

SUNDAY
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2009

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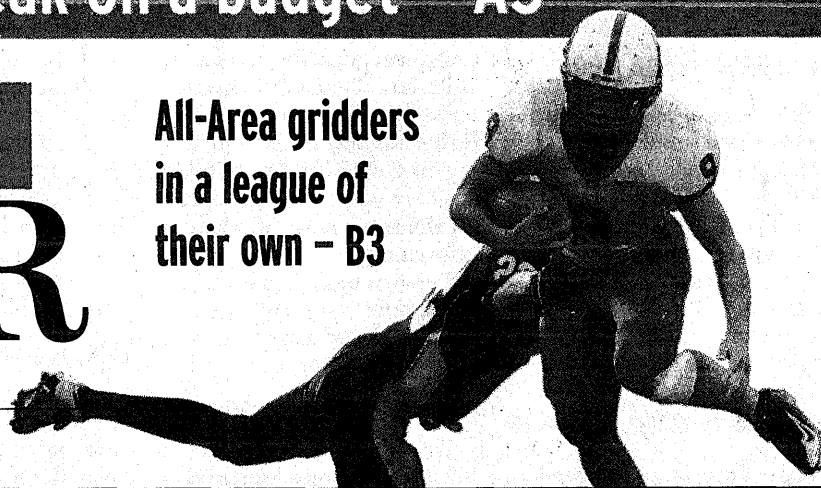
75 CENTS

Plenty of ways to enjoy break on a budget – A3

PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

Plymouth District
Library
online: www.plymouthtownship.com
hometownlife.com

All-Area gridders
in a league of
their own – B3



PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

Busch donation

Doug Busch, co-owner of Busch's Fresh Food Markets, presented a \$45,000 check Wednesday to Forgotten Harvest President/CEO Susan Goodell.

The contribution came from donations made by Busch's customers in seven tri-county area Busch's stores, including its Plymouth location, from Nov. 30 through Dec. 13 through the Busch's store annual winter food drive Rockin' For The Hungry.

Forgotten Harvest was formed in 1990 to fight two problems: hunger and waste. Forgotten Harvest "rescued" more than 12.5 million pounds of food last year by collecting surplus prepared and perishable food from more than 400 sources.

This donated food, which would otherwise go to waste, is delivered free-of-charge to 155 emergency food providers in the Metro Detroit area. Learn more about Forgotten Harvest and how to help drive hunger from our community at www.forgottenharvest.org

Honoring MLK

The popular Canton community celebration "One Community. One Voice," honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., returns Jan. 8 for its fifth year at Canton's Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

This year's free event features an award-winning family friendly program by Robert B. Jones, Matt Watroba and Kevin Collins. The Pioneer Middle School Peace Project, coordinated by art teacher Carman Johnson, will also be on display.

This year, the Dr. King committee features a program that has been offered to the Plymouth Canton Community Schools' fifth graders for the past four years. This interactive educational program starts with a concert by Jones and Watroba, followed by breakout sessions held throughout the theater which focus on special topics, such as drawings and music with Robert Jones, sing-a-longs with Matt Watroba, and drumming and dancing with Kevin Collins.

The event is free to the public with refreshments at 5:30pm and program at 6 p.m. To learn more about the program, visit www.canton-mi.org or call (734) 394-5460.

Slavens coffee

State Rep. Dian Slavens (D-Canton) invites residents to join her for a cup of coffee and conversation at one of her upcoming coffee hours. Slavens will host her January coffee hours 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Big Boy, 45250 Ford Road in Canton, or 11 a.m. to noon Monday, Jan. 25, at Mike's Red Apple, 60 Main, in Belleville.

With the calendar having passed Christmas and inching toward New Year's Day, revelers around the metro Detroit area are moving into one of the biggest party seasons of the year.

And with most local police departments on the lookout, drivers should be aware of the chance of — and penalties for — getting caught driving under the influence.

Fines, fees and sentences vary from court to court, with issues largely being solved on a case-by-case basis, but everyone agrees on one thing: Driving under the influence is going to cost the driver.

In the 35th District Court (which covers Plymouth, Canton and Northville), for instance, a first offender with a relatively low (but still illegal, for drivers) blood-alcohol content who does not appear, after an evaluation, to have a drinking problem can expect to be sentenced to six months' nonreporting probation, five days of community service, participation in an alcohol awareness program and a 90-day license restriction, plus fines and costs.

On the high side, repeat offenders can get up to 93 days in jail, two years' probation, and community service in addition to fines and costs — and a license suspension, typically for a year. Vehicles can be immobilized.

An offender with two or more prior convictions, or a defendant suspected of causing death or serious injury while driving drunk, can be charged with a felony, which means the case would move to Wayne County Circuit Court.

"You have to give great weight to an accident when it's time for sentencing," said first-year Judge Jim Plakas of the 35th District Court.

In many areas, alcohol-related arrests are rising. Livonia's 16th District Court, for instance, processed 273 drunken driving arrests in 2008; through October 2009, the court already had more than 300 alcohol driving offenses, including both operating under the influence and driving while impaired cases.

The 35th District Court processed 1,021 cases in 2008. In Oakland County's 47th District Court (Farmington/Farmington Hills), the 433 drunk-driving cases constituted barely 1 percent of the court's overall cases in 2008, but some 17 percent of the criminal docket. In Westland, 606 drunken driving cases were disposed generating fines and costs of more than \$883,000.

The penalties including punishment and fines are determined on a case by case basis with a range that could go from \$750 to over \$2,000 depending on the case, according to 16th District Court Administrator Dennis Epler.

But the costs could extend well beyond the court, Epler said.

"The person could incur increased

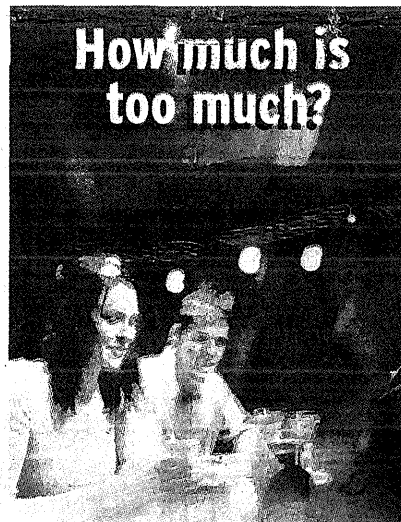
Not worth the cost

Penalties make drinking, driving an expensive endeavor



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Linda Bernhardt of Plymouth Township speaks to convicted drunk drivers about the loss of two friends and their unborn child.



How much is too much?

How many drinks does it take to reach a blood alcohol concentration of .08?
A 170-pound man would have to drink approximately four drinks in one hour on an empty stomach or a 137-pound woman would have to drink approximately three drinks in one hour on an empty stomach. At .08, a person is 11 times more likely to be involved in a fatal crash than someone who has had nothing to drink.

SOURCE: Studies cited by MADD

insurance costs or even cancellation," Epler said. "Attorney fees

Please see DRUNK, A6

Drunken driving costs add up financially, personally

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
CORRESPONDENT

Families, friends grieve for victims, A7.

Ron W. is learning the hard way that he can't afford to drink and drive. The \$2,000 in fines and court fees, \$20 a week for alcohol testing and the loss of a job were only the financial costs imposed on him when he was sent to jail for 90 days over the holidays last year.

The emotional impact is another story. Imagine trying to explain to your 15-year old daughter, wife and in-laws why you won't be home to celebrate Christmas and that attorney fees are taking another \$2,000 out of the family budget.

Ron W. (not his real name) wants to spare his family from further embarrassment. He does, however, want to share his experience with others in hopes that they will learn from it.

His time hasn't been his own. In addition to undergoing inpatient and outpatient treatment and counseling, Ron W. has completed 234 hours of community service. He goes for alcohol testing three times a week

and meets with his probation officer twice a month.

In the beginning, he saw the probation officer once a week and appeared before the judge twice a month. He also attends AA meetings and has to go to marriage counseling ordered by the court. The rest of the time he is on work detail at 35th District Court in Plymouth.

"It's pretty embarrassing," said Ron W. "Nobody trusts you. I was in jail through the holidays last year and you can't hide that."

This wasn't his first offense. Ron W. has been arrested three times for driving under the influence (DUI), the first time years ago.

He quit drinking after the first offense but then was arrested twice within six months. He received 90 days in jail for the third offense when he violated probation by drinking and driving. He's been sober since March.

Please see COSTS, A6

Index

- CLASSIFIED... B12-16
- HEALTH... B10
- MILESTONES... B5
- NEIGHBORS... B6-9
- OBITUARIES... B5
- SPORTS... B1

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Canton fills legal slot with Michigan native

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Michigan native who has traveled the country as a state lobbyist for a major publisher of science, medical and legal information has returned home and started her new job as Canton's newest manager-level employee.

Audrey Robinson, former manager of state government affairs for Reed Elsevier Inc. started her \$88,000-a-year job Monday as Canton's manager of legal services and contract administration — a post created in October by township officials.

Local officials have said Robinson will work closely with township officials and department directors to oversee legal work such as potential litigation, certain contractual issues and legal matters involving outside



Robinson

vendors who do business in Canton.

"I'm extremely excited first of all to be back in Michigan, but also to be with a community that's a cutting-

edge community in the state," Robinson said.

Robinson, formerly of Wixom, had been based out of Washington, D.C., for her position with Reed Elsevier, but she traveled the country and educated lawmakers, attorneys general and others on how legislative issues could affect states and citizens.

Robinson beat out nearly a dozen applicants for the Canton job, created by township officials to rein in outside attorney

fees and streamline legal functions. Supervisor Phil LaJoy has said department heads and managers have long faced challenges to decide when legal issues need resolving by outside attorneys — often causing a cumbersome process, unnecessary fees and duplication of work.

LaJoy has said Robinson can aid the township in making recommendations and aiding departments in developing language for bids, contracts and policies, although outside attorneys still will be hired for some duties.

On Tuesday, LaJoy said a three-member panel consisting of himself, Human Resources Manager David Medley and township Trustee John Anthony

Please see ROBINSON, A3

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Saturdays @ the Penn

The Plymouth Community Arts Council hosts its next Saturdays @ the Penn performance Jan. 2 at the Penn Theater in downtown Plymouth.

Special musical host and performer is Beverly Meyer, The Music Lady. Special guest performer is juggler Joel Tacey, with BIG laughs and BIG fun. Announcer is Tamara Trudelle.

Tickets are \$4 and may be purchased the day of the show. Doors open at 11:05 a.m. To purchase tickets before the concert or for information for groups, contact Deb Madonna. (734) 377-0914, e-mail clarion@storytellerdesign.com or Tamara Trudelle, (734) 416-4278, e-mail tamara@plymoutharts.com

Magic act

Tickets are still available to catch magician and illusionist Aaron Radatz in action on stage at Canton's Village Theater at Cherry Hill, located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Sunday, Dec. 27 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets to this family-friendly performance are \$22 and are available online at www.cantonvillagetheater.org or by calling (734) 394-5460.

Radatz started performing at the young age of 6 and quickly turned his grandmother's gift of a magic set into a full-time hobby. Up until the age of 14, he kept his magic to family and friends. Aaron then began performing for various schools, organizations, and private parties. All the while he remained focused on his craft and started to set

long term goals for his career. Radatz is one of the magicians featured on the new series Masters of Illusion airing on Fox's MyNetworkTV. Visit www.aaronradatz.com for the latest news and tour information.

To learn more about this special program, visit www.cantonvillagetheater.org or call 734/394-5460.

Adolescent depression

The Plymouth District Library welcomes Melvin G. McInnis, M.D., of the U-M Depression Center as he presents vital information about the causes and symptoms of adolescent depression and bipolar disorder in a program set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12.

Program highlights will include how to recognize the difference between typical adolescent behavior and a depressive illness, along with a question and answer period. Registration is required for this free program.

Call 734-453-0750, ext. 4 or go to plymouthlibrary.org. The Library is located at 223 S. Main Street in downtown Plymouth.

Real estate training

Out of a Job? Changing Careers? Become a real estate agent and be ready for the upcoming real estate boom.

REMERICA HOMETOWN presents a pre-license training class beginning soon. Real Estate Professional Education

Group, LLC is located at 44025 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth.

Total class cost is \$50 and it includes all materials. For more information, a reservation or to schedule a private interview, call Chris or Judy, (734) 459-6222, or e-mail info@remericahometown.com

Pinocchio on stage

Enjoy a musical adaptation of "Pinocchio" at the Historic Marquis Theatre in downtown Northville through Jan. 24. "Pinocchio" is the story of how a wooden puppet, lovingly hand-carved by Gepetto to the toy maker, becomes a real boy.

Performances are Saturdays, Jan. 2, Jan. 9, Jan. 16 and Jan. 23; Sundays Dec. 27, Jan. 3, Jan. 10, Jan. 17, Jan. 24; and Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 28-30. All performances are at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets for all performances are \$8.50 each (no children under the age of 3). Group rates and reserved seating for 20 or more. Birthday parties and Scout days available.

For more information please call the Marquis Theatre at (248)349-8110 or visit the theater's Web site www.northvillemarquistheatre.com.

100 Days to Health

Canton's 100 Days to Health, a community-wide wellness education and awareness campaign designed to encourage healthy lifestyles, is set to kick off Saturday, Jan. 16. Get the support and education you need and find your fitness fit during this community program which commences between 9-11 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom and

in various classrooms of the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway.

Participants can meet some of the Summit's instructors and test out a few of the great fitness classes offered. All ages can enjoy special aerobics classes at 8:30 a.m.; 9:30 a.m.; and 10:30 a.m. Join us for a light breakfast and have all your 100 Days to Health questions answered in the ballroom.

Canton Leisure Services and Oakwood Healthcare System have partnered together to promote healthy living and community wellness in this special program. Staff from Oakwood Healthcare System will be on hand during the kickoff providing health screenings, including: blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar levels.

Register now for Canton's 100 Days to Health 2010 at the Summit front desk or at the 100 Days Kickoff Event Jan. 16. Registration fees for Canton residents are: \$15 for adults 16 and up and \$5 for youth ages 4 and up. Non-resident fees are \$25 for adults 16 and up and \$5 for youth ages 4 and above. There is no charge for children under 3 years of age. Once registered, you'll have access to all classes and events on the 100 Days to Health calendar for free.

To learn more about 100 Days to Health program, visit www.canton-mi.org or call (734) 394-5460.

Happy meals

Since 1979, McDonald's Happy Meals have changed the way families enjoy lunch and dinner out together. To

celebrate the 30th birthday of the Happy Meal, the Southeast Michigan McDonald's Operators Association brings its traveling exhibit to the Canton Public Library through Jan. 4.

The exhibit contains many of the different specialty toys and artifacts that have been included in the Happy Meal since its introduction.

"The response to this exhibit has been tremendous," said Willie Blue, marketing supervisor for McDonald's Michigan Region. "People from all over metro Detroit have enjoyed reliving their Happy Meal memories with their children."

The Canton Public Library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center. In addition, Ronald McDonald, McDonald's Chief Happiness Officer, will make a special appearance 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, for a special children's show.

Grief seminar

Harry J. Will Funeral Home sponsors a one day grief seminar, From Grief to New Hope, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 9. This workshop will be conducted by John O'Shaughnessy from New Hope Center for Grief Support.

All adults who are learning to cope after the death of a loved one are encouraged to attend. There is no charge for the seminar which is open to the public and refreshments will be served. Harry J. Will Funeral Home is located at 37000 Six Mile Road in Livonia.

For registration information call New Hope Center for Grief Support at (248) 348-0115 or view our Web site www.newhopecenter.net

Parenting seminar

What do you do when children misbehave? Parents who are interested in learning how to manage a variety of situations that arise with their children are invited to hear nationally recognized educator

and speaker Chick Moorman Monday, Jan. 18. The free workshop will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. at Dearborn Heights Montessori Center, which is located at 466 N. John Daly in Dearborn Heights.

Moorman will present "The Five Voices of Enlightened Parenting," regarding a variety of techniques that parents can use to help guide children through the daily challenges of family life. According to Moorman, when children misbehave, it can become a teaching moment for parents.

Moorman is a distinguished educator and captivating speaker who has addressed more than 300,000 parents and educators while conducting more than 2,000 talks on raising and educating children. He is noted for his humor and enthusiasm, as well as his ability to deliver practical ideas. He is the author of more than a dozen books and teaching resources. He writes monthly parenting columns for publications across the United States, and is a regular contributor to the Chicken Soup for the Soul series of books.

The free workshop, which is open to the public, will include complimentary child care. To ensure adequate seating, reservations are requested by calling (313) 359-3000.


Entertainment books

The Beckridge Chorale is selling the 2010 Entertainment Book to support its vocal scholarship program. The book contains hundreds of 2-for-1 and 50-percent discounts at airlines, restaurants, hotels, car rentals, movie rentals, theater and sports events, and much more.

Retail cost is \$35; your cost is \$20. Save money and support the Beckridge Chorale.

Call (734) 459-6829 to order. Books will be delivered in the Plymouth area upon request.

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 for employing local building trades workers for the construction of the new 16th District Court House.



Mayor Jack Kirksey, Steve Dailey and Mark King outside of the new 16th District Court House.

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~Thank You~ from the Bricklayers & Allied Craft Workers

Plenty of ways to enjoy break on a budget

BY MAGGIE WUNDERLICH
CORRESPONDENT

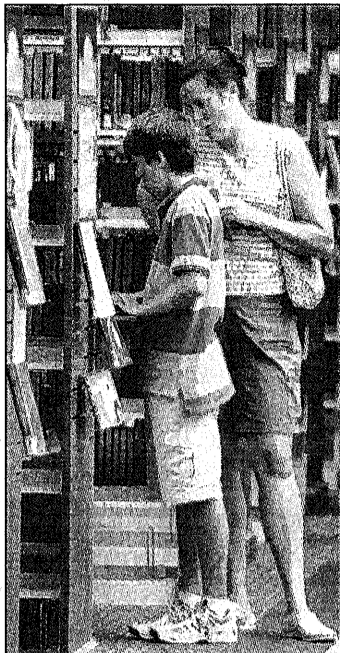
Looking for fun and inexpensive family activities during winter break? The following is a compilation of budget and kid-friendly places in or near Canton:

Bowling

• Super Bowl, 45100 Ford Road, Canton (734) 459-6070 – get a 'Kidz Fun Pack' for \$6.95 per youth and includes 2 games of bowling, use of rental shoes, a hotdog and a small soft drink; good for any weekday school is out 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Restaurants:

- Tim & Sally's Awesome Eats, 4171 S. Canton Road, Canton (734) 398-5500 – kids eat free, per adult purchase of \$5.95, on Mondays after 4 p.m.; restaurant also offers daily breakfast, non-smoking atmosphere, daily entrée choices and beer and wine.
- Denny's Restaurant, 39550 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, (734) 459-0880; every day from 4-10 p.m.; from kid's menu, free with purchase of each adult entrée; drinks are not included.
- IKEA of Canton, 41640 Ford Road, Canton, (734) 981-6300; 99¢ breakfast 9:30-11 a.m. Free child care while you shop or eat.
- Logan's Roadhouse, 39605 Ford Road, Canton, (734) 844-6067; Monday through Wednesday; ages 12 and under; kid's meal for \$2.99; two adult meals for \$13.99.
- Rio Wraps, 15167 Sheldon Road, Plymouth (734) 416-3995; Mondays; ages 12 and under; free with purchase (not on value menu); also, offers



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

There's plenty to do during the holiday break at the Plymouth District Library.

value menu for about \$6.00.

- Rose's Restaurant, 201 North Canton Center Road, Canton (734) 981-9904; Mondays from 4-10 p.m.; for ages 10 and under; kid's meal is free with purchase of adult entrée; also free soft-serve ice-cream on Tuesdays, with purchase of entrée or kid's meal.
- Exercise**
- Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton (734) 394-5460 - Swimming fun - on New Year's Eve there is open swim from 2:30-5 p.m. for only \$3.00 per person;
 - Also, take advantage of these New Year's Eve FREE health & wellness opportunities: 8 a.m., Outdoor Fun Run (40-minute jaunt through Heritage Park); 9:15 a.m., Cardio Blast

Class (great for an early calorie burn); 10:15 a.m., 30-Minute Weight Workout (quick way to start New Year's resolution).

Movies

- Penn Theatre, 760 Penniman Avenue, Plymouth, 734 453-0870 - only \$3 per person; showing Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs (rated G) and Amelia (rate PG-13); call for days and times;
- Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, only \$1 per person; showing Disney/Pixar's "UP"; call for days and times; advance tickets available at Summit on the Park.
- Emagine Theater in Canton; 39535 Ford road in Canton; (888) 319-3456; call for movies, times and prices.

Craft fun, story time

- Buffalo Wild Wings, 41980 Ford Road, Canton (734) 844-9464; free crafts and clown entertainment is on Wednesdays from 5-8 p.m.; ages 12 and under pay \$1.99 for kid's meal on Wednesdays and Sundays.
- Canton Borders, 43435 Ford Road, Canton, (734) 844-2090; story times on Saturdays at 11 a.m.; for ages 10 and under.
- Canton Public Library, 1200 South Canton Center Road, Canton (734) 397-0999; call to register; days and times vary.
- Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth (734) 453-0750; call to register; days and times vary.

Be sure to call first to confirm if these promotions are still valid. Now - go have a terrific outing with your family without spending a small fortune.



JACQUI WUNDERLICH

Pauline Sweeney and Stacy Bezverkov came from Dearborn to enjoy a meal at Tim and Sally's in Canton.

December 2009
Center Hours in Green

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
11am-6pm	10am-9pm	10am-9pm	10am-9pm	10am-9pm	10am-7pm	10am-7pm
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ROBINSON

FROM PAGE A1

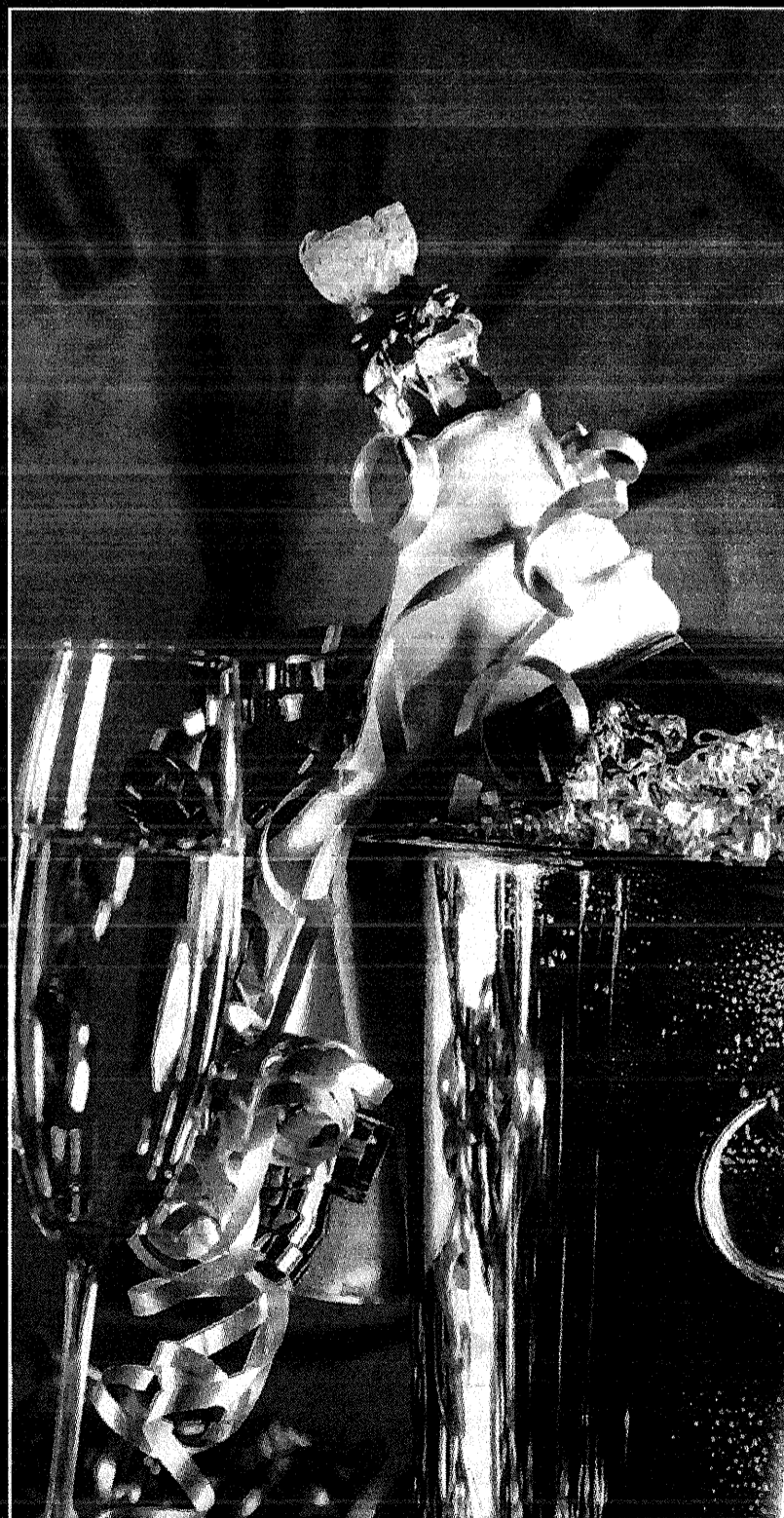
narrowed the field of candidates in a process that ultimately led to Robinson's hiring. "We just feel that she will be a great addition to the town-

ship," LaJoy said. "She will be able to coordinate legal activities. To this point, no one has done that."

Local officials have said many municipalities already have such employees, and LaJoy said the new post will usher in "a tremendous opportunity for savings" in coming years. Robinson earned her

undergraduate degree from Michigan State University's James Madison College in 1999, majoring in international relations and political economy. She also received a law degree from Case Western University School of Law in Cleveland, Ohio.

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Foundation provides donors a lasting legacy

The Plymouth Community Foundation continues to operate under the radar even as it continues to do good works.

Formed in August 2005, the foundation was designed to build permanent funds to support the non-profit organizations and programs that benefit Plymouth citizens.

"The Plymouth Community Foundation provides contributors a lasting and personal philanthropic legacy for individuals, families and organizations," said Plymouth Community Foundation Advisory Committee member Fran Toney, the former executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

One of the foundation's first - and largest - grants was a \$10,000 grant to Youth Leadership Plymouth, a program that encourages eighth-graders to become active participants in the community.

"Our youth represent the Community Foundation's mission in its best sense," said James Jabara, the PCF chair. "They are the connection between today and tomorrow."

The Community Foundation of Plymouth is advised by a committee of local community leaders, including Jabara and vice-chair William Lawson, a local attorney. Advisory committee members include Toney, Jeanne Knopf DeRoche,

Stella Greene, Dan Herriman, Penny LaJoy, Bill Lawton, Ron Loiselle, James McKeon, Walter Menard, Abe Munfakh, Salem Samaan and James Vermeulen, Sr.

The Foundation accepts charitable gifts of cash and non-cash (stocks, bonds, Mutual funds, real estate). Methods of giving include outright, estates and bequests, life insurance and retirement plans, charitable remainder and lead trusts.

As a public charitable trust CFP offers donors the benefit of state and federal charitable tax credits.

For more information call William Lawson (734) 455-2245.

Robbery attempt lands Ann Arbor man in jail

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

An Ann Arbor man who tried to rob a woman inside the Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton has been sentenced to prison for 18 months to 15 years.

Justin Daniel Price, 22, has started serving time behind bars after he pleaded guilty in Wayne County Circuit Court to a charge of assault with intent to commit an unarmed robbery, stemming from an Aug. 3 incident inside the ice arena on Michigan Avenue between Canton Center and Beck roads.

Price admitted he tried to steal a woman's purse. Police

arrested him after receiving several tips based on a suspect photo obtained from surveillance cameras inside the facility.

Price's guilty plea averted what could potentially have been a longer sentence if he had gone to trial and been convicted. He was charged as a fourth-degree habitual offender, and authorities have said he could have faced penalties ranging up to life in prison because of his prior criminal record.

Canton police have said the surveillance cameras captured photos of Price walking through Arctic Edge Ice Arena and trying to steal the woman's purse around 6

p.m. Monday, Aug. 3. He then fled the scene following what authorities described as a slight struggle.

Price already was on probation when he was arrested. According to the Michigan Department of Corrections, his previous offenses included third-degree home invasion, assaulting and resisting a police officer, and breaking and entering a building.

MDOC records indicate that Price had been warned not to break any laws when he had been released and placed on probation for the earlier offenses.

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Canton church collects clothing for needy

Continuing through 8 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, and having begun the previous night at 7 p.m., senior high youth and their adult advisers will spend the night outdoors in the parking lot at Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton. This event is to raise awareness of those who are homeless in the metro

Detroit area and to solicit clothing donations for those in need.

The church is on Sheldon (west side), north of Ford. The contact person is the Rev. Bryan Smith, pastor, (734) 459-0013.

Donations of warm winter clothing, winter outerwear, blankets, sleeping bags and

toiletries will be accepted through Jan. 8. Organizers ask that furniture not be donated, along with no appliances, toys or household items. Donations may be brought to the church during office hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, or left in the drop box outside the church entrance.

Was your Christmas present the wrong size?

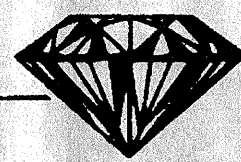
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DAR takes a tea at Greenmead

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lois Panackia of Livonia spent time Monday with other members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, celebrating the group's lineage to the Revolutionary War that founded the United States.

And it was all a little fun, a holiday tea complete with Christmas carols at Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia. The 30 members enjoyed tea sandwiches, vegetables and dip and cookies at the private luncheon.

"The food is excellent," Panackia said.

It was just a fun little gathering for the historical society for the holidays, said Marie Preuss, vice regent for the DAR's Plymouth and Northville chapter.

Preuss is a descendent of Nicholas Stansell of New York. After joining the DAR, she found out that Stansell's son is buried at a cemetery at a Northville church on Eight Mile Road, not far from where Preuss lives.

The group promotes historical events. Constitution Week is the third week in September. "We get involved with reading the Constitution," Preuss said. A speaker appeared recently before the group to discuss the signers of the Constitution and what lengths they went through to sign the document, she said.

Sue Daniel, chair of the Livonia Historical Commission, said the DAR was a natural fit for Greenmead, given the park's history. "That's what this building is for," Daniel said of the Alexander Blue House.

Jean Hill, former owner of the Greenmead property who sold it to the city of Livonia in 1976, was a member of the DAR, Daniel said. "She belonged to this chapter and



Ronni Curtis pours tea. She lives in Canton.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Sarah Ann Cochrane chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution gather at Greenmead Historical Park's Alexander Blue House for a holiday tea.



Lois Panackia of Livonia enjoys the tea.



Marie Preuss is vice regent for the DAR's Plymouth and Northville chapter.



Barbara Hudgins of Northville and Mary Hazlett of Plymouth pass the tea sandwiches.

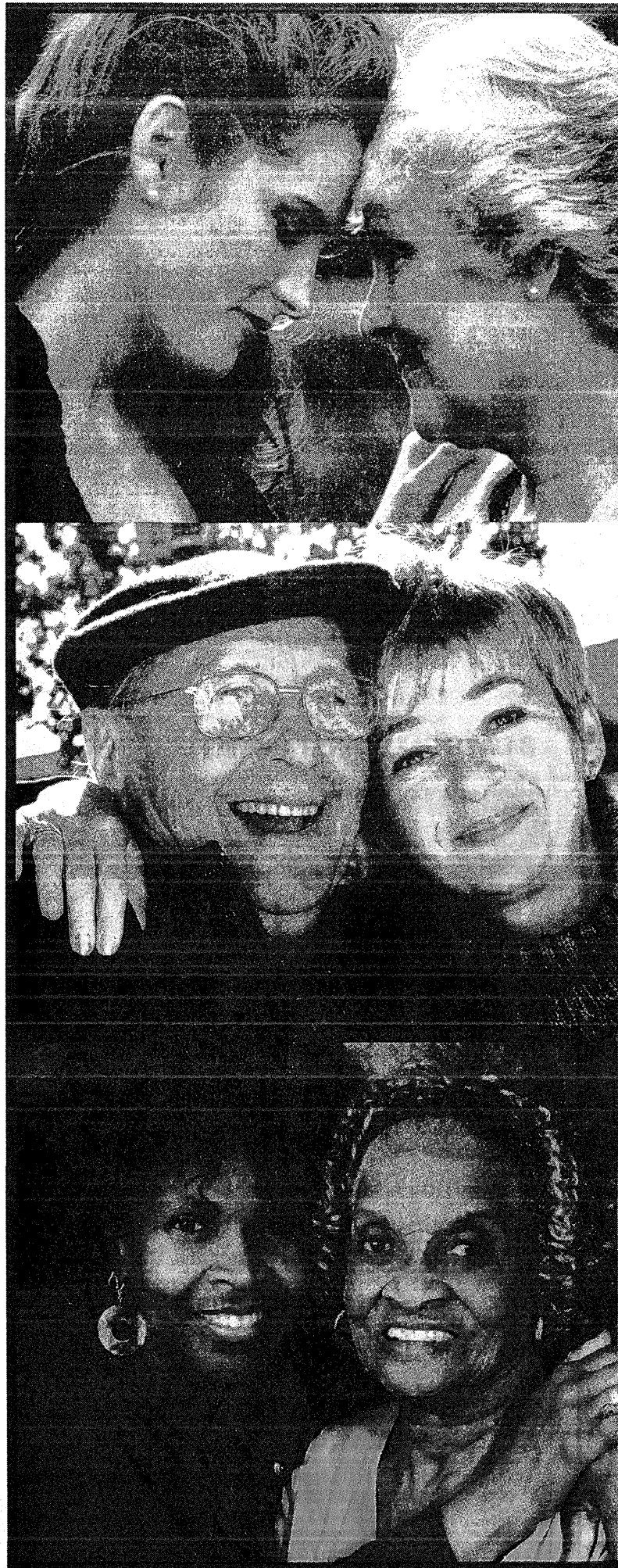
was a member of this group," Daniel said.

Kathleen Ripley Leo's grandmother was a member of the DAR, as she was a descendant of soldier Elkanah Dyer. Leo has been a member for 25 years. "I participate for my grandchildren," she said.

She planned to sing Christmas carols for the group that day, including *Oh Holy Night*, *Conventry Lullaby* and *God Bless America*.

Panackia thinks this nation's history is important to remember. "Our future depends on our heritage," she said. "You know where you came from. It's important to me in different ways. I think about them when I turn on the hot water, or even cold water. They survived all the hard times. I appreciate everything they went through."

kabramcz@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2591

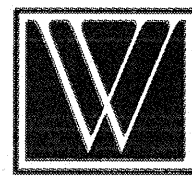


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DRUNK
FROM PAGE A1

go from \$500 to over \$3,000 depending on the case and its complexity."

Drivers can be assessed the Secretary of State driver's responsibility fee which can be either \$500 or \$1,000 a year for two years. Driving restrictions are handled by the Secretary of State with each type and severity of charge having its own set of restrictions, Epler said.

"It may be a 30-day restricted license, a one-year loss of license or a five-year loss of license," Epler said. "These restrictions or actual loss of license cause economic problems of their own. This is especially true since public transportation in this state is lacking."

Most police departments work hard to reduce the number of impaired drivers on the road at a given time. Of Garden City's 78 arrests in 2008, 11 drivers were under the age of 21, and 17 were repeat offenders. Fourteen drivers were driving on suspended licenses.

In early 2009, road patrol officers and their supervisors analyzed the data from 2008 and formed a plan to focus on reducing the number of impaired drivers on the road.

"The results have been impressive," said Garden City Deputy Police Chief Bob Muery.

"As of Nov. 30, officers have arrested 151 impaired drivers. That is nearly double the total for 2008, and there is still another month to go," he added.

Of course, the highest cost of drunken driving isn't a monetary issue at all. It comes when there is a fatality. The deaths of Judy Weinstein and her sons, Alex and Sam, caused by a drunken driver in Farmington Hills in May 2005 is one such case.

It's a reason penalties and fines are so high, and also something that could so easily be avoided.

"Many people don't think of themselves as someone who could be a drunk driver," said Judge Marla Parker of the 47th District Court in Farmington/Farmington Hills. "But a drunk driver is really anyone who has had too much to drink and gets behind the wheel of a car. There are



FILE PHOTO

Police departments often stage mock drunk-driving accidents to warn youngsters of the dangers of drinking and driving. Here, Livonia police Officer Jim King checks the pulse of Clarenceville student Amber Mills, who portrayed a victim thrown from the vehicle in just such a mock drunk driving accident.

CALL TO ACTION

Here's what you can do to help eliminate drunk driving:

- Sign the Pledge to Eliminate Drunk Driving found on the Mothers Against Drunk Driving web site, www.madd.org/mi/semichigan. More than 3,500 people and organizations nationwide have pledged their support to help abolish drunk driving through the four pillars of MADD's Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving.
- Become a member of MADD.
- Donate to the Campaign. Donations will be used to end drunk driving, support victims and prevent underage drinking. Consider making a donation in honor or memory of someone special to you.

so many alternatives now. You can call a cab. They even have services now where they will pick you up and drive your car home for you. So, there are so many options."

Of course, judges and court officials hope drivers learn the lessons early and don't become repeaters.

Some first offense drivers learn their lesson quickly, said Judge Charlotte Wirth, chief judge of the 17th District Court in Redford. The fine, restrictions — such as being subject to spot alcohol level testing — has the intended affect.

But others have a chronic problem.

"I've had drivers drunk when they show up in court," Wirth



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Judge Marla Parker of 47th District Court (serving Farmington and Farmington Hills) says she is alarmed by the increase in drinking and driving by young drivers.

said. "They're in contempt of court, and they go directly to jail."

Most courts refer drunken driving cases to their individual probation departments. In Westland's 18th District Court, Judge Sandra Cicirelli said she relies "heavily" on the judgment of her probation officers.

"When (drunken drivers) come, I refer them to the probation department for evaluation. Before sentencing, I look at the recommendations from the probation department," she said. "I also look at the BAC (blood alcohol content). That's an important factor. I've had people with a .30 or .40 BAC. As a nondrinker, I'd have to be hospitalized with that level."

Staff writers Ken Abramczyk, Sue Buck, LeAnne Rogers, Susan Steinmueller, Brad Kadrich and Matt Jachman contributed to this report.

COSTS
FROM PAGE A1

THIRD OFFENSE

Ron W. kept his license until the third offense when the judge ordered an ignition interlock.

"I vaguely remember the day of being pulled over," Ron W. said.

"I have three children and my biggest fear as a father is my daughter is 15 and she'll be driving soon. I told her how the problem with alcohol is hereditary and DUIs are bad enough let alone killing or injuring anyone. You never think it's going to be you."

Today Ron W. is turning his life around by going to school to become a physical therapy assistant.

Although sentencing for drunken driving varies from judge to judge, offenders usually are not sentenced to jail for their first conviction, allowing them to make positive changes in their lives.

JUDICIAL APPROACH

Judge Ronald Lowe, chief judge of the 35th District Court (serving the cities of Plymouth and Northville and the townships of Plymouth, Canton and Northville) believes incarceration is not the answer for substance abuse, at least at first.

"The rule of thumb is the third drinking offense you go to jail to be absolutely sure where alcohol is in their life and why they're abusing it," said Lowe.

"The first time is a penalty and fine and community service. The rest of the sentence is about helping the defendant address his substance abuse problem. The second offense steps up that. The punishment is more serious. By the third offense it's apparent this person is not going to take hold of this substance abuse problem."

Although 47th District Court (serving Farmington and Farmington Hills) Judge Marla Parker hears DUI cases against a variety of ages, she is especially alarmed by the increase in drinking by young drivers.

She too believes the focus should be on helping the offender overcome substance abuse but she wants to make sure they don't appear before her again on the same charge.

Every offender is required to go through substance abuse screening and an interview with the probation department before sentencing.

YOUNG OFFENDERS

"I've been hearing drunk driving cases (for) 17 years and one of the things I'm noticing is particularly troubling to me, the younger drunk driver with high blood levels. They're not



WHAT IT COULD COST

Fines and penalties at local district courts for alcohol-related driving offenses (arrest statistics from 2008):

COURT	AREA	ARRESTS	FINES (1st Offense)
16 th	Livonia	273	\$500 - \$2,000
35 th	Plymouth Canton Northville	1,021	\$500 - \$2,000
21 st	Garden City	78	\$300 - \$1,000
18 th	Westland	606	\$500 - \$2,000
47 th	Farmington Hills	433	\$1,500
17 th	Redford	151	\$500 - \$2,000

just drinking but drinking to great excess.

"Tolerance intends to increase over time unless addressed and alcohol affects their decision making," said Parker.

The result of a decision to drink and drive could result in a maximum 93 days in jail for first offenders, up to one year for a second offense.

"My goal is to punish somebody and hope other people will get the message and stop others (from drinking and driving), make them think twice, then I look at what should be done," said Parker.

"We have a sobriety court program specifically for the drunk driver who more than likely is a repeat offender who has significant issues with alcohol."

Offenders are required to undergo alcohol testing, attend 12-step meetings like AA, appear for regular court reviews, and perform community service. If they're not in compliance, they go to jail.

"The focus is getting somebody sober just by the testing first then helping with education, employment to stop the cycle," said Parker. "Fines for a first offender are between \$1,300 to \$1,500, subsequent offenders over \$2,000 in costs in addition to having to pay their lawyer, costs from Secretary of State for \$125 to reinstate their license, plus a driver responsibility fee ranges from \$1,000 to \$2,000. Insurance increases with a DUI and that's not counting the lives lost, medical expenses, property damage, deductibles."

Like Parker, Judge Mark McConnell of the 18th District Court in Westland advises anyone thinking of drinking and driving to consider the

consequences.

McConnell handled drunken driving cases as an assistant prosecutor for 13 1/2 years in Westland before being elected to the bench last November.

"Michigan is pretty strict, one of the stricter states. Our courts we take them very seriously. Rehabilitation, some people it works, some doesn't. I've seen multiple teenage drivers, 17 and up. The oldest were people into their 70s," said McConnell. "It doesn't take a lot to hit .08 (blood alcohol level), especially an older female who usually weighs less and has a lower tolerance level. A couple of drinks and a person can be over that limit without realizing it."

Chief Judge Sandra Cicirelli of the 18th District Court refers each of her cases to the Westland probation department.

"I follow their recommendations most of the time, look at the blood alcohol content. If it's extremely high it tells me that the person isn't still able to function. It's on a case by case basis," said Cicirelli. "I have ordered alcohol tethers on the individual for the second-time offender, a repeat offender. I see my job as protecting the public."

According to Chris Raymond, chief probation officer of Westland's district court, an offender with a .25 blood alcohol is not someone who drinks once a month.

Raymond, and probation officers Eric Lange and Melanie Sheridan thoroughly evaluate offenders before making recommendations to Cicirelli and McConnell. The first offense is usually \$1,500 fines and costs, restitution for police arrest, plus two to three days in the program which requires them to work off their debt to the city of Westland by cutting lawns or shoveling snow. They usually recommend drug screening as well since alcohol abusers often turn to other substances because they can't drink as part of probation.

Judge Lowe would like to see the return of an alcohol enforcement team. It would more than likely increase his caseload but for good cause. Not much has changed since he's been on the bench in the last 15 years except for the period when federal grant money put an extra police car on the road on weekends to catch drunk drivers.

Lowe's advice to those considering drinking and driving - don't. "It surprises me how many people can come into court and if you ask them what they drank they can't remember, not because of intoxication but they don't pay attention to how much they drank. If you can't be aware of that put your keys back into your pocket. They don't realize how little it takes to get to .08."

CONSIDER CONSEQUENCES

Like Parker, Judge Mark McConnell of the 18th District Court in Westland advises anyone thinking of drinking and driving to consider the

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FRI/SAT 11:55
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FRI 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
SAT 11:40, 2:15, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
FRI/SAT 11:20
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG)
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Families, friends grieve for victims

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
CORRESPONDENT

Linda Bernhardt brushes aside the memory of the drunken driver who put her in the hospital with facial injuries that required plastic surgery. The experience was painful but not as heart-wrenching as the thought of the drunken driver who killed her friends, Rick and Cindy Cameron of Canton, in 1984.

The Camerons and their unborn baby boy died after their head-on on Sheldon Road at Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth.

Bernhardt had become friends with the Canton family in prenatal classes. The two women were both first-time mothers-to-be who bonded with two others in yoga and Lamaze classes. Together, the four women planned to start a play group after their babies were born.

Today, Bernhardt tells their story as a victim advocate speaking to offenders in the 18th and 29th District courts.

Once a month, 75 offenders or more gather as part

of a court order to hear a victim's advocate panel put together by Mothers Against Drunk Driving. It is estimated that MADD has helped save 330,000 lives since the non-profit was established in 1980 to stop drinking and driving.

"The purpose is to tell them the consequences of drunk driving," said Bernhardt.

"The offender has to live with this. You don't have intentions of hurting people but it's not an accident when you put that liquor to your lips and then drive. You can be involved in a crash."

Once every 45 minutes a person is killed by a drunken driver. That is just one of the statistics victim impact speakers like Bernhardt and Paulette Gibson use to dissuade first-time offenders from drinking and driving again.

SPEAKING OUT

Gibson spoke at the Tie One On For Safety kick-off campaign presented by MADD at Westland Shopping Center Dec. 5. MADD is urging drivers to tie a red ribbon

onto their car's antenna as a reminder not to drink before getting behind the wheel.

Gibson's 19-year old daughter April was killed by a drunken driver in 1992. April was so badly disfigured Gibson couldn't recognize her.

"She had a habit of chewing her nails. I picked up her hand in the hospital and knew it was her," said Gibson of Milford.

April not only left behind her grieving mother, but a 4-year old daughter Savannah. April's younger sister, Amy, is just now finally coming to terms with the fact April died before she had a chance to say goodbye. April had dropped Amy off at work and was on her way back home when she was killed.

"I didn't know anything about it until it was too late and that made it hard for me," said Amy Gibson of Canton.

According to MADD statistics, more than 16,000 people were killed in alcohol-related traffic crashes in 2007 in the U.S.

Homer Smith, executive director of MADD for

Michigan, is working to encourage judges to order ignition interlocks on the vehicles of offenders.

"We are grateful there has continued to be a decline in fatalities and injuries over the past decade, but there are still too many tragedies," said Smith.

"I'd like to see judges using the ignition interlock that the court can require even on a first-time offender. New Mexico law mandates ignition interlocks. In three years, they've seen a 30 percent reduction in crashes. Twelve states now require the locks for all offenders. Michigan does not.

"The scary thought is 80 percent of offenders continue to drive. We believe every drunk driver has earned the right to have an ignition interlock on their vehicle and judges can make that happen without changing the laws."

For more information, visit www.madd.org/mi/semichigan or call (586) 997-6504. Twenty-four hour victim assistance is available at (800) 323-6233.

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Canton couple takes 'once in-a-lifetime' trip to Egypt

How do I describe Egypt, the world's oldest tourist attraction?

It's been visited, invaded or ruled by nearly every major power including the Greeks (Alexander the Great), Romans, Turks, French (Napoleon), Arabs and the British, among others. And that doesn't include other ancient foes, such as the Cushites (from present day Sudan), Hittites and Hyksos, to name a few.

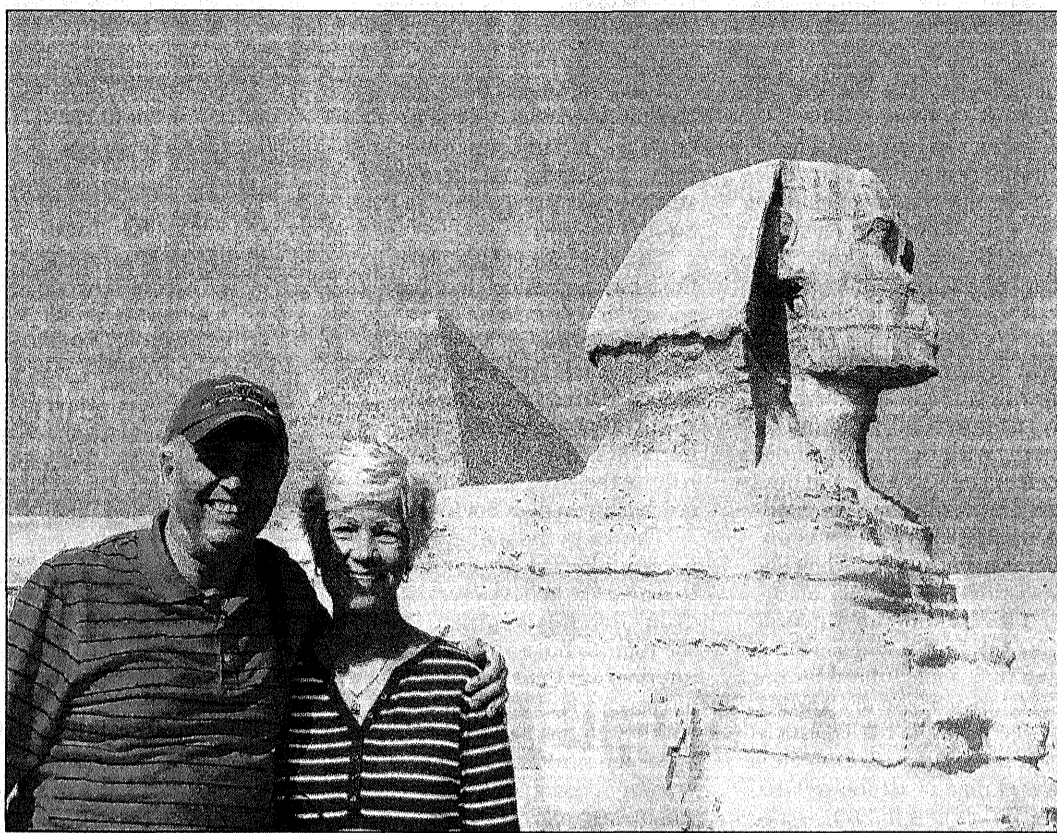
Located at one end of the Fertile Crescent, Egypt has absorbed a little from all these landlords, the most influential probably being the Arabs, whose religion and language now largely dominate and define the contemporary country and culture, although Egypt does have a sizable Coptic Christian population.

The moment we arrived in Cairo, the bustling, sprawling capital of 18 million people, our senses were assaulted by the sights, sounds and smells of this exotic part of the world. Everything is different here - the food, language, traffic and customs. If you travel to Egypt, be prepared for culture shock!

My wife and I were part of a group of 23 Americans traveling with Overseas Adventure Travel, a company that specializes in small group, cultural visits. Our itinerary called for us to see the most famous sites: the awe-inspiring pyramids and Sphinx of Giza, the oldest Step Pyramid at Saqqara, the beautiful island shrine at Philae, the majestic temples of Kom Ombo and Edfu, the mammoth ruins of Karnak, Luxor and Abu Simbel and the mysterious Valley of the Kings, where the boy king Tut's intact tomb was uncovered by Howard Carter in 1922.

They were unique and magical in their own special ways, but the commonality of them all was that they were built thousands of years ago. It is almost beyond comprehension that the ancient Egyptians could conceive and construct such monumental edifices, tombs and shrines to their gods and kings.

Archaeologists still don't fully understand how they



Jay and Linnea Young of Canton Township stand in front of the Sphinx and Great Pyramid of Giza.

BUCKET LIST

Jay Young is the former director of community services for the Livonia Public Schools. Retired in 2007, he and his wife, Linnea, are attempting to cross off places to see from their bucket list. They live in Canton Township.

were able to build them, considering they had no modern machinery or tools. And yet, they not only built these structures and carved out tombs from the middle of mountains, but they decorated them with brilliantly colored images and a fantastic stylized writing system of hieroglyphics. Today, some of the statues and tombs still contain remnants of the original colors, some appearing as vibrant as if they were painted yesterday.

One of my most unexpected discoveries, as our guide Heba called them, was that most of the sites have been severely damaged and depleted either by natural disasters, grave robbers, jealous rivals or foreign conquerors. For example, the city of Cairo was partially



Children in a co-educational experimental primary school in Aswan, where English is taught as a second language, pose for the camera.

built from the limestone covering the pyramids.

Many monuments, statues and obelisks now reside in foreign museums and capital cities throughout Europe and North America, after being plundered by successive conquerors. Many of the carved figures remaining in Egyptian temples have been deliberately chiseled away by succeeding pharaohs or Coptic Christians,

fearing the revival of worship of the Egyptian gods.

The Egypt of today is but a glimmer of the magnificent empire it used to be, and is largely a poor, third world, developing nation. Amid the splendor of its vaunted past, the majority of its citizens live at a subsistence level, farming the fertile green strip of land along both sides of the Nile River, just as their ancestors have for countless



Men in an outdoor market in Luxor play backgammon or dominoes while smoking the Egyptian water pipe called a sheesha.



Women bake typical Egyptian flat bread in clay, wood fired ovens outside a neighborhood restaurant in Cairo.

with a middle class family in one of the high rise apartments in Cairo, they all exhibited a sense of optimism for their country and their future.

The guidebooks all warn of overly aggressive vendors at every historical site, of the custom of paying baksheesh for unnecessary services rendered, of having to pay to use public restrooms, of intestinal maladies likely to befall every visitor, etc. - all of which were true. But, I learned to adapt to the customs and enjoy the adventure.

Egypt relies heavily on the tourist industry, but the overwhelming majority of ordinary people we met were generous, friendly and genuinely welcoming. They are proud of their country and its past accomplishments and hopeful about its future.

If you are adventurous, love history and seek a fascinating, cross cultural experience, visit Egypt - it promises to be the trip of a lifetime.



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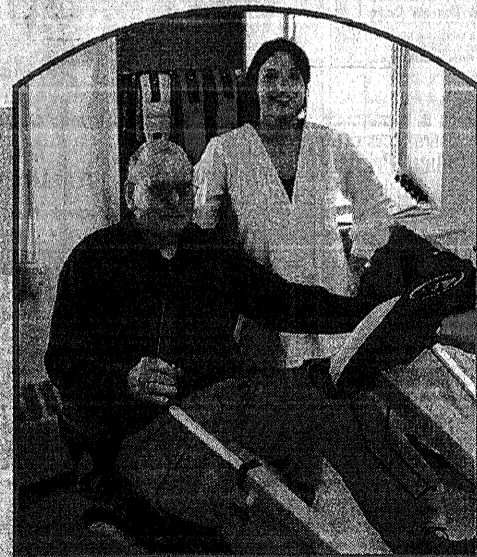
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Donna Smith, enjoying the Kwanzaa celebration at the Maxfield Training Center in Farmington.

PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Families celebrate Kwanzaa's peace, unity theme

BY STACY JENKINS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Unity, self-determination, cooperation, purpose, creativity and faith — they're all principles of life that are taught in the Gilliam family throughout the year.

But this Farmington Hills family doesn't miss the opportunity to celebrate those principles during the seven days of Kwanzaa.

"It reiterates and supports the values that we teach," Daryl Gilliam said. "The celebration has evolved from those principles that all families can share. We carry them with us."

Gilliam, his wife Margot and children, Morgan, 14, Marlise, 9, and Lawrence, 6, were among several who attended the annual Kwanzaa celebration, presented by the African American Family Network of Farmington/Farmington Hills.

The event is hosted each year by Douglas and Ouley Saulsberry, of Farmington Hills, as a way for families to learn about Kwanzaa and some fun, creative ways to incorporate new traditions from Dec. 26 through New Year's Day.

The Saulsberrys receive calls

KWANZAA PRINCIPLES

Each day of Kwanzaa has its own focus.

- Dec. 26 — Unity: Striving for and maintaining unity in the family and community.
- Dec. 27 — Self-determination: Speaking for yourself, instead of being spoken for by others.
- Dec. 28 — Collective work and responsibility: Building and maintaining the community together, making fellow African Americans' problems our own.
- Dec. 29 — Cooperative economics: To build and maintain enterprises and profit from them together.
- Dec. 30 — Purpose: To build and develop the community in order to restore African Americans to their traditional greatness.
- Dec. 31 — Creativity: To do as much as you can to leave the community beautiful.
- Jan. 1. — Faith: To believe with all of your heart in African-American people, parents and leaders.

each year from people who are interested in learning more about Kwanzaa. It's not only for African Americans, either.

"Kwanzaa promotes unity — and everyone, regardless of race, creed or color, can benefit from the seven Kwanzaa principles," the Saulsberrys said. "Therefore, it is important for us to host this event and help the people in our community become aware of Kwanzaa, thereby becoming better citizens."

The secular observance was begun in 1966 by Dr. Maulana

Karenga as a way for African Americans to celebrate their heritage.

Today, Kwanzaa is a family-oriented observance, in which the symbols of a straw mat, a candle holder, ears of corn, gifts, a unity cup, water and soil weave the story of Kwanzaa and the African-American culture.

The Saulsberry family has celebrated Kwanzaa for the past 19 years.

"It is part of our culture and has become a way of life for us," Ouley Saulsberry said.

"Celebrating Kwanzaa allows us the opportunity to set aside time to focus on the seven Kwanzaa principles. Those principles are the driving force in our lives. We make a conscience effort throughout the year to maintain unity in our family and community, to support each other and to work together to make our home and community a peaceful place.

"Kwanzaa is a time for us to give thanks to our ancestors, renew and reflect on the year that is ending and a means of rejuvenating the spirit for the new year."

Daryl Gilliam said the celebration is important for his children.

"When they're met with an ethical dilemma, they'll rely on those principles," he said.

The Kwanzaa event at the Maxfield Training Center in Farmington featured guest speakers, a lively storyteller, music and dancing. The Saulsberrys are thankful to local sponsors, including Papa John's Pizza on Grand River and Johnny Pomodoro's on Middlebelt.

"Their generosity is a prime example of the overall meaning of Kwanzaa — unity and working together," Ouley Saulsberry said.

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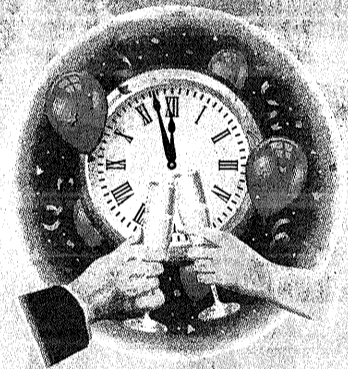
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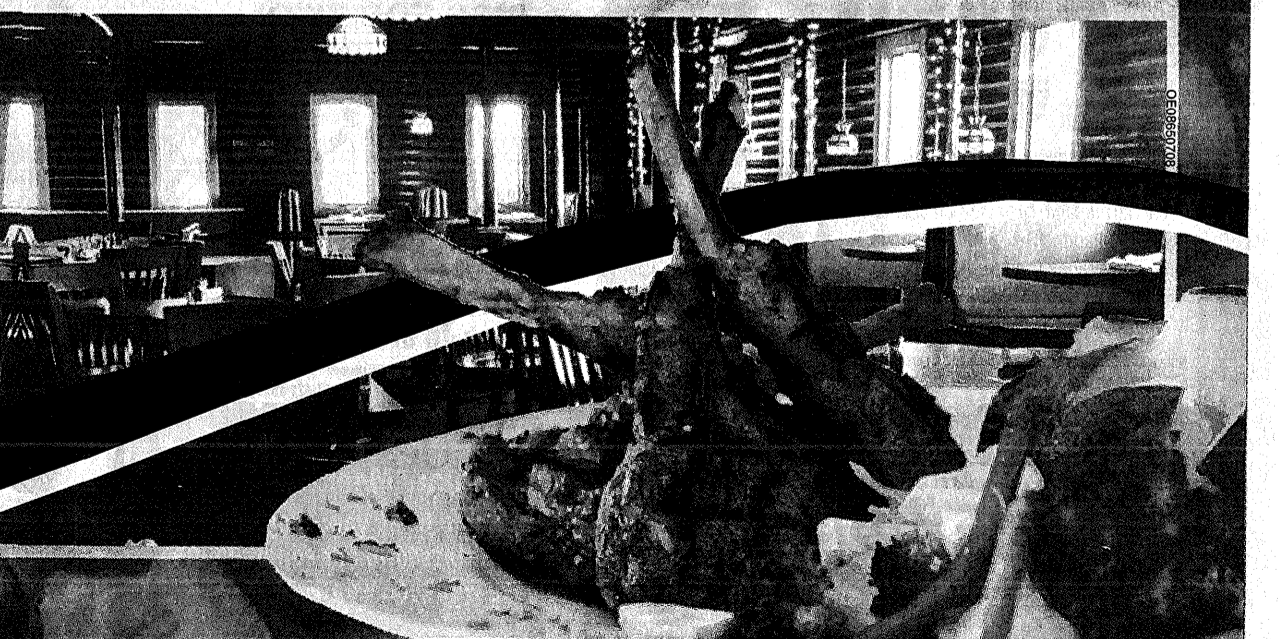
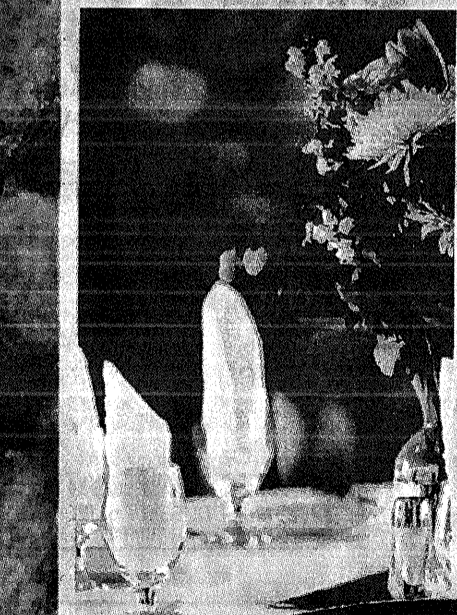
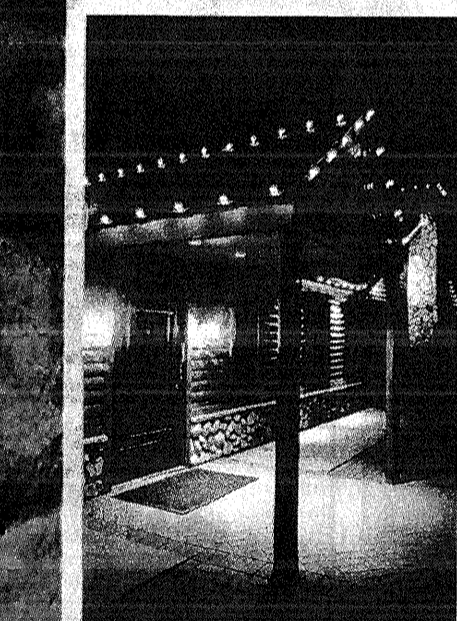
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It's important to get right kind of life insurance

Q: Dear Rick: My wife and I had our first child earlier this year. After reading one of your columns We did a will so we can name a guardian for my child. We also started a 529 Plan through the Michigan Education Savings Plan.

Our question is on life insurance. I went online to a variety of sites to help determine how much life insurance we need. After factoring in what I had through work I decided we needed another \$250,000 of life insurance. From reading your columns and a vari-



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

ety of other independent sources, I thought I would buy a 30-or 40-year term life insurance policy. A friend of mine, however, told me that he has a universal life policy and recommends it. He said the advantage of universal life is you can borrow against it in the future and it has an investment component. I

think I know what you would recommend but I thought I'd ask anyway.

A: Congratulations on the birth of your child! I think it is great that you and your spouse have prepared a will and have set up a college savings plan. There is no doubt that as a parent you have responsibilities and it is great to see that you're accepting them.

As to your life insurance, there is no doubt that I am a fan of term insurance. I believe it is the best type of insurance for the majority of people. Not only is it affordable, but it is also easy to

understand. When you purchase term insurance, you are buying insurance for a period of time. In your situation you are looking at a 30- or 40-year policy. That means if you pass on during that period your policy will pay your beneficiaries. If you are surviving 30 or 40 years down the road, the policy would lapse. However, keep in mind that the most important time to have insurance is when your children are young. Once your kids are off your payroll your needs for insurance diminish dramatically.

The type of insurance your

friend mentioned, universal life, is not one I generally recommend. It is considerably more expensive than term insurance because you are paying the cost of insurance and also setting up an investment vehicle. Unfortunately, in the great majority of universal life policies, the investments have very high fees - many of them hidden - and commissions. In addition, the cost of insurance is also more expensive.

Commissions are one reason that insurance agents tend to sell these policies. It is not unusual for an agent who

sells universal life to receive upwards of 80 percent of the first year of premiums as commissions. In addition, on a year-by-year basis, he/she also receive compensation from the premiums you pay.

When you purchase a term policy there is very little commission paid to the agents. This is one of those areas I believe creates a conflict of interest. I believe too many agents are selling universal life not because it is best for their clients but rather, because it is best for them.

Your friend is correct - with a universal life policy you can borrow against the policy. However, it's not worth that much. First, it will take years and years to build up any cash value in a universal life policy and it is the cash value that is used to determine how much you can borrow. In addition, borrowing from your policy is not inexpensive. You still have to pay interest. The fact you can borrow against these policies is of very little value.

Setting up an investment account is also of very little value to you. In a universal life policy you have limited investment options and typically the options are very expensive.

When you eventually withdraw the money it is going to be taxed at your ordinary income level, not the favorable capital gain tax.

A much better strategy would be to buy term insurance and then take the savings and invest the difference. By investing the money on your own you will have better options and lower fees. In addition, you may be able to take advantage of a Roth IRA and that money will grow tax free.

In most cases term insurance is the what most people should consider. For those with young children, you just can't beat term insurance. An agent can shop term insurance for you - if you like to deal with someone locally - or you can use the internet.

Parents want to do the right thing and buy life insurance because it is essential. However, just as essential is buying the correct type of life insurance. I believe for the great majority of people, you can't go wrong buying term life insurance. 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.

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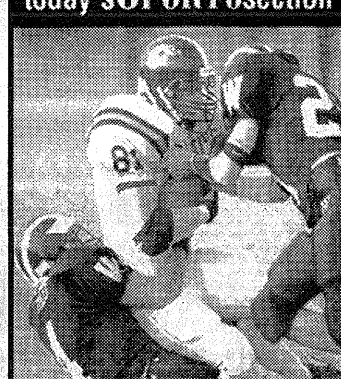
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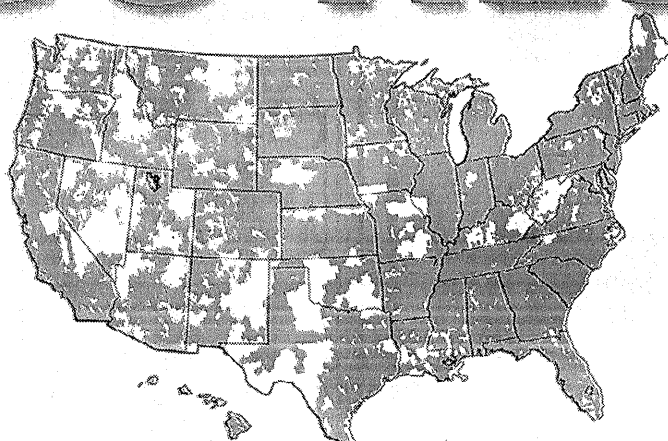
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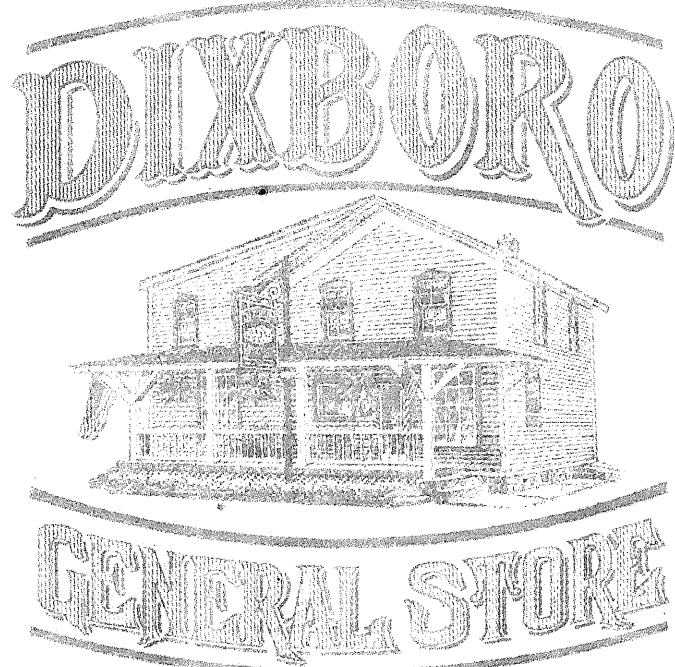
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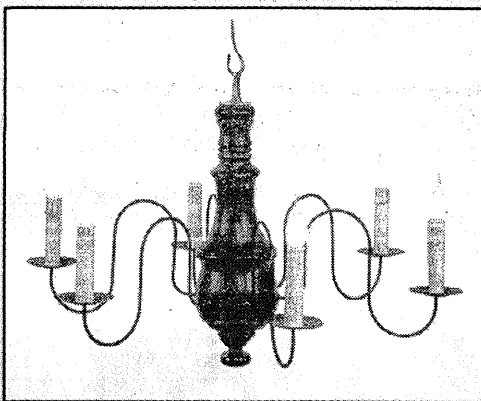
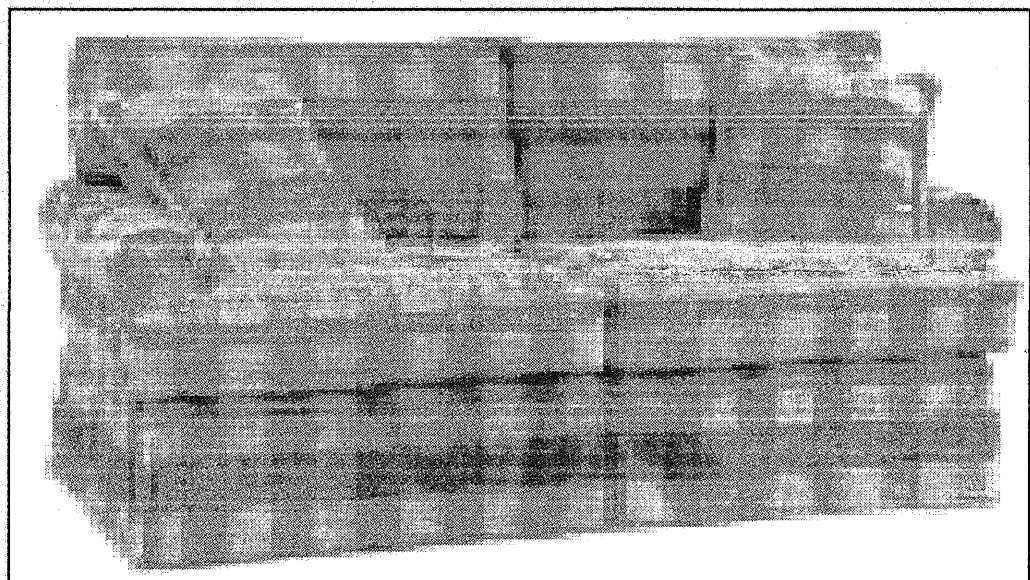
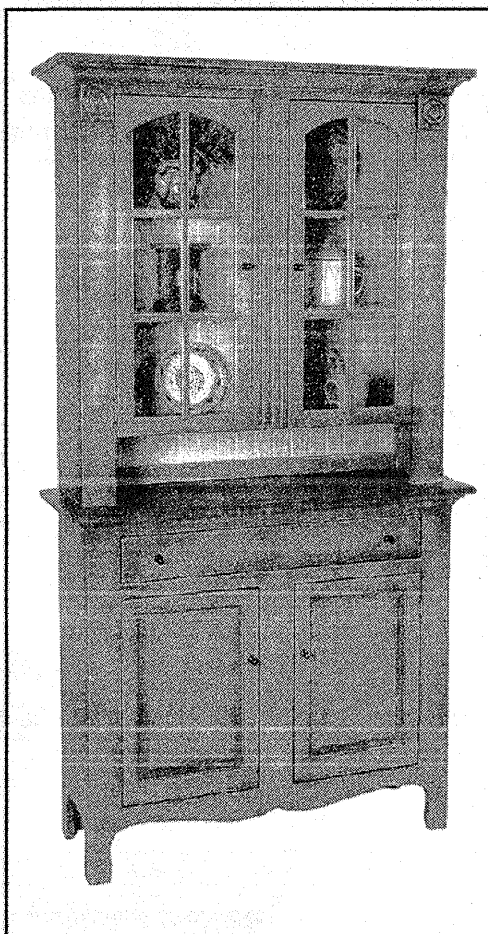
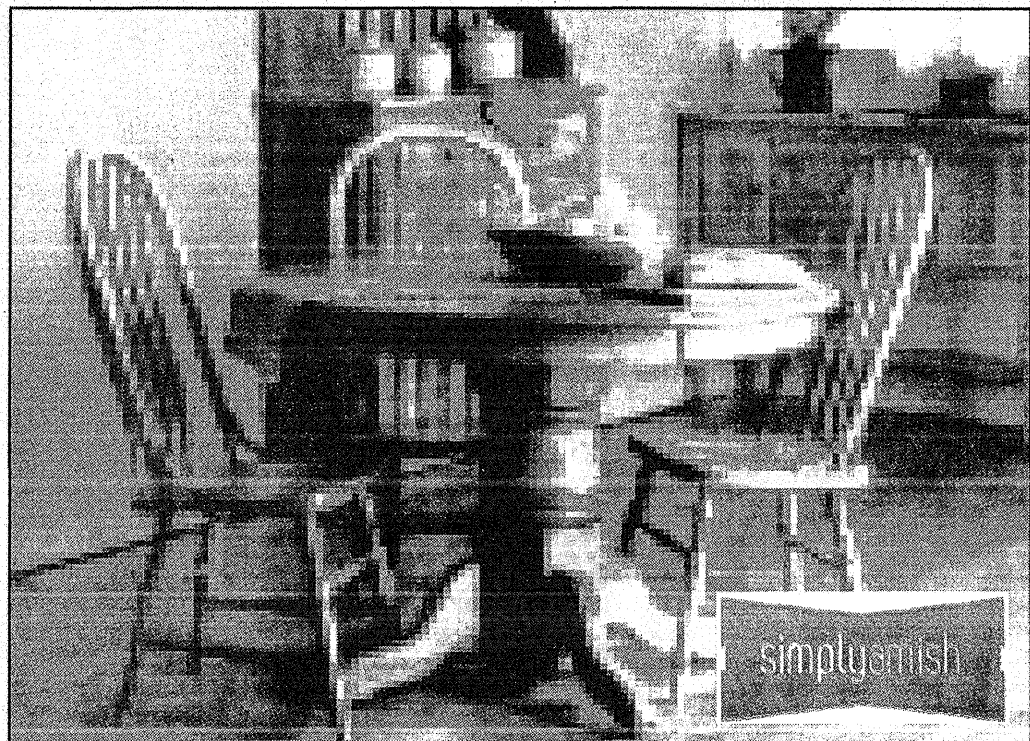
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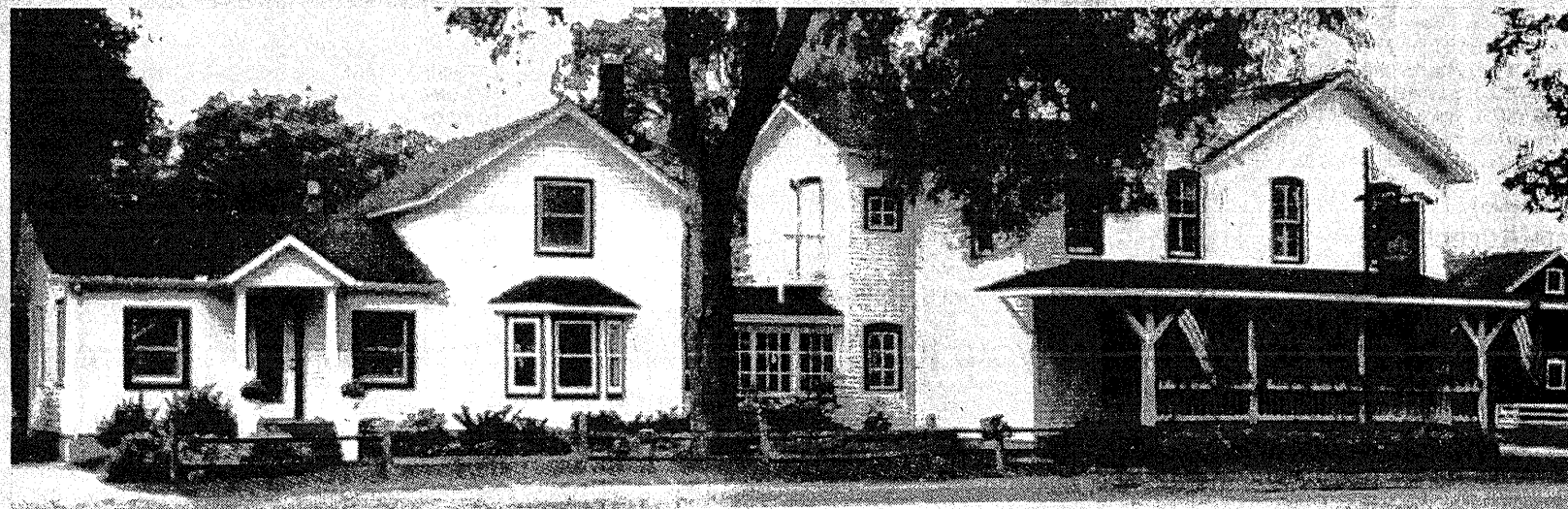
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Museum display features Nativity sets of all shapes, sizes

BY SUE BUCK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Some kind people with open hearts develop such a reputation in their neighborhoods that they sometimes find unwanted litters of kittens dropped off at their doorsteps.

Garden City resident Kim Marquette has developed a similar reputation for never turning away a nativity set that nobody wants.

"This year I found three sets at my door," said Marquette who for two years has organized the Nativity Set display at the Garden City Historical Museum at Straight Farmhouse using her collection.

Museum volunteer Muriel Grima, who is Marquette's mother, said that her daughter has about 260 Nativity sets now.

"She goes to sales and if somebody says this belonged to their family, she buys it and gives it a home," Grima said. "She can't believe that people would get rid of their family Nativity."

Marquette said that her collection has grown by 12 sets since last year. She now has 269 nativity sets.

"I'm sure all of these have a story," said Rose Freeman, a Garden City resident and museum volunteer.

There's a variety of sets. One has a block calendar design with a Nativity. There's also a Nativity quilt and first edition handmade holiday porcelain plates depicting Nativity scenes.

At first glance, one picture looks like the face of Jesus but at second glance his beard bears the image of a Nativity scene and another part of his face shows angels and the Garden of Gethsemane.

There are even water globes with Nativity scenes.



This is one of Kim Marquette's Nativity scenes. Her collection includes her own as well as sets she has found at garage sales and that have been left on her doorstep.

Some sets are fragile and can't be held much, others are suitable for child's play.

Another tells the narrative story of Christ's birth to the background song of *We Three Kings of Orient Are*.

Carol Bird, another museum volunteer, said that she can't look at another Nativity scene anywhere without thinking of Marquette.

Both Bird and Freeman mention the long hours Marquette and her husband, Jerry, devote to setting up the different exhibits at the museum.

One of the gifts Kim Marquette received from her husband shortly after being married was a Nativity scene.

That was the beginning of

the 269-set collection

"My son got me one and my mom got me some," Marquette said. "I'd get some Nativity scenes at garage sales. I became a collector of family Nativity scenes."

She now has 52 Rubbermaid tubs for the sets that fit into in her attic. Her husband has added attic lighting.

The smallest Nativity scene in the collection fits into a match box while the largest is reserved for the front of Marquette home during the Christmas season.

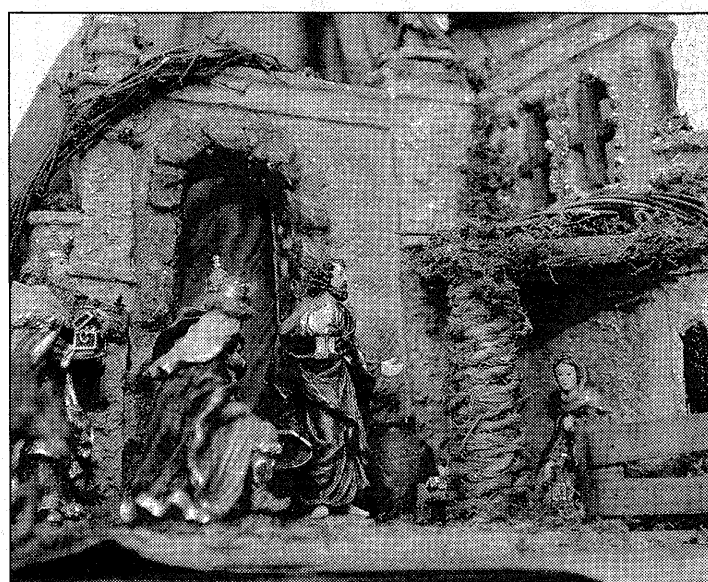
The largest Nativity on display at the museum is a Fontanini scene which belongs to Marquette's son Alan, 20. It began as a gift from

Marquette's late grandfather, Duane Porter, who subsequently gave money each year to add to the collection.

"He wanted something for Alan to enjoy and remember him by," said Marquette. "We keep it going and add a piece each year."

The Garden City Historical Museum is inside the Straight Farmhouse at 6221 Merriman, north of Ford in Garden City. Museum hours are noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays. Admission is free. Large groups can schedule a visit by calling the museum at (734) 838-0650 or by going online to www.sfhonline.org.

sbuck@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2249



The Three Wise Men bring their gifts in this Nativity set on display at the Garden City Historical Museum.

Homeschool choir fills parlor with music

BY SUE BUCK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The sounds of the holiday season filled the Grand Parlour at Straight Farmhouse in Garden City when the Christian Homeschool Educators' CHEPA Homeschool Choir performed as part of the opening a Nativity exhibition at the Garden City Historical Museum.

"There must have been 100 people," said Kim Marquette, who organized the display which runs through Jan. 13. "They filled the Grand Parlour and it was standing room only."

The choir was started six years ago by two homeschool mothers who wanted a vocal music program for home-schooled students. They started with about 20 students. Today, there are 55 students from 26 families and two classes — Junior for children ages 6-10 and provides an introduction to basic music theory and vocal music and the Senior Choir for students age 11 and older and focuses more on learning harmony and performing more advanced vocal pieces.

The children in the program

are from Belleville, Livonia, Canton Township, Westland, Wayne, Northville, Plymouth, Superior Township, Ypsilanti and other communities. Some of the choir students have participated in an All-State Honors Choir made up of homeschooled students from all over the state of Michigan which performed in Lansing in May.

They also have an opportunity to participate in Solo and Ensemble Competition in Jackson.


The choir is directed by Rhonda Donovan, one of the founders of the program and a Garden City East High School graduate. She attended Bob Jones University where she studied education and has an extensive background in music including playing organ, flute, piano and 30 years of vocal experience singing in choirs, ensembles and trios.

CHEPA Homeschool Choir meets on Tuesday afternoons at the Canton Calvary Assembly, 7933 N. Sheldon, Canton. For more information, call Donovan at (734) 729-6692 or e-mail her at familyof-six@wowway.com.

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Warming Center puts out call for volunteers

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Thelma Ivey puts her faith in God. When the Lighthouse Home Mission opens the doors of its warming center to the homeless at 7 p.m. Jan. 1, she knows there will be warm food, a shower and a place to sleep and volunteers to help.

She also knows that the faces of those coming there will be changing.

"The need is great, as everyone knows," said Ivey, a Garden City resident who has been working with the homeless, first in Detroit and now in the western suburbs for more than 20 years. "I think for the first time families facing eviction will turn to us for help and through the grace of God we'll be able to provide it. Families that used to help us are now the ones coming to us seeking our help."

For three months, Jan. 1 through March 31, the center provides the homeless with a place to stay 7 p.m. to 8 a.m. at Full Gospel Temple on Palmer Road in Westland.

According to Ivey, the outreach coordinator, some of the people who come to the warming center and a soup kitchen that's open at lunchtime each day aren't homeless in the strictest sense of the word. Some might have jobs, but can't afford to have a place to stay. The heartbreaker, she said, are those who chose to be homeless.

Ivey has worked on the warming center since 2004 with the Rev. B.C. Beneteau, director of the Lighthouse Home Mission. The mission covers the electric and heating bills, but it's donations that provide clothing and bedding for the center. Volunteers serve as the night watchmen at the center or help launder the bedding.

FEED MY PEOPLE

The mission also relies on donations to feed the home-

WARMING CENTER

What: Lighthouse Mission Warming Center, a temporary overnight shelter for homeless men and women during the winter months, and a soup kitchen.

When: The warming center is open 7 p.m. to 8 a.m. daily Jan. 1 through March 31. The soup kitchen is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Where: At the Full Gospel Temple, 34033 Palmer, east of Wayne Road, Westland.

What: The center provides a hot meal, showers and a place to sleep for up to 50 homeless individuals. It is staffed by volunteers and operates with the help of donations from individuals and businesses and the support of several area churches and organizations - Westland Free Methodist, Warren Road Life and Life and the Full Gospel Temple in Westland, Merriman Road Baptist in Garden City, Abundant Life Church in Canton, First Methodist in Wayne and Safe Stay.

What: Volunteers are needed to work in the soup kitchen 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, to help sort and size clothing and prepare food boxes 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, or work at the warming center, laundering bedding once a week on Tuesday or Thursday or serving as watchmen when the center is open.

Information: To make a donation or to volunteer to help, call Thelma Ivey at (734) 326-3885.

less. Ivey's name is synonymous with bologna sandwiches. The first Wednesday of each month, volunteers at her church, Warren Road Light and Life in Westland, prepare more than a thousand bologna sandwiches that are served at the warming center and at the soup kitchen. Donations of leftover soup from area restaurants fill out the menu for the evening meal although the later donations have dwindled as restaurants have downsized to cut costs.

Ivey is looking for another church to also make sandwiches so the warming center and a soup kitchen open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily can handle the increasing demand.

"I've shared that with churches in the past, but none have ever picked it up," she said.

The warming center has a wish list and the top of it is volunteers. There's a need for men with vans and trucks to pick up donations from businesses and people as well as help unload the trucks from Gleaners and Forgotten

Harvest on Mondays. The church serves as a drop-off site for those who get help from the two organizations.

GREAT NEED

But what is desperately needed are men and women to work in the soup kitchen, which is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and serve as night watchmen at the warming center. Two shifts are available - 6-10 p.m. and 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.

Also on the list are socks, especially white tube socks that fit both men and women and all sizes of feet; any warm clothing in sizes medium to extra-large, including thermal underwear; men's clothing, especially blue jeans; sweat shirts and pants for men and women, which can be used for sleepwear at night and worn under clothing during the day; warm hats, gloves and boots and pillows with plastic sanitary covers.

People interested in donating or helping the warming center and soup kitchen can call Lighthouse Home Mission at (734) 326-3885.



Keeping warm

Students from the fourth-grade classes of Kate Hondrop and Amy Caudill at Tonda Elementary School recently made blankets for the Cass Corridor Shelter in Detroit as part of their holiday celebration.

LIBRARY WATCH

The following programs will be available at the Plymouth District Library in January:

- **Library closings** - The Library will be closed on Thursday-Friday, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, for the New Year's holiday. The Library will be closed on Sunday, Jan. 24, for the Ice Sculpture Spectacular.

- **CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP**, Monday, Jan. 4, 7 p.m., and Tuesday, Jan. 5, 1 p.m. - Social worker Chris Goldberg of Adult Well-Being Services will answer a wide variety of concerns for individuals caring for ill or aging family members. No registration required.

- **DIA ART HISTORY: Women of Spirit and Power**, Monday, Jan. 4, 7 p.m. - DIA docent, Ann Johnson, will share the treasures of the DIA in this ongoing series. Register for this free program at (734) 453-0750, ext. 4 or online at plymouthlibrary.org

- **GREAT BOOKS**, Monday, Jan. 4 and 18, 7:15 p.m. - The discussion group is open to anyone who is curious and willing to work with others in developing an understanding and appreciation of great literature. To learn more about The Great Books Foundation, go to <http://www.greatbooks.org/>

- **WRITING MY LIFE STORY: A SENIOR WRITING GROUP**, Tuesday, Jan. 5, 1 p.m., and Tuesday, Jan. 19, 4 p.m. - Seniors can share and preserve their life stories with the guidance of Plymouth author, Jane Saylor. No previous writing experience or advance registration is required.

- **LOW VISION SUPPORT GROUP**, Thursday, Jan. 7, 1-3 p.m. - This group is for individuals for whom glasses are no longer sufficient. It is facilitated by a professional and is intended to be social as well as informative. Guest speakers cover a variety of topics - caregivers or friends are invited to attend. No advance registration is required - for more information contact Ellen Stross at (734) 453-0750, ext. 232.

- **YOUR POETRY GROUP**, Sunday, Jan. 10, 1:30-3:30 p.m. - Round table readings of poems, your own or by others, are held on the second Sunday

of the month. Reader's discretion of language is asked in the works read. Registration is not required.

- **RHAPSODY MUSIC SERIES: Brahms's Music & Notes**, Sunday, Jan. 10, 3 p.m. - A musical ensemble from the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra performs classical music selections highlighting a lecture by Nan Washburn, Music Director and Conductor on the life and music of Johannes Brahms. Register for this free program - (734) 453-0750, ext. 4 or at plymouthlibrary.org

- **VIETNAM TODAY: FROM WAR TO ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND GLOBALIZATION**, Monday, Jan. 11, 7 p.m. - The Library's Vietnam Perspective Series continues as UM Professor David R. Smith returns to examine how traditional Vietnamese society is being reshaped by the nation's growing integration into the global economy. Registration is required - (734) 453-0750, ext. 4 or at plymouthlibrary.org

- **UNDERSTANDING ADOLESCENT DEPRESSION**, Tuesday, Jan. 12, 7 p.m. - Melvin G. McInnis, M.D., of the UM Depression Center will present vital information about the causes and symptoms of adolescent depression and bipolar disorder and how to recognize the difference between typical adolescent behavior and a depressive illness. Registration is required. Call (734) 453-0750, ext. 4 or go to plymouthlibrary.org

- **CONTEMPORARY BOOKS DISCUSSION**, Tuesday, Jan. 12, 7:30 p.m. - Members of this book discussion group are invited to read Hannah Coulter by Wendell Berry. Copies of this book are available at the circulation desk. New members are welcome at any time. For further information, please call Sue Patterson at the Library, (734) 453-0750, ext. 241 or email spatterson@plymouthlibrary.org
- **STARS, MOONS AND PLANETS** - Monday, January 18, 7 p.m.

He loves the skies and after this informal gathering, you will too. Plymouth resident

Mike Best leads a lively discussion each month for adults and children over the age of 6. No registration is required. For more information contact (734) 459-BEST or starmikebest@comcast.net

- **UNDERSTANDING THE VALUE OF YOUR HOME**, Monday, Jan. 18, 7 p.m. - In the Library's continuing Money Management series, Beverly Stanton, Real Estate Appraiser will explain how the value of your home is determined and how improvements provide return on investment. Register for this free program at the Reader's Advisory Desk, (734) 453-0750, ext. 4 or email plymouth@plymouthlibrary.org

- **MIDWEEK MOVIES** - Wednesday, Jan. 20, 1 p.m. - Enjoy a recent release, popcorn and pop. No registration required.

- **GENEALOGY: Researching your Ancestors' arrival to the U.S.**, Wednesday, Jan. 20, 7 p.m. - The Library's Great Michigan Read programs continue as Kathy Petlewski, Electronic Resources Librarian will present a how-to class on researching the arrival of your immigrant ancestors to the United States. This class will be presented in the Library's large meeting room, not in the computer lab. Register for this free program at the Reader's Advisory Desk, (734) 453-0750, ext. 4 or online at plymouthlibrary.org

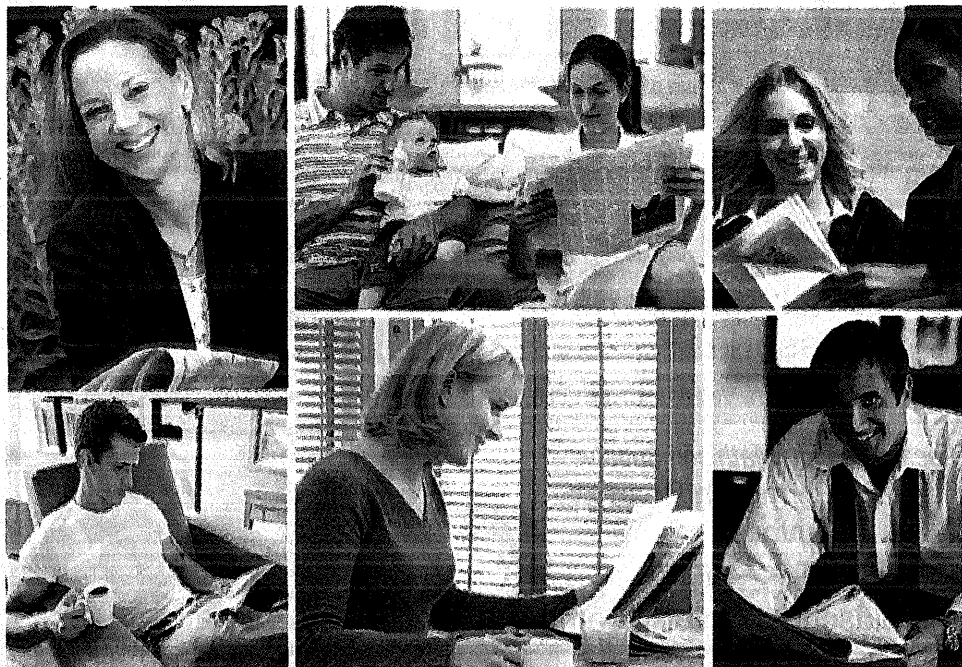
- **NEEDLECRAFTERS MEETING**, Monday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m. - Knitters, quilters, needlepointers are all invited to attend this informal group gathering. Lessons are not provided, but ideas exchanged among attendees. No registration required. Bring your latest project!

- **BROWN BAG BOOK DISCUSSION**, Wednesday, Jan. 27, noon - This month's discussion invites members to read Stealing Buddha's Dinner by Bich Minh Nguyen. Copies of this book are available at the circulation desk. Bring a lunch; beverages are provided. For more information about Brown Bag Books, ask at the Reader's Advisory Desk, call Tim Sherman at the Library, (734) 453-0750 - ext. 206, or email tsherman@plymouthlibrary.org

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

A place to call home...

Live at Abbey Park
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BY ALISON BERGSIKER
ADVERTORIAL WRITER

When Rita Stubbs moved out of her three-story condo last January into a two-bedroom apartment at Abbey Park at Mill River, she was finally relieved from climbing the stairs.

"I have never been so comfortable in any place in my life," the 82-year-old said. "It reminds me of home. The only things missing are the stairs."

Stubbs loves participating in Nintendo Wii bowling tournaments, playing bingo and coming and going in her own car for shopping and doctors appointments — and said she is happy and safe in her new home.

With nine new residents moved in this month and more on their way, more seniors are choosing the luxury retirement community, Abbey Park at Mill River in Lyon Township.

The vast 195,000-square-foot luxury retirement community has all of the necessities for a comfortable, active senior lifestyle — 24-hour staffing, a medical alert system, dining room, café, theater, chapel, library, hair salon, fitness center and full-facility generator.

"It's a whole lot more than bingo around here," said Tamra Ward, Abbey Park Administrator. "Anything our seniors are willing to do, we make available to them. We keep them as active as they can be for as long as possible so they can maintain their independence."

Never a dull moment

A typical week at Abbey Park kicks off on Sunday with an elegant Champagne Brunch, all-faiths church service and relaxing time with family and friends.

Then it's on manicure and pedicure Mondays, Wii bowling league Tuesdays, dinner night out Wednesdays, ice cream social Thursdays, Happy Hour Fridays and Grand Kids Day on Saturdays once a month.

Every day of the week is filled to the brim with planned entertainment or trips, a two-course dining menu and activities to encourage

seniors to live for the best of their lives.

"I'm busy all the time," Stubbs said. "We love going out on the bus on Wednesdays to dinner. We've been to the South Lyon Hotel, the Cantina and most of the restaurants in the area."

Family visits at Abbey Park are strongly encouraged. Stubbs said many of her grandchildren attend every Grand Kids Day and look forward to visiting. Her family in Salem Township and Novi are just a phone call or short drive away.

"All eight grandchildren that live nearby came to the grandkids day," Stubbs said. "The ones that can get around love to go up in the playroom and they like to play the piano. They love it."

Trips once a month to the casino, attendance at local plays and visits to the shopping mall are just the cusp of activity going on at Abbey Park.

"I have never been so comfortable in any place in my life. It reminds me of home."

— Rita Stubbs

Abbey Park at Mill River resident

Like a community all their own, residents operate a small Country Store with basic grocery and personal items, and participate on a council that weighs in on the daily menu and activities schedule.

"People call my office looking for their loved ones and say they're never in their rooms," Ward said. "There's so much to do here that most of our residents are busy socializing, watching a movie, playing a game of cards or something else going on that day."

With the standard of living at an all-time high in Lyon Township, Abbey Park fits right in with a well-maintained outdoor landscape and a vast indoor entranceway, complete with fireplaces, comfortable sitting area, water fountain and piano.



Rita Stubbs gets cozy in her two-bedroom apartment at Abbey Park at Mill River.

Recent News

Affordable luxury

The service at Abbey Park is similar to what you'd find in Lyon Township and South Lyon — businesses going the extra mile with friendly staff and affordable prices.

Residents have access to a number of complimentary conveniences that are often an added expense at other retirement communities. On a daily basis, staff offers to make beds, empty trash and prepares two delicious meals. Once a week, Abbey Park residents are treated to a full cleaning service of their apartment, including bed linens and towels.

The community's apartments vary from one or two bedrooms with or without a den, kitchen, living room, bathroom and walk-in closet options. An emergency pull cord is accessible in each room of the apartment in case a resident needs assistance from a nurse. Each apartment has an enclosed patio or balcony as an added safety feature, and all top floor apartments have cathedral ceilings as an added amenity. Even heat, water and basic cable are included.

Stubbs said she recommends Abbey Park as a comfortable place to live, and welcomes any opportunity to make new friends.

"I'm definitely, positively absolutely at home," she said. "My kids come to visit and say 'Mom, we sure made the right decision when you decided to move here.' I just love it. They treat me wonderful."

Abbey Park is now on Facebook

Check out Abbey Park's Facebook page at www.facebook.com, search: "Abbey Park at Mill River" to become a fan. Check out photos from year-round events, offer feedback or keep up on scheduled events.

Kudos to senior spellers

At a recent Livingston County Senior Spelling Bee, the regional finalist was an Abbey Park resident. Three residents participated in the finals after preparing in mock spelling bees for almost two months.

Happy ever after

At Abbey Park at Mill River's sister community in Grand Blanc, residents Dora Mayo and Joe Ashley recently married in the community's lobby after a courtship of one year.

Mayo moved into Abbey Park November 2008 after losing her husband of 57 years and four of her five children. Ashley moved in weeks later after losing his wife of 63 years. After meeting in Abbey Park, the two are now inseparable and happily married.

Grandkid's Day a success

At Grandkid's Day on Nov. 7, children enjoyed coloring and games in the activity center, puzzles in the café, letting loose in the playroom, Nintendo Wii bowling, a movie and ice cream and a presentation about safety dogs!

Bowling banquet

Abbey Park at Mill River recently held its second annual Nintendo Wii Bowling Tournament with an awards banquet and trophies. Congrats, winners!



A group of seniors prepare for a trip into town on the Abbey Park bus.

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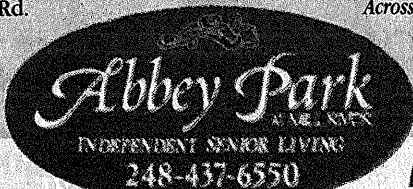
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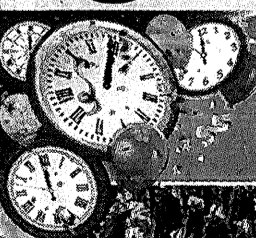
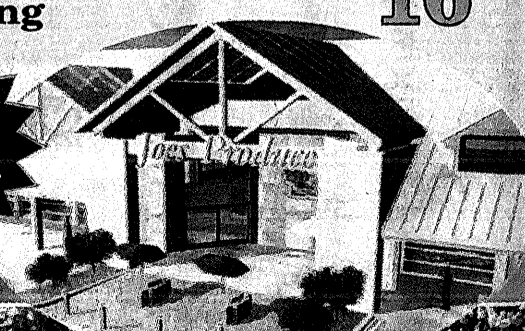
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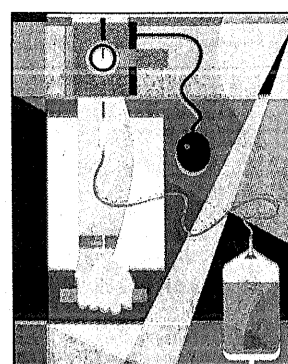
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HOMETOWN LIFE



Hail to the Chiefs

Canton runs roughshod over Marlins, 56-24

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Talking about facing a strong opponent is one thing.

But Farmington Hills Mercy's girls basketball team found out that facing such a team - Canton - is something completely different.

The host Chiefs blitzed the Marlins from start to finish Tuesday night, rolling to a 56-24 non-conference victory.

"I think it's indicative of how good Canton is," Mercy coach Gary Morris said about the 32-point defeat. "You can talk about a team being very good, being physical, with the ability defensively to take you out of your offense."

"But until you actually play them and see them doing it to you, I think it's hard for the kids to relate."

Keying Canton (4-1) to an insurmountable 27-10 halftime lead was junior forward Kayla Bridges, who tallied all nine Canton points over a three-minute stretch late in the first and early in the second quarters.

Bridges (15 points, six rebounds) tallied a nifty reverse layup to start the string, making it 14-4 after one quarter. To

open the second, she connected on a putback, short hook shot and a layup.

"She (Bridges) had a great game, really a great first half. She came in and sort of sparked us," Chiefs head coach Brian Samulski said. "And that's what Bridges does. I thought her putbacks were good, she ran the floor well and she scored inside."

Also providing offensive punch were the Schmitt twins. Kari scored 12 points and also grabbed six boards, while Sara registered 10 points and four rebounds.

For Mercy (4-2), Elena Vlachos and Janelle McQueen led with eight and seven points, respectively.

According to Samulski, getting defenders in the way of McQueen and the other Marlins went a long way toward the outcome.

"It comes down to defending and rebounding," Samulski said. "I thought we did a nice job of that. I thought we kept McQueen in front of us and didn't let her get going."

"And I thought we defended their other players well and kept them off the glass."

Mercy switched to a zone

defense in the second half and played the Chiefs relatively even for the first portion of the third quarter.

A bucket by Diana Jasser cut the Canton lead to 35-15 with under three minutes to go in the quarter.

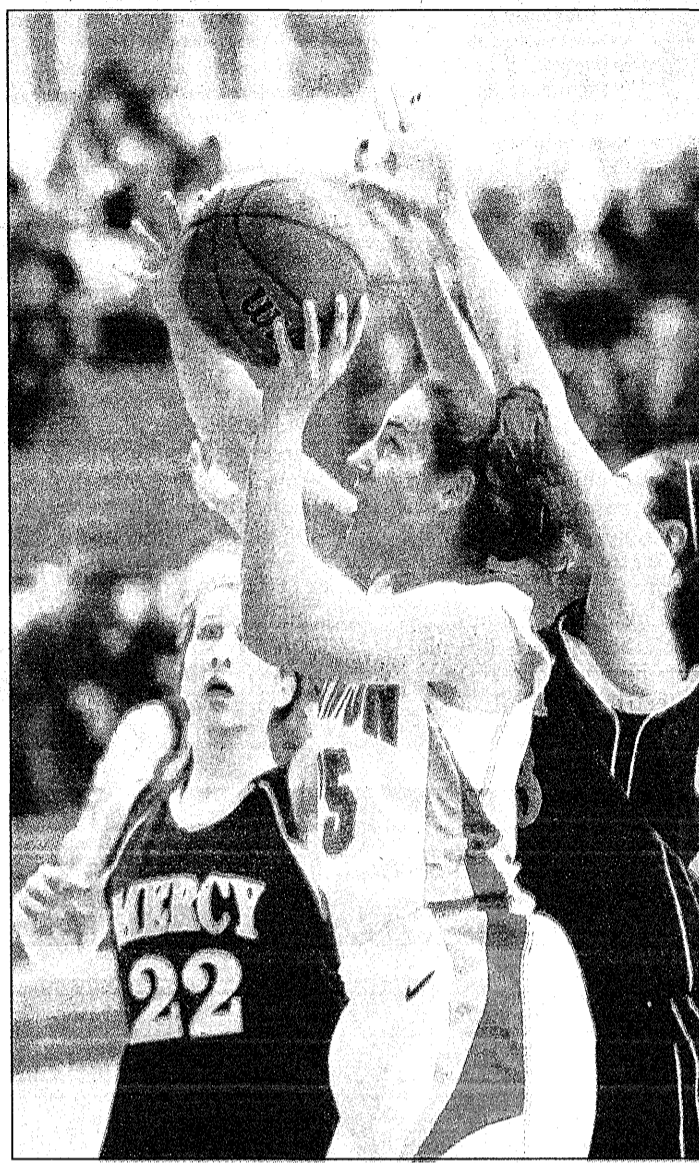
But that edge was bumped up to 40-17 after the third quarter, following baskets from senior guard Lindsey Winters (eight points) and Kari Schmitt.

For good measure, the Chiefs went on a 14-0 scoring spree during the fourth with points scored both inside (Bridges, Sara Schmitt) and beyond the arc (triples by Winters and junior forward CarolAnn Sexauer - seven points).

"We adjusted to that well, started attacking their zone," Samulski said. "Winters got some shots, CarolAnn got some shots and we continued to get looks inside from those kids."

Morris said he was hopeful that his squad would learn from the blowout loss, particularly with another tough matchup (Jan. 5 at Birmingham Marian) to open Catholic League action.

"We're a fairly young team," he said. "So next time we get in a similar situation, we'll react better."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton junior guard Melanie Pickert focuses on making her shot despite defensive attention from Sarah Benson (22) and Alexa Bahoura of Farmington Hills Mercy.

GAME WRAPS

Patriot cagers in OT

Senior guard Andy McCaffery scored a game-high 19 points Wednesday as host Livonia Franklin edged Farmington, 45-43, in the consolation final of the Patriots' Holiday boys basketball tournament.

McCaffery's desperation three-point banker with only 1.7 left in regulation sent the game into OT at 41-41.

Jack Chinavare added 10 points for the Patriots, now 1-3 overall.

Mitch Sanders scored a team-high 15 for the Falcons (2-3).

Franklin iced, 4-1

Benny Iaquina made 32 saves as Wednesday night as Walled Lake Western downed host Livonia Franklin in a KLA A Kensington Conference boys hockey game, 4-1 at Edgar Arena.

Kyle Shreve had a pair of goals for the Warriors, who improved to 3-6 overall and 3-2 in the KLA A Central.

Zach Powell added a goal and assist, while Jarrad Wysong had an empty-netter. Dustin Brewer also had two assists.

Tyler Satkowiak scored for Franklin (0-7, 0-3) from Tyler Hewitt and Kevin Webb.

Anthony Crechiolo had 35 saves for the Patriots.

Crusaders edged

In a game marred by cold shooting from both sides, it was the Madonna University women's basketball team that went cold at the wrong time, falling 59-56 Tuesday night to host Calvin College inside Van Noord Arena in Grand Rapids.

Junior guard Tabatha Wydryck led the way for the Crusaders, now 4-6 overall, with 18 points to go along with six rebounds and a like number of assists.

Freshman center Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) added 13 points, including 3-of-4 from double-figures from behind the arc to go along with five rebounds. It was McGrath's seventh double-double of the season.

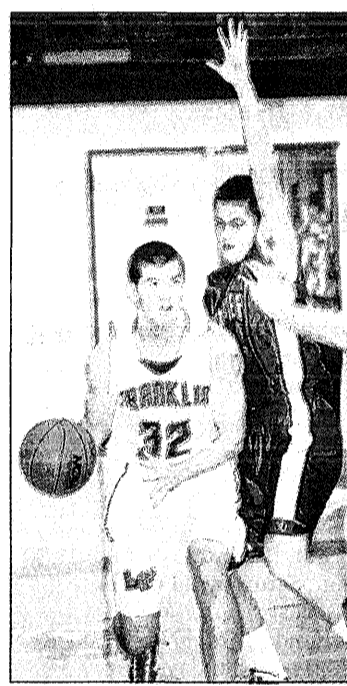
Kim Olech also pulled down nine rebounds to go along with seven points.

Carissa Verkaik led all players with 19 points and 14 rebounds for the 11-1 Knights, who are ranked No. 19 in the latest NCAA Division III poll. Kelsey Irwin came off the bench to score 12 points.

Calvin led 36-33 at intermission.

The Knights shot 36.1 percent from the floor (22-of-61), while MU was 18-of-55 (32.7 percent).

All six MU losses have come against ranked teams including four NAIA opponents and two NCAA Division III schools.



Franklin's Jack Chinavare (32) works the baseline against Rochester's Taylor Perry during Tuesday's holiday tournament.

Rochester FTs sink Patriots, 66-62

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Rochester got to the rim and the foul line with an alarming frequency Tuesday night to advance into the finals of the Livonia Franklin Holiday Tournament.

The Falcons, who evened their boys basketball record at 2-2 overall, downed host Franklin in the second game of a double-header, 66-62.

Rochester held a 24-21 scoring edge in the final period thanks to a 14-for-14 showing at free throw stripe.

"Free throws and layups are called the little things, but tonight they were not so little - this time they turned out to be pretty big," Rochester coach

John Pleasant said.

The Falcons shot 25-of-32 from the line (78.1 percent), but were only 19-of-51 from the field (37.2 percent).

Senior guard Nick O'Neil tallied 10 of his game-high 20 points, including 6-of-6 foul shooting, during the final eight minutes after the Falcons seized a slim 42-39 advantage after three quarters.

Paris Periera, a 5-foot-3 sophomore guard, and Taylor Perry, a 6-3 sophomore forward, added 11 each. Senior guard Billy Klotz chipped in with 10.

Senior guard Alontae McElhany came off the bench to score 10 of his team-high 17 points in the first quarter to lead the Patriots, who were tied at 17-all.

Franklin, which led 30-20 at intermission, also got 14 points from 6-3 senior guard Andy McCaffery and 13 from 6-3 senior forward Jack Chinavare.

"We wanted to come out and pressure," Pleasant said, "but number 14 (McCaffery) does a nice job and that took away our ability to that defensively. We had to go with a small lineup, and tried to isolate against their big man."

Many of Rochester's 22 field goals came off uncontested layups off the half-court set.

Meanwhile, Franklin was 15-of-24 from the foul line (62.5 percent) and a respectable 22-of-46 from the field (47.8 percent).

"This is extremely disappointing," said Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault, whose team slipped to

0-3 overall. "They (Rochester) wanted it more. There were not many bright spots. We were careless with the ball (17 turnovers) and we did not execute. The other team wanted it more. Our guys even said it themselves - they were overconfident and thought they'd already in the finals against (Taylor) Kennedy."

The loss put the host Patriots in the 5:30 p.m. Wednesday consolation game for the second straight year against 2-2 Farmington, which was shelved by unbeaten Taylor Kennedy in the first game of the twinbill, 61-36.

Rochester and Kennedy (4-0) met in the 7 p.m. Wednesday championship game.

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Falcons fall flat in holiday tournament loss

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Farmington High boys basketball team went out for some last-minute Yuletide shopping and came back empty-handed in the opening round of the Livonia Franklin Holiday Tournament.

The Falcons seemed lost at the outset and it showed as unbeaten Taylor Kennedy roared out to a 14-0 lead before coasting home for a 61-36 triumph.

"We knew they were athletic and they could get up and down the floor," Farmington coach Steve Norgrove said of the 4-0 Patriots. "But I'm more disappointed with our energy level. We did not play

with any passion. We acted like we were on winter break."

Farmington, which slipped to 2-2 overall, missed its first 10 shots from the floor before junior guard Jason Wilson broke the ice with a hoop with 59.4 seconds left in the first quarter.

Kennedy led 16-5 after one quarter and built a 31-12 halftime lead.

"They forced us into tough shots during that stretch and we did not play with any poise," Norgrove said. "And due to their aggressiveness, we took bad shots. So consequently there were long rebounds, and they got some run-outs."

Farmington was 4-of-18 from the field in the first half (22.2

percent) compared with 14-of-23 for the Patriots (60.8 percent).

Brandon Jordan, a 6-foot-3 junior forward who wore jersey No. 23, soared like Michael Jordan with three dunks, including a couple of alley-oops to spark Kennedy.

He finished with a game-high 16 points, while Ryan White and Josh Holder added 10 apiece. Dominic Morrow chipped in with eight.

Farmington's best quarter was the third as the Falcons shot 8-of-13 from the floor and held a 17-16 scoring edge.

But the final numbers told the story - 13-of-41 shooting from the field (31.7 percent) and 18 turnovers.

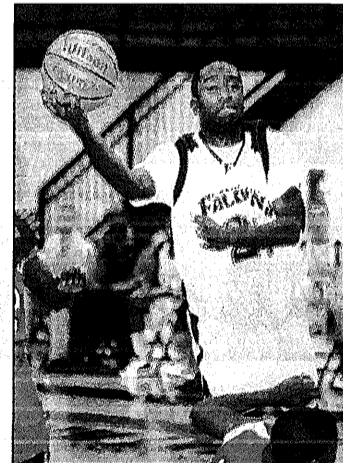
And no Farmington player notched double figures.

Darrin Jackson led with eight, while Charles Anthony and Anthony Rutledge each tallied six.

"I'm very disappointed because there was a lack of enthusiasm, it seemed we did not support each other," Norgrove said. "We acted like a bunch of individuals."

The loss slotted the Falcons into the 5:30 p.m. Wednesday consolation game against host Franklin (0-3), which was edged by Rochester, 66-62, in the nightcap. The championship final between Kennedy and Rochester (2-2) starts at 7 p.m.

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Farmington's Charles Anthony controls the rebound during Tuesday's opening round of the Livonia Franklin Holiday Basketball Tournament.

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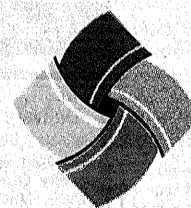
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THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monday, Dec. 28
 (Country Day Roundball Classic)
 N. Farmington vs. Flint N. Western, noon.
Tuesday, Dec. 29
 (Wayne Memorial Holiday Shootout)
 Frankfort vs. Det. Western, 11:30 a.m.
 Ferndale vs. Redford Union, 1 p.m.
 Farmington vs. Thurston, 2:30 p.m.
 John Glenn vs. Berkley, 4 p.m.
 Wayne vs. Willow Run, 5:30 p.m.
 (Livonia Ladywood Holiday Tournament)
 Southgate vs. A.A. Huron, 4 p.m.
 Ladywood vs. South Lyon, 6 p.m.
 (Pontiac Notre Dame Prep Invitational)
 Stevenson vs. Det. Univ. Prep, 2 p.m.
 Notre Dame Prep vs. Det. Univ. Prep, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 30
 Notre Dame Prep Invitational, noon & 2 p.m.

Ladywood Holiday Tournament, 4 & 6 p.m.
 (Wayne Memorial Holiday Shootout)
 Albion vs. Frankfort, 11:30 a.m.
 Thurston vs. Ferndale, 1 p.m.
 Franklin vs. Berkley, 2:30 p.m.
 Farmington vs. Willow Run, 4 p.m.
 Redford Union vs. Det. Western, 5:30 p.m.
 (Country Day Roundball Classic)
 N. Farmington vs. Det. Pershing, 3:10 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Dec. 30
 Franklin vs. Novi at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Tuesday, Dec. 29
 Salem Invitational, 9 a.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 30
 Brother Rice Invitational, 9 a.m.
 Trenton Invitational, 9 a.m.
 Canton Duals at EMU, 9 a.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Dec. 29
 (Hope College Russ DeVette Tourney)
 Davenport vs. Grace Bible, 6 p.m.
 Hope College vs. Madonna, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 30
 Hope College DeVette Tourney, 6 & 8 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Dec. 29
 Madonna at Wayne State, 1 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 30
 Mercyhurst (Pa.) at Madonna, 3 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Monday, Dec. 28
 Erie Otters vs. Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena, 2 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 29
 Whalers at Sarnia Sting, 6 p.m.

Trojan cagers fall to 0-5 on season

The Waterford Kettering boys basketball team made a 17-8 first-quarter advantage stand up Tuesday to beat Livonia Clarenceville, 64-53, in Tuesday's second annual Rocket Roundball Classic hosted by Westland John Glenn.

to 4-0 overall, with 17 points. Brandon Carlson and Brett Hoffman chipped in with 13 and 10, respectively. Clarenceville senior guard Ben Watts paced all scorers with 19 points. Senior guards Levonte Brooks and Mike Schiffman contributed 10 and eight, respectively, as the Trojans

slipped to 0-5 overall. Clarenceville trailed 31-25 at halftime and scored the first five points of the third quarter to pull to within one, 31-30. But the Captains regrouped to lead 49-41 after three periods and held off the Trojans. Kettering shot 7-of-14 from the foul line, while Clarenceville was 13-of-19.

Plymouth grapplers 1st at Ida

BY TIM SMITH
 OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Undeclared performances from a handful of Plymouth wrestlers keyed the Wildcats Dec. 19 to the Ida Invitational championship. Plymouth finished 4-1, as did the host Bluestreaks (the lone team to defeat the Wildcats) and Dexter. But the 'Cats were awarded overall champion because of the tie-breaker — point differential among the three squads. "It would have been nice to beat Ida and win the tournament outright, but they provide a very difficult matchup for us," said Plymouth head coach Quinn Guernsey, referring to his team's 41-32 loss to Ida. "Dexter's team has the matchups to beat Ida and we were lucky enough to have that happen."

"Almost any criteria that was used would have been used to break the tie had us come out the tournament champions, we were the most complete team there that day." Undeclared days by heavyweights Jordan Birman and Wally Eppler, Alec Breckenridge (112) and Jimmy Ahearn (135-140) keyed Plymouth's productive showing at the round-robin tourney. In the opening round, Plymouth topped Jonesville, 55-15 and went on to a 48-33 win over Adrian-Madison Sand Creek in Round 2. The Wildcats then defeated Dexter in Round 3, 48-33, sparked by pins registered by Eppler, Shadi Jammoul, Breckenridge, Ziad Tamimi, Ahearn and (in comeback fashion) Tate Braboy. Next came the big matchup of the day, with Plymouth

facing Ida — ranked No. 8 in Division 3. It was a back-and-forth tilt, with Plymouth victories scored by Eppler, Breckenridge, Ahearn, senior captain Brandon Crowther, Jackson Chalmers and Curtis Crosier. Plymouth finished off the tournament with a 76-4 man-handling of Summit Academy. "The team was really pleased with how we did," Guernsey noted. "Winning the tournament came at a good time and we look forward to working over the holiday break as we get ready for our conference season to start at home on Jan. 6 against Salem and Novi." Other Plymouth wrestlers to earn wins were Chase Kallil, Rob Barackman, Brendon Varner, Said Youssef and Brett Echols.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

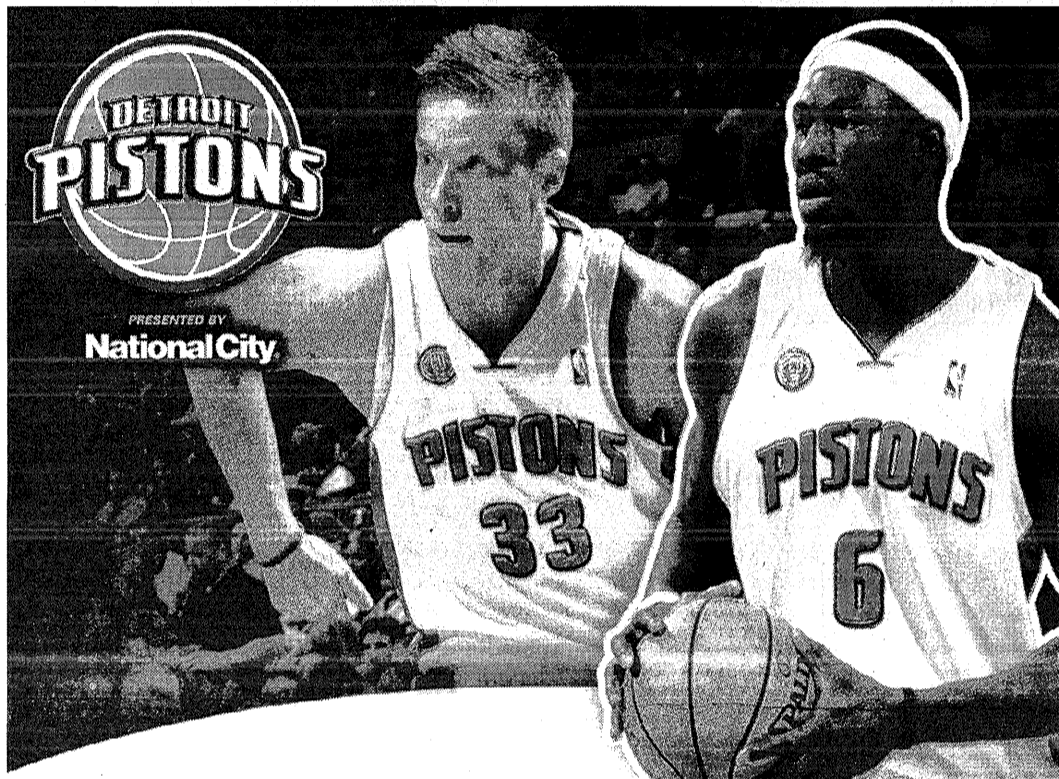
Whalers Seguin picked for CHL/NHL Prospects Game

Plymouth Whalers forward Tyler Seguin didn't make the final cut for the Canadian World Juniors Team, getting the bad news last week. But he did get named to the 2010 Home Hardware CHL/NHL Top Prospects Game. The game will take place at the WFCU Centre in Windsor, Ont., beginning with a skills competition on Tuesday, Jan. 19 followed by the game the next night. Rosters were selected by the 30 NHL General Managers with NHL Central Scouting and include 18 players from the Ontario Hockey League, 13 players from the Western Hockey League and nine players from the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League. "I'm excited about playing," said Seguin, who was listed first in the OHL by NHL Central Scouting in their November preliminary rankings. "It's an opportunity to

play among the best players in the (Canadian Hockey League). "The game is something we all dream about when we're growing up, so we're all looking forward to play. It should be a lot of fun." Home Hardware continues as the title sponsor of the Home Hardware CHL/NHL Top Prospects Game for the eleventh straight year. Associate sponsors include Bank of Montreal, Subway, and NeilMed. The game will be broadcast nationally live on Rogers Sportsnet and RDS. More information can be found at the official event website: www.homehardwaretopprospectsgame.com. **WHALERS SPLIT PAIR:** Four goals by Guelph's Mathew Siska proved too much for visiting Plymouth Saturday, as the Storm earned a 4-3 Ontario Hockey League victory. The game at Sleeman Centre got off to a positive start for the Whalers, when forward Tyler G. Brown scored his fifth goal of the season at the

4:45 mark of the opening period. But Siska put Guelph up 2-1 with a pair in the middle stanza. Tyler Seguin, back from an unsuccessful bid to make the Canadian World Juniors converted a feed from Robbie Czarnik at 19:14 to knot the contest at 2-2. The teams traded markers in the third, with Siska's third making it 3-2 at 5:52 and Plymouth's Beau Schmitz scoring at 16:34 to tie it up again. Guelph then won the game when Siska drilled a shot past Plymouth goalie Matt Hackett (also back from a bid for the Canadian World Juniors) at 16:51. Despite the loss, Hackett played well, stopping 39 of 43 shots for the Whalers (20-16-0-1). Guelph improved to 14-18-2-1 with the victory. Meanwhile, on Friday, Dec. 18, goals by Mitchell Heard and Josh Brittain, coupled with a 34-save night by Hackett, enabled Plymouth to earn a 2-1 win over host Oshawa. The Whalers are idle until 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28 when they host Erie at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township.

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 The Livonia City Soccer Club has immediate openings for a second team in the under-18 age group. Schoolcraft College men's soccer assistant and LCSC staff member Eric Scott will coach the team. For more information, call (734) 464-8575.

Westland Holiday Hoops
 The City of Westland Parks and Recreation's second annual 1-on-1 Holiday Hoops Champ will offer a second session for ages 5-13 (grades K-6) from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. — Monday through Wednesday, Dec. 28-30, at the Bailey Recreation Center. The cost is \$75 for Westland residents and \$82 for non-residents. For more information, call (734) 418-3190; or visit www.ionbasketball.com/michigan.

MU softball camps
 Madonna University will stage three winter softball camps at the MU Activities Center featuring specialized individual instruction covering all phases of the game for girls ages 7-18. Among the camps offered include:

Fundamental No. 1 — 9-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30 (cost \$150);
 Fundamental No. 2 — noon-2:30 p.m. Sundays, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 (cost \$150).
 For more information, call MU head coach Al White at (734) 432-5783; or Steve Gentilia at (734) 776-1716. You can also e-mail awwhite@madonna.edu.

Need lacrosse coach
 Livonia Ladywood is seeking a varsity girls lacrosse coach for the 2010 spring season. If interested, fax a resume to Ladywood Athletic Director Sal Malek at (734) 591-2386.

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FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE

Vince Salatino, Sr. QB, Harrison: Salatino (6-3, 175) passed for 1,620 yards and 21 touchdowns while completing 112-of-215 passes for 52.1 percent. He was voted his team's Most Outstanding Back and led Harrison to a Division 2 playoff berth and a 7-4 record.

"I thought Vince improved steadily as the year went on," coach John Herrington said. "He had to overcome quite a personal loss during the season (with the death of his mother). He didn't want to let his teammates down (never missing a game), and he continued to perform at a high level. He only threw six passes as a junior, so he stepped in as the quarterback, which is a pretty tough job at Harrison, and did very well."

Jeremy Langford, Sr. RB, Westland Glenn: The 6-1, 190-pound senior, who possesses 4.41 speed in the 40, rushed for 1,934 yards and 23 touchdowns, along with passing for two TDs.

At defensive back, Langford had 55 tackles and two interceptions. "Jeremy had a tremendous senior season due to his work ethic in the off-season," Glenn coach Tim Hardin said of the All-State and All-KLAA selection. "He worked hard in the weight room. He is very fast and learned to trust his speed this season."

Langford is being recruited by Colorado, Wisconsin, Michigan State, Indiana and Michigan.

Austin White, Sr. RB, Liv. Stevenson: Set to enroll at Michigan next month, the 6-0, 190-pound White rushed for 5,056 career yards with more than 6,700 all-purpose yards and 85 TDs.

This season, White had 1,494 yards rushing in 209 attempts with 21 TDs. He also caught 16 passes for 169 yards.

"Austin was the focal point of every opponent's defense, and deservedly so," Stevenson coach Tim Gabel said of the All-State and All-KLAA choice. "He was still incredibly productive this season, and was an outstanding blocker when not carrying the ball. He led our team not only statistically, but in practice week preparation and focus."

Adam Payter, Sr. RB, Canton: Whenever a hole opened up in Canton's offensive line, one of the dangerous running backs to zip right through was the speedy 5-9 Payter.

In his second season as a starter in the backfield, he rolled up 1,763 yards on 142 carries and scored 17 touchdowns. The All-KLAA pick set new Canton school records by tallying 12.4 yards per rush and a shade under 147 yards per game.

"He has very explosive speed, great balance," Chiefs head coach Tim Baechler said. "And with his cutting ability, once he got in the open and with his speed, he could take it the distance. He was an excellent two-year starter."

Levonté Brooks, Sr. RB, Liv. Clarenceville: The 5-7, 160-pound senior, Metro Conference Offensive MVP led the Trojans this season in both rushing and receiving with 1,400 yards of total offense and a team-best 18 touchdowns.

Brooks ended his three-year varsity career with more than 3,000 yards rushing and 40 TDs.

"Levonté has the natural ability to make plays when plays weren't there," Clarenceville coach Ryan Irish said. "We had a young line in front of him, but he could make up for it by making people miss. He will be missed around here."

Tony DiFranco, Sr. OL, Red. Thurston: The 5-11, 240-pound senior anchored both sides of the line of scrimmage for the Eagles in his second season as a starter. At center, DiFranco was instrumental in the success of the ground game, while on the defense proved to be a wall of terror for opposing ballcarriers.

"He is so tremendous at everything he does," Thurston head coach Bob Snell said. "This year he learned how to finish his blocks. He led into you and kept coming and coming at you. He's tenacious and strong and knew how to use his leverage to drive you back."

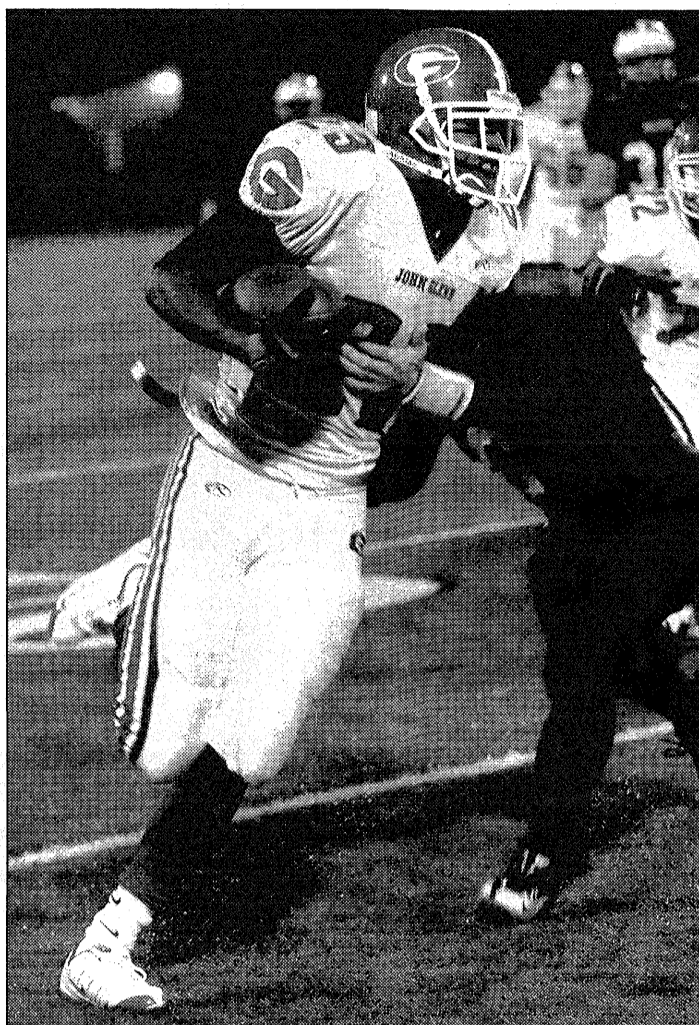
Carter Staffeld, Sr. OL, Canton: For the second straight year, the 6-1, 240-pound Staffeld put a major hurt on KLAAs defenses, opening up gaps for Canton's impressive roster of running backs to take advantage of.

Staffeld, an All-KLAA pick and All-Stater who made the "Dream Team," proved to be the Chiefs' most dominant blocker.

"He's very, very physical," Baechler said. "He's one of those rare guys who can do everything well. He can reach, he can pull, he can block, get to the linebackers, get to the defensive backs downfield. He's just a very explosive football player."

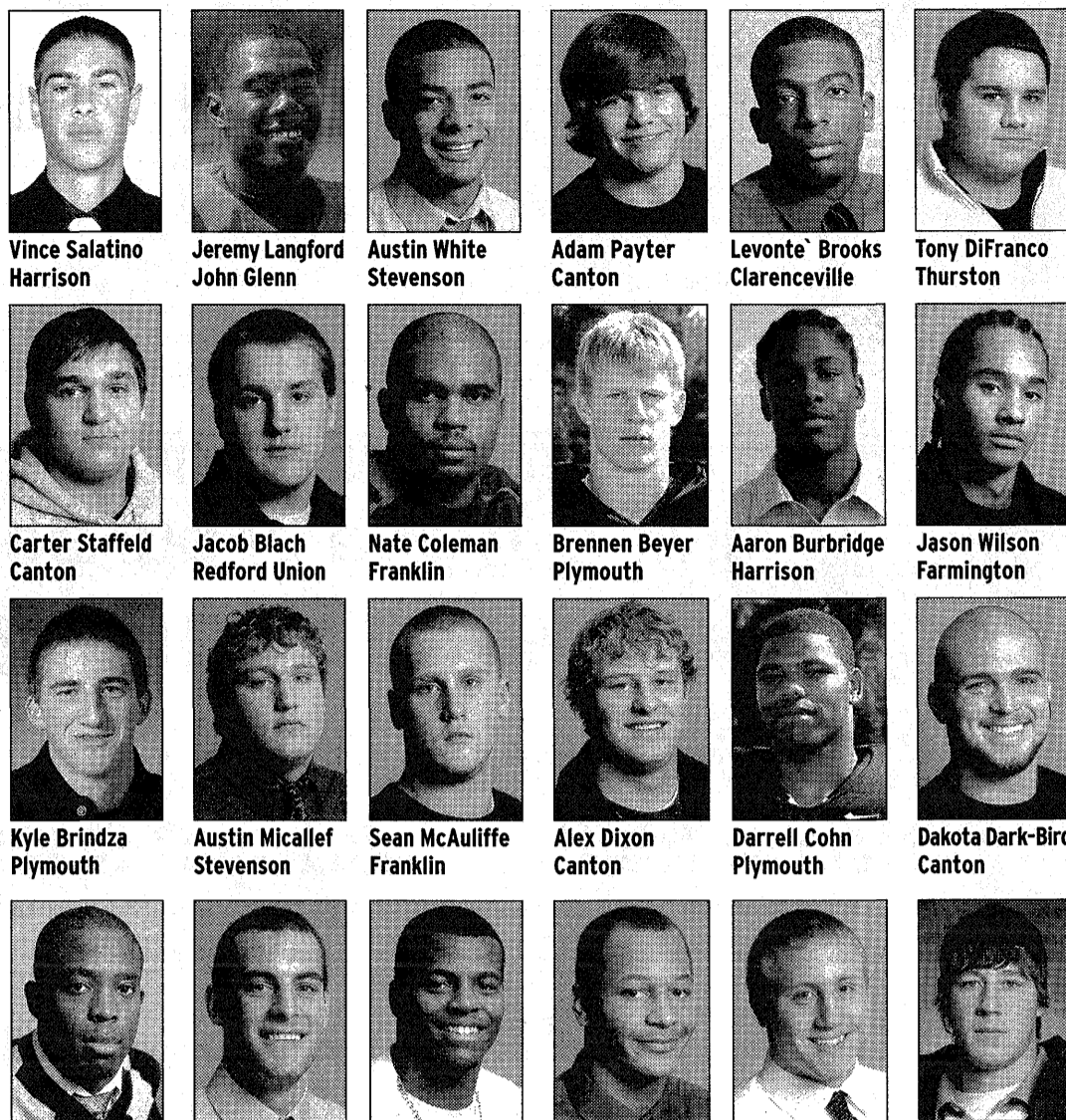
Jacob Blach, Sr. OL, Redford Union: Standing 6-0 and weighing 220 pounds, Blach anchored the offensive line by splitting duties at both center and guard. He proved just as dominant on the other side of the ball where responsibilities at either tackle, end or middle linebacker resulted in a team-leading 55 tackles, including seven for loss, and nine sacks.

"Jacob was our best player, and probably the smartest football player I have ever coached," RU head coach Miles Tomasaitis said. "He knew every position on the field and all their responsibilities."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John Glenn's Jeremy Langford rushed for over 1,900 yards this season. He is being recruited by Colorado and Michigan State.



Vince Salatino Harrison **Jeremy Langford John Glenn** **Austin White Stevenson** **Adam Payter Canton** **Levonté Brooks Clarenceville** **Tony DiFranco Thurston**
Carter Staffeld Canton **Jacob Blach Redford Union** **Nate Coleman Franklin** **Brennen Beyer Plymouth** **Aaron Burbridge Harrison** **Jason Wilson Farmington**
Kyle Brindza Plymouth **Austin Micallef Stevenson** **Sean McAuliffe Franklin** **Alex Dixon Canton** **Darrell Cohn Plymouth** **Dakota Dark-Bird Canton**
Leonard Welch Farmington **Jordan El-Sabeh Stevenson** **Desmond Martin Thurston** **Aaron Smith John Glenn** **Steven Murphy John Glenn** **Austin Root Salem**

2009 ALL-OBSERVER FOOTBALL

FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE

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 Tony DiFranco, Sr. OL, Red. Thurston
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 Arron Boudreaux, Sr. DB, Canton
 DJ Cook, Sr. DB, F.H. Harrison
 Troy Bell, Sr. CB, Red. Thurston

COACH OF YEAR

Bob Snell, Redford Thurston

SECOND-TEAM OFFENSE

Victor Hicks, Sr. QB, K/P, Plymouth
 Nick Mills, Sr. QB, Wayne
 Kevin Delapaz, Sr. QB, Canton
 Ethan Haller, Sr. RB, Liv. Westland
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 Jaiin Kelly, Sr. WR, F.H. Harrison
 Anthony Frezell, Sr. DB, Liv. Churchill
 Dustin Gajowiak, Sr. OL, Westland Glenn
 Matt Sheridan, Sr. OL, Plymouth
 Christopher Wasczenski, Sr. C, Garden City
 Vince Davidson, Sr. C, Westland Glenn
 Mario Ojemudia, Soph. OL, F.H. Harrison
 Alec Gillo, Sr. OL, Canton
 Marco Iaderosa, Sr. K/P, Farmington

SECOND-TEAM DEFENSE

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 Tom Norris, Jr. DL, Farmington
 Ethan Walsh, Jr. LB, Salem
 Leonard Hogan, Sr. LB, Liv. Clarenceville
 Nick Catalano, Sr. LB, Redford Union
 Brian Miller, Sr. LB, N. Farmington
 Olin Onwuemene, Jr. LB, Liv. Stevenson
 Zach Washington, Jr. DB, N. Farmington
 Keith Marshall, Sr. DB, Redford Union
 William Webster, Jr. DB, Red. Thurston
 Zakki Hardyman, Sr. DB, Wayne
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 Bryan Koessler, Sr. DB, Liv. Stevenson
 Kevin Mozurkewicz, Sr. DB, Liv. Churchill

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: Paulin Chateau, Dylan Ochala; Franklin: Chris Vantuyt, Anthony Barber, Derrick Muller, Ryan Hurt, Wayne Hawkins, Robert Ringe, Mike Baumgardner; Stevenson: John Pauley, Mike Roy, David Tharpe, Alex Law, Stephen Pollard, Jon Anead, Jon Gudeman, Joe Swingle, Mike Beyer; John Glenn: Caleb Clenney, Davarius Jenkins, Chase Glover, Steve Kulkowski, Kameron Jones, Donnell Brewer, Javarious Snowden; Wayne: Dylan Korzetzki, Kyle Davis, Sean Ogile, Dan Ross, Chris Bowie; Clarenceville: Moses Hobson, Anthony Page; Lutheran High Westland: Vince MacRae, David Moldenhauer; Garden City: Greg Emery, Tyler Steele; Redford Thurston: Josh Bobbish, Trent Campbell, Gary Kostocki, Derrick Rodgers; Redford Union: Brad Billings; Canton: Garrett Bryden, Kevin Buford, Ryan Dunleavy, Robt Gaudi, Chris Hilton, Tyler Hult, Angelo Lanava, Josh Nolen, Ryan Powell, Jack Slater, Jake Underwood; Plymouth: Jordan Birman, Jeremiah Caldwell, James Eminger, Tyler Goble, Matthew Priebe, Anthony Rhodes, Jacob Zawaski; Salem: Marcus Houston; Harrison: Brent Regish, Dominic Maccotti, David Evans, Max Chapman, Derek Head, Christian Success, Emon Butts, Lido Zefi; Farmington: Matt Craven, Neno Jones-Fletcher, Dae'von Scarber, Kevin Waksmundzki; North Farmington: Chris Stewart, Jacob Carter.

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"Austin has great strength and lateral movement, which makes him hard to block one-on-one," Gabel said. "When he wasn't in on the tackle, he was keeping blockers off other members of our defense."

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fields. We tried to free him up on the edge; we didn't give him any tackle reads. He was an up-the-field player."

Jordan El-Sabeh, Sr. DE, Liv. Stevenson: The 6-4, 206-pound senior made 50 tackles, including a team-best 13 for loss and team-high four sacks.

The All-KLAA selection also played tight end where he had five receptions, all for third- or fourth-down conversions.

"Jordan has been our only full-time two-way player the past two seasons," Gabel said. "He was a great playmaker on defense, especially behind the line of scrimmage. Jordan also is a very effective blocker on offense."

Desmond Martin, Sr. LB, Red. Thurston: Martin culminated his prep career by leading the Eagles to a league championship and first-ever playoff victory in his second season as a two-way starter. Martin, 6-0 and 185 pounds, led the Eagles' potent ground attack with 1,060 yards. He scored 16 touchdowns and totaled 1,349 all-purpose yards. Defensively at linebacker, he racked up 54 tackles, including 17 for loss, and had three sacks.

"He came to us as a junior and was a pretty decent football player," Snell said. "He dedicated himself and pushed himself as hard as any player I've ever had to have a tremendous senior season. He played full-speed every snap and was an all-everything player for us."

Aaron Smith, Sr. LB, Westland Glenn: The 6-2, 212-pound senior was a two-way starter playing both linebacker (99 tackles and one interception) and offensive tackle.

"Aaron was slated to play tight end, but due to an injury, he moved to offensive tackle to fill the void," Hardin said. "He is a very smart player, who was almost never out of position. He is also a very physical football player. He is one of the strongest kids on the team who was devoted to the weight room."

The All-KLAA pick also carries a career 3.7 grade-point average.

Steven Murphy, Sr. LB, Westland Glenn: The 6-0, 207-pound senior played three different positions, including linebacker (92 tackles, one interception), tight end and fullback.

"Steve is 'old school,' a tough, hard-nosed football player who plays the game the way it was meant to be played," Hardin said. "He called the defense for two years. He's a phenomenal leader and worked extremely hard in the weight room. He was the heart and soul of the defense that led us to an 8-2 season."

The All-KLAA pick also carries a 3.6 GPA.

Austin Root, Sr. LB, Salem: The senior linebacker packed a lot of wallop for his size, collecting 108 tackles, two fumble recoveries and a quarterback sack while providing excellent leadership for the young Rocks.

"Austin was our true leader on and off the field," Salem coach Kurt Britnell said. "He played much bigger than his 5-11, 185-pound frame. He has a great attitude and made others better."

Heart and determination were other characteristics that Root displayed with regularity as he was one of the bright spots on a team that finished 2-7. Root earned selection to the All-KLAA team.

Arron Boudreaux, Sr. DB, Canton: The senior two-year starter made the All-KLAA team and with good reason. He registered 50 tackles out of the defensive backfield, also picking off three passes (returning one for a TD) and recovering a fumble.

For good measure, Boudreaux chipped in with two receiving touchdowns and a kick return TD.

"He's probably the best athlete on the team," Baechler said. "He has height, speed, just tremendous ability at defensive back and wide receiver. And he's an excellent tackler."

DJ Cook, Sr. DB, Harrison: Cook, who won the Harrison MVP award, was considered his team's best football player by coach John Herrington. As a cornerback, he not only covered opposing receivers, but made 33 tackles and had 14 assists. Cook (5-9, 165) had four pass deflections, blocked two kicks and caused a fumble.

"He usually played on the best receiver from the other team, and he was one of our best hitters," Herrington said. "He also played on all special teams, and he was our Special Teams Player of the Year. He really surprised us because he hadn't played that much as a junior. He really came on."

Troy Bell, Sr. CB, Red. Thurston: Bell, a 6-1, 175-pound cornerback, gave new meaning to lockdown corner as he didn't allow a single pass to be completed in his vicinity the entire season. Playing through a host of injuries, Bell spearheaded the Eagles secondary by collecting five interceptions, breaking up nine passes and recording 43 tackles. He also saw action at split end, where he caught 36 passes for 546 yards and scored four touchdowns.

"You can't get a better stat than not allowing a single pass to be caught," Snell said. "He played hurt most of the year and was still outstanding on both sides of the ball. As a receiver, he made some unbelievable catches and was a highlight reel all by himself."

COACH OF THE YEAR
Bob Snell, Red. Thurston: The list of accomplishments achieved by Redford Thurston and head coach Bob Snell this season was something very special. The Eagles soared past all six league opponents en route to capturing their first-ever postseason victory with a hard-fought triumph over Detroit King. And included in the team's eight wins on the season was Snell's 100th coaching victory.

"Anytime a coach gets an award, it's a team award," said Snell, selected as 2009 All-Observer Coach of the Year. "We just had a great bunch of kids to coach this year and the closeness between players and coaches was amazing. They were together right from the beginning, working hard and not wanting to let each other down. It's always fun when your team reaches its goals."

"Home for the Holidays"

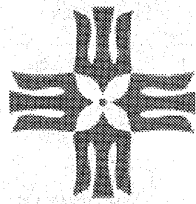
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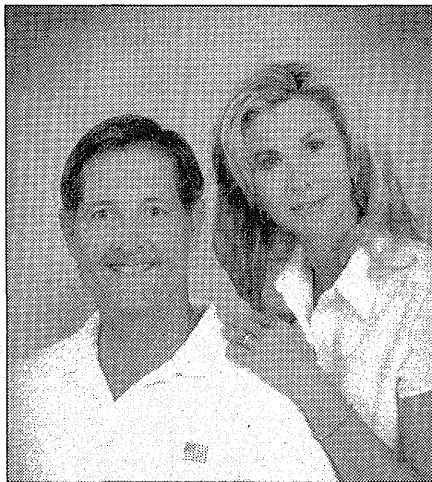
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MILESTONES

CANTON COUPLE MARKS 30 YEARS



Blaine and Becky McKinney of Canton

Blaine and Rebecca (Young) McKinney of Canton will celebrate their 30-year wedding anniversary on Dec. 22. They were married in 1979 in Bossier City, La. The couple has three children, Austin, Connor and Lucas. Blaine is a B-767 captain for Delta Airlines. Rebecca teaches in Wayne-Westland schools. Their interests include Michigan Air Force Academy Parent's Club, Plymouth Wildcat Football, Air Force Football and Louisiana home cooking. They attend St. Thomas a' Becket Catholic Church. The McKinneys plan a 30th anniversary dinner with their parents and children.

Weight-control group has tips to keep pounds off

The holiday season doesn't have to create havoc on your weight-loss goals, says Take Off Pounds Sensibly, (TOPS) Club, Inc., the nonprofit weight-loss support group. TOPS offers these strategies to navigate the holiday season and keep extra pounds off:

- Don't go hungry. Arriving at a party on an empty stomach is a recipe for disaster that can lead you to overeat and make poor choices. Have a light snack of a low-fat, high-fiber food a half-hour before you go, such as yogurt, an apple with a teaspoon of peanut butter, a piece of string cheese, or vegetables with low-calorie dip. This will help curb your appetite and make it easier to control your intake.
- Treat yourself. There's no need to ban your favorites; decide what you want to try and then set a limit. Cakes, cookies, and pies are available year-round, so indulge in small portions of only the best seasonal, holiday foods. Just a taste of something special can be enough to quell a craving without going overboard.
- Take control. Offer to bring a low-calorie dish or platter to holiday gatherings. By preparing something that you know fits into your meal plan, you'll have at least one healthy item on hand and other guests will likely appreciate it. Your hostess may also be grateful for the lessened stress of preparing multiple dishes.
- Slow your pace. Eat slowly until you are satisfied, not stuffed. It takes about 20 minutes for your body to signal that you're feeling full, so enjoy each bite and give yourself time to know when you've had enough. You'll likely consume less than usual.
- Mind your beverages. Drink plenty of water to help feel full and hydrated. Adding a twist of lemon or lime to sparkling water is a lively alternative to alcohol and coffee drinks, which can actually make you feel sluggish. Alcohol can also impair your judgment and make it difficult to stick to healthy eating resolutions. If you do choose to imbibe, select light beers and wines, and limit your intake to one or two drinks per occasion. Drink high-calorie seasonal favorites, like egg nog, punch, and full-fat hot chocolate, in moderation — or steer

clear of them altogether.

- Pair up with a friend. Make a pact that you will support and help keep each other on track. Don't hesitate to lean on each other if you need encouragement to resist tempting treats or power through a workout. Remember, you're not the only one refraining from holiday overindulgence.
- Keep moving. It's easy to let workouts fall by the wayside. If you aren't able to set aside time each day for exercise, commit to at least 30 minutes three days per week. Many people continue their regular walking or jogging schedules year-round, but also consider walking in malls or the building where you work. Indoor pools, weight-workout rooms, tracks, and basketball courts are commonly available in community facilities and schools. Municipal ice skating rinks, both indoors and out, offer a change of pace from the usual routine, while cross-country skiing and hiking let you build up your strength while enjoying nature's beauty. Maintaining a workout routine also can help you manage holiday stress.
- Rest up. Make adequate sleep — seven to eight hours

— a priority, especially during this busy season. Getting enough rest can help repair your body, keep you mentally sharp, and enable you to be more productive.

- Make friends and family a priority. Although food and drinks can be a big part of the holiday season, they don't have to be the focus. Set aside time to spend with good friends and family, making memories that make the holidays worthwhile.
- Keep your perspective. Be realistic and maintain a long-term view of your weight-loss goals. Overeating one day won't make or break your plans; just aim to eat healthy and in moderation the next day. Dieting can be especially difficult during the holidays. Focus on maintaining your present weight and look toward the new year as a fresh start.

To find a local TOPS chapter, visit www.tops.org or call (800) 932-8677.

Here's a sampling of local TOPS groups:

- Canton — St. Thomas A'Becket, 555 S. Lilley; meetings at 7 p.m., Thursday
- Farmington Hills — Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, meetings at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday; and Tapiola Village, 35150 W. Eight Mile, in the clubhouse, meetings at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

Garden City — The Harrison Center, 6701 Harrison, room 7; meetings at 10 a.m., Thursday

Livonia — Newburgh United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, meetings at 6 p.m., Tuesday; Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083 Newburgh, meetings at 9:30 a.m., Thursday; Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, meetings at 7:15 p.m., Monday

Redford — South Redford Christian Church, 26505 W. Chicago Road, meetings at 7:30 p.m., Thursday; Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, meetings at noon, Wednesday; Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly, meetings at 7 p.m., Tuesday

Westland — Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, meetings at 7 p.m., Monday; St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday; Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley, meetings at 6:45 p.m. Monday

Visitors may attend their first TOPS meeting free of charge.

SEPTEMBER WEDDING PLANNED



Akers-Bintz

Courtney Akers and Greg Bintz announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Tonja and Dennis Akers of Canton, is a 2002 graduate of Canton High School and a 2008 graduate of Wayne State University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in human resources. She is employed as an assistant general manager for Marriott Hotels in Syracuse, N.Y. Her fiancé, son of Janice and James Bintz of East Syracuse, N.Y., is a 1996 graduate of East Syracuse-Minoa High School and a 2000 graduate of Clarkson University with a bachelor of science degree in computer engineering. He's employed as a software engineer for Sensis Corporation in Easy Syracuse, N.Y. A September 2010 wedding is planned at Fox Hills in Plymouth.

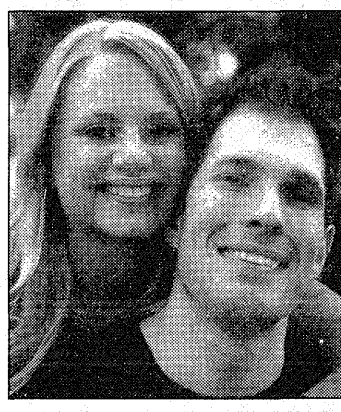
JULY WEDDING PLANNED



Herrick-Tell

Mr. and Mrs. James Herrick of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Dianne, to Kenneth James Tell, son of James Tell of Aurelia, Iowa and the late Carol Tell. The bride-to-be is a 1994 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School, and a 1998 graduate of Michigan State University with a B.A. in hospitality business. She is employed by Preferred Meal Systems, Inc. as an account executive. The groom-elect is employed by Apple as a regional manager. A July 2010 wedding is planned in Plymouth.

JUNE 2010 WEDDING PLANNED



Brown-Sowers

Richard and Katherine Brown of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Erica Maureen, to Jason Duane Sowers, son of Karen Devito of Tampa, Fla., and Duane Sowers of Melvindale. The bride-to-be is a 1999 graduate of Franklin High School in Livonia and a 2004 graduate of Madonna University in Livonia. She is working on a master's degree at the University of Michigan-Dearborn and teaches seventh grade math at Clarenceville Middle School. The groom-to-be graduated in 1999 from Franklin Road Christian High School in Novi and after switching careers, is finishing a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at Wayne State University. The couple plans to wed in June 2010 at Northville Hills Golf Club in Northville.

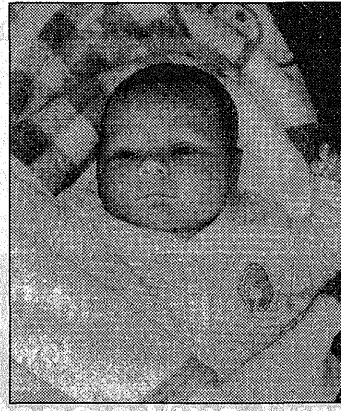
OCTOBER WEDDING PLANNED



Fones-Grant

Brian Grant proposed to Katie Fones at a recent Backbeats concert at the Majestic Theater in Detroit. The bride-to-be's parents, Jean and Craig Fones of Livonia and her fiancé's mother, Colleen Mills, and stepfather, George T. Mills, also of Livonia, were there to witness the proposal. Brian's father is Ronald Grant of Royal Oak. Brian and Katie are both graduates of Churchill High School and Schoolcraft College. An October 2010 wedding is planned.

ROMAN MICHAEL SWELSTAD



Roman Michael Swelstad

Roman Michael Swelstad was born Nov. 14, 2009 in Kaiser Permanente, San Francisco, Calif. Proud parents are Mike and Kate Swelstad of San Francisco. Grandparents are Ron and Billie Swelstad and Joe and Bogi Kwapizad, all of Farmington Hills.

Metroparks lauded for safety

CNA Insurance gave one of its Leadership in Safety Awards for 2009 to the Huron-Clinton Metroparks on Nov. 17 at the Metroparks Administrative Offices in Brighton. "The Leadership in Safety Award recognizes businesses and organizations that have made significant efforts to improve their safety practices," said Maria Cole, underwriting director, CNA Michigan Branch Office. "These companies make it a priority to avoid losses and keep their companies and employees safe. This regional park system employs 235 full-time and 850 part-time staff, who work in 13 Metroparks located in five counties in Southeast Michigan." "We stress safety to employees in their daily work habits," said David Moilanen, Metroparks deputy director. "Our safety committee oversees safety issues and procedures at the parks. Employees are to be commended for their efforts." CNA serves more than two million business and professional policyholders and is the seventh largest U.S. commercial insurer. Located along the Huron and Clinton rivers, the Huron-Clinton Metroparks provide a natural oasis from urban and suburban life as well as year-round recreational activities and events. A regional park system, the Metroparks consist of 13 parks covering 24,000 acres, 10 public golf courses and two marinas on Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair, respectively. The parks also offer scenic nature trails, beaches, educational activities and exciting winter sports. General information can be found at www.metroparks.com or by calling (800) 47-PARKS.

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

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ELIZABETH C. BANKS
Age 77 of Carleton formerly of Westland passed away on December 18, 2009. She had been employed for sixteen years by the Wayne Westland Community Schools as a Bus Driver. www.merklefuneralhome.com

JOHN J. HACKER
Age 81, December 11, 2009. Loving husband of Shirley and beloved father of Sherry (Fred) McCrory and Ronald Hacker. Grandfather of Kristi (Matt) Daeda, Brad (Marissa) McCrory and Jesse Hacker. Great-grandfather of Aislinn Daeda. John is also survived by his sister Louise Steirman and brother Elmer Hacker, as well as many nieces and nephews. Funeral services were entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home and interment made at Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia.

KENNETH A. MOODY
Saline, MI. Age 50, died Tuesday, December 22, 2009, at the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital located in Ann Arbor, MI. Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, December 26, 2009, at 2:00 P.M. at the New Life Bible Baptist Church located at 1175 Grove Road, Ypsilanti, MI, with Rev. Robert W. Mack Officiating. Burial will take place on Monday, December 28, 2009, at 11:00 A.M. at the Oakwood Cemetery located in Saline, MI, with Rev. Darrin Lee Officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to The Thin Blue Line of Michigan, P.O. Box 415, Howell, MI 48844-0415. Envelopes will be available at the Church where friends may begin calling on Saturday, December 26, 2009 from the hours of 11:00 A.M. until time of service at 2:00 P.M. Arrangements were made by the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home of Saline, MI. To sign Ken's guestbook or to leave a memory please visit: www.rbfhsaline.com or www.mlive.com

JUDY C. BARTLEY
Age 66, December 20, 2009. Beloved wife of Goebel for 50 years. Loving mother of Joey and Cindy. Dearest grandmother of Danny. Sister of Donna, Proud member of First Baptist of Livonia. Visitation was Tuesday, 5-9pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Rd., Livonia. Funeral service was Wednesday, in state at 10am until the time of service at 11am at First Baptist Church of Livonia, 17725 Inkster Rd., Livonia, MI 48152. Interment Parkview Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the church.

ELIZABETH A. HAFLEY
Age 86 of Plymouth, December 21, 2009. Loving wife of 54 years to the late Glen. Beloved mother of Duane (Susan), David (Janet), Daniel (Jennifer), and Dennis (Cindy). Dear sister of William (Roberta) Gates and Richard (Rose) Gates. Proud grandmother of 6. Elizabeth was a long time active member of St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton. She loved animals, playing bridge with her friends, gardening, and attending community events. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends. The family will gather with friends Tuesday 10 AM until the 11:30 AM Memorial Service to be held at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon Road, Canton. Memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan Humane Society, 30300 Telegraph Road, Ste. 220, Bingham Farms MI 48025-4507. To share memories, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

DOROTHY EMMA BAUMAN
Of Detroit. October 6, 2009 at 98 years of age. Wife of the late Stanley A. (died October 6, 1949). Loving mother of Keith (Suzanne) Bauman of Bloomfield Twp. Beloved grandmother of Sheryl (David) Laidlaw and Kevin (Shelby) Bauman. Great grandmother of Jack and Connor Laidlaw. Preceded in death by 3 brothers and 2 sisters. Dorothy worked for Ameritech as an executive secretary from 1950-1974. She stayed active in the AT & T Pioneers long after her retirement. Dorothy volunteered for the Michigan Cancer Society, and enjoyed playing golf. A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, December 30, 2009 11:00a.m. in the Chapel at Lourdes Nursing Home, 2300 Watkins Lake Rd., Waterford. Arrangements entrusted to Coats Funeral Home, Waterford. Memorials donations may be made to Lourdes Campus, envelopes available at the memorial service. To send a private condolence to the family go to: www.coatsfuneralhome.com and select Guestbook.

ROBERT O. DIX
Age 84, of Farmington, December 23rd, 2009, following a lengthy struggle with Alzheimer's disease. Survived by his devoted wife Jacqueline "Jackie" (nee Tatham); loving children, Dawn (Jerry) Grady, Duane (Gail) Dix and Cindy Walton; grandchildren, Justin (Mary) Walton, Kristen (Michael) O'Dea, Nathan Page, Amy (David) Hockenhill, Rose Walton, Emily (Kristen) Mullins, Amanda Page and Nicole Page; great-grandchildren, Caylee and Riley Kaitner, Delayna and Andrew Hockenhill, Isaac Walton, and Ethan Mullins; 6 step-grandchildren, 14 step great-grandchildren and 1 step-great-grandson; siblings, Harley (Beatrice) Dix, Willis "Bill" (Sally) Dix and Bernice (Ray) Myers-Smith; and numerous nieces and nephews and their extended families. He was preceded in death by parents, Harley and Ada. Memorial Service, concluded with Naval Honors, Monday, Dec. 28, 11:00 AM at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 23615 Power Rd., Farmington. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes suggested to Society of St. Vincent DePaul at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Farmington. Arrangements entrusted to the Heeneey-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). heeneey-sundquist.com

DAVID R. HUBBS
Age 87, of Farmington Hills, passed away December 21, 2009. David was born November 12, 1922 in Knoxville, Tennessee to W.R. and Ferol Hubbs. He received a bachelor's degree in engineering from Univ. of Tenn. and earned subsequent masters' degrees from Chrysler Inst. and Wayne State University. David worked as an engineer for Chrysler Corp. and taught at Lawrence Tech., retiring in 1980 and 1995 respectively. He is survived by his wife Nancy, his children, David Jr., Roger, Kay, and Diane, daughters-in-law, Kate and Julie, grandchildren, Valerie and Eric and his sister Virginia Kinlaw. David enjoyed volunteering and was named Goodfellow of the Year in 2002. Visitation and funeral services will be held at Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills. Visitation Monday 5-8 pm; Funeral service Tuesday 1pm. Donations may be made to Farmington Area Goodfellows, 31455 West Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills or Orchard United Methodist Church.

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.)

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NEIGHBORS

Friends for life

Psychologist touts benefits of friendship

Lisa Schirmer, a psychologist at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, knows friends matter. "Absolutely," she said.

"Friendship develops a sense of belonging with others." It can boost self-worth and feelings of security.

"It can just improve your overall mental outlook."

Schirmer said a good friend's a good listener, nonjudgmental and listening with full attention. A good friend shares his or her own thoughts and feelings, and asks questions to clarify.

"I think there's something to be said for having a social support network," Schirmer said. Family, friends and co-workers can all fill those roles in different ways, with friends being especially helpful with the nonjudgmental part. Schirmer doesn't have that problem in her family, but some families do.

"I think men do have close friends," she said. Some men share a common interest but also would do anything for each other. "But if one person needed help the other would pitch right in," Schirmer said.

We look to different friends for different roles, she said, with one friend often the truth teller. Another will distract and offer a hug no matter what.

"I think all of those friends serve important roles for us," she said. Schirmer relies on her friends: "Every day."

—By Julie Brown

The gift of friendship comes first in their lives

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Like many busy "fifty-somethings," Pam Young of Redford gets by with a little help from her friends.

"Oh, my God, I couldn't have done anything without my friends," said Young, who lost her husband, Phil Setla, a physician, to multiple sclerosis in December 1998. Her brother, Chris, died in January 2008.

Chris had been serving with the military as a civilian in Iraq, and was shipped to Germany for medical treatment when he became ill. His sister recalls getting help with tasks for his funeral Mass at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Detroit, much as friends had rallied around in 1998 for her husband's funeral.

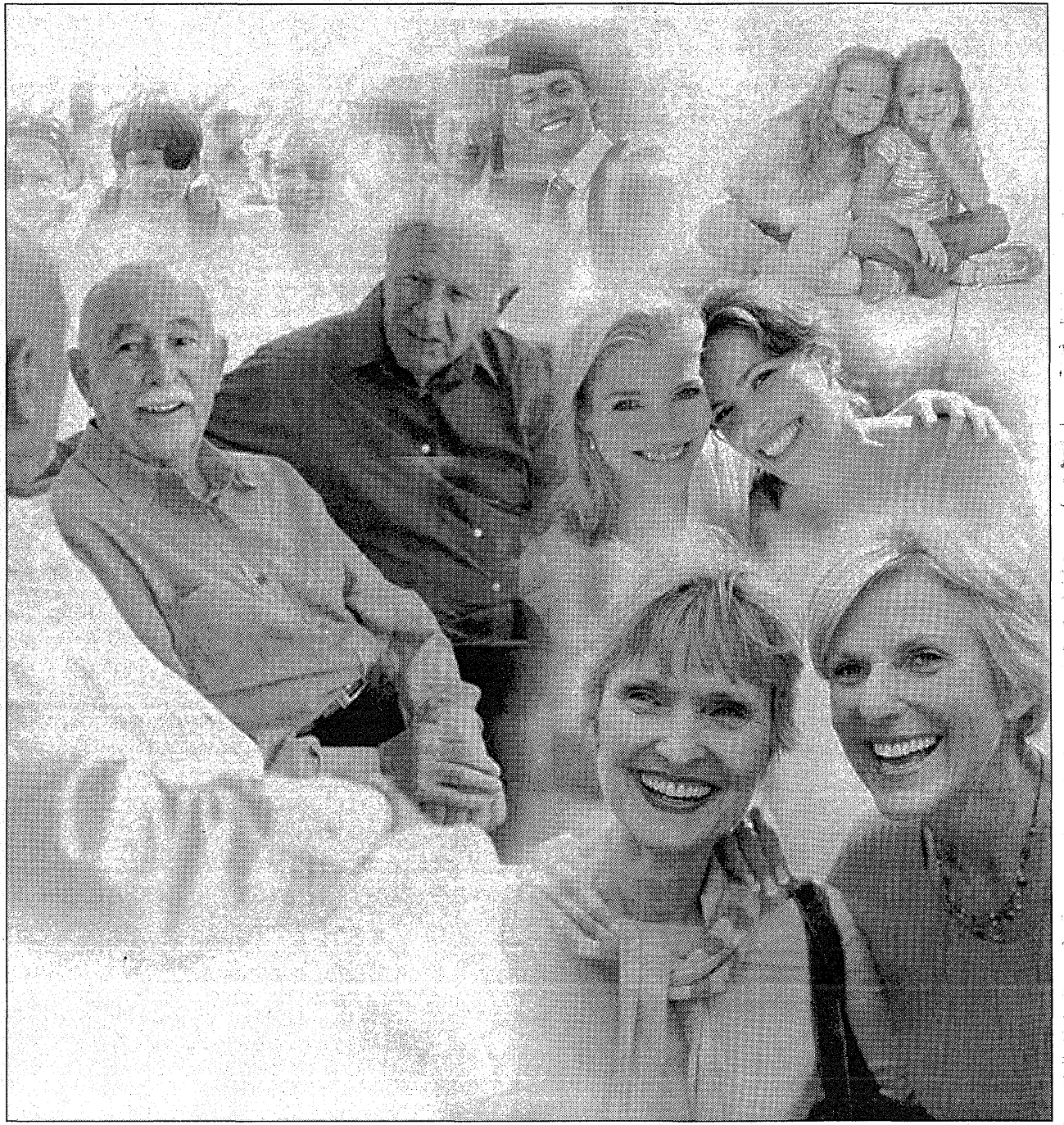
Young, director of communications at Eastern Michigan University, isn't alone in getting help from friends. She has basic advice on how to be a good friend: "Always being there when they need your help and also celebrating their achievements."

Jokingly, she adds remembering to check your phone messages to see who has called. "You have to make the effort in friendships," Young said. You need to understand what's going on in friends' lives.

"It's like a give and take with them," she said. "Most of my family lives out of town. My friends have become like my family. I'm very lucky."

LIFELONG FRIENDS

Don Bain of Plymouth Township said of a good friend, "You're always there to advise, assist, consult, commiserate." That's true of all life brings, he said, "even if they hit a bad



golf shot. A true friend is a friend for life."

He and wife Elaine have three grown children. She's been fighting a bone marrow disorder that causes problems with red blood cells, along with colon cancer.

"The help they've given has just been tremendous," he said, referring to friends of Elaine, a retired Plymouth-Canton middle school teacher. That helps to brighten her spirits, said Don Bain, 66, a Ford Motor Co. retiree.

"A little variety's kind of nice," he said of when Elaine tires of looking at him. One of her former colleagues and the colleague's husband stop by for card playing or visits.

The Bains have friends from their days at Penn State. He recalled a fraternity brother who helped daughter Elizabeth, an attorney, when she went to Las Vegas for a deposition.

"I haven't seen this guy in 40 years," he said of the fraternity brother. The man and his wife took Elizabeth to dinner and he told her

college stories of her dad, with the wife saying, "Should you be telling her all these things?"

Elaine has lifelong friends from Girl Scout camp in Pennsylvania where they were campers and later counselors. "They actually got together and had a couple reunions" in the last five to 10 years, he said.

He appreciates friends like the couple from Ford they hadn't seen for years now living in Arizona. The

Please see **FRIENDS, B7**

Unique glasses help vision impaired see better

Low vision doctors Sheldon Smith and Donald Haiderer prescribe spectacle aids for the visually impaired.

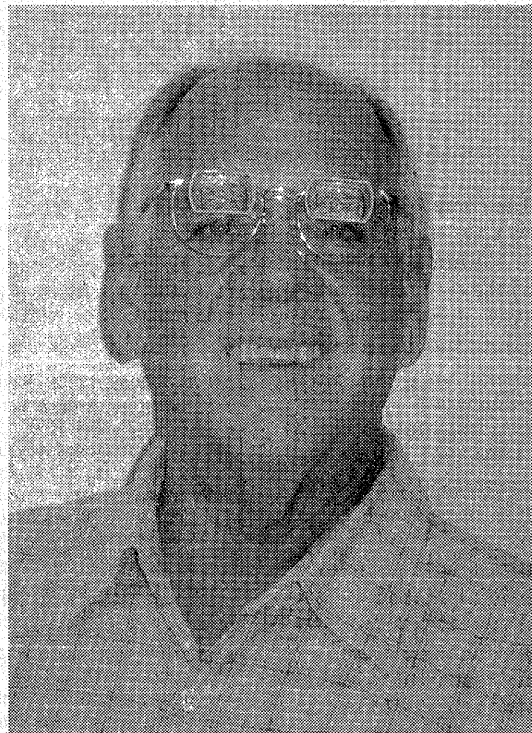
Vision loss is devastating, stealing independence and quality of life. The good news is many determined people have begun to fight back.

Desmond Roberts lost his license to drive. He saw Dr. Sheldon Smith of Low Vision of Michigan desperate to maintain independent driving. With telescopic driving glasses prescribed by Dr. Smith his license was reinstated.

"My life ended at my front door, but this gave my life back," said Roberts. "You saved my life."

David Welch sought to read without hand magnifiers and drive with confidence. The doctor prescribed one pair for driving and another for reading. "No other specialists helped me like Dr. Smith," said Welch, moved to tears by seeing better.

"Today we make glasses that noticeably improve sight," said Dr. Smith. "They can be taken



David Welch with driving glasses

anywhere, unlike electronic tabletop magnifiers. And unlike magnifiers, spectacles are hands free."

"We prescribe surgical quality

telescopes for sight loss," said Dr. Don Haiderer of Low Vision of Michigan. "They are custom focused for simplicity of use so your eyes see the best they can. Details look bigger, closer and easier to make out."

Urgency is critical to success. Prompt treatment gives better outcomes. There is no advantage in waiting to get worse. Whether reading or driving, the best time to start is early, with milder devices. If necessary, using stronger devices comes easier after mastering mild ones.

We help people with mild, moderate and severe vision loss. Every situation is unique. Special reading glasses start at \$600 and custom telescopes start from \$1800.

Patients and referring physicians are welcome to review their situation or schedule an appointment. We can help. Call Low Vision of Michigan to find out how.

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Dr. Sheldon Smith and Dr. Don Haiderer
low vision optometrists

www.LowVisionofMichigan.com



Cousins Ellery Long and Mya McEvilley of Farmington Hills show that friendship can start at a young age.

FRIENDS

FROM PAGE B6

couple was coming to west Michigan to visit a dying friend, and had a good visit with the Bains, staying at their home and even using a family car. It's nice to be able to call and say, "Hey, I'm coming through," Don Bain said.

Younger but equally wise about the value of friendship is Sydney Bartell, 13, an eighth-grader at New Morning School in Plymouth Township. "I think they have to let the person be themselves and not try to change them," said Bartell, a Plymouth Township resident. She values her friends.

"They help me when I'm upset. They're always there to listen." She has friends from school as well as volleyball, soccer, "and Girl Scouts and volunteering."

She's looking forward to having more friends next year in high school, possibly Greenhills in Ann Arbor. "I try to be," Bartell said of being a good friend to her friends.

GIVE AND TAKE

High school was a few years back for Ralph and Bevis Richardson of Canton, married 55 years. She's a retired registered nurse from Annapolis Hospital, park of the Oakwood system, and he retired in 1997 from a subsidiary of Ford in labor economics.

"You have to like people and you have to be willing to give and take," said Bevis, who with her husband has four grown children and five grandkids. Ralph cited common interests.

"Basically friendship is people you have common interests with and whose company you enjoy," she said. They agreed their retirement years mean more time for friends, including travel with another couple.

"Again it has a lot to do with having common interests," Ralph Richardson said. They have friends from their Colony Swim Club open in Canton in the summer.

She has friends from the Canton Public Library, where she volunteers, and he has volleyball and tennis friends. "The Lunch Bunch at church (Geneva Presbyterian) is really our circle at church," she said.

That senior group Dec. 9 had a Christmas lunch at Schoolcraft College's American Harvest Restaurant in Livonia, with Bevis noting, "Schoolcraft is always just a delight." The lunch draws seniors from the church.

Does plain old friendship get overshadowed by romantic love, so serenaded in song and verse? "Not at our age," Bevis said. "At our age, friendship matters."

"I consider Bevis my best friend," her husband added.

Humane Society offers winter care tips

The Michigan Humane Society urges pet guardians to bring their animals indoors, especially during extreme weather.

"Each winter, we respond to hundreds of complaints from concerned citizens regarding pets left outdoors without appropriate food, water or shelter to help them weather the brutal winter months," said Mark Ramos, Senior Cruelty Investigator for the Michigan Humane Society. "Providing proper care and provisions for our pets is not a luxury, it is a necessity."

Michigan state law requires adequate food, water and shelter be available to dogs and cats left outdoors for any length of time. Adequate shelter for dogs, as defined by state law, means a well-built, insulated, slant-roofed dog house. The interior should be just large enough for the dog to stand and to lie down comfortably. And it should be slightly elevated from the ground for air circulation. The door should face away from prevailing winds and have a protective flap to eliminate drafts.

Clean, dry straw should be provided for bedding rather than towels, rugs or blankets which absorb moisture and freeze.

Several kinds of inadequate shelter frequently encountered by investigators include an unheated garage or shed, a dog house that is too large or lacks straw, or dogs simply tied out to a porch, fence or deck with no shelter at all. Failing to provide proper provisions for pets can result in misdemeanor animal cruelty violations carrying a sentence of up to 93 days in jail, up to a \$1,000 fine, community service, and loss of pet ownership for a specified amount of time.

The Michigan Humane Society offers these tips to care for their companion animals responsibly during cold weather:

- When temperatures plummet, companion animals should not be left outside for any length of time. Bring small or short-haired pets in when temperatures reach 15-20 degrees. Larger breeds and thick-coated dogs may remain outside, with adequate shelter, to about zero degrees.
- Precipitation and wind chill should also be taken into account.
- Cats should be kept indoors or at least brought into a warm, animal proofed garage during severe weather.
- Roaming cats often seek the warmth of car engines, so

be sure to knock on the car hood or honk the horn before starting your car to give them a chance to escape.

• Increase food by 10-20 percent for dogs left outside during the winter months. The extra calories are needed to help an animal to stay warm.

• Regular access to clean, unfrozen water is also critical. Check drinking water every few hours to ensure that it is unfrozen.

• If an animal is cold to the touch, or his paws and ears are

pale, he may be suffering from frostbite. Move the animal to a warmer area and contact your veterinarian immediately.

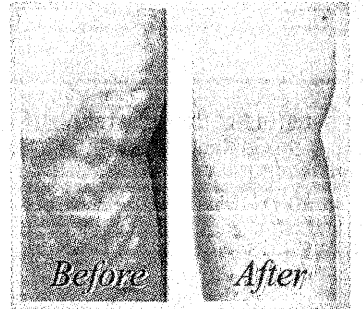
If you see pets left outside without proper shelter in the MHS service area of Detroit, Hamtramck or Highland Park, call the MHS Cruelty Hotline at (313) 872-3401. A confidential message can be left 24 hours a day. In other areas, animal cruelty should be reported to the local animal control or police.

Healthy Legs, Healthy You!

"I thought it was normal for my legs to ache at the end of the day."

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Winter Open House

Saturday, January 2nd • 10 am - 2 pm

Featuring lots of fun for the whole family:

- Gymnastics Clinics • Basketball Skill Clinics
- Free Swimming Assessments & Open Swim
- Free Tennis Classes • Sample Adult & Youth Zumba Classes
- Group Fitness Classes • Games & Much More!

It's time to register for Winter Programs

Programs have limited spaces available. Registration has begun and classes are currently filling up. Don't miss out on your favorite winter programs.

SIGN UP NOW!

Winter 1 Session:
Jan. 3- Feb. 28 (8 weeks)

Winter 2 Session:
March 1 - April 25 (7 weeks)

- Y Tennis • Y Gymnastics
- Y Aquatics • Y Holiday Camp
- Y Sports • Y Group Fitness

*Offer valid at Livonia Family YMCA only. Savings depend on membership type. Offer valid with 12-month agreement only.

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Joining Fee*

for all 12 month memberships

SAVE UP TO \$250*

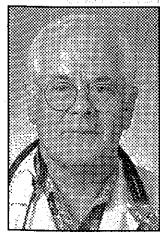
Learn about genealogy research in Wayne County

Ruth McMahon, an accredited genealogist for 23 years who specializes in Michigan and Midwest research, will talk about locating and searching records in Wayne County for the Detroit Society for Genealogical Research. The organization will present the program in conjunction with the Oakland County Genealogical Society,

at 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 9, at Christ Church Cranbrook, 470 Church, at Lone Pine west of Woodward, in Bloomfield Hills. The church will be open at 1:30 p.m. for refreshments, browsing and networking. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information, call Dick Fellrath at (248) 519-5064, or Catherine Phillips at (248) 541-0403.

Walter's Home Appliance responds about warranties, emphasizes ethical practices

In my last column I replied to an e-mail from Phyllis who was having a problem getting extended warranty service on a refrigerator she purchased from Walter's Appliance which has since gone out of business.



Appliance Doctor
Joe Gagnon

My son Mark went to her home and we believe the problem is now repaired. I have recently received an e-mail from John Mistak who takes a stand on the ethics of a business his father started many years ago. His father was a good friend of mine for many years and I remember the sons John and Wally running around the store as young boys.

John writes: "I am John Mistak, former owner of Walter's Home Appliances. In regards to article in the *Observer*, we paid for all extended warranties to the National Electronics Warranty Company for all our customers for the last 20 years. When Warranties were sold we gave

The electronic problem with your range will probably take the replacement of an expensive part for proper operation of the range. I might suggest you unplug or kill the circuit breaker for an hour, wash off the touch board with a damp cloth dipped in warm vinegar. You should also consider the age of the product and whether or not it is a wise move to spend a few hundred dollars for repairs.

this info to our customers. So all our customers are covered. Customers can call (800) keep-new to get a hold of the warranty company. Please put this in your next article in the *Observer* as Walter's Home Appliances always did things above board."

Lesley writes: "Purchased in 2000, my Whirlpool super Capacity Gas Range has always had a quirk where when I use the oven to bake something, usually between 325 and 375 degrees, it will suffer a power failure and stops baking. It will register a PF in the message, but does not alert with an alarm that something has happened, so usually I am unaware until I check the status of my cookies or whatever. By then, it's hard to tell how long it has been out. Any idea why this would happen? Also my gas dryer catches the clothes on

the light cover inside the dryer and holds them there, giving the clothes a burn mark. It has ruined many pieces of clothing. Is this something that can be easily fixed?"

Well, Lesley, it seems you have been reluctant to call a service technician for many years nor do you have the extended service contract offered by your utility company so I am not going to push the suggestion of a service call. The electronic problem with your range will probably take the replacement of an expensive part for proper operation of the range. I might suggest you unplug or kill the circuit breaker for an hour, wash off the touch board with a damp cloth dipped in warm vinegar. You should also consider the age of the product and whether or not it is a wise move to spend a few hundred dollars for repairs. As

for your dryer, I would remove the light bulb and tape the light cover over with a good quality duct tape such as gorilla tape.

Jeanne writes: "Thank you for your column in the *Observer* newspaper. I need to purchase four new appliances: a stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer. It doesn't matter if the stove is gas or electric, but a slide in model would best fit the counter space. Are front load washing machines better than top loaders? Are freezers on the bottom of the refrigerator better for energy cost, and is it best not to get water and ice through the door for purity and maintenance concerns? I am interested in the brands and features you would recommend. Thank you for looking out for consumers, and all of your help."

Well, Jeanne, You are asking the toughest questions anyone can ask me. I will attempt to answer each one in my next column so I'll ask for your patience and also to stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twm.rr.com.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to State Law a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 2460 Gulley Rd., Dearborn Hts., MI, January 16, 2010 at 1:05 p.m.

#431: April C. Assemany, #709: Gergorio Martinez, Jr., #740: Britney A. McPherson, #939: Rosy M. Hutchison, #1025: Lechia Richberg, #1034: Zapata Zanitorial Inc., #1039: Zapata Zanitorial Inc., #1047: Dohn C. Davis Jr., #1111: Alicia M. Parker

Units contain misc. household items.

Publish: December 27, 2009 and January 3, 2010

OE0868201_2x2

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD PUBLIC NOTICE MINUTES OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2009

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the approved minutes for Meetings of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Redford for the month of November, 2009 are posted at the following public places within the Township:

Community Center, 12121 Hemingway Library, 25320 Six Mile Road
Department of Public Services, 12200 Beech Daly
Police Department, 25833 Elsinore
Town Hall, 15145 Beech Daly

Approved minutes may also be viewed on-line at www.redfordtwp.com

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, Clerk
Charter Township of Redford

Publish: December 27, 2009

OE08684894_2x3

Legal Notice Charter Township of Plymouth 2009 Winter Taxes

Winter Taxes are due **December 1, 2009** and payable through **February 16, 2010** without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. **MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH.** Payments can be made at the Township Hall during regular working hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's Office. After hours payments can be placed in the 24 hr **WHITE DROP BOX** located along the circular drive. The **Treasurer's Office will be open December 31, 2009 from 9:00am to Noon.**

RON EDWARDS
Treasurer
Charter Township of Plymouth
9955 Haggerty Rd
Plymouth, MI 481710

Publish: December 24, 27 and 31, 2009

OE08684879_2x3

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING December 21, 2009 (Summary)

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held at 8:03 p.m., Monday, December 21, 2009, in Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

PRESENT: Buck, Knol, McShane, Wiggins, Wright.

ABSENT: None.

CITY ADMINISTRATION: Director Gushman, City Clerk Halberstadt, Director Nebus, City Manager Pastue, Treasurer Weber.

Council approved the following items on the consent agenda: special meeting minutes of November 2, 2009; DDA joint meeting minutes of November 14, 2009; special meeting minutes of November 16, 2009; regular meeting minutes of November 16, 2009; special meeting minutes of November 30, 2009; special meeting minutes of December 7, 2009; Farmington monthly payments report for November 2009; and Farmington Public Safety report for November 2009.

The regular agenda was approved as amended.

Director Nebus, representing the Emergency Preparedness Commission, reminded everyone that one of the best gifts you can give your family is the gift of financial preparedness. He advised the Emergency Preparedness Committee preparedness handbook has an entire section and a checklist on this subject.

Council accepted an engagement letter with Plante & Moran to conduct a water and sewer rate study.

Council approved the purchase of two police patrol vehicles from Gorno Ford in Woodhaven in the amount of \$41,720.

Council approved payment of Construction Estimate No. 7 and Change Order #2 to Peter A. Basile Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$234,516.81 for work completed on the Grand River Streetscape and Water Main Improvement Project.

Council approved payment of Construction Estimate No. 4 to FDM Contracting in the amount of \$121,994.66 for work completed on the Slocum Street Reconstruction and Water Main Improvement Project.

Council adopted a resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2009-10 General Fund Budget.

Council accepted a proposal from Municipal Web Services for the redesign of the City website and authorized the City Manager to sign an agreement for the design services and subsequent system maintenance.

Council adopted a resolution to establish a Civic Theatre Ad Hoc Study committee that specifies the purpose of the committee, its structure and composition, and support they shall receive.

Council adopted a resolution establishing a Beautification Committee.

Council comments were heard.

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

TOM BUCK, Mayor
SUSAN K. HALBERSTADT, City Clerk

Publish: December 27, 2009

OE08685129_2x9

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CLARENCEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT Accepting Applications for Schools of Choice Second Semester beginning January 19, 2010

The Clarenceville School District will accept applications for a limited schools of choice option beginning with the second semester of the 2009-2010 school year. Applications for limited slots in grades kindergarten, first, second and fourth will be accepted beginning Friday, January 1, 2010, through Friday, January 15, 2010, at the Clarenceville Superintendent's Office, 20210 Middlebelt Road, Livonia, Michigan 48152. Applications and guidelines are available from the superintendent's office or on-line on the district's website - www.clarenceville.k12.mi.us. Second semester begins on Tuesday, January 19, 2010. Questions may be directed to the superintendent's office at 248-919-0250.

Publish: December 27 and 31, 2009

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THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD NOTIFICATION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION/RESALE DEVELOPER

The Charter Township of Redford is seeking proposals from qualified developers/vendors to provide professional services to acquire, rehabilitate and sell residential foreclosed/vacant properties in targeted neighborhoods. Services shall be performed for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). This program is Federally funded and all applicable federal and state laws apply.

Proposal documents shall be available as of December 28, 2009 at the Redford Township Community Development Office located at 12121 Hemingway, Redford Township Clerk's Office at 15145 Beech Daly Road between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or online at www.redfordtwp.com. Sealed proposals must be submitted to the Redford Township Clerk's Office, 15145 Beech Daly Road, Redford, MI 48239 on or before January 21, 2010 at 3:00 pm, after which proposals will be publicly opened.

Written questions regarding the substance of the RFP or scope of services must be submitted via e-mail to the Redford Township contact listed below no later than January 7, 2010. For additional information regarding the request for proposals, please contact Michael Dennis, Community Development Director, at 313-387-2785 or email at mdennis@redfordtwp.com.

This is a federally funded project. The Contractor and Subcontractors on this project must comply with HUD contract provisions 24CFR Part 85.36(i), Davis-Bacon Act, Nondiscrimination, Equal Employment Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Section 3 requirements, Anti-Kickback Act, Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act and Department of Labor Standards and Regulations as set forth in the Contract Bid Documents. This municipality is an equal opportunity employer; businesses owned by women or minorities are strongly encouraged to bid. The Contractor shall comply with all the provisions of the Charter Township of Redford.

The Charter Township of Redford reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive defects in proposals, to enter negotiations with any applicant, to resolicit for proposals and to conduct an application evaluation review meeting with any and all applicants. The Township will not be responsible for any costs or fees associated with the preparation of a response to this request for qualifications. No proposals may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) calendar days following the due date.

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, Clerk
Charter Township of Redford

Publish: December 27, 2009

OE08685074_2x7.5

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860



FAR BETTER BUT WORSE

We are at the cusp of a new era in the health status of the elderly. More people are reaching the age of 80 or even age 90 without major lung or heart problems.

This improved health status means that they are able to walk, travel and undertake a variety of activities to an extent not considered possible in the past. In former times, emphysema, congestive heart failure, advanced osteoarthritis of the hip or knees and the failure over time of past operations, put severe limits on the activities of individuals thereby limiting the strain possible to bones and joints.

The success of medicine has spared many elderly individuals these debilitating conditions. At the same time, doctors are seeing elderly patients experiencing arthritic pains that do not fit into categories such as osteoarthritis or gout.

This arthritic pain is somewhat like a car that has gone 80,000-100,000 miles. The engine may still be fine, but the stress of all those miles shows itself in the car's frame. The mechanic can go over the car, but won't find any worn part to explain the car's less than best behavior.

In cases of unexplained bone and joint pain, physicians turn to special studies such as imaging with MRI. In some instances imaging reveals bone edema, a swelling within the bone itself. However, in many instances, blood testing and imaging does not bring out the cause of the pain.

In these circumstances the physician treats the pain, leaving it to nature and time the task of resolving the underlying problem.

www.drjweiss.yourmd.com

OE08682619

SIMPLY SELF STORAGE

Notice is hereby given that on January 14, 2010 on or after 9:30 a.m. that Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the judicial lien Process by Public Auction the following units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. Terms of the sale are preferred cash only but will accept debit/credit. Simply Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: 34333 E. Michigan Ave. Wayne MI. 48184 (734)728-8204.

B126 Linda Cygan 3 Totes, 5 Boxes, Couch
C116 Annette Ward BBQ Grill, Lawnmower, 20 Boxes

Publish: December 27, 2009 and January 3, 2010

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

A public sale is to be held to satisfy a landlord's lien under Act 148 of 1985 State of Michigan Code Law. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from the sale. Spaces/Units may contain household items, toys, auto parts, appliances, clothing, etc. unless otherwise noted.

Units: 095 Alan Raymond, 139 Terence Barnes, 141 Krystyn Washington, 161 Tiffney Weathersby, 163 Marthlene Knoll-Keith, 218 James Isbell, 243 Evelyn Hicks, 277 Bagaziniski & Associates, 315 Robert Brown, 330 William Piekarski, 333 William Piekarski.

This sale shall take place on Friday, January 8th, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Located at: Maximus Self Storage - Livonia, 13635 Merriman Rd., Livonia, MI 48185. This is a cash only auction.

Publish: December 27, 2009 and January 3, 2010

OE08685000_2x2.5

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING December 21, 2009 (Summary)

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, December 21, 2009 in Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Buck, Knol, McShane, Wiggins, Wright.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

FARMINGTON CITY REPRESENTATIVES:

City Clerk Halberstadt, City Manager Pastue, Treasurer Weber (arrived 7:25 p.m.).

Council approved the agenda as submitted.

Caren Collins, Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission (SWOCC) Director, was present to review SWOCC's annual report and discuss its ongoing activities.

Pastue briefly discussed formation of a stakeholders group with Farmington Hills relative to the Corridor Improvement Authority; noted discussion regarding SMART will take place at the January 4th meeting; and advised the Water and Sewer Rate Study would be on the regular meeting agenda.

Council comments were heard.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

TOM BUCK, Mayor
SUSAN K. HALBERSTADT, City Clerk

Publish: December 27, 2009

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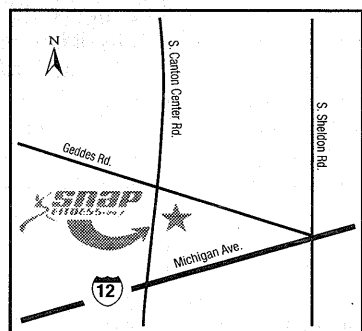
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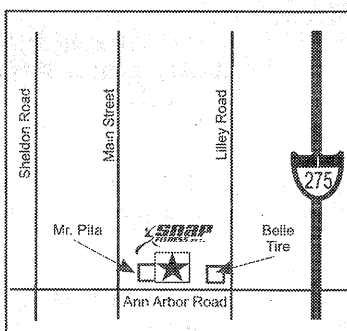
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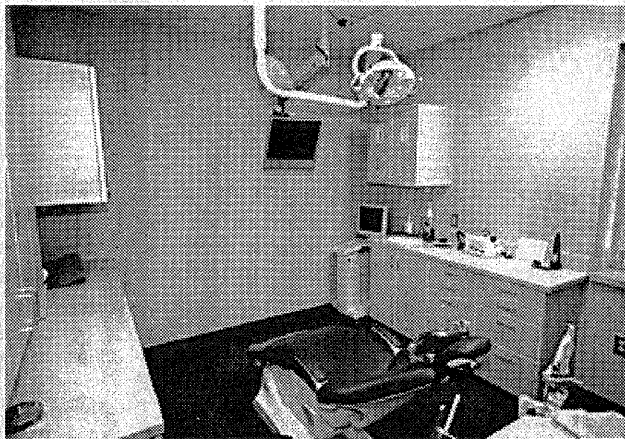
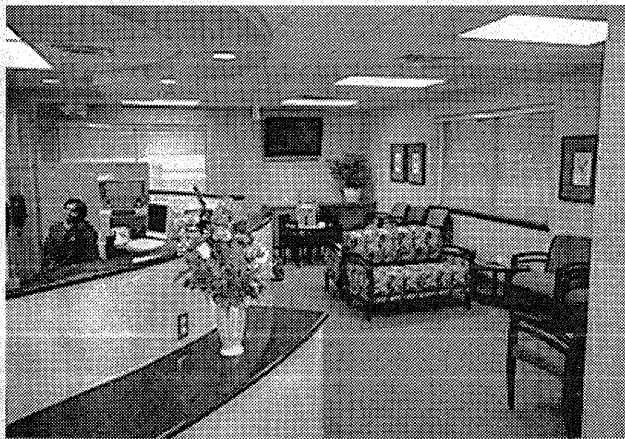
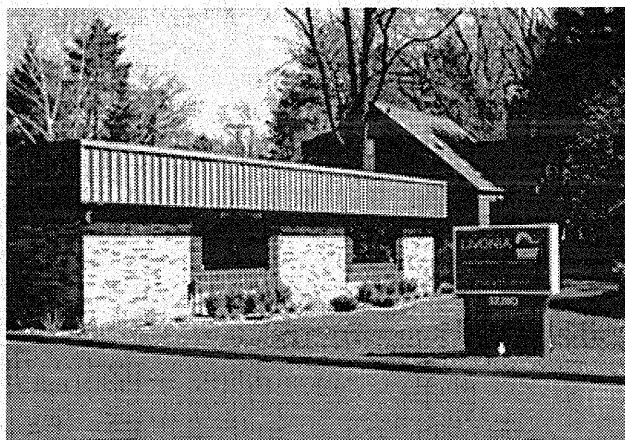
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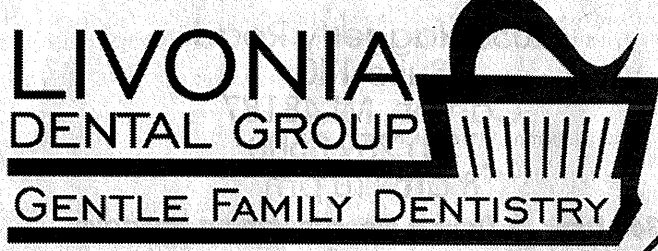
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Annual blood drive critical for boosting supplies

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

It's called the Farmington Freeway Industrial Park blood drive, but Joann Lindquist, donor resources development representative for the American Red Cross, says Farmington residency isn't a must if you plan to donate Monday, Jan. 4, 2010.

"It's a long-standing drive," said Lindquist, adding that the blood collection primarily is aimed at employees in the area and residents who live nearby. But anyone is welcome to participate and help bolster supplies after the "holiday slump."

It runs 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 37529 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. It's located off the southbound M-5 service drive.

"We've been doing this drive for 20-some years. We'll take walk-ins, too," Lindquist said. "We can hardly get anyone to hold a blood drive right after the New Year."

Lindquist lines up schools, businesses and churches to hold blood drives throughout the year, but late December and early January is a challenging time because of the holidays.

"Supplies take a drastic dip. Our shelves will basically be out. We aren't open on Christmas and New Year's. Normally we have 16 (blood donor) trucks and we use them every day. But come Dec. 21 there isn't much because businesses are usually closed and churches are not up for having blood drives during that period."

FEWER BUSINESS DRIVES

Lindquist said churches are the

most likely to respond to blood drive requests immediately after Christmas. She is appealing to churches, synagogues and especially to schools these days as businesses drop off her list of annual blood drives.

"It's a rough time for us in what has been a rough year with the economy and companies closing. A lot of our diehard good donors not working any more, but they're good enough to come to a donor center. They've not fallen off anywhere near as much as our business drives. I can't tell you how many companies I've lost.

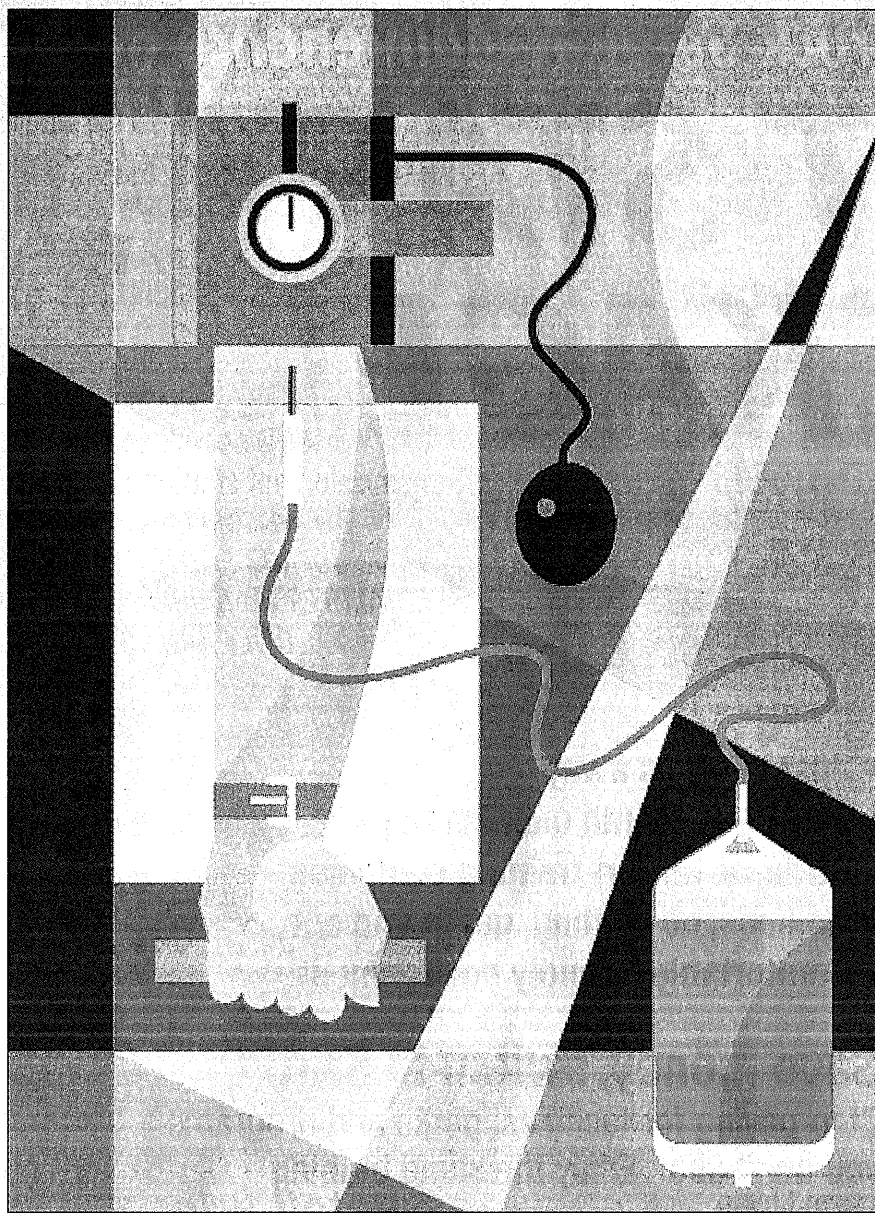
"It's just a scramble all the time to fill the 800 pints that hospitals need every day of the week. We have all of those large hospitals here."

She said the regional division of the American Red Cross that she represents supplies hospitals in five counties — Oakland, Wayne, Macomb, Washtenaw and St. Clair.

The American Red Cross hopes to encourage blood donation through its "critical period," Dec. 11-Jan. 7, by giving away a raffle prize. Anyone who donates blood through Jan. 7 in the five-county area will be entered into a contest to win two round-trip plane tickets to their destination choice in the continental United States, along with a \$500 hotel voucher.

To schedule an appointment for the Farmington Freeway Industrial Park blood drive, call Lindquist at (517) 545-7712. Or sign up on line at www.givelife.org and enter the sponsor code: farmfwyindpk.

For directions to Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, call (248) 477-7800.



Annual list cites Beaumont as technology user

Beaumont Hospitals has been named to the 2009 InformationWeek 500, an annual listing of the nation's most innovative users of business technology.

InformationWeek has identified and honored the nation's most innovative users of information technology with its annual 500 listing for 21 years. It also tracks the technology, strategies, investments and administrative practices of America's best-known companies. Top winners have included: Conway, National Semiconductor, Kimberly-Clark, Hilton Hotels and Unum.

"Working with more than 20,000 physicians and employees demands that we stay at the forefront of information technology to allow us to provide the best possible care to our patients," stated Paul Peabody, Beaumont's vice president and chief information officer. "So, we are proud to be recognized by InformationWeek with this honor."

Beaumont Hospitals is a three-hospital regional health care provider with a total of 1,711 licensed beds, 18,000 employees and 3,000 physicians in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties. In addition to its hospitals, Beaumont operates numerous community-based medical centers in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne Counties, five nursing centers, a Research Institute, home care services and hospice. Visit Beaumont on the Web at www.beaumont-hospitals.com.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD FACTS

- Last year, about 8 million people volunteered to give about 15 million units of whole blood and red blood cells.

- Every day, more than 39,000 pints of blood are needed in the United States to help patients undergoing care and treatment for serious diseases, trauma or accidents.

- A single whole blood donation may help save the lives of up to three people.

- All blood types are needed, but type O negative and B negative are in high demand.

- Type O is the blood most

requested by hospitals, and can be transfused to patients with other blood types such as A, B and AB.

- Blood donors with type AB are ideal for platelet donation. Platelets are the component in blood that is responsible for clotting. When bleeding occurs, platelets stick together to form a clot. Platelets have a shelf life of only five days so the need is constant. Platelets are frequently prescribed to help patients undergoing treatment for cancer, leukemia and other serious diseases, as well

as for babies in neonatal intensive care and burn victims.

- Individuals, age 17 and over, who meet weight and height requirements and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood.

- Donors may give whole blood up to six times per year or every 56 days, double red cells every 112 days or up to three times per year, and platelets every seven days or up to 24 times a year.

- For more information about blood donation, call (800) GIVE-LIFE or visit redcrossblood.org.

Free seminars focus on joint replacement

The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Hospital offers free monthly educational seminars about joint replacement procedures.

Orthopedic surgeons are on hand at each meeting to answer questions, discuss joint pain and talk about implant options.

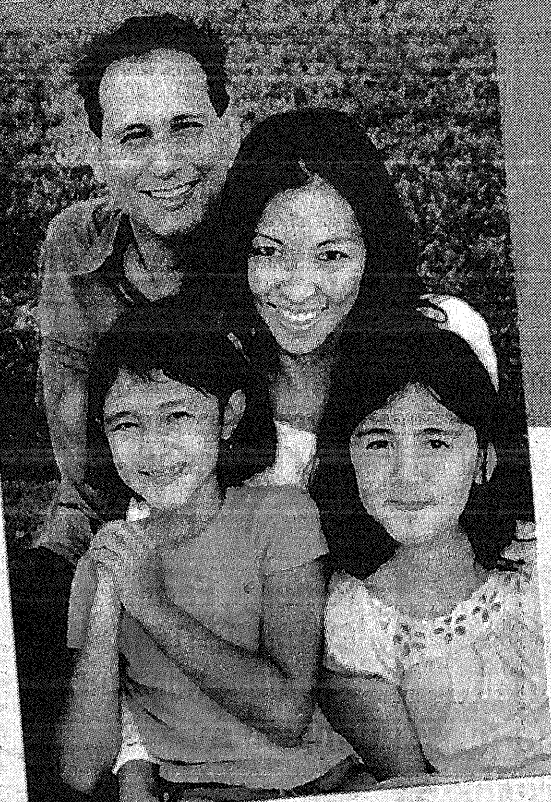
The Center offers a comprehensive group approach to its program, including pre-surgical classes and choosing a personal "coach"

to assist patients through the process.

The seminars are offered from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 28, 2010 and Thursday, Feb. 5, 2010 in classroom 10 and Tuesday, March 23, 2010 in the hospital auditorium.

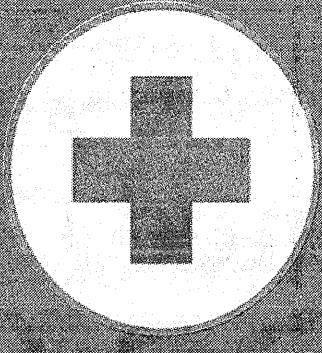
To register call (734) 655-2400.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital is located at 36475 Five Mile Road, at Levan, in Livonia. For more information about physician and hospital services, visit www.stmarymercy.org.



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- Rotate tires to manufacturer's specs
- Inspect tire surface for abnormal wear
- Inspect front & rear brake system

\$18⁹⁵* Was \$24.95 with coupon

*Visual inspection only. Vibration diagnosis is extra. Must present coupon when order is written. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Valid on most GM vehicles only. Plus tax and shop supplies. Expires 1/6/10. O&E

Multi Point Winter Inspection

- Check coolant & anti-freeze levels
- Check & adjust tire pressure
- Check & top off washer fluid
- Check belts & hoses • Check wiper blades
- Check keyless entry/remote start signal

\$29⁹⁵* Was \$85 with coupon

*System diagnosis extra, GMRKE only.

Must present coupon when order is written. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Valid on most GM vehicles only. Plus tax and shop supplies. Expires 1/6/10. O&E

Front Brake Pads Installed

Retail Price \$175

\$74⁹⁵* After \$25 Mail-In Rebate on most GM vehicles with coupon

Install ACDelco DuraStop ceramic brake pads.

*Turning or replacing rotors, all other services, and tax extra. Excludes Corvette, Saturn, Saab, HUMMER, and other select vehicles. Not valid with other offers. See dealer for eligible vehicles, details, and rebate form, which must be mailed by 1/31/10. Offer ends 12/31/09.

Must present coupon when order is written. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Valid on most GM vehicles only. Plus tax and shop supplies. O&E

Battery Service & Charging System Check

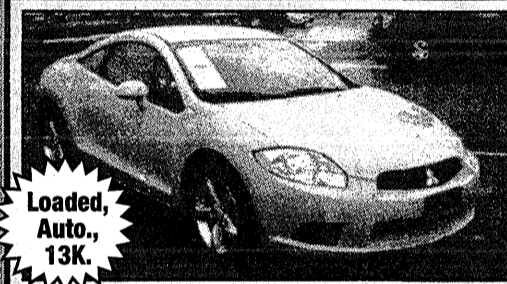
Goodwrench & Go car care package

- Service battery and fully charge
- Clean cables and connections
- Check alternator output

\$29⁹⁵* Was \$85 with coupon

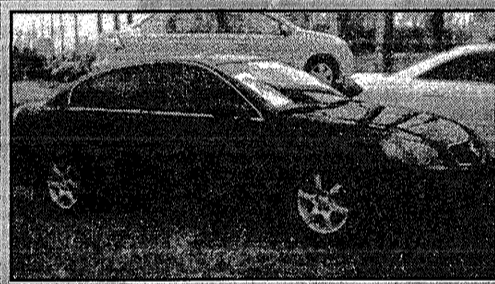
*Dead battery or draw concerns require added diagnoses. Must present coupon when order is written. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Valid on most GM vehicles only. Plus tax and shop supplies. Expires 1/6/10. O&E

GREAT SELECTION OF PRE-OWNED VEHICLES



Loaded, Auto., 13K.

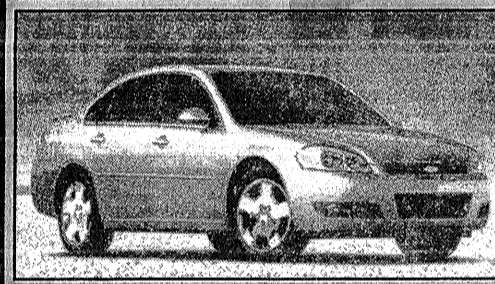
'09 Mitsubishi Eclipse \$16,900*



'06 Nissan Altima \$11,100*



'08 Mazda 3i \$12,900*

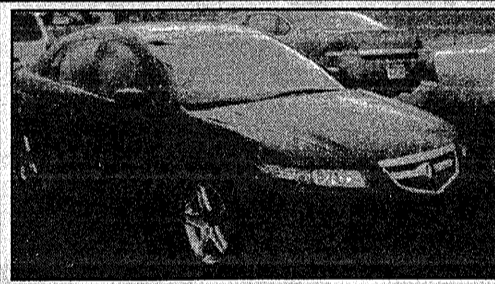


'08 Impala Starting at \$12,900*



Loaded, 27K.

'06 BMW 325XiT \$28,500*



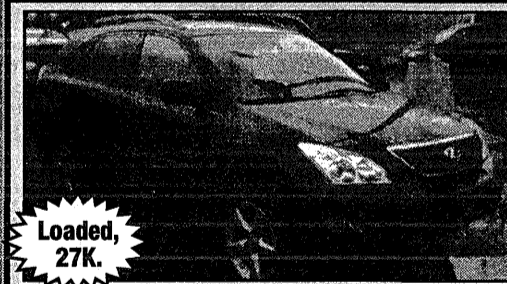
'06 Acura TL \$22,500*



'08 Toyota Avalon \$20,000*



'06 Honda Accord \$16,500*

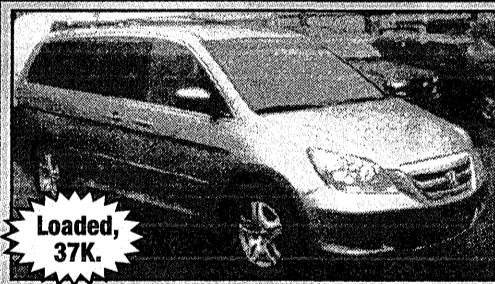


Loaded, 27K.

'07 Lexus 350 \$33,900*



'06 BMW X5 \$34,900*



Loaded, 37K.

'06 Honda Odyssey EX \$21,900*



Loaded, 39K.

'06 Honda Pilot EX 4x4 \$21,900*



Moonroof New Tires

'07 Trailblazer \$18,900*



'08 Chevy HHR \$11,900*



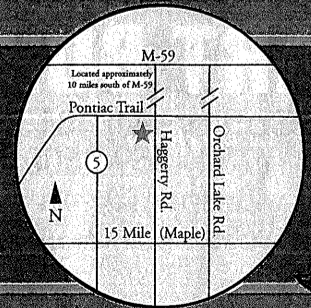
'03 Chevy Avalanche \$10,900*



Loaded, 34K.

'06 BMW X3 \$27,900*

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(at Pontiac Trail across from Walmart) • www.dickmorrischevrolet.com
248-624-4500



PLAN NOW AS THE RECOVERY LOOMS



WORKWISE

by
Mildred L.
Culp

Many people who still have their jobs have been trying to keep them. Planning for the recovery hasn't been a priority. Will you stay where you are?

If you won't stay, how can you mitigate risk? In either case, what are you currently doing with your earnings?

WORKING

You might be absolutely certain that you want to leave your company. Take a step back. Career counselor Anne Headley of College Park, Md., recommends making the most of your job by looking at increased workload demands as an opportunity, even if you're not confident about your ability. "Of course, you're doing it, because it beats being unemployed," she observes. "This does two things for you: it marks you a team player, even when the team is smaller than it used to be, and you just may get pushed into acquiring a new skill or two." That will make you more employable internally and externally.

Adam Lawrence brings similar perspective. He's vice president of Service Delivery program implementation and management at the Atlanta office of Yoh, a global staffing firm with 23,000 employees. Lawrence cautions you to be rational to avoid a precipitous move.

"Take your time," he says. "No one knows what type of recession this is. U-shaped recessions have us coming up the other side of the 'U.' That's a good thing. But if it's W-shaped, there's no way to predict. We have to go back. If you're really serious about job hunting, he advises you to review a company's financials. "Read the income statement," he says, "which is on the company web site if the organization is publicly-traded. Analyze the cash position and expansion potential. If a company is privately-held or venture-funded, politely ask for some level of disclosure, such as cash reserves." He adds not to sound suspicious.

Lawrence mentions that candidates rarely ask about the next step, something you might not want to do if you're applying for a job for which you're overqualified. Otherwise, "you should be able to ask that question," he states. "Does the company have a formal program in place for career progression? How is that executed? If it

does, you'll know the company is thinking that your talent is a real asset."

EARNING

Gerald Wernette, principal and director of Retirement Plan Services at Rehmann Financial L.L.C., in Farmington Hills, Mich., advocates rethinking how you distribute your salary. Although he works directly with employers in designing 401(k) plans all the way through monitoring them, he brings insight to employees about investing.

If you haven't been investing, you may be "paralyzed by bad experiences and the continuing challenges," he says. "Too many people start where they are today, are afraid and feel that they don't have any money to save. Start with where you want to end up. It will show what you need to save and earn and what kind of risks you should be willing to take to generate that return."

Wernette, who claims to be a procrastinator, advises similar spirits to find a money-manager to alleviate the burden of managing your money. He points out that if all of it is in cash, you'll miss out on upturns in the market. It's not too late to invest and benefit from the emerging recovery.

"Everyone's finances are tight," he comments. "You have to start somewhere. You can't afford



Gerald Wernette offers helpful advice about how to allocate your salary. He's principal and director of Retirement Plan Services at Rehmann Financial L.L.C., in Farmington Hills, Mich.

not to. Take a first step and, every time you get a raise, carve out part of it." Wernette cautions, however, that you look closely at your company's fiscal soundness. Don't invest in a 401(k) if your company isn't likely to do well. The recovery might not save it.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp welcomes your questions at culp@workwise.net. Copyright 2009 Passage Media.)

careerbuilder

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Employment
Instruction Services

Help Wanted-General 5000

A/P CLERK - ENTRY LEVEL
Needed for Multi State Developer in West Bloomfield. Successful candidates must be proficient using computers with a strong skill set and experience working with Microsoft Excel. Candidate must be able to multi-task and experience using MRI software preferred. Duties require a self-starter who is highly organized and has the ability to work well independently. We offer a competitive compensation package based on experience. All responses must incl salary requirements.

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CLEANERS, Full-Time for area homes. \$10 hr. to start. No nights or weekends. Car req. Plymouth Area: 734-455-4570

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

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Delivery Drivers
Reliable Delivery has immediate openings for delivery drivers w/ own vehicle. Must have good people skills and good knowledge of the Metro Detroit/Tri-county area. Only those with dependable transportation need apply. Apply in person at 6774 Brandt St., Romulus weekdays between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays.

INSTALLERS/DRIVERS
Exp'd. & trainees for Office Furniture Installation. Valid drivers license & transportation req'd. Exp'd. with tools & driving trucks a plus. Apply, in person: 29988 Anthony Dr., Wixom, MI 48393

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Real Estate Agent
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Help Wanted-General 5000
PISTON MANUFACTURING TECHNICIAN
Engine Manufacturer seeking energetic self-starting individual for our manufacturing / machine shop position located in Plymouth.

Responsibilities include: Daily support in machine shop on maintenance tasks. Monitoring of consumable inventory for re-order. Operation of manual machines such as lathe and mill. Preparation of finished components. Other duties may be assigned.

Candidate must have: At least 3 years experience in a machine shop environment with experience of manual machine operation. A high school diploma or equivalent. A knowledge and interest in automotive engines is a plus. Candidate will receive training on various equipment such as automatic machines. Basic computer skills mandatory.

Tools and uniforms are provided. Competitive salary & benefits. Qualified applicants should send resumes with salary requirements to:

Ilmor Engineering
Attn: Human Resources
43939 Plymouth Oaks Blvd
Plymouth, MI 48170
Email: hr@ilmor.com

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Resident Care Associates, Receptionist & Dietary Servers
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Exp'd. in repair of commercial & residential garage doors & electric openers. Call Delet Door Inc. 248-615-7788 or email: deletdoor@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-General 5000
SOFTWARE ENGINEER
FT Software Engineer - Plan & dev new comp systems & modifying existing systems to integrate upgrades & changes. Design & develop software systems using scientific analysis & mathematical models to predict & measure outcome & consequences of design. Consult with clients on project status, proposals & technical issues. Resp for requirement gathering, development of new reports, writing functional specification & program specification, tech design, coding reviews & drafting detailed unit test plans. Bachelors Degree in Comp. Science/related field or equiv. & 2 yrs exp req. Send Cvr Ltr & Resume to: Dearborn Group, Inc. Attention: Kathie O'Brien, 33604 W Eight Mile Rd. Farmington Hills, MI 48335

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Quick learning, friendly, confident people to sell vacations using proven telephone sales techniques. No cold calling. \$8/hr. + \$500-\$1300 avg. mo. commission with over \$2500 commission potential. 35-40 hrs/wk. Benefits. Dearborn. 313-278-4100 ymtvacations.com

WAVER
Get paid to wave in Livonia. Call Danny 248-935-2915 or Gus 248-943-9020

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020
BOOKKEEPER, FULL CHARGE/ ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
Minimum 5 yrs. exp. QuickBooks, Excel, Access Full-time plus position. Immediate Hire
Email resume to: pcagents@comcast.net

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
Great Expressions Dental Centers
Come join our expanding multi-practice organization as a FT ORAL SURGERY ASSISTANT
2+ years experience in position and computer literacy a must.

Forward Resumes to: Amber.Valko@greatexpressions.com or fax to: 248-203-1112

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
PHLEBOTOMY TRAINING
Classes begin Jan. & March. Garden City, Dearborn, Wyandotte & Southgate. \$925. State Licensed. Gift Certificates Available. 313-382-3857

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080
COOK
West Bloomfield Nursing Ctr., a Beaumont Hospital affiliate has a full time position available for an experienced cook. Health Care food service experience desired. Duties include cooking large quantities for an upscale client, banquet style food presentation and food line supervision. Health Care and other benefits available after 90 days. Fax your resume to: Kim Kaas at 248-661-2276 or apply in person at 6445 W. Maple, West Bloomfield.

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Find out how you may qualify for 100% PAID TUITION Military Spouse Tuition Assistance Available! Get certified in 6-12 months Medical Billing/Coding, Pharmacy Technology & Computer Training including Microsoft Certification programs starting now at New Horizons
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Job Placement assistance available. VA Training provider. Associate member of MI Works.

Divorce Services 5610
DIVORCE \$75.00
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CS&R 734-425-1074

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080
WAIT STAFF, COOKS, FT/PT
Pizza & Grill Exp. Apply at: Starting Gate 135 N. Center St., Northville

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240
FULL-TIME HOUSEKEEPER
prefer live-in for elderly man, Birmingham. Job references. Non-smoker. Good salary. 248-705-7621 / 248-645-6108

LIVE-IN caretaker needed for elder, nice man in Bloomfield Hills. Must have good references, good salary. 248-705-7621 or 248-645-6108

SEEKING IN HOME CARE PROVIDER
For elderly bed ridden Northville woman. Need assistance with meals, bathing, changing, ADLs. Pay \$100 for 12 hour shift. Call Merry: (313) 961-0425

Position Wanted 5340
IF YOU or a loved one need help w/daily activities or relief call us. 313-544-6434
We ALL could use a Break!

Education/Instruction 5600
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Observer and Eccentric Classified Early Deadline for New Year's Publications
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 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

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS
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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 office 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170
Hours 8:30 - 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 obtain housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice. CE0809519

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Manufactured Homes **\$740**

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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)461-9595 for more information

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Move in to your new home before the New Year and Receive a \$1000 Visa Gift Card

Custom financing with 5% down - BK. Foreclosure OK. Payments start at \$700 per month. Call (248)446-6600 for more information

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		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	4.625	0	4.125	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	4.625	0	4.125	0	J/A
Ameripius Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	4.875	0	4.25	0	J/A
BRINKS Financial	(800) 785-4755	4.5	0.75	4	0.225	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.375	1.125	4	0.125	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	5.125	0	4.5	0	J
Cornerstone Community Financial	(800) 777-6728	5.125	0	4.5	0	J/A/F
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	5	0	4.375	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4.875	0	4.25	0	J/V/F
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	4.875	0	4.375	0	F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	4.5	0.375	4	0.25	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	4.5	0.375	4	0.25	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	4.875	0	4.375	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.75	0.375	4.25	0	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	4.25	2	3.875	0.75	J/A

Above Information available as of 12/18/09 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. 

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Home & Service
Guide



Building Remodeling 0310

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barryscarpentry.com

Chimney Cleaning/Building & Repair 0480

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Drywall 0690

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Plaster repair. All jobs welcomed!
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Electrical 0700

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City cert. Violations corrected.
Service changes or any small job.
Free est. 734-422-8080

Floor Service 0860

HARDWOOD FLOORS
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Dustless system.
Excellent customer service.
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Handyman M/F 1020

True Mark Home Improvements & Repairs
All Types. Interior/Exterior.
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Handyman M/F 1020

ABSOLUTELY DU-IT-ALL Lic. & Ins.
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Handyman M/F 1020

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Home Improvement 1060

CABINETRY, COUNTERTOPS, FINISHED CARPENTRY.
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Roofing 1640

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BEST CHIMNEY CO.
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(313) 292-7722

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SNOW PLOWING & SALTING & Emergency Service Comm. & Res. Lic & Ins. Free Est.
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JOBS AND CAREERS

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Sunday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Ribs, slangily
- "Waterloo" group
- Crusty cheese
- Very snug
- Dairy sounds
- Per person
- Luigi's romance
- Tizzy
- "Iliad" deity
- Scoundrel
- Upscale wheels
- Almost grads
- Skip stones
- Greasy-spoon fare
- Corp. biggies
- Horse
- Malt brew
- Kind of dancer (hyph.)
- Vistas
- Motel amenities (2 wds.)
- "Becket" actor
- Advantage
- Barjo cousin
- Felt concern
- Noted groundhog's name
- Show of anger
- de cologne
- Wood ash product
- Hoedown musicians
- Maxim

DOWN

- Milky Way unit
- Airport vehicle
- Excited
- Sweet-singing bird
- Take the helm
- Kind of radio
- Trunk of a tree
- Lumber
- Humane org.
- Droplet
- Slightly cooked
- Finishes a cake
- Codgers' queries
- Historical periods
- Tea biscuit
- Utter chaos
- Prince Valiant's wife
- Hombre's title
- foo yung
- Pep

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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

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ACROSS

- Name in architecture
- Boredom
- Smells awful
- Stock or bond
- Applied gold leaf
- Long oar
- Unknown Jane "The Greatest"
- Rico
- Snap-brim hat
- Make changes
- Feet containers

DOWN

- Head for the hills
- Tad
- Changed hair color
- Pro — (proportionally)
- Junk mail
- Novelist Jean
-
- Pecky bug
- Whirlpool
- Pc.'s superior

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
17					18				19				
20					21				22				
23					24				25				
26	27	28			29	30	31		32	33	34	35	36
37					38				39				
40					41				42				
43					44				45				
46					47				48				
49	50				51	52			53	54	55		
56	57				58	59	60	61					
62					63				64				
65					66				67				
68					69				70				

SUDOKU

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!

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

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!

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K	E	T	T	L	E	D	R	U	M
A	N	T	R	U	M	P	E</		

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Notice is hereby given that on January 20, 2010 at 3:00 pm the following will be sold by competitive bidding at Stor Room Self Storage, 40800 Michigan Ave., Canton, MI 48188. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: Household Items, Recreational Items, and/or Misc. Goods. # 0203A Cynthia D Pope-Meads, 0234A Lia & T J'S Tasse Donuts, 0303A William A. Aaron, 0402B Tiffany D Taylor, 0436 David Moore, 0853A Brandy Varoskovic, 0902B Steven J Kleitch, 0908A Troy Abernethy, 1008B Wanda Johnson, 1014 Charity Mack

Household Goods 7160

DESK & CREDENZA Walnut with leather chair. \$700. Natuzzi Leather Couch. 734-709-7191

Dining Set-Formal. Bernhardt, seats 10. Best offer over \$4000. 8drm Set, medium oak, \$200. 734-709-7191

Auction Sales 7060

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