ALL-AREA BASKETBALL

Canton's Dietrich Lever on boys first team, B2

THURSDAY April 1, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

> Volume 124 Number 65 \$1.00



online at hometownlife.com



PIPELINE

Egg hunt

The Plymouth Lions Club sponsors this year's Easter egg hunt Saturday, April 3, at Plymouth Township Park.

The park is located off Ann Arbor Trail at McClumpha. The hunt will begin promptly at 10 a.m. Don't forget to bring baskets, bags and cameras. Club members will also be collecting hearing aids, eyeglasses and cell phones. For more information, e-mail debbaudino@hotmail.com or call (734) 207-7464.

Price increase

Effective Thursday, April 1, the single-copy price of the *Plymouth* Observer will be \$1.

The *Plymouth Observer* provides the best and most comprehensive coverage of community news, schools, sports, local business and local advertising. We sincerely appreciate your readership and look forward to serving you in the future.

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Damaris scholars

The Plymouth Community Arts Council will recognize a Plymouth-Canton School District senior who has displayed outstanding abilities in visual arts and plans to continue his/ her education in this field with the \$1,000 Damaris Fine Arts Award.

Students' artwork will be judged on its originality, creativity and use of material. Artwork will be professionally juried. Applications will be accepted April 27-30, the work will be juried April 30-May 3 and the Damaris Fine Arts Award will be announced May 4. Applications can be downloaded at: www.storytellerdesign.com/DamarisAward. pdf. Call (734) 416-4278 to make an appointment to submit application and portfolio.

Giving Circle

An educational evening focusing on mentoring for women takes place Wednesday, April 14, at Traditions Club House in Canton.

The program is presented by the Transition Center from Schoolcraft College. Hosted by Giving Hope Women's Giving Circle, the event is open to all women in the community. The evening begins with a reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by a questionand-answer session at 7:15 p.m.

Giving Hope Women's Giving Circle was born out of the belief that there are women in the Canton/Plymouth communities who, together, can make a meaningful impact on the lives of women and children in need.

The charge to attend is \$10 and space is limited. The Traditions Club House is located at 1315 Waterside Drive, Canton. Contact the Canton Community Foundation at (734) 495-1200.

Family copes as crash victim remains in coma

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

A Canton Township woman remains in a coma two months after a traffic crash in Plymouth Township prosecutors say was caused by a Westland podiatrist who was driving

Dawn Hengesbaugh turned 41 last month at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, where she has been since the Jan.

29 crash on Ann Arbor Road near I-275. Prosecutors say Jason Choos, 45, had a blood-alcohol level above the legal limit when he drove a Lincoln MKX into the rear of the Chevrolet Trailblazer being driven by Hengesbaugh, who was traveling with husband Larry and their two children.

Choos, who also lives in Canton, faces two counts of causing a serious injury while driving drunk, one count of marijuana possession and one count of illegally possessing a

He waived a preliminary hearing in 35th District Court, and was formally arraigned on those charges Friday in Wayne County Circuit Court before Judge Daniel Ryan. A circuit court hearing was scheduled for Thursday, May 13.

Meanwhile, the victim's family is struggling to cope with

Hengesbaugh's hospitalization, and her husband, who had recently returned to work after a layoff, is now turning more attention to his children in their mother's absence.

"No matter what happens with Dawn, it's just going to be the three of us for a long time," Larry Hengesbaugh said in a written statement. "We don't know what capacity

Please see CRASH, A6



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gina Siporin of Plymouth, and her mom, Jean Meyers of Livonia, wait for Candy Trail to open for business. They're shopping for Toxic Waste, a sour candy favored by Siporin's college-age kids.

White chocolate ducks are Easter specialties.

Sweet success

Downtown candy shop marks 1st year in business

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Opening a business is never easy, especially during recession, but Sandi McGrew found a sweet spot that's weathering the economic storm.

McGrew opened The Candy Trail just over a year ago, and the downtown Plymouth treat shop quickly caught on, selling candies in bulk, hard-to-find goodies like Necco wafers, Mary Janes and tiny wax bottles filled with sugary drink, and small plush toys, puzzles and arts and crafts supplies.

She picked the business, she said, in part because she thought it would be more likely than others to survive the downturn.

"When it was bad during the Depression, what made it through was confections, confections and entertainment," McGrew said at her store Tuesday. "I just knew most people like candy. Most people can afford a little candy."

From the opening of the shop on Ann Arbor Trail in March 2009, sales grew every month through last summer, she said. Things slowed in the cooler months, as others in the business told her they would, but Plymouth's many downtown events and holiday candy-buying brought people in and kept

Please see CANDY STORE, A6

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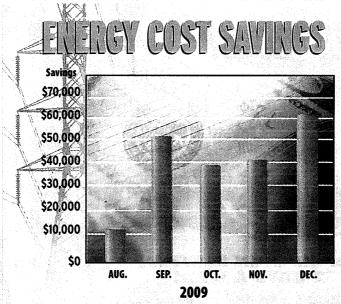
Savings light up district's energy report

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The energy management partnership Plymouth-Canton school officials entered into with Energy Education, Inc., is already paying higher dividends than expected, according to school district officials.

Jim Larson-Shidler, the district's assistant superintendent for business services, said the plan - aimed at helping the district save money by cutting down on energy usage and costs - has already saved the district nearly \$300,000 this school

In the first five months of



the program, the district saved some \$216,000, according to figures provided by Energy Education. Another \$75,000 was saved in January, though that figure was not included

Source: Plymouth-Canton Community Schools in the initial report. The best months were September (\$50,000) and December (\$60,000). Every building in the

Please see ENERGY, A6

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

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 1, 2010

Adventure guides

Are you looking for a great opportunity to spend quality time with your child while doing some fun activities and getting to know other families? Then the Plymouth YMCA Adventure Guides program is for you. This year-long program includes monthly circle meetings, as well as larger events each month that include activities such as pinewood derby, campouts, bowling parties and caroling.

The next event is a work weekend at Camp Ohiyesa in Holly, April 23-25. The weekend will consist of helping prepare the camp for the upcoming summer as well as provide participants with a chance to have some fun as well. This event is great chance to find out more about the guides program without making a full commitment. The cost of the event for potential members is \$25 per person. The deadline to register is April 7.

People interested in finding out more about the Adventure Guides program and this event should contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or ilandefeld@ ymcametrodetroit.org.

Good Friday breakfast

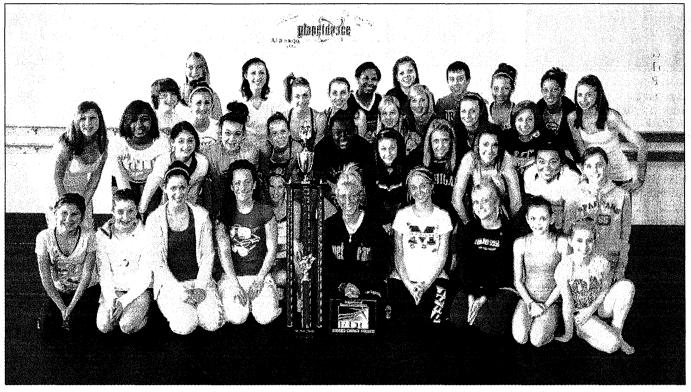
All men and boys are invited to an All-U-Can-Eat Breakfast Friday, April 2, at 8 a.m. at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon Rd. in Canton.

This community outreach event includes a powerful message by Pastor Dave Woodby and son Zack. Tickets are \$5 and \$2 for boys 10 and under and can be obtained by calling the church office at (734) 459-

Garden club

The Plymouth Garden Club meets Monday, April 12, at 12:30 p.m. in the Plymouth District Library.

Guest speaker Vicki Hicks will discuss the "Features of Good Garden Design." Light Refreshments will be served. After the presentation, there will be a short business meeting.



Dancing delight

Dancers from planetdance recently competed at the KAR Dance Competition in Walled Lake, where they took top honors with their competition team. The team consists of 60 dancers from the local area. The team won several overall honors, title awards, Top Elite Studio and was awarded the FDC award where the judges pick one routine from the weekend to compete in New Orleans. The weekend had over 500 routines. "The kids have worked so hard this year and it was evident to everyone the love of dance that each student has," planetdance owner Jen Toby said. "Words could never express how proud I am for all of the kids." planetdance is located at 44314 Cherry Hill in Canton. For more on the studio, visit www. planetdancestudio.com.

For more information contact Eileen Wittenberg (734) 340-2062 or visit our Web site sites.google.com/site/plymouthgardenclub

DAR meets

The Daughters of the American Revolution-Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter of Northville/Plymouth meets at noon Monday, April 12, at the Northville District Library on Cady Street in Northville.

Speaker Cathy Cottone, a genealogist with the Lyon Township Public Library. presents "Smorgasbord of Genealogy." It's an annual meeting featuring prepared reports from officers and the chairman.

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

Show and tell

"Show and Tell" takes on a new dimension at the Plymouth Historical Museum when collectors display their

collections and possibly sell an item or two.

"Show and Tell... and Sell" showcases are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, April 17, and Saturday, May 15. The May 15 showcase is planned to feature military collectibles, as the event occurs on Armed Forces Day. The museum is still looking for collectors for these events. Details and an application can be found on the museum's Web site at http://www.plymouthhistory. org/Events.html.

The showcases are part of the Plymouth Historical Museum's current special exhibit, "Show and Tell Collectibles," which runs through Sunday, June 13. The exhibit consists of an eclectic mix of personal and Museum collections ranging from antique tools to chatelaines to stuffed animals.

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, a block north of downtown Plymouth. Hours are Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday 1-4 p.m. For further information, call (734) 455-8940 or visit the museum's Web site at www.plymouthhistory.org.

Senior spellers

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging together with the Northville Senior Center will host the annual Wayne County Senior Spelling Bee on Wednesday, April 14, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Northville Senior Center located at 303 W. Main Street, Northville.

Call (734) 453-1234, Ext.236 to RSVP as a speller or specta-

Wayne County will offer a free lunch, prizes and raffles for everyone who attends. Remember you don't have to be a speller to participate.

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Ice cream social

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging hosts a free "ice cream social" with state Rep. Marc Corriveau Monday, April 26, from 2-3 p.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, in Plymouth.

Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 to RSVP. All invited to enjoy an ice cream sundae and to listen and voice any concerns or questions you may want to ask.

Grief seminar

Emmanuel Lutheran Church is sponsoring an eight week grief workshop, "From Grief to New Hope" beginning on April

This free workshop is open to the community and will be held on eight consecutive Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Each session will begin with a talk about one aspect of grief followed by small group participation led by trained facilitators. Each person will be placed in a group with others who have had similar losses. The workshop will meet at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile Road in Livonia.

For registration information, please call (248) 442-8822. For information about other age and loss specific grief support groups offered by New Hope Center for Grief Support call (248) 348-0115 or visit the Web site www.newhopecenter.net.

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Students' artwork will be judged on its originality, creativity, and use of material. Artwork will be professionally

Applications will be accepted April 27-30, the work will be juried April 30-May 3, and the Damaris Fine Arts Award will be announced May 4.

Applications can be downloaded at: www.storytellerdesign.com/DamarisAward.pdf

Contact Tamara Trudelle at the PCAC, (734) 416-4278 to make an appointment to submit application and portfolio.

Brandon speaks

David Brandon, the University of Michigan's athletic director and former CEO of Domino's Pizza, will be the guest speaker during a Canton Economic Club luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 7, at the Summit on the Park Community Center, 46000 Summit Parkway.

Cost is \$20. To register, call (734) 394-5185 by Friday, April 2.

Hospice support

Compassionate Care Hospice is offering a seven-week grief support series, "Understanding Your Grief," beginning Thursday, April 15.

The group is for any adult who has experienced the death of a loved one and will provide support and education on the grieving process. The group will be conducted at the Compassionate Care Hospice office located at 5820 N. Lilley Rd., Ste. 1, Canton, from 7-8:30 p.m. There is no charge.

For information or to register, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator, at (734) 983-9050.

Summer camp enrollment PLAV members

Plymouth-Canton Montessori School is offering a Summer Camp program for children between the ages of 3 and 6 years. The nine-week summer day camp, located on the school's campus at 45245 Joy Road In Canton, begins June 21 and ends Aug. 20.

Children have the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of theme-related projects that include lots of arts and crafts, in-house presenters, science experiments, dramatic

play, cooking, picnics, outdoor time, music, stories and games.

"Our program is especially designed to meet the development needs of young children," said Linda Myers, summer camp director. "Our professional and experienced staff of early childhood educators offers young campers a wonderful balance of learning and play."

Full and half-day programs are available during the summer session with morning-only groups running from 8:45 to 11:45 a.m. and afternoon groups from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Full time care for day campers is also available from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. as needed.

While parents are encouraged to enroll children for the full summer camp, Plymouth-Canton Montessori accepts part-summer enrollments to accommodate families' work and vacation schedules.

For additional information about Plymouth-Canton Montessori School and the summer camp program, call 734-459-1550 or visit www. pemontessori.org. Early enrollment is recommended to ensure availability.

Hospice volunteers

Compassionate Care Hospice is a community-based organization committed to providing excellent hospice care for patients and their families. The group is currently seeking caring and dedicated individuals to provide support by being a friendly visitor to patients in the Western Wayne County area. Training is provided.

For more information, contact Ann Christensen, Volunteer Coordinator, tollfree (888) 983-9050 or e-mail at achristensen@cchnet.net.

Prisoner family support

Do you have a family member currently in prison? Do you feel alone? Do you wish you had a support group that you could turn to?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then this support group is for you. Contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or e-mail bonnie@hope-4healing.com for more information. This support group is to provide adult family members with support and a place to talk with others that have experienced similar pain.

Meetings are free and run 6:30-8:30 p.m., the second Monday of every month at Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill. Westland.

Rabbit sponsors

Great Lakes Rabbit Sanctuary, the largest rabbit rescue in the United States, is looking for individual sponsors of its 500-plus bunnies.

The sanctuary, located in Willis, near Ypsilanti, is seeking sponsors for \$15 per month. To view rabbits in need of sponsorship and to sign up, visit www.rabbitsanctuary.org.

For more information, call (734) 461-1726.

PLAV Post #166, located at 39375 Amrhein in Livonia (at the southeastern corner of Amrhein and Eckles) is seeking new veteran members (the first year is offered free).

The Post meeting is the second Monday of every month (except July and August) and begins at 7:30 p.m. with a light lunch that follows the meeting. Those interested are welcome; contact Sr Vice Cmdr/Adj Roger L. Kehrier, (734) 453-

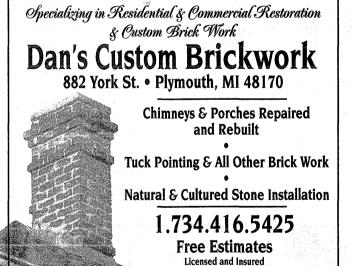


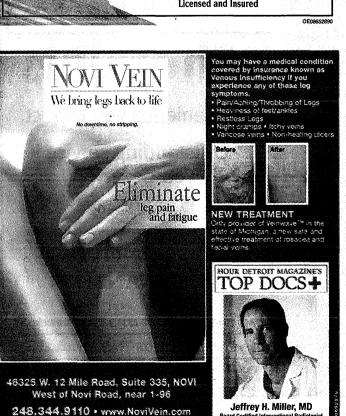
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Supervisor cites tough road in township

BY JULIE BROWN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume knows these are tough times for

municipalities. "There are definitely challenges," Reaume said at a

March 30 Plymouth A.M. Rotary breakfast. "One of the biggest reasons is health care costs. We're at the mercy

of the value of

your home and

the dollars that



Reaume

brings in." Reaume showed a chart indicating that at 3 percent growth the current budget would need 14 years to regroup. Residents favor most important services, he said, citing 9-1-1 dispatch, police and fire.

The township is now bringing in \$12 million annually, compared to \$14 million in taxes and fees. Clerical union workers agreed to \$300,000 concessions, and negotiations continue to Beck will be upgraded with

with police. Firefighters and township leaders are at an impasse, Reaume said.

In the past, two firefighters worked a shift at the Lake Pointe station, two at the Beck Road station and four at the Haggerty station. With layoffs, three now work a given shift from Haggerty.

Reaume discussed work with private Huron Valley Ambulance, which includes freeway patrols. A couple Rotarians questioned the use of the private firm in conjunction with township paramedics, wondering about overstaffing.

Reaume said medical emergencies often require multiple paramedics, and that mutual aid with neighboring communities Livonia and Canton helps to cover overflow. He noted crime is down some 8 percent despite a glum economy.

Reaume had some bright spots for residents, some of which he'd covered in his portion of the recent State of the Community report. In the fall, North Territorial from Sheldon resurfacing, as will the adjacent Beck to freeway portion, with additional nearby work pos-

Five Mile and Ridge, an intersection which has seen crashes, will soon get a blinking red light and four-way stop, he said.

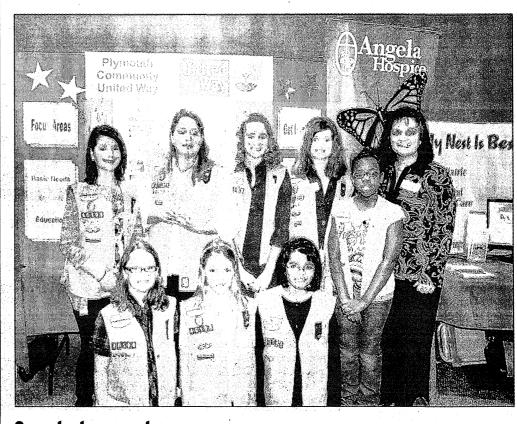
Reaume pointed with pride to industrial and business growth in the township, including firms related to the auto industry and others. "Pick up Michigan products," he urged. "I do it all the time, too. That's what we can do ourselves.'

He said the township and city of Plymouth work well together, and anticipates the upcoming Downtown Development Authority project: "They need to do that. It was getting a little stale."

The township's revenue is about 55 percent residential, 45 percent commercial, he said, noting the commercial sector uses fewer services, in part because of more limited hours of operation.

"So it becomes a really good mix," Reaume said.

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



Scouts honored

Girl Scout Cadette Troop 40196, of Plymouth, received an Outstanding Community Service Award from Plymouth Community United Way at the United Way's annual meeting. The girls were recognized for serving their community by raking leaves for senior citizens, bell ringing for the Plymouth Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign over the Christmas holiday, and collecting clothing and canned goods. Pictured at the United Way annual meeting are (front row) Brenna Wayne, Christina Christenson and Maha Zahid and (back row) Avery Messina, Madeline Stowe, Emily Johnson, Caitlin Hunter, Lionelle Tillman and Karen Stowe, troop leader.

Township OKs tax break for manufacturer

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

A Plymouth Township company last week won a green light from the township for a tax break for \$3 million worth of equipment it plans to install at its plant on Plymouth Oaks Boulevard.

DADCO, which makes equipment used in manufacturing processes such as metal-stamping and plastic injection molding, has seen an increase in demand and wants to add production capacity, said township Supervisor Richard Reaume. The **Industrial Facilities Exemption** Certificate it seeks would cut in half, for 12 years, the taxable value of the \$3 million in equipment it wants to add.

The township Board of Trustees approved DADCO's application with a 6-0 vote at its March 23 meeting. Trustee Robert Doroshewitz was

Final approval of the tax

break rests with the state.

DADCO, which is headquarted in the township, has facilities around the globe, including in Germany, Mexico and South Korea. Company officials did not return phone

Intersection changes

The intersection of Five Mile and Ridge Road, the scene of two fatal crashes last summer, is scheduled for upgrades that officials hope will improve traffic safety there.

The intersection is to become a four-way stop with a blinking red light some time this year, said Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume. The move comes after a Wayne County traffic study that was called for after the accidents last summer.

The intersection now has stop signs for traffic on Ridge; drivers heading east or west of Five Mile have the right of way.

Both accidents occurred when a vehicle on Ridge collided with a semi truck that was traveling through the intersection.

Dispatch upgrades

Grant money will help pay for upgrades at the emergency dispatch center that serves Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

The township Board of Trustees, with a voice vote on March 23, approved the purchase of a Positron Viper communications system from AT&T. The contract is worth approximately \$157,000; the money is coming from a U.S. Department of Justice grant.

The dispatch center, based at the Plymouth Township Police Department, handles 911 emergency calls to the police in both the city and the township, as well as fire and medical emergency calls to the Plymouth Community Fire Department, which covers both communi-

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Police seek suspects who targeted Target

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Four suspects were being sought by Canton police for a brazen retail theft that led to an assault on a security employee Monday afternoon at the Target store on Michigan Avenue near Beck, Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said.

The employee wasn't seriously injured during the incident that occurred shortly before 4 p.m., though police said he was punched in the head by one suspect who threatened his life.

Three of the suspects are accused of stuffing stolen merchandise into purses and a backpack, fleeing the store and getting into a 1998 red Chevrolet Monte Carlo driven by a fourth suspect, Schreiner

The driver sped west on Michigan Avenue toward

Washtenaw County, and Schreiner said Canton officers tried to stop the car before calling off the pursuit.

"Police attempted to stop them, but the decision was made not to pursue them due to the amount of traffic and (the potential danger to) innocent people in the area at the time," he said.

Anyone who may have witnessed the incident is urged to call the Canton Police Department at (734) 394-5400.

Two black females and one black male, described as in their mid-20s, went inside the Target and began putting store merchandise in purses and a backpack they either stole or brought with them, Schreiner said.

A security employee who tried to stop them as they left the store was attacked by the male suspect, punched in the

head and verbally threatened, the detective said.

"They all got into a waiting vehicle that sped off," Schreiner

No weapon was revealed, and authorities have described the incident as an aggressive retail fraud.

Police were continuing to investigate the incident.

The suspect accused of attacking the employee was described as a 6-foot-2 black male, 190 pounds and in his mid-20s.

The female suspects were both described as 5-foot-4, in their mid-20s and about 150-160 pounds.

The driver was described as a black male, 6 feet tall and approximately 180 pounds, Schreiner said. The driver also had dreadlocks.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238



Canton police have released this photo of a suspect in a retail fraud incident that turned violent at the Target store on Michigan Avenue.

Parts reportedly stolen from two work vehicles

A catalytic converter was reported stolen from each of two work vehicles at Zimmer Great Lakes, on Concept Drive in Plymouth Township, on

March 25. An employee at Zimmer, a distributor of medical and orthopedic products, told police March 25 that the parts had been taken some time since March 18 from two Chevrolet

Express vans.

Police said the catalytic converters had been cut off. Stolen catalytic converters are commonly resold for the metal inside.

By Matt Jachman

FIRE RUNS

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period March 24-30:

• Tuesday, March 30 - Special

run on Pinecrest; rescue run at Ann Arbor Road and Lilley; commercial rescue runs on Lilley and on Sheldon; residential rescue runs on Newporte and on Plymouth Way.

• Monday, March 29 -Residential rescue runs on Newport, on Shadywood, on Canton Center, on Heritage, on Arthur and on B Drive; commerical rescue run on Five Mile; vehicle accident on westbound M-14 at Sheldon.

· Sunday, March 28 - Vehicle accident on eastbound M-14 to northbound I-275; residential rescue run on Northville Road; commercial rescue run on

• Saturday, March 27 -Residential rescue runs on Pinewood, on Erik Court and on Penniman; commercial rescue runs on Ann Arbor Road and on Penniman; mutual-aidgiven fire run on Cameron.

• Friday, March 26 -Residential rescue runs on Van Buren and on Grant; dumpster fire on Union; commercial rescue run on Ann Arbor Road; fire on Wing.

• Thursday, March 25 -Residential rescue runs on Lexington, on Firwood, on Schoolcraft, on Huntington and on Marguerite; commercial rescue runs on Main and

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on Ann Arbor Road; vehicle accident (with wash-down) at Hines and Haggerty; carbon monoxide detector run on Duxbury.

• Wednesday, March 24 - Residential rescue runs on Haggerty, on Plymouth Oaks, on E and on Plymouth Way; commercial rescue run on Wilcox; rescue run on Arthur; mutual-aid-given rescue run on Farmcrest.

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Science fiction author to speak

Science fiction author Eric S. Rabkin will discuss popular themes and ideas presented in Ray Bradbury's book *Fahrenheit* 451 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Rabkin will present his discussion, "Bradbury, Utopia and Fahrenheit 451," at the keynote session of Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency's Big Read.

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest and is designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The Big Read brings together partners across the country to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment.

Wayne Metro is sponsoring free special events and programming through April 30 that coin-



Eric S. Rabkin

cide with the book *Fahrenheit* 451. Events include book discussions, movie screenings, poster contests and writing workshops. All events are free and open to the public. "We have a lot of great events planned," said Wayne

Metro CEO Louis Piszker. "The Big Read is one of those programs that really inspire the community to get involved and pick up a book."

Rabkin is a noted Arthur F.
Thurnau Professor and professor of English language and literature at the University of Michigan. He is widely recognized for his publications and contributions to the genre of science fiction. Additionally, Rabkin knows Bradbury personally and will share details regarding Bradbury's writing influences.

Following the discussion at 1 p.m., The University of Michigan's ROC Theatre Troupe will perform "Dorm Dayz." This sketch promotes communication and trusting relationships across cultural and ethnic diversity lines.

For a complete list of free Big Read events, visit www.waynemetro.org/bigread.html or call (734) 246-2280, ext. 123.

Donors lining up for Friday blood drive

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of donors have signed up for a Good Friday blood drive at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church in Canton, and organizers also hope to register a large number of people to become potential bone marrow donors.

"It's a huge, huge blood drive," said Cathy Hulett, one of the organizers. "It's all about giving life."

As the event continues to grow, Hulett said a table also will be set up for people who want to register as organ donors.

The latest drive became even more personal for the church after one of its members, Canton mother of two Kerry Brooks, learned she needs a matching bone marrow donor. Brooks, 45, needs a life-saving peripheral blood stem cell transplant as she battles acute lymphoblastic leukemia and, specifically, the rarer Philadelphia chromosome positive form.

Early this week, American Red Cross representative Diane Risko said 350 people already had signed up to donate blood.

There's no charge to donate blood, she emphasized, and she said anyone who still wants to register for the 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. event may call her at (313) 549-7052. Blood donors should be 17 or older.

More information also is available by calling Hulett or another church organizer, Peggy Greene, at (734) 981-1333, ext. 18.

Meanwhile, no registration is needed for the bone marrow donor effort, and walk-ins are urged to stop by the church at 555 S. Lilley. The process is quick and simply requires a cheek swab.

quick and simply requires a cheek swab. And while the National Marrow Donor Program asks

for a \$25 registration fee, Hulett said it's not required. "It is not mandatory," she said. "If people can't afford the \$25, we will make it

happen."
Anyone joining the Be
The Match marrow registry
should be between the ages of
18 and 60, willing to donate to
any patient and meet certain

Brooks' husband, Dave Brooks, has encouraged those who cannot attend Friday's drive to join the national registry by logging onto www. marrow.org and clicking on the "Join the Registry" tab.

health guidelines

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Event to benefit wounded soldiers

The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund will hold its Fourth Annual Dinner and Auction at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, April 24, at Laurel Manor in Livonia. All proceeds go directly to helping wounded Michigan soldiers and the families of Michigan's fallen.

This year's keynote speaker is Judge Anthony Napolitano, FOX News Channel senior judicial analyst and author of four books, including his latest, *Dred Scott's Revenge*. The master of ceremonies for the evening is Detroit television and radio personality Chuck Gaidica.

Past speakers have included retired Col. Oliver North; Robert Lutz, former vice chairman of global product development for General Motors, and Marcus Luttrell, former Navy SEAL and author of the book *Lone Survivor*.

Last year's event raised more than \$200,000
— money that went directly to helping returning soldiers deal with medical issues, financial hardship caused by their deployments, as well as setting up scholarships for the children of our fallen beroes

Both a silent and live auction will be held, and a book signing by Judge Napolitano will round out the evening.

For tickets, call Monica Samojedny at (734) 799-4519.

check out the numbers in today's SPORTS section

THINKING ABOUT...



Federal tax credit

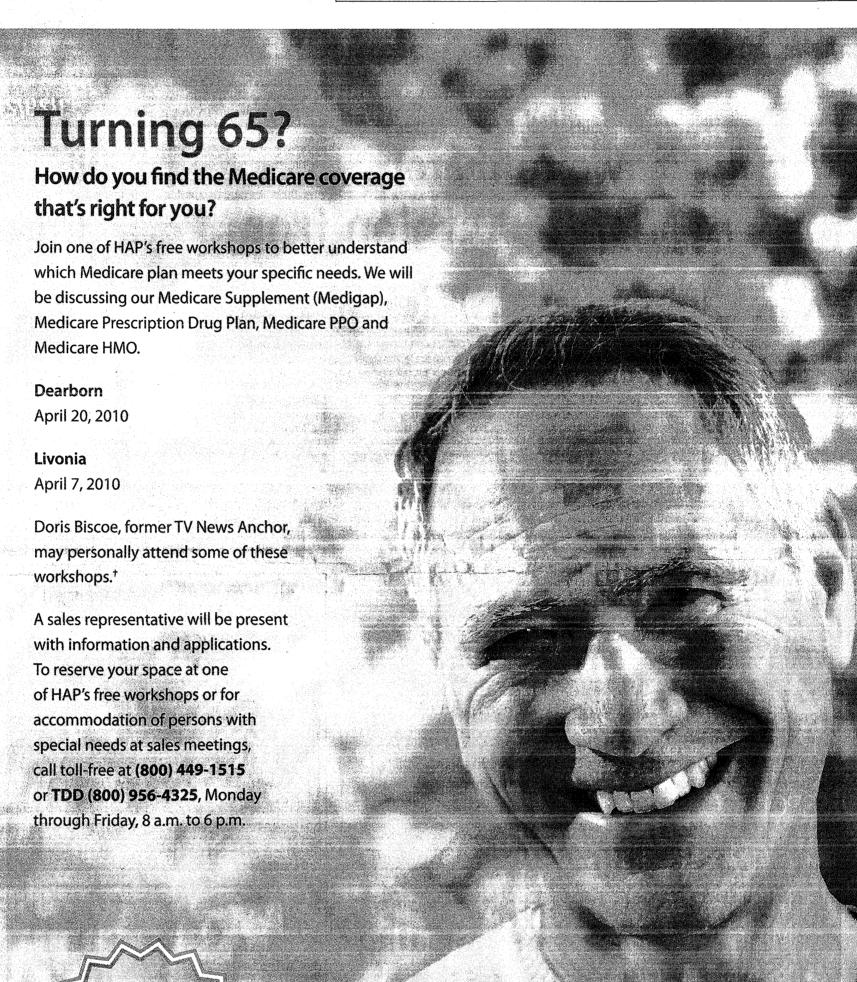
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MedicareSolutions

district saved at least a little bit on energy costs in the first five months, led by Allen (a 31percent reduction) and Bird (a 26-percent reduction) elementaries.

"We want to recognize the staff and plant engineers at those schools," said Dale Leiting of Energy Education. "A can-do attitude is what

made the difference there." **Energy Education supplies** districts with intensive training for school personnel. The company has worked with more than 900 educational organizations across the nation, impacting the educational environment of more than 12 million children and helping clients save more than \$1.5 billion in 22 years.

Plymouth-Canton entered into the contract with Energy Education in spring 2009, and it went into effect in August 2009. The primary goal, obviously, is to eliminate energy waste and make the district's energy systems run

more efficiently.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 1, 2010

The basis is to optimize mechanicals during unoccupied times," Larson-Shidler said. "We haven't always been consistent (with energy conservation). Now we have guidelines."

of its energy costs (61 percent) in electrical energy, while 30 percent is in gas and the other 9 percent in water/sewer. Savings were realized, at least in part, because rates for electrical (a drop of 10 percent) and natural gas (a 4-percent drop) have changed. Rates for water/sewer went up 15 percent.

Energy Education estimated the district would spend more than \$1.7 million in energy costs from August-December, but actual costs came in at some \$1.5 million.

The district's three high schools were at the lower end of the savings spectrum, but Leiting said that was easily explainable.

"High schools are more difficult because there are a lot more after-school activities,' he said.

The district is at a 13-per-

cent savings this year and hopes to get into the mid-20s next year, Larson-Shidler said. Benchmark districts like Farmington, Utica and Walled Lake are all over 30 percent, he said.

"That's where we want to The district spends the bulk $\;$ be," Larson-Shidler said.

Just as important as the money, district officials say, is the reduction in energy use the district has seen. According to figures provided by Energy Education, Plymouth-Canton used some 12.6 percent less energy than expected.

"Everyone likes to focus on the money, but we are conserving energy," said Frank Ruggirello, the district's director of community relations. "We're being responsible environmentally.'

It was the first report board members had heard since the program started last fall.

"We've been chomping at the bit to see some results since we started this," board President Steven Sneideman said. "It's great to finally see

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CANDY STORE FROM PAGE AT

her going.

McGrew freely admits having a candy store wasn't a longtime dream, but says she's enjoying it nonetheless.

'Very fun. People are nice. You don't get many returns,' she said. "Honestly, I didn't know what to expect."

She had worked for years, in marketing, collections and customer service, for a major utility, and has also done retail work and worked for insurance companies.

"I started asking God, 'Now what do I do?" she said. She began noticing candy, she said, including an exhibit on chocolate at Greenfield Village, and "the ideas started to form."

McGrew researched her subject by visiting a number of candy shops, including in Ypsilanti, Grand Blanc and Wyandotte. People she talked to were helpful, she said, and she got good advice.

A big focus at first was on the "retro" items, the kind of treats Baby Boomers grew up with, but customers began requesting other things, too. The Candy Trail presents shoppers with a colorful array of bulk bins, candy displays and logos for candies like Jelly Belly jelly beans and M&Ms. There's hard candy, chewables, chocolates, chewing



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sandi McGrew owns Candy Trail in downtown Plymouth.

Pucker Powder), Gummi Bears and even the familiar red boxes of pumpkin seeds.

Deborah Mazzei of Dearborn was picking up Easter candy,

including foil-wrapped chocolate eggs, jelly beans and bunny-shaped chocolate, Tuesday. She said she sometimes stops in at the store when visiting her husband at work in Plymouth.

"I love that it has that oldfashioned stuff," Mazzei said of The Candy Trail. "It's that old-fashioned feeling when you come in here. It's more personalized."

It's hard for McGrew to compete on price with chain stores, as they often get bigger wholesale discounts for buying in larger quantities, but she said she tries to gain an edge by offering candies the chains don't carry.

She also provides specialty items, such as "candy bar bouquets" made to resemble bouquets of flowers, and custom-designed (and -filled) candy bowls for wedding receptions. And McGrew recently branched into holding children's parties, providing guests with cupcakes, a candy buffet and a magic show.

McGrew said she has a loyal base of customers and fans of downtown Plymouth.

"They want the stores to be here," she said. "They want their downtown to thrive."

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we're going to get her back in, if she comes back at all."

He said he had been more of a traditional breadwinner while his wife took care of 12year-old Zack and 5-year-old Jacquelyn, as well as for a 99year-old grandmother. Now, Larry Hengesbaugh said, he's getting the children ready for the day, taking them to school and preparing their meals. Injuries suffered in the crash, he said, have limited his ability

to work. Larry Hengesbaugh said he's also having serious conversations with Zack and Jacquelyn about their mother's condition.

The conversations I've had to have with them lately ... no father should have to have with a 5-year-old child," Hengesbaugh said. "What I've had to talk to my kids about is the worst things you could ever imagine."

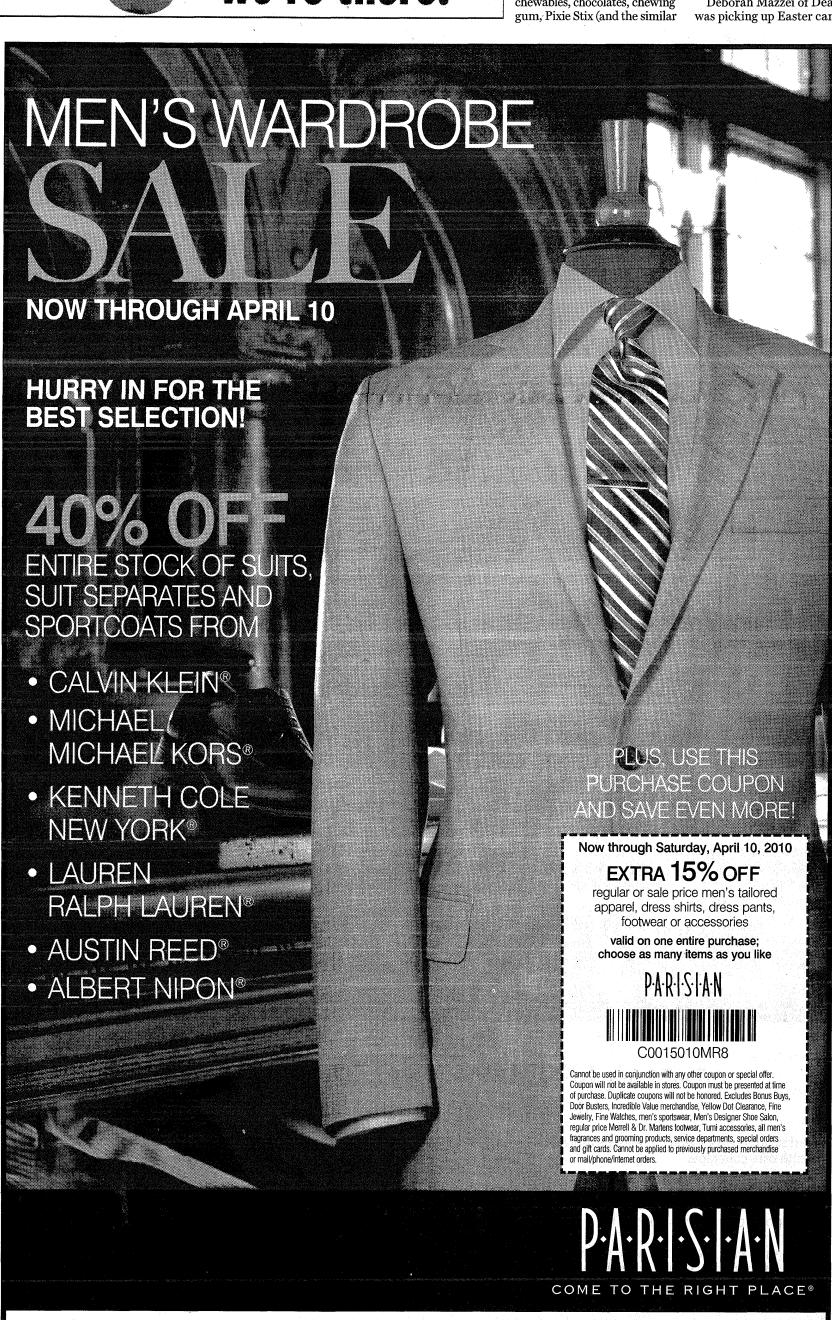
A fund has been set up through National City Bank to aid the Hengesbaugh family. The fund is in Dawn Hengesbaugh's name and the address is 43124 Ironsides Court, Canton, MI 48187.

Choos is free on bond required to submit to alcohol testing several times a day. Police said they found marijuana in the Lincoln he was driving, along with a semiautomatic pistol for which he did not have the proper permit.

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not only

Diva Day,

but some

shoppers

day," too.

made it "dog

Ladies turn out for Diva Day shopping

BY JULIE BROWN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Cyndi Spurlock of Canton was among early shoppers at Saturday's Diva Day for women in Plymouth.

"I love the concept," Spurlock said of the day sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. "It's a great idea. We're always taking care of everybody else."

This is the second year for the day aimed at women shoppers, and Spurlock was among Canton Newcomers members who attended. She likes Bella Mia, which sells clothes, along with clothing store Maggie & Me, and Panera's and Starbucks for

"You can't shop and not eat," she said with a smile. She's noticed a lot of choco-

late shops in Plymouth, and wonders if there are too many. "How many do we have? There's quite a few."

Friend Cindy Koldys of Canton, who grew up in Plymouth, likes Gabriala's and the newer Home Sweet Home, which she calls "well displayed, very unique." She used to ride her bicycle into Plymouth as a girl.

She'd like more reasonable prices for gifts in Plymouth, and likes the new Genuine Toy Co. toy store on Forest.

"I'm down here a couple times a month," said friend Julie New of Canton. She likes Gabriala's, the Hallmark store on Forest and the Plymouth Yoga Room.

"I pretty much shop the Plymouth-Canton retail outlets," New said. She likes Plymouth for unique gifts. "Maybe a shoe place," she said of what she'd like added.

Koldys said the Cherry Hill Village area further south in Canton needs more businesses. "It is closer and it's unique," she said. "It would be nice to see it productive."

Marilyn Messina of Canton said of Plymouth, "I think it's a real cute little town, but it's pricy for me." As a senior, she likes discounts at Canton's Kohl's and J.C. Penney.

I live at Penney's and Kohl's and they're right near each other," Messina said. She loves the Cozy Cafe in downtown Plymouth, which was reopened by her daughter's boss, a Canton dentist, after being closed.

"I love their food and I was glad it reopened," Messina said of the Cozy Cafe.



Women line up outside the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce office on Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth to get their free Diva Day boas. There were 500 free boas available, and they were gone by 1 p.m. Women got beads the rest of the afternoon.

Shopper Carol Palk was walking on Ann Arbor Trail with granddaughter Julia Sokolowski, 22 months. They were among the first 500 women shoppers who received turquoise boas to wear for Diva Day.

"We're just coming down looking at the stores and getting some Easter candy," Palk said. "Oh, I love it," she added of Plymouth, citing variety and friendly merchants.

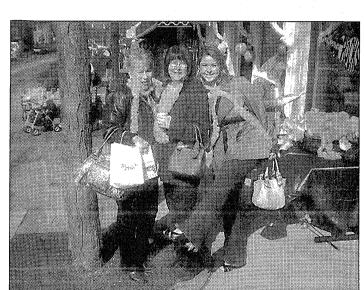
Palk likes Sideways for gifts, Muriel's, which sells dolls, doll clothing and houses and more, as well as Forest Avenue Meats.

Palk has lived in the Plymouth-Canton community about 30 years. "So we've seen some changes. Just different," she said. "I try to do a lot of our shopping here in town. I think it's a wonderful place to live."

Lori Nork of Livonia brought her daughter and two friends to Diva Day. "It's great," Nork said of Plymouth. "It's got a lot of different stores. A lot of great places to eat."

She likes the Brass & Iron Bed Shop on Ann Arbor Trail, with her daughter adding

Bella Mia as a destination. Nork also shops at Laurel Park Place mall in Livonia, Twelve Oaks in Novi and Westland Shopping Center. She needs a good weather day to visit Plymouth, such as Saturday. "You just have more unique shops in a downtown," she said.



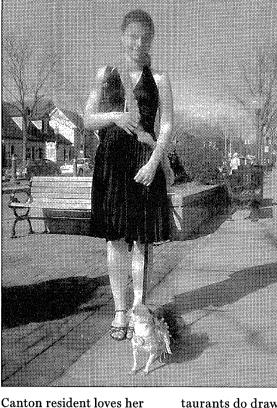
It was time for a little "Diva Dance" for these ladies shopping downtown Plymouth on Diva Day.

Stella Delap, owner of Basket Kreations on Forest, was busy but took a few minutes to talk business. She's been at that site 11 years and was in Canton 10 years before

"Wonderful customers, being very flexible with the way the economy has been," Delap said

of her business success. **Basket Kreations now** does more gifts "for any and every occasion," especially at Christmas. There are fewer corporate orders, but still baskets done for get well,

sympathy and new babies. "So we're still that alternative to flowers," she said. The



"It has a really home feel to it." Residents shop locally, as do customers from Canton, Westland, Garden City and Ann Arbor.

Plymouth business address,

where she spends many

"They really look at Plymouth as a great place" to bring families and girlfriends, Delap said.

"Every day is amazing, the people you meet from all over," Delap said, comparing Plymouth to Mayberry of TV fame. "It's like you know everybody."

She wants to keep a balance of merchants. "People like to be able to bring their kids in." The nearby Burger Spot on Forest is set to reopen soon, and she gets a lot of questions about that eatery.

Delap, who was giving out **Tootsie Lollypop Bouquets** Saturday, urges customers to check out "the oldies but goodies here."

Wes Graff, executive director of the Plymouth chamber, agreed balance is needed in a retail mix. Bars and restaurants do draw patrons to downtown Plymouth.

"So in that sense it's a positive," said Graff. The ability to maintain safety is key.

He cited a shoe store, particularly for women, as a need for downtown Plymouth. A downtown is different from a mall, Graff said, and a merchant there needs a Web presence to supplement store traffic.

"You have to have a really solid marketing plan," he said. Basket Kreations is one such store he cited, along with the new Sun & Snow sporting goods store at Ann Arbor Trail and Main. Sun & Snow was open Saturday for a "sneak peek" with the permanent opening set for this week.

Businesses need to be able to distribute their service/ product effectively, he said.

"This is a fun event," Graff said of Diva Day, noting Plymouth does well with women shoppers. About 35 merchants participated, including restaurants.

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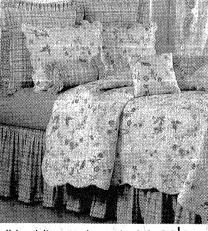
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Brunch with the Bunny

Annual event brings families some Easter fun

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 1, 2010

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The Easter Bunny hit Plymouth a week early, much to the delight of some 65 families attending the third annual Bunny Brunch Saturday at the

Plymouth Salvation Army. Volunteers - some 55 of them donating 275 hours in the runup to the event - handed out 131 Easter baskets to children attending the brunch.

"It was fabulous," said Capt. Dan Hull, the Salvation Army's corps officer. "We had a good, family event for a number of participants in our programs. It allowed the parents to have a day with their kids and to get familiar with some of our programming. It was an opportunity for community volunteers to help us to do that."

Volunteers helped the children with a variety of craft projects, including cookie decorating, tattoos, face painting, and bunny egg craft, "He lives!" crosses, sun catchers and jelly bean posters.

The Salvation Army borrowed a couple of chefs from their Adult Rehabilitation Center in Romulus, and the cooks prepared French toast sticks, hash-brown patties and sausages.

Each table was decorated with Easter baskets placed down the middle of the table so every child was able to select the basket of their choice. Plus, at each craft station children were given additional goodies for their basket.

In addition to all the crafts, the Salvation Army set up a "bounce kettle," an inflated play area where youngsters could hop around. Inside the gym was a youth interactive game, donated by Gary Walley of Fitness Things who, with his wife, provided supervision. The event also featured several bunnies from Midwest Rabbit Rescue.

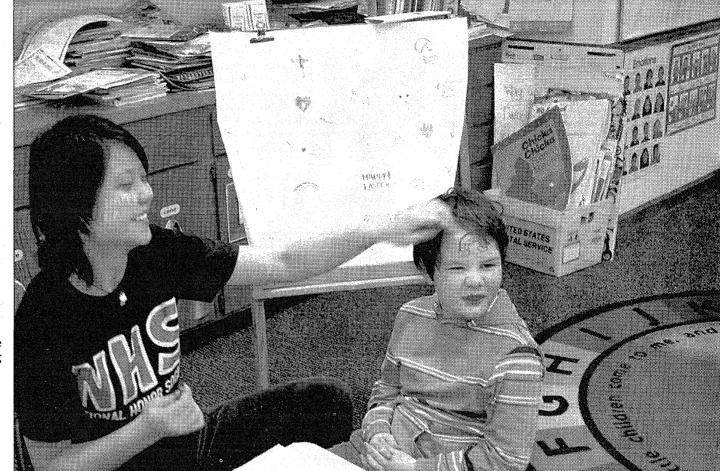
And, of course, there was the Easter Bunny himself, running around with Ms. Peep, posing for photos taken by local photographer Brian Waskiewicz.

Families came from all over the Plymouth Salvation Army service area, which includes Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville.

Hull said the event, as is true with many Salvation Army programs, wouldn't have been possible without the volun-

"With our small staff, we couldn't do it without the volunteers," he said. "It takes an army of volunteers for us to do what we do in the community. Without them, we couldn't do as much as we do or as well as

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Connor Moore of Canton gets his face painted during the annual Bunny Brunch at the Plymouth Salvation Army.



National Honor Society volunteers took time out to pose with the Easter Bunny.



The Easter Bunny and Ms. Peep made their annual appearance at the third annual Bunny Brunch Saturday at the Plymouth Salvation Army.



Volunteers helped some 65 families who attended Saturday's Bunny Brunch.

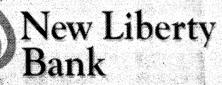
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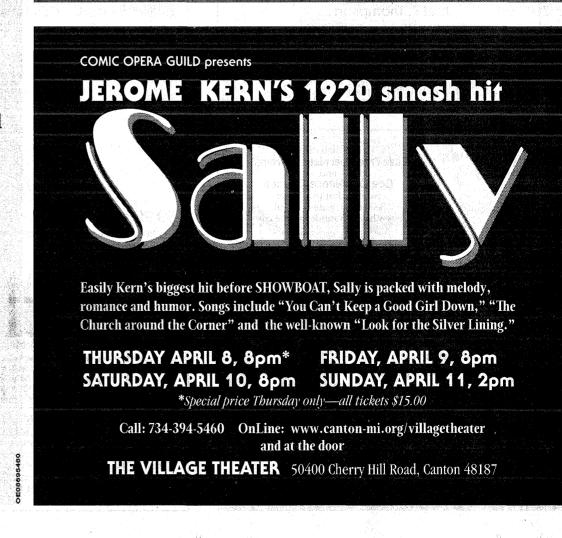
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Debt reduction, retirement savings good tax refund uses

ver the next couple weeks many more people will be filing tax returns and receiving refunds. In addition, because more and more people are e-filing, they are receiving refunds within a couple of weeks. The issue for many people is what to do with the

In the past, many who received a refund treated it as an unexpected windfall and proceeded to use the money to reward themselves. Whether it was buying a big screen television or a night out on the town, some looked at tax refunds as a year-end bonus.

Unfortunately, in today's economic climate where many people are receiving refunds, we cannot afford to be so cavalier with our tax refunds. Therefore, if you are lucky enough to receive a tax refund, there are things to look at before you spend your tax refund. The realities of the world are such that you need to prioritize how you spend this money.

The first thing to consider with the refund is to pay off any high interest charge card debt that is not tax deductible. In today's economic times, reducing debt gives you greater flexibility in handling

your financial affairs.

Money Matters

Rick Bloom

I've always said paying off debt allows you to sleep easier at night and, as far as I'm concerned, that is the No. 1 thing to do with a tax refund.

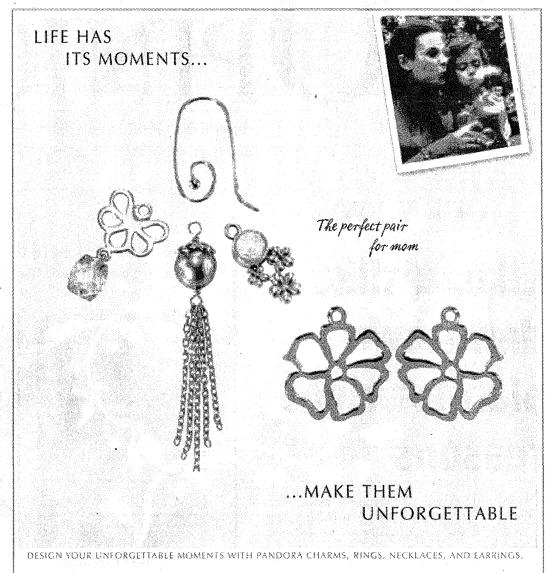
When someone tells me they are thinking about investing the money, my answer is that there is no investment I know of that produces a guaranteed 18.5 percent return. That is the return you get when you pay off your high interest rate charge cards. In fact, for many people it can even be a greater rate of return because it's not unusual for some charge card companies

to be charging over 20 percent. The second most important thing to do with your tax refund is invest it for retirement. Money from a tax refund is a great way to fund an IRA. My recommendation for most people would be a Roth IRA. However, whether it is a traditional or a Roth IRA, investing for your retirement is a great way to use your tax refund.

The third area that I recommend people consider is saving for their child's or grandchild's college education by establishing a fund such as the Michigan Education Savings Plan. What is happening in the economy today should convince everyone of the importance of a college education. Consider that the unemployment rate for those with a college education is minimal in comparison to those who did not attend college, you can see the importance of saving for

I would love to say that you should reward yourself with a tax refund by taking a trip, buying that big screen television or whatever. Unfortunately, I can't. We are in tough economic times that don't appear to be ending anytime soon. Therefore, we must act like adults when it comes to our money. If you're getting a tax refund, make sure that you spend it wisely. Good luck!

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



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Youth troupe brings 'Percival' to life

Wilbur, the pig in Charlotte's Web, and Babe (from the movie of the same name) might have to make room for a new pig on the block.

Spotlight on Youth presents "Percival the Performing Pig," a heart-warming story about an exceptional pig with an operatic singing voice, April 15-18 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

When heard singing by an Opera Company, Percival is sold and must leave his farm and his animal friends. Audience members will find out how Percival manages to find his way back home and to those he loves.

"I chose 'Percival' to direct as it allows for creativity, growth

and diversity and allows many youths the opportunity to be involved in a wonderful story about love and faith with lots of laughs throughout," director and choreographer Barba Bloom said. "A fun fact about 'Percival': It features the youth actors as scenery, props and set pieces. This show appeals to all ages allowing the audience to join in the fun!"

The show hits the stage 7 p.m. April 15-17, with 2 p.m. matinee performances April

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400

Cherry Hill in Canton. Tickets are available by

phone at the Village Theater

Box Office at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or on-line at www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater or in person at The Summit on the Park or at the door. The box office opens an hour prior to showtime. Tickets are \$10.

Spotlight on Youth Theater is a new Spotlight Players initiative that exists to create an extraordinary, youth-centered theater experience and to advance theater as a means of educating, challenging and inspiring young people.

For more information about "Percival the Performing Pig" or Spotlight Players call (734) 480-4945 or visit www.spotlightplayersmi.org.

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

OUR VIEWS

Like, dislike downtown plan for right reasons

It's OK to be against the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority's \$2 million plan to improve the streetscape in downtown Plymouth.

But it's fair to ask you to hate it for the right reasons.

There have been a lot of reasons espoused — in letters, around water coolers and in the blogosphere — on both sides of the issue.

Proponents say it's a good bang for the buck, it'll make the downtown area more attractive and, more importantly, safer for visitors to the business district. It'll be pretty. It will make downtown even more a destination location for shoppers and diners.

Naysayers say just the opposite, mostly. It's too much money to spend on being "pretty." It doesn't do enough for businesses. It's a pain for people who have to navigate streets and sidewalks around construction projects.

Those are some pretty good reasons, founded or not. At least those opinions are rooted in

The complaints that are a little more frustrating, especially to officials planning (and paying for) the changes are the ones espoused (largely in the electronic world on blogs and such) by people who clearly don't understand what's happening.

We've read on several occasions people saying things like, "How can they afford to spend that kind of money when they're in such tight financial position?" (the city isn't actually as bad off, comparatively speaking, as other municipalities). But our favorite was this one, paraphrased here: "How can they spend that kind of money when they're laying off police and firefighters?"

Just to be clear, the police/firefighter layoff thing is happening in Plymouth Township, which contributes nothing to the city's Downtown Development Authority and is spending nothing on the streetscape project. While the City of Plymouth contributes roughly \$1 million to the Plymouth Community Fire Department, city officials have no real say in manpower decisions.

But even if the opinion exists that \$2 million is too much money, perhaps people should take a closer look at it. For that money, you're getting:

• The intersection of Main and Ann Arbor Trail will be rebuilt in concrete, with a logo depicting a compass in the center, formed from colored concrete. The crosswalks, made of brick pavers, will also be rebuilt, and mast arms will be installed to support new traffic lights, which are now suspended from cables.

• Underground water mains in the intersection will be replaced.

• Ann Arbor Trail will be resurfaced with asphalt westward to Forest and eastward to Union, and Main will be resurfaced northward to Penniman.

• The intersection of Ann Arbor Trail and Forest will also be rebuilt in concrete.

• The improvements will include two features that should make the intersection of Main and Ann Arbor Trail safer: a "countdown" display on the traffic signals that will show pedestrians when the lights will change, and the realignment of the crosswalk across Ann Arbor Trail on the east side of Main, which now leads walkers into a traffic lane at the intersection's northeast corner.

The project, spread over three years, will be paid for with DDA money, not money from the city, and not money that could go to anything in the city budget. The DDA is charged with spending the tax dollars it collects in the DDA. This project accomplishes that. It's not charged with being a savings account for the money it collects.

Like the project (we do) or don't like it, as you deem appropriate.

But do it for the right reasons.

OBSERVER © GANNETT

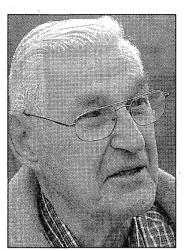
Brad Kadrich Community Editor

Susan Rosiek Executive Editor / Publisher Grace Perry Director of Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

What is the best April Fools Day joke you either pulled, had pulled on you, or witnessed?

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



"I really don't have any. ...

If I did, I can't remember."

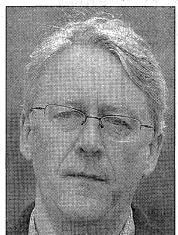
Cornelius Van Boren

Canton Township



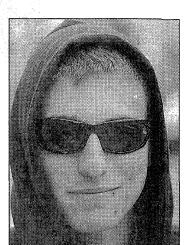
"It's always, like, lame jokes.
... We told everyone that I
was pregnant. ... We were on
Facebook. My mother-in-law
was so excited."

Cassie Hull Westland



"Probably one to do with work. ... A (business) customer, we rang him up and told him all of his smokestacks had been blown down."

Cliff Bennett
Plymouth Township



"I think I was 6 and I had to go to the bathroom bad. I looked at my mom and said, 'I missed.' I didn't miss, but it was funny anyways."

Jeremy McCombs Littleton, Colo.

LETTERS

Forgetful Miller

Congresswoman Candice Miller voted against health care reform saying, "Never in my career in public service have I seen the people of America stand up, so loudly demanding to be heard, only to have their elected representatives refuse to listen."

Is she forgetting the millions of us who stood up and demanded that our elected representatives pass this health care reform?

She goes on to say that the issues the public cares most about are economy and jobs. We elected our officials to work for reform on many issues. Fixing one problem (health care) does not preclude working on other issues. Get to work, Ms. Miller!

She was quoted as saying, "On an issue of this importance the American people deserved the best, but instead got Washington at its worst." I would suggest to Ms. Miller that Washington at its worst is when the Republican Party tries to block any type of constructive measures because their party is not the one instigating the reform.

Doreen Lawton

Plymouth

Punishment for a job well done. That is what the Michigan State Senate Republicans believe. How can you call Bill SB1227 an incentive for our public school employees?

Stop the punishment

Our teachers — those who have dedicated their lives to teaching and working with our young people — are now having this "incentive" forced upon them. An incentive that says if you do not retire in this time, we will penalize you by taking away your dental and optical coverage. Also, we want you to pay extra for your future retirement. That is not an incentive but a punishment. That is what our Republican Legislature believes.

Instead of figuring out ways to fund public education — which is not an entitlement program — the Republicans choose to ignore their responsibility and run their party line. They choose to give up their courage and their integrity and run on a platform of no taxes. They choose to be a bottleneck in a system that is supposed to support our teachers and students.

They want to cut again another \$118 per student, thinking that there is still

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

Web: www.hometownlife.com

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

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

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

Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

fat in the budgets of school districts. What kind of logic is that when for the last decade, school districts have been readjusting and taking cuts? However, now is the time not to cut but to fortify our educational process.

It's time that Republicans step up and raise the money to pay off the debt that they have incurred in the last two decades in Michigan government. These spineless legislators have the gall to toy and punish people. Well, I believe it's time we citizens do something about these non-statesmen who do not care for the educational system and let our voices be known today and if necessary at the polls next November.

Enough is enough! It's time we citizens step up and pay for the debt that we have and pay for it now. I'm willing to pay an extra \$118 in taxes to help support the education of our young people. It's time that we realize that we, like our family, have to pay for our debt, and get back an on even keel.

Let's raise our state income taxes for two or three years, and get rid of the debt and the interest we pay on their debt. Let's stand up to these irresponsible Republicans, and do what we know in our hearts needs to be done, fiscally and morally, to be a great state again.

Oh, by the way, I have never been a teacher or administrator of the educational system. I am a parent and grandparent along with being just an average citizen who is tired of what is happening in Lansing. It's time we show that "WE CARE" for all of Michigan, not a party who criticizes and does nothing to show answers to our real problem. Enough excuses.

They are creating propaganda that creates fear and distrust. Enough is enough. Let's stop their punishment!

Rev. W. Kargus United Church of Christ

The 'Fitz' effect

Dear Dr. Fitzpatrick,
I read the article in Sunday's
Observer newspaper ("A true 'Rock'"
Sunday, March 28) about your retirement, and I could not let you leave the
Park without telling you how much you meant to my high school experience.

I was a Canton student, but a part of my heart will always be a Rock. I spent most of my life during my high school years in that building through my work with WSDP, and spending my freshman and sophomore years in the Spectra program.

Even before that, though, I have a distinct memory of my freshman year. I was sitting in the Salem lunchroom on the first full day of my freshman year and you walked up and said something to the effect of "How are you, Mr. Smith?" I was shocked that you knew who I was, on my first day at the Park, when I wasn't even a Salem student, let alone one under your disciplinary charge — and even if I was, I doubt I would have ever been trouble in the disciplinary department.

I always viewed you and Mr. Ostoin at two of the most approachable administrators at the Park. Salem was capable of moving on with little hitch when Mr. Ostoin retired a few years ago because you were more than capable of assuming his office — though I'm sure it was an unenviable task, you were more than prepared to handle it.

I have taken the life lessons I learned at the Park into my post-high school career now in Athens, Ga., and have ever referred to the Park model in speaking to people around here about unique high school situations nationwide. I amproud to be a graduate of Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, whether that as a Rock, Chief, or Wildcat.

To you, your family, and the entire Park and PCCS families, I say, "Well done, Dr. Fitz." Enjoy your retirement and know that, even years after graduation, your impact lives in on in your former students' hearts.

Brian Smill Canton Class of 20

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

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

• In response to the story, "Schools move ahead with diversity plan:"

LeahLLMSW2011 wrote:

"No issue with ethnic and cultural diversity? I'm seeing ethnocentrism! Let me say that I'm a white, middle-class female social work student with some insight here. What's wrong

with being tolerant of those who are different from us? It's important to remember that America is a country of immigrants, and we all have a mixed heritage! What a boring place this would be if we were all the same. I understand the communication barrier- it can be uncomfortable asking questions for clarification. And while US history is important, there is a whole world full of other interesting things to learn about."

CarFreak wrote:
"I have no issue with ethnic &

cultural diversity as long as the 'powers that be' remember a couple key points: this is the United States of America, we speak ENGLISH and I expect that the staff who are teaching OUR children in OUR schools paid with OUR taxes speak OUR language. My daughter had a high school math teacher that English was her second language. The teacher spoke with such a thick accent that my daughter could not understand the teacher - I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND

THE TEACHER (at Parent Conferences). A request to transfer my daughter to another class was met with the comment that this was a way to prepare her for college where many of the professors spoke with heavy accents. That's ridiculous!!!! Ultimately I feel this teacher was a contributing factor to my daughter's change from Math being her favorite class to no longer feeling that way. What a shame. Hopefully sufficient time is also being spent to explain & teach US History, too. Generally it is not."



Student radio station 88.1FM presents 'My Dear Disco,' with special guests Good Luck Varsity and Serein at the Salem High School Auditorium on Saturday, April 17.

Local bands hit stage with 'My Dear Disco'

Student radio station 88.1FM presents "My Dear Disco," with special guests Good Luck Varsity and Serein at the Salem High School Auditorium on Saturday, April

"Dancethink Music," which started as a concept for My Dear Disco is quickly becoming a full-fledged movement surrounding them, according to Bill Keith, station manager at 88.1. Hailed as "... one of the must see acts in Detroit and Ann Arbor," (The Detroit Fashion Pages), their highenergy blast of funky, soulhealing electro-rock is stirring up a buzz that leaves critics saying, "My Dear Disco is the next act from Michigan to have a big commercial breakthrough"

(The Detroit Free Press). Just a year out of college, the band has already put over 35,000 miles on their veggie vehicle, including a tour of Alaska, three showcases at SXSW (Austin, TX) and prime slotting at national summer festivals including Wakarusa, 10.000 Lakes Festival, Moe.down, Bella Madre, Kentuckiana Pride, and The

Lately, even the folks in television have caught on, offering the band a featured performance on Fox Network's Fearless Music Television, and placement of their track "My Dear Disco" in a Melrose Place promotional commercial.

Their savvy in the studio is as strong as it is on-stage. Although largely self-produced, Grammy-nominated, multi-platinum producer Mark Saunders took their debut album, the Dancethink LP, under his wing for the finishing touches, giving it the same magic touch he was responsible for on The Cure's Wish, Shiny Toy Guns' We Are Pilots, Tricky's Maxinquaye, David Byrne's Feelings.

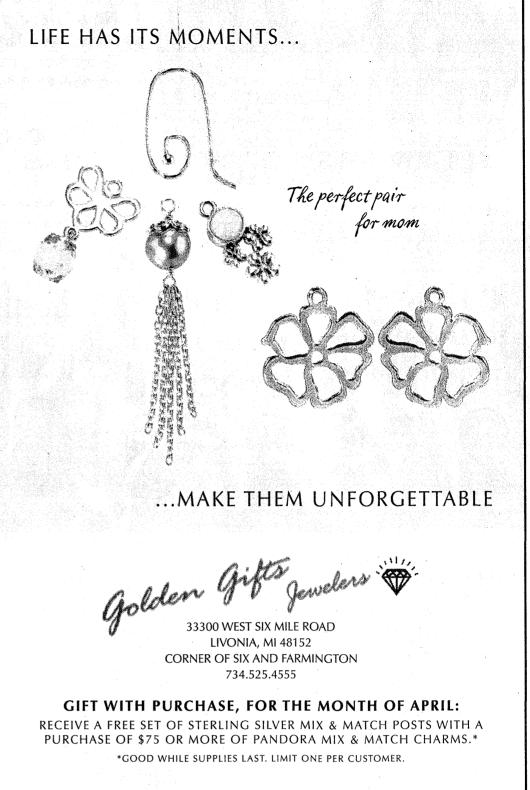
The group has also finished a number of high-profile remixes of artists such as Kanye West, Fraz Ferdinand, Boy Crisis, That 1 Guy, and Hearts of Palm UK. Of their remix work arjanwrites.com said, ""Personally, I think this My Dear Disco remix blows all the other ones out of the water. It's that good. It's blazing hot." (Regarding My Dear Disco's remix of Kanye West's, Love Lockdown.)

Canton's own Good Luck Varsity will also perform. Brothers Evan and Jordan Baker began Good Luck Varsity as a duo shortly after the break-up of their former band The Rising Tide. The two had made significant strides as members of The Rising Tide, sharing the stage with bands like Hello/Goodbye and Gym Class Heroes. Other members include Wasim Bazzi, Jen Wagner and Cody Badgley.

Opening the show is the Plymouth's Serein. The band got on the bill by winning the Salem High School Battle of the Bands.

Tickets are \$10, \$15 at the door and can be bought at the station's office at Salem High School. Tickets can also be purchased online at 881TheEscape.com. The show is at 7 p.m. and doors open at 6:30 p.m. All the profits from the show will benefit WSDP, the student radio station at Canton, Plymouth and Salem High Schools.

WSDP is owned and operated by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. The station has been serving the community since Feb. 14, 1972.



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All of us at Joe's wish you a joyous Easter. Prices good through April 3, 2010 We will be Closed Easter Sunday!

SECTION

(CP)

CREATING COMEDY: Let personal experience create punchline – Entertainment, B6



She steps into spotlight

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Kelly Hahn is proudly "tracking" Plymouth High School's continuing path of student-athlete excellence.

The senior distance runner was one of 14 students from Class A

MHSAA

schools to be pre-SCHOLAR-ATHLETE sented with an MHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award during

halftime of Saturday's Class C boys basketball finals at MSU's Breslin Center.

"I was very honored, because not only did it recognize my athletic achievements, it recognized my academic achievements," the 17-year-old Hahn said about the prestigious award. "(And) I was very excited that I could represent my school on a state level. I thought that was very cool."

Hahn, president of her

THE HAHN FILE

Who: Kelly Hahn, 17, Plymouth High School senior.

What: She is one of 14 students from Class A schools to receive the Scholar-Athlete Award from the Michigan High School Athletic Association. The award features a \$1,000 college scholarship.

Athletics: Hahn is in her fourth season on the Plymouth varsity girls track and field team and she also is a letter winner for the Wildcats in cross country.

Academics/College plans: The

talked about the honor during practice last week with Plymouth's track and field

Plymouth head coach Ricky Styes said Hahn "walked onto this track a leader" as a freshman and she continues to walk school's National Honor Society, the walk as an athlete, student

owner of a 4.16 grade-point average, Hahn is president of the National Honor Society and also is on the PHS Student Congress, where she is treasurer. Her plans are to attend the University of Michigan and pursue a degree in sports management.

Family: Her parents are Mary Jo and Jon Hahn and she is one of three children. Kelly's older sister is Laura, 19, who attends U-M, while 14-year-old Julie is a Plymouth High School student.

and role model.

"Kelly is following in the footsteps of a lot of good students," Styes said. "It's a tradition that we're getting at Plymouth, since this is three, maybe four MHSAA Scholar-Athletes in

Please see HAHN, B4



Add Plymouth senior Kelly Hahn to the growing list of Wildcats to win the MHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award.

2010 GIRLS SOCCER PREVIEW - PT. 2

Wildcats boast top returnees

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Many of the top players from last season's Plymouth girls soccer team are back.

And those players, not to mention head coach Jeff Neschich, are eager to build on a strong 2009 season which saw the Wildcats finish 12-4-1 overall and 6-3-1 in the tough

Instrumental in any continuation of that success is senior defender and co-captain Meeghan Hughes.



"She is a four-year starter and was selected as an allconference player last spring. said Neschich about Hughes, who is joined in the back by fourth-year senior Katie Krajewski.

Hughes and Krajewski will have support on defense from third-year junior Katie Moss along with junior Katelyn

Quinlan and sophomore Alvssa Burris. Senior co-captain Jessica Heck could be the straw that stirs the drink in the Plymouth midfield, playing center-mid and navigating

the transition game for the Wildcats. Also playing center-mid will be junior

Vittoria Miller. Key returnees in the attacking outside-mid positions are senior Carley McQuiston and junior Jen Babcock, with competition from sophomores Melissa Aho, Abby Livingston and Jessica Scott.

Meanwhile, Neschich said there are "a couple of very talented freshmen that are going to be impact players this spring" at midfield in Stephanie Dillon and Zoe Foster.

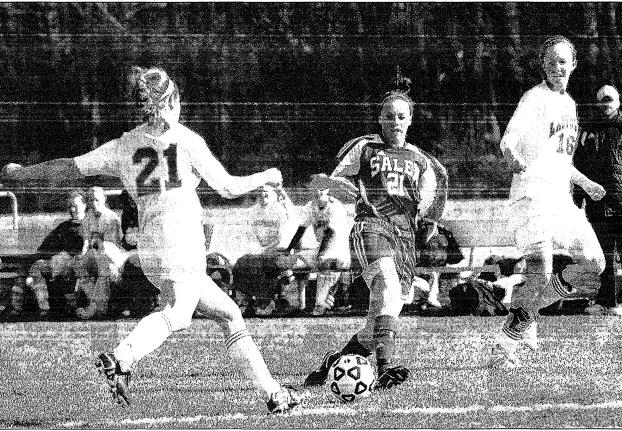
If those midfielders can move the ball up top, Plymouth has proven scoring talent at the forward position.

Neschich said junior all-KLAA selection McKenzie Hengish (15 goals in '09) and sophomore Megan Peplinski (11 goals last year) are "dynamic returners" to key Plymouth's forwards. All-state honorable mention goalkeeper

Marissa Williams will take care of the other end of the pitch, in her third season as Neschich's starter.

Sophomore Katelyn Watson is "very capable" as the team's backup goalkeeper, but she can also chip in at midfield.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Salem freshman Gina Goble (No. 21) displays some of her potential during Monday's girls soccer opener at Livonia Ladywood. Trying to pressure Goble are Ladywood's Maddy Pelon (No. 21) and Morgan Chops.

Salem kickers set to work, win

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Monday afternoon, Salem's varsity girls soccer team did all the things head coach Joe Nora wants them to do during the 2010 season.

The Rocks stretched the field, pushing the ball into Livonia Ladywood territory time and time again to spark a 5-0 road victory. Salem also battled for 50-50s and

kept the Blazers offense in check. It was an example of what Nora's team might be able to achieve in the KLAA Central, with the core of last year's 9-5-3 squad back in the fold.

"Last season we were a young team," said Nora, who compiled a record of 92-59-27 over his first 10 seasons at the Salem helm. "This year we have some experience and the girls have a tremendous work

That hard work is only one ingredient the Rocks will need to compete against division powerhouses Northville, Novi and Stevenson - matches Nora uses to gauge how

well his team might fare in the state tournament. Against Ladywood, the Rocks

were on task.

We wanted to maintain possession and we did," Nora said. "The girls played smart, they worked hard. If you're going to work hard all over the field then you're going to win the 50-50s. It really changed the game around.

"That was our goal, it was simple, get out there and work as hard as you can. And they did."

Salem went up 1-0 in the first half on a goal by sophomore midfielder Katelynn Krause, one of a number of key returnees from 2009.

Late in the half, sophomore for-

ward Emily Lundh ripped a shot from the right side of the box that Ladywood goalkeeper Maddie Reed

But the Rocks padded their lead to 2-0 when senior forward Brett deBear took a through ball by Lundh and raced up the middle and drove a 15-yarder past Reed.

Salem turned the game into a one-sided affair with goals by junior midfielder Kristina Klusek (also on a long play up the middle of the pitch), senior midfielders Lindsey Newton and Taylor Burgoon in the final 10 minutes.

Earning the shutout, although rarely tested, was junior newcomer Jamie Hunley (who will split goaltending duties with returning senior Tabitha Mann.)

Please see SOCCER, B3

Chiefs blank Novi

In the season opener for Canton's girls soccer team, the Chiefs registered a 1-0 victory over Novi on Monday.

Scoring midway through the first half was Allyson Krause, deflecting Lindsey Winters' free kick from the corner of the box.

Goalkeeper Sam McPartlin made that goal stand up the rest of the way, making five stops for the shutout.

Canton was set to visit Saline Wednesday night in a game that took place after this issue of the Observer went

Canton football camps

It's not too soon to begin planning for Canton Chiefs summer football camps.

 First up is the Skills Camp slated for players entering grades 7-9 in 2010-11. That camp will take place 5-7:30 p.m. Monday, June 14, through Thursday, June 17. The fee to sign up for the camp is \$45, with that money due by May 24. Contact Richard Mui at (248) 229-2738 for more information.

• The following week will be the Wing T 3/4 Camp, for players entering grades 10-12 next year. The camp begins with a session from 2-5 p.m. Monday, June 21. Then there will be sessions 5-8 p.m. from Tuesday, June 22, through Thursday, June 24.

Camp fee is \$30, also due by May 24. Please contact head football coach Tim Baechler, (734) 455-7691 or via e-mail at tim.baechler@ pccsmail.net.

• The third and final offering is the Fundamental Camp, for kids entering grades 3-6. The program runs from 9 a.m. to noon Monday, June 28, through Thursday, July 1. The fee is \$75 with money due by June 4. Please contact Enza Lanava at (313) 300-11/3 or elanava(@wow way.com.

All prospective campers and their families might want to check out www.cantonchiefsfootball.com for further information.

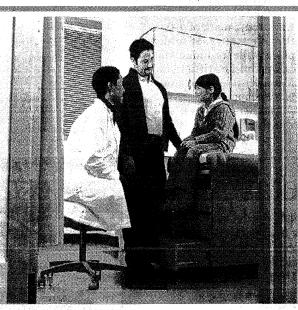
Eiermann 2nd at Masters

Richard Eiermann of Garden City earned a runner-up finish Sunday in the second annual Michigan State Senior Masters contested at Royal Scot Bowl in Lansing. Eiermann settled for second place when he fell short to Ron Jonas of South Bend, Ind., in the two-game total pins final match. Jonas totaled 501 to pick up the \$2,500 first prize, while Eiermann finished with 440 and collected a \$1,500 check.

Eiermann, who averaged 237.5, qualified fourth with 1,456. He defeated Mike Braun (Fowler), 484-483, Stephen Leonard (Woodhaven), 454-438, and Rick Capaldi (Canton), 450-438, before falling to Leonard Cianciolo (Warren), 447-422. Competing in the loser's bracket, Eiermann rebounded by scoring victories over Ray Johnson (Battle Creek), 524-350, Kenneth Kossick (Commerce Township), 527-437, and Ciacciolo, 468-337.

Please see SIDELINES, B2

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PROVIDENCE

A PASSION for HEALING

All-Area boys cagers go strong to the rim

FIRST TEAM Kyle Vinales, Sr. G, N. Farmington:

Vinales became the school's all-time leading scorer the past season, ending a four-year varsity career with 1,661 points. The 6foot-1 senior guard, who played in a school-record 91 varsity games, scored 617 points and averaged 25.7 points this year — both of which are records, too. He also averaged five rebounds, five assists and three steals for the Raiders (16-8), who were in contention for the OAA Red Division crown until late in the season and won a Class A district title Vinales had a career average of 18.3 points per game.

"The thing that stands out most about Kyle is his growth not only as a person but a player," coach Tom Negoshian said. "He was a point guard when we needed him to be a point guard, and he scored when we needed him to be a scorer. Kyle has the great ability to handle the ball and get to the rim. He not only put up high numbers; he handled the ball in pressure situations and didn't get knocked off the ball very easily.

"More importantly, he made us very competitive the (OAA) Red Division, which is one of the better leagues in the state. When you add it all up, it was a pretty good high school career for him.

Bobby Naubert, Sr. G. Liv. Stevenson: The two-time All-Observer pick enjoyed a highly productive senior season averaging 21.6 points and 4.5 assists per game for the 16-7 Spartans, who captured the KLAA's Central Division outright.

The 5-9 Naubert has signed to play next season at Madonna University.

"Bobby represents everything that Stevenson basketball is striving to become," coach Mike Allie said of the All-KLAA pick. "His work ethic is what has made him an outstanding point-guard over the past four years. He has proven that he can pass, shoot, attack the basket, and defend this season. Scoring over 1,000 points for his career and leading us to a division championship has made Bobby's senior season that much more special. His impact at Stevenson will not soon be forgotten and it was a complete joy to coach him each and every day.'

Dietrich Lever, Jr. PG, Canton: The 5-10 junior was at times unstoppable for the KLAA South Division co-champions, leading the Chiefs to a 16-7 record with uncanny shooting and playmak-

He really sparkled during the postseason, scoring 85 points over three district appearances including 28 in the final against Novi.

"Dietrich is the best guard in our area, because of his ability to score and create shots for his teammates," said Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy. "He also starts our defense for us by putting great pressure on the ball."

Lever earned another All-KLAA Kensington Conference selection with an all-around game. He averaged 19.5 points,

6.5 assists and 3.5 steals. Daniel Hill, Sr. F, Wayne: The 6-3 senior, who led Wayne to a co-title 2009-10 ALL-OBSERVER **FIRST TEAM**

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 1, 2010

Kyle Vinales, Sr. G, N. Farmington Bobby Naubert, Sr. G, Liv. Stevenson Dietrich Lever, Jr. PG, Canton Daniel Hill, Sr. C, Wayne Adam Bedell, Sr. C, Liv. Churchill Robert Hogans, Sr. G. N. Farmington **SECOND TEAM**

Andy McCaffery, Sr. G, Liv. Franklin Jake Peterson, Sr. C, Salem David Evans, Sr. F, Farm. Hills Harrison Kevin Weisz, Sr. F, Canton D'Juan Cooks, Sr. F, Liv. Churchill Demetrius Burton, Sr. G, Garden City
THIRD TEAM

CJ Mwila, Jr. G, Liv. Stevenson Brennen Beyer, Jr. F, Plymouth Jamiel Strickland, Jr. G. Wayne Tony Frezzell, Sr. G, Liv. Churchill Mike Gadsby, Sr. G, Liv. Franklin Jailin Kelly, Sr. F, Farm, Hills Harrison **FOURTH TEAM**

Derric Horton, Jr. G, Wayne Mike Nadratowski, Jr. G, Plymouth Michael Berrien, Sr. G, Red. Thurston Jason Wilson, Jr. G, Farmington Don Mullett, Sr. G. Ply, Christian Austin Baglow, Sr. G, Luth. Westland **COACH OF YEAR** James Solak, Liv. Churchill

Churchill: Raynord Allen Kevin Pietrasinski: **Franklin:** Jack Chinavare. Nate Coleman; Stevenson: Kyle Bambach, Jordan El-Sabeh; John Glenn: Marquise Graves, Nick Daniels; Wayne: Reggie Reeves, Nick Mills, Brian Gray, James Jackson: Clarenceville: Levonte' Brooks: Damien Quarles, Ben Watts; Lutheran High Westland: Gage Flanery, Ethan Haller, Mark Rosin; Huron Valley Lutheran: Bryan Gruenewald, Tyler Wagaman; Canton: Brandon Duffey, Paul Baumgart; Plymouth: Dion Johnson, Pat Salo; Salem: Tyler Stewart, Ethan Walsh; Plymouth Christian: Eric Jipping, Ethan Walker; Garden City: Moises Cruz, Nate Kalinowski, Matthew Mitchell; Thurston: Troy Bell; North Farmington: Tommy Doyle, Dillon Close; Farmington: Tom Gojcaj, Darrin Jackson, Charles Anthony; Harrison: Ray Hall, Evan Patton, Carlos Eubanks.

in the KLAA's South Division, played the post position as effectively as anybody in the area as he averaged 16 points and nine rebounds per game.

Hill, who carries a 3.5 gradepoint average, was a two-year captain for the Zebras who helped his team earn 52 wins over a threeyear span.

He also earned All-Observer and All-KLAA Kensington Conference honors for the second straight year.

"Daniel always played big-ger than his size," Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said. "He played his best in the big games. We're going to miss his leadership next

Adam Bedell, Sr. C, Liv. Churchill: The 6-6, 190-pound senior center averaged 16 points and 12 rebounds for the KLAA Tournament champs.

He racked up 15 double-doubles (points-rebounds) this season.

"Adam developed into a complete player this year, "Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "He had the ability to put us on his back and carry us quite a few times this year. Teams threw every game plan at him and he found a way to beat it. If you doubled him he would dedicate himself to offensive rebounding and score that way and make a few free throws. If you made him go right he developed a couple of different moves

where he could score at will. If you made him shoot it, he'll step out and make the biggest jump shots in school history like at Wayne (Memorial) and (Waterford) Mott. That's just the type of attitude he had every game for two years."

The two-time All-KLAA pick, headed to the University of Detroit Mercy on a soccer scholarship, carries a 3.8 grade-point average and scored a 26 on the

"He simply found a way to get it done, in the classroom, the community, the soccer field, or the court," Solak said. "He is an excellent role model to the younger kids and he will be remembered as one the greatest student-athletes to ever come out of Livonia."

Robert Hogans, Sr. G, N. Farmington: Hogans was a two-year varsity starter who has signed to play at Spring Arbor University. He complemented the play of Vinales, taking some pressure off him and giving the Raiders a solid tandem at guard. Hogans developed an outside shot, shooting 41 percent from three-point range and 61 percent inside the arc. He averaged 15.5 points, as well as three steals, three assists and two rebounds.

"What stands out most when I talk about Robert Hogans is him coming in as a very small kid who loved basketball," coach Tom Negoshian said. "Along with growing physically, he worked hard and made himself into a future college player. That says a tremendous amount about him as a worker and his dedication to the game. He put in an awful lot of time and effort, so he could go to Spring Arbor and continue his career. He's a low-maintenance, hard-working kid who wants to learn and play the game the right

SECOND TEAM Andy McCaffery, Sr. G, Liv. Franklin: The 6-3 senior guard averaged 17 points, three assists and

four rebounds per game for the Patriots, who captured their first Class A district title in 34 years. McCaffery shot 49 percent from

the field (134-of-276) and 68 percent from the foul line (86-of-127) en route to All-KLAA, Team MVP and Franklin All-Tournament honors. "Andy is quick, and with his

height, is very difficult to guard," Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault said of the All-KLAA Scholar Athlete. "He is an excellent ball handler who is very smooth as an attacker to the rim. Andy possesses the best pull-up jumper I've seen at the high school level. His pull-up is a lay up for many other players. He does it at full speed in transition or in the half-court offense. He creates space and is able to rise above his defenders and finish. Andy is a tremendous player with outstanding skills and ability to score."

Jake Peterson, Sr. C, Salem: The 6-5, 210-pounder was Salem's team captain and MVP, playing well enough to garner interest from college scouts

Peterson led the Rocks in scoring (15 points) and rebounding (8 boards) and also collected 1.3

blocks per contest to lead Salem and earn selection to the All-KLAA team.

Salem head coach Bob Brodie praised Peterson, the only senior on his team, for how well he played while providing leadership for younger players.

"Jake, we've ridden his shoulders all season long," Brodie said. "He's a tough player for us offensively and he's very unassuming. He doesn't say much, he just goes ahead and does his job.'

David Evans, Sr. F, Farm. Hills Harrison: Evans was a three-year starter for the Hawks, who were 16-8 and tied for second place in the OAA Blue Division. The 6foot-4 senior produced 12 points per game with a season best of 23 for a team with balanced scoring. He also averaged 5.4 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 2.6 steals.

"David is an outstanding athlete and a very versatile player offensively and defensively," coach Pete Mantyla said. "His ability to handle the ball against pressure, rebound on both ends and score in a variety of ways will be missed.

"David continued to improve as the year went on as evidenced by the eight charges he took in our last five games. Most importantly, he learned to value the team over individual achievements, which is a big reason we won 16 games. He had an excellent high school career and is exploring college basketball possibilities.

Kevin Weisz, Sr. F, Canton: Whether going strong to the hole or shooting the three, the 6-6 Weisz was a force for the KLAA South co-champion Chiefs.

Weisz averaged 14 points and six rebounds per contest, and connected on 58 treys - an exceptional 38 percent.

"Kevin has unique ability to

score inside and out and he did a great job of stretching the defense for us this year," said coach Reddy about the All-KLAA honoree. D'Juan Cooks, Sr. F, Liv. Churchill: The 6-5 senior battled ankle

injuries throughout the season, but managed to average 11 points, five rebounds and two blocks per game en route to All-KLAA

The long-armed Cooks averaged 12 points, five rebounds and 2.5 blocks during Churchill's fourgame KLAA Tournament run.

"D'Juan is a very intelligent basketball player who was able to do a little bit of everything," Solak said. "When healthy, he rarely came out of the game. He did many things that wouldn't show up in the scorebook.

Demetrius Burton, Sr. G, Garden City: A three-year starter in the backcourt for the Cougars, the 5foot-5 Burton played much taller than that on both ends of the court — slithering past defenders and finding his way to the bucket offensively, while mixing it up and contesting shots defensively. Burton averaged 14 points and dished out five assists per game as the Cougars posted a 12-9 overall record.

"He's a tough kid, especially for his size," Garden City coach Greg Williamson said of his captain. "He played every minute of every game and did a great job. He did a



Kyle Vinales North Farmington



Bobby Naubert



Dietrich Lever Canton



Daniel Hill **Wayne Memorial**



Churchill



Robert Hogans North Farmington



Andy McCaffery



Salem



David Evans Harrison



Kevin Weisz Canton



Churchill



D'Juan Cooks



Garden City

better job of taking the ball to the basket and was much better on the defensive end as well." **COACH OF THE YEAR**

Jim Solak, Liv. Churchill: The eighth-year coach guided Churchill to its first league championship since 1976 as the fourth-seeded Chargers upset three divisional winners to earn the Kensington Lakes Activities Association playoff crown.

"When tournament time came around, these kids were so focused and determined, I wasn't surprised with what we were able to accomplish," said Solak, who teaches in the Taylor Public Schools, "These kids faced so much adversity and unique circumstances throughout the year, yet they maintained a positive attitude and I couldn't be prouder of them. They genuinely liked being around each other, they



Jim Solak Churchill coach our principal Joe

cess this year."

had a lot of fun in the process and that's all you can for as a coach." Churchill finished 12-9

Anderson and ath-

worked extreme-

ly hard and they

overall. "I want to thank

letic director Marc Hage for being very supportive throughout the years, especially during some tough seasons," said Solak a graduate of Madonna University and former standout at Dearborn Divine Child. "I can't say enough about our coaching staff. Chad Gibbs, Casey Conway, Greg Hovermale and Joel Hall were major reasons for our suc-

Captain's Corner

The Observer looks to continue running the Captain's Corner series, which gives senior studentathletes a chance to give their views about leader-

ship. Please e-mail sports editor Tim Smith (tsmith@ hometownlife.com) with any candidates for the weekly spotlight. (Limit nominees to one per team.)

Spring coaches call

The spring season for high school sports is here and, as always, the Observer wants to spotlight the efforts and

accomplishments of athletes from the Canton and Plymouth communities.

Tuesday for the Thursday the Sunday paper.

Dragons hoops

Parents, it's that time again to register your fifth-, Dragons summer basketball The registration period ends April 16.

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2010-11 BUDGET

In compliance with "Act No. 43," State of Michigan Public Act of 1963, and "Act No. 2," State of Michigan Public Acts of 1968 "Section 16" of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act), Schoolcraft College publishes this notification of a public hearing on the proposed 2010-11 College budget. This hearing is to take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2010, at the Grote Administration Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

Jill F. O'Sullivan

Publish: April 1, 2010

Please call sports editor

Tim Smith at (313) 222-2637 with detailed recaps of games, matches or meets. Those also can be e-mailed to him at tsmith@hometownlife.com.

Deadlines are 11 p.m. paper and 10 p.m. Friday for Relays.

sixth-, seventh- or eighthgrader for the Michigan program. Go to michigandragons.com and register.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the above address during normal business hours

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Thinclads compete at EMU Relays

Plymouth junior Kyle Brindza set a new school record in the shot put with a throw of 50-feet, 8.75-inches to highlight a good showing by the Wildcats boys track and field team at the March 27 **Eastern Michigan University**

Brindza actually shattered his own school record (47-10).

Other Plymouth performances of note, said head coach Jon Mikosz, included Brandon Piligian's seventhplace finish of 8.78 seconds in the 60 Meter Hurdles with Joe **Bockstanz and Grant Senkbeil** each clearing 11-feet, 6-inches in the pole vault.

"It was a good start to the season," Mikosz said. "Our 4by-800, shot put and hurdles are looking very good. If we can fine tune all the other areas we should have a very good and balanced team."

Those performances helped Plymouth finish 11th out of 40 teams with 20 points. Canton also had a strong day, with 26

points (7th place). For the Chiefs, Ben Spreitzer took second overall in the high jump (6-02) while Nick Alaniva placed third in the long jump and seventh in the pole vault with respective marks of 20-09.50 and 12-

On the girls side, Plymouth head coach Ricky Styes was satisfied with the team's first competition of the season.

"We had a lot of young runners step up and perform well," Styes said. "Many of them stepped up to the competition and ran faster times in this meet than they had during time trials last week.'

He noted sophomore Reagan Engstrom's mark of 9-0 in the pole vault, good for fourth place while freshman Madi Lewis finished fifth in the 60 Meter Hurdles with a time of 9.68 seconds.

Another plus, Styes said, was the ninth-place 4-by-

800 relay team of sophomore Rachael Hille, freshman Kyra Neumann, sophomore Nicole Traitses and senior Paula Green.

BOYS RESULTS

1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 82 points; 7. Canton, 26; 11.

Boys 60 Meter Dash (Prelims): 43. Alex Ruffin, Plymouth (7.65 seconds); 55. Cal Coplai, Canton (7.80); 59. August Garrett, Canton (7.97). Boys 1600 Meter Run: 10. Matt Neumann,

Plymouth (4:40.65); 29. Bradon Conley, Canton (5:01.82); 39. Chris Wilson, Plymouth (5:12.79). Boys 3200 Meter Run: 17. Derek Gielarowski, Plymouth (10:41.93).

Boys 60 Meter Hurdles (Prelims): 4. Brandon Piligian, Plymouth (8.55); 23. Winston Roberts, Canton (9.43); 36. Doug Deykes, Plymouth (10.17). Boys 60 Meter Hurdles (Semis): 6. Brandon Piligian, Plymouth (8.66). Boys 60 Meter Hurdles (Finals): 7. Brandon

Piligian, Plymouth (8.78). Boys 800 Meter Relay: 8. Plymouth, 1:36.63; 20. Canton, 1:40.34. Boys 1600 Meter Relay: 11. Canton, 3:40.65

Boys 3200 Meter Relay: 3. Plymouth, 8:18.00; 6. Canton, 8:35.85. Boys 1600 Sprint Medley: 14. Canton, 3:59.28. Boys Distance Medley: 6. Canton, 11:20.62. Boys 4-by-55 Shuttle Hurdle: 11. Plymouth,

33.59: 16. Canton, 35.09. Boys High Jump Minimum 5-8: 2. Ben Spreitzer, Canton (6-02.00); 11. (tie) Kyle Brindza, Plymouth (5-08.00); Pawan Dhaliwal, Plymouth (5-08.00). Boys Pole Vault Minimum 10-6: 7. Nick Alaniva,

Canton (12-00.00); 10. (tie) Joe Bockstanz, Plymouth (11-06.00); Grant Senkbeil, Plymouth

Boys Long Jump Minimum 17-6: 3. Nick Alaniva, Canton (20-09.50): 12. Alex Ruffin, Plymouth (19-05.50); 20. Donte Fox, Plymouth (18-10.75); 24. Zac

Merillet, Canton (18-05.50). Boys Shot Put Minimum 38-0: 2. Kyle Brindza, Plymouth (50-08.75); 25. Alex Marsh, Canton (40-07.25); 30. Marty Brudzinski, Canton (38-07.50).

GIRLS RESULTS

1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 86 points; 16. Plymouth, 11.5. Girls 60 Meter Dash (Prelims): 40. Ireana

Cook, Plymouth (9.33 seconds); 43. Tara Sadek, Plymouth (10.50). Girls 1600 Meter Run: 16. Nicole Traitses,

Plymouth (6:02.88); 25. Kelsey Reineri, Plymouth Girls 3200 Meter Run: 11 Paula Green, Plymouth (13:18.38); 18. Sophie Roberts (15:21.72). Girls 60 Meter Hurdles (Prelims): 6. Madi Lewis,

Girls 60 Meter Hurdles (Semis): 6. Madi Lewis, Plymouth (9.96).

Plymouth (9.98); 35. Jenna Hamed, Plymouth

Girls 60 Meter Hurdles (Finals): 5. Madi Lewis, Plymouth (9.68). Girls 800 Meter Relay: 14. Plymouth, 2:00.79. Girls 1600 Meter Relay: 10. Plymouth, 4:28.12. Girls 3200 Meter Relay: 9. Plymouth, 10:35.76. Girls 1600 Sprint Medley: 18. Plymouth, 5:13.07. Girls Distance Medley: 12. Plymouth, 14:58.45. Girls 4-by-55 Shuttle Hurdle: 14. Plymouth,

Girls High Jump Minimum 4-4: 16. Taylor Rieckhoff, Plymouth (4-06). Girls Pole Vault Minimum 7-0: 4. Reagan Engstrom, Plymouth (9-00).

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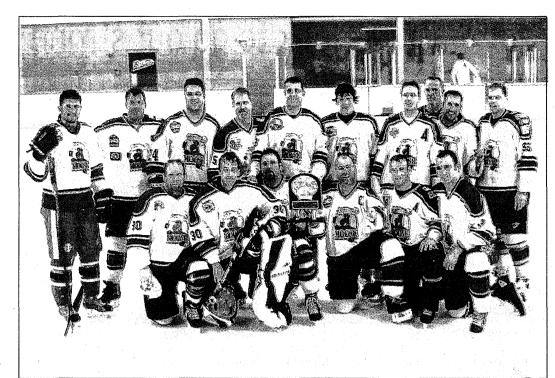
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The Detroit Moose, which includes several players from Canton and Plymouth, recently won a USA Hockey Taylor Tier 3 Senior A regional championship with a 3-1 win over White Rhino/Belle Tire.

Moose brings 'A' game to community service

'No one's going to remember a beer league. But they're going to remember a team that did something pretty good for the community.'

DEREK FOWLER, Detroit Moose captain

BY TIM SMITHOBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's Derek Fowler is a beer league hockey player. But he and his teammates on the Detroit Moose are on a different kind of high these days.

Not only did the Moose recently win a USA Hockey Taylor Tier 3 Senior A regional championship, they qualified for the USA National Tournament in Indianapolis.

But that's not all. The team — as always — made sure to mix plenty of community service along with sticks and pucks. They brought a ton of food to Indianapolis to distribute to the homeless.

Moose players made Christmas brighter, "adopting" nine families from two autistic schools.

And all one needs to do is check out the team's Web site, www. detroitmoose.org to see how many other initiatives it is involved in to help the less fortunate.

"We have everyone from an anesthegiolist to an accountant to doctors," said Fowler, the team's captain and one of a handful of players from the Plymouth-Canton communities "We have every walk of life there is. I call it common people for a common goal."

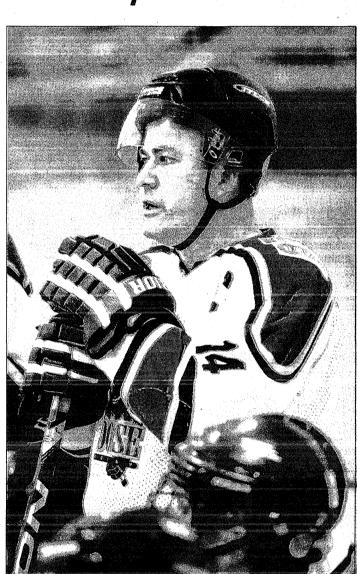
Fowler said the 3-1 win over White Rhino/Belle Tire in mid-March was special because it advanced the Moose (13-11) to the national tourney.

Goal scorers in the regional title triumph were Charlie Jones, Brad Lesko and Joe MacDonald with Tony SantAngelo the winning netminder.

MORE THAN HOCKEY

But he is adamant about making sure people know what the Moose is all about.

"I think it's a team that can do a lot on the ice, such as winning a championship, and it also is about giving back," Fowler explained.



Canton's Derek Fowler takes a breather during a recent Detroit Moose recreational hockey game. But Fowler and his teammates rarely rest when it comes to helping the less fortunate.

"They're both pretty important, to give back to the community as well as how hard we play. We give a lot back to the communities."

Earlier this season, the Moose took part in Detroit's 5th Annual Soup Kitchen and Coat Drive at Church of Good Hope.

They brought military families down to Joe Louis Arena in December for a practice and lunch with the Red Wings.

with the e Detroit in a 5th Annual Soup Kitchen and Coat Drive. The annual event took place at Church of Good Hope located at the corner of Martin Luther

Members of the Moose include Mark Auger, Bob Boelter, Steve Cloutier, Brendan Farren, Derek Fowler, Curtis Glowzinski, Brian Gross, Brian Harlow, Charles Jones, Ryan King, Dave Lakatos, Jeff Lazuka, Alec Lesko, Brad Lesko, Alec Lesko Sr., Donald (DJ) Loney, Joe MacDonald, Ryan Renner and Tony SantAngelo.

Fowler said the team couldn't do what it does without the help of sponsors such as Double H Manufacturing, Kocur Enterprises, Harlow Tire of Westland and the Canton dental office of Drs. Pinkney,

"From Game 1 since the (formation) of this team, we've wanted to make a difference in people's lives and show that, through hockey, a sport we love, that we can give back," Fowler said. "No one's going to remember a beer league. But they're going to remember a team that did something pretty good for the community."

with with the Red Wings. ing with the e Detroit in a 5th Annual Soup Kitchen and Coat Drive. The annual event took Westaand and the Canton dental office of Drs. Pinkney, Greenbaum and McFarland. "From Game 1 since the (fo

SOCCER FROM PAGE B1

ROSTER BREAKDOWN

Burgoon and Klusek are two returning co-captains, providing leadership along with senior defender Lauren Booth and junior defender Lindsey Roy.

But Salem has a host of other players back from last season, including deBear, Krause, Lundh, Newton, Mann, senior midfielders Abbi Giaier and Kaylynn Brzys, junior midfielders Victoria Kaye, Madeleine Vala and Mackenzie Rogers.

Hunley is one of nine firstyear players that Nora expects to quickly contribute.

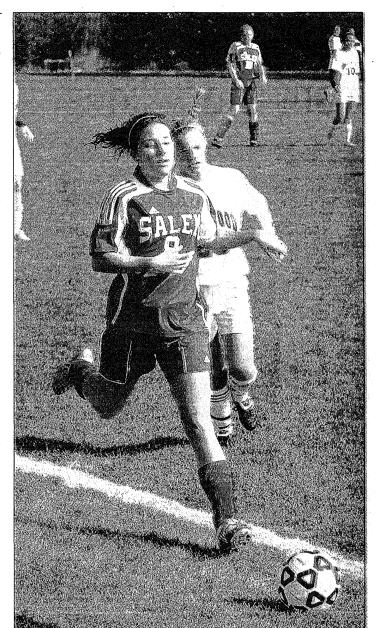
Freshman forward Gina Goble brings speed and an offensive knack, which means she'll fit right in with forwards deBear, Lundh and sophomore newcomer Claire Huddas

New midfielders ready for duty include juniors Lily Burnstein and Lauren Jones while senior Christine Pittel, juniors Lauren Aschermann, Jenna Coon and sophomore Megan McCormack are Salem's rookie defenders.

"It's great to play in the Central," Nora said. "The games are so competitive and the teams are always very strong."

That also applies to Salem, if Monday's opener is any indication.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



RULL RRESLED | STAFF PHOTOGRAPH

Salem's Claire Huddas (No. 8) is another promising newcomer for the Rocks. Here, Huddas outraces Livonia Ladywood's Mary Vance to the ball on Monday.

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Seguin-Hall among many story lines

The Plymouth-Windsor Ontario Hockey League Western Conference semifinals series - starting Thursday in Windsor - is a series filled with story lines, some obvious and some not so

HALL VS. SEGUIN: It's been welldocumented all season that Plymouth's Tyler Seguin and Windsor's Taylor Hall are rated 1-2 for this summer's National Hockey League Entry Draft in

Fans may not see it directly, but the Plymouth-Windsor series is attracting national coverage.

Seguin and Hall ended up tied for the OHL's scoring lead with 106 points and are tied with ten points each through their first playoff series.

HACKETT VS. HIS OLD TEAM: Credit Plymouth President General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci with a far-sighted trade on Nov. 13, 2007 that still influences Plymouth and Windsor

That's the day Vellucci announced the acquisition of 17-year-old goaltender Matt

It took Hackett into the following season, but he established himself as one of the best goal-

OHL PLAYOFFS

tenders in the OHL. He recently broke Rob Zepp's mark for career games played by a goaltender (140). Drafted by the Minnesota Wild in the third round in last year's National Hockey League's Entry Draft, he recently signed an entry-level contract with Minnesota.

Moreover, Hackett literally grew up in Plymouth as a goaltender and person and is one of the most popular players on the team. He has a history of playing well against his former team.
GRINDERS WITH SKILL GALORE: Both

teams features players who are skilled and versatile enough to play the game any way you want. As much as Seguin is watched, the Whalers received a major lift in their first round playoff series elimination of Sault Ste. Marie from Phil McRae (11 points in five games) and overage Ryan Hayes (10 points).

Add AJ Jenks (eight points) to the same group. Joe Gaynor, James Livingston and Tyler Brown all play with tenacity and help key the Whalers penalty

killing group.
UNDERRATED BLUE-LINERS: It took Plymouth defenseman Leo Jenner and Windsor blue liner

WHALERS-SPITS SKED

The Plymouth Whalers will face Western Conference champion Windsor in Round 2 of the OHL playoffs.

Following is the series schedule

(All games begin at 7 p.m.):

Game 1: Thursday, April 1, Plymouth at Windsor: Game 2: Saturday, April 3, Windsor at Plymouth; Game 3: Monday, April 5, Plymouth at Windsor: Game 4: Wednesday, April 7, Windsor at Plymouth; Game 5: Thursday, April 8. Plymouth at Windsor (*); Game 6: Saturday, April 10, Windsor at Plymouth (*); Game 7: Monday, April 12,

Plymouth at Windsor (*).

Harry Young a while to get going in their respective careers, but both have turned into effective stay-at-home defensemen who log plenty of important minutes at crunch time. In addition, the Whalers' Beau

YOUNG AND UPCOMING BLUE LINERS: They are nearly a year apart in age, but watch Plymouth's Austin Levi of Farmington Hills and Windsor's Craig Duininck. Both are graduates of the Compuware

Youth system. Levi – who grew up in Colorado and has played hockey for just five or six years - is one of the most improved players in the OHL and is up for the NHL Entry Draft.

Lady Warriors look to go out strong

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The initial phase of girls lacrosse in The Park is ending this spring, with the Plymouth-**Canton-Salem Lady Warriors** beginning their third and final season as a united varsity

In 2011, hopes are that each high school will be able to field varsity and junior varsity teams, said first-year head coach Steve Nyquist (who takes over from the girls lacrosse program's first coach, Dave Medley).

"This year we have 80-plus girls," said Nyquist, noting that there are enough players for one varsity and two JV teams. "We will not be cutting any of the players this year.'

Nyquist and assistant Dave Bower have decided "that it would be best to keep as many girls as possible to build the interest in the sport and prepare the girls for next season,

GIRLS LACROSSE

as well as being competitive this year."

The Lady Warriors showed their coaches that 2010 could indeed be a very good season, winning 15-3 on March 25 at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard.

"We were missing some key players due to injury and illness but the team picked things up," said Nyquist, noting that his defense allowed only 15 shots on goal. Making 12 stops for the victory was PCS goaltender Lexi O'Connor.

At the other end of the field, the Lady Warriors pelted the Gabriel Richard goalie with 36

Scoring five goals and assisting on another was top offensive performer Katie Hill, with plenty of help from Stephanie Bower, Lauren Allard (each 3 goals) and Samantha Arsenault (2 goals, 1 assist). Also contributing

goals were Shannon Lubin and Amanda Heisler.

On defense, Nyquist newcomer Lindsay Schmidt was outstanding with Katie Meagher, Taylor Martin, Lauren Manner and Stephanie

Poe all solid. 'We have a great core of returning players and many of the incoming JV players show a lot of promise," Nyquist added. "The Plymouth recreational lacrosse program is developing players and it shows when the players came out for the evalu-

"We have many new players pushing the returning veteran players for spots on the varsity

The Lady Warriors were looking to continue playing well this week at Farmington Harrison and Grand Blanc, with the home opener April 14 against rival Brighton at the Plymouth JV field.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Offense hot for Rocks, Chiefs in openers

It could be a high-scoring season for Plymouth-Canton Educational Park boys lacrosse teams, if opening matches last

week were any indication. On Wednesday, March 24, Salem doubled up Dexter 12-6 with three players (Garrett Berg, Steve Haburne, Connor Berlin) each tallying three goals, with Dylan Hatcher adding a pair.

Friday, Canton eked out a 12-10 win over Walled Lake Northern, hanging on as the Knights desperately tried to

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prised of travel teams with

rally from what at one point was a 8-3 deficit.

BOYS LACROSSE

Strong play in the face-off department and good possession helped the Chiefs lead the entire contest.

Matt Rodgers was the big gun for Canton, registering seven goals and adding an assist as he showed a won't-bedenied scoring touch.

But Tim Popp contributed three goals along with two

assists and co-captain Jake Underwood helped out with a goal and three helpers. Trevor Moore scored Canton's other goal. In the assist department, Jordan Smith had two while Jon Rocheleau picked up one.

Making 13 stops for the win was co-captain goalkeeper Sean Walsh, who made some key saves in the fourth quarter to preserve the triumph.

Senior D-men Ryan Dunleavy (another co-captain) and Alec Gilo also helped Walsh hold down the fort.

Saturday, March 27 for the

Salem Baseball Skills Camp.

Go to www.rocksbaseball.

com for more information and

a registration form or call Pat

at 734-516-5530.

the eight years we've been in existence. And it's only five graduating classes.

"It's a testament to the teachers, to our athletes and coaches we've had to keep academics the focus here."

Hahn was nominated by high school counselors as a prime candidate to win the MHSAA honor and merely filled out the application after it arrived in her mailbox. Farm Bureau Insurance sponsors the annual contest, with winners receiving \$1,000 college scholarships.

REASONS FOR PRIDE

"I just remember getting a letter saying I had the right grade-point (4.16) to be nominated," Hahn said. "I just filled out the application."

Then she needed to write the customary 500-word essay about sportsmanship.

"I just wrote a personal story of mine ... how even though vou might not be the best, you can still be a good sport," Hahn said. "I think that's kind of what athletics is all about. If you try your hardest, and are a good sport, at the end of the day you should be proud of yourself."

Hahn's perseverance despite adversity earlier during her prep career also is something to be proud of.

During her freshman season, Hahn earned all-state honors in the 3,200-meter run. But then she found herself dealing with a physical ailment as a sophomore that curtailed her season and took a while to get

Hahn said she had a condition where her body grew so fast that the joints in her legs could not keep up, resulting in agonizing pain.

But her strong mental approach and work ethic enabled her to eventually come back stronger than ever.

"I don't know if there's anything Kelly does that she doesn't invest herself in to and work hard at," Styes said. "Injuries, tough teachers, she finds a way to push through that wall and keep going. "She's been a rock for us. It's

four years." According to Hahn, she "just learned through the hardships

of it all, (to) just keep going for

bittersweet her being a senior.

your goals and doing your best."
Whether it's one of her sports, National Honor Society, or any other endeavor, Hahn does put everything she has



Plymouth senior Kelly Hahn stays focused on her goals, whether in distance running or academics.

into that task.

"I keep a planner, I keep track of dates," she said about her full plate. "But when I'm in my sport or activity. I focus on that one thing and I try not to think about anything else."

That's been a winning approach for Hahn. It's also sage advice for any successdriven teen, perhaps even the next MHSAA Scholar-Athlete from Plymouth High School.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

SPORTS ROUNDUP

tion period ends on April 16. Flag football

The city of Plymouth Recreation Department will be taking Summer NFL Youth Flag Football Registrations (for grades three-eight) now through April 16 at the recreation office from noon to 4:30

p.m. Monday-Friday. The office is located in the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St. For more information, call (734) 455-6620. Check out more program and registration information, including Spring Classes which are now open for registration, at www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

Salem Baseball Skills Camp

Baseball players still have

Are you a Bad Bowler? Super Bowl on Ford Road in Canton might be your place if

you are. The facility is hosting a 12-week "Bad Bowlers Club" at 8 p.m. Thursdays through March. The program is for beginning or low-average bowl-

Teams of four (any combination of men and women) may participate in a pressure-free environment. The cost is \$9.95 per person per week. Call (734) 459-6070 for more informa-

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Strictly Business

Schools honor Plymouth credit union

Northville Schools Superintendent Dr. Leonard R. Rezmierski and Board of Education President, Dr. Marilyn Price, presented Bill Lawton, CEO of Plymouth's Community Financial, and Natalie McLaughlin, Community Financial's Senior **Education Partnerships** Coordinator, with the Northville Public Schools 2010 **Community Appreciation** Award during a special presentation at a recent school board meeting.

Northville Public Schools "Community Appreciation Award" was created to recognize local businesses and community organizations, who through their support help enrich the lives of Northville students.

"We appreciate the many ways in which Community Financial has so willingly supported Northville students and staff as a community partner," Rezmierski said. "They have been true partners since the inception of the Education Partnerships program during the 1989-90 school year in supporting educational excellence by providing opportunities for students and staff through numerous district programs and events.

A part of the Northville community for more than 33 years, Community Financial's Northville branch is located at 108 East Main Street in downtown Northville. Over the past 20 years, Community Financial has supported Northville Public Schools through a variety of programs:

• Student-Run Credit Unions - The first studentrun credit union began at Amerman Elementary School and has grown to eight partnerships across the district at Amerman, Moraine, Silver Springs, Thornton Creek,

The Plymouth Downtown **Development Authority has** begun distributing maps to merchants which show how to get around the streetscape construction. Businesses can forward it or print it out for customers, neighbors and friends so they can easily navigate around the con-

The detour map is also available at downtownplymouth.org, Facebook and

Massage anniversary Healing Arts Massage hosts an open house April 1 to celebrate their 10-year anniversary at 383 Starkweather St. in

Formerly in the old Daisy Rifle Building, and prior to that in the Forest Place Shopping Center since 1987,

massaging the Plymouth and

surrounding communities for

Alternate routes

struction.

Twitter.

Plymouth.



At the March 9 school board meeting staff from Community Financial were presented with the 2010 Community Appreciation Award for 20 years of participating in the Northville Public Schools Education Partnerships program. Pictured from left are Bill Lawton, Community Financial CEO. Michelle Richards, Community Financial Education Partnership Coordinator, Natalie McLaughlin, Community Financial, Senior Education Partnership Coordinator, and Dr. Leonard Rezmierski, Superintendent, Northville Public Schools.

Winchester, Hillside, Meads Mill and Northville High School. This model program for student-run credit unions has been replicated in 29 partnerships throughout Michigan where Community Financial has branches.

 Classroom supplements - For the past six years a Wall Street Journal Classroom Edition subscription has been provided to NHS Economics classes impacting over 2,500 students. "Checking Account" packets were provided last year to 375 students at Hillside and Meads Mill middle schools to enhance the math curriculum unit on personal finance.

• Classroom presentations - Community Financial staff conducted 61 classroom presentations to a total of 2,260 students at its Northville Public Schools partnership buildings last year. The topics included:

Budgeting, Checking, the Federal Reserve System, the Economy, Credit and Human Resources. Junior Achievement (JA) lessons were presented to all second grade students at Thornton Creek and Moraine elementary schools by Community Financial staff. Third grade students at Amerman, Moraine, Silver Springs, Thornton Creek and Winchester elementary schools attended assemblies introducing the concepts of needs and wants, goods and services, and the way the economy works.

• District support -Community Financial has supported many programs throughout the district including donating more than \$7,500 over the past 10 years to the Northville Educational Foundation through its Community Shares program. They have also purchased

advertisements to support NHS spring musicals and athletic programs as well as helping to support many fun fairs and ice cream socials. Community Financial has participated in many new teacher orientation sessions throughout the years highlighting community resources available to Northville staff.

Bill Lawton, Community Financial CEO, thanked the Board of Education for the honor. "We are excited to fill our vision of teaching Northville Public Schools students the importance of saving in elementary school, providing a way to grow those savings in middle school and then offering access to their savings and checking accounts in high school," Lawton said. "This partnership program truly prepares students for 'real world' financial experiences."

CHAMBER CHAT

YouTube is not just funny videos and old TV clips, but holds endless potential for businesses to promote themselves. The mega video web site can create a platform to promote your business in a dynamic and innovative way. From testimonials to product demonstrations to advertising this medium can be integrated into web sites, social networking pages or just to spice up marketing campaigns.

YouTube workshop

The easy steps for using YouTube for your business will be presented by Janak Mehta, a partner in PR Easy. If you can do a video with your cell phone then you can find out at this seminar how to benefit from YouTube marketing. Since there only 35 seats available for this presentation, please RSVP as soon as possible to teri@plymouthmich. org or call (734) 453-1540. This workshop will be at the Chamber office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Tr. from 8:30 to 9:30

Penn classics

April is Paul Newman month at the Penn Theatre. "Young Philadelphians" will be the feature on April 1. The box office opens at 6:30 and the movie will begin at 7 p.m. All seats are \$3.

See the Tigers

The Plymouth Historical Museum is selling tickets to the Detroit Tigers vs. Chicago White Sox baseball game at Comerica Park on Monday, May 17. The tickets are in the upper deck. A luxury coach will pick up fans at the Plymouth Historical Museum at 5 p.m., with a 5:15 p.m. departure for the ballpark. The game starts at 7:05 p.m. The coach will leave for Plymouth shortly after the game ends.

The \$44 ticket price includes one upper deck seat and a

round-trip luxury coach ride from the museum to the ballpark. Tickets can be purchased at the Museum (155 S. Main Street) or by using PayPal at http://www.plymouthhistory. org/Events.html

Hazardous Waste Day

Plymouth and Plymouth Township residents can take their hazardous waste to Compuware Sports Arena, 14900 Beck Rd., from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on April 24. For a list of acceptable items, go to http://www. plymouthtwp.org/Community/ SpecialEvents/HHWDay2.htm

Fourth Tuesdays

New Liberty Bank at 1333 W. Ann Arbor Road hosts casual information coffees on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 7:30-9 a.m. Join them for free coffee, donuts and their panel of experts who will be on hand to answer banking and financial questions. Registration is not necessary, just stop by.

New member directory

The chamber's new Membership Directory and Area Profile just arrived at the Chamber office. The directory is a high quality, fullcolor publication that serves as a first class, quality of life piece for the community and as our printed membership directory. Members are listed alphabetically and by business category.

The new guide incorporates our Plymouth Rocks community marketing campaign into the design and has the same appearance as our web site, street map and social networking sites. We are excited to now have another excellent marketing tool to promote this community as a great place to live, work and visit.

Directories will be mailed to all members during the first full week of April.

BUSINESS MILESTONES



over 23 years. Rather than the old notion that massage is just a luxury, business owner Celeste Hamilton reports that clients use massage as a healthy alternative for relief from stress, pain and fatigue in these tough economic times. Research has shown that many people recognize the benefits of massage therapy in relieving stress and pain

pain-killing medications. Due to the economic downturn, many people are reducing doctor visits and cutting down on medications to save money. However, expenditures for fitness and wellness are actually increasing, with consumers reporting that they are more willing to invest in getting healthy, according to Hamilton.

without the side effects of

Healing Arts is a full-service massage and bodywork center offering a variety of personalized, affordable massage and bodywork modalities from qualified and experienced Nationally Certified Massage Therapists. Appointments are available mornings, afternoons and evenings, seven days a week. The open house will offer

the opportunity to experience several different massage and bodywork modalities for free or at a reduced cost. Healthy food and beverages will be provided, along with a raffle for free gift baskets. To reserve an appointment or for more information, call (734) 207-0557 or visit www. healingartsmassagetherapy.

Food drive

Downtown Plymouth is undergoing a Streetscape Project to improve the downtown Plymouth community. In conjunction with this, the Downtown Development

Authority wants to support underprivileged families within the Plymouth community. In an effort to do so, the DDA is partnering with the Plymouth Community United Way to collect food and supplies to donate to the Salvation Army Plymouth

Looking for downtown Plymouth businesses to participate, the DDA is encouraging downtown businesses to accept donations April 17 to May 17 of non-perishable items. This will afford donors the opportunity to walk the streets of Plymouth and explore downtown establishments. The DDA will provide a donation box that each

owner is free to decorate. Businesses interested in participating can contact the



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ENTERTAINMENT



Author Bob Harris poses with members of Grand Funk Railroad in the

Author seeks music stories, photos

Bob Harris, music promoter, author and publisher of *The Teen News* in the 1960s and *Extra* in the 1970s, is looking for Detroit bands and musicians to complete his second book,

Motor City Music Legends.
Harris co-authored Motor
City Rock and Roll: The
1960s and 1970s (Arcadia
Publishing) with Detroit
attorney J. Douglas Peters
in 2008. Now he wants to
complete a more personal,
detailed look at Detroit's
many music legends.

"In this book, we seek to tell Detroit music fans things about their favorite singers, musicians and groups that no one has published before," Harris stated.

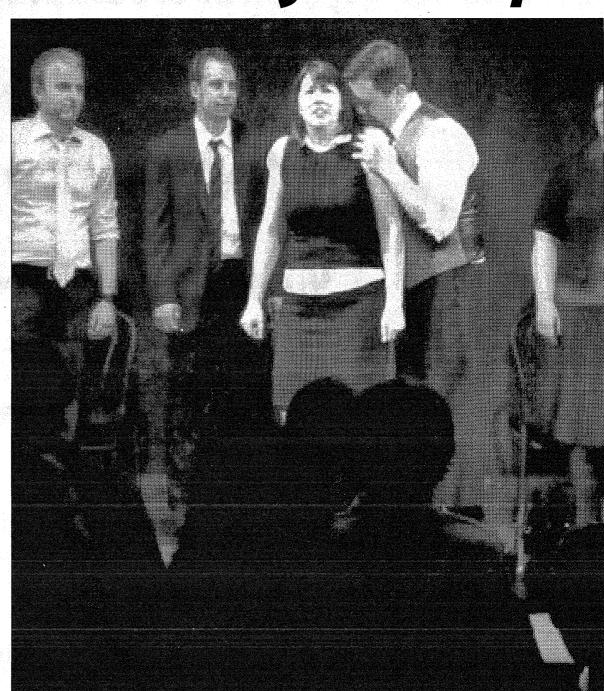
Motor City Music Legends will include more than 200 pages of Detroitarea bands and musicians.

Harris is asking fans and musicians for their help in locating past performers and pictures. His "wish list" includes the likes of Jackie "Mr. Excitement" Wilson, The Southbound Freeway, MC5, Alice Cooper, The Sunday Funnies, The Flaming Embers, The Gaylords, Rare Earth, The Wanted managed by Herb Steiner, Jamie Coe, Jack Rainwater. The Dramatics (formerly The Dynamics) and the Royal Jokers.

Anyone with information and/or photographs concerning these and other legendary Detroit musicians and bands can call Harris at (313) 399-8285 or e-mail John Minnis, who is working with Harris, at jminnis@gmail.com.

The authors plan to publish *Motor City Music Legends* by late summer.

Creating comedy



Lesley Braden-Phillips (center) performs with other improvisers at Go Comedy in Ferndale.

Let personal experience create your punchline

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

It's April Fool's Day, a perfect time to express your sense of humor.

But if pulling pranks isn't your idea of funny, you'll find plenty of venues in Southeastern Michigan — from open mic nights to storytelling slams to improvisational theatre jams — to create comedy. And no matter what genre you choose, you'll be well on your way to eliciting laughter if you keep this simple dictate in mind: Be honest.

"The best kind of comedy is truth. It's empowering and relatable," says Kate Grace of Livonia. "It's not how funny you are. It's about how truthful you are. Are you willing

to be honest about being human?"

Grace draws from personal experience whether telling stories — as she did at The Moth in New York City — or performing improv at Go Comedy in Ferndale.

An alumnus of Churchill High School's Creative and Performing Arts Program, she studied photography in Chicago, Ill., and earned a master's degree in journalism at Columbia University before realizing her writing leaned more toward *The Onion* than the *New York Times*.

"The professors would read in front of the class and they'd crack up. Then they'd hand it back and say 'You can't do that again. This is journalism, not Comedy Central." She trusted her instincts and went "leaping off the edge" and into the People's Improv Theatre in New York, where she honed the craft that teaches performers how to create scenes without preplanning. Participants learn to say "yes and," to agree with fellow players and add infor-

mation to the scene.

"It ended up fueling my writing fiction," says Grace, who has since returned home to Livonia to live near family. She was pleasantly surprised to find The Moth had started story slams in Detroit, that open mic nights for stand-up performers abound and that a new improv theatre and training center, Go Comedy, in Ferndale had taken shape.

According to Bill Bushart, a stand-up comedian who also teaches classes at Joey's Comedy Club in Livonia, local comedy "is booming." He says more amateur comics are testing their material than he's seen in the last 10 years.

"People are looking for career options," he says.
"Most of the people in stand-up comedy are either fired into comedy or quit into comedy."

FATHER-DAUGHTER

Vera Khzouz of Westland, came to comedy by way of family and ethnic group. She looks for comedic roles when auditioning and landed a lead in Scarf in the City, an ethnic twist on Sex and the City, that premiered at the Arab American Museum in Dearborn. Khzouz also performed an improvised character in a film shown during the Arab American Comedy Show last summer.

But her current goal is to recreate the sketches that her late father wrote and performed on his radio show, *Voice of Jordan*, for 13 years. She helped him write some of the comedic commercials he broadcast and performed in a few skits.

"There's nothing better than making people laugh. It brings me joy. It's so addic-



Vera Khzouz

tive," says Khzouz, who says humor that comes "naturally" and from being yourself is funnier than forced jokes.

SMART COMEDY

The funniest things to write about are very truthful statements. I look for common thoughts and actions we do and try to find out why it's acceptable," agrees Lesley Braden-Phillips, a stand-up comedian, cast member at Go Comedy, and member of Motor City Improv troupe. "Why is it that we only think about feeding homeless people twice a year? Thanksgiving and Christmas..that's when they're hungry? That's where my brain goes, to whatever we all have accepted without questioning. I like to question some of those things and then hopefully form a five minute bit from it. I'm a big fan of smart comedy. Anyone can write bawdy comedy."

write bawdy comedy."

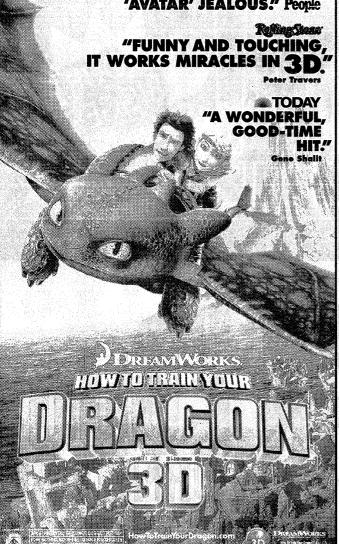
Braden-Phillips has begun carving a niche for herself in the art of the comedic roast, a form of stand-up comedy. She has been involved in roasts at Go Comedy and Joey's Comedy Club — some were charity fund-raisers — and has served as roast mistress at one event. The key is to strike a balance between "friendship and blasting" the person being roasted.

"Not many women do it," she said, adding "And there is an art to it."



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ART

Lotus Arts Gallery Time/Date: Through April Location: 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, downtown Plymouth **Details:** Colored Pencil Society of Detroit exhibit; 6-8 p.m., April 10, meet the artists; light hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served

Contact: (888) 889-4ART (toll free) or (734)453-5400

Northville Art House Time/Date: April 2-24

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville Details: "Mudville USA," an installation by Eric Mesko; with reception and artist talk, 6-9 p.m., April

Coming up: Doll making class taught by Charlie Patricolo, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., April 24-25. The two-day class costs \$100, along with a \$10 kit fee. Registration is available now

Contact: (248) 344-0497 or visit www.northvillearts.org

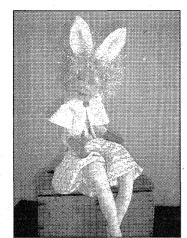
COMEDY

Go Comedy!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays Location: 261 E. Nine Mile. Ferndale

Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays Contact: (248) 327-0575; www. gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield **Details:** Stand-up shows, 8 p.m.



Fiber artist Charlie Patricolo will teach a two-day bunny-making class, April 24-25 at Northville Art House.

Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www. ticketmaster.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays. Open Mic: 8 p.m. Tuesdays. Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays Location: 36071 Plymouth Road,

Details: Dan Greuter, through April 3; Rodney Laney, April 7-10, Mark Sweeney, April 14-17; Andres Fernandez, April 21-24

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www. kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle Time/Date: San Francisco comedian Mark Pitta, April 1-3; Texan Steve McGrew, April 8-10 Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak Contact: (248) 542-9900, www. comedycastle.com

CONCERTS

The Ark

Time/Date: California Guitar Trio, April 1; Steppin' In It & Rachael Davis, April 2; The RFD Boys, April 3; Steve Poltz, April 5; Leon Redbone, April 6; The Low Anthem, April 7; Patty Larkin, April 8; Mason Jennings, April 9; Mr. B's Piano Celebration with Bob Seeley, April 11; Chic Gamine, April 13; King Sunny Ade & His African Beats, April 14; Brian Vander Ark, April 15; The Hot Club of Cowtown, April 16; Hoots and Hellmouth, April 17; The Belleville Outfit, April 18; E.C. Scott, April 20; Martin Sexton, April 21; BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet, April 23; Nervous But Excited & Joshua Davis, April 24; The Infamous Stringdusters, April 25; Chris Pureka, April 26; Matt Jones, April 27; Eliza Gilkyson, April 28; Jonatha Brooke, April 29; Down the Line, April 30

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor

Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.

theark.org **Detroit Institute of Arts**

Time/Date: Friday Night Live concerts, 7 and 8:30 p.m. Location: 5200 Woodward Ave

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www. dia.org Henry Ford Estate

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., April 14 Location: On the campus of University of Michigan-Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen, Dearborn **Details:** Violinist Gabriel Bolkosky and pianist Michele Cooker perform at Fair Lane Music Guild's final concert of the season. Enjoy dessert while listening to Bolcom's "Third Sonata" as well as works



Michele Cooker and Gabriel Bolkosky perform April 14 at the Henry Ford Estate in Dearborn, on the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus.

by Beethoven and Franck. Tickets are \$15 per person, \$14 for senior citizens and \$9 for students **Contact**: (313) 593-5330, or www. umd.umich.edu/fair lane music

JWH Center for the Arts **Time/Date**: 6:15-6:45 p.m., open mic sign up; performances, 7 p.m. Location: 774 N. Sheldon,

Plymouth **Details**: BaseLine Folk Society open mic is for acoustic, folk and traditional musicians. Admission is \$5. BaseLine Folk Society open mic runs every third Saturday of the month through May Contact: Mike Mullen, founder,

mjmmullen@yahoo.com Magic Bag

Time/Dates: The Beggars record

release, April 2; Bump, April 3; The Mega 80's, April 9, 17 and 24; Mackinac Island's Last Waltz, April 10; Deadstring Brothers CD release, April 16; The 30th Anniversary Tour, An Evening with The Church, April 18; The Hard Lessons, April 23; Greensky Bluegrass, April 30 Location: 22920 Woodward,

Ferndale Contact: (248) 544-3030, www. themagicbag.com

Oakland Community College Time/Date: 8 p.m., April 9 Location: Smith Theatre at the Orchard Ridge campus, located just south of I-696 on Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills Details: Ginka Gerova-Ortega presents "Flute Spectrums," a program of jazz, world music,

narration, and classics, with Jint Zhant, Zhichen Zhao dancers, pianists Raffaella Medoro and Scott Gwinnell, Miles Brown on bass, Sean Dobbins on percussion, Mark Stone on vibes and steel drums and The Oakland Jazz Quartet; admission is \$14

Contact: (248) 522-3666

Seligman Performing Arts Center

Time/Date: 8 p.m., April 10 Location: 22305 West 13 Mile, on the campus of Detroit Country Day School, Beverly Hills Details: Richard Goode on piano; repertoire includes Bach, Haydn and Schumann. Tickets range from \$43-75; students pay \$25 Contact: (248) 855-6070

Please see GET OUT!, B8

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

CANTON POLICE AUCTION

These vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction. The auction will be on Tuesday. April 6th at 10:0 AM. The auction will be held at 6375 Hix, Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, the starting is for towing and storage.

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1995	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	1G1BL52P8SR18003
1994	FORD	ESCORT	1FARP15J4RW154169
1994	LINCOLN	TOWN & COUNTRY	1LNLM82W8RY697520
1991	NISSAN	STANZA	JN1FU21P2MT306579
2003	KIA	OPTIMA	KNAGD12623519812
1989	VOLVO	240GL	YV1AX2242K139110

Publish: April 1, 2010

2010 INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT **PROGRAM** CITY OF PLYMOUTH

Sealed Bids will be received by the City of Plymouth at the Clerk's office, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, until 10:00 a.m., Local Time, Thursday, April 22, 2010, at which time and place said Bids will be opened and publicly read aloud for the following approximate quantities of work:

> 7,500 cyd of pavement excavation, 800 lft of miscellaneous sanitary sewer removal and replacement, 1,900 lft of storm sewer, 3,200 lft of water main, curb and gutter removal and replacement, 5,000 tons of bituminous pavement, 45,000sft of concrete sidewalk and driveways, restoration and related Work.

Contract Documents are on file with Ms. Linda J. Langmesser,

Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations: City of Plymouth, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 McGraw Hill Construction - Dodge, Plan Room, 36060 Industrial Road, Livonia, Michigan 48150 Construction Association of Michigan, 43636 Woodward, P.O. Box 3204, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302; Reed Construction Data, Electronic Plan Room, (www.reedepr.com); Construction News Service, 1793 RW Berends Drive S.W., Wyoming, Michigan 49519; and Wade Trim Associates, Inc., 25251 Northline Road, Taylor, Michigan 48180. Plans and spec are also available for viewing on line at: www.wadetrim.com/ resources/bidlist.htm

Copies thereof for bidding purposes may be obtained at the office(s) of Wade Trim Associates Inc., 25251 Northline Road, Taylor, Michigan 48180, starting on Tuesday, March 30, 2010, upon making a payment of One Hundred Fifty (\$150.00) Dollars if picked up or One Hundred Seventy-Five (\$175.00) Dollars if mailed (checks or money orders only - payable to Wade Trim, no cash), none of which will be refunded.

Each Proposal shall be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, money order, or bid bond, in the amount of at least five (5) percent of the amount bid, drawn payable to the City of Plymouth as security for the proper execution of the Agreement

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive any informality in any bids should it consider same to be in its best interest.

Bids may not be withdrawn for the period of 60 days after date of

All inquiries shall be directed to Shawn Keough (734) 947-9700.

Ms. Linda J. Langmesser, Clerk City of Plymouth 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170

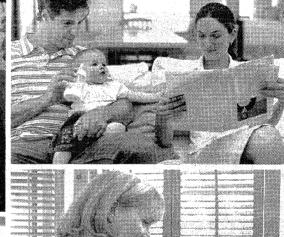
Publish: April 1, 2010

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GET OUT!

Trinity House Theater Time/Date: Kitty Donohoe, April 9; Great Lakes Songwriting Contest Show, April 10; Trinity House Theatre Benefit Concert with Josh White, Jr., Jan Krist, Dave Boutette, April 16; Empty Chair Night with Joel Palmer, Annie and Rod Capps, Allison Downey and John Latini. April 23: Tracy Kash Thomas with Luke Sayers, April 24; Keri Noble, April 28; Bill Isles, April 30

Location: 38840 West Six Mile, Contact: (734) 464-6302, www.

trinityhouse.org

Bakers Keyboard Lounge Time/Dates: 2-5 p.m. Sundays Details: Jazz for Kids Program Location: 20510 Livernois Ave...

Birmingham Eccentric

Farmington Observer

· Garden City Observer

· Canton Observer

Livonia Observer

Northville Record

· Plymouth Observer

Redford Observer

South Lyon Herald

South Oakland Eccentric

Berkley, Huntinaton

Woods, Ferndale,

Lathrup Village,

Pleasant Ridge

and Clawson

Westland Observer

Southfield, Royal Oak,

Milford Times

Novi News

Contact: (313) 345-6300, www. bakerskeyboardlounge.com

Detroit Institute of Arts

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission Location: 5200 Woodward.

Detroit Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.

dia.org

Detroit Zoo Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Labor Day

Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak **Details**: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for chil-

dren ages 2 to 14; children under

2 are free. Coming up: Bunnyville, featuring treats, games, crafts, live entertainment and more, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., April 3. Bunnyville visitors who bring a canned or other non-perishable food item to be donated to Gleaners Community Food Bank will receive a reduced admission price of \$5, parking not included.

Contact: (248) 541-5717

Marquis Theatre

Time/Dates: 2:30 p.m. all shows; Saturday, April 10, 17, 24 and May 1; Monday-Friday, April 5-9; and Sunday, April 11, 18, 25 and May 2 Location: 135 E. Main, Northville Details: "Peter Cottontail," tickets, \$8.50, ages 3 and up Contact: (248) 349-8110, www.

northvillemarquistheatre.com

Cranbrook Institute of Science Time/Date: 7 p.m., Thursday-Friday, April 8-9

Location: 1221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills

Details: 2010 Banff Mountain Film Festival featuring the world's best footage on mountain subjects;

tickets are \$12 and available at Mooseiaw, 34288 Woodward Ave., Birmingham

Contact: (248) 645-3209

Penn Theatre

Time/Date: "The Young Philadelphians," 7 p.m., April 1; The Tooth Fairy," 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 2-3 Location: 760 Penniman Ave.,

Plymouth Details: \$3 admission Coming up: "Cat on a Hot Tin

Roof," 7 p.m., April 8; "Avatar," 7

p.m. Friday-Sunday, April 9-11 and 4 p.m., April 10-11 Contact: (734) 453-0870. www. penntheatre.com

Redford Theatre Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 2 and 2

p.m. and 8 p.m., April 3 Location: 17360 Lahser, Detroit Details: "Spartacus," with Kirk Douglas, Laurence Olivier and Tony Curtis; admission \$4 Coming up: Three Stooges Festival, April 16 and 17, admission \$5; "Singin' in The Rain," 8 p.m., April 30-May 1 and 2 p.m., May 1;

admission \$4 **Contact**: www.redfordtheatre.

MUSEUMS

Cranbrook Institute of Science Time/Date: "Artology: The Fusion

of Art and Science at Cranbrook" showcases the work of artists whose creations intersect with science; through June 4 Location: 39221 Woodward,

Bloomfield Hills Contact: (248) 645-3200, http:// science.cranbrook.edu

Detroit Science Center Time/Date: "Black Holes" in the planetarium; "Accidental Mummies of Guanajuanto" through April 11

Location: 5020 John R, Detroit Contact: (313) 577-8400, www. detroitsciencecenter.org Greenfield Village

Time/Date: "Good Design: stories from Herman Miller" through April 25 Location: 20900 Oakwood Blvd.,

Dearborn Details: The touring exhibition

Richard Goode performs April 10 in the Chamber Music Society of Detroit's Opus 9 Series.

design process employed at the world-renowned West Michiganbased furniture company Herman Miller Inc. Developed in collaboration with the Muskegon Museum of Art, the exhibition draws upon The Henry Ford's Herman Miller Design Collection, a comprehensive archive of the company's innovative processes and products, most of which have never been on public view.

Contact: (313) 982-6001 or thehenryford.org

Historic Greenmead Time/Date: 3-5 p.m., April 10 Location: 20501 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Victorian Tea at Hill House includes tea sandwiches, scones and desserts; \$25 advance tickets only

Contact: (248) 477-7375

Plymouth Historical Museum Time/Dates: "Show and Tell Collectibles" exhibit, through June 13

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth Coming up: Show and Tell" takes on a new dimension at the Plymouth Historical Museum when collectors display their collections and possibly sell an item or two. "Show and Tell... and Sell" Showcases will be held 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 17, and May 15. The museum is still looking for collectors for these events. Details and an application can be

found on the Museum's Web site at http://www.plymouthhistory. org/Events.html. Contact: (734) 455-8940, www. plymouthhistory.org

THEATRE

Barefoot Productions Time/Dates: May 7-9, 14-16 and 21-22

Location: 240 N. Main, Plymouth Details: "Steel Magnolias;" tickets are !2 general admission, \$10 for students with ID and senior citizens. 62 and older

Contact: (734) 582-9688; www. justgobarefoot.com

Comic Opera Guild Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 8-10 and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 11

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: "Sally," a 1920 hit, tells the story of an orphan dishwasher who gets a chance to dance in the Ziegfield ballet. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$17 for senior citizens and youth, except on April 8 when all seats are \$15

Contact: Visit www. CantonVillageTheater.org and click on box office or call (734) 394-5460.

Henry Ford Community College

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m., Sunday, April

Location: MacKenzie Fine Arts Center on campus, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn Details: "Tommy," the musical;

admission is \$15 for adults, \$10 for students with ID and \$8 per seat for groups of 10 or more Contact: (313) 845-9817 or e-mail gadzuiblinski@hfcc.edu

Spotlight Players Time/Date: 8 p.m., April 23-24, April 30-May 1 and 2 p.m. April 24-25, May 1-2 Location: Village Theater, 50400

Cherry Hill, Canton Details: "Oklahoma!" Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$16 for senior citizens, age 60 and over and students, age 18 and under Contact: (734) 480-4945 or visit www.spotlightplayersmi.org

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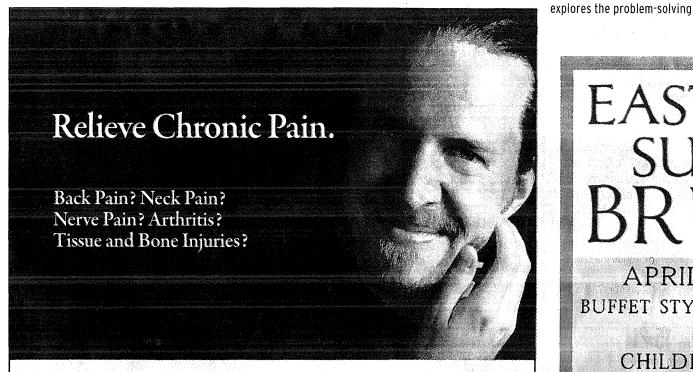
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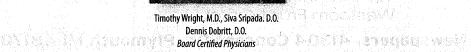
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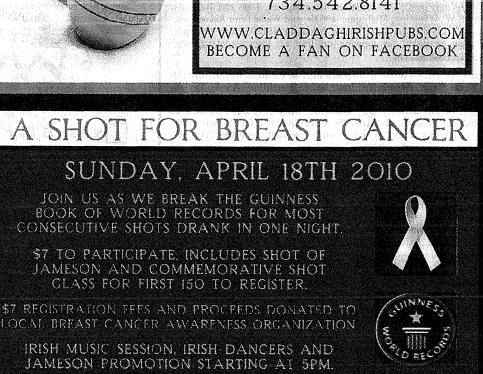
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Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@ hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must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

APRIL 1-7

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church Time/Date: 10:30 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 3

Location: 14175 Farmington Road,

Livonia **Details**: Easter fair and egg hunt for children up to age 8. Parents accompany their children through different activity centers such as egg coloring,

a video. **Coming up**: Easter Sunday services will be held at 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m. Sunday school classes

cookie decorating, craft making, and

are held at 9:45 a.m. Contact: (734) 522-6830

Congregation B'nai Moshe Time/Date: 5:30-8 p.m., Thursday, April 1

Location: 6800 Drake, West Bloomfield

Details: Passover buffet including assorted soups and salads, grilled chicken and chicken tenders, meatloaf and fish, mashed potatoes and French fries, fresh vegetables, homemade desserts, fresh seasonal fruit with coffee, tea, juice and soft drinks. Adults \$29, children ages 5-11, \$18, children ages 0-4, no charge. Prepaid reservations only by Thursday, March 25 with cash or check preferred to: Elite Kosher Catering, 6800 Drake Road (between Maple and 14 Mile Roads) in West Bloomfield

Coming up: RSVP by Monday, March 29 for the "The Magic of Passover," a free Passover program for families with preschoolers, 10-11:30 a.m., Monday, April 5. The program includes a magic show by Steve Zieman, as well as storytime, songs, crafts and Passover snacks.

Contact: (248) 592-0200 or (248) 592-0830 for Passover buffet; (248) 788-0600 for "Magic of Passover" program

Faith Lutheran Church

Time/Date: Maundy Thursday service, 7:30 p.m., April 1; prayer, noon and service, 7:30 p.m., Good Friday, April 2; Easter vigil service, 7:30 p.m., April 3: Easter celebration service, 10 a.m., with breakfast served 9-10 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon, Sunday, April 4 Location: 30000 Five Mile, Livonia Contact: (734) 421-7249

Hope Lutheran Church Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m., April 1, noon-2 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. April 2 and

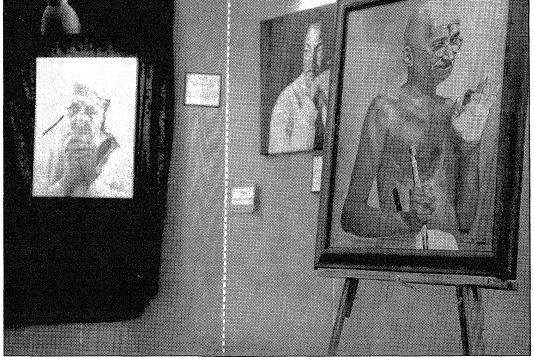
8:30 a.m.-noon, April 4 Location: 39200 W. 12 Mile,

Farmington Hills Details: Art by Jeanne McCormick of

Novi is on display, along with work by members of the congregation Contact: (248) 553-7170

Kingdom Builders Christian Church Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., April 6, 13, 20 and 27

Location: 23310 Joy, Redford **Details:** Workshop for couples who are married, engaged or in a serious relationship. Learn to communicate better, respect each other and lessen stress on the relationship. Great for couples at every stage and any age. Dinner and child care provided; pre-



Art work by Jeanne McCormick of Novi is on display at Hope Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills.

registration needed for child care. \$40 per couple for all four weeks. Couples must attend all four sessions. **Contact**: Marriage Resource Center at (313) 278-4400 or visit www.mimarriage.org

Lola Park Lutheran Church Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., April 1, Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion; 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., April 2, Good Friday services; 9:30 a.m., April 4, Easter service

Location: 14750 Kinloch, Redford **Details**: Easter Sunday will begin with a free breakfast at 8 a.m. All visitors to the service will receive a free copy of a new DVD entitled *The Road to* **Emmaus**

Contact: (734) 968-3523 or (313) 532-8655

Mt. Vernon Baptist Church Time/Date: 11 a.m., Sunday, April 4 Location: 8828 Wormier, Redford Details: Easter choir cantata, "Arise, my Love"

Contact: (313) 537-7480

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 1; noon and 7:30 p.m., Friday, April 2; and 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., Sunday, April 3

Location: 28000 New Market, Farmington Hills **Details**: Holy week services **Contact**: (248) 553-3380

St. John Church Time/Date: 1-2:30 p.m., Saturday,

Location: 23225 Gill, Farmington Hills **Details**: Community Easter Egg Hunt; all welcome

Contact: (248) 474-0584

St. John's Episcopal Church Time/Date: Mass of the Lord's supper, 7 p.m., Thursday, April 1; Liturgy, noon, prayers followed by Stations of the Cross, 9 p.m., Friday, April 2;

services, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Location: 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland

Contact: (734) 721-5023 **Warren Road Baptist Church**

Time/Date: 7:30 a.m., sunrise service, breakfast, 8:15 a.m., worship service, 10:30 a.m., Sunday, April 4

Location: 33445 Warren Road, Westland **Details**: Easter Sunday worship and

events includes live resurrection journey for kids, 4-12, and nursery available for kids under 4 Contact: (734) 458-7301

APRIL 8-14

Congregation Beth Ahm Time/Date: 1:30 p.m., Sunday, April 11 Location: 5075 West Maple, West Bloomfield

SOCIAL SECURIT

Details: Dr. Amy Brode will talk about the overactive bladder and incontinence, at a program sponsored by the congregation's Sisterhood; free admission and open to the public Coming up: The Sisterhood starts a weekly Mah Jongg group, 12:30-3 p.m., Tuesday, April 13. Cost is \$1 per person; participants should bring current Mah Jongg card. Also a free weekly DVD series continues at 1 p.m. Wednesday: topics for April 14 are "Rome Arrives in Jerusalem" and "Parting with the Temple," drop-ins welcome and no reservations needed Contact: (248) 851-6880 or www. cbahm.org for Brode's program; Gail Ellenbogen at (248) 626-4123 or email gellenbo@yahoo.com for Mah Jongg; Nancy Kaplan at (248) 737-1931 for DVD series

The Corners Time/Date: 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday,

Location: 2075 Walnut Lake Road, just west of Inkster Road, West Bloomfield

Details: Rabbi Howard Addison, an assistant professor in the Intellectual Heritage Department at Temple University, leads a workshop about the interface between Kabbalah and the Enneagram. He'll explain how to use it for personal growth and working with clients in the helping professions. Cost is \$100

Contact: RSVP to Michael Abramsky at (248) 644-7398

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian

Church Time/Date: 6-7 p.m., April 11, 18, 25 Location: 9601 Hubbard, Livonia **Details**: Ballroom dancing lessons, followed by a practice session, with music, A dance party will be held 7-9:30 p.m., April 25. Light refreshments will be served. Cost is \$6 for each lesson and \$6 for the dance. Attend the class and dance for \$10. Pay at the door in Fellowship Hall. The proceeds from the March classes will go to the Cancer Relay for Life; April's proceeds will go to the Capital Improvement Fund

Contact: (734) 751-1957 or (734) 422-

APRIL 15-21

Birmingham Temple Time/Date: 8 p.m., Saturday, April 17 Location: 28611 West 12 Mile. Farmington Hills

Details: Vivace Music Series features pianist Ralph Votapek performing works by Copland, Schubert, Ravel and Albeniz. Afterglow and refreshments follow the concert; tickets are \$20 for members and seniors, \$23

designed for adults with developmental disabilities, special needs, and their caretakers includes music, fun, and friendship. Snacks and beverages will be served

Contact: RSVP no later than April 9 to Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822 or email to judy@emmanuel-livonia.org Leon's

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., April 17 **Location**: 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden

City **Details**: Bethany Suburban West monthly breakfast meeting; all separated, divorced and singles may

Contact: Kathy at (734) 513-9479 St. Aidan

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., Thursday, April

Location: 17500 Farmington Road,

Livonia

Details: David J. Conrad, M.A. Theology is the presenter at a program called "The Church: Its Essential

Qualities and Purpose" Contact: RSVP by noon the day of the event to (734) 425-5950

Details: The Woman's League of the church sponsors a rummage and bake sale. In addition to clothing and homemade baked goods, the sale will feature small appliances, furniture, books, bedding, linens, toys, jewelry and much more. \$3 and \$5 bag sale on Saturday

April 29-May 5

Time/Date: Rummage sale 9 a.m.-7 Saturday, May 1

Farmington Hills

and 5-9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, April 26-28 Contact: Judy Glass at (248) 476-

St. Aidan

Location: 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

APRIL 22-28 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, April 23 and 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 24 **Location**: 28000 New Market, just north of 12 Mile, east of Farmington Road in Farmington Hills family with two adults and children Contact: (734) 261-1455

> Contact: Lucille Ehlers at (248) 553 2889

Antioch Lutheran Church

p.m., Friday, April 30 and 10 a.m.-noon, Location: 33360 West 13 Mile,

Details: The church also is collecting items for the sale from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

9074

Time/Date: 6-9 p.m., Thursday, April

Details: The Rev. Norm Dickson and Dr. Mary Healy will be the guest speakers at the Endow groups at the church. The session, a reflection on Women of Peace and Love, is aimed at women and girls, age 16 and over. A light dinner will be included. A free will offering will be accepted Contact: RSVP to the parish office by

ONGOING

April 25 at (734) 425-5950

AWANA

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays **Location**: Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills **Details**: AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade

Contact: (248) 426-0096

Breakfast

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-noon, third Sunday each month, October through

Location: 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth, in Livonia **Details**: The Ushers' Club presents an "all-you-can-eat" pancake breakfast served in the school cafeteria and featuring pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, and assorted breakfast beverages. Meals are served buffet-style. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, 4-11, free for children under 3, and \$15 for a

Career workshops St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

Time/Date: First and third Mondavs Location: 30900 Six Mile, Livonia Details: Workshops are designed to help people in employment transition build a network and use their resources to find that next good job. Workshop leaders are available to work one-on-one with anyone looking for work.

Contact: (734) 422-6038

Classes/study **Detroit First Church of the** Nazarene

Time/Date: 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesday Location: 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile

Details: Tuesday Ladies Bible Study; \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5

Contact: (248) 348-7600

Please see CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE

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HELEN ATTALAI

Ralph Votapek will perform Saturday,

April 17, at the Birmingham Temple.

non-members. Student and group

Contact: Joyce Cheresh at (248) 788-

0338 or Ann Sipher at (248) 661-1348

Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m., April 17

Location: 5075 West Maple, West

Details: Shabbat Club for kids pro-

vides a morning of parasha play,

games, interactive learning and

Contact: RSVP to Amy Newman at

relschool@cbahm.org or (248) 851-

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Saturday,

Farmington Road and Newburgh.

Details: "Spring Fling" dance

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Congregation Beth Ahm

rates available

Bloomfield

Shabbat fun

Age 88, of Plymouth. Passed away March 25, 2010. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington.



CATHERINE (KATIE) ROMA (SCHAEFFER) MINARD

67, died Monday, March 29, 2010 surrounded by family in her Livonia, Michigan home. Born in 1942 to J. Robert and Ruth Schaeffer in Detroit, Katie graduated from Detroit Cooley High School in 1961. After raising a family and working as a parapro with Livonia Public Schools, Katie completed her BS of Mathematics from the University of Michigan, Dearborn in 1994. Katie is survived by her husband, Herbert J. Minard; daughter, Cindy (Mike) Channey; sons, H. James (Stacey) Minard, Rick (Geri) Minard and Mick (Michelle) Minard. She is also survived by her brother, James Schaeffer; sister, Betsy Lewis; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. A memorial celebration and luncheon will be held at 11:00 on Saturday, April 3, 2010 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church,

30650 Six Mile Road in Livonia. Memorial donations can be made to Childrens Leukemia Foundation, www.leukemiamichigan.org

VICTORIA MARIE MOODY

Age 88, of Garden City, formerly of Belleville, died March 25, 2010. A gathering was held Mar. 28. Donations can be made to the American Cancer Society. www.davidcbrownfh.com

ORLANDO ROBERT "Bob" **PANSA** Was born in Bristol, Rhode Island on

30 April 1922 to Tommaso (Thomas) and Anna Mangieri Pansa. He died on January 23, 2010 in Twinsburg, Ohio. Bob graduated in 1944 from the Rhode Island State College (later URI) majoring in Mechanical Engineering. He then earned a Masters Degree in Automotive Engineering from Michigan's Chrysler Institute. Upon his return to New England, he was an instructor of mechanical engineering at RISC. He married his college sweetheart, Elaine E. Murphy in June of 1947. In 1949, Bob joined Oldsmobile Division of General Motors, where he was to make his career. The family moved from Boston to East Lansing, Michigan in 1959. Bob was the "go to" guy whenever there was an area needed special attention. Later he was promoted to positions in Memphis, TN and California. After a short tenure as regional manager of Oldsmobile in Illinois, he was invited back to Michigan to join General Motors Corporation in 1976. He served as Director of the Customer Relations and Service Staff until his retirement in 1987. His wife, Elaine, preceded him in death on 30 November 2008. Bob is survived by daughter Martha Pansa and Tom Colosimo, and her daughter Ariana Pansa Mäki; daughter Deborah Pansa Gallagher and Dan Gallagher, and their children Amy and Laura Gallagher; son Jeffrey Robert Pansa and Dana Pansa and their children Elizabeth Stephen and Rachel Pansa; and daughter Patti Ann Pansa. He is also survived by his sister, Sylvia Pansa Terra and brother Andrew Pansa, both of whom live in Rhode Island. A memorial service will be held August 21, 2010 at the Kirk in the Hills, 1340 West Long Lake Rd, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

BENJAMIN HOYT PARKS Age 80, born Chattanooga TN, lived 40

yrs. in Westland, passed on March 27, 2010. Survived by loving wife of 64 yrs. Delores. Children: Ruth, Jack, and Deborah. Grandchildren: Jack, Kasey, John, Lynn, Chris, David, Mindy, and Jamie, seven great-grandchildren and one sister Jackie. Private family and friends memorial Sat., April 3rd.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines: Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

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or toll free 800-579-7355 ask for Char or Liz OE08658429

would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them. Those denied can appeal on their own, but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by

attorneys win a much higher

percentage of appeals. And

higher percentage yet.

attorneys who specialize in Social

Security Disability cases win a much

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken

out of their paychecks for Social

Security taxes to ensure that they

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience.



In addition to practicing only Social Security Disability law Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject. He also has been interviewed on various radio and television programs and has given

speeches to many groups. Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are also highly experienced in assisting him with Social Security Disability cases. And they are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of clients' cases

Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be

and administrative procedure.

eligible for these benefits. He offers free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibly of applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice.

www.ssdfighter.com

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia

Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs. Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun

Contact: Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to icook59@

att.net. **Livonia Unity**

Time/Date: Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.

Location: 28660 Five Mile, Livonia **Details**: Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine - a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions Contact: (810) 813-4073 or gary@

energeticarts.org. Men's Bible study Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and

study at 8 p.m. **Location**: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township Contact: John Shulenberger at (734)

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Merriman Road Baptist Church

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

Contact: (734) 421-0472; leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you

New Life Community Church Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 am., Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville Contact: (734) 846-4615

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly,

Our Lady of Loretto

Details: Scripture study Contact: (313) 534-9000 St. Andrew's Presbyterian

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday Location: 26701 Joy

Details: Wednesday study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith. Thursday group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey Contact: (313) 274-3820

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Worshippers walk the labyrinth at Farmington First United Methodist Church.

Take a walk with God at Farmington church

BY SHARON DARGAY **O&E STAFF WRITER**

Sherry Young likens a walk on the labyrinth at Farmington First United Methodist Church to "making a blind date with God."

You don't know what to expect. You have to be open and be prepared for what God has in store for you," said Young, the 1 church's director of youth and adult ministries. "I've walked it many times. It is another spiritual vehicle to heighten your personal relationship with God.

The church will offer the ancient meditation tool to the public today, Thursday, April 1 through Saturday, April 3. A portable labyrinth will be laid out in the church's Markem room for visitors and church members alike from 1-6 p.m. Thursday-Friday, and 9-11 a.m.Saturday. Traditional Easter service with Communion will be held at 9:30 a.m., Sunday, April 4. The church is located at 33112 Grand River Ave., east of Farmington Road.

The church opens its labyrinth to the community in July during the annual Farmington Founders Festival.

FOLLOWING THE PATH

The labyrinth is a symbol consisting of a meandering path that loops and circles inward to the image's center.

Walkers follow the path from its entrance to the center of the symbol, then simply reverse direction and take the same way back to the entrance.

Outdoor labyrinths are made of brick, stone or grass and may be landscaped with hedges or encircled by trees and flowers. Portable labyrinths for indoor use are painted on cloth or canvas.

They're different from mazes, which have walled pathways that dead end and confront the walker with choices.

FOCUS ON GOD

Farmington First United Methodist Church acquired its labyrinth about 10 years ago.

"We don't have room to keep it up all the time," said Young, adding that the large canvass symbol measures 20 feet by 20 feet. "We have individuals wear footies on it to keep it clean."

Soft music sometimes plays while walkers follow the path, although some users, like Young, prefer complete silence.

She said the labyrinth helps "keep the world outside" while the walker focuses

Young said she heard a reassuring voice

as she has walked its path after struggling through a difficult period in her life.

"In January 2006 I lost my dad. In September 2006 I was walked out the door of a company where I had worked for 27 years," Young recalled. "Two years before that I felt God calling me to go to

But Young had ignored the call, unsure how she'd juggle husband, children, a father struggling with Alzheimer's and a return to college.

GOD'S VOICE

After 2006 when she walked the path, she felt a "total sense of peace." She said it seemed as through God was telling her "I have your life in my hands...just follow

She is three months away from earning her bachelor of arts degree and will enter the seminary in September.

"You can step on the labyrinth and you can walk and wait for something to happen. Or you can go with a purpose. Before stepping on it, say 'Lord, I need your direction.' You can come with expectations or now, but you won't leave the same as you came in."

For more on Farmington First United Methodist Church, visit www.farmingtonfumc.org

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PRESBYTERIAN

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

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

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CONGREGATIONAL

North Congregational Church



10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Faith - Freedom-Fellowship

Ministers Rev. Mary E. Biedron Dr. Mark P. Jensen

FOOD

Easy Easter brunch to make at home

Hosting an Easter brunch is a great way to bring friends and family together. And it doesn't have to be hard or expensive. Here are some simple things you can do to ensure a memorable celebration without the hassle.

Take Inventory. Pull out the dishes, platters, silverware and glassware to make sure you have what you need. If needed, spruce up any silver and table linens a few days before, so you can concentrate on other things the day-of the event.

Set a Pretty Table. For creative place cards, try Easter eggs. Put a narrow strip of tape around the middle of each egg before you dye it. When it's dry, peel off the tape and write each name in the white space with a thin line permanent marker.

Keep it Centered. For an inexpensive centerpiece, leverage simplicity:

• Fill a glass bowl or vase with colorful Easter eggs real or plastic.

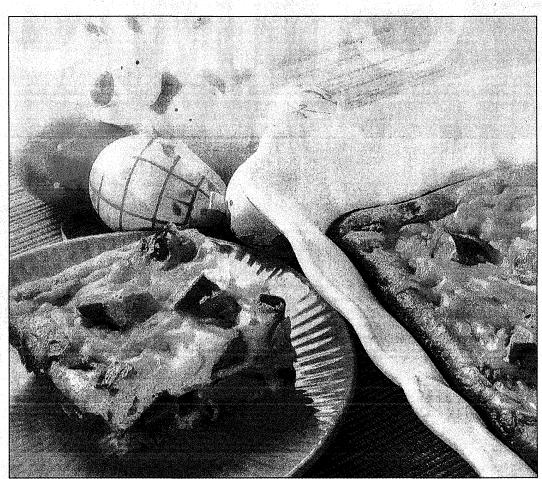
• Put a potted plant inside an Easter basket.

• Set white or ivory votive candles on top of a flat mirror. Plan the Menu. The main

thing you must always remember is to keep it simple. Don't be afraid to use store bought items and recipes that can be made ahead of time. These simple time savers leave you more time to relax to enjoy your guests.

· Buy instead of baking. Muffins, fruit pastries and seasonal Easter breads can all be found in the bakery section of your grocery store.

 Provide a lighter side dish such as a simple fruit salad. Squeeze lemon or orange juice on the fruit to help it keep from turning brown.



Crustless quiche

 Create a simple, yet special main dish such as a crustless quiche. With this easy recipe from Hillshire Farm, you simply combine flavorful beef smoked sausage with cheese and eggs for a mouth-watering dish. You can prepare the mixture ahead of time, cover the baking dish with foil and keep it in the fridge until just before the party. Remove the foil, bake as instructed and watch your guests enjoy. You can find other tempting smoked sausage and polska kielbasa Easter recipes at gomeat.com.

CRUSTLESS QUICHE

Prep Time: 15 minutes Cook Time: 45 minutes Makes: 12 servings

1 package Hillshire Farm Beef

Smoked Sausage 8 eggs, lightly beaten

1½ cups heavy whipping cream

1½ teaspoons dry mustard ¼ teaspoon salt

¼ teaspoon ground black pepper 1½ cups (6 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese, divided

½ cup chopped green bell pepper

Preheat oven to 350 F. Cut sausage into ½-cubes; set aside. . Place eggs, cream, dry mustard, salt and black pepper in a

large bowl; whisk until smooth. Stir in sausage, 1 cup of cheese and green pepper. Pour egg mixture into a greased 13by 9-inch baking dish.

Bake 40 to 45 minutes or until eggs are set. Sprinkle with remaining ½ cup cheese. Let stand 5 minutes before serving.

CITY BITES

Good Deeds program

Plymouth - Hiller's Markets will donate all profits from sales of its prepared Wild Vegetable Lasagna to the Detroit Zoo during April.

The fresh lasagna dish which includes layers of al dente pasta filled with freshly sautéed vegetables, five different cheeses and creamy Alfredo sauce — is an original Hiller's recipe. The dish costs \$4.98 per pound and can be found in the prepared foods section at all seven Hiller's Markets throughout Metro Detroit.

'We're grateful to Hiller's for providing a way for the community to enjoy healthy and delicious food while helping the Zoo," said Detroit Zoo Executive Director Ron Kagan.

The fund-raising campaign is part of Hiller's Markets "Good Deeds in the Making" program, created to inspire consumers to purchase high-quality ready-to-eat meals while contributing to local worthy causes.

'The Detroit Zoo is a hometown cultural gem and one which Hiller's is proud to support as April's recipient," said Jim Hiller, president and CEO of Hiller's Markets.

In addition to its Plymouth location at 15455 Haggerty, Hiller's Markets are located in Ann Arbor, Berkley, Commerce Township, Northville, Union Lake and West Bloomfield.

Tweet & Taste

Everywhere - The blog, Michigan by the Bottle, has devised a way for you to - Courtesy of Family Features attend wine tastings with-

out leaving your home. On April 13. Twitter users will be able to interact with Adam Satchwell, winemaker and general manager at Shady Lanes Cellars on the Leelanau Peninsula, as they simultaneously sample a trio of Shady Lanes wines.

Several wine bloggers, including Michigan by the Bottle's Shannon Casey, and Claudia Tyagi, will help facilitate the discussion.

MichiganByTheBottle. com launched Tweet & Taste to make wine more accessible to the average consumer and specifically to wine drinkers in the 20- to 30-something age range who rely heavily on social networking, as well as promote Michigan-made products.

Here's how it works: Participants buy the featured Shady Lane wines - 2008 Dry Riesling, 2008 Blue Franc and 2007 Pinot Noir- at their local wine shops or online at www. shadylanecellars.com. They log onto Twitter at 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 13 via Twitter.com or a Twitter client, such as TweetDeck or HootSuite. Next, they'll search using #ttmi, the Tweet & Taste Michigan hashtag. As the facilitators and winemaker taste through the wines, users can share impressions and ask questions, adding the #ttmi hashtag to every "tweet" to ensure everyone participating sees it.

For more information on buying wine directly from Shady Lanes Cellars, call the tasting room at (231) 947-8865.

For more about the blog, visit www. Michigan By The Bottle.com



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> Please include the child's name, age, phone number and address.

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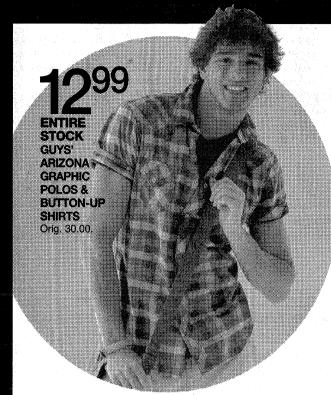
Contest is open to kids up to 18 years old



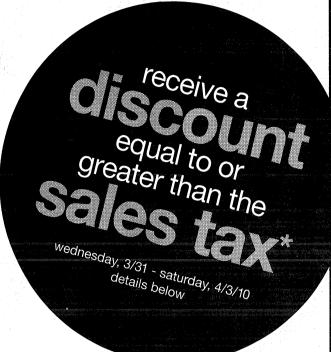


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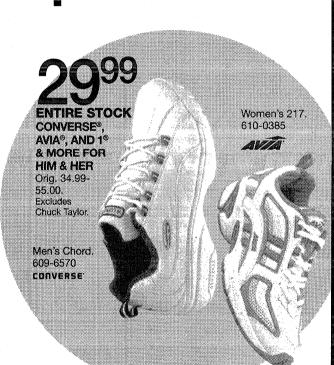


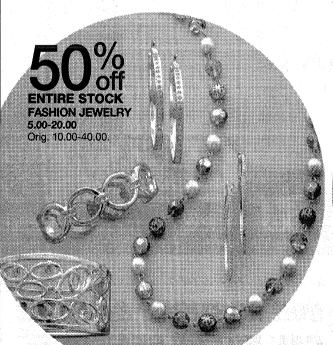


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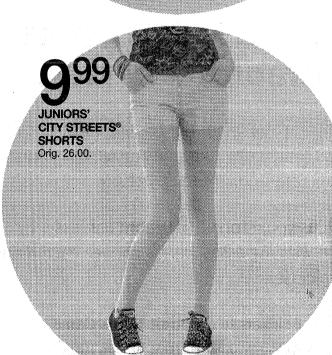


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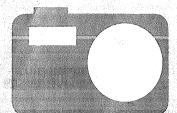


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THURSDAY, April 1, 2010

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Julie Brown, editor. (313) 222-6755. jcbrown@hometownlife.com

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Women Build Week partners Habitat, Lowe's lend a hand

BY JULIE BROWN **O&E STAFF WRITER**

Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne is launching the National Women Build Week sponsored by

Alice Dent, executive director of the Plymouth-based affiliate, said it's the first time in the last eight-nine years for such a project. "The Women Build is a great program. We thought it would be a great opportunity to pull all the women leaders, the community" together, Dent said.

The resident who will live in the southeastern Westland home is a single mom with five children. "She and her mom applied together," Dent said, noting mother and daughter are working on "sweat equity" required for Habitat home recipients.

Habitat is a Christian ministry which builds and rehabs homes for lower-income people. The Women Build effort is underwritten by

We have a great relationship with the Westland Lowe's store," Dent said of the store at Newburgh and Warren roads. For the national effort, in the week leading up to Mother's Day, volunteers throughout the U.S. will be "raising walls or doing something significant." The local special projects will commence Wednesday, May 5, and conclude on May 9.

The dates available are as follows: Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.), starting May 11 through July 15, 2010 (excluding May 25, July 1 and July 6). Special arrangements can be made for groups requesting weekends. Beverages and snacks will be provided by Habitat for Humanity, but volunteers will need to provide lunch.

Westland has been great to work with, she said, noting Mayor William Wild's wife and Westland council

members have volunteered.

"Everything we ask of them, they always exceed my expectations. I'm very excited. I can't wait to get out on the site," Dent said of the new home

Volunteering can be more than swinging a hammer, as some can help with lunch preparation. "There's something for every person to do," said Dent, noting men are welcome but organizers want a significant portion of the volunteers to be women.

'VERY GOOD RESPONSE'

"We've already received a very good response." Gov. Jennifer Granholm will participate, as will U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow. Teams up to 15 volunteers are welcome.

"Even on our Facebook page, people are asking questions. The word is out and people are responding," Dent said.

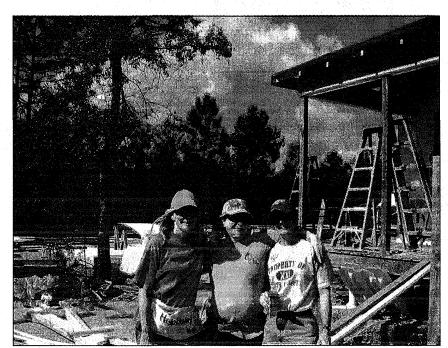
Volunteering at the Westland site is on a first-come, first-serve basis. To participate, e-mail your name, contact number and date you prefer to Habitatwwcwomenbuild@yahoo.

If you're signing up a team, include each person's name, e-mail address and telephone. Specify the name of the team leader. Confirmation will arrive within 72 hours.

"We hope to finish this house in July," Dent said.

National Women Build Week challenges women to devote at least one day to the effort to eliminate poverty housing. The event is an initiative of Habitat for Humanity's Women Build program, underwritten by Lowe's, which brings women from all walks of life together to learn construction skills and then use those skills to build simple, decent affordable

Joanne Inglis, Housing and Community Development director



Ute Brantsch of Detroit, Pat Palmer of Grand Blanc and Mimi Zwolak of Rochester Hills were among those on a Habitat work trip to the damaged Gulf Coast. Women volunteers will be out in full force again soon with a project sponsored by the Plymouth-based Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County and Lowe's. A Westland home will be built for a single mom, her five children and mother.

for Westland, said the Westland City Council approved the partnership agreement in 2009 for the home. The Western Wayne affiliate got a grant for Women Build Week.

"So we were very excited that they picked to do it in Westland. Mayor Wild is already committed on May 6 at 10 a.m." Organizers will the get word out, Inglis said, "so we can get lots of women out to support the

"They're just about done with the second rehab," Inglis said March 12 of Westland homes being fixed up. The Habitat effort in Westland includes rehab of two homes and new construction of five.

"All the properties have been identified," said Inglis, who will participate in the Women Build.

"There's a tremendous need for affordable housing, especially now," Inglis said. She noted Habitat can write mortgages, helpful now when it's tough to get a mortgage approval.

The beauty of Habitat is they write their own mortgages." Habitat also provides counseling and support to their families, Inglis said.

'We're going to do everything we can to assist her. We just want to get the word out," Inglis said. There are a

\$106,000

\$100,000

lot of opportunities to volunteer, even if you're not available that day, Inglis

Habitat for Humanity Western Wayne County is at 638 Starkweather, Plymouth, MI 48170. For more, call (734) 459-7744 or visit www.habitatwwc.org.

The Mother's Day timeframe was selected for its significance to many volunteers, as families with children make up a staggering number of those in need of adequate housing: more than 12 million children — one in six live in poverty housing in the U.S. alone. To date, women volunteers have built nearly 1,700 Habitat houses nationwide.

ABOUT THE SPONSOR

Lowe's is committing more than \$1 million to National Women Build Week, providing \$5,000 Lowe's store gift cards and event support materials to 200 Habitat affiliates. This is a major initiative of Lowe's five-year, \$20 million pledge to Habitat, a commitment including underwriting of the Women Build program, as well as providing construction know-how at in-store clinics and build sites, and funding for a variety of Habitat projects across the U.S.

Fla. area has high end growth

Q: I understand that there is a new downtown type development in North Naples which has a number of high end restaurants and condominiums. Could you give me some idea about the price range?

A: There is a development called the Mercato which contains a number of high end restaurants,



Robert Meisner

including a deli restaurant called Stage 62 which is owned and operated by the West Bloomfield Stage Deli. The units range from \$400,000 to \$1,000,000,

and they offer bus service to the beach area. Mercato is a little town type development with various shops, markets and recreational facilities.

Q: I live in a condominium where the president hires his friends to do the work at the complex and does not take bids from others. The management company has told me that no one cares and the president lives right next to me so I get stuck listening to his loud vulgar voice while taking care of his business. Do you have any suggestions?

A: Write a letter to the Board of Directors telling them about your concern regarding the way in which the president is apparently unilaterally running the association without their input. As to the business that he is taking care of, obviously sound conditioning would be an improvement, and, you may also ask him to be more respectful of your privacy as well as your ability to enjoy your condominium without his ranting. You may ultimately need a lawyer to write a letter to the association board regarding these issues.

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

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These are the area residential realestate closings recorded the week of Dec. 14-18, 2009, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Auburn Hills	
3632 Baldwin Rd	\$45,000
714 Provincetown Rd	\$103,000
Beverly Hills	\$103,000
17195 Birwood Ave	\$165,000
16010 Buckingham Ave	\$120,000
32231 Sheridan Dr	\$133,000
Bingham Farms	
23820 Overlook Cir	\$168,000
Birmingham	\$100,000
555 Fairfax St	\$425,000
1010 Smith Ave	\$420,000
1710 Stanley Blvd	\$165,000
329 W Brown St	\$530,000
772 Willits St	\$569,000
Bloomfield Hills	
1980 W Valley Rd	\$800,000
Bloomfield Townsl	
340 Concord Pl	\$29,000
732 Covington Rd	\$513,000
6360 Dakota Cir	\$231,000
2447 Devonshire Rd	\$220,000
858 Dowling Rd	\$300,000
920 E Square Lake Rd	\$195,000
626 Fox Hills Dr	\$32,000
657 Half Moon Rd	\$340,000
888 Helston Rd	\$122,000
1465 Quarton Ridge Cir	\$1,600,000
762 Rock Spring Rd	\$300,000
2414 Sanders PI	\$83,000
5110 Tootmoor Rd	\$530,000
265 Westwood Dr	\$416,000
Clarkston	
9252 Cherrywood Rd	\$95,000
6509 Deer Ridge Dr	\$190,000
9880 Dixie Hwy	\$120,000
4685 Ottawa Ct	\$299,000
7713 Parkcrest Cir	\$318,000
8419 S Shore Dr	\$215,000
10537 Whitby Ct	\$240,000
Commerce Townsh	
3269 Chenoa St	\$99,000
3761 Cheryl Dr	\$95,000
2025 Lakeshore Dr	\$265,000
2670 Pinto Dr	\$103,000
3860 Stoneridge Ct	\$243,000
5471 Wentworth Dr	\$225,000
Davisburg 🖔	1.82
11951 Scott Rd	\$169,000
Farmington	11. 169
a de la composição de la La composição de la compo	Harry M.

	Farmington Hills	
	25696 Branchaster Rd	\$155,000
	27471 Bridle Hills Dr	\$150,000
	30037 Fernhill Dr	\$170,000
	29306 Fieldstone	\$206,000
	21364 Mulberry Ct	\$85,000
	27430 W 10 Mile Rd	\$47,000
	29830 W 12 Mile Rd	\$39,000
	32115 W 12 Mile Rd	\$49,000
	28858 W King William Dr	\$225,000
	Lake Orion	V LL0,000
	226 Cedar Bend Dr	\$190,000
	3968 May Center Rd	\$257,000
	Lathrup Village	Q231,000
	17415 Avilla Blvd	\$75,000
	Milford	\$13,000
	3011 Central Blvd	\$76,000
	2475 Runaway Tri	\$230,000
	Novi	\$230,000
		¢2(2,000
	42054 Aspen Dr	\$262,000
	31109 Chatsford St	\$302,000
	22492 Heatherbrae Way	\$142,000
	21758 Meridian Ln	\$229,000
	28735 Stonewall Ct	\$200,000
	41732 Sycamore Dr	\$171,000
	24703 Venice Dr	\$165,000
	Oakland Township	
	5126 Belmonte Dr	\$243,000
	688 E Buell Rd	\$256,000
	5698 Murfield Dr	\$65,000
	5128 Stonehenge Dr	\$425,000
	Rochester Hills	
	735 Kentucky Dr	\$156,000
	1810 Mackwood Rd	\$100,000
	2403 Pleasant View Dr	\$265,000
	315 Powderhorn Ct	\$248,000
	1769 W Avon Rd	\$115,000
	3577 Wedgewood Dr	\$283,000
	South Lyon	
	1041 Chestnut Ln	\$180,000
	1183 Corral Ln	\$177,000
	61385 Roaring Brook Dr	\$146,000
	61259 Tayberry Cir	\$176,000
	446 Whipple St	\$117,000
	23819 Winged Foot Way	\$325,000
	360 Woodland Dr	\$145,000
	Southfield	22. 142.1 of al. 13
	27735 Abington St	\$95,000
1	29484 Candlewood Ln	\$86,000
	22755 Coventry Woods Ln	\$120,000
	29434 Fall River Rd	\$69,000
	28586 Glasgow St	\$48,000
	15749 Hilton St	\$90,000
	30755 Longcrest St	\$50,000

\$61,000

\$37,000

19501 Magnolia Pkwy

18550 Mount Vernon St

iroy	and the property of the	
1269 Autumn Dr	\$170,000	
1924 Axtell Dr	\$50,000	
6746 Forest Park Dr	\$200,000	
4507 Hedgewood Dr	\$265,000	
3579 Kings Point Dr	\$155,000	
2454 Kingsbury Dr	\$298,000	
2348 Paris Dr	\$147,000	
600 Troy Valley Dr	\$125,000	
Walled Lake		
1424 Dover HI S	\$61,000	
2078 Hidden Meadows Dr	\$37,000	
1983 Matthew St	\$190,000	
1856 N Pontiac Trl	\$42,000	
2132 Red Maple Ln	\$190,000	
1567 Treyborne Cir	\$107,000	
Waterford		
3141 Coventry Dr	\$185,000	
3615 Dorothy Ln	\$327,000	
3842 Florman	\$117,000	
1027 Genella St	\$115,000	
3334 Healy St	\$70,000	
323 Lake Meadow Dr	\$157,000	
1112 Lakeview St	\$40,000	
1810 Manse Rd	\$68,000	
5391 Mikewood Dr	\$105,000	
5893 Olympic Pkwy	\$140,000	
7700 Parkwood Ct	\$116,000	
5176 Pontiac Lake Rd	\$92,000	
708 Reynolds Dr	\$133,000	
5919 Shetland Way	\$96,000	
7612 Visger Ave	\$61,000	
3440 Watkins Lake Rd	\$27,000	
West Bloomfield		
7700 Barnsbury Dr	\$699,000	
2385 Chata Dr	\$95,000	
7315 Coldspring Ln	\$165,000	
3707 Elder Rd S	\$190,000	
4264 Fieldbrook Rd	\$143,000	
2335 Harness	\$155,000	
3959 Harris Ln	\$275,000	
4353 Macqueen Dr	\$180,000	
6730 Maple Creek Blvd	\$426,000	
7065 Nottingham	\$128,000	
6316 Pepper Hill St	\$66,000	
7158 Springridge Rd	\$134,000	
5970 Willow Rd	\$194,000	1
White Lake	\$124,000	
8895 Satelite Ct	\$190,000	
927 Sloane Ct	\$230,000	
Wolverine Lake		
798 Alberton St	\$188,000	
2150 Benstein Rd	\$95,000	
E LIO DENSIENI NU	373,000	
	Antenia S.A.	3

29549 Stellamar Di

Svivan Lake

Trov

Housing Market

Century 21 Hartford will host a free workshop on "Today's Housing Market" 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 10, at the Farmington Hills Library Branch on 12 Mile. The instructor is Debbie Horner, who has 20 years experience in real estate and housing. Please RSVP to (248) 320-5744. Walk-ins will also be taken.

Investors

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Learn about "flipping," sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland, on Thursday, April 8, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742. (www. REIAofOakland.com).

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

\$148,000

\$141,000

\$193,000 \$100,000

\$120,000

\$160,000

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 7-11, 2009, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed are

ties, addresses, and sal	es prices.
Canton	
48990 Brooklyn Ct	\$249,0
7684 Corbin Dr	\$164,0
41978 Coventry Way	\$110,0
43111 Fernwood St	\$139,0
43805 Hanford Rd	\$155,0
6429 Harrow Ct	\$304,0
6868 Kennesaw Rd	\$300,0
1628 Liberty St N	\$300,0
8223 Orhan St	\$131,0
44215 Postmill Ct	\$155,0
47628 Royal Pointe Dr	\$265,0
43003 Saxony Rd	\$148,0
6768 Tiffany Cir 👙	\$260,0
2233 Vanderbilt Rd	\$177,0
47692 Vistas Circle Dr S	\$175,0
1940 Woodmont Ct Garden City	\$165,0
6523 Arcola St	\$91.0
31764 Cambridge St	\$112,0
6572 Helen St	\$95.0
29445 Marquette St	\$59.0
33120 Pierce St	\$51,0
33723 Rosslyn Ave	\$86,0
31547 Rush St	\$78,0
Livonia 14129 Alexander St	\$145,0

11790 Alois St 33448 Cindy St

14533 Ellen Dr

)n	
	\$249,000
	\$164,000
	\$110,000
	\$139,000
	\$155,000
¥	\$304,000
	\$300,000
	\$300,000
	\$131,000
	\$155,000
	\$265,000
	\$148,000
	\$260,000
	\$177,000
	\$175,000
	\$165,000
City	
(Arriva)	\$91,000
	\$112,000
	\$95,000
	\$59,000
	\$51,000
	\$86,000
	\$78,000
ia	10 K
	\$145.000
	\$135,000
	\$94,000
Charles and	\$163,000

\$124,000

14431 Gary Ln	
14674 Galfview St	10 to \$1.00
33053 Grennada St	
33636 Hathaway St	
9795 Houghton St	
36521 Joanne St	
15817 Loveland St	
30750 Mason Ct	
38598 Meeting House Li	
28256 N Clements Cir	
38753 Northfield Ave	
19370 Norwich Rd	
29447 Oakley St	
30320 Oakview St	
8972 Parent St	
33063 Perth St	Partners.
37564 Scone Ct	
37576 Scone Ct	
36720 Sherwood St	
15968 Sunbury St	
8947 Virginia St	
29690 Westfield St	
Norti	ville
43911 Six Mile Rd	· Complete Stanford
44763 Aspen Ridge Dr	
16949 Lochmoor Cir E	
16039 Morningside	
42296 Old Bedford Rd	
551 Orchard Dr	
16155 Pine Valley Dr	
589 Randolph St	
20436 Woodbend Dr	94 - A

1217 Carol A

1348 Maple

40448 New

9630 Pino (

field St	\$112,000
Northvill	
le Rd	\$390,000
n Ridge Dr	\$289,000
moor Cir E	\$215,000
ingside 💮 💮	\$125,000
Bedford Rd	\$149,000
l Dr	\$128,000
alley Dr	\$149,000
ph Sť	\$160,000
dbend Dr	\$305,000
Plymouti ier Ave	1 \$73.000
ve	\$155,000
er St	\$178,000
St	\$565,000
ev St	\$245,000
port Dr	\$67,000
rest Dr	\$156.000
t day	\$265,000

42310 Flyillouth Hollow Di	\$50,000
51385 Plymouth Ridge Dr	\$377,000
42570 Revere Ave	\$135,000
9285 Saddlebrook Crk	\$330,000
15120 Thornridge Dr	\$185,000
15250 Thornridge Dr	\$170,000
45200 Turtlehead Dr	\$258,000
49010 W Hillcrest Ct	\$277,000
12588 Wendover Ct	\$228,000
12327 Willoway Ct	\$435,000
Redford	
26530 Five Mile Rd	\$47.000
13949 Brady	\$34,000
19323 Dalby	\$59,000
15559 Denby	\$63,000
17397 Fox	\$67,000
9240 Garfield	\$89,000
19244 Garfield	\$70,000
11400 Grayfield	\$60,000
26271 Hope	\$115,000
25230 Joy Rd	\$63,000
18458 Lennane	\$58,000
15400 Leona Dr	\$65,000
9945 Norborne	\$69,000
16231 Pomona Dr	\$60,000
14114 San Jose	\$46,000
14114 San Jose	\$17,000
Westland	
1021 Barchester St	\$85,000

\$50,000

\$75,000 \$100,000

\$50,000

\$88,000

\$75,000

\$90,000

(*)



CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Very serious
- 6 Jades 11 Was without
- 13 1920s dance 14 Western st.
- 15 Perfume label
- word 16 Conducted
- 17 Argon, in the
- lab
- 18 GOP member
- 20 Trademarks
- 22 LI doubled
- 23 Cattle mover
- 25 Do alterations 26 Albright or
- Falana 27 Rotisserie part 29 Awards for
- valor
- 31 Large tank 33 Free of
- 37 Talk up
- 34 Radio noise
- 40 Dates regularly 41 Writer John **Passos**
- 59 -turvy DOWN
 - Drink noisily 2 Cowboy films 3 Before AD

45 Intense anger

48 Water-power

50 Hurricane cen-

58 Enjoys a snowy

51 Motel of old

53 Mag exec

54 Employee

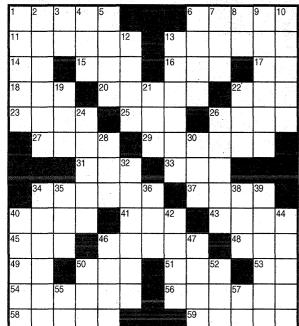
56 Chipped

slope

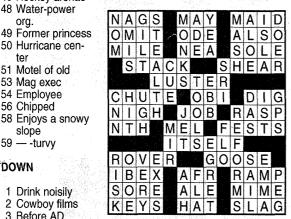
org.

46 Hockey arenas

- 4 Use sparingly
- 5 Actual 6 Bikini sporters
- Rescue 8 New Age prac-
- tice 9 AOL notes
- (hyph.) 13



Answer to Previous Puzzle



- 6-18 © 2009 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.
- 10 Lebanon neighbor
- 12 Couples
- 13 Further
- behind 19 Fizzy drink
 - - 30 Insult, slangily 32 Neater 34 Soap opera
 - 35 Jeans go-with 36 Kind of artist

21 Mineral find

22 Rank above

26 Filled with

28 Make lace

cargo

24 Prima donnas

maj.

- 38 Tolerate
- 39 Flood barriers 40 Teams
- 42 Peel 44 - longlegs
- 46 Whiskey
- grains 47 Grumpy mood 50 Call it quits
- 52 Mil. rank
- 55 Note before mi

57 GI duty



Fun By The Numbers

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

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

CAND

THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW

CIRCLE **HEPTAGON HEXAGON OCTAGON**

OVAL PENTAGON **POLYGON** RECTANGLE SOUARE **STAR TRAPEZOID** TRIANGLE

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS

H	S	\mathbf{Q}	U	A	R	E	\mathbf{P}	\mathbf{T}	
E	C	\mathbf{T}	A	N	G	L	E	R	
P	Ο	L	Y	G	Ο	N	N	I	
T	F	A	N	N	M	L	Т	A	
A	\mathbf{W}	R	O	\mathbf{V}	A	L	A	N	
G	E	A	G	Ι	O	P	G	G	
O	\mathbf{C}	T	A	\mathbf{G}	O	N	O	L	
N	A	S	X	S	D	C	N	E	
R	A	P	E	Z	O	Ι	D	M	
В	S	A	H	J	H	T	Ο	L	
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LIVONIA (NW) RANCH Brick 3 bdrm, 2 bath, attached 2 car, bsmt. Stevenson High Rose Tibbles 734-812-6745 Keller Williams 200 N. Center

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Livonia

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brick neighborhood, fin-

ished bsmt, 2.5 car garage **Doug, (734) 637-3320**

By Owner

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Schools,

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FARMINGTON HILLS

ANNGIE APTS.

NO APPLICATION FEE

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\$505. 9 Mile/ Middlebelt

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Spacious 1 bdrms, C/A, \$525. **50% off 1st 3**

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FARMINGTON MANOR APTS. Deluxe studio & 1 bedroom, carport. \$300 security, 50% off first 3 months

rith approved credit. (248) 888-0868

FARMINGTON PLAZA APTS Luxury 2 bdrms, A/C, pool. New kitchen & baths, laundry

rooms, heat incl. \$650/mo

50% off 1st 3 month's rent

w/ approved credit.

(248) 478-8722

LINCOLN PARK, Lowest rent, Deluxe 1 & 2 bdrms, quiet, safe, balconies. Call: (313) 386 6720

> www.cormorantco.com *Call for details

incl, \$590/mo, pet okay. Call: (734) 564-8402

Enormous master suite! Hurry! Last one left! Single story/private entry Patio & garden space Attic storage, laundry rm \$780 per month

734-459-6640 EHO www.cormorantco.com

PLYMOUTH - Downtown Ig. 1

PLYMOUTH

2 bedroom/2bath

bdrm, c/a, private parking. Small pets ok. Washer/dryer hookup. \$550. 734-717-5397 PLYMOUTH: Great location. 2 bdrm upper, 1 bath, hardwood floors, new kitchen, pool. Heat

& water incl. Must R

PLYMOUTH PARK APTS 1st Mo Free Rent. 55 +, 1 & 2 bdrm apts avail starting at \$450/mo. incl (313) 350-1270

Call for details: 734-751-2525

PLYMOUTH: Prime location. 1 & 2 bdrm. \$300 Sec. + 1st mo. FREE. Near downtown. Incl. heat. No dogs. 734-455-2635 **Plymouth**

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4120

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-\$200 Deposit w/ Credit

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(734) 729-6520 *Short term leases avail.



FREE RENT 2 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath, \$565, 936 Sq. Ft. 1 Bdrm, \$520, 728 Sq. Ft.

\$200 Security Deposit Heat and Water Incl (New residents only) with approved credit No Pets, C/A. Vertical Blinds, Intercom. Appliances include dishwasher. Very clean Apartments Excellent Maintenance

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VENOY PINES APTS. **Rent Starting** at \$569 1 & 2 bedroom apts.

4000

(734) 261-7394 www.vorkcommunities.com

LIVONIA STUDIOS Weekly & Monthly Rates

Quality Suites 4020 Condos/Townhouses

4010

FARMINGTON HILLS- Lovely 2 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage. 14 Mile/ Orchard Lk. \$1100/mo.

Call Ron: 248-252-4555

LIVONIA: Spacious 2 bdrm, 2.5 bath, fireplace, 2 car. Quiet & Private, Great Location \$1395/mo. (313) 657-8730

LYON TWP 2 Bedroom, 1.5 baths,

Call: 248-290-5300 ext 333

Duplexes WESTLAND / NORWAYNE - 2 bdrms, 1 bath. 31755 Arenac \$500 + dep. No credit check

immed. occ. (248) 935-7717

4030

WESTLAND/NORWAYNE 3 bdrm from \$599 & also 1 bdrm from \$399. Sect. 8 Ok 248-939-1491, 734-578-0669

WESTLAND/NORWAYNE Merriman/Palmer area. 2 bdrm. Avail Now. Stable income. \$575. **734-968-2636**

4040 Flats

WESTLAND/CANTON: Remo-734-341-6203 1 hdrm avail.

Homes For Rent

OFTHE MONTH! Price Reduced

4050

ACT FAST!! 3 Bed/ 2 Bath Home for Sale from ONLY:

Homes For Rent

\$599_{/ma}

Over 900 sq. ft. & all appliances including W/D and C/A!

College Park Canton MI (888) 265-9858 APPLY ONLINE inanced from \$20,498 with 10% down, 12.5% APR, 168 ma. term. WAC. EHO. Expires 4/30/10.

CANTON: 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, appliances. Credit report. \$895/mo. + Security (734) 459-0853

Contact Us:

EMAIL.

PHONE.....

BILLING/INVOICE..

Sunday edition

Thursday edition...

Offices and Hours:

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

4050

CANTON - Lg brick ranch, 1 acre, 4 bdrms, 3 baths, hard-wood floors, bsmt, rent to \$1200, 734-658-8823

CANTON RANCH: 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath. Close to elementary school. Immaculate cond. 2.5 garage, \$1350, 734-788-2967

FARMINGTON HILLS: 21607 Roosevelt Ave. 3 bdrm, newly remodeled, new carpet, 2 car gar, \$850/mo. (248) 356-0598

FARMINGTON HILLS Very clean, 2 bdrm, 1 bath w/garage. Backs to park. \$725. Call Todd 248-535-2300

INKSTER 3 bdrms, 1 bath, big yard

\$650, Call 313-213-0840 INKSTER - Sharp 3 bdrm bungalow, garage, immed occup ontion/LC avail \$8000 from Obama, \$600. 248-788-1823

LIVONIA 3 hdrm 1 full hath 1000 sq. ft., appliances. Lg. backyard. \$900/mo. (248) 342-0314

NEW N. Com

HOME DELIVERY/CIRCULATION...... 866-887-2737

Eccentric office......6200 Metro Pkwy., Sterling Heights, MI 48312 Observer office41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170

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

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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 ad(s) 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.

..... www.hometownlife.com

...... 4:30 p.m. Friday

4050 Homes For Rent

LIVONIA: Newly decorated 2 bdrm, 1 bath, appliances, car peted, 1.5 car garage. No pets \$750+ sec. (248) 345-6544 LIVONIA - Remodeled 3 bdrm ranch, family rm, covered back porch, 2.5 car gar, option/LC avail, \$900. (248) 788-1823

MANUFACTURED HOMES FOR RENT Brand New Homes Never Lived In!

Starting at \$749 Academy/Westpoint Some restrictions apply Expires 4/30/2010 www.academywestpoint.com 1-888-272-3099, EHO

Manufactured Homes for Rent Starting at \$649! No Rent Until 5/1/10 Academy/Westpoint Some restrictions apply. Expires 4/30/2010

www.academywestpoint.com 1-888-272-3099, EHO West Bloomfield-Lakefront 3 bdrm, 2 bath, bsmt, gar, fam ily rm, fireplace, wood floors, new kitchen. (248) 568-6119

.... 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

...... oeads@hometownlife.com

....8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

Homes For Rent

WESTLAND - 2 bdrm ranch, real wood firs, C/A. Yard has room for big garden, reduced to \$625/mo. (734) 837-7355

4050

WESTLAND All new 3 bdrm, 2 bath Ranch, a/c, bsmt, garage, appliances, \$1099/mo. (248) 346-6108

WESTLAND - Cherry Hill/ Wayne Rd. 3 bdrm, garage, private st newly remodeled \$950/mo. ALSO LIVONIA - 1 bdrm, fully furnished lower unit, all util incl, \$800/mo. Call: (313) 729-3400

WESTLAND: Ford Rd area. 3 bdrm ranch, 1.5 bath, bsmt, very clean, c/a, exc. location, Mobile Home Rentals

FREE HOME You Fix It. You Keep It! \$99 SITE RENT For 12 Months

College Park ww.FreeMobileHomes.ne (888) 856-6709 Expires 3/31/10 FHO Some restrictions apply, call for deta

Sun Communities,

hometownlife.com

CANTON- Quiet executive home on 5 wooded acres \$350 incl. cable & all utilities Non-smoking. 734-658-8823

4140 Rooms For Rent

LUXURY MOTELS- Low Rates Fairlane 248-347-9999, Roya 248-544-1575, Days 734-427 1300, Comfort 248-504-5080

NORTHVILLE or PLYMOUTH Downtown, 1st week with full deposit. Furnished sleeping rooms. Newly decorated. \$85 weekly. Security deposit.

Rent/Lease

FARMINGTON HILLS RETAIL SPACE Great Exposure. Last Available Space 1716 sq.ft. Excellent Rate

CERTIFIED REALTY INC.

248-471-7100

REDEORD TWP.

OFFICE SUITES from 625 sq.ft. & up. Beautifully redecorated. Great Bates incl. utilities CERTIFIED REALTY INC. (248) 471-7100

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR										
		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other				
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	4.75	0.5	4.25	0	J/A				
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	4.875	0	4.25	o	J/A				
America Financial Group	(248) 974-8087	4.875	0	4.25	0	J/A				
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	5	o	4.25	0.25	J/A				
BRINKS Financial	(800) 785-4755	4.75	0.5	4.125	0.75	J/A/V/F				
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.625	1.625	4	1.125	J/A/V/F				
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	5.25	0	4.5	0	J				
Cornerstone Community Financial	(800) 777-6728	5.25	0	4.5	0	J/A/F				
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	5.125	0	4.5	0	Α				
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	5.125	0	4.625	0	J/V/F				
Fisrt Michigan Bank	(248) 498-2824	4.875	0.25	4.25	0.25	J/V/F				
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	5.125	0	4.375	. 0	F				
Göld Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	4,75	0.5	4.125	0.75	J/A/V/F				
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	4.75	0.5	4.125	0.75	J/A/V/F				
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	5.25	0	4.5	0	J/A/V/F				
Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	5	0	4.25	0.125	А				
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.75	0.5	4.125	0.75	J/A/V/F				

Above Information available as of 3/26/10 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 = JumboA = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders.

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

1-800-579-SELL (7355)

H®METOWN///@.com

CHOCOLATE TREAT
SBF, 60ish, N/S, likes the performing arts, goff, working out, dining, travel, movies, dancing, Seeking SM, educated, professional, 50-60, RACE UNIMPORTAMT, with similar interests, for possible LTR. 27281197

SOPHISTICATED LADY
SBF, middle-aged, attractive, laid-back
yet serious-minded and responsible,
enjoys dining, movies, plays and bowing, seeks a SM, 48-69, N/S, responsible.

good sense of humor, with good values and morals, for serious relationship

DOWN-TO-EARTH
Easygoing DWF, early 50s, would like
to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, with
the same qualities, minimal baggage, to
share the ups and downs of life. Seeking
possible LTR. 12279171

READY TO SETTLE DOWN?

READY TO SETTLE DUWN?
WF, 55", blonde/brown, loves horse-back riding, movies, cooking, quiet nights at home, reading, going out, play-ing sports. Seeking a family-orlead-WM, 38-44, who likes the same things.

DOWN-TO-EARTH WOMAN WF, full-figured, auburn hair, looking for a guy who likes books and more intel-lectual pursuits. I enjoy jazz and classi-cal music. 45-65. 27321569

ISO COMPANIONSHIP

ISO COMPANIONSHIP
Attractive, flexible SBF, 63, 54", 105lbs, loves dancing, movies, dinling, travel. Seeking honest, sincere, independent, humorous gentleman for friendship, possibly more. \$\mathbb{T}\$324468

22207254



Absolutely Free

BASKETBALL SYSTEM Already assembled, just have to cement in. Great cond. Call: (734) 516-6373

SWIMMING POOL 21' round, with pump, filter, ladder, etc. Must dismantle & pickup. 734-266-5258

Antiques/Collectibles 7020

BWADA SPRING ANTIQUE SHOW Sat. Apr. 10, 10-5, \$4 Sun. Apr. 11, 10-4, FREE Admission w/Food Donation New Haven High School, 57700 Gratiot Ave. East to exit 247.

Info: 586-725-9480

Auction Sales

AUCTION - April 18, 2010 Bidding at 11am at: Morse Moving & Storage 27651 Hildebrand Rd.; Ste 100, Romulus, MI 48174 (734) 484-1717 Abandoned / unpaid house hold for Sharma, Schaffer, Lucas, GVC Winstar, Newble, Scales, Hogan, Pawli, Leonard, Bell, Wilson, Autry, Hatheway, Harbert and Lindey

ESTATE AUCTION Sat., April 3rd, 7PM **Cultural Center** 525 Farmer Plymouth, MI Furniture/Accessories Glassware/China Tools/Outdoor Items Household Items Cash/MC/Visa Bank Debit Cards. No Checks Doors Open 6pm **JC Auction Services**

7100 Estate Sales

734.451.7444

BEVERLY HILLS: Thurs-Sat. 17022 Elizabeth. Furniture tools kitchen misc. easures. Vintage 60's toys, kids games, sports cards.

Moving Sales

7130 NEW HUDSON 30439 Ridge Court 48165. 4/2/10, 9am to 5pm & 4/3/10, 9am to 3pm. Furniture & kitchen items!

Moving Sales

WESTLAND Big Estate Sale April 1-2, 12:00-6pm, Sat. April 3rd, 10:00-6pm Dining room furniture, hos nital hed and other home medical equipment, Nev OVC woman's clothes and jewelry 7950 North Fountain Park Anartments Westland dillmelissa@gmail.com

7160 Household Goods

APPLIANCES -Gas dryer, gas stove/oven, refrigerator. All good cond. Call: 734-578-7981

DINETTE TABLE, 4 chairs maple, \$75. Early American Matching Hutch, maple, \$200 will separate. Twin Bed w/Brass Headboard, \$135. All very good cond 734-467-6352

excellent cond. \$100. MICROWAVE CART, oak, \$25 734-729-4704 **MATTRESS**

DINING TABLE 4 chairs, oak,

New queen pillow-top mattress. Can Deliver. \$200. (734) 444-7277 MISC ITEMS: Dining room set- round oak formal table light wood, w/ 4 chairs & leaf, \$700. Italian leather sofa bed,

\$250, 313-212-3756

Household Goods

MISCELLANEOUS: Washer & \$125: Drver \$85: Stove \$85: Children's Bikes \$10; Hardwood Floor Cleaner \$25; Mattress & Box Spring \$55. 248-465-0262

248-477-9179

TV STAND -Black with glass doors, \$10. Black Column Pedestal, \$10. Call Steve: 248-486-1588

POOL FOUIPMENT &

GENERATOR Coleman 5000:

message. 810-423-2121

Miscellaneous For

U-shaped, w/end tables & lamp, \$700. Exercise equip., Alice: (248) 437-3531

7160

SOFA, big stuffed chair, ottoman, 2 end tables, 2 lamps, \$100. Console Stereo, 50 yrs. old, records incl, \$50. Treadmill, Kenmore, \$200.

Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs 7190 CHEMICALS FOR SALE Due to pool removal. Call: (248) 349-5612

Lawn, Garden Material 7490

\$300. Toro self-propelled lawn mower; \$100. 2 burne propane grill; \$25. Leave a

KENDALLWOOD SWIM & Farmington Hills neighborhood swim and tennis club at a reduced rate! \$500. 586-612-1167

Sporting Goods

AKC registered. 11 wks. old. \$400. Call: 989-348-7312

DRYER - MAYTAG, Older, but works good, \$100/best offer. Wheelchair - Electric, \$300.

balls & que sticks. Newly re-covered. Legs fold. Exc. cond. \$45. **734-635-1276**

Wanted to Buy

jewelry, vintage to antique. Marcy. Cell: 248-880-5700

CEMETERY LOTS 4 Plots, Farmington Oakwood Cemetery Call 248-478-1336.

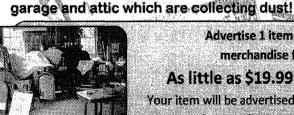
AKC PEMBROOK WELSH CORGI PUPS. Champion blood lines & great family pets. 517-468-3298, 313-550-4429

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPS

HAVANESE PUPS Hypo-allergenic. Beautiful quality Home Raised. 313-999-6447

GET EXTRA CASH!

By selling your vehicle or the items in your



Advertise 1 item of merchandise for As little as \$19.99*! Your item will be advertised in the paper & online for 2 weeks

Advertise one vehicle for As little as \$29.99*! Your vehicle will be advertised in the paper & online for 2 weeks!

4 line minimum, add



1-800-579-7355

al lines may be added for extra cost. Limited time

ANTIQUE POOL TARLE 6'

CASH PAID For costume

Dogs

corgibreeder.com 7500

Match Vmaker plus Brought to you by The Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Newspapers

Labradoodle Pups: females/

MASTIFF PUPS-NEAPOLITAN

9 wks old. Dewormed, shots. 2 females, 1 male, blue, vet

checked, call: (734) 671-5324

LOST CAT, since 3/22 Cham-

pagne, answers to Hari. Vicinity of State Sts., Livonia.

family pet.

Lost - Pets

Reward.

7540

248.636.5133

7930

734-516-7877

Answer an ad: Note the number listed in the ad

2. Call 1-900-950-3785 It's only \$2.39/minute. Must be 18+, or: Call 1-800-510-4786, and use a

major credit or debit card

2. Answer some simple questions to

Place your own ad:

1. Call 1-800-506-5115

create your ad 3. Record a voicemail greeting

WOMEN SEEKING MEN PLUS-SIZED LADY... 34, 200lbs, sexy single mom, looking for SM, 37+, for friendship and dating

eading to LTR. Is this you? Call me

17217234 CURVACEOUS SWF, 47, 57" 155lbs, hazel eyes, dimples, enjoys r&b music, jazz, dancing, dining out, blues, sports. Seeking SBM. ship first, possibly more. 27283605

ARE WE A MATCH?

SBF, 36, 5'8", 150lbs, looking for a SBM, 35-45, who likes movies, dining, concerts, walks in the park, hanging out. 77324444 SEARCHING FOR A MAN... 40-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 47-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only

LADY OF QUALITY

SBF, 30-something, 57", laid-back, down-to-earth, seeks open, honest, loyal, faithful professional man, 35-55, for LTR. No games, race open. 27310218

Jewish men please. 27962317

TAKE A CHANCE ON ME SWPF, 48, educated, H/W proportionate, seeks educated, professional male, 40for coffee or a drink. 22311355 A TRUE LADY

e man, single or divorced WM, MUST LOVE GOD MUST LOVE GOD

SBF, 56, 5'2", full-figured, beautiful, medium complexion, long hair, looking for
a nice, young SBCM, 49-55, who is employed, honest, loyal, just an all-around sweet person. 27328795

Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter SEEKING MR. RIGHT SBF, 37, 5'5", nurse, mother of three, Christian values, NS, social drinker, seeks SM, 32-50, race open, with similar

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?

SINGLE DAD WELCOME PBF, 40, looks younger, attractive, inde-pendent, loving, caring, enjoys working, dining out, quiet times at home. Seeking handsome, well-built, warm-hearted, considerate WIM, 36-43, to share what life has to offer. 22298002

SEEKING A REAL MAN

SEEKING A HEAL MAN
Retired SBF, 48, likes the internet, watching tv, shopping, visiting friends, picnics, taking walks, parks, dining, hanging out with friends. Looking for a SB/WM, 29-58. 27314707 ARE YOU OUT THERE?

SBF, 36, 5'4", 166lbs, brown/brown, drama-free, disease-free, looking for SW/BM, 35-60, to talk to. I like movies, music, hanging out, travel, having fun. HONEST AND CARING
Sensitive SWF, 41, 5'5", likes Bon Jovi
and Van Halen, spaghetti dinners, gardening, hockey and baseball, old movles, arts and crafts, picnics, reading.
Looking for a gentieman, 45-57, race
open, for friendship 23318717

open, for friendship \$\overline{\text{T318717}}\$

TOTAL LOSER!
I have no looks, no interests, no talent, no I.Q, no friends, no job, and haven't dated since 1982! OK, stop laughing and here is the truth. I am a SUPF, 47, 5'8", blonde, shapely, bright (advanced degree), fun, caring, passionate, and one of the nicest people you will ever meet. Among other things, I love great conversation, a great sense of humor, and great kissing. Seeking compatible male, late 40s - mild 60s, for permanent best friend and lover. I'm temporarily living in Milwaukse but may move to Michigan soon. \$\overline{\text{T324039}}\$

SASSY SILLY AND SENSITIVE

SWF, 53, 57", 135lbs, N/S, pretty. A good person. Easy to be with, down-to-earth, funny, animal lover, and good values and morals, with a lot to offer to a SASSY SILLY AND SENSITIVE
57-year-old nurse, 5'5", medium build, red hair, Christian, very amusing, loves outdoors and animals, ISO honest, loyal gentleman, who loves to laugh and have

run. 17328133

LONELY IN DETROIT

Separated BF, 51, mother and grandmother, laid-back, loves outdoors, fishing, swimming, bowling, camping, hiking, long walks, holding hands, movies,
outdoors. NS, N/D, D/D-free, no drama,
no games. Seeking similar SM, 55-60,
race open. 17328192 SAYIDO Me: Black, short, young, extremely sexy, very sensitive, slightly dominant ways, lives alone. You: not white, under 50, tall, 200-300lbs, stable, gentle, compas-

A RARE LADY SBF, 5'6", N/S, N/D, very humorous, would love to meet a gentleman, 46-65, to be my special friend. Race unimport-ant. \$\mathbf{T}\$325843 LET'S ENJOY LIFE TOGETHER
Semi-retired WF, young 60s, 5'6", brown/brown, easy on the eyes, H/W proportionate, seeks WM, 58-66, N/S, health-conscious, with a good sense of humor. I enjoy music, theater, movies, museums, art fairs in the summer and enjoy life and general. \$\mathbb{T}2327176\$ WEST SIDE BEAUTY

WEST SIDE BEAUTY
Professionally employed in the beauty
field. SWF, 5'6", slender, 54, seeks a
gentleman, 44-52, HWP, many interests including music, movies, cultural
events, camping, and most things outdoors, light smoker, for friendship leading to relationship. Sincere responses
only. \$\frac{37.9761}{2.0761}\$ only. 22230791 LET'S TALK SOON!
I am 52°, in my 60s, brown hair, brown eyes, WLTM tall, well-groomed, neat SWPM, 64-70, who likes to travel, cards, casinos, dining out, exercise etc. is this you? \$\text{T382305}\$

For customer service go to www.People2People.com/help Free Ads: Free ads placed in this section are not guaranteed- to run every week. Be sure to renew your ad frequently to keep it fresh.

Quidelines: Personals are for adults 18 or over seeking monogamous relationships. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses and have first meetings occur in a public place. This publication reserves the right to edit, revise, or reject any advertisement at any time at its sole discretion and assumes no sibility for the content of or replies to any ad. Not all ads have corresponding voice messages. To review our complete guidelines, call (800) 252-0920

SINGLES LINGO: A-Asian B-African American/Black C-Christian D-Divorced F-Female H-Hispanic J-Jewish M-Male N/S-Non-smoker N/D-Non Drinker N/Drugs- No Drugs P-Professional S-Single W-White LTR-Long Term Relationship

uan, AUV-SUUIDS, Stable, gentle, compassionate, handyman, very affectionate, Us; N/S, N/D, N/Children, monogamist, serious, poetry, cooking, jazz, homebody, very laid back wants marriage, no pets, Leave name and number only.

(*)

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> Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 1, 2010

**AWFSOME CAREER* Government Postal Jobs! \$17.80 to \$59.00 hour Entry level. No Experience Required Now Hiring! Green Card O.K. Call 1-866-477-4953 Ext. 239 Advance fee required.

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REAL ESTATE

FORECLOSED HOME **AUCTION 400+ Homes** Auction 4/10 Open House: 3/27, 3/28, 4/3, REDC 1 View Full com. RF Brke 6505355610

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PIONEER POLE BUILD-INGS 30x40x10 Basic build ing \$8990.00. 14 Colors Galvalume Steel 2x6 Trusses ACQ Treated lumber, licensed and insured Ontions available call for quotes. 1-800-292 0679

MISCELLANEOUS

HOMEOWNERS WANT EDII! Kayak Pools is looking for demo homesites to displaour virtually maintenance-fre Kayak pools. Save thousand of \$\$\$ with this unique oppor tunity. CALL NOW! 800-315 2925, kayakogolsmidwest.com Discount Code: 522L15

PLACE YOUR STATE-WIDE AD HERE! \$299 buys a 25-word classified ac offering over 1.6 million circu lation and 3.6 million readers Contact mich-can@michigan oress.org

lelp Wanted-General

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AUTO DETAILER/ PORTER Needed at Blackwell Ford

Full/Part-Time, Mon-BCBS, 401K, Paid Holidays, and Vacation pay available. Duties include but not limited to: Cleaning vehicles for delivery arrangement of vehicles and lot maintenance. Must have valid driver's license and meet our insurability requirements Must pass drug screen. Apply in per son to: Jeff Engle a Blackwell Ford, 41001 Plymouth Rd,, Plymouth. Blackwell

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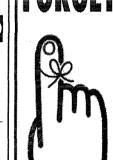
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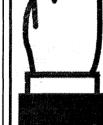
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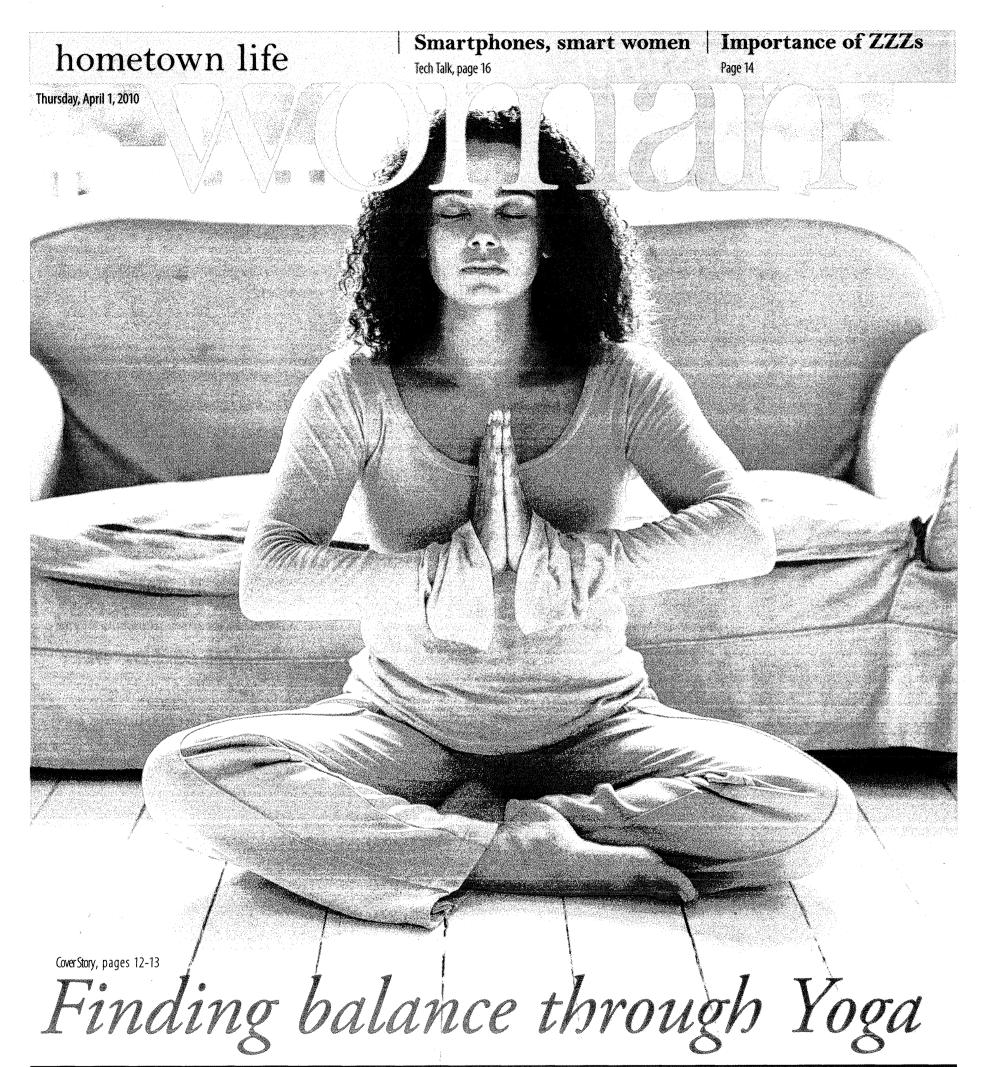
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Hometown Life Woman welcomes spring!

Welcome back to the April edition of *Hometown Life Woman*. Your congratulations and suggestions after our first edition in March have inspired our staff to work even harder at bringing you stories that will inspire you to indulge in exercise, food, good books and shopping.



Susan Rosiek

Many readers have already sent us some great story ideas as well taken time to write and tell us what they want to read in upcoming editions. Others of you found new recipes and gained some helpful information in the March edition.

Most importantly, many of you have told us what fun you experienced in reading about your friends and neighbors in *Hometown Life Woman*.

The April edition provides you the opportunity to meet even more neighbors, perhaps familiar faces from your favorite coffee shop, your office, congregation or new faces with a compelling story to tell.

ON TAP IN THIS EDITION:

Yoga that fits your lifestyle

This ancient meditative practice is a virtual tsunami sweeping through western Wayne and west Oakland counties. Your friends and neighbors discuss which type fits their personal need and how this Eastern discipline impacts body, mind and soul. We provide a list of yoga studios. Feel free to pick one that will help you find that ever important inner balance in your life.

BEING YOUR BEST

Don't miss contributing writer Linda Chomin's story on "Be Your Best at Any Age." It's a great read and you'll find the profiles of area women interesting and inspiring. Lots of dynamic women throughout the area — young moms, single moms, working women and women in transition. Read about them all.

APRIL SHOWERS IN STYLE

Check out our story on stylish umbrellas for spring and our shop local feature with great tips by contributing writer Wensdy Von Buskirk.

NOURISH YOUR MIND AND BODY

Our monthly publication wouldn't be complete without lots of food and new recipes.

And if you're looking for a good read, this month's Book Corner offers up recommenda-

tions from Lisa Powers of Canton and the women of the "Wine and Slipper Club." Two great suggestions — *The Help* and *Moloka'i*, great page turners.

As always, I welcome your comments on Hometown Life Woman. E-mail your comments, stories ideas to woman@hometownlife.com.

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS FOR MAY

Be sure to come back next month as we celebrate "Mothers and Daughters." E-mail Hometown Life Woman a favorite photo of you and your mom, you and your daughter or the aunt, grandmom, step-mom or woman who was/is that special mom-like person in your life. Remember — favorite means old or new! E-mail your photo (jpg format please) to woman@hometownlife.com and make sure you identify everyone in the photo. Tell us about the photo in a sentence or two and be sure to include a phone number or e-mail address where we can contact you for more information.

Happy Spring!

Susan Rosiek,

Editor/Publisher srosiek@hometownlife.com

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HOMETOWN

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PHIS

BOOKS, GOING GREEN, FOOD

Be the best you can be at any age

By Linda Ann Chomin

Imagine looking 10 to 20 years younger. Fitness expert Peter Nielsen believes it's possible by eating right, exercising and not smoking.

The women featured here offer advice about staying active and choosing vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and lean sources of protein

Nielsen provides tips on leading a healthier lifestyle as well at his Web site www.petersprincipals.com and on weekly programs on WXYZ Channel 7 and WJR 760AM.

"The first thing is for women to understand age is just a number. Sixty is the new 40. I know women in their 50s and 60s who look better than some women in their 30s and 40s," said Nielsen.

"To do that she needs enough complex carbohydrates, protein, fiber, and exercise can increase her lean tissue which is her muscle. Working out is going to make her skin look tighter. Eating well and exercising slows down the aging process. If a woman wants to have wrinkles, the quickest way to age is smoking.'

Heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women and Nielsen advises women to stay away from artery clogging fats.

"Taking care of the body is important at every age but especially during menopause when the body starts losing bone density.

We need to think prevention," said Nielsen. "We only have one model year. It is our temple and we need not only to respect but honor

A positive attitude seems as essential to staying young as eating healthy foods and exercising. Many women today are reinventing themselves after losing jobs in the economic downturn. Linda Densmore was a mortgage loan officer and real estate broker. After a year of studies, the 60-year-old Milford woman earned a paramedic certificate in January.

"Every decision you make, no matter how small, impacts your life," said Densmore. "It moves you forward, sometimes into unfamiliar territory and that brings adventure to your journey. It is all about stretching as you age and taking on a new challenge. I challenge myself daily to learn something new.



At age 38, April Robichaud of Canton is a busy mother of two but always makes time for herself. She believes every woman could shine if by instituting a beauty regime. By day, Robichaud is store director of Sephora at Twelve Oaks in Novi and from 6-8 p.m. she's mom to Abby, 15 and Mason, 12. Those two hours are reserved for her children and husband, Ron. The rest of the evening is used to care for herself.

"I always make time for my family. That's one of the things that keeps me young," said Robichaud.

Her nightly routine consists of using a cleanser,

treating the skin with a serum or product then moisturizing.

"The biggest mistakes women make they don't start early enough to care for their skin and don't know how important a sun protector can be. It can prevent wrinkles.'

Robichaud recommends a SPF 25 or higher. Products come in lotions, creams and a powder that can be dusted on shoulders and neck

"My biggest tip is to make sure to always be yourself," said Robichaud. "You don't necessarily need lipstick or foundation. Be true to yourself and your natural beauty will shine."

Here's what other local women have to say about being the best at any age. Also on Pages 5, 6, 7.



Stephanie Fowler of Plymouth walks near the Trevi Fountain in Rome. She visited Italy in May of 2009.

Name: Stephanie Fowler Hometown: Plymouth

Age: 36

Career: Marketing and Sales manager, University of Michigan Institute of Continuing Legal Education

Family: Husband, Aaron Tasell

Community/Professional Involvement: Stephanie is a member of the Association for Continuing Legal Education where occasionally she serves as a member of its faculty. For her birthday, her husband bought her a cello which she is learning to play. In the past, she has volunteered for the Humane Society, Habitat for Humanity, and served on the board of the Dearborn Animal Shelter. She recently joined a knitting circle in Plymouth.

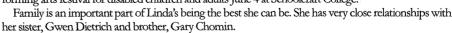
Favorites: Gardening and renovating the 1843 home she shares with Aaron.

Exercise/Health Routine: Membership at Lifetime Fitness in Canton, works out four times a week, does yoga once a week and competes in triathlons around the state. Stephanie also walks their dogs on

Advice: "I'm a big gardener. We have fruit trees and we're always adding to the vegetable garden. Eating right is important. I love to cook, been cooking since age 11. How gardening comes into it is we like to have fresh stuff. I'm definitely conscious of cooking good things. Eating at home makes a big difference in taking care of yourself. You can make better choices."

About the writer: Linda Ann Chomin of Canton, a contributing writer to Hometown Life Woman, stays her best by eating fruits, vegetables, whole grains and legumes, and walking and running with her Irish Wolfhound, Clancy. She has been a vegetarian for 35 years and loves to cook, especially with the tomatoes she and her sister, Gwen, can from their garden.

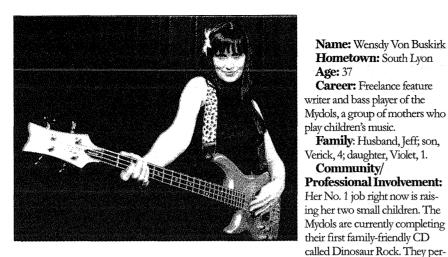
Linda takes joy in being an active part of the community. She has covered the Observer communities for nearly 20 years. She is a board member of the Plymouth Community Arts Council and member of VSA arts of Michigan's Southeast Region Committee for the last 15 years. VSA arts holds its annual performing arts festival for disabled children and adults June 4 at Schoolcraft College.



"The warmth of their love brightens my days even in the most difficult of times."



Linda Chomin



Wensdy Von Buskirk of South Lyon is the bass player of the Mydols, a group of moms who play children's music. She's a freelance writer and mother to two young children.

performances). They'll also be featured on an upcoming Gene Simmons Family Jewels reality show with the Kiss bassist.

Favorites: "Where the Sidewalk Ends" by Shel Silverstein; restaurants include Rebecca's and P.F. Chang's in Northville, music by the Go-Go's, B-52s, Gwen Stefani.

Exercise/Health Routine: She tries to stay away from fast food and cooks healthy food whole grains, not a lot of red meat. She and Jeff work out four-five times a week at home on their treadmill and with hand weights, stability and medicine balls. On Sunday evening, she goes to a free class at the Yoga Center for Health & Fitness in Brighton.

Advice: Wensdy is reinventing herself after being laid off from her job as an editor. Playing bass guitar with the Mydols keeps her spirits up while being unemployed and may turn into a new career.

"You don't have to be great at something, wait until something's perfect, just do it. Pursue your dream."

Wensdy admits motherhood changed her life. Before Verick and Violet she used to rock climb and ride in mountain bike events. "It's not just about me anymore. It's about us. When you have a family it opens your eyes to being a good example for them."

Name: Linda Densmore Hometown: Milford

Age: 60

Career: A mortgage loan officer/real estate broker until the economic crisis. She earned a paramedic certificate in January and in the process of applying for her EMT license.

Family: Husband, Paul, married 39 years. She has 10 nieces

Community/Professional Involvement: She supports a "Green" lifestyle by growing and eating sprouts. She sells the product in the Green Street Fair in Plymouth April 30, May 1-2. Linda believes sprouts keep her healthy. "All of the enzymes come alive. You energize yourself by eating these live foods. If you're making hummus, sprout garbanzo. Add sprouts to soups, salads. Eat them plain." Also a herbalist, she makes hemp bags that allow anyone to sprout in their own kitchen.

Favorites: Spending the day with her 7- and 4-yearold grandnephew and grandniece, Dylan and Lily Rork, rejuvenates her. She reads books on self-growth, gardening, herbs. "My library includes many books on philosophy, self-improvement, and Native American culture. We all can

learn from Native Americans and the greatest lesson from them is we are all connected." Exercise/Health Routine: Gardening and staying active and enjoying the four acres

surrounding her home. "That's my peace getting outside and being with nature. We've raised a baby raccoon, owl and woodpecker." Linda also does Tai Chi and works out to videos. Advice: "It's your attitude. You've got to go where your heart leads you. For my training I've been riding on ambulances, mobile ICU units, doing rolling IVs, everything from road

rescues to working in the emergency room. There's all that lifting but I love it. In mortgages I was helping people. I thought how can I still contribute? The medical field is where the jobs are. It's very rewarding.'



Name: Wensdy Von Buskirk

Hometown: South Lyon

Career: Freelance feature

Family: Husband, Jeff; son,

form May 2 at the Green Street

Fair in Plymouth, May 13 at the

Northville Library (visit www. mydols.com for times and future

Community/

Age: 37

Linda Densmore of Milford, a mortgage loan officer/real estate broker until the economic downturn, earned a paramedic certificate in January and in the process of applying for her EMT license.



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Name: Beth Cooke Hometown: Farmington Hills

Age: 46

Career: Marketing specialist, LOC Federal Credit Union in Farmington

Family: Single mother of Rick, 16, and Troy, 14 Community/Professional Involvement: Member of Oak Pointe Church in Novi. Board member YMCA in Farmington Hills. Team captain and co-chair for Relay for Life May 22-23, in Farmington Hills. The relay is a 24-hour fund-raising event for the American Cancer Society. During the holidays, she fills baskets for Goodfellows to set an example for her sons about giving back.

Favorites: Biking and camping with her sons in summer. They camped in 19 states during one seven-week road trip. Dancing at the Magic Bag in Ferndale.

Exercise/Health Routine: Five to six nights a week, Beth does kick boxing, swims, lifts weights, and runs 50-70 miles a week. This summer, she's entered the Muddy Buddy competition of mountain biking, running and finishing an obstacle course in mud. On June 12 she takes the M-22 Challenge running up Sleeping Bear Dunes, biking and kayaking



Beth Cooke of Farmington Hills participated in a snowshoe race Jan. 22. "I never had snowshoes on before and thought what are you doing?"

then participates as part of a relay team in Dances with Dirt in Hell, Mich., in September. "A girlfriend and I were chasing our kids on the soccer field and couldn't breathe. We signed up for Team in Training, (a fund-raiser) and did the Disney half-marathon in Florida then our first marathon for the Free Press in October that year. We did a snowshoe race Jan. 22. I never had snowshoes on before and thought what are you doing? But I met fabulous women, some from 30s to 70s and it was amazing to see. You find instant friends. People need to realize God gives you a gift. You should live to the fullest."

Advice: "My children don't know what it's like to eat canned vegetables, only fresh. The carrots are already in the pan for dinner. I just have to go home and steam them. You just have to manage your time. I get up at 4:15 a.m. with my oldest, Rick, who's on the swim team for Brother Rice. We make lunch and then sit down to talk before he leaves. We always have breakfast together and usually dinner."



Joyce Pappas of Garden City is sales manager for her family's business, Orin Jewelers in Garden City and Northville.

Name: Joyce Pappas Hometown: Garden City

Age: 66

Career: Works five days a week as sales manager for her family's business, Orin Jewelers in Garden City and Northville. Joyce believes in the power of jewelry to make a woman feel and look good. She's been selling fine accent pieces for 45 years.

"Jewelry makes a woman feel very special and if it's from a significant other feel very loved, very special in that person's eyes," she said. "For me it's that I'm selling something that is going to make someone else happy. Jewelry is an accent piece, a piece of fine jewelry even in a simple design is something she can wear all the time."

Family: Husband, Perry Pappas, married 36 years, Community/Professional Involvement: Serves on the Garden City Hospital Board of Directors and chairs the Garden City Hospital Foundation.

Favorites: Joyce says it helps to read books that keep you in positive frame of mind and suggests for those with limited time, "there are lots of good magazines."

Exercise/Health Routine: "I'm always conscious about what I eat. You need to have a balanced diet, carbohydrates, protein, fruits and vegetables. She exercises at least five days a week and tries to get at least seven hours sleep a night.

Advice: "Faith is something you have inside of you that you practice every day. I think the good Lord is with me all the time."

Joyce attends St. Raphael Catholic Church in Garden City.

"I have a strong faith. It's important to have something to relate to. There are so many people struggling. Friends are very important, co-workers. It's great to have a network of people you can surround yourself with that can help you balance out your life. It's important to have good role models. Family is very important."



Michelle Moccia of Livonia, a nurse practitioner, works as an education specialist in the Emergency Center at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

Name: Michelle Moccia Hometown: Livonia

Age: 56

Career: A licensed nurse practitioner, Michelle works as education specialist in the Emergency Center at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia. Michelle was a nurse for 35 years before earning a master's degree at Madonna University.

Family: Husband, Victor; daughters, Ashley, 22, Amanda, 21. Community/Professional Involvement: Michelle is part of the Save Our Youth Task Force and recently spoke about prescription drug abuse in teenagers. She's also one of the lead captains for the American Heart Association walk May 15 at Washtenaw Community College.

Favorites: Books — anything motivating — such as, "The Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren.

Exercise/Health Routine: Plays tennis a couple of times a week at the Sports Club of West Bloomfield and Farmington Tennis Club with her two oldest daughters who compete with the Western University Broncos. Michelle exercises three times a week at the Livonia YMCA.

Advice: Michelle Moccia always sees the glass as half full even when her parents died this summer.

"None of us are exempt from sadness in life. It's those bad times that make you appreciate good times and make you more sensitive to others. My advice is to embrace life and believe you're here to make a difference. Life is a gift and not to be taken for granted.

Don't miss the miracle of the moment. Be someone's hero. I tell my daughters, it's your job is to make everyone feel important, cause everyone's special. I learned discipline from my father, great love from mother, and become more spiritual as I've grown older. I thank God for all I have, my

Michelle's grateful as well for her career.

"I found my passion at 15 years old when I volunteered at a nursing home. Being a nurse is not actually work. It's a ministry. We're privileged as nurses to care for people. I'm glad to be working in an organization that's faith-based. We open and close the day with prayer. Every meeting starts with a reflection because they want us to be the best people."

Name: Donna Keough Hometown: Canton **Age:** 68

Family: Husband, Bill, married 45 years this August. Sons Shawn, 39, and Shane, 37, four grand-

Community/Professional Involvement: Volunteers at the Plymouth Historical Museum where she is exhibits coordinator.

Favorites: Gardening, travel, reading. She recommends "A Walk on the Beach" by Joan Anderson.

Exercise/Health Routine: Donna began a walking program 30 years ago. She does Pilates twice a week, Bikram yoga once a week. Her mother told her years ago and she found it to be true "menopause is not that big of a deal if you're eating right and active." She loves to cook with whole grains, fresh fruits and vegetables, chicken and turkey, and sometimes goes vegetarian. She takes various supplements at her doctor's suggestion. "I gave subscriptions to Prevention Magazine to my sons. They learn by example."

Advice: Donna has four longtime friends she likes to spend time with as well. They call themselves the Ya-Ya Sisterhood.

"I've always admired strong creative women, women who are givers, who get involved in community, who like to share with others. Your family and your friends are the better part of your life, and church. I have a strong faith," said Donna, a member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton. "I pray

Donna Keough of Canton volunteers at the Plymouth Historical Museum where she is exhibits coordinator. She began a walking program 30 years ago.

for my children and grandchildren, family and friends. My meditation prayer time is when I do my walk. It seems to be a quiet time to devote to that and I need that?"

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Westland, Garden City, Canton & Plymouth, April 2010 ➤ WOMAN 7

'Hit the ground running' with just the right shoes

By Sally Rummell Contributing Writer

If you're excited about trading the treadmill of winter for the tracks and trails of the upcoming outdoor running season, you'll want to run, not walk to the nearest specialty shoe store.

As a woman who may wear high heels by day and running shoes by night, you'll be glad you shopped for a shoe that specifically addresses your special needs as a woman runner.

"Women have special needs when it comes to running shoes because of the type of 'dress shoes' they often wear for long periods at work," explained Paul Ferrero of Running Fit of Northville, a running apparel and accessories store that outfits runners from head to toe.

"We see a lot of women with bunion issues which require a wider toe box or a special 'cut away' section on the shoe. You have to try on a number of different shoes to get the right fit."

While it may be tempting to shop at a discount or department store to purchase a running shoe, women who are serious about the sport will want to visit a specialty running store.

"We offer a much bigger selection of 'running specific' shoes for all different kinds of feet," said Rachel Ingle, manager of Running Fit in Novi

GET FIT

For a comfortable, injury-free run, "the right fit" is the most important reason to purchase running shoes from a shoe specialist, who will actually determine a runner's foot type and the proper shoe shape to accommodate it.

First of all, start with the fitting process and determine which of three different categories of running shoes will be the best fit, according to Ingle

Motion-control shoes fit those with a flat-foot type whose foot severely "rolls in" while running. Stability shoes are for runners with a medium arch and a slight "roll in." Neutral shoes are specifically designed for runners with a medium or high arch and no "rolling in" at all.

Today's running shoes aren't just for running,

"They're great for any activities that move you forward, including cross-training, walking, running errands, etc.," said Ingle. "You'll have less pain and fatigue when wearing properly fitting running shoes for a variety of activities."

ONE SHOE DOESN'T FIT ALL

But women should understand that while they can wear running shoes for walking, they can't wear walking shoes for running.

"The bottoms of a walking shoe aren't fit for

How to shop for new running shoes

- Shop in the late afternoon when your feet are at their largest. Your feet will expand while running.
- Bring your old shoes with you when you go shopping. Shoe wear will assist the salesperson in determining your degree of pronation.
- Wear or buy the socks you'll wear when you run.
- If you wear orthotics, bring them also. You need to see how the shoe fits with the orthotic inside.
- Do not pick a shoe because it's the latest fad shoe.
- Make sure the salesperson measures both of your feet. Often, one foot is slightly larger than the other. You should be fitted for the larger foot.

Expect that a shoe specialist will ask you questions similar to these:

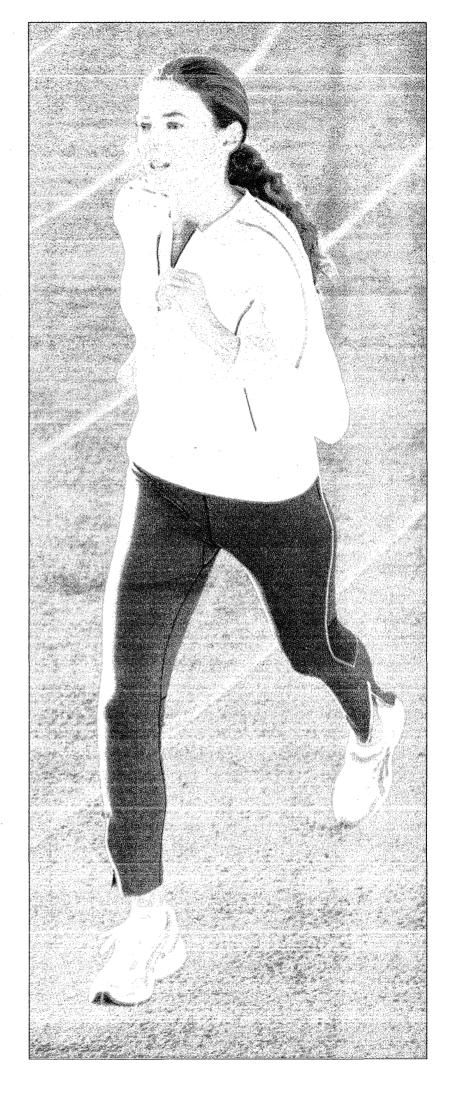
- 1) How long have you been running?
- 2) How much mileage are you doing per week?
- 3) Are you training for a particular event?
- 4) Where do you do most of your running?
- 5) How much do you weigh?
- 6) Are you aware of any foot problems?

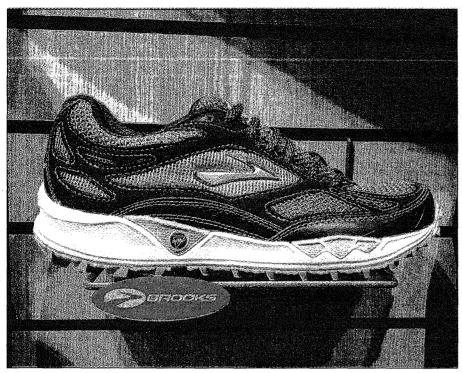
running and they're too heavy," said Tom Welch, owner of Hershey's Shoes in Garden City and Novi. The stores carry athletic, dress, casual and fashion shoes, specializing in New Balance shoes for running, walking and cross-training.

At For Feet's Sake in Milford, the newest trend in running shoes is the very light-weight, but well-cushioned shoe that's "close to barefoot," according to store owner Traci Goodnough.

"This type of shoe concentrates more on cushioning than correction. It's a totally different concept than a traditional running shoe, and

Please see SHOES, 9





This Brook's women's trail runner is ideal for running on rougher terrain and retails at about \$105. Available at For Feet's Sake in Milford.

SHOES

FROM PAGE 8

is fairly new in the marketplace, "within the last year," she said.

How do you know when it's time to get new shoes?

"Most running shoes last between 300 and 500 miles," said Ferrero of Running Fit in Northville. "If your shoes are six to 12 months old, we recommend a new pair, even if you haven't reached this mileage threshold yet."

How long a running shoe will last depends upon the individual runner's weight, stride, and biomechanics, as well as the terrain and environment in which she is running. Heavier runners will wear their shoes harder than their lighter counterparts and may have to replace their shoes more often.

Women who run on a treadmill may get a few more miles out of their shoes than those who run outdoors, but don't let the "cleanli-

ness" of the shoes mislead you, said Ferrero. Their mid-sole gets well worn, warranting new shoes at about 500 miles.

WHEN TO REPLACE

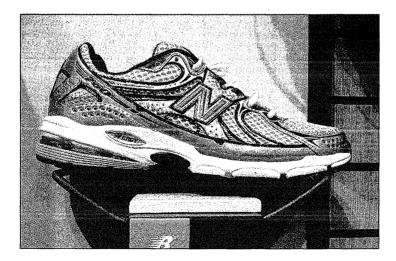
To select a running shoe, experts suggest that you get to know your feet first.

Take a look at your old shoes by placing them side-by-side on a flat surface. If the shoes tilt in toward the middle, your new shoe probably needs more stability than your old shoe. If they tilt to the outside, you may have a high arch and your new shoes should have good shock absorption.

Look at the top of your shoe. If you can see an outline of your big or little toe, and you've noticed discomfort in those areas while running, you should try a larger or wider shoe.

Runners are advised to bring their previously worn running shoes into the store so that a shoe specialist can "read" them and guide your choice. They can tell from looking at their "worn" areas what type of shoe will most benefit your foot type.

This New Balance mens' stability runner is priced at about \$115.



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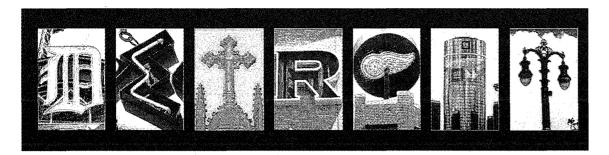


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WESTLAND, GARDEN CITY, CANTON & PLYMOUTH, April 2010 ➤ WOMAN 9

SHOP LOCAL



Find EPTAS wall hangings by Plymouth photographer Brian Hill at A Special Place in Canton.

A 'SPECIAL' STORE

If you've driven by A Special Place in Canton but haven't stopped in, make the effort to check out this adorable gift shop, jam packed with wonders. Owner Roberta goes to great lengths to collect an eclectic mix of merchandise you can't find anywhere else, and she serves it up with a tray of cookies laid out for her customers each day. A Special Place carries baby gifts, girlfriend gifts, wedding gifts, clothing, jewelry, purses, candles, food, home decor — you name it — and much of it is made in the U.S.

Especially popular are EPTAS wall hangings by Plymouth photographer Brian Hill, who photographs objects that resemble letters, then frames them to spell words. Choose from wall hangings in stock, like "Canton" or "Michigan," or order a custom wall hanging with a special word or name. Each comes with a story explaining where each letter originated. A Special Place is located at 50270 Cherry Hill Road. Call (734) 495-9664.



Bride and groom pretzels, \$15 for 6 wedding favor sets at Great American Pretzel Company in South Lyon.

GOURMET PRETZELS

John Ruf spent 13 years as a UPS driver, and saw firsthand the popularity of sending gourmet food baskets as gifts. That observation inspired him and his wife to start the Great American Pretzel Company. For the past few years, the couple has mailed their delicious pretzels to customers across the country, selling out during several appearances on QVC. Earlier this year, they celebrated the grand opening of their first retail location, at 21001 Pontiac Trail in South Lyon.

There, customers can sample the Ruf's delicious pretzels, covered in all manner of chocolate, caramel, nuts and candy — most hand-dipped. Packaged in tins, towers and bags tied with bows, the pretzels make great gifts. New are Symphony sets, perfect for bridal showers or wedding receptions, which include "bride" pretzels dipped in pure white chocolate and sugar, and "groom" pretzels dressed in chocolate tuxedos (\$15 for six favor bags). Call (517) 546-1190 or visit www.greatamericanpretzel.com.

EASY ELEGANCE

For 34 years, Maggie LaForrest has been helping women look their best. As owner of Maggie & Me in Plymouth, LaForrest strives to fill her boutique with classic casual clothing for all ages.

"I like to have women in clothes that look updated and contemporary, but I like them also to be timeless," LaForrest said. "We don't do trendy here."

Instead, shoppers will find scarves, chunky jewelry and clothing made from natural fibers that stand the test of time, just like the store itself. Popular lines include Neon Buddha, Habitat, Tienello and Comfy. Shoppers also love French Dressing jeans,

love French Dressing jeans, and organic cotton sweaters by Geography and Willow. Neutrals are always popular but spring brings pops of color to Maggie & Me achieved with organic pigment dyes. Gray and yellow are the season's hottest hues, LaForrest said.

Maggie & Me specializes in customer service, a formula that's worked for more than three decades.

"A lot of women come here and need help putting themselves together. We do that for them, and everything's in one store," LaForrest said.

Maggie & Me is located at 924 W. Ann Arbor Trail. Call (734) 459-5340.

- Compiled by Wensdy Von Buskirk.

NEW GARDENVIEWS

Gardenviews in downtown Northville has always been a favorite stop for nature lovers, and just in time for spring Gardenviews unveils its new location at 117 E. Main St., two blocks from its prior home. Owners Lori



JOHN HEIDER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

t., two Gardenviews' partners Lori Jermont and Lou Mascolo celebrate the reopening of their store at 117 E. Main Street.

Jermont and Lou Mascolo transformed a former art gallery into a beautiful showroom for their updated selection of indoor and outdoor decor. Merchandise includes silk florals, candles from around the world, unique clocks and lamps, and wall plaques with sayings from spiritual to humorous.

For gardeners, the shop carries high quality garden tools like Felco hand pruners by the makers of the Swiss Army Knife. Yard art includes gazing globes, Woodstock chimes and garden bells. Instead of cement statuary, Gardenviews now specializes in a lightweight line of containers, benches, birdbaths and outdoor statuary made from cement infused fiberglass.

Everything is displayed in a unique environment that blends rustic and modern elements for a sophisticated feel. From the restored tin ceiling to the earthy floor, Gardenviews is full of inspiration.

Reserve your spot now for a free talk on "Great Garden Design" by master gardener and author Janet Macunovich, 9:30-11 a.m. Saturday, May 15. Call (248) 380-8881.

PANDORA'S BOX

Charm bracelets never go out of style, and these days the hottest way to build your own bracelet is to string together a set of charm beads. It all started with Pandora, a wildly popular Danish jewelry line with

more than 600 charm beads that can be combined to reflect any mood. In addition to elegant beads adorned with detail and gemstones, shoppers love whimsical offerings like cupcakes topped with golden cherries, chubby little Buddhas and sassy queen bees.

Benson Diamond Jewelers at Westland Center has the entire line of Pandora beads in stock. Manager Ken Hauser said Pandora offers an elegant European approach to the charm bracelet, and customers can easily interchange the beads. For the perfect Mother's Day gift, combine spring's newest beads, in brightly-colored enamels, glass and stones, with a symbolic mother's bead with bezel set mother of pearl hearts (\$45).

If you already have your bracelet started, get it cleaned for free while you browse the fun sample combinations at Benson Diamond Jewelers, located next to Kohl's.

Pandora is also available at other local retailers, including Orin Jewelers in Garden City (29317 Ford Road at Middlebelt) and Northville (101 E. Main St. at Center); and Showroom of Elegance in Canton. Or, check out the company's entire collection, which also includes rings, earrings and necklaces, at the new Pandora store at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi.

For a less expensive approach to the charm bead craze, perfect for tweens and teens, try Chamilia. The line offers the same concept using less expensive materials like crystals instead of gemstones. Chamilia also makes a Disney collection. Check it out at Precision Watch & Ringsmith in Westland Center.



Maggie & Me in downtown Plymouth carries comfy clothing lines like Neon Buddha.

THINK GREEN

Girl power goes green at eco-friendly fair

By Wensdy Von Buskirk

For the third year in a row, Green Street Fair will be staged in downtown Plymouth with the aim of helping people form more eco-friendly habits.

The event, set for Friday, April 30, Saturday, May 1 and Sunday, May 2, in Kellogg Park and surrounding streets, will feature exhibitor displays, live music, street performers, children's activities, fitness and well-being demonstrations, organic cuisine, art installations and more.

The goal is to encourage attendees (which numbered 90,000 last year) to take strides large or small toward living a healthier and greener life.

Yet GSF organizers, four local moms balancing busy lives and careers, avoid being preachy when it comes to going green.

"We're all at different levels of being green but we think everyone can make changes in their own life, in their own home, with their own children," said organizer Raychel Rork, a 33-year-old mother of two from Canton.

Rork's mother, Dianne Quinn, founded Plymouth Art in the Park when Rork was just 2 years old, and celebrated that fair's 30th anniversary last year. Quinn and Rork joined up with Terri O'Brien of Northville and her sister Mandi Buckland of Plymouth, both event planners and marketing experts, to establish GSF in 2008.

Green Street Fair has become known for all the standard festival offerings, including entertainment, food and fun, but everything has a green twist.

Vendors are organized into sections — such as automotive, baby care, natural beauty, and health and wellness — so visitors can target their interests. Representatives will be on hand to answer questions about such topics as organic gardening, hybrid vehicles and nutrition.

Other highlights include:

*Fort Box, a wondrous little city built with cardboard boxes that children can play in as well as add to with recycled materials.

*The Eco-Beats Stage, featuring local and regional acts including family-friendly music by The Verve Pipe and the Mydols.

*Swap-O-Rama-Rama, a clothing swap and do-it-yourself workshop using recycled garments.

*Green Careers, helping people discover a job or hobby that will have an impact on future generations.

*Little Sprouts, where children can make their very own compost using recycled AT&T Yellow Pages and red worms.

GREEN STREET FAIL

When: April 30-May 2

Where: Downtown Plymouth

What: Companies, artisans, entertainers, workshops and speakers come together in a family-friendly environment to help people take steps toward living a healthier and greener life.

Information: www.greenstreetfair.com

*Recycling Workshops, teaching the basics of what should and shouldn't go in the recycle bin.

*Organic Cooking Demonstrations, highlighting organic recipes all weekend long.

The festival itself strives to generate less waste than comparable events, and provides recycling bins throughout the streets. Workers ride on electric golf carts to reduce emissions, and festival materials are printed on recycled paper using soy ink.

In addition, all food vendors are required to serve organic fare.

"They'll have organic French fries, organic kettle corn, organic hot dogs and all natural potato chips," Rork said. "Commercial food vendors have a long way to go healthwise but we want to show that you can still have fun and healthy or organic festival food with your kids."

For the first time this year, GSF is partnering with Bird Elementary School in Plymouth for a project called "Flip Your Lid." Leading up to the festival, students will make flowers from plastic bottle caps which will be scattered throughout the park and turned into a mural on site. Attendees will be invited to learn how to make the flowers and contribute to the mural as well.

"All of those plastic bottle caps, they are not recyclable," Rork said. "People will see they can make fun things out of them at the fair and maybe it's something they will end up doing at home."

Rork said it seems like children, including her own, already get the green message.

"Kids are more adaptable to change and understand things better. My son is all about recycling. He reads the numbers on the bottom of jugs and knows what they mean already. When I was in second grade we were just figuring out recycling," she said.

Rork said she has learned a lot staging GSF, and she hopes attendees do too.

"This has totally changed my thinking as far as what it means to be green and how you can change your habits one thing at a time. That's kind of how we look at it,"



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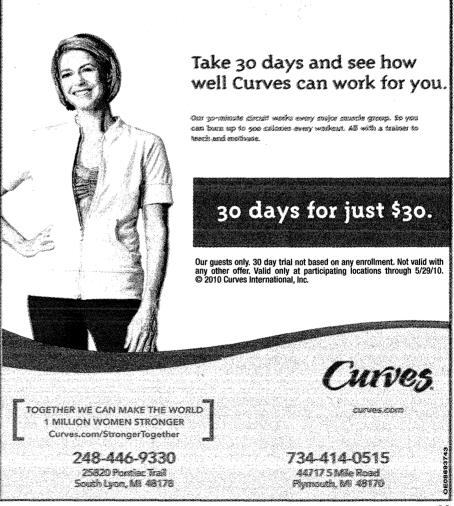


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WESTLAND, GARDEN CITY, CANTON & PLYMOUTH, April 2010 ➤ WOMAN 11

COVER STORY

Yoga offers peace of mind

By Diane Gale Andreassi

Many who practice yoga say it cures chronic health problems, manages pain and is a great form of exercise. But for Ann Firlit of Northville, it's a necessary stress buster.

"It does help me from strangling my family," the super-fit, 49-year-old, jokingly says.

But, there's no joke about what yoga has done for her mind, body and spirit. She gave up spinning, coaching from a personal trainer and other sports to focus on yoga. "When you go on the mat, you have one hour when everything goes away," she says. "You almost crave it.

The word yoga translated from Sanskrit, the language of ancient India where yoga originated means "to yoke," "to unite."

Yoga practitioners have been talking about balancing mind, body and spirit long before those terms became popular. People suffering from backaches and arthritis are often told to do postures that concentrate on providing exercise to the muscles at strategic locations.

After Firlit started yoga, friends asked if she lost weight. Actually, the numbers on her scale were the same, but her weight, she says, shifted to "all the right places."

"I'm probably in the best shape of my life," says Firlit, taking a moment away from a class at the Plymouth Yoga Room.

Cheryl Wickham, owner of Divine Yoga and Massage in South Lyon, says many of her clients are looking for a way to feel better, often because of an old injury or they want to regain their flexibility and strength.

"They get so much more than that," Wickham says. "They connect with their bodies and in the process they reconnect with their lives. We all get so busy we lose a sense of ourselves.'

Referring to yoga as one of the fastest growing industries in North America, Wickham says, the key is it "helps to bring balance back into people's lives.

At Northville Yoga Center, Trina Dobreff, says she can't imagine life without yoga because it allows her to meditate and offers a sense of peace and tranquility. Another great yoga reward, the Northville resident says, is that she lost 27 pounds in five months. She takes eight yoga classes

At 52, Sue Laabs says she was looking for something "to keep in shape." In a class of 12 people at the Northville Yoga Center, Laabs was among the most flexible.

A lot of people mistakenly think yoga is an East Indian religion, according to Donna Moak, a teacher and part-owner of the Northville Yoga Center. In fact, she says, the classes enhance her spiritual awareness as a Christian.

"And it's a gentle way to get into really good shape," Moak adds. "It nourishes every cell of the body and eliminates the

Stretches and poses open the body cavity and massages internal organs. Yoga allows each student to take the poses and stretches to their own comfortable place. The more flexible a person is, the longer the stretch.

Yoga students often tell Mohini Joshi, a Canton resident and instructor at Northville Yoga Center, they sleep better after practicing yoga.

Joshi says the calming effects she gets in classes also helps her to be a better mother, more focused and at ease during stressful

Karen Howe, a student at Northville Yoga Center, said her fibromyalgia has greatly lessened since she brought yoga into

Yoga helps to increase awareness and the "benefits we receive are inside our bodies, physically and emotionally," says Sheri Rieli, who owns Plymouth Yoga Room with her husband, Brent Rieli, and their partner, Jenna Osgood (wife of Detroit Red Wings goalie Chris Osgood).

Yoga Room desk manager Colleen Smyth of Plymouth started taking yoga classes 20 years ago and when the Plymouth Yoga Room opened, she said she found "a perfect fit," because the classes help her clear her mind, strengthen her body and control her breathing.

"I find it physically challenging and a daily reminder of checking with myself, my breathing and checking in how I deal with situations, with stress, kids and life," Smyth

Plymouth Yoga Room clients range from high school football coaches and athletes to doctors who are "hunched over operating tables all day" to teenagers and new mothers who strain their upper bodies carrying infants, Sheri Rieli says.

"When you see an athlete who is used to using their bodies a lot and you tell them to focus on their breath, you can physically see them relax," she adds.

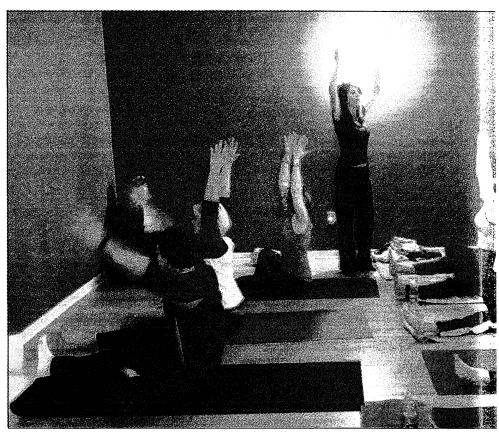
Rieli says she often hears people say they can't do yoga, because they aren't strong or flexible, enough.

You don't need either," Rieli says. "You need to be aware and present with your body — from the crown of your head to your toes.'

Yoga uses breathing exercises, physical postures and meditation to create balance in the body by developing strength and flex-

Patti Davies, a student at Divine Yoga, has been practicing yoga for 10 years.

"It gives me a sense of well being," she



Sheri Rieli leads the class at the Plymouth Yoga Room.

Find your branch of

There are many yoga types and each one is devoted to a certain outcome. Yoga can be as vigorous or as gentle as you want it to be which makes it a good choice for anybody.

Outside India, the term yoga is typically associated with Hatha Yoga and its asanas (postures) or as a form of exercise. Some types of yoga also involve meditation and

Hatha Yoga is among the most popular techniques in the West and Bhakti Yoga is the most popular forms in India, where yoga originated centuries ago.

•Hatha provides postures (asanas) with a deep breathing technique called pranayama to promote flexibility, balance and relaxation.

•Ashtanga yoga: A vigorous, fast-paced form of yoga that helps to build flexibility, strength, concentration, and stamina.

•Bhakti focuses on spirituality.

•Raja centers on learning self-control by achieving self-

Inana deals with the i •Karma stresses that y your past and by doing a future free from nes •Bikram is also ki heated to more the balance, coordin and is said to... weight by bala controlling. Kundal

ing at · Ivan

flexibi

Yoga practitioners say it stre helps with arthritis, knee prob provides anti-aging propertie provides better vitality, rejuv hearing and promotes emotic

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, body strength



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

yoga

nd and focuses on intelligence. It present situation is based on lfless acts now, you're choosing tivity.

wn as "hot yoga." The room is 100 degrees. Bikram increases ion, focus and concentration e energy levels and reduce cing the metabolism, as well as emical imbalances.

i yoga: Kundalini yoga uses dif-, breathing techniques, chantditation

yoga: Focuses on precise alignhe poses. Participants use blanstraps, mats, blocks, and chairs. inyasa or power yoga: Similar htanga yoga, these are also very s of yoga that improve strength, and stamina.

ens the stomach muscles and and even gout pain. Some say it creases resistance to diseases, is glands, improves vision and penefits.

GETTING STARTED

Yoga is good for people of all ages, sizes, shapes and abilities. Local gyms, fitness centers, community centers, hospitals (Providence Center for the Healing Arts offers YogaPark) and YMCAs offer yoga classes.

Here's a sampling of area yoga studios.

Plymouth Yoga Room

474 Forest Ave. Plymouth, MI 48170 www.plymouthyogaroom.com (734) 259-4324

Divine Yoga and Massage

105 N. Lafayette South Lyon, MI 48178 www.divineyogacompany.com (248) 437-9642

Yoga Practice Center, LLC

9885 Ann Arbor Road West Plymouth, MI 48170 yogapractice@gmail.com

Bikram Yoga Plymouth

271 N. Main Plymouth, MI 48170 (734) 737-9642 www.BikramYogaDetroit.com

Bikram Yoga Farmington Hills

27879 Orchard Lake Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
Located in the Orchard 12 Mall, northwest
corner of the Orchard Lake Road and 12
Mile Road (in the building behind Starbucks,
Einsteins, and Roosevelts)
(248) 488-9788
www.BikramFH.com

Evolve Yoga Studio

7986 Lilley Road Canton, MI 734.454.YOGA (9642) Located on the east side of Lilley, between Warren and Joy roads.

Northville Yoga Center

200 S. Main St. – Suite B Northville, MI 48167 (Across the street from the Chamber of Commerce) (248) 449-YOGA (9642) carolyne@northvilleyogacenter.com gary@northvilleyogacenter.com

Yogamation

1101 Pine Ridge Road (off Commerce, two miles west of Main) Milford, MI www.yogamationmi.com (248) 408-2691

Livonia Yoga Center

19219 Merriman Road (north of Seven Mile Road, west side of Merriman)

Livonia, MI 48152 gary@livoniayogacenter.com, mohini@livoniayogacenter.com, carolyne@livoniayogacenter.com (248) 449-YOGA (9642)

Sattva Yoga Center

22213 Michigan Ave. (between Howard and Military streets) Dearborn, MI info@sattva-yoga-center.com (313) 274-3995

The Yoga School of Milford

851 Barberry Road Milford, MI 48381 248.685.3489 Contact Meena Puri, E-RYT and founder of The Yoga School of Milford by e-mail meenapuri@theyogaschool. com or mpuri1@juno.com

Center For Yoga/West Bloomfield Studio

6710 Orchard Lake Road West Bloomfield, MI 48322 (248)865-9642 www.centerforyoga.com What to expect at a yoga dass

The instructor will lead you through a series of poses like to warm up your arms, legs, and spine. After that, you'll concentrate on specific poses that work different areas of your body. Most yoga sessions end with some type of relaxation exercise.

To benefit from yoga, consistency is key. An occasional yoga workout may relieve some stress, but for increased flexibility and stamina, aim to practice yoga three or four times a week. It generally takes four to six weeks of regular exercise at least three days a week for your body to begin to release the endorphins that make exercise such an uplifting experience.





Importance of ZZZZZZZs



A good night's sleep ... don't lose any sleep over it!

By Sally Rummell Contributing Writer

Cathy Sikora, 48, is a working mom like so many women, but her early morning hours at the Old-Fashioned Bake Shoppe in Garden City get her up earlier than most. Oftentimes, she has to be at work by 6 a.m., setting her alarm for 4 a.m., so she has enough time to pack lunches for her husband and daughters, wash dishes and clean up before heading out the door.

But Sikora is disciplined enough to be in bed by 8 p.m. every night, giving her a full eight hours of uninterrupted sleep. Sleep experts would give her an "A-plus" for committing to a nighttime routine that provides her with plenty of energy for a productive next day.

Jana Porter, 48, of Canton looks back fondly with memories of raising her two children. But she also remembers the lack of sleep that's a natural part of being a mother, and realizes today how much she relishes her sleep.

"Getting enough sleep is a big priority for me now," said Porter, who is now a grandmother of two. Her work as an administrative assistant for the Canton Chamber of Commerce keeps her on a regular schedule and allows her to reach her "sleep goal" of seven to eight hours every night.

Susan Stowe, 45, of South Lyon begins her days wishing she had more sleep and ends each day falling into bed with exhaustion. As the owner of Grande Trunke Home — a home decor and gift shop in South Lyon — her days are filled with important business decisions and working with customers.

But it's the busy school and sports schedules of three children and an exchange student that keep this wife and mother "on the run" 24/7.

"I don't go to bed until 11:30 or midnight every night," said Stowe, "and I'm up early to get the kids off to school. Sometimes I toss and turn thinking about the day's events, when I should be sleeping."

Brandy Jarrell, 31, of White Lake is the store manager at Tim Horton's in Milford. That means she is at work by 5 a.m., ready to help other people wake up with a cup of coffee, while she herself is the one who needs caffeine.

With four sons at home from ages 5 through 15 and a husband who is laid off from his job, her days start early and end late.

"I never get to bed before 10:30 and I'm up at 4 a.m.," said Jarrell. "After almost 2 1/2 years, I have adjusted to functioning on less sleep, although I admit I'm usually pretty tired. But I'm

Please see SLEEP, 15

HOW TO GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP

- Try to wake up at the same time every day, regardless of the time you went to bed.
- Try to stay away from long daytime naps, but a brief regular daily nap may be helpful.
 - Exercise daily but not in the hours before bedtime.
 - Use the bed only for sleeping or sex.
- Do not read or watch television in bed.
- Do not use bedtime as worry time.
- Eat a balanced diet with regular mealtimes.
- Avoid heavy or spicy meals at bedtime.
- Avoid alcohol, caffeine, and nicotine before bedtime.
- Spend time right before bed relaxing and engaging is soothing activities.
- Develop a routine for getting ready for bed.
- Control the night-time environment with comfortable temperature, noise, and light levels.
- Wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothes to bed.
- If unable to sleep within 30 minutes, get out of bed and perform a soothing activity.
- Get adequate exposure to bright light during the day.

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SLEEP

generally a good-natured person and try to put the best spin on everything."

It's a scenario that doesn't often happen with women, who usually short themselves in the one area of their health that could be most beneficial to feeling and looking their best.

Why does a person feel so much better after a good night's sleep? In addition to being able to think more clearly, react faster and feel more emotionally stable, a good night's sleep:

- Helps repair your body and strengthen your immune system.
- Helps keep your heart healthy, reducing the levels of stress and inflammation in the body.
 - Improves memory.
- Helps control your body weight by regulating hormones that affect your appetite.

Although most people need seven to nine hours of sleep each night to function well the next day, recent polls by the National Sleep Foundation found that the average woman aged 30 to 60 sleeps only six hours and 41 minutes during the workweek.

The poll also reveals that women are more likely than men to have difficulty falling and staying asleep and to experience more daytime sleepiness at least a few nights/days a week.

Mary Travis of Huntington Woods is also an early riser. A baker at Holiday Market, she rises at 4:30 a.m. to enjoy a leisurely morning routine before her 6 a.m. shift begins. But she has spent the last two decades staying up until 10:30 or 11 p.m. to enjoy "family time" with her husband and three children.

"I take a 45-minute nap almost every day after work and that helps a lot," said Travis, 55. "I'd rather give up my sleep than give up time I can spend with my family."

Nontraditional working hours are one of the reasons that American women are just so tired.

Especially affecting women who work the night shift, often in health-related fields, a lack of quality sleep may cause more sleep-related accidents and illnesses. Some night shift workers even report irregular menstrual cycles, fertility issues, higher rates of miscarriages, premature births and low birth weight babies, according to several large studies documented by the National Sleep Foundation.

But it's a lack of quality sleep that affects many women who spend their days on a more traditional schedule. Women who don't get the recommended seven to eight hours of nightly sleep may suffer from daytime sleepiness, increased accidents, problems with focus and memory, poor job or school performance and possibly, increased sickness and weight gain.

One reason women don't get enough sleep is that they tend to suffer from insomnia more often than men do. Hormonal changes during pregnancy, the menstrual cycle and menopause can affect sleep, according to



Help is just a phone call away

According to the American Sleep Disorders Association, more than 40 million Americans are chronically ill with sleep disorders. But you don't have to lose any sleep over this figure — there is help through many local sleep disorder clinics.

- Henry Ford Hospital is one of the oldest sleep centers in the U.S. and is considered to be among the leading sleep laboratories in the work. Ranking as one of the top research facilities in the scientific study of sleep, Henry Ford Hospital offers a variety of treatment options. For more information, call (800) HENRYFORD (436-7936).
- Michigan Institute for Sleep Medicine, Providence Medical Center, Novi, (248) 465-4290.
- Advanced Sleep Neurodiagnostics, P.C., Farmington, (248) 442-3700.
- Detroit Medical Center Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Sleep Lab, Commerce, (248) 937-3300.
- Sleep Apnea Specialty Centers of Michigan, Canton, (734) 844-6042.
- Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan, affiliated with Garden City Hospital, www.gchosp.org.

womenshealth.gov, causing wakefulness and sleep interruption. In addition, hot flashes and night sweats often disturb a woman's sleep during certain stages in her life.

Women tend to have more issues with depression, anxiety, fibromyalgia, all of which can affect sleep, as well as sleep disorders, such as restless leg syndrome, nighttime bladder problems and sleep apnea.

But there's no reason to lose any sleep over your lack of sleep. The next time you're "Sleepless in Seattle," get out of bed and jot yourself a note to make an appointment with your doctor to schedule a sleep study.





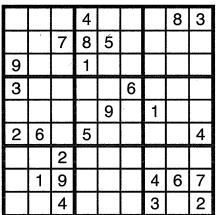


Sudoku

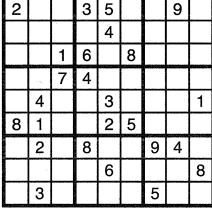
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric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

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

Level: Beginner



Level: Intermediate



Level: Advance

Answers found on page 21

TECH TALK

Smartphones for smart women

The old phrase says, "you can't take it with you." But nowadays, it's possible that you can.

Cell phone applications are making it easier for local women to carry their e-mail, maps and files everywhere they go.

The major feature of the latest generation of smartphones, like the BlackBerry or the iPhone, is the constant connection to the Internet.

Stacey Ramsey, 35, is a local Realtor, living in Westland and working in Canton. Her job is continually taking her away from the office. With her BlackBerry, she's never disconnected.

"When I'm out with clients and we drive by a home and they want to know the price, I can access the information in two minutes," Ramsey said.

Ramsey finds the easily-accessible Internet useful for both professional and personal reasons.

"My daughter just had twins," Ramsey said. "Every time they are doing something cute, she sends me a picture. What mom or grandma wouldn't love that?"

While anyone unfamiliar with smartphones might be hesitant, Ramsey finds her BlackBerry pretty simple to use.

"It's very easy to use," Ramsey said. "All the applications are right at your fingertips."

Apps for every occasion Obviously, smartphones do more than make phone calls. With the connection to the Internet, these phones can be configured for each owner by installing a variety of applications.

Local women enjoy these free apps:

- LoseIt! (iPhone) This application keeps track of the calories you consume with every meal. It determines the amount of calories in a day that you should eat if you want to lose weight, based on a number of factors you can enter into the phone. Any weight-loss program should include a conversation with your doctor, but an app like this can help.
- Stanza (iPhone) While reading an entire novel on a small screen might be difficult on the eyes, this app lets users download a number of books or periodicals straight to their phone. Users can

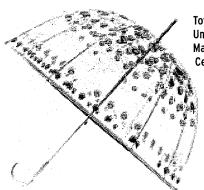


With a smartphone many things now are right at your fingertips.

stay up to date on the latest news, or keep on track with their book club.

- Pandora (Android, BlackBerry, iPhone, Palm Pre, Windows Mobile) Once just a Web site for streaming music, the Pandora application lets users go mobile with their very own personalized radio station. Pandora asks for a favorite song or artist and builds a playlist based on your input.
- HopStop (iPhone, BlackBerry, Treo) – Whether you're in a strange city, or you just missed your bus, HopStop can help calculate a new route using public transportation in a number of major cities. Users from both genders can use this easily.
- BigOven (iPhone, Windows Mobile) A huge tool for any cook, BigOven has a number of features that make both cooking and shopping easy. Users can enter in a number of ingredients, and BigOven will build a recipe around what you already have in the house. These recipes can be saved and organized, along with personal recipes you've created on your own.
- Mint (iPhone) For any user who needs some help balancing their checkbook, Mint keeps track of bank account balances and helps users create budgets to save money.

- **Mike Hogan** Contributina Writer



Totes Bubble Umbrella, \$22 at Macy's Westland Center.

Umbrellas make stylish statement for spring

By Wensdy Von Buskirk

A few years ago I met famous jewelry designer Roberto Coin at Saks Fifth Avenue in Troy. He was a charming Italian gentleman, who flattered me up and down as he showed me his magnificent jewelry line.

Sadly, I couldn't afford one of his dreamy diamond encrusted pendants, but he sent me off with a small piece of his signature line instead ... a Roberto Coin umbrella. I love it to this day.

The sturdy umbrella has a black canopy with jewels printed on the lining, and a costume gemstone atop its curved wooden handle.

It doesn't collapse and tuck into a tiny pouch, so carrying it is an investment, but it has presence, and it's big enough for two.

As spring showers approach, why not celebrate the umbrella? It's about time this practical and stylish accessory gets its due.

If you want to splurge on something new, you can find a whole range of collapsible Totes umbrellas in different colors and patterns (\$12.99-\$16.99) at Target locations in Livonia, Farmington Hills and Westland.

Especially popular this year is the '60s-inspired clear bubble style that protects your entire head and shoulders. Macy's locations at Westland Center and Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi have Totes Bubble Umbrellas with cute polka dots for \$22.

In downtown Milford, Nana's Niche and Corner just unpacked a new shipment of adorable umbrellas by Galleria, including bubble versions printed with peace signs or raindrops for \$21.95. The shop also has colorful umbrellas that open and close with the push of a button, adorned with bright azaleas or palm fronds for \$24.95.

At Starring the Gallery in Downtown Northville, Romero Britto umbrellas in wild geometrical prints with cats or fish (\$30) are sure to brighten the grayest of days.

If you're looking to channel some hometown pride, try a Detroit Industry Umbrella featuring Diego Rivera's famous murals, \$34 at the Detroit Institute of Arts Museum Shop, or a Detroit Tigers Umbrella, \$19.99 at Comerica Park.

For the label conscious, hearts seem to be the theme this season. Find a ruffled Juicy Couture umbrella in the shape of a heart at www. saks.com (\$38) or a Burberry Check compact umbrella adorned with tumbling hearts in berry red at www.nordstrom.com (\$125).

Of course, you can't go wrong with basic black, which will match any outfit and, better yet, be appropriate to share with the guy in your life.

Whatever umbrella you choose, the trick is to keep it handy. It won't do any good if it's stuffed in the back of the closet, so keep it in the trunk of your car, or displayed in a cute umbrella stand by the front door, and don't miss a chance to be fabulous in the rain.



BABY FAIR AT BEAUMONT

What: Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, ninth annual Beaumont Baby Fair for area parents. The fair will offer exhibits and "miniclasses" including comfort measures in labor, dad caring for baby and infant choking safety. Prize drawings will take place throughout the fair.

When: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 24.

Where: Beaumont Hospital Royal Oak, South Tower Concourse. 3601 W. 13 Mile (west of Woodward) Admission is free. Parking is available on site at no charge.

Five baby shower must-haves for the new mom

(ARA) — On average, eight babies are born every minute in the United States. It's only a matter of time before you are invited to the next baby shower. While most shower attendees will opt for the typical (and often costly) shower gift like a trendy baby outfit or rattle, why not arm a new mom with the elements she'll appreciate most when baby arrives? Here is a list of less-than-expected but affordable gift ideas for the new parents in your life:

A soft baby carrier is a great way for mom to keep baby close while leaving her hands free. Available in a variety of colors and designs, soft-carriers are great for parents on the go.

Give the gift of relaxation. After a day with baby, yoga is a great way to unwind. Arm mom with a yoga mat and a book of postnatal poses.

* PURITY:

For the little one's sensitive skin, look for special made-for-baby laundry detergents that are perfume- and dye-free and hypo allergenic.

Offer your new mom a handy list of baby-friendly family and friends to lend an extra set of hands when new parents need a break from baby.

CONVENIENCE:

For moms who are breastfeeding, time away from the baby might seem impossible. The Evenflo Comfort Select Performance Breast Pump is easy to use, lightweight, comfortable and ideal for occasional pumping, giving moms the flexibility to enjoy much-needed "me time."

Evenflo Comfort Select Performance is available from retailers nationwide, including Wal-Mart. For more product information or a complete listing of retailers, visit www.evenflo.com.



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Westland, Garden City, Canton & Plymouth, April 2010 ➤ WOMAN 17

For any general merchandise item in any given week, the market of shoppers is very small (thin).



4.9% shopped for women's shoes

Technological innovation and the economic downturn has changed the way that U.S. consumers shop. Consumers have become more destination shoppers, making more considered purchases and doing their homework before heading to the store. Three-quarters of all U.S. adults read a newspaper in print or online in the past week; over 170 million adults. For shoppers, newspaper advertising is an opt-in medium in an opt-out world.

95% of U.S. adults report that the recession has impacted their shopping in some way. 76% report doing fewer shopping trips. Adults also plan purchases more (67%). Actual purchases continue to be predominantly made in stores (79%) though shopping information channels have dramatically expanded.

59% of adults rank newspapers first as the media used to help plan shopping or make purchasing decisions in the past 7 days. 80% of newspaper readers report looking at advertising when reading the paper.

41% say newspapers are the medium used most to check out ads, more than all electronic media combined. (TV, radio, Internet)

77% of newspaper readers took an action as a result of a print newspaper ad in the past 30 days. 59% clipped a coupon, 52% bought something advertised and 45% visited a store.

60% of newspaper readers followed up a newspaper ad online in some way. 44% went to a website after seeing a print newspaper ad and 28% conducted an online search after seeing a newspaper ad.

82% of readers used a preprinted insert in the past 30 days. On average, adults keep inserts 4.4 days. 59% used to compare prices, 55% used to compare one circular to another, 52% saved until visiting the store and 43% used to make an unplanned purchase.

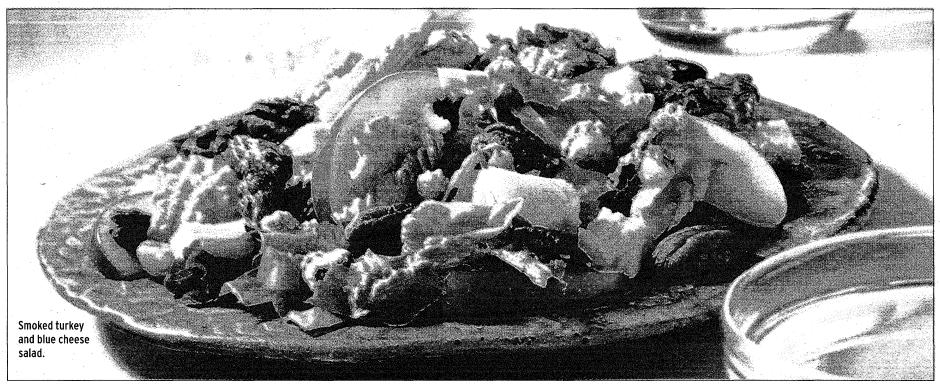
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Sophisticated salads

Busy schedules can set life into warp speed, so make dinner plans a snap with sensational new salad solutions that kick-start fresh meals and deliver big on flavor.

The surprising and delightful varieties of leafy greens now available can deliver a unique and fresh taste experience whether as a side salad or a meal. Adventurous salad eaters no longer have to settle for the so-so — instead they can find stand-out fresh salads with eye-catching colors, an array of textures and a perfect balance of sweet and bold flavors. The fresh tasting salad blends from Fresh Express now in the produce aisle can be tossed in your favorite vinaigrette for a delicious side dish. Or, simply add rotisserie chicken to make it a satisfying entrée.

Ready-to-dress right out of the package, new premium lettuce blends can inspire fresh menus and delicious meals everyday, right up to and including the holidays. Try these easy and flavorful tips:

—Top fancy greens with sliced roasted pork tenderloin and wedges of fresh plum; dress lightly with a ginger marinade and a pinch of sea salt.

—Shred rotisserie chicken to top baby spinach and sliced red onion; dress with some chicken juices and a touch of vinegar.

—Toss diced ham, golden raisins, peanuts and sweet tender greens with a curry-seasoned vinaigrette.

—Grill and slice fresh tuna to top tender ruby red lettuces; dress with a caper-laced creamy Caesar dressing and a grind of fresh black pepper.

The on-shelf lineup from salad innovator Fresh Express brings a welcome new dimension to dining including exceptionally fresh blends not found anywhere else. New Fancy Greens combines romaine, tango, carrots and radicchio for a well-balanced flavorful salad in which every ingredient shines. Sophisticated Tender Leaf blends are harvested and grown only in select regions to ensure rich buttery flavor, melt-in-your-mouth texture, vibrant color and bite size leaves.

Unique and fresh flavors are just moments away when you start with salads that combine the colors, textures and gourmet ingredients to deliver a truly satisfying fresh flavor experience. For sensational and easy-to-make fresh salads check out www.FreshExpress.com.



FANCY GREENS WITH ARTICHOKES, TOMATOES AND SOURDOUGH CRISPS IN A DIJON VINAIGRETTE

Serves 4

17-ounce package Fresh Express Fancy Greens

114-ounce can quartered artichoke hearts in water (drained)

11/2 cups pear, grape or cherry tomatoes, halved

1/2 red onion, thinly sliced

16 1/4-inch-thick slices of sourdough baguette

3 tablespoons olive oil

Preheat oven to 375° F. Toss sourdough slices in olive oil and bake 12 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from oven and let cook while you assemble the salad.

In a medium bowl, combine artichokes, tomatoes and red onion, and gently toss. Add your favorite Dijon vinaigrette and pour over artichoke mixture, and toss well to coat. To serve, gently fold in greens and warm sourdough crisps, lightly toss to coat, divide salad among four plates. (Serve it with a piece of grilled wild salmon for a sensational entrée salad.)

SMOKED TURKEY AND BLUE CHEESE SALAD

Fancy

greens with artichokes,

tomatoes and

sourdough

vinaigrette.

crisps in

a Dijon

Serves 2

17-ounce package Fresh Express Leafy Green Romaine

2 cups smoked turkey breast, deli sliced or diced

1 Red Delicious apple, sliced

6 ounces blue cheese, crumbled

6 tablespoons toasted pecan halves

CIDER VINAIGRETTE

1/4 cup vegetable oil

3 tablespoons cider vinegar

1 tablespoon minced onion or shallot

1 teaspoon Dijon mustard

1/2 teaspoon sugar

Combine first 5 ingredients in large bowl. Add enough dressing to season to taste. Season generously with pepper. Toss well and serve.

Courtesy of Family Features

Westland, Garden City, Canton & Plymouth, April 2010 > WOMAN 19



Shrimp Stir-Fry Wrap

You are what you eat

You've probably heard the saying, "You are what you eat." If this is true, you should eat healthy, right? In reality, most people struggle with their taste buds and their conscience on doing what's right.

Most people know they should eat healthy. However, too many believe that healthy food can't taste great and be filling. These are common misconceptions that lead to poor food decisions. It is absolutely possible to serve wholesome dishes that have great taste and are filling, too. It all starts with choosing foods with the right ingredients.

When grocery shopping:

1. Read the ingredients list first. If an ingredient is at the top of the list, there is relatively more of it. Steer clear of artificial additives, because they're typically unhealthy. For example, high fructose corn syrup (HFCS), monosodium glutamate (MSG), autolyzed yeast extract (AYE), and butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) are all ingredients you want to avoid.

2. Review the nutrition facts and note the daily value (DV) percentage per serving listed next to each nutrient. Daily values are the recommended

amount of nutrients a person should get every day. Limit foods that are high in fat, saturated fat, cholesterol and sodium by looking for a lower percent of DV. Instead, choose foods with a higher percent of DV for fiber, vitamins and minerals.

3. Visit the frozen food section. Some frozen foods have been frozen at the peak of freshness to protect their nutritional benefits, which means they deliver just as much nutritional value as — or more than — fresh products.

When planning a weekly menu, use recipes that make the most of wholesome ingredients. These no-fuss recipes start with Contessa Frozen Convenience Meals, letting you serve up fabulous meals that don't compromise on taste. Serve them as-is, or get creative. Each ready meal can be used as a starting point for a whole new recipe with just a few changes or additional ingredients.

For more recipes and a complimentary booklet loaded with tips to make you ingredient-savvy, along with a special guide on how to read a Nutrition Facts label, visit Contessa.com and request Volume 1 of "Better Ingredients. Better Vou"



Chinese Chicken Salad



Classic Greek Sandwich

STIR-FRY TIPS

• After you cook in a wok, wipe the inner surface with vegetable oil to retard any rust forming.

• The keys to delicious stir-frying are high temperature, short cooking time, and small pieces of food.

• Many home chefs mistakenly cook large portions, so the wok steams the food instead of frying it. Try using a larger wok, about 20 inches in diameter. Small woks simply boil food. If your wok is small, cook smaller portions.

SHRIMP STIR-FRY WRAP

4 to 6 serving

2 cups rice

1 package Contessa Shrimp Stir-Fry

4 large tortillas

1 cup mild salsa

2 cups Monterey Jack and American cheese, shredded

 $\,\,$ Prepare rice per instructions on package.

Prepare stir-fry per instructions on package.

Heat tortillas.

Lay tortillas flat, spoon in 2 tablespoons rice, 1 tablespoon salsa and 1 cup stir-fry.

Sprinkle generously with cheese, then wrap.

Serve with salsa.

CLASSIC GREEK SANDWICH

6 servings

1 package Contessa Beef Stir-Fry

1/2 cup plain yogurt

3 teaspoons lemon juice

1/4 red onion, sliced

1/2 cucumber, sliced

3/4 cup feta cheese

6 pita bread pockets

2 tomatoes, sliced

1 teaspoon dill, chopped

Sait

Pepper

Prepare stir-fry per instructions on package, omitting sauce. Set aside.

In a small bowl, whisk yogurt and lemon juice. Add salt and pepper to taste.

In a separate bowl, combine red onions, cucumber and feta cheese. Season with black pepper and stir.

Spread yogurt mixture inside pita bread. Add stir-fry and top with sliced tomatoes. Place desired amount of onion/ cucumber mixture over tomatoes. Top with additional yogurt mixture.

CHINESE CHICKEN SALAD

5 to 6 servings

1 package Contessa Chicken Stir-Fry

1 head Napa cabbage, thinly sliced

1/2 cup toasted almonds, sliced

3 tablespoons sesame seeds

6 scallions, sliced

1/2 cup rice wine vinegar

4 tablespoons sesame oil

2 tablespoons sugar

Salt

Pepper

Prepare stir-fry per instructions on package, omitting sauce.

Place in a bowl and refrigerate 30 minutes, or until cold. Set sauce packet aside.

In a large bowl combine cabbage, almonds, sesame seeds and scallions.

Place rice wine vinegar, sesame oil, sugar, sauce from packet and salt and pepper, to taste, into a blender. Blend for 15 seconds.

Add chilled chicken stir-fry to cabbage and mix in desired amount of dressing. Serve immediately with crispy noodles..

Courtesy of Family Features

Especially for Mom

It's time to think about mom! She loves to be pampered, especially on the one day of the year devoted entirely to her.

So dad and kids, that means it's time to gear up for Mother's Day. It doesn't have to be grandiose – even the simplest celebration will be appreciated. Mom always looks forward to the handmade gifts kids make at school for the special day, or maybe breakfast in bed. But this year, do something unique. Create a cupcake just for her. Baking skills not required; a cake mix will work just fine.

The first step is to choose a fabulous baking cup. With pretty pastel petals you get cake and "flowers," but you might prefer another design like colorful pleats, ruffles or scallops ... what would mom really love?

Petal Perfect Cupcakes will rival those from a fancy bakery, but are easy to prepare

at home – even for dad and the kids. To ensure the best results, fill cups just two-thirds full with batter. The cupcake will be just the right size, leaving plenty of space for the icing inside the petals.

Icing? No problem. For ease and convenience, use canned white decorator icing or make buttercream, if you prefer. Pipe a fluffy swirl atop the cooled cupcake or simply spread it on with a spatula. Either way makes a good "canvas" for the final dazzling décor of colored sugars or jimmies. Serve, and celebrate with mom.

Visit www.wilton.com for an array of new baking cups, an amazing assortment of colored sugars, jimmies and other sprinkles, icing, pans and everything you need to bake, decorate and celebrate.



Petal perfect cupcake.

PETAL PERFECT CUPCAKES

1 package (18.25 oz.) yellow cake mix (or favorite cupcake recipe)

Water, eggs and oil to prepare cake mix

1 can (16 oz.) white ready-to-use decorator or 2 cups buttercream icing

Colored Sugars, Sparkling Sugars or Jimmies (lavender, yellow or pink)

Preheat oven to 350 °F. Place lavender, yellow or pink Petal Baking Cups in standard muffin pan.

Prepare cake mix following package directions. Fill baking cups 2/3 full; bake 17-19 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool cupcakes completely.

Pipe tip #2A or #12 white icing swirl on top of cooled cupcakes; add colored sugars or immies

Makes about 24 cupcakes. Courtesy of Family Features





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Women's Show coming to Novi

Shopping, makeovers, cooking demonstrations, fashion and entertainment will all be at the 15th annual Michigan International Women's Show in Novi at the Rock Financial Showplace Thursday, April 29, and through Sunday, May 2.

"Girlfriends, sisters, mothers and daughters will enjoy this year's theme of Shop, Taste, Learn, Live at the show," said Beth Anderson, show manager of Southern Shows. "We are celebrating our anniversary with treats, presents, goodie bags and special discounts on Friday."

Cooking, coupons, health and beauty tips along with health screenings and fashion shows are all part of this year's event. Salvation Army Thrift Stores and Donation Centers will have a bargain boutique featuring collectibles and fashion wear for sale in addition to having their staff modeling clothing items at the "ABC's of Fashion Cents" runway show (Saturday).

Free health screenings for total cholesterol level, blood pressure reading, bone density testing, glucose level and other tests will be available along with health education materials.

Spring makeup trends and helpful cosmetic tips will be part of the makeovers offered by Macy's beauty experts along with an array of new spring scents.

The latest developments in health, cardiology and pediatrics will be available at the DMC Pavilion sponsored by Detroit Medical Center.

Novi Fire Department's charity fashion show will heat up the runway Friday and Saturday with

firefighters modeling their dress blues and bunker gear. Additional spring fashion shows will run during the show.

Other features include Do It Herself Spotlight Stage; RedPlum deals of the day as special savings for attendees are passed out at the show entrance; a free reusable Women's Show shopping bag and special gifts to the first 200 show attendees each day; Thursday's Nurses Day with special savings, free water bottles for the first 250 guests and healthy cooking classes sponsored by the Michigan Nurses Association: Sunday's Mother & Daughters Day with gifts and prizes.

The Michigan International Women's Show is presented by The Detroit News and sponsored by Detroit Medical Center. Supporting sponsors are Michigan Nurses Association and RedPlum.

Rock Financial Showplace is located at 46100 Grand River Ave. between Novi and Beck Road

Show hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$9; youth 6-12 are \$5 and children 5 and under are admitted free with a paying adult. Advance tickets are \$8 online. Discount tickets are available at Kroger for \$7. Group tickets for 10 or more are offered in advance online for \$7.50. On site parking is available for \$5. For more information and exhibitor coupons, visit www.InternationalWomenShow. com or call (800) 849-0248.

CORNER

Good books, good food, great conversation

Canton Township's Lisa Powers takes her book club seriously, so seriously that it's one of the most entertaining, meaningful and rewarding activities in which she participates.

Powers, along with 10 other women from

the Canton/Northville area, meet one Friday each month, 10 months of the year, to enjoy great conversation and good food along with a glass of wine, hence the moniker "The Wine and Slipper Club."

The common denominator, of course, is always a good read.

But it's much more than reading good books, enjoying good wine and awesome food. "It's about sisterhood, common interests, friendships, support group ... therapy," said Powers, a paraprofessional in Northville Public Schools. "We look forward to seeing each other every

Joining Powers are Sue Hopps, Laura Beyer, Christine Popoff, Cynthia Flanigan, Susan Johnson, Linda Osgood, Kathy Schram and Carol Zimmerman of Canton and Joanne Leonetti and Kasia Synder of Northville.

This bibliophile sisterhood has been convening since 1999.

"The magic of books blends into friendships and stories. Books give you the ability to free the soul," Powers said.

The group recently read the New York bestseller phenom The Help that is ranked second after 50 weeks on hardcover fiction list. The group also read Molaka'i. The group recommends both as "great reads."

The Help, is Kathryn's Stockett's first novel. It weaves a compelling yarn about 22-year-old Skeeter Phelan, a white woman, who returns home to Mississippi after graduating college in the early 1960s to face head on the strife in her community caused by the civil rights movement of that time.

Publishers Weekly magazine dubs this book an "uplifting" debut novel about the young novelist who shocks the white power structure while, at the same time, finding personal liberation. It is told from three points of view. Skeeter, an educated and prosperous young white woman has no real plans for the future. Aibileen, a black maid, is wise and strong. She's raising her 17th white child and coping with the death of her son who has recently died. Rounding out the characters who have a voice in The Help is Minny, Aibileen's best friend described as "the sassiest woman in Mississippi who can cook like nobody's business."

"Skeeter finds her voice," Powers says, and together the women come together



The Help By Kathryn Stockett Amy Einhorn Books/G. P. Putnam's Sons



Molaka'i **By Alan Brennert** St. Martin's Press

describes as a real page turner and wonderful weekend reading.

"I really enjoyed the book it was awesome," Powers said. "Each chapter offers a different perspective from other characters.

"I recommend it because I felt a connection to the characters and because it is a part

of history that we (women in the book group) have lived through," said Powers, who grew up in Milwaukee and has vivid memories of the civil rights movement.

Molaka'i is the story of Rachel Kalama, who is taken from her home at age 7 to Kalauppa on Molakai, Hawaii, the quarantined leprosy settlement

commonly known as Father Daniel's Leper

Like The Help, it is the story about liberation, in this case, liberation from the social stigma of leprosy. It also deals with the strong personal bonds built between a dispirit group rejected by established soci-

The novel, written by Alan Brennert, spans 80 years from the late 19th century to 1970. An epic novel, rich in history, Moloka'i is historical fiction rich in description and

'We read Moloka'i last fall. It opened our eyes to a disease, leprosy, that we never knew much about," said Powers, who added that most book club members found Moloka'i "easy to read and an interesting topic that opened our eyes to a new civilization and educated us about leprosy (Hansen's disease)."

Powers' personal favorites over the years include One Thousand White Women, The Secret Life of Bees, The Lovely Bones, Beach Music, The Other Boleyn Girl, Year of Wonders, My Sister's Keeper, The Kite Runner, Beneath a Marble Sky and Water for Elephants.

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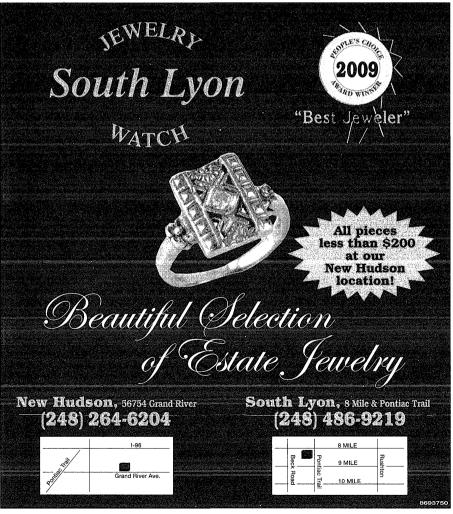
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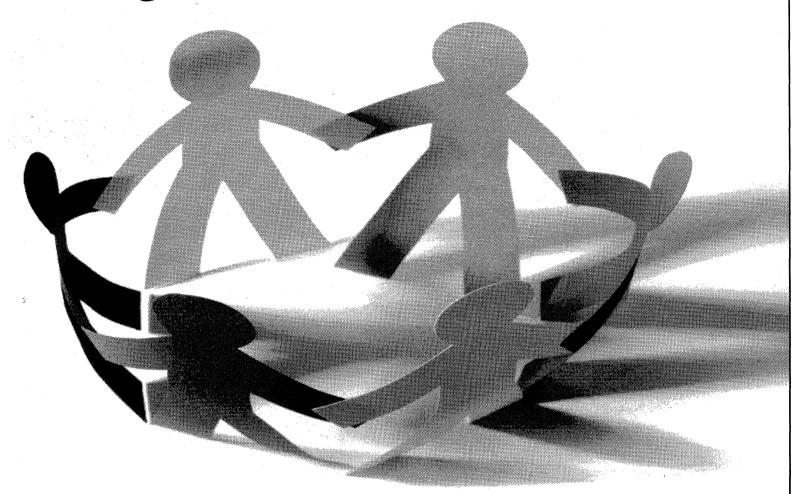








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