scrap metal, clean basements, garages, stores, etc. Lowest prices in town. Quick service. Free est. Wayne/Oakland. Central location. 248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

Clean-up/Hauling Service
 Cheapest Prices! Garages, bsmts, attics, free estimates 248-489-5955, 248-521-8818 www.lacoureservices.com

Home Improvement 1060
CABINETS, COUNTERTOPS, FINISHED CARPENTRY.
 Quality work, good prices. 734-634-6705, 734-425-0682

Housecleaning 1080
DEB'S HOME AND COMMERCIAL CLEANING
 Bonded and Insured. Reliable Regular or one time cleanings. Call Deb at: 248-890-3800

Insulation 1110
INSULATION EXPERTS
 We install Owens Corning. Attic Cat blown-in insulation. Lic/Ins. (734) 536-1945

Moving/Storage 1380
A1 A+ Movers A+ Service
 Lic. & Insured - Efficient for only \$65/hr. 866-633-7953

Painting/Decorating Paperhangers 1420
•PAINTERS BY MICHAEL • HIGHEST QUALITY Interior - Holiday Rates • Staining • Textured Ceilings • Faux Finish • Plaster/Drywall Repair • Wallpaper Removal • Skim Coating • Deck Staining • Aluminum Siding • Refinishing • Free Est. 248-349-7499 734-464-8147

Roofing 1640
APEX ROOFING
 Quality work completed with pride. Family owned. Lic. Ins. For honesty & integrity: 248-476-6984; 248-855-7223

BEST CHIMNEY CO.
 Free Est. Lic. & Ins. (313) 292-7722

LEAK SPECIALIST Flashings, Valleys, Chimneys, etc. Warr. Member BBB. 30 yrs. exp. Lic / Ins. Call: (248) 346-4321

Snow Removal 1810
SNOW PLOWING & SALTING & Emergency Service Comm.
 & Res. Lic. & Ins. Free Est. 248-521-8818/489-5955

APARTMENTS

4000-4980
Real Estate For Lease

Apartment/Unfurnished 4000
FARMINGTON MANOR APTS.
 Deluxe studio & 1 bdrm, carpet, \$300 security, 50% off first 3 months, with approved credit. (248) 888-0868

FARMINGTON PLAZA APTS
 Luxury 2 bdrms, A/C, pool, New kitchen & baths, laundry rooms, heat incl. \$550/mo. 50% off 1st 3 month's rent w/ approved credit. (248) 478-8722

CANTON - 1 bdrm, super clean apt., all utilities incl. Must See!
 \$505/mo. + 1 month security. Call: (734) 945-8714

Apartment/Unfurnished 4000
PLYMOUTH
 1 Bdrm. \$575, 2 Bdrm. \$670. First month free w/approved credit. W/ 1 yr. lease. Walk-in closets. (734) 455-1215

PLYMOUTH - 1 bdrm apt. in 4 unit bldg., new paint, coin laundry, c/a, \$575+sec. 1st mo free + free heat! 231-392-6373

Apartment/Unfurnished 4000
PLYMOUTH - OLD VILLAGE.
 Small 1 bdrm, hardwood floors, ceiling fan, island style breakfast bar, cable ready, storage & laundry, very clean & cute. \$145/wk incl all util. 1 yr lease. 248-425-4853, broker

Apartment/Unfurnished 4000
PLYMOUTH PARK APTS
 65 and older. 1 & 2 bdrm apts available starting at \$450/mo. including all util. (313) 350-1270

Apartment/Unfurnished 4000
PLYMOUTH - Prime location.
 1 bdrm avail, \$580 plus security. Near downtown. Incl. heat. No dogs. 734-455-2635

Apartment/Unfurnished 4000
Westland Estates "WOW"
 1 Bdrms, \$475
 2 Bdrms, \$615
 No fine print in this ad! -Heat/Water included -\$10.00 Application Fee -\$200 Deposit w/ Credit
New Resident's Only 734-722-4700
 Mon.-Fri. 9am-7pm Sat.-Sun. 10am-4pm

Observer and Eccentric Classified Early Deadline for Christmas & New Years

Please be advised due to the holidays, the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will have early deadlines for the issues of Thursday, December 24th and December 31st. Please make note of these early deadlines, so your advertising will not miss these "well read" issues!

Publications Of: Wayne County Observers/ South Oakland Eccentric/Birmingham Eccentric
 Deadline for Issue of Thursday, December 24th:
 Liners: Monday, December 21st at 2:30 pm
 Display: Monday, December 21st at noon
 Obituaries: Tuesday, December 22nd at 10 am

Publications Of: Wayne County Observers/ South Oakland Eccentric/Birmingham Eccentric
 Deadline for Issue of Sunday, December 27th:
 Liners: Wednesday, December 23rd at 3 pm
 Display: Tuesday, December 22nd at 5 pm
 Obituaries: Wednesday, December 23rd at 2 pm

Publications Of: Wayne County Observers/ South Oakland Eccentric/Birmingham Eccentric
 Deadline for Issue of Thursday, December 31st:
 Liners: Monday, December 28th at 2:30 pm
 Display: Friday, December 25th at 5 pm
 Obituaries: Tuesday, December 29th at 10 am

Publications Of: Wayne County Observers/ South Oakland Eccentric/Birmingham Eccentric
 Deadline for Issue of Sunday, January 3rd:
 Liners: Wednesday, December 30th at 3 pm
 Display: Tuesday, December 29th at 5 pm
 Obituaries: Wednesday, December 30th at 2 pm

Call To Place Your Ad Today: 800-579-7355
 Or online at: www.hometownlife.com

Plymouth Rent Starting at \$449 FREE HEAT
 1 & 2 Bedroom Apt's.
Plymouth Manor Plymouth House
 734-455-3880
www.yorkcounties.com

PLYMOUTH SQUARE APTS.
 \$300 security deposit. 50% OFF 1ST 3 MO. RENT with approved credit 1 & 2 bdrm. \$570 - \$705. 734-455-6570

REDFORD
 1st Month Free!
 Large 1 bdrm. C/A, storage. Tons of closet space \$590 per mo. 734-721-6699 EHO www.cormorantco.com

WALLED LAKE-ON THE LAKE
 1-3 bdrms starting at \$500. 1st mo free with approved credit. C/A, Close to 12 Oaks, schools & x-ways. (248) 624-5999

WESTLAND
 1 bdrm w/appliances, private entrance, off street parking. \$475/mo, 248-892-0262

WESTLAND
 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, laundry hook-up & off street parking. \$600/mo. (248) 892-0262

WESTLAND Apts From \$499*
 Deposit from \$0*
 1 & 2 Bdrms
 • Patio or Balcony
 • 24 Hr Emergency Maint.
 • Open 7 Days
Waynewood Apts
 734-326-8270, EHO
 *Conditions Apply
www.waynewoodapts.com


WESTLAND Hickory Woods Apts. \$224 MOVE IN!
1st Month Rent Free!
 (for qualified applicants)
 1 Bdrm - \$550
 2 Bdrm - \$625
FREE GAS AND WATER
 (734) 729-6520
 *Short term leases avail.

Westland Park Apts. LOOK
FREE RENT
 2 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath, \$565, 936 Sq. Ft. 1 Bdrm, \$490, 728 Sq. Ft.
\$200 Security Deposit Heat and Water Incl!
 (New residents only) with approved credit No Pets. C/A, Vertical Blinds, Intercom. Appliances include dishwasher. Very clean Apartments Excellent Maintenance (734) 729-6636

careerbuilder

HOMETOWNlife.com

CLASSIFIED
YOUR TICKET TO
Buy • Sell • Find
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
NEWSPAPERS
 1-800-579-SELL (7355)



MICH-CAN
 STATE WIDE
 CLASSIFIED

BUSINESS
 OPPORTUNITIES

ALL CASH VENDING!
 Do you earn up to \$800/day? Your own local candy route. Includes 25 Machines and Candy. All for \$9,995. Call 1-888-744-4651.

SCHOOLS

NEED A NEW CAREER?
 You May Qualify for 100% Paid Training. Military Spouse Tuition Assistance Available. *Healthcare *Information Technology. New Horizons Computer Learning Centers, Detroit 888-449-9571, Lansing/Flint 888-456-7209, Grand Rapids/Kalamazoo 866-371-2287. Get certified in 3-6 months! www.nhgreatlakes.com

FINANCIAL SERVICES

****BEST HOME LOANS!****
 Land Contract and Mortgage Payoffs, Home-Improvements, Debt-Consolidation, Property Taxes. Foreclosures. Houses/Doublewides/Mobiles. Good/Bad/Ugly Credit! 1-800-246-8100 Anytime! United Mortgage Services. www.umsmortgage.com

FOR SALE

PIONEER POLE BUILDINGS 30x40x10 Basic building \$8990.00. 14 Colors Galvalume Steel, 2x6 Trusses, ACQ Treated lumber, licensed and insured. Options available, call for quotes. 1-800-292-0679

MISCELLANEOUS


GET DISH - FREE Installation-\$19.99/mo HBO & Showtime FREE-Over 50 HD Channels FREE Lowest Prices-No Equipment to Buy! Call Now for full Details 1-877-287-7699.

TO PLACE YOUR AD:
1-800-579-7355

HERNIA REPAIR? Did you receive a composix Kugel Mesh Patch between January 2001 and Present? If the Kugel Patch was removed due to complications of bowel perforation, abdominal wall tears, puncture of abdominal organs or intestinal fistulae, you may be entitled to compensation. Attorney Charles Johnson 1-800-535-5727.

PLACE YOUR STATE-WIDE AD HERE! \$299 buys a 25-word classified ad offering over 1.6 million circulation and 3.6 million readers. Contact mich-can@michiganpress.org.

IT'S ALL AT YOUR FINGERTIPS!



Look no further for the best local classifieds!

5000-5980
Employment
 Instructional Services

Help Wanted-General 5000
ANIMAL HOSPITAL ALL POSITIONS
 Metro Detroit locations. Part-Time available. Exp'd. or willing to train. vetjobs15@yahoo.com

APPOINTMENT SETTER
 Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart, call 9-5, M-F. 734-728-4572 or email: phneworkinfo@aol.com

BOOKKEEPER
 30-35 hrs per wk. Knowledge of QuickBooks Premier a must, experience preferred but will train qualified candidate. Apply in person: Cantoro Italian Market, 19710 Middlebelt, Livonia, MI 48152. No phone calls please.

DIRECT CARE WORKER
 PT positions available. Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Starting \$7.61/hr. (734) 394-5620

Driver
 Are you feeling Left behind? No funding available! No Job, No Money, No CDL? No Problem! Zero down financing & Financial Aid Now available Integrity Truck Driving School Can Help! 800-930-4837 Integritytds.com

DRIVER

Race Engine manufacturer in Plymouth MI is looking for an Engine Delivery Driver to make deliveries to race tracks across the country. Extensive travel is involved. Candidate must have excellent driving record and be able to obtain a chauffeurs license and DOT medical card. Computer literacy required. Duties include engine and parts deliveries, scheduling of fleet maintenance, vehicle cleaning and other various other duties when not traveling. \$16/hr. with overtime and excellent benefits.

Email resume to: HR@ilmor.com or fax to: (734) 456-3699

Help Wanted-General 5000

DRIVERS & WAREHOUSE
 For SW Detroit food company. Fax or email resume to: 313-554-2504 or jdavis@mqmcs.com

HOLIDAY HELP
Students Welcome \$16.25 Base-Appt
 Flexible schedules, no exp needed. Apply now, start after finals. Great 2nd income, may continue in 2010. (248) 426-4405

Materials Manager

Engine Manufacturer seeks a self-starting individual as a **Materials Manager**. Responsibilities include: supervision of department staff, inventory control for all programs, maintenance of company vehicles, shipping & receiving, parts planning & scheduling, forecasting & ordering, along with fiscal responsibilities.

Candidates must have a minimum of 5 years experience in inventory control and supervision. Bachelor's Degree in related field is preferred. Candidates must be service and detail oriented, be able to prioritize and communicate well. Knowledge of engine components and US Customs procedures is required.

Qualified applicants should send resumes with salary requirements to:
Ilmor Engineering
 43939 Plymouth Oaks Blvd
 Plymouth, MI 48170
 Email: hr@ilmor.com

RETAIL SALES

High volume Jewelry Wholesaler. Best deals in town. Start up to \$13 w/ prof training with jewelry Exp. Up to \$16 w/ diamond Exp. Up to \$20 Benefits, overtime avail. Bonus's + Lots of Fun! 734-525-3200 Fax 525-1443 jobs@jewelryexchange.com

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
 CPA firm in Farmington Hills looking for Part Time help to work Mon & Wed through Apr 15th, 2010. Responsibilities incl: Assembling, answering phones & filing. Computer & communication skills a must. Please email resume: astanek@wscpa.biz

BOOKKEEPER/ OFFICE MANAGER PART-TIME
 For Insurance Agency in Farmington. Email resume: Bookkeeper@raiderdennis.com

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

OFFICE ASSISTANT, Full-Time
 Clerical/Dispatch for a plumbing & HVAC Company in Livonia. Must have office experience. Phone & typing skills a must. Good pay & benefits. Fax resume: 734-467-7817

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

RECEPTIONIST/ DENTAL ASSISTANT
 Experienced req'd. Friendly office. Livonia area. 734-525-3150 or fax: 734-525-6432

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
 Exp'd. with receptionist skills. Livonia office. Email resume: docasbahi@yahoo.com

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST, FT
 2 yrs. of Phlebotomy exp. for busy West Bloomfield office. References. (248) 855-5620

Patient Appointment Coordinator 2 Part-Time Positions

The Department of Ophthalmology at Kresge Eye Institute for Wayne State University Physician Group, has 2 part-time positions available; one for our Detroit office, and one for our Bingham Farms office. Responsibilities incl: scheduling patients, verifying insurance, obtaining referrals, other duties as assigned. Qualifications: Medical front desk experience, exc. interpersonal communication.

Qualified applicants, please fax resume to: 313-577-8271 or email resume to: resumes@med.wayne.edu

PHLEBOTOMY TRAINING

Classes begin Jan. & March. Garden City, Dearborn, Wyandotte & Southgate. \$925. State Licensed. Gift Certificates Avail. 313-382-3857

RN's

For Home Care Agency. Exp'd. Contingent Positions. Call: (248) 245-3392

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

INSURANCE SALES
 Independent insurance agency seeks candidates for personal lines sales positions in Farmington Hills area. Must hold a current Michigan P&C Insurance Producer license, or have good prior work experience in the insurance industry. Email resume to: Lee Mohrman at info@albourdeau.com or PO Box 2310 Farmington Hills, MI 48333

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

INSURANCE SALES
 Independent insurance agency seeks candidates for commercial lines sales positions in Farmington Hills area. Must hold a current Michigan P&C Insurance Producer license and have good prior work experience in the insurance industry. Send resume to Lee Mohrman at info@albourdeau.com or PO Box 2310 Farmington Hills MI 48333

SALES MANAGER- REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

Multi-office residential real estate company is seeking a sales manager for a prominent local residential real estate office in the Northville/Plymouth area. Responsibilities include: recruiting, training, managing personnel and transaction processes. A proven track record in residential sales management is preferred, but other related real estate experience and success will be considered. Aggressive incentive based compensation package. Email resume: clincoln890@gmail.com

Divorce Services 5610

DIVORCE \$75.00
 www.CSRdisability.com CS&R 734-425-1074

Business Opportunities 5740

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS
 at 70% to 80% Discount **PARTNER NEEDED**
 Office: 248-948-1030 Cell: 248-895-1649



WE'RE OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY
 www.hometownlife.com

Smart smart SMART

Twice each week, your hometown classifieds bring together thousands of smart buyers and sellers just like you. You can rely on your Observer & Eccentric classifieds to earn money and save money!

Smart

> buildmydreamteam.com or 1-877-Fill-A-Job

QUIT HAPPENS

Sometimes it's a blessing for your business. Replace departing employees with the contributors you need today. We know how to find them.

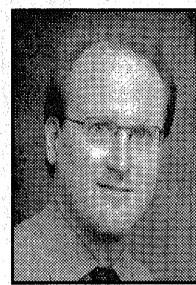
START BUILDING

careerbuilder.com®

MERCEDES-BENZ GL350, BOSCH TECHNOLOGY SHOW DIESEL'S FUTURE

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dale Buss

I've driven and written a lot about clean-diesel vehicles lately in these pages, because I really believe that the technology could become just as important as hybrid powertrains in the auto industry's accelerating drive toward a more fuel-efficient future.

Many of those miles have been spent in an impressive succession of 2007-through 2009-model vehicles that Robert Bosch LLC, the auto-industry supplier, had outfitted with its own clean-diesel powertrains. More on that later.

But until last week, I hadn't experienced the ultimate diesel-driving experience: a long trip on the open road. We took the family to Grandma's house in Wisconsin over Thanksgiving weekend in the new Mercedes-Benz GL350 BlueTec, the clean-diesel version of this fantastic SUV, and the best attribute of this new type of powertrain came through with flying colors.

The fuel efficiency and range of the GL350 BlueTec were superb, and so was its acceleration and overall performance in every aspect of the trip. The GL350 is impressive enough in any version. It's a seven-passenger vehicle that offers all of the best of what Mercedes-Benz has come to mean in the luxury segment.

The ride was comfortable without being marshmallow-y. Sunroofs above the

first and third rows of seating welcomed in the (gloomy) November skies. The rain-sensing intermittent windshield wipers came in really handy while driving through Chicago, both coming and going, where there seems to be a permanent raincloud on the horizon.

With four adults in the vehicle, separate second-row climate controls also became something we couldn't get along without. I also can't say enough about the eight-speaker audio system with automatic speed-based volume adjustment; listening to Il Divo's Christmas album while rumbling across Indiana in the GL350 was magical!

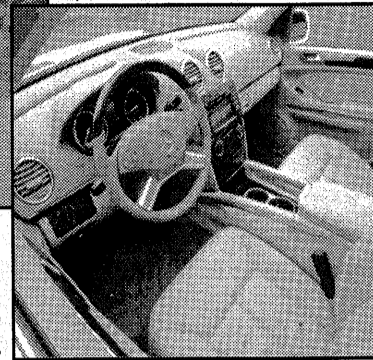
But by far the best part of the experience was not having to stop every few hours for gasoline. Mercedes-Benz and other German luxury makes are touting the range of their clean-diesel vehicles as their most attractive feature, and so I was eager to test out this attribute with the GL350.

I wasn't disappointed. The vehicle has a mammoth 26.4-gallon gasoline tank to begin with. And even with four adults and way too much luggage in the vehicle for the whole time, over the course of a round trip that stretched out to nearly 1,200 miles, I only had to make two meaningful stops for diesel fuel.

All told, I figure I averaged



The Mercedes-Benz GL350 BlueTec boasts clean-diesel technology under its stylish hood.



Inside, the GL350 BlueTec sports classic Mercedes-Benz styling and amenities.

somewhere over 23 mpg on the trip, which is exactly what Mercedes-Benz says that you'll get - within a range of 19 mpg to 27 mpg on the highway for most drivers. That's a remarkable number for a vehicle with a curb weight of 5,423 pounds, further encumbered another 600 pounds of human cargo and a few hundred pounds of gear.

For me, then, the GL350 BlueTec passed the ultimate test of clean-diesel worthiness with flying colors.

Meanwhile, too, the Thanksgiving trip further validated what I had been experiencing in Bosch's diesel-powered vehicles over the previous several weeks in and around metro Detroit. Successively, I drove a Honda CR-V, a Volkswagen Jetta, a Mercedes-Benz ML320, and a BMW X-5, and found each of them providing further confirmation that clean diesel could be a game-changer in the U.S. car market - especially if it can find its way into more and more mainstream-market vehicles like the Jetta.

Obviously, green-oriented observers agree. The 2010 Volkswagen Golf TDI and 2010 Audi A3 TDI - both clean diesel

passenger vehicles - claimed two of the five nominations as finalists for Green Car Journal's 2010 Green Car of the Year award. That means that vehicles using clean diesel technology supplied by Bosch have been named as finalists for this prestigious award for the second year in a row. Winners were to be announced at the Los Angeles Auto Show.

The Volkswagen Golf's and Audi A3's turbocharged direct injection (TDI) engines use the latest generation of Bosch clean diesel common rail system, capable of up to 1800 bar (nearly 30,000 psi) and multiple (up to five) pre- and post-injections through piezo-electric injectors.

"The fact that not just one but two diesels earned nominations this year, after the Jetta TDI won the 2009 Green Car of the Year, speaks volumes to the increased popularity of clean diesel in this country," said Bernd Boisten, regional president, diesel systems North America, Robert Bosch LLC. "More so than ever, Americans have come to recognize the numerous benefits that clean diesel vehicles offer."

AUTOMOTIVE

HOMETOWNlife.com

8000-8780
Automotive Recreational Vehicles

Auto/Truck-Parts & Service 8160

SNOW PLOW
7.5' across. Fits any pick-up truck. \$1500/best offer. 313-255-0715

Autos Wanted 8190

FINAL JOURNEY: We buy running & junk cars, etc. We pay \$50-\$500 cash on spot. Get more cash than dealer trade in or donation. (313) 320-1829

Trucks for Sale 8220

CHEVY COLORADO 2007
Fire Red, ABS, Alloys and Tonneau! As Good As New!
Only \$12,995!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

CHEVY S-10 P.U. 2003
V6, auto, air \$5,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CHEVY SILVERADO LT 2009
Triple Black, 4WD and Ext Cab! What A Truck Should Be! Just \$26,983!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

FORD F-150 S/CREW 2008
4x4, XLT, low miles, \$22,995
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FORD F-250 2006
Crew Cab, Lariat, 4x4, low miles, all the toys, \$23,995
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FORD F-SERIES 2007 15 to choose, starts from \$14,997
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

FORD SPORT TRAC 2007
V8, 4x4, certified, \$23,997
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

GMC SIERRA Z71 2006
Crew Cab, only \$22,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Mini-Vans 8240
CHEVY UPLANDER 2008
Silver Blade, Flex Fuel, ABS and Power Options! Lots of Room! Just \$15,873!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

CHEVY VENTURE 2004
Sharp Silver, DVD, Leather, Heated Seats, and Alloy! Comfort For The Whole Family! Only \$8,995!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

DODGE 2006 CARAVAN: 8K mi, undercoated, trailer package. Like New. \$13,000 firm. 248-476-6595, 412-849-0024

Vans 8280

CHEVY EXPRESS 2009
Summit White, 28K, Cargo, ABS & Trailing Pkg! Strong Work Van! Only \$17,995!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

FORD ASTRO 2000
Cargo van, V6, AT, A/C, 80K miles, \$3,990
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

FORD E-250 2004
Cargo Ext, only 20K miles, pw/pl, must see, only \$12,495
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FORD E-250 2006
Super Cargo, V8, bulkhead, clean \$12,996
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

FORD E-350 XLT 2007
15 passenger, dual A/C, low miles, great people mover, \$16,895
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

Sports Utility 8290

BUICK RENDEZVOUS 2006
Burgundy, V6, only \$14,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CHEVY EQUINOX 2006
Burgundy, moon \$14,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CHEVY EQUINOX LT 2009
Phantom Black, Power Options, and ABS! Very Clean SUV! Call For Price!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

Sports Utility 8290
CHEVY T-BLAZER 2006
4x4, black, only \$15,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CHEVY TRAILBLAZER EXT 2005
Polar White, alloys, OnStar, ABS and 4WD! Performance delivered! Just \$12,995!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

FORD ESCAPE 2008
4x4, silver \$18,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

FORD EXPEDITION 1997
XLT, white, low miles, extra clean, and priced to sell \$8,981 Stk. P20908
DEALER
734-402-8774

FORD EXPEDITION EL 2008
XLT, fully loaded, power moonroof, CD/mp3 player, clean, \$28,995
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FORD EXPEDITION EL E.B. 2008
4x4, 8 passenger, navigation \$34,998
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

FORD EXPLORER 2002
4 door, loaded, 3rd seat, no reverse, forward only, make offer. Call: (734) 772-4395

FORD EXPLORER E.B. 2006
Power moon, 4x4, \$18,996
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

FORD EXPLORER E.B. 2008
V8, 3rd seat, power moon \$27,998
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

FORD EXPLORER EDDIE BAUER 2008
Leather, Sync, DVD, 3rd row seating, \$20,497. Stk# 5648A
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FORD EXPLORER SPORT TRAC LIMITED 2007
4x4, one of a kind, leather, heated seats, low miles, \$23,495. Stk.#6295T
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FORD EXPLORER XLT 2009
4x4, 3rd seat, full power, 11K, silver bullet! \$23,995. Stk.#6293T
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

GMC DENALI XL 2008
White, loaded! \$45,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Sports Utility 8290
GMC ENVOY 2006 Stealth
Black, 27K, Leather, Sunroof & Chrome! Absolutely Loaded! Call For Price!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

GMC YUKON 2008
Black, loaded \$34,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Observer & Eccentric Classifieds
Just a quick call away....
1-800-579-SELL

Sports Utility 8290

JEEP COMMANDER 2006
Tan, 4x4, 3rd row seat, very well equipped w/lots of room, priced for your garage, \$16,981 Stk. P20885
DEALER
734-402-8774

JEEP LIBERTY 2003
4x4, blue, \$11,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

JEEP LIBERTY 2006
White, 4x4, \$14,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

JEEP LIBERTY 2008
Black, 4x4, \$15,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

MERCURY MOUNTAINEER 2008
V8, AWD, navigation, power moon, Pearl White \$27,998
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

MERCURY MARINER 2008
4x4, leather, moon, heated seats, \$18,995
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!
1-800-579-7355

A message from the Observer, Eccentric & Hometown Newspapers

YOU CAN GET A CAR LOAN.

Visit a local auto dealer today!

In today's economic climate, you might think it's impossible to get credit to buy a car. We have news for you. Not only is financing available, there has never been a better time to buy a car or truck. Today's vehicles are greater in quality and fuel efficiency than ever before. Your local car dealer has access to multiple sources of credit and will work with you to find financing that meets your needs. Interest rates start as low as 0%, and dealers are offering incentive savings and rebates. Now is the time to buy. Visit a local dealer today!

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS
HOMETOWN WEEKLIES
www.hometownlife.com

AUTOMOTIVE

HOMETOWNlife.com

Sports & Imported 8300

JAGUAR X-TYPE 2007
Silver, moon \$16,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

SAAB 1999 - Fully Loaded, Cd, 5 speed, moon roof, high miles but great cond, \$2800.
Call: (734) 772-4395

SAAB 9-3 CONV 2000
Auto, air \$5,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Antique/Classic Collector Cars 8320
FIREBIRD 1968 - Project Car. 428 engine. Many new parts. Never been on the road. Needs to be completed. \$5500/best.
(313) 410-8764

Acura 8340
ACURA 3.2TL 2003
Leather, moon, black \$8,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Buick 8360
BUICK LESABRE 1999
Good running car, 1 owner, \$2550.
Call: (734) 673-6588

LACROSSE CXL 2006
Tan, leather \$12,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

LUCERNE CXL 2006
V6, low miles, \$16,995
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

LUCERNE CXL 2009
Black, leather \$19,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

LUCERNE CXL 2009
White, leather \$19,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Cadillac 8380
CTS 2004 Only 38K miles, every option, \$13,995
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

CTS 2007
Tan, leather \$16,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CTS 2009
Black, leather \$27,895
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Chevrolet 8400
CAVALIER 1998
Red, one owner, low miles, great condition \$4,481
Stk. P20893A
DEALER
734-402-8774

CAVALIER LS 2004
Victory Red, CD, ABS, and Alloy! Well Maintained Classic! Only \$5,673!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

COBALT COUPE 2006
Blue, air, 31K, \$9,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

HHR 2008
Gray, a classic look, great fuel economy, room for the entire family, \$13,481
Stk. P20800
DEALER
734-402-8774

HHR 2009 Red Hot, 6K, ABS and Flex Fuel! Hurry In and Save! Just \$15,738!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

IMPALA 2008
White, only \$12,695
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

MALIBU 2006
Auto, air, only \$9,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

MALIBU 2009
Midnight Black, 6K, OnStar and ABS! Drive With Confidence! Only \$18,495!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

Chrysler-Plymouth 8420
PT CRUISER 2001
Loaded, auto \$6,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

SEBRING 2008
Silver, this car is sharp! Must see! \$10,981 Stk. P20818
DEALER
734-402-8774

Dodge 8440

CHARGER 2006
Gray Mist, ABS & power options! Style & performance! Only \$12,995!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

Ford 8480
CROWN VICTORIA 2003
Dark green, sharp! \$6,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

EDGE 2007
Black, loaded, leather, CD changer, heated seats and more. \$18,481 Stk. 9C6007A
DEALER
734-402-8774

EDGE LIMITED 2008
Bittersweet leather, all the toys: SYNC, Vista roof, \$23,995
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

EDGE SE AWD 2007 Cloth, Creme Brulee \$19,997
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

ESCAPE 2008
Blue, excellent condition, Ford certified w/100,000 mile limited warranty, \$18,500
Stk. 9T115A
DEALER
734-402-8774

FIVE HUNDRED 2007 AWD, low miles, reduced! \$13,882
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FLEX SE 2009 FWD, loaded, low miles, \$24,995
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FOCUS 2007
White, auto, air, pw/pl, great gas mileage & Ford certified \$10,981. Stk. P20917
DEALER
734-402-8774

FOCUS ZX5 2001
Low miles, full power, cheap insurance, high mpg. \$6,995. Stk. # 6335C
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FOCUS ZX5 2007
Auto, A/C, clean \$9,997
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

FORD ESCORT SPORT 1999
82K, air, auto, remote start, aluminum wheels, \$3100/best offer. Call: (248) 667-1088

FUSION 2007 SEL
Leather, moon, V6, low miles. \$14,125. Stk# 5914
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FUSION 2008 SE
Full power, 30+ mpg. Clean as a Whistle! \$11,669. Stk. No. 5984
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FUSION SE 2007 V6, auto, A/C, pw/pl, clean \$12,997
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

FUSION SE 2008 Auto, power moon, certified, \$14,998
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

FUSION SEL 2008
V6, power moon, leather, navigation \$18,998
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

MUSTANG 2007
Black, smokin hot, extra clean, Ford certified \$13,481
Stk. P20910
DEALER
734-402-8774

MUSTANG CONV GT 2005
Leather, loaded \$17,995
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

MUSTANG GT 2009
2k miles, \$25,999
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

T-BIRD 2005 Black, removable roof, 22K, \$26,995
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

TAURUS LIMITED 2008
Leather, low miles \$19,998
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

TAURUS X LIMITED 2008
AWD, leather, loaded, low miles, \$25,998
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

TAURUS X LIMITED 2008
Black, leather, low miles, heated seats, \$23,995
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

TORINO 1971
Red, hot and ready to roll. \$5,981 Stk. P20884
DEALER
734-402-8774

Honda 8520
ACCORD 2003 Ocean Blue, Leather, Sunroof, Loaded Seats, and ABS! Loaded Top To Bottom! Only \$8,543!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

ACCORD 2006
Black, runs like new, looks great! \$11,481 Stk. 9C1137A
DEALER
734-402-8774

CIVIC 2002
Summer Tan, Sunroof, CD and ABS! Smooth Riding Gas Saver! Just \$8,995!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

Honda 8520

CR-V AWD 2005
White, 69K, \$12,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Lincoln 8560
LINCOLN MKZ 2007 Leather, moonroof, chrome, heated seats, low miles, \$22,995
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

MKZ AWD 2008
Power moon, navigation, chrome, low miles \$27,998
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

MAZDA 6 2006
Deep red, moonroof, sporty, low gas mileage, low miles \$13,995. Stk. P20872
DEALER
734-402-8774

Mercury 8600
GRAND MARQUIS 2003
Red, loaded, exc cond, priced to sell! \$7,481. Stk. 9T9308A
DEALER
734-402-8774

SABLE PREMIER 2009 21K, leather, moon, SYNC, heated seats, \$19,995. Stk.#6315C
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FIREBIRD 2002
Silver Streak, Chrome, 34K and Power Options! Street Cruising Style! Just \$8,993!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

G-6 COUPE 2007
Silver, only \$12,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

G-6 COUPE 2008
Black, auto, \$10,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

G-6 GT 2009 4 door, burgundy, 19K, only \$14,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

G6 2006
AT, pw/pl, CD, clean \$9,996
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

G6 GT 2009
Blue Moss, OnStar, Remote Start, and ABS! Cruise In Style! Just \$15,997!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

GRAND PRIX 2006
Silver, sharp \$12,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GRAND PRIX GXP 2006 V8, loaded, gray, 29K, \$16,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

SOLSTICE CONV 2007
Black, low miles, extra clean, summer fun is calling!
\$17,481. Stk. 9T9113A
DEALER
734-402-8774

Pontiac 8680

TORRENT 2006
AWD, 30K, \$13,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

VIBE 2009
Red, sharp \$13,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

AURA 2007
Auto, air, 28K, \$14,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

MAZDA 6 2006
Deep red, moonroof, sporty, low gas mileage, low miles \$13,995. Stk. P20872
DEALER
734-402-8774

Mercury 8600
GRAND MARQUIS 2003
Red, loaded, exc cond, priced to sell! \$7,481. Stk. 9T9308A
DEALER
734-402-8774

SABLE PREMIER 2009 21K, leather, moon, SYNC, heated seats, \$19,995. Stk.#6315C
PAT MILLIKEN FORD
800-737-0250

FIREBIRD 2002
Silver Streak, Chrome, 34K and Power Options! Street Cruising Style! Just \$8,993!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

G-6 COUPE 2007
Silver, only \$12,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

G-6 COUPE 2008
Black, auto, \$10,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

G-6 GT 2009 4 door, burgundy, 19K, only \$14,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

G6 2006
AT, pw/pl, CD, clean \$9,996
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

G6 GT 2009
Blue Moss, OnStar, Remote Start, and ABS! Cruise In Style! Just \$15,997!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

GRAND PRIX 2006
Silver, sharp \$12,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GRAND PRIX GXP 2006 V8, loaded, gray, 29K, \$16,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

SOLSTICE CONV 2007
Black, low miles, extra clean, summer fun is calling!
\$17,481. Stk. 9T9113A
DEALER
734-402-8774

Saturn 8700

ION 2006
Crimson Red, Power Options, CD & Sunroof! Sporty Meets Economical! Just \$10,995!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

VUE 2002
AWD, silver \$6,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

VUE 2005
Red, 38K, moon \$12,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Saturn 8700

VUE 2008
White Sand, 28K, Nav, and leather! All wheel drive safety! Just \$19,995
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

Toyota 8720
CAMRY 1999
Silver, safe, reliable, sharp \$4,981. Stk. 9T9269A
DEALER
734-402-8774

SCION TC 2007 Gray Metal, Sunroof, Alloys and ABS! Fun To Drive! Just \$14,495!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

Toyota 8720

SOLARA 2005
Glacier White, CD, Alloys, ABS and Power Options! Great On Gas! Just \$11,997!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

Autos Under \$2000 8780
JAGUAR 1988 - 4 door, black, moon roof, \$2000/best offer.
Dodge Intrepid 2001, 4 door, 110,000 miles, needs some engine work, drives good, trans good, \$1400/best.
Call: (734) 772-4395

Toyota 8720

WE PAY TOP DOLLAR For Clean USED CARS
AVIS FORD
(248) 355-7500
hometownlife.com

WE'RE OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY
www.hometownlife.com

WE ARE DOING OUR PART TO KEEP MICHIGAN MOVING AT...

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK-PONTIAC-GMC
"GREAT DEALS!"
M-14
Sheldon Road
5 Mile Road

'03 JEEP LIBERTY 4X4 Blue..... \$11,995

'07 G-6 COUPE Silver, alloys..... ONLY \$11,995

'98 PARK AVE. ULTRA Tan..... \$7,495

'06 BUICK RENDEZVOUS Burg., V6, ... ONLY \$14,495

'08 PONTIAC G-6 GT Silver..... \$12,495

'07 JAGUAR X TYPE Silver, Moon..... \$16,995

'06 PONTIAC TORRENT AWD, 30K..... \$15,995

'09 LUCERNE CXL White, leather..... \$19,995

'06 MALIBU 4 cylinder, auto, air..... \$9,995

'01 PT CRUISER Moonroof, leather..... ONLY \$6,995

'03 S-10 PICKUP Auto, air..... ONLY \$5,995

'06 GRAND PRIX GXP Gray, V8, only 29K..... \$16,995

'02 SATURN VUE AWD, moonroof..... \$6,995

'06 CHEV. CREW CAB PICKUP Z71..... \$22,495

'09 PONTIAC VIBE Red, Auto..... \$13,495

'07 CADILLAC CTS Tan..... ONLY \$16,495

'08 FORD ESCAPE XLT 4X4 Silver..... \$17,995

'07 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT Super charged \$14,995

'03 FORD CROWN VICTORIA Dk Green..... ONLY \$6,995

'08 G-S COUPE Black..... \$10,995

'03 ACURA 3.2 TL Black..... \$9,995

'06 CHEVROLET EQUINOX Burg., Moonroof. \$14,495

Our 34th Year
Proud to be part of the New GM
734-453-2500
Certified USED VEHICLES
*Not subject to prior sales.
SEE MORE VEHICLES AT JEANNOTTE.COM

CE08063518

SWITCH TO LARICHE FOR THE BEST SELECTION, BEST SERVICE, BEST DEAL ALWAYS!

60 DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

2010 CHEVROLET MALIBU
GM EMPLOYEES & FAMILY

\$219 PER MO. GMS

Power windows, power locks, power lumbar, stereo CD, tilt steering, speed & cruise, keyless entry. Stock #10C3041D

2009 CHEVROLET IMPALA LS
GM EMPLOYEES & FAMILY

\$276 PER MO. GMS

\$4000 Rebate or 0% for 72 months

\$18,847

3.5 V6, floor mats, body side moldings, power windows, power locks, tilt steering, speed & cruise control. Stock #6531

0% 72 MONTH FINANCING
Just Announced ON MOST 2009'S

WWW.SWITCHTOLARICHE.COM

Lou LaRiche
CHEVROLET

40875 PLYMOUTH RD.
AT HAGGERTY * ACROSS FROM UNISYS
WWW.LARICHECHEVY.COM
WWW.SWITCHTOLARICHE.COM

OnStar

MON. & THURS. 8:30AM-9PM * TUES., WEDS. & FRI. 8:30AM-6PM

1.866.385.8000

*GMAC Lease offer w/Lease Loyalty offer or \$1,000 down, 48 mo./48,000 mi. w/option to purchase at term for predetermined amount. Total due w/Lease Loyalty \$569. w/Lease Loyalty \$1,599. Plus tax, lic, doc, & title. **Plus tax, lic, doc, & title. Not all rebates and \$500 in lieu of 90 day guarantee. *Purchase payment w/\$2,500 down - GM Employee & Family Price & Payment.

The Christmas Tree Guide 2009

Let us help you find that special tree this year...
Visit one of these businesses to find the perfect one!

AWARD WINNING 1993 STATE GRAND CHAMPION FARM

CHRISTMAS TREES

Take the time to make a family memory!

FREE HAYRIDES & COUNTRY CHRISTMAS STORE
TOYS FOR TOTS DROP OFF CENTER

Fraser Fir, Balsam Fir, Colorado Spruce, White Pine, Concolor Fir, Serbian Spruce 5 ft. to 16 ft.

Hot Spiced Cider & Donuts
Hot Cocoa
Evergreen Wreaths & Garlands

Choose-in-out, Pre-cut and Live Potted Trees

Take I-75 to Vienna Rd. (exit 131), Go west 1 mile to Webster Rd., Turn left (south) 1/2 mile