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The 55-gallon barrels are valued at \$150 but will be sold for \$60, tax included. Please note a \$1.50 from each rain barrel sale will benefit the ARC.

For more information on the sale, call (734) 272-0291 or visit www.allianceofrouge-communities.com.



Sweetest Day contest

Our website, Hometownlife.com, just launched a new Sweetest Day contest for a romantic overnight at the Townsend Hotel in downtown Birmingham with a \$50 gift certificate to the Rugby Grille.

The elegant Townsend Hotel was judged one of the world's best in 2011 by Travel + Magazine. The hotel's Rugby Grille offers a world-class dining experience in an intimate setting.

Entering is as simple as clicking on the Sweetest Day Heart pictured above, which takes you to our Facebook page, where you'll find the short form. You will find the heart in our Don't Miss section of Hometownlife's homepage. You can enter the contest once a day and share the contest link with a friend for an extra chance to win.

The deadline for entries is midnight Oct. 1 and the winner will be drawn at random Oct. 2.

INDEX

- Business.....A9
- Crossword Puzzle...B9
- Entertainment.....B5
- Food.....B7
- Homes.....B9
- Jobs.....B10
- Obituaries.....B4
- Opinion.....A10
- Services.....B10
- Sports.....B1
- Wheels.....B12

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Firefighters object to regulation, pay changes

By Matt Jachman
 Observer Staff Writer

Changes to the regulations that govern Plymouth Township's part-time firefighters were met with resistance Tuesday from full-timers, who urged a vote on the measure be postponed until after officials from their union and the township discuss it. Nevertheless, the changes, along with a pay hike for the

part-timers, were approved with a 6-1 vote at Tuesday's Board of Trustees meeting.

"This is an existing program. We've had part-paid for a long time," said Trustee Steve Mann, who voted for the measure. "I see no reason to table this."

Firefighters said one change, dropping the requirement that part-timers have Firefighter II training certification, could erode firefighter safety. The new

requirement calls only for Firefighter I certification, which, critics contended, would mean part-timers' ability to work at fire scenes would be limited.

"We see it as a serious downgrade in the quality of the part-paid firefighter," said Greg Mangano, a firefighter and treasurer of International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1496, which represents department members. "I think this is a disser-

vice to the residents here and the safety of the firefighters."

The Plymouth Community Fire Department currently has no part-time firefighters; 10 years ago, there were 14, but their numbers have been dwindling for years, officials said.

Township officials want to add part-timers, who are paid only when called in to duty and do not

Please see **FIREFIGHTERS, A3**



Rotarians Ron Shmyr and Dave Atiyeh season another rack of chicken.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rain, rain went away
 Early showers can't dampen Fall Festival

By Matt Jachman
 Observer Staff Writer

Rain struck during the first hours of the Plymouth Community Fall Festival, but organizers, noting the picture-perfect weather later Saturday and Sunday, are putting this year's edition in the win column.

The 56th annual Fall Festival was Friday, Saturday and Sunday in downtown Plymouth, with the Plymouth Taste Fest component held in a tent at Station 885 in Old Village.

"After the weather cleared up, it was perfect," said Colleen Brown, Fall Festival president. "We had a good weekend."

A downpour that began at 7 p.m. Friday sent visitors to their vehicles or in search of shelter. The Friday rain shut down the festival's carnival rides for about an hour, and Plymouth was hit with a "misty drizzle" Saturday morning, Brown said.

Nevertheless, Friday's bingo night at The Gathering was successful, said bingo chair-



We're not sure if Myron Panetta, of South Lyon, is a Tiger or Lion, or just a real big sports fan. Cindy Fontana of Curly's Face Art is the artist.

woman Sandy Kline, and there was a crowd Saturday morning for the Kiwanis pancake breakfast, also at The Gathering, Brown said.

"It was fun. It was a good night," Kline said of bingo, a fundraiser for the Plymouth Canton Music Boosters.

Though the crowd wasn't at

capacity, The Gathering provided shelter from the rain, and bingo draws a lot of regulars who've been playing for years, she said.

The Plymouth Optimist Club's pet show, part of the festival's entertainment line-

Please see **FESTIVAL, A5**

District settles with teachers, other unions

By Brad Kadrich
 Observer Staff Writer

When the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education passed its 2011-12 budget in June, balancing it by using nearly all of the district's fund balance, board members said there was more work to do, including getting concessions from teachers in contract negotiations.

On Tuesday, they got them, ratifying a one-year contract that includes some \$4.5 in concessions — largely in health-care costs — and a shift in the district's step program for teachers.

The teachers' contract was one of four the board approved Tuesday, getting another \$1.2 million in savings from them in the process. The board extended the contracts of five other bargaining units until the end of the year.

"These settlements prove our employees are willing to do their part to help our district in these difficult times," interim Supt. Dr. Jeremy Hughes said. "The money saved in these contracts will be returned to the general fund balance and will be used to help educate the children of this community."

Ken Fistler, president of the Plymouth-Canton Education Association, wasn't available for comment.

In addition to the contract with the teachers, the board settled agreements with the operating engineers, licensed technicians, custodial/maintenance workers and para-pros. It extended contracts for cafeteria workers, garage and security staff, plant engineers, clerical workers and non-affiliated administrators.

The biggest savings came in concessions from teachers, who agreed to start applying the 80-20 rule — capping the district's portion of health coverage at 80 percent and forcing employees to pay 20 percent, which takes effect Jan. 1 — and shifted to a Blue Cross-Blue Shield community program.

According to Monica Merritt, the district's new human resources chief,

Please see **UNIONS, A5**

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District fires Schepansky in wake of gun charge

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth High School history teacher Ray Schepansky, on an unpaid leave of absence since an April incident for which he was arrested for carrying a concealed weapon, has been fired by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education.

Board members voted 5-0 to fire Schepansky, district officials confirmed Monday. The action was taken following a closed-door meeting of the board Thursday.

The district's director of community relations, Frank Ruggirello, confirmed the firing Monday, but said the district "would have no further comment."

Ken Fistler, president of the Plymouth-Canton Education Association, the union that represents the teachers, said Schepansky chose to use his own lawyer rather than have union representation. Fistler said the union would have no comment on the proceedings.

Schepansky, a popular history teacher perhaps best known for the "war game" simulation he taught, currently faces a charge of carrying a concealed weapon stemming from an incident in April on the driveway leading to Plymouth High School. Three other charges — carrying a weapon with unlawful intent, carrying a firearm in a school zone and possessing a firearm when committing or attempting to commit a felony — were dismissed earlier this year by 35th



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education has fired history teacher Ray Schepansky, who has been on an unpaid leave of absence since his April arrest on gun charges.

District Court Judge Mike Gerou. However, Wayne County prosecutors have asked Judge David Allen to reinstate those charges. A hearing is set for Wednesday, Sept. 28, in Allen's courtroom.

Schepansky was arrested April 14 after he was found to have an unloaded 9mm Beretta handgun in his Kia. He had pulled over on

the driveway leading into Plymouth High School off of Beck Road, a couple of hundred feet away from Beck. Canton Police made the arrest after finding the gun beneath the driver's seat.

Gerou dismissed the carrying a weapon with unlawful intent because it was brought based on statements colleagues allegedly heard Schepansky make, but which Gerou felt "no one took seriously" because they were never reported to any authorities. He dismissed the charge of carrying a weapon in a school zone because the spot where Schepansky was stopped, some 200 feet into the drive off Beck, was too far removed from Plymouth High School to meet the state's definition of school property.

And he dismissed the fourth count, possessing a firearm while committing or attempting to commit a felony, because no underlying felony charge in the case could sustain this count.

Maria Miller, director of communications for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, said the reason they're asking Allen to reinstate the charges is simple: they believe Gerou was wrong.

"We believe the lower court made an error," Miller said. "The law allows us to go before the court to ask we be allowed to reinstate the charges based upon the facts and evidence produced at the preliminary hearing."

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



The work of Rod Macintyre of Plymouth will be featured in the Birmingham art fair Sept. 24-25, to benefit Common Ground.

Plymouth artists featured at fair

Common Ground's 37th Annual Birmingham Street Art Fair will take place on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 24-25, in downtown Birmingham and it will have a Plymouth flavor.

Local artists Rod Macintyre and Donna Williams will each be featured in the fair, which takes place on Old Woodward, south of Maple.

For 37 years, this exceptional art fair has served as a major fundraiser for the outstanding work of Common Ground, Oakland County's non-profit agency providing emergency help for individuals and families in crisis. The admission is free and there is convenient parking throughout downtown Birmingham.

The art fair will host more than 150 artists from across the country presenting their creations in all media includ-

ing, ceramics, painting, fiber, digital art, photography, glass, jewelry, leather, metals, mixed media, sculpture, wood and more.

The Detroit Institute of Arts will present hands-on children's art activities at this year's art fair. Kids will have the opportunity to make their own Chinese Slat Books using tongue depressors, yarn, beads and colorful markers.

In addition to the artist booths, the Birmingham Street Art Fair features the annual art auction benefiting Common Ground. Visitors will have the opportunity to bid on wonderful artwork donated by participating artists and in so doing, help Common Ground continue its important work.

For more information visit www.BirminghamStreetArtFair.com or call (734) 662-3382.

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Snyder wants second bridge, more tax reform

By Ken Abramczyk
Observer Staff Writer

Gov. Rick Snyder believes Michigan needs a better bridge to Canada and personal property tax reform. He also thinks right-to-work legislation would be a divisive issue.

Snyder spoke to the 11th Congressional District Republicans Monday night at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

Snyder called a second new bridge a financial, business and economic opportunity for Michigan. He said he crunched the numbers while he was running for governor and believes Michigan needs a second bridge, using \$2 billion in federal funds to match the \$550 million offered by the Canadian government.

"It's about jobs and international trade," Snyder said. Snyder said one special interest group has been running television ads criticizing plans for the bridge.

"They are the beneficiary of a lack of competition," Snyder said. The group also was "trying to override the interests of 10 million Michigan residents," Snyder said.

Snyder also spoke about the removal of the Michigan Business Tax, which was greeted with applause from the audience.

Personal property taxes

Snyder said he wanted to work on changing personal property taxes, which he called a major barrier to business. Personal property taxes are a huge source of revenue for local communities.

He expected that will take five to 10 years or longer. "It is imperative that we don't hurt the local jurisdictions and partner with them," Snyder said.

Snyder said right-to-work was not on his agenda, but that it might be on other legislators' agendas.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
State Rep. Kurt Heise said Michigan taxpayers don't have the money to pay for a bridge so funding will have to come from another source.

While he respected those legislators and their opinions, he quickly added that right-to-work is the most divisive issue the state could face if it is raised by state lawmakers. "We saw what happened in Wisconsin," Snyder said.

Snyder wanted lawmakers to think about what they can get done. "We would spend all of our time arguing over that issue," he said.

Snyder would rather work to "change the culture" of the state. "Before we pick a fight with them, let's try to work with them," Snyder said in reference to the public employee unions.

Follow through

Snyder said Republicans enjoyed success at the polls last November and should be proud of that, then added, "We need to follow through on what we were elected to do. We should do what we said we were going to do."

State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, was one of those Republicans who enjoyed success in November, being elected to his first term.

Heise believes the focus for state lawmakers for the next six months will be on job creation, personal property taxes, medical marijuana and judicial reform.

Heise said eliminating personal property taxes will take

five to 10 years and only if replacement revenue is found for local communities. "We need to look at how we fund local governments and school districts," Heise said.

Heise said Michigan taxpayers don't have the money to pay for a bridge so lawmakers need to study whether it should be privately operated, federally funded or a use of Canadian dollars for the project. Heise said Canadians don't want an Ambassador Bridge, as they have purchased property on the Canadian side extending to Highway 401 in anticipation of a new bridge being built and offering \$550 million to help build it.

Snyder reviewed the steps lawmakers took on economic development and tax reform in February "when the honeymoon ended," Snyder said.

"Everyone likes change until it arrives and it affects you," Snyder said.

FIREFIGHTERS

Continued from page A1

receive benefits, as they prepare for the departure of the city of Plymouth from the shared PCFD. Plymouth is partnering with the city of Northville, beginning in January, for firefighting and emergency medical service, and township officials are planning ways to cope with the changes the city's move will bring. The city annually contributed nearly \$1 million to the department, and accounted for between 25 percent and 30 percent of its runs.

Township Supervisor Richard Reaume pointed out Tuesday that Firefighter I training is the statewide minimum standard, and said two Michigan officials who work in firefighter certification oversight assured him that level of training was

adequate. On Wednesday, Reaume said he was told that fire inspections would be the only duty from which those with only Firefighter I certification would be barred.

Don Howard, who lives in the Lake Pointe subdivision and fears the station there, Station 2, will be closed in a reorganization, wasn't satisfied Tuesday. Township officials have said they have no plan to close any stations.

"The citizens are going to be the ones who are affected," Howard said after Tuesday's meeting. "We have a first-class fire department right now, and we're throwing it in the garbage."

Firefighters also objected to a relaxation of the residency restriction for part-timers, from within 10 miles of the township to within 15 miles. Reaume pointed out that full-timers can live with-

in an even larger radius, 35 miles, but Mangan responded their situation is different, as they work 24-hour shifts in the township, while part-timers would be responding to emergencies from home.

The measure also raised the pay for part-timers, to \$18 an hour for training time and \$23 for alarm calls. The pay was formerly \$15 an hour, regardless of whether it was for training or emergency response.

Joining Reaume and Mann in voting for the changes were Treasurer Ron Edwards and Trustees Bob Doroshewitz, Kay Arnold and Mike Kelly. Clerk Joe Bridgman, who added an amendment specifying that part-time firefighter candidates will be interviewed by someone from township management and the fire chief or his designee, voted no.

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Cub Scouts' 9/11 commemoration honors local heroes

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer
On a national day of remembrance of the tragedy of 9/11 — and of the bravery shown by emergency personnel who responded to the terrorist attacks, hundreds of whom lost their lives — some Plymouth-area Cub Scouts took time to recognize local heroes.

Scouts from Pack 781, sponsored by Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, on Sunday brought a family style cookout to the Plymouth Community Fire Department's Station 1 on Hagerly in Plymouth Township, where the food was enjoyed by on-duty firefighters, plus the scouts and their adult leaders.

The hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, fruit salad and other fixings, along with a station tour for the scouts and the Detroit Lions game on television, provided some lighter moments on the solemn 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, in which nearly 3,000 people were killed.

The scouts, many of whom were born after Sept. 11, 2001, also heard



Steve Vuletic, the assistant Cubmaster for Cub Scout Pack 781 and the co-leader of Den 5, mans the grill during a cookout Sunday at the Plymouth Community Fire Department's Station 1. On the 10th anniversary of 9/11, Den 5 Cub Scouts and their leaders treated firefighters to a picnic lunch in recognition of their role in public safety.

briefly from Firefighter Pete Bukis, who was on a search and rescue team at the Pentagon, which had been struck by the hijacked American Airlines Flight 77, in the days after 9/11.

"Every September 11, you guys remember, a bad thing happened in this country, and we should honor the peo-

ple who lost their lives," Bukis told the scouts.

The visit was educational for the scouts, and "they treated us fantastic," said Capt. Jim Jury, who was the department's shift commander on Sunday.

"I think the guys are just humbled by the support that's shown," Jury added. "These guys

(scouts) went way overboard. It's amazing."

The lunchtime cookout meant relief from a busy stretch for the firefighter paramedics. It was bookended by two emergency runs, the first for a traffic accident and the second for someone who had suffered a severe leg cut and was rushed to a hospital, and firefighters had



LEAH VULETICH

Plymouth Community Fire Department Capt. Jim Jury accepts a certificate of appreciation on Sunday from Isaac Vuletic, a Cub Scout from Den 5, Pack 781, based at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church. On the anniversary of 9/11, Den 5 and their adult leaders toured Station 1, met firefighters and shared a meal of grilled hamburgers and hot dogs and picnic fixings.

already attended two other 9/11 commemorations that morning.

The scouts — most of them Webelos from Pack 781's Den 5 (Webelos is a preparatory stage for Boy Scouting and stands for "We'll Be Loyal Scouts") — obviously enjoyed their time with the firefighters.

"It's pretty cool. Kind of feel honored," said Ethan Monaghan, the den chief and a full-fledged Boy Scout.

"I think it's really fun. I'm honored for them to do their jobs," said Cub Scout Isaac Vuletic.

Den 5, nicknamed the Radioactive Squirrel Patrol, also presented a certificate of appreciation to the firefighters "for your selfless contribution to safety." Jury said the framed certificate would be hung on the wall at Station 1.

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CRIME WATCH

Tires slashed

Tires were slashed on pickup trucks parked outside two businesses on Plymouth Oaks Boulevard over the weekend, and a piece of lawn-care equipment was reported stolen from one of those businesses.

The vandalism and theft occurred between 7 p.m. Friday and 7 a.m. Saturday

along the business strip south of M-14 and just east of Sheldon Road, according to Plymouth Township Police Department reports. The incidents were reported on Monday.

At one business, two tires on a 2003 GMC Sierra were slashed. At another, two tires on a 1990 Ford pickup, and all four on a 1994 Ford pickup, were slashed.

At that same business, the mowing deck from a John Deere-brand riding mower was reported stolen from behind the building, the complainant told police.

More vandalism

A window on a 1999 BMW was smashed out Sunday night or early Monday as the car sat parked in a driveway.

The vandalism

occurred outside a house on North Canton Center Road, a township police report said. The complainant told police she last saw the BMW about 9:30 p.m. Sunday and discovered a driver-side window broken shortly before noon on Monday.

Nothing was reported stolen.

— By Matt Jachman

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AROUND PLYMOUTH

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

AAUW MEETING

Date/Time: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 22

Location: Hoben Elementary School (Salz Road between Sheldon and Canton Center).

Details: The Plymouth/Canton branch of the American Association of University Women hosts its monthly meeting. The meeting, titled "Not Your Mother's Tie-dye," will feature Emily Sharpe who will share her experiences joining a start-up company that specializes in a new form of tie-dying. Appetizers and desserts will be served.

Contact: For more information contact Becky Copenhaver at bgcopenhaver@yahoo.com or (734) 981-6023.

SALEM CHEER

Date/Time: Saturday, Sept. 24, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Salem High School gym, 46191 Joy in Canton

Details: The Salem High School cheer team presents "Kid Camp 2011." The \$50 cost includes dinner, snack, a T-shirt and backpack. Campers are invited to cheer with the team for the first half of the Salme vs. Stevenson football game Friday, Oct. 7. Campers should wear comfortable shirt, shorts and gym shoes.

Contact: Dee Bryan, (734) 673-4329, or Kelissa Nordstrom, (734) 397-4562, or e-mail salemcoaches@gmail.com

DAR MEETS

Date/Time: Friday, Sept. 23, noon

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth

Details: The Daughters of the American Revolution meet for a noon sandwich luncheon, with the program titled "Our History is the Key to Our Future," featuring state Sen. Patrick Colbeck. Members are asked to wear red, white and blue and bring a bell. Also bring white socks (men's 9-12 & 13-15), crossword puzzle and word search books, playing cards, men's boxers or T-shirts for veterans.

Contact: For further information call (248) 349-4827.

GOODFELLOW VOLUNTEERS

Date/Time: Oct. 19 and Nov. 17, 7 p.m.

Location: Plymouth District Library Waldorf Room, 223 S. Main

Details: The Plymouth Goodfellows are looking for volunteers for their annual newspaper sale day (Dec. 3) and for other duties. The group is an all volunteer organization that works from September-January. Our goal is to make sure there are no Plymouth children without a Christmas.

Contact: plymouthgoodfellows@yahoo.com

CRAFTERS WANTED

Date/Time: Oct. 15

Location: West Middle School in Plymouth

Details: Organizers of the Delta Kappa Gamma Craft Fair at West Middle School are looking for crafters. Proceeds go for scholarships for future educators from the Plymouth/Canton high schools. The fair general draws some 1,500 customers and features food and drawings.

Contact: Judy, (734) 347-1001 or Alice (248) 348-5561 or dachrenko@hotmail.com.

MOPS MEETINGS

Date/Time: First-third Fridays, 9:15-11:30 a.m.

Location: St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth

Details: The St. Edith/St. Kenneth Catholic Parishes' Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group invites all mothers with children aged newborn through kindergarten to join. The group provides the encouragement, nurturing, and support and features a schedule of activities that include speakers, crafts, and group discussions.

Contact: Heather at (734) 437-9517 or e-mail stekmops@gmail.com, or visit www.stekmops.org

FESTIVAL

Continued from page A1

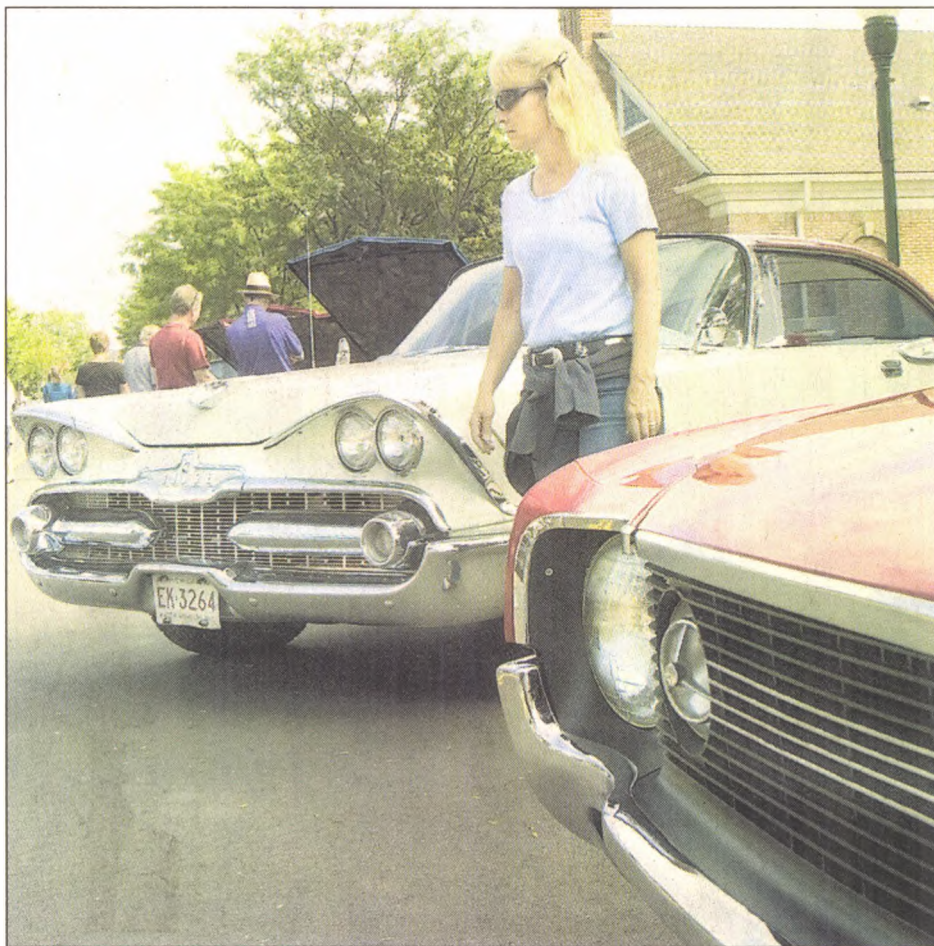
up, also went on as planned Saturday. "Pretty soon the sun broke through and it was great for the whole rest of the weekend," Brown said.

Saturday morning's rain limited the number of cars displayed in the festival's car show, but things picked up Sunday, and about 50 cars and their owners turned out to participate, show director Chris Gurriere said.

"It wasn't one of the best years we've ever had, but Sunday turned out to be pretty decent," Gurriere said.

Sunday's car show included, during the awards ceremony, a moment of silence to commemorate the lives lost in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Gurriere said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405



Dawn LaRiche admires vintage Detroit Iron at the Fall Festival car show. Dawn particularly liked the chrome on Mike Caruso's 1959 Dodge Royale. In the foreground is Tom Hetner's 1970 AMX.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

UNIONS

Continued from page A1

teachers also agreed to add three levels to the step seniority system and to "equalize" payments through the middle steps. The starting salary and the top of the scale remain the same.

"The teachers recognized the position the district was in," Merritt said. "All of our unions really stepped up."

The teachers contract is effective Aug. 30 and runs through Aug. 15, 2012. Most of the deals, district officials said, are one-year deals.

Trustees showed their appreciation for the teachers' sacrifices.

"I want to thank this unit," Secretary Judy Mardigan said. "This is a remarkable step toward helping us survive. It's very remarkable, and very much appreciated."

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Livonia

September 20, 2011

Doris Biscoe, former TV News

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†Paid Spokesperson, Doris Biscoe, is a member of a HAP Medicare Plan.

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Event hopes to foster unity

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

To those who would pin blame for the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, on any Muslim just because the men who hijacked four airliners that day were Muslim, Dr. Syed Taj would point out what he considers the obvious.

Muslims were among the police officers, firefighters and first-responders that day and, more importantly, a number of them were among the victims.

His point? We're all in this together.

"A number of the people killed that day were Muslims," said Taj, a member of the Canton Township Board of Trustees. "If we don't learn to work together, we're still going to be afraid of each other. We want to work to dispel that."

Taj was one of several speakers at Sunday's 9/11 observance sponsored by the Muslim Community of Western Suburbs at the Canton Mosque.

Drawing together

The observance was designed to promote understanding and dispel such misconceptions in hopes of drawing together people from



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Dr. Mahmood Hai holds the 9/11 memorial flag so Howard Young can photograph the name of Joshua Rosenthal, who died in the collapse of the twin towers. Joshua, who grew up in Livonia and graduated from Stevenson High School, lived in New York City. His dad, Skip Rosenthal, now lives in Israel, but lived in Farmington. Young, of Livonia, intends to e-mail the photo to Skip Rosenthal.

diverse religions. Organizers felt Canton and surrounding areas made a good place for such an event, since Canton is home to a mosque, two Hindu temples, a Sikh gurdwara and churches from virtually every religion.

Representatives from

a variety of those organizations spoke Sunday.

"We're getting together to learn from the terrible thing that happened," said Mahmood Hai, a member of the Canton Mosque's board of trustees who emceed the event. "We are making bridges between

communities and make sure some good comes out of it."

Hai believes good has actually come out of 9/11. He quoted a variety of statistics from a poll published in the September AARP bulletin:

- Some 78 percent said it made them appreciate friends and family more.
- Some 76 percent said it increased their awareness of events overseas.
- Some 76 percent said it increased their appreciation of police and firefighters.
- Some 66 percent said it increased their patriotism, and
- Some 49 percent said



Circuit Court Judge Mark Slavens, state Rep. Dian Slavens, Canton Community Foundation President Joan Noricks and, representing the Canton Sikh Community, Gurbachan Mann and Harpreet Singh listen to the speakers at Sunday's 9/11 observance at the Canton Mosque.

it increased their faith. "Tell me," Hai asked the crowd. "Did we lose or did we win?"

The Rev. Bryan Smith of Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton said he thinks the terrorists failed in their goal, which he said was to make Americans "live as prisoners of fear."

The goal for Americans, he said, should be to do just the opposite. "It's easy, especially today, to be a prisoner of fear ... and hatred," Smith said. "The greater challenge is to be a prisoner of hope."

Varying opinions

Howard Young of Livonia, who has been involved in issues of tolerance in the past, hoped the event would foster tolerance in everyone, even those with differing opinions. "I've always taught my children tolerance means someone else's opinion might be just as good as yours," Young said.

What Americans of all religions, faiths, colors and creeds should be striving for, according

to Jim Ward, a deacon at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church in Canton, is forgiveness.

"One thing that's clear in the teachings of Jesus is that we are to forgive," Ward said. "More than forgive, we are challenged to love those who have hurt us. If we have experienced forgiveness ourselves, we must extend that forgiveness to others."

Raman Singh of Plymouth's Hidden Falls Sikh gurdwara pointed out that Sikh teachings say there is one God for all God's creation, and that God is the primal creative force that permeates creation. That being the case, she said, people must "break through the illusion we are separate" from God and separate from each other.

"If we recognize ourselves and God in each other, there will be no room for hatred, anger, jealousy and bigotry," Singh said. "There will only be room for peace, love and acceptance."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-8899

CANTON POLICE AUCTION

These vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction. The auction will be on Tuesday, September 20th at 10:00 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.

AMOUNT	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN
\$1692.00	1992	GMC	Top Kick	1GDJ7H1P6NJ516774
\$1262.00	1997	Honda	CRV	JHLRD1859VC011833
\$2753.00	2002	Saturn	L300	1G8JW54R72Y501507
\$3109.00	2000	Chevrolet	Malibu	1G1NE52J9Y6245729
\$3773.00	1994	Chevrolet	S10	1GCCS1445RK164646

Publish: September 15, 2011

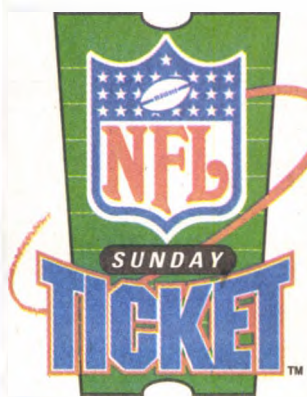
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Document locator a handy emergency tool

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

While watching the shows commemorating the terrorist on 9/11, I realized that while it was very sad it was also uplifting. Some of the stories about the individual acts of heroism by firefighters, police officers and average citizens who found themselves in a nightmarish inspiring. When I think of 9/11, I don't think of the destruction at the World Trade Center or the Pentagon, I think of the incredible acts of bravery and heroism that we saw that day and the days thereafter.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Sept. 11 also reminds me how fast things change in the world. Because of the uncertainties in life itself, it is important to be prepared for the unexpected. For each one of the victims of 9/11, there was a family that had to carry on after the tragedy. Whether it's a national tragedy like 9/11, Hurricane Irene or whether it's a tragedy that just affects an individual, we can all do things that make moving on a little easier on

our loved ones. One that I always recommend — and it doesn't require hiring a lawyer or spending any money — is a document locator.

A document locator is nothing more than a document that lists what you have and where it's located. Your family should be able, in case of a tragedy, pull one document and have it act as a road map to where a will, trust, medical powers and durable power of attorneys are located; who are your professional advisors; if you have an attorney, financial adviser, accountant or insurance agent, their names and contact information.

The document locator should also contain a list of where assets are located. If you own any real estate, attach copies of deeds. If you have collectibles that are of value and you've had appraised, it would make sense to attach a copy of the appraisal to the document locator. The bottom line is you would rather have more information in the document locator than less.

A document locator is not something that you do once and forget about. However, at the same time it's not something that you have to constantly update. Looking at it a couple times a year is generally sufficient for most people.

Of course, to make it effective, you have to tell someone where you keep it. You don't necessarily have to tell the entire family but rather, the person or persons that you want to handle your affairs when you can't.

One last note. I've been asked many times if passwords should be included on the document locator. Whether you keep your passwords on your document locator or another place, it makes sense for someone to know where they're located in case of an emergency.

Most people do whatever they can during their lifetime to protect their families. Unfortunately, too many people forget that the responsibility continues past death. A document locator can go a long way to easing the burden on a family. Take the opportunity to compile a document locator so that you're loved ones can be protected and their burden eased in case of a tragedy.

Good luck!

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

'It is important that we never forget'

Approximately 30 students and staff members of Madonna University gathered for a candlelight vigil Monday night in remembrance of 9/11.

The vigil was the culmination of a number of 10th anniversary events held on the Livonia campus in memory of the nearly 3,000 people killed in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

Other events included a moment of silence at the time of the attack, a prayer service, and a speaker on heroes and patriotism.

Emily Lipe, now a sophomore at Madonna University, was in the fourth grade on Sept. 11, 2001. She remembers her school wouldn't let her class out for recess and she was confused and worried. Class was dismissed early that day and her dad picked her up from school and took her home. She remembers it being scary and confusing.

Madonna student Amber Rafko was just a year older than Lipe when the attacks occurred.

"I remember the whole class was sitting on the floor Indian-style together



PHOTOS BY ALAN PINON
Madonna University student Felicity Tyll holds a candle during a vigil in honor of the victims of 9/11.

in the middle of the room staring at the old boxy TV in the top corner of the room," Rafko said.

"I was wondering why people could be so mean. In my life, I was surrounded by happiness and positive people. This was the first realization that others maybe didn't have that feeling," she said.

Jim Dagostino, a Madonna student who was instrumental in organizing the day's events on campus, said

having these types of services is important, especially for students who were very young when the attacks occurred. "It is important that we never forget those who died and why they died. Freedom has a price, and we must honor those who pay for it," Dagostino said.

Sister Anita Taddonio, who led the candlelight vigil, said, "I thought it was heart-warming for people to be able to remember in a personal way."

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for the purchase of 2011 or 2012 Ford F-450 Super Duty 4 x 4 pickups. Specifications and bid forms are available by phoning Jim Larson-Shidler in the PCCS Business Department at (734) 416-2740 or by email at james.larson-shidler@pccsmail.net. Sealed bids are due to the E.J. McClendon Building, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48154, on or before 12:00 p.m., Thursday, September 29, 2011. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
ADRIENNE DAVIS, Secretary

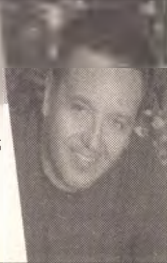
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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FIRE STATION #3 ROOFING PROJECT PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN

Sealed proposals will be received for the construction of the Fire Station #3 Roofing Project by the Charter Township of Plymouth as Owner, until 10:00 A.M. Local Time on Wednesday, September 28, 2011 at the Office of the Clerk, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read.

Bidders shall review and comply with the instructions to bidders.

Description of Work

The project scope consists of roof and gutter replacement at Fire Station #3 located at the northeast corner of Beck Road and North Territorial Road in Plymouth Township.

Plans and Specifications may be examined at the Clerk's Office, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on or after September 15, 2011. Drawings and Specifications can be shipped by U.P.S. ground for shipping and handling charge of twelve (\$12.00) Dollars, CHECK ONLY, non-refundable, payable to Charter Township of Plymouth.

Proposals submitted by Bidders who have been debarred, suspended, or made ineligible by any Federal Agency will be rejected.

Each bidder agrees to waive any claim it has or may have against the Owner, the Architect/Engineer, Roofing consultant, and their respective employees, arising out of or in connection with the administration, evaluation, or recommendation of any bid.

Each bid proposal shall be submitted on the proposal forms provided and shall be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond, executed by the bidder and Surety Company, payable to the Charter Township of Plymouth in the amount of Five Percent (5%) of the accompanying bid. Proposal Guarantees shall provide assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of the bid, execute the necessary Contract with the Charter Township of Plymouth. No bid may be withdrawn after scheduled closing time for receiving bids for sixty (60) days.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish satisfactory Performance, Labor and Material, and Maintenance and Guarantee Bonds issued by a US company.

The Charter Township of Plymouth reserves the right to reject all bids and to waive irregularities in bidding.

No Proposal will be received unless made on blanks furnished and delivered to the Township Clerk on or before 10:00 a.m., Local time, September 28, 2011.

Joseph Bridgman, Clerk
Plymouth Charter Township

Publish: September 15 & 18, 2011.

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Barbecue on fire with dinner sales

The Rotary Club of Plymouth's annual chicken barbecue, a staple of the Plymouth Fall Festival since the festival's earliest days, perhaps benefitted the most from Sunday's nice weather.

The Rotary, helped by approximately 850 volunteers, sold some 10,500 chicken dinners, not quite a record but the same number as in both 2009 and 2010, and also the third straight sellout, said barbecue committee chairwoman Kay Linville.

"We had a beautiful day," said Linville. "We had a sellout and we had great participation from

the community."

The dinners were sold at Kellogg Park and West Middle School, which was a take-out location, and the chicken was grilled on two 110-foot fire pits.

Many non-Rotarians, including many from booster clubs and service groups associated with the high schools at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, turn out to help prepare and serve the dinners. Barbecue proceeds go toward Rotary projects such as college scholarships and the purchase of playground equipment.

— By Matt Jachman

MORE ONLINE



View a photo gallery at hometownlife.com



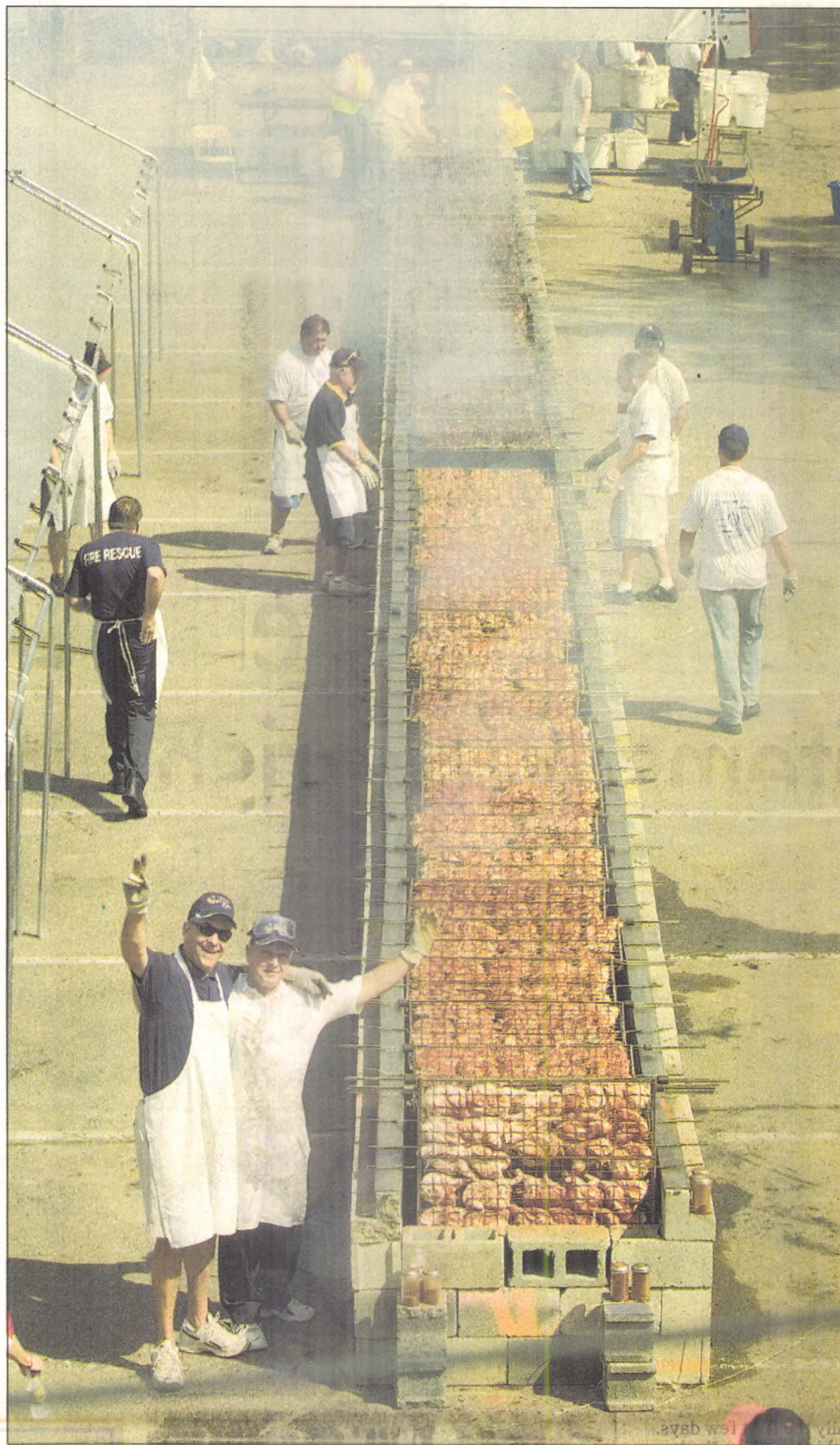
STAFF PHOTO

It's a fun ride for 2-year-old Zach Wonsul and his dad, Mark Wonsul of Canton.



STAFF PHOTO

Two-year-old Jacob Makara enjoys dad Dave Makara's ear of corn. The Makara family lives in Salem Township.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

There's plenty of chicken on the Rotary fire pits for a hungry Fall festival crowd.

Kayla Zydeck, a Plymouth Pom Squad volunteer, moves a pile of chicken dinners ready for delivery for Sunday's Fall Festival chicken barbecue.



STAFF PHOTO



STAFF PHOTO

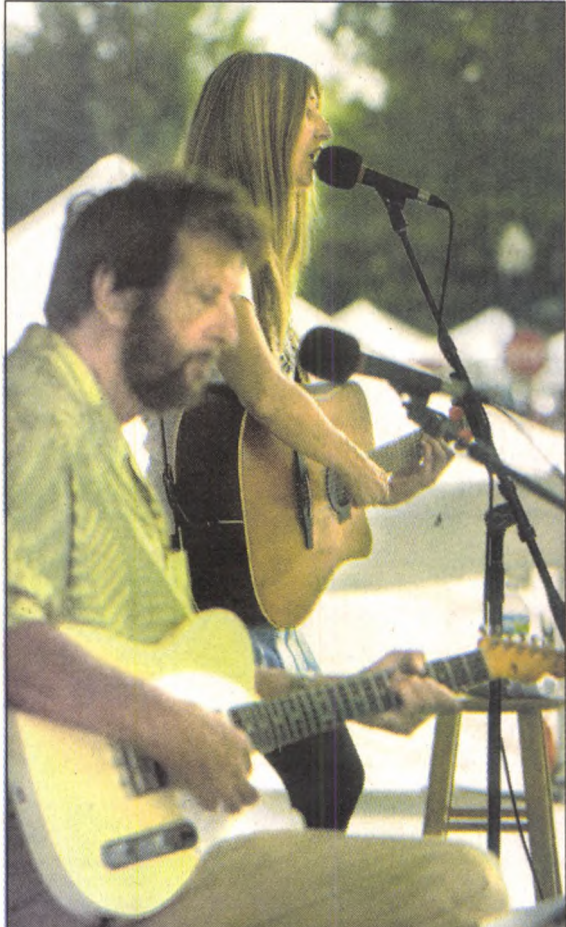
Mom Traci Lanier of Plymouth takes a shot toward the rim at the games of skill along Main Street. Dad Gary Lanier, 5-year-old Daniel and 3-year-old Sarah watch Mom's skills.



STAFF PHOTO

Old cars on Penniman Avenue attract admirers.

Gia Warner and her dad, Bobby Lewis, entertain at Fall Fest on Sunday.



STAFF PHOTO



STAFF PHOTO

At the Plymouth Lions booth, Patrick Clemen and Pisan demonstrate basic leader dog qualities. Jan Crawford, holding Eli, talks about what it's like to raise these dogs from pups, then turn them over to Leader Dogs For The Blind.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Linnea Garvey of Plymouth Nursery shows a Fat Albert Colorado Spruce, available at the tent sale.

Tent sale offers items to cherish

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

The popularity of the Plymouth Nursery has waned recently, after years of being one of the longtime Plymouth business' most-sought-after events.

Organizers hope the lagging economy, combined with a variety of good deals, restores the luster to the annual sale, which starts today (Thursday) and runs through Sept. 28.

"They used to be wildly popular, but they've decreased in popularity over the years," Plymouth Nursery owner Jeff Jones said. "It used to be a zoo around here, especially the first few days. In this economy, I'm hoping it will be again."

The tent sale acts as a kind of "clearance" sale for the nursery. Jones said they include "one-of-a-kind, oddball stuff" — boxes, cartons, plants that need a little TLC — and garden store products such as pots that might have a little chip or patio furniture with some small defect that renders it unsalable at full price.

"Plant lovers like the sale because they know these are plants that just need a home and a little fertilizer," Jones said. "The items in the sale are all perfectly fine, it's mostly just things that didn't sell well, or items we over-stocked. It's basically a clearance for all kinds of odds and ends."

What that means for the shopper, of course, is great deals, according to Jones.



Purple Dome Asters from Plymouth Nursery.

NURSERY SALE

What: Plymouth Nursery annual Tent Sale
When: Sept. 15-28
Where: Plymouth Nursery, located on Ann Arbor Road west of Gotfredson
Hours: Plymouth Nursery is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.
Details: For more information, call (734) 453-5500

It's also timed with the distribution of the nursery's fall circular, which comes out next week.

So while shoppers can get great bargains on a variety of items early in the tent sale, the fall circular will also include deals as high as 30 or 40 percent on items throughout the nursery, including fresh items such as bulbs, mums and more.

"Most of the plant material will be outside under the tent, but we'll also have items set up throughout the nursery and other things around the greenhouse," Jones said. "It's like a garage sale, where you find that one thing that you'll cherish that no one else wants."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-8899

PLYMOUTH BUSINESS BRIEFS

Seafood and safety

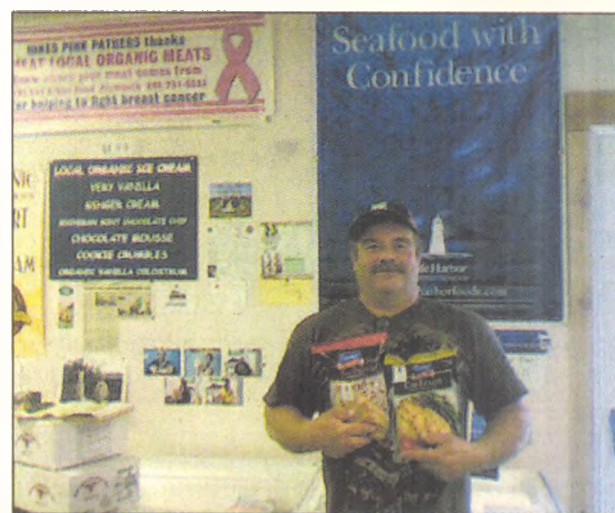
Studies show eating fish can be a health benefit, but diners also want to know their seafood is safe to eat. There is a new service that certifies seafood called Safe Harbor Certified Seafood. Their website is www.safeharborfoods.com.

Safe Harbor Seafood is tested, not just inspected. At a minimum, they test for Mercury levels, Histamines, Salmonella, E.Coli and Radiation. All certified products are accompanied with individual trace tags that include information about the fish. Safe Harbor Certification is a critical added safeguard that goes beyond identifying hazards and monitoring to actually test the seafood prior to distribution to retail outlets and restaurants.

Jeff Dickson, a fish and meat purveyor who lives in Beverly Hills, Mich., said, "simply put, Safe Harbor Certification is the most comprehensive seafood safety program ever created and is the only process of its kind in the market today."

If you have questions or are a retailer wishing to handle Safe Harbor certified seafood, call Jeff Dickson at (248) 320-7996 or e-mail him at jeff@jseafoodexpress.com. For consumers who would like to request Safe Harbor seafood at their local retailer, send a request to Safe Harbor using the link.

One of the locations to purchase Safe Harbor Seafood selections is Natural Local Foods, located at 1142 Ann Arbor Road



Natural Local Foods owner Garry Kuneman shows off some Safe Harbor products available in his store.

in Plymouth. They are located two blocks east of Sheldon Road. Owner Garry Kuneman can be reached at (248) 231-6533 or garryk37@hotmail.com. The store is open Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Another plus, they can deliver any of their food selections to your door.

Realtor certification

Bartley Patterson has received his certified commercial specialist designation.

The CCS designation is designed to be the first step into the commercial marketplace with detailed training on effective pricing, ROI analysis and investment opportunities.

"This will be a great opportunity to participate in the Commercial Market in the surrounding areas of Canton and Plymouth," Patterson said. "I look forward to using this training



Patterson

to help clients make advised decisions in the commercial marketplace."

Patterson has been a licensed residential Realtor since 1986 and started with RE/MAX Classic at that same time. He is currently the vice president and general manager of RE/MAX Classic and will continue in that capacity.

Patterson has also served the community in many areas as Chairman of the Board for the Canton Chamber of Commerce, Chair of the Technology Committee and is a member of the Marketing Partnership with The Canton Township, The Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Development Authority. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the local Board of Realtors/WWOCA Western Wayne Oakland County area Realtors.

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

Ladies night out

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce presents downtown Plymouth's annual Ladies Night Out 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22.

The event is a night for ladies to enjoy an evening on the town with friends, visiting the participating stores and enjoy shopping, gifts, samples, prizes and refreshments. Several restaurants will also have special drinks, appetizers and more.

Participating stores this year include: Basket Kreations; Bed & Boutique; Bella Mia; Bella Mia Dressed Up; Candy Trail; Creatopia Pottery Studio; Dearborn Jewelers; Eclectic Attic; Genuine Toy Co.; GiGi's Mode; Hands on Leather; Highlites Salon; Home Sweet Home; Isabella's Copper Pot; Jill Andra Young Photography; Kemnitz Fine Candies; Kilwin's; Maggie & Me; Magnolia A Fresh Flower Market; Merle Norman; Old World Olive Press; Penniman Gallery; R.S.V.P.; Razzamatazz; Salon Awesome; Sideways; Spa Agio; Sun & Snow; Sunny J's Lingerie; That's Awesome; TranquiliTea and Wilcox Consignment.

Back by popular demand, Mr. 48170 will again be handing out roses to the first 500 ladies, courtesy of Ribar Floral.

For more information, call the chamber, (734) 453-1540.

Downtown crawl

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, in a joint effort with the Friends of the Penn, sponsors the

sixth annual PENN-Taste-Tic Downtown Plymouth Restaurant Crawl 5:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28.

"Crawlers" can walk around downtown Plymouth enjoying delicious samples and treats from many of their favorite Plymouth restaurants and sweet shops. This year's participants include the Box Bar, Cellar 849, Compari's, Ironwood Grill, Jimmy John's, Nico & Vali Italian Eatery, Panera, Perfectly Sweet/Boule and Yogurt Palooza. Attendees will get a chance to vote for their favorite taste and restaurant.

Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available at the chamber (850 W. Ann Arbor Trail) and Sun & Snow (388 Main St.) in downtown Plymouth. Adult tickets are \$20 each, and children 10 and younger are \$15.

For more information on the Crawl, call (734) 453-1540.

Purtan emcees auction

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce announced this year's annual auction gala, the "Groovy '70s Funky Disco Ball," will feature Dick Purtan as the emcee.

Chamber officials are rounding up auction items and looking for sponsors for the event that attracts over 400 attendees. If you are interested in donating items or sponsoring contact Wes Graff at (734) 453-1540 or wes@plymouthmich.org.

The auction takes place Friday, Nov. 4 from 6-11 p.m. at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

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A Cappella by special guests Deke & The Blazers

WHERE: Marquis Theater
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TIME: 8:00 p.m.

TICKETS: \$25 per ticket

Tickets available only at The Marquis Theater. Purchase tickets in advance or day of event. For more information please call Scotty 248.921.7000

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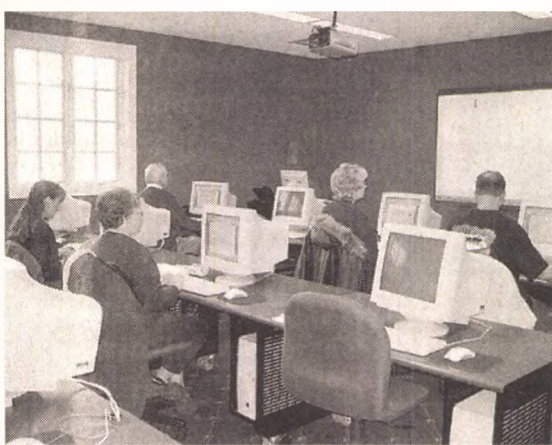
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OUR VIEWS



Computer classes are just one of the services offered at the Plymouth District Library.

Must have Library cards are tickets to learning for students

Students are back in school. They have pens, pencils, paper, notebooks and a myriad of other supplies needed to be successful this school year.

But they might be missing the most important school supplies of all: A library card. September is Library Card Sign-up Month, a time when the American Library Association and libraries across the country remind parents that a library card is the most important school supply of all.

A library card is free. There are no hidden charges, no payment due every month for the resources it provides students to compete academically. According to the ALA, today's libraries provide all types of students with the tools they need to succeed. They also

provide young readers with exciting and engaging programs that make learning fun.

Libraries, in one shape or another, have been around for thousands of years. And libraries, initially small private collections, existed in America from early colonial times. Today there are roughly 9,000 public libraries in the U.S., plus another 8,000, if branch libraries are counted.

Public libraries are considered an essential part of having an educated and literate population. In addition to print books and periodicals, most public libraries today have a wide array of other media including audio books, CDs, cassettes, videotapes, DVDs and video games, as well as facilities to access the Internet and inter-library borrowing of items from other libraries.

In Plymouth, the Plymouth District Library provides other services, such as community meeting rooms, storytelling sessions for infants, toddlers, preschool children or after-school programs. It has become a key ingredient in the job search for unemployed folks looking for work. It has groups that help develop their writing skills, master knitting and chess and reading groups to explore the works of different authors.

And lest we forget, one of the most popular programs offered in public libraries are summer reading programs for children, families and adults.

And the first step in accessing the information the library has to offer is by getting a library card. It's easy. Plymouth residents need only provide proof of residency. Your address on a driver's license or state identification card will suffice.

If your child doesn't have a library card, we urge you to take the time to get one. For more information on how to sign up for a library card, visit the Plymouth District Library at 223 S. Main in Plymouth. Or give the library a call at (734) 453-0750.

COMMUNITY VOICE

It's almost 12 o'clock. What's for lunch?

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



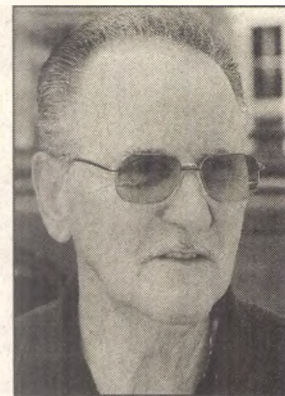
"Zoup! I'm going to get a Zoup! carryout, because the refrigerator's empty."

Norma McKenna
Plymouth



"I don't know. Probably Arby's or a sandwich at home."

Debbie Cooke
Plymouth Township



"I don't eat lunch. Coffee. After 50 years in this business, you learn not to eat lunch."

Myron Hopper
(of McMullen's Barber & Styling Salon in Plymouth)
Plymouth Township



"Well, I'm pregnant, so, pizza and ice cream. That's all I live for."

Marla Oliver
Plymouth Township

LETTERS



Maha Zahid and Christina Christenson, Girl Scouts from Troop #40196, collected more than 3,600 donated books for Bennett Elementary School in Detroit as part of their Girl Scout Silver Award.

Book drive thanks

We would like to thank the community for their generous contributions to our book drive that was conducted over the summer. We received more than 3,600 donated books for Bennett Elementary School. We collected the books as part of their Girl Scout Silver Award.

Bennett Elementary, located in Detroit, had a fire that destroyed part of the school, including the library, and caused severe smoke and water damage to the classrooms. The school budget did not allow for replacement of the books lost in this tragedy. Many of the donated books went to each of the 23 classrooms — to establish mini classroom libraries. Many others went to help re-establish the school library.

We wanted to say thank you to everyone that helped in the collection and delivery of the books.

Maha Zahid and Christina Christenson
Girl Scout Troop #40196

No to privatizing

With all that is going on in education, I wonder what would happen if all of the supposedly "overpaid" public school teachers stopped using hundreds of their own dollars each year to purchase additional classroom supplies, supplementary instructional materials, snacks, incentives, paper, card stock, and books for their classroom libraries, as well as gloves, mittens, and school supplies for those who can't afford them. And what would happen if these teachers could no longer justify paying for six hours of costly graduate and postgraduate college classes over and over again in order to remain highly qualified and up-to-date regarding the best practices of instruction or the latest in brain-based research?

I also wonder what would happen if teachers did not use their "bathroom break" time during afternoon recess to work with struggling learners? Or what if they weren't willing to give up their valuable lunch and/or planning time to call parents in order to keep the much-needed lines of communication open or to collaborate with their grade-level colleagues? Additionally, what would happen if teachers

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.

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

Read or comment online:
www.hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

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

Right to Work works

The Michigan Senate majority leader, Randy Richardville, on the subject of making Michigan a Right to Work state, stated that "I'm not a believer that that's going to transition the economy at this point."

Randy does not have to be a "believer," all he needs to do is read a few statistical reports that show that Right to Work states outperform forced unionized states every single time in job creation. Every state that was Right to Work laws are enjoying substantially higher state income growth and higher private job growth. [<http://aphiemi.wordpress.com/2009/02/20/facts-on-right-to-work-vs-forced-union-states/>]

I think this would be enough for Randy to take a hard look at it, unless of course his campaign fund is being padded by union donations

Phil Solarz
Westland

Freedom never dies

September eleventh two thousand one

The whole world got to see
The towering twins of New York State
Fall so helplessly.

They both were struck, by suicide jets

On a mission to destroy
The spirit of America
And freedoms we enjoy.

Then a third jet struck our Pentagon

While a fourth jet couldn't go
Beyond the Pennsylvania trees
Cause of heroes, we now know.

So with vengeance left to be the Lord's

One thing still applies ...
Freedom just might cost your life

But freedom never dies!
From the heart of a poetic cop,
God bless you, your loved ones and America.

William Heffner
Coldwater

Hines Cruise fantastic

The Hines Drive Cruise was wonderful on so many levels! Vintage cars, trucks and other vehicles would cruise awhile, then pull off and hit the food concessions. For the observers, the views were up-close and personal, especially if you chose to ride your bike along with exhibitors.

People brought picnic lunches, lawn chairs and kids, all against a backdrop of trees and birds. While the Dream Cruise is a great event, some of us aren't willing to fight the crowds and deal with parking. This is a fantastic alternative, and a superb use of Hines Park. See you there next year!

Joy Kind
Livonia

PLYMOUTH
OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

Brad Kadrich,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor

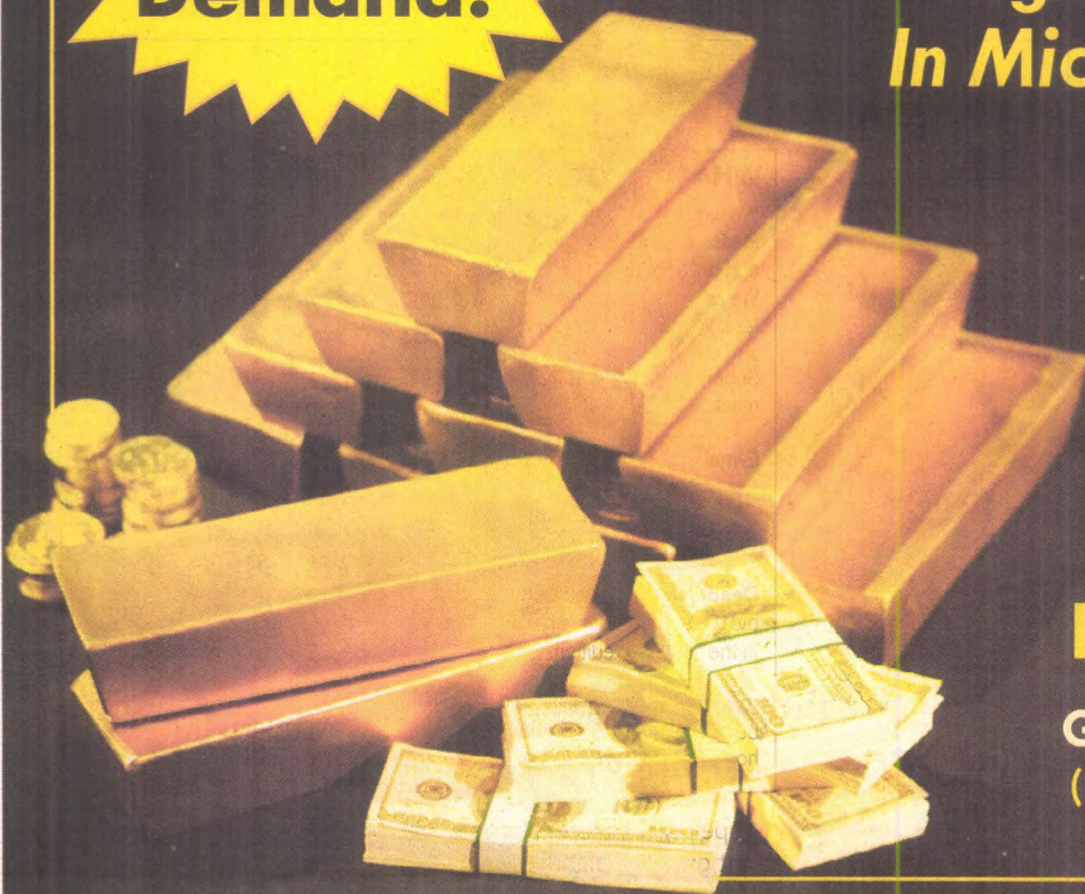
Grace Perry,
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Hockey for heroes

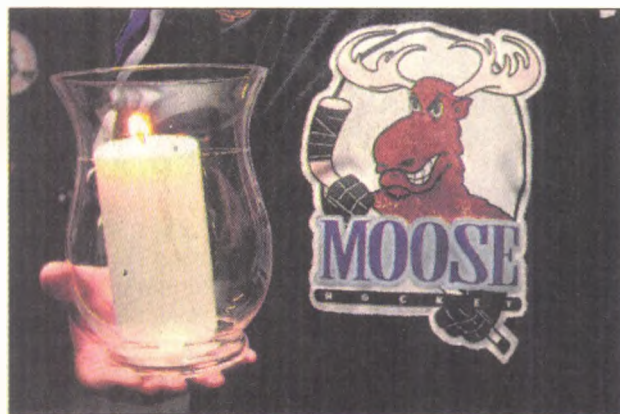
Moose, Ameriprise teams do what they can to remember 9/11 victims

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

As far as Derek Fowler sees it, his Detroit Moose men's hockey team uses the sport as an excuse to do something good.

Such was the case yet again on Saturday at Compuware Arena in Plymouth as the Moose and Ameriprise Financial — with former NHL players Joe Kocur and Wayne Presley on the ice — hooked up for the 10th annual Remembrance Hockey Game to pay homage to those who lost their lives on 9/11.

The crowd was small, but enthusiastic as the teams went all out in two



SYLVIES PHOTOGRAPHY

Still burning brightly following the game between the Detroit Moose and Ameriprise Financial hockey teams is a remembrance candle, which glowed throughout the Compuware Arena event.

30-minute halves, with Ameriprise earning a 7-4 triumph.

And when Canton res-

ident and Moose captain Fowler skated off follow-

Please see GAME, B2

SETTING THE TONE

When spectators entered Compuware Arena for Saturday's Detroit Moose-Ameriprise Financial Remembrance Hockey Game, they were greeted by volunteers for the Michigan Military Moms organization — including Dawn Kaufman of Livonia. "The group itself, it means a lot of support for several troops, it means support for wounded soldiers," Kaufman said. "We're there for them." But the small crowd disappointed Kaufman, whose 19-year-old son Cory (a Livonia Stevenson grad) is

serving in Afghanistan. "Probably the best thing we can ask of the public is that they come out and support these events in the future," Kaufman noted. "We have a nice turnout today, but not enough. We have a full arena that could have been filled today..." "The people of our communities need to realize we have a tremendous amount of military residents here." Go to www.michiganmilitarymoms.com for more information about the nonprofit group.

PCA rolls

Plymouth Christian Academy got past Ann Arbor Greenhills Tuesday night in the conference opener for the Eagles.

PCA (10-3-2, 1-0 Michigan Independent Athletics Conference) needed four sets to defeat Greenhills. The Eagles won 25-18, 25-20 before losing 25-16 in the third game and finishing things up 25-17 in Game 4.

Kristin Malcolm (20 kills), Amy Zinn (nine kills, 10 digs), Sarah Howard (seven kills, four blocks), Jessica Rich (eight digs) and Jennifer Malcolm (27 assists) sparked PCA's victory.

The Eagles also had a solid performance at Saturday's University of Michigan-Dearborn Tournament, besting three opponents in pool play and then Wayne Memorial in the Gold Bracket semifinals, 25-10, 25-10. But PCA fell 25-21, 25-20 to Waterford Mott in the finals.

Jennifer Malcolm tallied 37 assists in the pool victories and followed up with 13 more against Mott. Kristin Malcolm had 46 kills for the day.

Chiefs power past Wildcats

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Momentum from last weekend's tournament titles would only carry over for one team Tuesday night.

Plymouth's varsity volleyball squad came off its first-ever tournament victory at Saturday's University of Michigan-Dearborn invite. Host Canton also was victorious Saturday at the Lakeland tourney.

But it was the Chiefs — led by the hard-hitting duo of senior outside hitters Alaina Turner and Kristen Muir — who stayed on a roll with a 3-1 match victory.

"I had hoped that it (UM-D tourney win) would give us a spark, but it didn't," Plymouth first-year coach Sarah Marody said. "We just never fired it up today. We didn't look like the team that played Saturday."

Canton (18-2 overall, 2-0 in the KLAA South Division) won 25-15 in the opening game before falling in Game 2 (Plymouth won 25-23). But the Chiefs bounced back with a pair of 25-16 wins in the final two games.

"I think it definitely helped boost our confidence (that they won Saturday's tournament). It made us feel that we could match up to Canton," Plymouth senior co-captain and libero Lindsey Stemberger said. "But



Canton's Erica den Boer (No. 13) tips the ball in hopes of scoring a point for the Chiefs on Tuesday night. Going up to try and block the attempt is Plymouth's Shayla Smalls (No. 11).

when it came down to it, a lot of us didn't seem like we wanted it as much tonight."

Dynamic duo

The 1-2 punch of Turner (20 kills) and Muir (17 kills, four blocks, 18 defensive digs) helped the Chiefs make sure Plymouth could not mount too much of a comeback.

"We both played a very competitive level of volleyball in the club season and we push our (Canton) teammates and our teammates push us to do the best we can," Muir said about the way she and Turner team up to overwhelm defenses. "Really, our team has great chemistry."

Chiefs head coach Mary Kryska gave props to Turner and Muir, but credited the way senior setters Lauren Martin (24

Please see SPIKERS, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hammering home another point for Canton Tuesday night is senior outside hitter Kristen Muir (No. 4).

Salem prevails

On Tuesday night, two Plymouth-Canton Educational Park varsity girls swimming and diving teams got together for quite a meet.

Salem edged Plymouth 96-90, and Rocks head coach Chuck Olson said it was "an exciting finish to a very close meet. Both teams were well-matched in all events."

The Rocks were paced by senior co-captain Lauren Seroka, who qualified for the Division 1 state meet in the 200 IM (2:13.85), 100 breaststroke (1:10.48) and as anchor in the 400-yard freestyle relay (with Julia Suriano, Maddie Gorman and Abby Aumiller). That relay finished first with a mark of 3:45.67.

Also winning a state meet spot was Plymouth's 400 freestyle relay team of Stephanie Matsui, Linda Erickson, Carolyn Stoddard and Alexa Earls (second place, 3:47.60).

Aumiller qualified for the state meet in the 100 backstroke, winning that event in 1:00.81.

Other firsts for the Rocks were: 200 medley relay team of Aumiller, Seroka, Claire Amin, Suriano (1:57.18); Suriano, 500 free, 5:23.79.

Firsts for the Wildcats were: Matsui, 200 free (2:03.71); Emily Toro, 50 free (26.18); Katy Telega, 1-meter diving (147.55 points); Erickson, 100 butterfly (1:03.14); Matsui (100 free, 56.81); 200 free relay team of Matsui, Toro, Emily Weiner, Carolyn Stoddard (1:45.57).

He's on the ball

Plymouth freshman varsity boys tennis player Charlie Hou maintains sharp focus as he lets his return shot fly during Tuesday's KLAA South Division match against Westland John Glenn. The host Wildcats were victorious.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

KLAA CROSS COUNTRY INVITE

Salem girls making strides

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Salem's young varsity girls cross country team keeps on learning, finishing fourth at Saturday's KLAA Invitational at Willow Metropark in New Boston.

Rocks head coach Dave Gerlach liked the way runners were consistently solid, as the squad tallied 148 points to trail top finishers Northville (41), Brighton (72) and Livonia Churchill (126).

"We ran as a pack," Gerlach said. "That's one thing that you're competing, that you race all together to try and get through the door pretty quick."

The top runner for Salem was senior Autumn Burin (25th, 20:56.56) followed by junior Emily Bizon

(29th, 21:01.65), sophomore Natasha Stevenson (32nd, 21:06.14) and freshman Anya Cho (34th, 21:12.02).

"Our pack was good. Our pack was just above 21 minutes and we need to be in the low 20s," Gerlach said.

Another test for the Rocks comes Friday, at the Spartan Invitational in East Lansing.

"We're going to see how we compare against very talented teams out there," Gerlach said.

Salem then will look to gear up for the Oct. 8 Wayne County Invitational (also at Willow Metropark), followed by the conference championships (Oct. 20) and Division 1 state regionals (Oct. 29).

"We have a young, inexperienced varsity this year and the big thing we noticed

Please see SALEM, B3

Lady Ocelots boot Jackson

Renee Boudreau and Ashley Welch each tallied goals Saturday to propel the Schoolcraft College women's soccer team to a 3-0 victory over visiting Jackson Community College.

The Lady Ocelots, who improved to 4-0 overall and 3-0 in NJCAA Region XII, took a 1-0 halftime lead on Boudreau's unassisted goal, her third of the season, at 16:59.

Dawn Easton's unassisted goal at 67:34 made it 2-0 and Welch added her fifth of the year at 76:41 from Emily Behnke.

Schoolcraft goalkeeper Megan Bauman made one save to post the shutout.

STAFF GRID PICKS

Week 4 Friday, Sept. 16	Wright	Smith	O'Meara	Emons
Lutheran Westland (1-2, 0-1) at G.P. Liggett (2-1, 1-0), 5 p.m.	Liggett	Liggett	Liggett	Liggett
Farmington (1-2, 0-1) at South-Lathrup (0-3, 0-2), 5:30 p.m.	Farmington	Farmington	Farmington	Farmington
Garden City (3-0, 1-0) at D.H. Crestwood (0-3, 0-1), 7 p.m.	Garden City	Garden City	Garden City	Garden City
D.H. Annapolis (1-2, 0-1) at Thurston (2-1, 1-0), 7 p.m.	Thurston	Thurston	Thurston	Thurston
D.H. Robichaud (3-0, 1-0) at Redford Union (0-3, 0-1), 7 p.m.	Robichaud	Robichaud	Robichaud	Robichaud
Livonia Churchill (2-1, 0-1) at Plymouth (3-0, 1-0), 7 p.m.	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth
John Glenn (2-1, 1-0) at Livonia Franklin (1-2, 0-1), 7 p.m.	Franklin	John Glenn	Franklin	Franklin
Canton (3-0, 1-0) at Wayne (0-3, 0-1), 7 p.m.	Canton	Canton	Canton	Canton
Livonia Stevenson (1-2, 0-1) at S.L. East (1-2, 0-1), 7 p.m.	Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson
Salem (1-2, 0-1) at Novi, (1-2, 0-1), 7 p.m.	Novi	Novi	Novi	Novi
North Farmington (1-2, 1-2) at B.H. Lahser (3-0, 3-0), 7 p.m.	Lahser	Lahser	Lahser	Lahser
Oxford (2-1, 1-1) at F.H. Harrison (3-0, 2-0), 7 p.m.	Harrison	Harrison	Harrison	Harrison
Clarenceville (2-1) at Notre Dame Prep (3-0), 7:30 p.m.	Notre Dame	Clarenceville	Notre Dame	Notre Dame
Last week	8-4	6-6	8-4	9-3
Overall	32-11	26-17	33-10	37-6



During Saturday's game, Canton senior defender Neil Zech (No. 4) clears the ball just in time as Salem senior forward Colin Rooney (No. 3) closes in.

Canton mercies Zebras

Canton romped to an 8-0 victory Tuesday night over visiting Wayne Memorial in a KLAAs South Division varsity boys soccer tilt.

The Chiefs, victorious for the sixth straight games, led 1-0 on an early rebound goal by Dan Ovesea (3 goals). But then came a four-goal surge in the final six minutes of the opening half to put the contest away.

Scoring in succession were Ryan Kilgore, Connor Furgason, Mitch Pepper and Scott Piwowar. The goals for Kilgore and Piwowar were their first of the season.

In the second half, Canton picked right back up with three more goals in the first seven minutes to end the game under MHSAA mercy rules.

Ken Krolicki set up Ovesea for the team's sixth goal, and Ovesea got his hat trick on a beautiful pass from senior Mitch Posuniak.

Nathan Bergeson ended the game when he took a pass from Posuniak and one-timed a shot into the back of the net.

Junior Ian Wingate got his first varsity start in goal for Canton (8-1-1 overall, 3-0-0 in the KLAAs South), and kept Wayne Memorial (2-5-0, 0-3-0) off the scoreboard.

Chiefs nipped Rocks in Saturday's "Senior Night" game, Canton edged Salem 2-1 to win for the fifth game in a row.

The Chiefs got on the board in the second half when junior Dan Ovesea beat Salem sophomore goalkeeper Collin Hewett on a penalty kick.

With about 19 minutes remaining, sophomore Ken Krolicki chipped a ball into the box and Ovesea took the pass, turned a Salem defender and drove a shot past Hewett.

Salem closed the gap with 12 minutes to play as senior Chris Ensor parlayed a feed from sophomore Brady Cole behind Canton senior goalkeeper Steven Murphy.

But the Rocks couldn't quite catch Canton.

"Although we had a few additional chances late in the game, we were unable to get the equalizer," Salem head coach Ed McCarthy said. "Collin Hewett played well in goal and we were good defensively. (But) the penalty kick was a turning point."

Salem (2-5-3, 1-2-0 in the KLAAs Central Division) did rebound from the loss to defeat South Lyon 4-1 on Tuesday, although details were not available as of press time.

GAME

Continued from page B1

ing the event, he carried the 9/11 remembrance candle that burned throughout the game.

"It's not necessarily worrying about the size of the crowd, it's knowing we did the right thing, remembering the people and thanking the people that did come out," Fowler said. "We did our part in remembering, a decade later from 9/11."

"It's what I created, it's what I developed the team on. Giving back and never forgetting 9/11. And remembering the greatest gift in life is giving."

Fowler's concept is cashing in for others, too. He estimated that the Moose has generated about \$115,000 for those in need since being formed following 9/11.

"I don't think that's bad (for) a rec team," he said.

Giving back

The Moose lineup on Saturday featured former Detroit Red Wings forward Kocur, now a Highland Township resident who is a good friend of Fowler's and one of the team's full-time sponsors (Kocur Enterprises).

Kocur didn't score a goal, but he did assist on Doug Mitchell's tally to end the scoring, with less than a minute to go. Earlier during the second half, he did crash into Ameriprise goalie Jim Moule trying to jam the puck loose.

But after the whistle, a grinning Kocur put his arm around an Ameriprise defenseman and slapped the Moule's goalie pads as if to say "no harm, no foul."

"They (Moose) do a lot of good things for charity," said Kocur, lugging his red Detroit Red Wings Alumni equipment bag toward the arena exit. "Derek helped me with my foundation (Joe Kocur Foundation for Children). We had our third annual softball event this past August and raised about \$75,000 in a one-day event."



A ceremonial puck drop preceded Saturday's 9/11 Remembrance Game. Dropping the puck between Ameriprise Financial captain Matt Brown (left) and Detroit Moose captain Derek Fowler is former Detroit Red Wings forward Joe Kocur (center).

"With guys like Derek and Ameriprise, they helped me out so I come and help out for them whenever I can."

Kocur is president of the Red Wings Alumni, which like the Moose goes above and beyond to help others.

"Any way to raise money," Kocur said. "Softball, hockey, whatever it takes. I'm currently president of the Red Wing Alumni so we do a lot of charitable work, give a lot of money to charity."

"The hockey is nothing. It's seeing the smiling faces and what our money helps people to get that they can't normally get."

Lifelong link

Presley, a former Chicago Black Hawks player, played for Ameriprise as did Matt Brown — not a pro by any means, but someone who will always have a unique connection to 9/11.

"It resonates with me a lot because my son (Justin) was born at 8 in the morning that day," said Brown, who works at the Livonia branch of Ameriprise. "He's going to be 30 years old on 9/11 as well."

"It doesn't matter who you are or what your status is, everyone was affected on that day in one way, shape or form. I think it's great to just be able to be a part of this

remembrance of all the people we lost."

The hockey game was merely the backdrop for the opportunity to remember and give back, again following the Fowler/Moose blueprint.

Before the opening face off, there were special festivities including a moment of silence.

In between the two 30-minute halves (played in running time), all police officers and armed forces personnel (whether active or veterans) were invited to center ice for a ceremonial photograph with both teams.

Heartfelt

That was a big moment for Canton's Sharon Loney. Her father, Wilmoth Hodge, who passed away in July at age 91, was a U.S. Marine (1st Lieutenant) during World War II.

"It holds special to my heart because my father was a Marine," Loney said. "... so with what is going around, what happened on that day it was very tragic."

She also was there to support her 21-year-old son, Donald (DJ) Loney, one of the players on the Moose and a graduate of Westland John Glenn. DJ scored two goals and assisted on another.

According to Sharon Loney, one of the things Fowler made clear to her

son when he signed up to play for the Moose was that there was a lot more to the gig than lacing up the skates.

"He told my son DJ, it's not just hockey," she said. "We might play once or twice a week. But the main thing is giving back to the community."

"That's why he expects you to not just play. If you're just going to come out and play hockey then he doesn't want you on the team."

More to come

Fowler is now looking ahead to the next charity event involving the Moose.

The Moose and Red Wings Alumni will play "The Grind Line Reunion Game" on Saturday, Jan. 7, at Canton Arctic Edge Arena.

Might Kocur suit up again for the Moose or not? He laughed heartily when asked about that possibility.

"The Red Wings," he said emphatically about which squad he'd be skating for in that game, to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

And so the hockey heartbeat goes on.

For more information, go to www.DetroitMoose.org.

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CHURCHILL 2, PLYMOUTH 0: Austin Henson figured in both goals Tuesday as host Livonia Churchill (4-2-2, 2-1) stopped the Wildcats (2-6-2, 1-2) in a KLAAs South Division encounter.

Evan Schweizer scored the game-winner at the 43:01 mark from Henson, who in turn put the game away at 52:08 off an assist from Michael Murphy.

Churchill's defensive backbone of Derek Ralls, Matt Koepke, Bryan Barnum and Alex Jones made life easy for goalkeeper Karl Tiama (three saves) to post the shutout.

Meanwhile, the Wildcats lost 2-0 to Saline on Saturday.

OHL HOCKEY

Whalers trade Livonia's Iafrate

Plymouth Whalers President, General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci recently announced the trade of 17-year-old defenseman Max Iafrate to the Kitchener Rangers in exchange for third-round draft choices in the 2015 and 2016 Ontario Hockey League Priority Selection.

Plymouth and Kitchener will also exchange first-round picks in the 2012 and 2013 Canadian Hockey League Import Draft.

Iafrate was selected by the Whalers in the first round (15th overall) in the 2010 OHL Draft. The son of former NHL All-Star defenseman and U.S. Olympian Al Iafrate, played all of last season in Plymouth, scoring five goals with two assists for seven points and 74 PIM's in 62 games.

Vellucci also announced the tryout of free-agent left wing Trent Samuels-Thomas. Samuels-Thomas — 18-years-old and from Hartford, Conn. — played last season with the Drummondville Voltigeurs of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, where he



Defenseman Max Iafrate (No. 34, shown from a 2010-11 game) will be skating for Kitchener this season after the Plymouth Whalers traded him.

scored two goals with five assists for seven points and 25 PIM's in 36 games.

Samuels-Thomas also played with Waterloo of the U.S. Hockey League in 2009-10 and spent 2008-09 with Victory Honda of the Midwest Elite Hockey League, where he scored four goals with four assists for eight points in 31 games.

Plymouth opens the 2011-12 regular season Wednesday, Sept. 21 at Owen Sound with their home opener set for 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24 against Erie Otters at Compuware Arena.

Tickets are available by calling (734) 453-8400.

Noted sportswriter to speak at EMU

Ira Berkow, a Pulitzer Prize-winning sportswriter, will explore the role of Jewish Americans and their passion for baseball during a presentation, "Jews and Baseball: An American Love Story," at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, at Eastern Michigan University's Student Center Auditorium.

Berkow wrote the script for the award-winning documentary of the same name. He will talk about the film and how the project developed. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Berkow was a sports reporter and columnist for the New York Times, from 1981 to 2007, and has written for numerous magazines and newspapers. Among the 18 books he has authored are "Hank Greenberg: The Story of My Life" (1989); and "To the Hoop: The Seasons of a Basketball Life" (1997).

For more information, contact martin.shichtman@emich.edu.

BOYS TENNIS RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 5, CANTON 4 Sept. 13 at Churchill	CANTON 9 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 0 Sept. 12 at John Glenn
No. 1 singles: Matt Cezat (LC) defeated Rohan Vaishnav, 5-7, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Jonathan Martin (LC) def. Alan Halim, 6-3, 6-4; No. 3: Joe Mulka (LC) def. George Zhou, 2-6, 6-0, 6-4; No. 4: Rishabh Arvikar (LC) def. Kirk Wang, 6-3, 6-1.	No. 1 singles: Rohan Vaishnav (C) def. Tom Ruark, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Alan Halim (C) def. Mitch Dean, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3; No. 3: George Zhou (C) def. Nick Stone, 6-2, 6-1; No. 4: Kirk Wang (C) def. Wayne Woodward, 7-5, 6-3.
No. 1 doubles: Josh Wendel-Steve Price (C) def. Brian Baumgartner-Mark Denstaedt, 6-2, 6-2; No. 2: Travis Michalak-James Dodge (C) def. Tejas Soni-Mayuresh, 6-4, 6-1; No. 3: Sarav Shah-Mitchell Trost (C) def. Steven Van Warmer-Riley Prince, 7-5, 6-3; No. 4: Andrew Wade-Lucas Underwood (C) def. Braden Swantick-Ian Clemens, 6-0, 7-6(2); No. 5: Kishan Trivedi-Mit Patel (LC) def. Craig Lou-Paul Lou, 6-0, 6-0.	No. 1 doubles: Josh Wendel-Steve Price (C) def. Shane Wiechert-Chris Sabel, 6-0, 6-3; No. 2: Travis Michalak-James Dodge (C) def. Mike Woodard-Ian Villaraman, 6-1, 6-1; No. 3: Sarav Shah-Mitchell Trost (C) def. Paul Balilio-Karl Lawrence, 6-0, 7-5; No. 4: Andrew Wade-Lucas Underwood (C) def. Charlie Messics-Bill Messics, 6-1, 6-0; No. 5: Paul Lou-Craig Lou (C) def. Ainsworth Orr-Joe Onaiela, 6-3, 6-4.
Dual match records: Canton, 3-1 overall, 3-1 KLAAs South Division; Churchill, 5-3 overall, 2-1.	

GIRLS GOLF RESULTS

CANTON 184 LIVONIA CHURCHILL 189 Sept. 9 at Hilltop G.C.	2-0 KLAAs South Division; Churchill, 2-1 overall, 2-1 KLAAs South.
Canton scorers: Kayla Lagola, 44; Chloe Luyet, 45; Kelsey McDougall, 46; Paige Osler, 49; Kaylie Lobb, 53; Katie Adams, 54.	PLYMOUTH 175 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 237 Sept. 9 at Fox Hills G.C.
Churchill scorers: Jordyn Shepler, 38 (medalist); Maggie McGowan, 47; Jackie Burdette, 49; Nicole Kruse, 55; Claire Rose, 65; Maddie Spooner, 66.	Plymouth scorers: Kelsey Murphy, 38; Sarah Thompson, 41; Sydney Murphy, 46; Lindsay Dean, 50; Danielle Allen, 51; Carly Curvin, 61.
Dual match records: Canton, 2-0 overall,	Dual match record: Plymouth, 1-0 overall, 1-0 KLAAs South Division.



Members of the All Saints Varsity Blue volleyball team, which won a recent pre-season tournament, include (front row, from left) Hadley McCausland, Faith Ellis, Sara Soltis, Brianna Risi, Hailey Hodgson; (back row, from left) coach Kathy Ganich, Taylor Smith, Hannah Stefanek, Tess Ganich, Emily Tanski, Hannah Cohen and coach Anne Ellis. The team is based out of Canton.

All Saints Blue spikers win tourney

The All Saints Catholic School's Girls Varsity Blue volleyball team won the recent pre-season tournament, topping a field of eight teams from across southeast Michigan. The Canton-based team went undefeated in pool play on Aug. 27 with a 6-0 record and the next day defeated St. Fabian in the semifinal (25-5, 25-19) and South Lyon St. Joseph in the final (25-18, 23-25,

15-4). Other teams in the tournament included Our Lady Star of the Sea, St. Michael, St. Patrick of White Lake and a second St. Joseph team. There also was a second All Saints team in the tournament. The ACSC Varsity Blue team got valuable contributions from each and every girl over the tourney weekend. Members of the team include Faith Ellis, Sara

Soltis, Emily Tanski, Brianna Risi, Hailey Hodgson, Hannah Cohen, Taylor Smith, Hadley McCausland, Tess Ganich and Hannah Stefanek. Anne Ellis coaches the team, with assistance from Kathy Ganich. All Saints Catholic School is located at 48735 Warren Road, between Beck and Ridge roads, behind Resurrection Catholic Church.

SPIKERS

Continued from page B1

assists) and Jackie Waite (22 assists) distributed the ball in the front row. "My setters do a good job of mixing it up, (but) continuing to go to them (Turner, Muir) when needed," Kryska said. "And they also hold the block."

Other than misfiring during Plymouth's win with six service errors, Kryska pointed at her team's aggressiveness at the stripe as another plus.

In Game 1, junior outside hitter Erica den Boer served up four points (including an ace) to bump up Canton's lead to 20-13.

Likewise, a five-point run with Muir serving helped the Chiefs get off to a fast start in Game 3 (6-1).

The clinching game went back and forth until den Boer (seven kills, 13 digs) reeled off four points — with the Martin-to-Turner combo accounting for two of them — to give the Chiefs a 15-10 advantage.

Pretty much sealing Plymouth's fate was a four-point serving stint by Turner. During that run, which gave Canton a 22-13 advantage, senior middle blocker Jordan Tubaro accounted for two points on blocks. Tubaro had six kills and three blocks.

"She played very well for us," Kryska said. "She's very good at getting to the right spot at the right time."

Plymouth positives

The Wildcats (11-4, 1-2) did compete for a while thanks to the incredible reactions of Stemberger (11 digs), who somehow handled the hot shots from the other side.

Others to spark Plymouth included junior outside hitter Emilee Beyer (10 kills, 12 digs), senior setter Jessica Scott (17 assists) and junior middle hitter Madelyn Betts (five kills, seven digs).

Marody said senior leadership from Stemberger, Scott and outside hitter Rachael Hille were among the positives in a losing cause.

"If we didn't have Lindsey in the back row, the score would have been a lot worse," Maro-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bumping the ball for Plymouth on Tuesday night is junior outside hitter Emilee Beyer (No. 7), while teammate Lindsey Stemberger (No. 13) watches.

dy said. "With Scott setting, she runs the show, she's the quarterback and she's consistent day in and day out."

"And Rachael Hille has really stepped up. She's a very positive role model on the floor."

Canton now will try to build on the win against the Wildcats as division rival Livonia Churchill visits at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

Kryska said whoever wins that game should have the upper hand in the race for the KLAAs South championship.

Of course, Marody and the Wildcats hope to have something to say about that.

Tourney recaps

• Plymouth did not lose at the UM-D invitational, going 7-0 to capture the tournament.

Marody said her team did not lose a set throughout the day.

Earning spots on the all-tourney team were Stemberger (44 digs, nine aces) and Scott (113 assists, 29 digs).

Other statistical leaders included Hille (13 aces), Emilee Beyer (40 kills, 33 digs) and Olivia Beyer (nine blocks, 28 kills).

Others helping the Wildcats were Betts (34 kills, 13 digs) and Shayla Smalls (20 assists before leaving with an injury).

• Canton also was perfect over the weekend to win the Lakeland tourney.

The Chiefs swept through pool play before knocking off Midland, Lakeland and Dearborn Divine Child in bracket competition. In the final, Canton defeated Divine Child, 25-20, 25-20.

Turner tallied 92 kills, along with 10 blocks,

55 digs and eight aces. Muir, who missed part of the action, chipped in with 31 kills and 40 digs.

Other top contributors included Maggie Deloy (23 kills, 44 digs), den Boer (32 kills, 63 digs), Jordan Diedrick (eight blocks), Becca Middleton (35 digs), Martin (87 assists) and Waite (77 assists).

Rocks lose opener: On Sept. 8 in Salem's season and KLAAs Central Division opener, the Rocks dropped a 3-1 decision to state-ranked South Lyon by scores of 25-8, 26-24, 22-25, 25-23.

Rocks head coach Amanda Nies said South Lyon 6-4 standout Chloe Reinig dominated the first game, but added that Salem did compete hard in the final three games.

"Right away when we came out, we were not able to get an attack and kept giving free balls to South Lyon," Nies said. "They would just feed Chloe and she would then terminate the ball. I honestly think the first 10 points she had about eight of those kills herself."

After making some lineup adjustments, the Rocks were right there with the Lions.

"I am proud of how my girls did not give up after that first game," she said. "That was the very first match of the season. As each match goes on, we are only going to get better."

Katie Vincent (13 digs), Kara Hewett (eight aces), Brooke Berberet (nine kills), Nancy Krutty (20 assists, seven digs) and Quinn Fillingier (six digs, 14 assists) were among Salem's statistical leaders for the night.

PREP CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

KLAAs CROSS COUNTRY INVITATIONAL

Sept. 10 at Willow Metropark BOYS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Hartland, 28 points; 2. Grand Blanc, 58; 3. Livonia Churchill, 73; 4. Canton, 90; 5. Pinckney, 148; 6. Salem, 185; 7. Livonia Franklin, 230; 8. Walled Lake Central, 232; 9. Westland John Glenn, 232; 10. Walled Lake Western, 247; 11. Wayne Memorial, 259.

TOP 20 INDIVIDUALS: 1. Ian McGinn (H), 16:18.66; 2. Zachary Kughn (GB), 16:31.40; 3. Alex Gietek (H), 16:32.42; 4. Michael Cox (P), 16:46.75; 5. Ryan Wise (LC), 16:47.67; 6. Sean Pengelly (H), 16:49.34; 7. Jareb Duggan (H), 17:00.87; 8. Carson Truesdell (GB), 17:09.99; 9. Jeff Molchan (C), 17:11.11; 10. Dilyn Foy (GB), 17:13.11; 11. Brendan Gavitt (H), 17:18.24; 12. Dillon Hanson (GB), 17:23.23; 13. Mitch Clinton (C), 17:23.99; 14. Robert Howard (LC), 17:24.89; 15. Steve McEvilly (S), 17:25.67; 16. Joe Hage (LC), 17:27.28; 17. Keenan Jones (LF), 17:27.79; 18. Ben Yates (LC), 17:28.24; 19. Bradon Conley (C), 17:35.54; 20. George Bowles (LC), 17:37.63.

Canton finishers: 9. Jeff Molchan, 17:11.11; 13. Mitch Clinton, 17:23.99; 19. Bradon Conley, 17:35.54; 22. Billy Toth, 17:43.57; 27. Andrew Stephens, 17:56.67; 38. Tom Walkinshaw, 18:08.29; 45. Evan Dunkle, 18:20.18; 56. Alex Krul, 18:37.25; 70. Josh Joy, 19:04.65; 76. Jackson Lytle, 19:20.93; 79. Mace Gatzek, 19:27.37; 94. Evan Childs, 20:09.05; 96. Jay Dren-

nan, 20:11.35. **Salem finishers:** 15. Steve McEvilly, 17:25.67; 29. Riley Doxtader, 17:59.39; 49. Jeremy Drouillard, 18:29.87; 53. Lewis Campbell, 18:35.21; 54. Donovan Drouillard, 18:35.57; 57. Paul Vander, 18:38.70; 59. Noah Engerer, 18:39.29; 66. Lucas Salinas, 18:52.14; 85. Mason Mills, 19:42.62; 86. Alex Creekmore, 19:45.50; 88. Russell Sharpe, 19:52.49; 90. Jason Rogers, 19:55.53; 99. Connor Hall, 20:20.90; 105. Jason Basanese, 20:49.66.

GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Northville, 41 points; 2. Brighton, 72; 3. Livonia Churchill, 126; 4. Salem, 148; 5. Hartland, 151; 6. Pinckney, 175; 7. Novi, 185; 8. Walled Lake Western, 187; 9. Canton, 195; 10. Plymouth, 247; 11. Walled Lake Central, 270; 12. Livonia Franklin, 275; 13. Westland John Glenn, 418.

TOP 20 INDIVIDUALS: 1. Julia Valenda (WLW), 18:47.49; 2. Kerigan Riley (LC), 19:12.13; 3. Avery Evenson (H), 19:31.86; 4. Gina McNamara (Nville), 19:33.23; 5. Jackie Mullins (Novi), 19:33.94; 6. Taleen Shahrigian (Nville), 19:38.85; 7. Kerri McMahan (Novi), 19:43.94; 8. Hayley Williamson (B), 19:45.04; 9. Erin Zimmer (Nville), 19:56.69; 10. Rachel Coleman (Nville), 20:00.91; 11. Elizabeth Kingshott (B), 20:05.30; 12. Erin Dunne (Nville), 20:10.41; 13. Natalie Halonen (H), 20:27.40; 14. Sydney Anderson (LC), 20:28.39; 15. Emily Wilks (B), 20:28.83; 16. Miranda Haas (Pney), 20:30.15; 17. Lydia Bu-

mann (B), 20:30.59; 18. Marina DeBiasi (Ply), 20:43.49; 19. Alex Rodriguez (Nville), 20:45.27; 20. Alison Robinson (Nville), 20:48.02.

Salem finishers: 25. Autumn Burin, 20:56.56; 32. Natasha Stevenson, 21:06.14; 37. Shannon Flynn, 21:21.31; 39. Alejandra Beltran, 21:27.08; 47. Lauren Arquette, 21:42.10; 49. Rebecca Lopez, 21:44.10; 52. Alexis Foley, 21:50.56; 53. Hanna Stoliker, 21:51.30; 61. Kelly Kerwin, 22:09.26; 69. Amanda Beyer, 22:29.56; 85. Jamie Olson, 22:54.46; 99. Emily Marcero, 23:10.53.

Canton finishers: 24. Emily Southern, 20:55.50; 27. Jessica Siegler, 20:58.81; 48. Allison Spitz, 21:42.38; 56. Anna Gorzalski, 21:53.05; 67. Katie Grimes, 22:22.18; 71. Paige Calvert, 22:31.46; 93. Ellen Grimes, 23:04.10; 96. Laura Murphy, 23:09.53; 103. Hannah Ferec, 23:17.64; 118. Meg Riley, 23:45.73; 119. Olivia McIntee, 23:46.43; 132. Maddison Johnson, 24:32.83; 135. Chloe Cross, 24:41.19; 136. Keara Sullivan, 24:51.00.

Plymouth finishers: 18. Marina DeBiasi, 20:43.49; 72. Hailey Foster, 22:35.06; 73. Alexa Chicon, 22:35.87; 78. Mariah Lax, 22:48.47; 82. Elyse Gryniowicz, 22:51.95; 83. Renae DeBritto, 22:52.16; 104. Shannon Shaver, 23:17.98; 105. Morgan Hanson, 23:18.34; 117. Sophie Roberts, 23:39.60; 123. Lindsey Gryniowicz, 24:04.99; 127. Jordyn Strahm, 24:10.13; 139. Molly McSweeney, 24:58.16; 141. Mandy McSweeney, 25:13.86.

SALEM

Continued from page B1

is the kids ran well, but didn't run aggressive," Gerlach said. "We want them to be a little more aggressive, to go out there and push the pace. Go after a win."

Other Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams had less success at the KLAAs meet, with Canton and Plymouth taking the ninth and 10th spots (scoring 195 and 247 points, respectively).

For the Chiefs, senior Emily Southern and sophomore Jessica Siegler finished in the top 30. Southern's time of 20:55.50 earned her 24th place, while Siegler's 20:58.81 was good for 27th.

Plymouth's bright spot was sophomore Marina DeBiasi. She finished the rain-saturated course in 20:43.49, 18th place.

Gerlach downplayed the soggy conditions, although they did slow times a bit.

"It was wet, but it was cross country," Gerlach said. "That's what cross country is all about, running not on a smooth surface, going out there in the purest of forms."

Canton boys fourth

In the boys race, Canton had a very good showing. The Chiefs finished fourth with 90 points, trailing Hartland (28), Grand

Blanc (58) and Livonia Churchill (73).

Salem's boys took sixth, with 185 points.

For Canton, senior Jeff Molchan's time of 17:11.11 was good for ninth place. Seniors Mitch Clinton (13th, 17:23.99) and Bradon Conley (19th, 17:35.54) also were strong.

Canton freshman Billy Toth showed promise, taking 22nd place with a mark of 17:43.57.

The Rocks' lineup featured junior Steve McEvilly. He came in 15th with a time of 17:25.67.

Finishing 29th for Salem with a time of 17:59.39 was

junior Riley Doxtader, who broke the 18-minute mark for the first time.

"I was very pleased with our effort and execution of the race plan on Saturday," Salem head coach Steve Aspinall said. "Overall, we finished sixth out of 11 teams, which is about where we expected."

In addition to McEvilly and Doxtader, the coach said the Rocks were solid as a pack with the next five runners finishing within 10 seconds of each other.

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FRANK, DEBORAH ANN

Debbie went home to meet her Lord on September 3rd, 2011. A life long resident of Livonia, Debbie leaves her two brothers and sisters-in-law Howard (Virginia) and Phillip (Annette), nephews Brian and Jim, nieces Chelsey and Lauren, godson Seth Teachout, and countless wonderful friends and neighbors. A memorial service to celebrate Debbie's life will be held on October 28th, 2011, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 West Six Mile Road, Livonia (phone: 734-427-1414) at 7 P.M.

GALLO, JAMES M.

Age 81. Beloved husband of Alnora for 59 years. Loving father of Jim (Shelley), Pam (John) Gauld, Matt (Dawn), Greg and Jill (Ross) McCarthy. Dear grandpa of Jenny, Vince, Patrick, Andrea, Emily, Amanda, Joe, Brendan and Conner. Preceded in death by his brother Bob, his sister Eleanor and his grandson Justin. There was a Visitation held Tuesday, September 13th 2-8 p.m. with a 7:30 p.m. Rosary at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia, MI. The Memorial Mass was Wednesday, September 14th 10:30 a.m. at St. Edith Church 15089 Newburgh, Livonia, MI 48154. Memorial donations to St. Edith or Poor Clare Nuns. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

GREEN, WILLIAM

64 years, of Donnellson, Iowa, and formerly of Farmington Hills, Michigan, died Sept. 9, 2011. Born Sept. 18, 1946, at Detroit, Michigan. He is survived by his wife, Lisa Green and one daughter, Sarah. Barr Memorial Chapel in Fort Madison, Iowa, is coordinating arrangements: www.barrmemorialchapel.com

McCANN, JOHN JOSEPH

Age 81, from Livonia died September 10, 2011. Arrangements by L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Westland.

May you find comfort in Family and Friends



RIZZO, EUGENE

Age 79, September 11, 2011. Loving husband of 50 years to Janet. Devoted father to Marty (Beth), Greg (Kathy), Pam (Kurt)Keller, Bryan and David. Dear grandfather of Mark, Kevin, Amy, Greg, Ari and Travis. He will also be missed by many nieces, nephews and dear friends. Visitation Tuesday 5-9 pm and Wednesday 2-9 pm with a Rosary Service at 7 pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 W. Six Mile, Livonia, MI 48152. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday at St. Michael Catholic Church, 11411 Hubbard St. Livonia, MI 48150. Eugene will lie in state at the church from 10 am until the funeral Mass at 10:30 am. Donations to the American Cancer Society, the American Diabetes Foundation or St. John Hospice. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com.



SPARKS, HELEN "PENNY"

Age 82 of Lake, MI, passed away Sunday, September 11, 2011, formerly of Garden City. Penny is preceded in death by her husband Olin "Sparkie" after 53 wonderful years. She is survived by her children Susan Harrison of Livonia, Kathleen Sparks of Manchester, N.H., Keith (Kathy) Sparks of Canton and Brian Sparks of Garden City; many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Penny was also predeceased in death by her son Robert and sisters Margaret and Rosemary. Penny volunteered for many different organizations. Penny will be remembered as a loyal friend to her children and everyone else that knew her. Services have taken place at the Farwell Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home on Wednesday, September 14th. A visitation was held at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Livonia, Wednesday, September 14th. A Committal Service will be held at the St. Hedwig Catholic Cemetery in Dearborn Heights on Thursday at 10:30 A.M. Memorials may be made to the Little Sisters of the Poor in Oregon, Ohio. Please share a memory of Penny by signing her guestbook at: www.rgharris.com.

SMITH (GLENN), ETHEL "JOANN"

Born 6-11-36 passed away 8-28-11. Joann resided in Farmington Hills, MI. She is survived by her husband William (Bill) Smith, and children Ron Smith (Judi), Terri Mahakian (Mike) and grand children, Chris, Nereida, Lisa, and Kelly along with 5 great grandchildren. Joann loved to travel, cook and care for her family. She will be greatly missed.



WOODS, IRENE MARIE

Age 91, of Hale, MI died Tuesday, August 16, 2011 at Bortz Health Care in Rose City. She was born February 8, 1920 in Mikado, MI to August Lange and Minnie Lange. Her father was born in Stedine, Germany and her mother in Saginaw, MI. Irene met Henry Carl Woods on a blind date 67 years ago and married him on February 21st, 1940. She enjoyed her small lake home that Henry built for them when he retired from Ford Motor Company as an inspector. Irene also enjoyed playing the piano, accordion and violin. She would play these instruments at her brother's farm in Mikado, MI where they would have home parties with family and friends. Irene was the youngest of 12 children. She is preceded in death by her husband, Henry Woods and sisters, Elsie Clark of Alpena, MI and Selma McMillen of Saginaw, MI, her brothers, Art Lange, Ed Lange, Fritz Lange and Onnie Lange, they all were of Mikado, MI and Mike Lange of Skokie, IL. Irene has two daughters, Sally (Bill) Hurrelbrink of Westland, MI and Judy Drury of Conway, MI. Irene is also survived by her grandsons, Mark Hurrelbrink of Westland, MI; James (Laurie) Drury of Scottsdale, AZ, Thomas Drury of Harbor Springs, MI and one great-grandchild, Tai Jaxx Drury of Harbor Springs, MI. Visitation took place on Monday at 12 until 2pm, funeral service was held at 2pm Monday, August 22nd at Hale Chapel, Buresh Funeral Home, 121 S. Washington, Hale, MI with Rev. Rob Nordin officiating Interment: Esmond Evergreen Cemetery. Memorial contributions are suggested to a local hospice of your choice. Those wishing to express words of sympathy may do so at: BureshFuneralHomes.com

Livonia church accepting used eyeglasses for needy

The Rev. Todd Lackie says his congregation at Kenwood Church in Livonia is "up to some good" with its latest collection drive for the needy.

The church gave away thousands of gently-used items for free to the public last month and recently collected nearly 3,000 cans of pop for House Christian Fellowship to

distribute to thirsty students on "move in day" at Eastern Michigan University. Now it's focusing on eyeglasses that will be sent to Haiti for distribution.

"After we collect the eyeglasses, they will be sent to an optometrist who will read and record the prescription for the lenses," Lackie wrote in

an e-mail to the Observer. "What a great use for something that most of us just throw in a drawer and forget."

The church keeps a drop box by its main entrance. It's available for donations at all hours, daily. The collection continues through Sept. 25. Questions? Call the church at (248) 476-8222.

Congregation sets High Holy day services

Congregation Bet Chaverim will open its doors to worshippers of any religious background for High Holy Day services on a donation basis.

The Congregation is home to Jewish families of different backgrounds, including interfaith families. It will celebrate Rosh Hashanah — Jewish New Year — and welcome the year 5772 at 7 p.m. Sept. 28 and 10 a.m., Sept. 29.

The services will include prayer and reflection, along with the tradition of listening to the blowing of the shofar, an instrument made from the horn of a male sheep, and eating sweet food, such as dipped apples or challah bread in honey, in hopes of having a sweet year.

"The High Holy Days always seem to come at such a busy time of year, with the starting of school and new schedules," said member Staci Ollar. "I enjoy the solace and time to reflect on the past year while also thinking about the upcoming year. It gives me time to take a break from my hectic schedule and think about the things that really matter."

On Yom Kippur — Day of Atonement — congregation members fast and reflect on the sins of the past year.

"As human beings we all make mistakes and that is going to happen, but recognizing your errors and asking for forgiveness is a way to cleanse the soul and gives you an opportunity to start fresh," Ollar said.

Yom Kippur always occurs on the tenth day after Rosh Hashanah. The time period from Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur is referred to as "The High Holy Days," during which individuals reflect and ask others for forgiveness for mistakes or misgivings that have occurred throughout the year.

Yom Kipper services will be held at 7 p.m. on Oct. 7 and 10 a.m. Oct. 8, with a closing service and "break the fast" group dinner at 5 p.m. Oct. 8.

All services are held at Congregation Bet Chaverim, hosted at Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 Ridge Rd., Canton.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Feel free to include relevant photos as attached jpgs. Or mail items to Dargay, Observer, 615 Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226.

per person plated dinner, speaker and awards. Dr. Wesley Brun is the guest speaker. RSVP by Sept. 19 via phone, mail or Paypal **Contact:** (248) 474-4701 or visit www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com

Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 200 or www.livoniast-michael.org

CONCERT
Time/Date: Doors open at 5 p.m., spaghetti dinner served at 6:30 p.m., concert starts at 7 p.m.; Sept. 24

Location: Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford Road, Garden City

Details: The Men of Grace will sing at this fundraiser for Grace Centers of Hope. Tickets are a \$10 donation. Buy them online at gcofundraiser.eventbrite.com **Contact:** www.gardencitypresbyterian.com

Sept. 15-30

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Time/Date: 1:30 p.m. Sept. 25

Location: Nardin Park Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Samaritan Counseling Center of Southeastern Michigan celebrates its 25th anniversary with a \$25

BIBLE STUDY
Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the first and third Tuesday beginning Sept. 20

Location: St. Michael the Archangel School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Catholic author and bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads a study of Letter to the Hebrews. The sessions are open to all, regardless of faith or parish affiliation

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<p>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</p> <p>OPEN ARMS CHURCH Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Children's Programs Available Kid's Stop Preschool Now Enrolling 248.474.0001 Meet our New Pastor Grady Jensen & Assoc. Pastor Abe Fassini 33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Meridian Across from Joe's Produce 248.471.5282</p>	<p>For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com</p> <p>CONGREGATIONAL</p> <p>North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Falth - Freedom - Fellowship Ministers Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron OE08747546</p>		



Sarah Faix plays Marian and Matt Peckham is Harold Hill in the Spotlight Players' production of "The Music Man," 8 p.m. Sept. 16-17, 23-24 and 2 p.m. Sept. 17-18, 24-25 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton.

Spotlight Players bring 'River City' to Canton

Spotlight Players opens its new season with the Tony award-winning musical comedy, *The Music Man*, Friday, Sept. 16 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

The Music Man tells the story of fast talking traveling salesman Harold Hill, whose con is to persuade towns to invest in a boy's brass band that never materializes. But Hill gets more than he bargained for in River City when his love for the town librarian provokes a dormant conscience.

Phil Lajo, Canton Township supervisor, plays the role of the conductor in the play. Matt Peckham plays Harold Hill and Sarah Faix plays Marian. The show is co-directed

and choreographed by Lia De Biasi and Olivia Rhoades. Musical direction is by Rebecca Biber.

"*The Music Man* is a classic show that is fun for everyone: anyone who has played an instrument, those who enjoy a good love story, and anyone who gets a kick out of quaint and funny characters whose intentions are good but somewhat misguided," stated Biber in a press release. "Audience members will recognize songs such as *76 trombones*, *Til There Was You*, and of course *Ya Got Trouble*."

The Music Man was brought to the stage in 1957 and later made into a 1962 movie starring Robert Preston,

as well as a made-for-TV remake in 2003 featuring Matthew Broderick and Kristen Chenoweth.

Tickets for the Spotlight Players' production, which runs Sept. 16-25, are \$18 for adults and \$16 for senior citizens and students under 19. Call the Village Theater box office at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or visit www.spotlightplayersmi.org. They're also available at The Summit on the Park or at the door one hour before show time.

The Village Theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. The Village Theater is handicap accessible and has a concession stand with snacks, coffee, beer and wine.

Restaurant crawl benefits theater

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, in a joint effort with the Friends of the Penn, will present their 6th Annual PENN-Tastic Downtown Plymouth Restaurant Crawl 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28. "Crawlers" can walk around downtown Plymouth enjoying delicious samples and treats from many of their favorite Plymouth restaurants and sweet shops.

This year's participants include Box Bar; Cellar 849; Compari's; Ironwood Grill; Jimmy John's; Nico & Vali Italian Eatery; Panera; Perfectly Sweet/Houle and Yogurt Palooza. Attendees will get a chance to vote for their favorite taste and restaurant.

Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available at the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail, and Sun & Snow, 388 Main, in downtown Plymouth. Adult tickets are \$20, and children 10 and under are \$15. For more information on the Crawl, call

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Folk show offers open mic

BaseLine Folk Society will begin its 17th season Saturday, Sept. 17 with Marty Kohn and Friends as featured performers.

BaseLine Folk Society promotes and preserves the fine art of traditional acoustical folk music through monthly performances and open mic sessions.

The first show of the season will run from 7-9 p.m. Saturday at the JWH Center for the Arts, home of the Plymouth Community Arts Council,

774 Sheldon, Plymouth.

Open mic sign-up runs 6:15-6:45 p.m. Eight open mic spots are available. If more than eight performers sign-up, a lottery will be held for the open mic spots. Each musician performs two songs, cover or original.

Cathy Fitzpatrick, singer/songwriter, will host the session. Admission is \$5.

Annual memberships are available for both individuals and families. Individual memberships

cost \$25 and include free admission to monthly open mic concerts from Sept.-May. A family membership costs \$50 and includes free admission for the season for a couple and their children.

BaseLine Folk Society is a non-profit organization.

For more information call Mike Mullen, founder and president of BaseLine Folk Society, at (248) 719-3464 or e-mail him at mjmullen@yahoo.com.

Pastels, photography on exhibit in Canton

Canton artists, Mark Alpers and Ronald J. Warunek, will show their works Sunday, Sept. 18-Nov. 12 at D&M Art Studio, 8691 Liley, Canton.

A free champagne and dessert reception will open the show from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18. Warunek, who will show pastels, is a retired architect who took a series of college aptitude tests after high school and discovered he had an aptitude for art. He took a few college art classes in drawing and painting and then pursued a career in architecture. Over the years, he continued to work on an occasional painting or architectural rendering, but mostly spent his spare time doing woodworking or design-oriented construction projects. In 2009 he became a member of Three Cities Art Club, which sparked his desire to continually cre-

ate new works of art. Since that time he has amassed a large body of work. Many of his pieces will be on display and available for purchase at D&M Studio.

Alpers has had an interest in photography and painting for more than 30 years. He concentrated more on his painting until recently when he realized that photography was becoming more important in his artistic expression. Over the past 10 years, in his spare time, he has taught art at D & M Art Studio. In the corporate world, Alpers is a Web developer, which influences his ability to visualize light patterns in nature for his photography.

This is his first photography exhibit. For more information, call (734) 453-3710, e-mail dmarartist1@aol.com or visit www.dmarstudio.com.

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For more information and a complete list of sponsors please visit www.cityofwestland.com

Karen Kron of Livonia, (left) is Artie, Autumn Thiellesen of Ferndale is Echo and Stephanie Nichols of Troy plays Dorothea in UDM Theatre Company's production of "Eleemosynary."



PHOTO BY UDM THEATRE

Auditions set for national anthem singers

The Detroit Pistons organization is looking for singers who can belt out *The Star Spangled Banner* with style and ease before a crowd of 22,076 fans during the team's home games.

Tryouts will be held beginning at 3 p.m., Sept. 28 at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Singers will be given 80 seconds to sing the anthem a cappella on the arena floor and a select few will be chosen to sing before a 2011-12 regular season Pistons game. Singers must be 11 or older to be eligible and 11- to 18-year-olds must have consent from a parent or guardian.

"Every year we receive more tapes than we have games to sing the anthem," said Tim Dameron, game presentation manager for Palace Sports & Entertainment. "Our goal with tryouts is to give some uniquely talented singers the opportunity to showcase their skills for The Palace crowd."

There is a \$25 registration fee for individuals who sign up before Sept 20 and \$30 after. As part of the registration fee, participants will receive a 200-level ticket to a future Detroit Pistons game and an opportunity to purchase additional 200-level tickets at a discounted price.

Interested singers can register online at www.pistons.com or by calling Tamara Mires in the Pistons sales office at (248) 377-0175 or e-mailing to tmires@palacenet.com.

Drama kicks off Theatre Company season

UDM Theatre Company alumnus Karen Kron of Livonia will help usher in the theater's 41st season with her portrayal of "Artie" in Leo Blessing's *Eleemosynary*. The play, which opens Sept. 30, also features Actor Equity Association member Stephanie Nichols of Troy as Dorothea.

Eleemosynary will run Friday-Sunday, through Oct. 9, at the Marygrove Theatre, 8425 W. McNichols, Detroit. Friday-Saturday performances are at 8 p.m. and Sunday shows are at 2 p.m.

From the eccentric to the cerebral, a mother, daughter and granddaughter live and re-live their relationships with each other, while coming to a personal understanding of the word 'charity' in this poignant play.

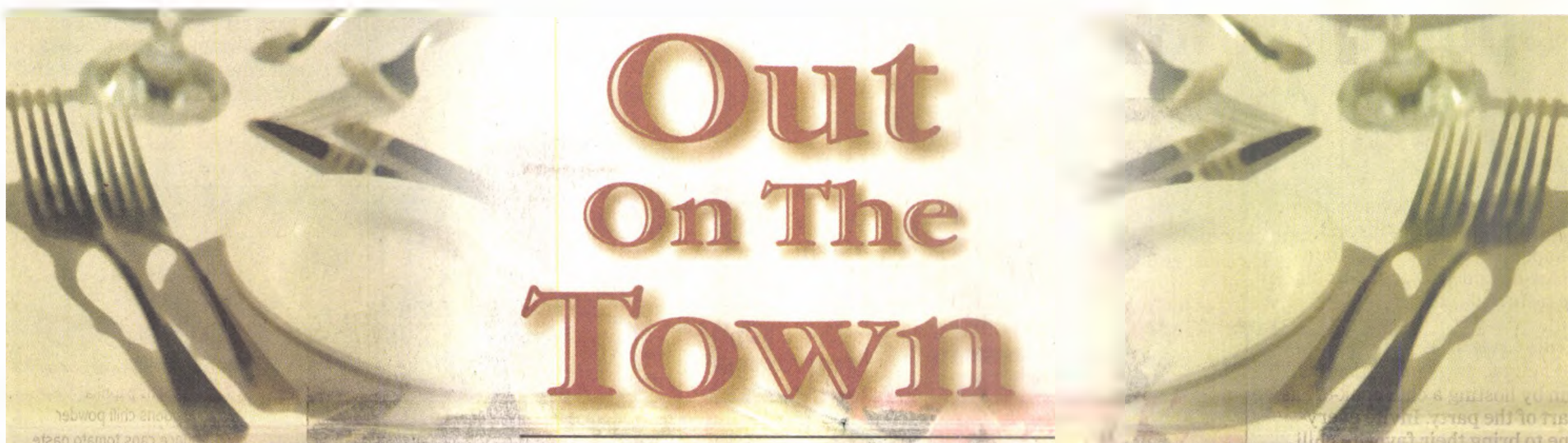
After a life lived trying to justify and celebrate her existence as a woman,

Dorothea suffers a stroke and is cared for by her granddaughter, Echo, played by Autumn Thiellesen of Ferndale. Dorothea's daughter, Artie, long since alienated from both her mother and her daughter, is intellectually gifted, yet emotionally unavailable and unable to maintain a presence in either of their lives. *Eleemosynary* plucks the often delicate strings which bind three generations of mother to daughter.

Adult admission is \$18. Student admission is \$9. Group tickets are available for parties of 10 or more at \$13 per ticket for adults and \$7 for students. A \$3 service fee per order will be charged for non-subscribers. No service fees will be charged to students. Box office hours are noon-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. The Box office will move to the theatre for performances and open one hour

prior to curtain. For tickets, call the box office at (313) 993-3270 or reserve tickets online at <http://theatre.udmercy.edu>.

The Theatre Company will celebrate Season 41 by offering a four-show subscription package for \$41, a savings of 45 percent off regular ticket prices. A one time \$5 processing fee for subscription orders will be charged. All processing fees throughout the season will be waived for subscribers when exchanging tickets. Season tickets are available through Oct. 9. A Student Flex Pass also is available for any full-time student currently enrolled in high school, community college or university. The Student Flex Pass is \$20 and gives students access to unlimited performances of all four shows. A student picture ID is required to purchase a Student Flex Pass.



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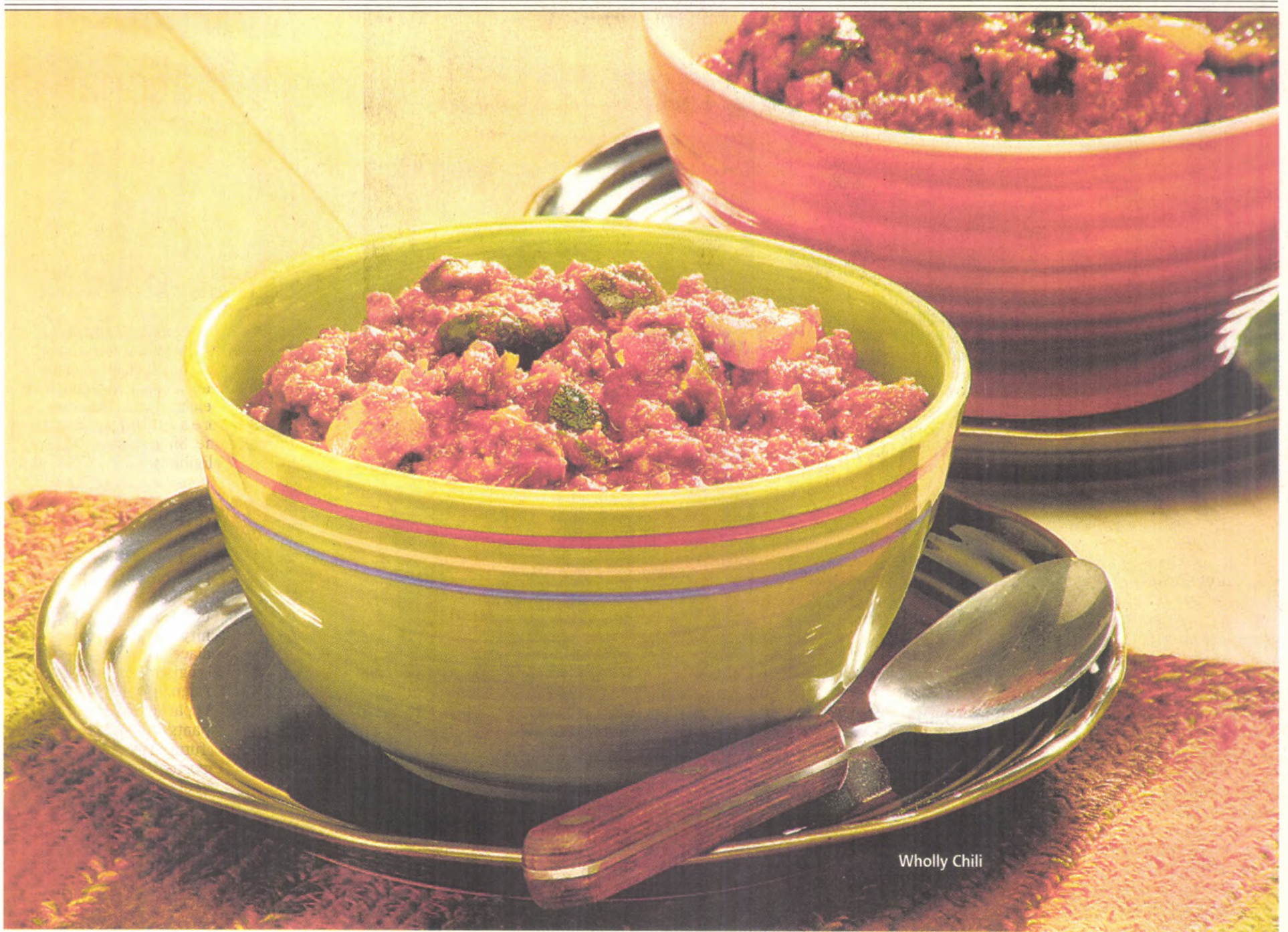
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Wholly Chili

GAME ON! Tips and recipes for a game-day party

You know watching a game is more fun with a bunch of friends — so why not host a game-day party so everyone can cheer on the home team together? Use these tips and recipes as your playbook for a game-day party that scores big on taste and fun.

Chili Champs

Let guests get in on the food fun by hosting a chili cook-off as part of the party. Invite everyone to bring their favorite chili to compete for bragging rights. Offer fun awards for “Hottest,” “Best Tasting” and “Most Creative Ingredients.” You can also have awards for “Best Named Chili” and encourage fun names like “Devil’s Breath Chili” and “Bizzard’s Beak Beef ‘n Beans.”

Set up a toppings bar so everyone can load up on their favorite add ins. Include different kinds of cheeses, peppers, onions, guacamole, salsa, queso and sour cream. Have some crackers and corn bread, too — they’re easy items for non-chili cookers to bring.

Dip Tips

Dips are must-have munchies for hungry fans. And there are plenty of ways you can keep them satisfied:

Keep it simple — Pick up some ready-to-eat dips such as guacamole and spicy salsa. These dips bring great taste to the game-day table — with no fuss from you.

Make it hearty — Feed the frenzy with a hearty Seven Layer Dip and plenty of chips. You can make it the day before and set it out about 30 minutes before kickoff to bring it up to room temperature.

Shake things up — Step up your game by setting out a wide variety of dippers. Have different types of chips like blue corn, sweet potato and salt and vinegar. Get flavored crackers, pita chips and a veggie tray, too.

Make it fancy — Dress things up a bit with cherry tomatoes stuffed with guacamole, or a warm and savory crab dip.

Party Pizzas

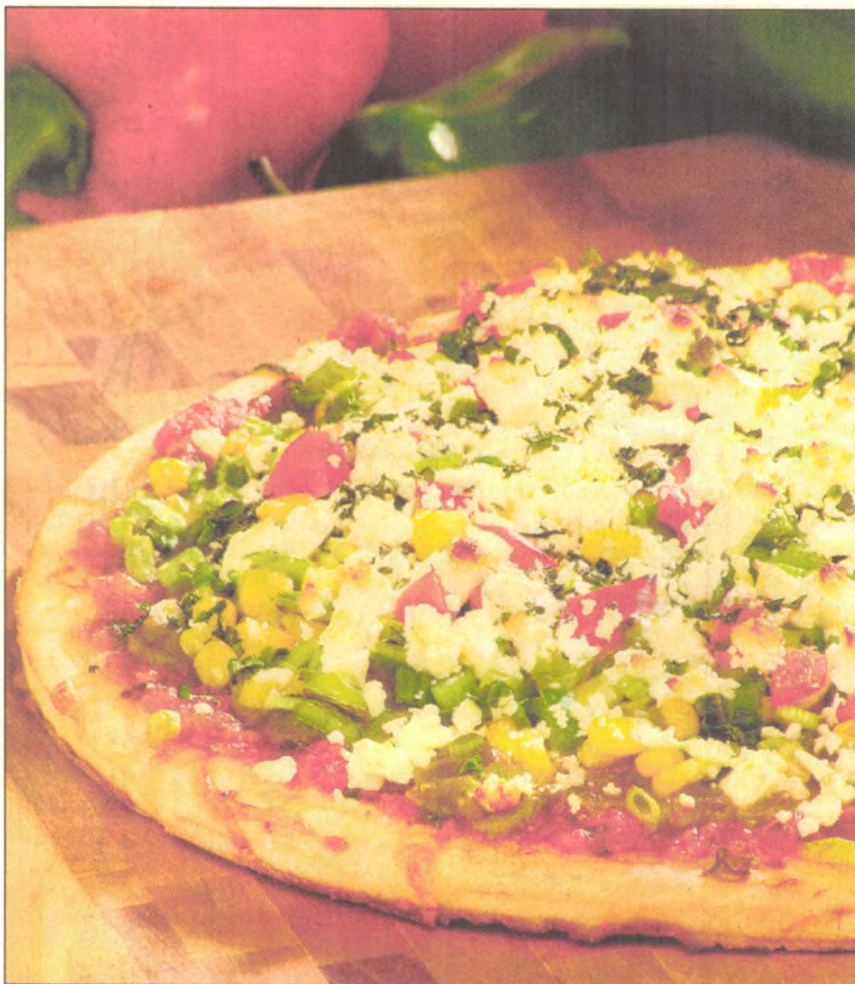
Scratch delivery and frozen pizzas from your playbook. Try a fresh and easy homemade pizza like the California Confetti Pizza. Cut it up into appetizer sized bites to make it even easier to eat.

Set up a pizza bar with heat-and-eat crusts in full and mini sizes that can be piled up with everyone’s toppings of choice. Then, pop them under the broiler or on the grill for a few minutes for quick, customized pizzas.

For more great game-day recipes, visit www.eatwholly.com.



Seven Layer Dip



California Confetti Pizza

California Confetti Pizza

4 ounces guacamole
1 12-inch purchased, baked pizza bread shell
1 tablespoon olive oil
½ cup corn kernels, fresh or canned
½ cup salsa (amount of heat depends on you)
½ cup thinly sliced green onions
¼ cup chopped Anaheim chile
1 cup red bell pepper
1 cup Feta cheese
1 tablespoon chopped, fresh oregano

Brush pizza bread shell with olive oil. Spread salsa over shell. Spread guacamole over salsa. Sprinkle corn, green onions, Anaheim chile, bell pepper, cheese and oregano on top.

Drizzle with 1 tablespoon olive oil. Bake at 450°F until cheese is lightly browned, about 10 minutes.

Courtesy of Family Features

Wholly Chili

3 tablespoons canola oil
4 cups chopped yellow onion
2 large Poblano chilis, diced
3 tablespoons minced garlic
5 pounds ground meat
2 tablespoons kosher salt
2 teaspoons black pepper
1½ tablespoons ground cumin
2 tablespoons Mexican oregano
1½ tablespoons onion powder
3 tablespoons paprika
8 tablespoons chili powder
2 12-ounce cans tomato paste
28 ounces salsa (spiciness depends on you)

3 quarts chicken stock
2 tablespoons Tabasco
Heat oil over medium heat in a large stock pot. When hot, add the onion, Poblano and garlic. Sweat until onions are translucent.

Add ground meat and stir to break it up. When meat is completely brown, drain and return to heat.

Add dried seasonings and stir to combine. Add tomato paste, stir to combine, and allow it to cook for 5 minutes. Add all of the rest of the ingredients, and simmer for 30 minutes. Taste to see if you need any more salt.

For a thicker version (for hot dogs, chili burgers, etc.), omit the chicken stock.

Seven Layer Dip

1 16-ounce can non-fat refried beans
1 9-ounce can bean dip
2 7-ounce packages guacamole, such as Wholly Guacamole in Classic, Spicy or one of each
1 16-ounce container light sour cream (can substitute plain Greek yogurt)

¼ package taco seasoning
¼ teaspoon ground cumin
1 small can sliced black olives
1 large diced tomato
3 green onions, finely chopped
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

Mix refried beans and bean dip together and spread onto the bottom of a 9- by 13-inch pan.

Next, mix sour cream (or yogurt) together with taco seasoning and cumin. Spread on top of the beans in the pan.

Spread guacamole on top of the previous layers then add olives, green onion and tomatoes. Top with the shredded cheese and serve with your favorite chips.

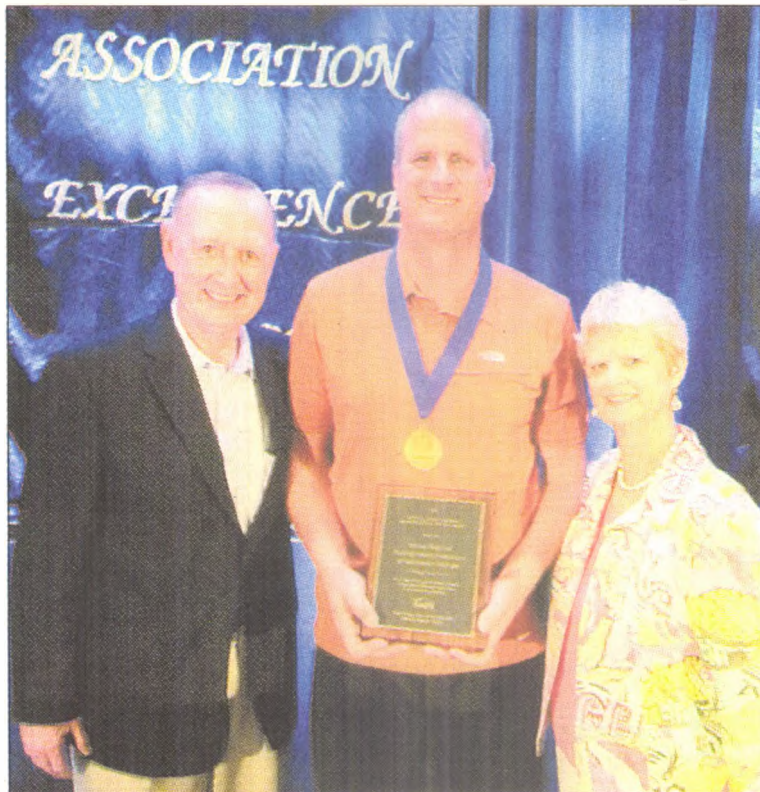
BIA's Stoskopf: honor 'humbling'

By Julie Brown
O&E Staff Writer

Michael Stoskopf, CEO of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan, deflects credit for a national honor he recently received. "It's very humbling," the Williamston, Mich., resident said of being named New Executive Officer of the Year for 2010 by the Executive Officers Council of the National Association of Home Builders. "Really, it's the patience of my family, my faith. It's my staff. It's been my honor and my privilege to be part of the BIA of Southeastern Michigan. The confidence that the board put in me. I just really appreciate their ongoing support. "So really it's not my award, it's a team award." Stoskopf, 47, has served as BIA's CEO for just over three years, commuting to the West Bloomfield headquarters daily. He sees some improvement in home building. "The activity that we have going this summer, and when you look the last 12 months ..."

There were 939 permits from October 2009 going back for previous 12 months for single family homes for the four-county area. From June 2011 for one year back would be 2,250, a significant improvement although there's still room for more. "We've recovered back to about 22 percent of normal," he said. That's for St. Clair County, with Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties also being included. "St. Clair's numbers are so small it's really the bigger

three," he said. Stoskopf's been married almost 25 years to Wendi. The couple has two children ages 20 and 17. The New Executive Officer award is named after a former executive officer, David Lloyd, and is presented to an executive officer of one of NAHB's local or state home builders associations, who has served no more than three years (by Dec. 31 of the award year) in an association management position and is judged to have made major contributions to the profession during this time period. Stoskopf became executive officer of BIA in April 2008, succeeding Irvin H. Yackness who had filled the position for 56 years, until his death in July 2007. "I knew that I'd been submitted," Stoskopf said. "I had no idea until they announced my name I was the winner. A complete surprise." Although nominations for the award were submitted in April 2011, the honoree's name is kept under wraps until August. The award was announced at the council's annual meeting in Naples, Fla., recently. The award nomination was submitted by BIA's 2011 president, Adorno Piccinini of Walbridge in Detroit. "I strongly believe Michael brings an outstanding level of creativity, innovation, experience, insight and energy to the position. I was fortunate to be involved in the decision to bring him on board just three years ago and have worked closely with him ever since. Hiring Michael as our executive officer has proven to be an excellent decision," said



Robert R. Jones (left) of Robert R. Jones Homes and immediate past chairman of the National Association of Home Builders, Michael Stoskopf of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan and Carole Jones of Robert R. Jones Homes in Naples, Fla., where Stoskopf was named New Executive Officer of the Year by the Executive Officers Council of the National Association of Home Builders.

Adorno in a statement. In supporting material for the award nomination, BIA's First Vice President Richard Kligman of Superb Custom Homes in Plymouth said, "In addition to all his valuable business acumen, Michael has an innate ability to get along with people and instinctively supports them, particularly during difficult junctures. Our Executive Committee, Board of Directors, membership and

staff know that we have an excellent leader in place. We are proud of what he has accomplished, grateful for his leadership and we look forward to working with him in the coming years. We all benefit from his encouragement, his motivation and his energy." Stoskopf is the seventh executive officer to serve during BIA's 83-year history.

The BIA contributed to this report.

Check on what warranty covers

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist
Q: We are getting a home warranty from our seller and I am wondering whether or not that is going to protect us with respect to problems that have come up in the condominium.

A: It may or may not as there has been much discourse regarding the adequacy of home warranties and the unwillingness on the part of many home warranty companies to replace as opposed to repairing an item. In checking out the



Robert Meisner

type of warranty you are getting, find out, obviously, who is giving the warranty and find out exactly what the

contract covers and how much the service fee is. For example, pools, spa tubs and other specialty items might not be included. Also check to see whether the company has policies on pre-existing conditions and whether those repairs would be covered. Find out how the company handles complaints about the contractors who handle repairs and ask whether the company will let you buy a new appliance or item at a reduced rate if you would rather have it replaced than repaired. In short, a warranty is only as good as the company behind it and the language that is used in the warranty agreement itself. Get your real estate lawyer specialist to review the warranty as part of a review of your purchase agreement before you sign on the dotted line and always provide a lawyer review contingency in the purchase agreement.

Q: Is it a good idea to have a husband and wife on the board of our condominium?

A: I must respond by saying that it "proverbially" all depends. First, the documents have to provide that both the husband and wife, being presumably joint owners of the condominium, have the right to individually serve on the board. Secondly, the potential husband and wife team must recognize that it could create strife internally in their family. Also, it may create the impression that one family is running the show so to speak and it may create ill will. On the other hand, if the husband and wife were elected by the populace, one can always argue that it was the co-owners' decision to allow them to serve on the board jointly. Sometimes, because of necessity and/or apathy, it necessary to get a level-headed board member and it may end up being the spouse of one of the present directors. In short, it all depends upon the circumstances.

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. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of May 31 to June 3, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
41718 Bedford Dr	\$43,000
47959 Cardiff Ave	\$80,000
8416 Chatham Dr	\$605,000
49551 Courtyard Ln	\$146,000
49817 Courtyard Ln	\$189,000
7101 Foxcreek Dr	\$185,000
45237 Indian Creek Dr	\$183,000
42784 Lilley Pointe Dr	\$55,000
636 Merrimac Rd	\$121,000
3847 Norwich Dr	\$77,000

4015 Norwich Dr	\$85,000
2266 Paddock Ln	\$155,000
47478 Parkgate Ct	\$378,000
42560 Saratoga Rd	\$60,000
GARDEN CITY	
6878 Arcola St	\$34,000
28569 Maplewood St	\$50,000
30355 Rush St	\$58,000
1032 W Rose Ave	\$105,000
LIVONIA	
13904 Beatrice St	\$130,000
16731 Blue Skies Dr	\$173,000
29506 Bobrich St	\$23,000
34070 Bretton Dr	\$194,000
18268 Comstock St	\$150,000
17663 Dolores St	\$96,000
15385 Doris St	\$85,000
17365 Doris St	\$112,000
35041 Elmira St	\$125,000
36667 Grandon St	\$125,000

9809 Horton St	\$150,000
19702 Ingram St	\$78,000
9057 Laurel St	\$90,000
15817 Loveland St	\$174,000
14753 Melvin St	\$138,000
38777 Northfield Ave	\$110,000
15827 Penn Dr	\$190,000
31326 Roycroft St	\$133,000
NORTHVILLE	
44107 Deep Hollow Cir	\$550,000
39636 Glenview Ct	\$237,000
15954 Morningside	\$112,000
39681 Muirfield Ln	\$240,000
42930 Richards Ct	\$60,000
20390 Westview Dr	\$385,000
PLYMOUTH	
13284 Karl Dr	\$365,000
455 Lindsay Av	\$125,000
51067 Northview	\$221,000
9124 Oakcliffe Dr	\$148,000

9174 Tavistock Dr	\$150,000
REDFORD	
18688 Dalby	\$71,000
8905 Dale	\$49,000
20515 Denby	\$25,000
15490 Dixie	\$13,000
18329 Poinciana	\$45,000
8805 Salem	\$51,000
24218 W Chicago	\$25,000
WESTLAND	
38513 Avondale St	\$64,000
6600 Central City Pkwy	\$83,000
33520 Harvard Ave	\$125,000
483 N Bryar St	\$105,000
6305 N Wayne Rd	\$10,000
8160 Parkside Dr	\$166,000
38539 Red Oak St	\$65,000
34111 Sheridan St	\$81,000
7322 W Frumin Ct	\$56,000

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of May 23-27, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
16945 Reedmere Ave	\$290,000
31699 Southview St	\$95,000
BIRMINGHAM	
1283 E Melton Rd	\$105,000
2134 Fairway Dr	\$308,000
1807 Hazel St	\$118,000
740 Henley St	\$380,000
1550 Tully Ct	\$252,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
425 Dunston Rd	\$540,000
1231 Harrow Cir	\$350,000

1940 Klingensmith Rd Unit 43	\$53,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
2620 Alveston Dr	\$145,000
3740 Burning Tree Dr	\$227,000
480 Fox Hills Dr S # 6	\$33,000
5410 Hollow Dr	\$285,000
5075 Inkster Rd	\$175,000
1940 Klingensmith Rd Unit 43	\$75,000
4130 Sandy Ln	\$387,000
3009 Woodcreek Way	\$390,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
1936 Applebrook Dr	\$50,000
2739 Augusta Dr	\$237,000
FARMINGTON	
33306 Oakland Ave	\$161,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
30211 Astor St	\$75,000
29768 Drake Rd	\$118,000
26381 Dundalk St	\$125,000

28089 Hickory Dr	\$240,000
29310 Laurel Dr	\$80,000
39224 Silverthorne Bnd	\$252,000
39275 Silverthorne Bnd	\$258,000
39276 Silverthorne Bnd	\$271,000
39312 Silverthorne Bnd	\$262,000
25658 Skye Dr	\$168,000
FRANKLIN	
26585 Woodlore Rd	\$415,000
30175 Woodside Ct	\$600,000
LATHRUP VILLAGE	
18797 Wiltshire Blvd	\$80,000
MILFORD	
1466 Hunters Lake Dr	\$807,000
301 N Main St	\$226,000
301 N Main St	\$221,000
1105 Riverside St	\$225,000
NOVI	
50702 Amesburg Dr	\$492,000
50654 Billeca Dr	\$495,000
50750 Calvert Isle Dr	\$518,000

22346 Carlisle Ct	\$385,000
42038 Cherry Hill Rd	\$99,000
46401 Grand River Ave	\$271,000
27974 Middleton Dr	\$150,000
24790 Nepavine	\$474,000
24425 Olde Orchard St	\$58,000
24330 Saybrook Ct	\$555,000
SOUTH LYON	
430 E Liberty St	\$26,000
61845 Richfield St	\$115,000
SOUTHFIELD	
15945 Addison St	\$32,000
20330 Alhambra St	\$63,000
30540 Balewood St	\$93,000
19751 Jeanette St	\$36,000
29085 Marshall St	\$10,000
17160 Nadora St	\$80,000
29470 Northbrook Ct	\$56,000
25024 Pendleton Dr	\$32,000
WHITE LAKE	
1801 Bogie Lake Rd	\$145,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty will offer a Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Attendees will learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee and free pre-licensing course. For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

Designation

Bartley Patterson has received his CCS "Certified Commercial Specialist" designation. The CCS designation is designed to be the first step into the commercial marketplace with detailed training on effective pricing, ROI analysis and investment opportunities. Patterson said, "This will be a great opportunity to participate in the commercial market in the surrounding areas of Canton and Plymouth. I look forward to using this training to help clients make advised decisions in the commercial marketplace."



Bart Patterson

Patterson has been a licensed residential Realtor since 1986 and started with RE/MAX Classic at that same time. He is currently the vice president and general manager of RE/MAX Classic and will continue in that capacity. Patterson has also served his community in many areas as chairman of the Board for the Canton Chamber of Commerce, chair of the Technology Committee and is a member of the Marketing Partnership with the Canton Township, Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Development Authority. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the local Western Wayne Oakland County Area Association of Realtors.

BIA

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present the

Real Estate Continuing Education Course on Tuesday, Sept. 20, and again on Thursday, Oct. 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

Lori Chmura of Middleton Training will present an update on real estate law and practices as required for six hours of state-mandated Real Estate Continuing Education. Only one of the two classes is required.

Registration is \$80 per person for BIA members and \$125 per person for guests. Continental breakfast and lunch are included in the registration. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present the BIA 2011 Golf Outing and Inaugural Michigan Association of Home Builders (MAHB) Golf Challenge on Tuesday, Sept. 27, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Links Of Novi, 50395 W. 10

Mile, Novi. The golf course is located at 10 Mile and Beck. The event sponsor is Carter Lumber.

Registration and range practice begins at 9:00 a.m. with a 10 a.m. shotgun start. Lunch is included at the turn. A buffet steak dinner and awards start at 3 p.m. Three foursomes will be selected to represent BIA as part of the Inaugural MAHB Region VII Golf Challenge against teams from the home builders associations of Greater Ann Arbor, Lenawee County, Monroe County and Metro Flint. The association with the lowest three-team combined score will be awarded the 2011 Trophy and bragging rights for the next year. To be eligible to participate in the Golf

Challenge, all participants from a foursome must be current association members.

Registration is \$75 for the complete golf package or \$30 for dinner only. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

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Expires 9/30/11 EHO

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Offer expires 9/30/11 EHO

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Southfield 48034
248-208-2500
ext 2522 for more details NMLS #333675.
www.4collegepark.com

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Financing Arranged Through Sun Homes Services, Inc NMLS # 333675. These financing terms are for example purposes only and are not an offer to extend credit. For details on available financing terms, please ask for a licensed MLO or contact Sun Homes Services, Inc

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Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Stratford's river
- Fast-talk
- Vey serious
- Battery size
- Pre-owned
- Shrill
- Wine's partner
- Double helix
- Eats hearty (2 wds.)
- Overfed
- Forgo
- Commerce
- Day of the wk.
- Nightwear, for short
- Always, to the bard
- Moth-eaten
- A crowd, for Caesar?
- Tumbler's pad
- Half of a
- Relieve
- Swings along

DOWN

- Mag fillers
- Crooner
- Damone
- Bobby of the NHL
- Cried out for
- Rain forest parrot
- Open-wide word
- Forty-niner's quest (2 wds.)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

DEF	STOA	FAME
ALL	CRTS	UFOS
RIE	AUTHENTIC	
NESTLE	EGG	
HEY	RICCI	
BABA	RIPE	EAR
ASU	SADAT	LAO
NIL	TWIN	PENN
GABLE	GIS	
OWE	FACTOR	
DRAGSTRIP	IRA	
IAGO	TONE	ACT
MEAN	AWED	LAS

8 Estimate
9 Wife of Osiris
10 Start of a famous boast
11 TV genie portrayer

16 Space width
20 Dorm climbers
21 Mushroom part
22 Caller's code
23 Like a sourball
25 Blazing up
27 Body of cultural values
29 Fruity desserts
30 Ms. Clayburgh
31 Rocket housing
34 Spring a leak
39 Like Spock's ears
40 Starbucks order
41 Gray-green shrubs
43 Host's plea
44 "En garde" weapon
45 Stake
47 Mans auto race
50 Pirate's swig
51 Buron site
52 Ordinance
53 Fabric meas.

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

Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers
Like sudoku? 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!

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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!

Word Search — Clipping Coupons

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

budget discount money register scanner
clipping frugal newspaper sale store
coupons internet raincheck savings supermarket

Sudoku CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

Word Search CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

W
O
R
D
S
E
A
R
C
H
P
U
Z
Z
L
E
S
C
O
U
P
O
N
S

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Co-op Services Credit Union (734) 466-6113	4.375	0	3.5	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank (313) 565-3100	4.375	0	3.5	0	A
Fifth Third Bank (800) 792-8830	4.125	0	3.25	0	J/V/F
First State Bank (800) 372-2205	4.25	0	3.375	0	J/F
Gold Star Mortgage (800) 784-1074	4	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage (800) 991-9922	4	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
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Delivery Driver/Warehouse

Canton, Michigan
Granite/Quartz Slab
Distributor seeking delivery
driver/warehouse assistant.
CDL B w/air brakes required.
Daily routes in Michigan/
Ohio. Work in warehouse
moving slabs with overhead
crane when not driving.
Industry exp. preferred.
Email resume to:
mhillard@intl-td.com

DRIVER/SALES

\$675-\$975/wk
Training Provided. Valid
Driver's License required.
Call between 10am-2pm.
(248) 471-5200

Durham School Services is Now Hiring Drivers

for the 2011-2012 School
Year in Birmingham,
Southfield, S. Redford
& Northville, MI
•CDL with P/S
•Endorsements preferred
•No Nights/Weekends/
Holidays Required
•Competitive Pay
•Opportunity to Mentor
our Youth
Apply online at:
www.durham
schoolservices.com
or call:
Birmingham: 248-203-3940
Southfield: 248-352-8755
Northville: 248-344-8478
South Redford: 313-535-4000 x1189

INFANT ROOM TEACHER

Must have state required
infant toddler class.
Christian Center in Plymouth.
(734) 455-3196

Joe's Produce/Gourmet Market is currently taking applications for:

★ CLOSING MANAGER
Produce exp. preferred
★ PRODUCE OPENERS
Please Send Resume to:
joes-career@att.net

Lawn Technicians

Min. starting pay \$10/hr.
Will train! Benefits & com-
mission. Must have valid/
good driving record.
MI Property Maintenance
Livonia 734-793-5135

Help Wanted-General

WAREHOUSE ORDER SELECTOR
TRAINEE \$-15/hr Benefits
-Call (313)292-9300 Pull Fill
orders use Hilo & Pallet Jack
E-1 \$185 J#202,25

Help Wanted-Office

Administrative Assistant/ Office Manager
For busy commercial real
estate office in Farmington
Hills. Must have real estate
experience, be proficient in
Microsoft Office (Word,
Excel, Powerpoint), be
able to multi task, priori-
tize your work and enjoy
being busy all the time.
We are looking for some-
one who wants to work
and is dependable. This is
an independent contractor
position. The office hours
are Mon-Fri, 8a.m. - 5p.m.
Send your resumes to
schwarz.commercial@gmail.com

Help Wanted-Medical

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Approx. 30 hrs. for busy
podiatric office. Exp. only.
Will train for podiatry.
Email: skb351@yahoo.com
Fax: (248) 471-7298

Help Wanted-Medical

MEDICAL ASSISTANT/Full-Time
Immediate opening for physi-
cian's office in Farmington
Hills. Computer exp. neces-
sary. Email resume:
surplast1@aol.com

Help Wanted-Medical

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time. 10-15 hrs/wk.
General Surgeon office.
Exp. is preferred.
Fax resume: 734-459-1035

Help Wanted-General

ENGINEERING
Global - Midwest (non-
auto) Manufacturing Co
seeks Emerging Leaders:
Ideal candidate has 4-6
years experience within
multinational manufactur-
ing co; Strong hands-on,
site manufacturing experi-
ence required. Launch
experience a plus. Quali-
fications include: ability to
travel and relocate globally,
Bachelor's degree in elec-
trical, mechanical or indus-
trial engineering required,
MBA/ Master's preferred
and bilingual desired. EOE
Send your resume to:
ENLD@coconfidential.com

ENGINEERS

ATW
Due to Increase in Sales,
Our Livonia Operation is
adding additional
resources:
We have multiple
openings for
Qualified Controls and Mechanical Engineers
who want to be part of a
highly skilled workforce
that produces "State of the
Art" Automotive test
equipment & assembly
systems.
ATW offers competitive
salary, excellent benefits
& 401k with match.
If you have experience in
Automation/Test industry,
Or feel that your skills and
experience fits our needs
please contact us at:
bprovovich@atwautomat-
ion.com
or send your resume to
Human Resources
313 Mound Street
Dayton Ohio, 45402.
ATW Automation is an
equal opportunity employ-
er

EXCAVATING HELP

Must have CDL with good
driving record. Must have
equip. exp. & willing to do
any labor involved in the job.
(248) 486-3152

GARDNER-WHITE FURNITURE is Growing!

Immediate openings for
Sales Associates
at all locations and
Delivery Teams/ Drivers.
Experience preferred.
Great Pay!
Amazing Benefits!
Apply Online Today!
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white.com/apply**

PROPERTY MGMT

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A REWARDING CAREER IN PROPERTY MANAGEMENT?
Dart Properties II LLC, a full-
service property management
company, is seeking a quali-
fied, customer-service orien-
ted individual to fill the posi-
tion of Maintenance Super-
visor. Must have and maintain
a valid Michigan driver's
license with an acceptable
driving record. Please do not
call to follow up on your
application as this will only
delay the process. Resumes
will not be accepted. You may
view a complete job descrip-
tion and apply online at:
www.dartproperties.com
(EOE)

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

Master Automatic
A Tier 1, high volume sup-
plier is seeking a produc-
tion supervisor. Must have
experience in supervision
and have a precision
machining background.
The ideal candidate will
possess excellent people
skills, problem resolution
ability, technical skills with
precision machining equip-
ment & leadership skills.
Afternoon shift. Please
submit resume and salary
requirements.
Master Automatic Inc
40485 Schoolcraft Rd
Plymouth, MI 48170
Fax 734-459-4598
hr@masterautomatic.com

STOCK GROCERIES

2 32 hr/wk Positions
2 Morning Shift
1 Afternoon Shift.
Must have experience.
Apply in person:
Holiday Market
520 S. Lilley Rd.
Canton, 48188-1104

TEACHER'S AIDE

Full & Part-Time.
Experience helpful.
Farmington Hills
Nursery School
(248) 476-3110

TELEMARKETERS

No exp. necessary.
Good pay for good people!
25 hours per week.
Start immediately!
Open Mon-Fri, 9-3pm.
Call Shari:
(248) 231-2102

Transportation Supervisor/Coordinator

An extremely busy ground
transportation provider is
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Help Wanted-Medical

Arbor Hospice

The Path to a Full Life is Caring. Arbor Hospice provides exceptional, compassionate end-of-life care to seriously ill patients and their families throughout southeastern Michigan. Widely recognized as a model of excellence, our Agency offers families in need the kind of care few can provide.

We have experienced unprecedented growth in the Downriver, Dearborn and Western Wayne County communities. As a result, we invite you to explore the following full time, part time and contingent opportunities:

- RN On Call, After Hours Care
- Nurse Liaison
- Hospice Aide
- Social Worker

Current Michigan license required. Prior hospice experience strongly considered. We offer competitive compensation rates, benefits and flexible scheduling. For more information regarding these opportunities, or to apply online, please visit our website at www.arborhospice.org

Help Wanted-Sales

Canvassing Representatives

We are hiring for self-motivated individuals with a strong desire to excel, are punctual, professional, dependable and energetic who are interested in weekly bonuses and earnings of up to

\$20 Per Hour

Our Canvassing Team visits prospective homes and sets demo appointments with the homeowners for our Sales Representatives

If you have the desire to work in an exciting, fast paced environment call today!

(734) 462-6019

CONSULTING COMPANY Expanding in this area. Huge income potential. US based. Call 248-677-6082

SALES REPRESENTATIVES Join our winning team of Professionals! Specialized Training Provided to All State of the art technology and marketing support Your leads are ALL pre-sell! Absolutely NO Cold Calls! Contact Client to schedule your interview

(734) 462-6019 Or submit a resume for consideration to ggcareers@outgrate.com

BUY & SELL

hometownlife.com

Estate Sales

ANOTHER BERNARD DAVIS ESTATE SALE 313-837-1993
Palmer Wood
19244 Stratford, Detroit Sept. 16-17, 8:45am-4pm. Go to estate-sales.net for more info. SEE YOU THERE!!!

WESTLAND ESTATE SALE
Everything must go! Many brand new items, household, furniture, clothing, appli. 7627 Vernoy, Sept 15-16, 10-4pm.

Household Goods

CHERRY Queen Anne Dining Table with 2 leaves, contour pads, beautiful 2 pc. china cabinet is nicely lit & mirrored back. \$1800. (248) 347-4498

LAMPS: Beds, dressers, sofas, chairs, dining table & chairs, stereo system, antique sewing machine. Call: (248) 514-6573

Riding Mower, Sofas, recliners, TV's, tables, armchairs & bunk beds. MOVING! ALL MUST GO! (734) 444-5144

Appliances

DOUBLE WALL OVEN - GE: Model JKP27, black, excel cond, \$265. Call: (248) 207-8846

Exercise/Fitness Equipment

TREADMILL - Pro-form distance Trainer Treadmill. Like new. \$300/best offer. 313-645-5454

Farm Equipment

FARM TRACTOR - 1971 Ford 2000 tractor with front hydraulic plow. Exc cond. 1570 hours. \$4100. 248-437-9582

Miscellaneous For Sale

AVON from 50's-60's: 5 boxes of Avon. \$250. 734-595-4483

MOBILITY SCOOTER - Fortess 1700, 3 wheels. Exc cond., needs nothing. Disassemble in 5 places. \$450. SOLDE.

Sporting Goods

Recumbent Cycle, \$75. Westlow Candencia Treadmill 830, \$100. Both for \$150. 248-924-8567

SCHWINN BIKE - 21 SPEED **CRISS CROSS:** Recreational men's bike, black, excel cond. \$120. Call: (248) 207-8846

Birds & Fish

BIRD FAIR Sat., Sept. 17th 9am-4pm. Livonia Elks Lodge #2246. 3117 Plymouth Rd. Livonia. Adults \$3, children under 12 FREE. Birds & related items for sale. Vendor table & space available. \$35 ea. For more information call: 313-247-5900

Cats

KITTENS (TWO)
Beautiful, to a good home. 1st come, 1st serve. Call: (248) 914-0819

Dogs

NEW FOUNDLAND PUPPIES
6 wks old, AKC, mother/father on site. 4 Black, 1 brown, 1 gray \$650. 248-250-2172

POODLE PUPS
Standard, AKC, cute, loving, male/female. \$850 and under. nlrc@yahoo.com or 248-767-0859

PUG & CAT - Both adults. To good home with no other pets. Must go together. 810-986-6536

Horses & Equipment

HORSE

Free horse to good home, 4 year old gelding. **248-684-6487**

Household Pets

GUINEA PIGS: 2 Males, need good home, very friendly, cage & accessories incl. Call: (231) 645-1094

Garage/Moving Sales

Farmington Hills: Moving. 31980 Partridge Lane, Apt. 3. Hunters Ridge. 14/Orchard Lake. Sat. & Sun. Sept. 17 & 18, 11-4. 3 pc. sectional, table, chairs, wood desk

GARDEN CITY - 2 FAMILY! Thurs Sept. 15, 9-4; Fri-Sat, Sept. 16-17, 10-4. 2062 Cardwell St, Ford & Inkster. Huge variety & kid's stuff!

GARDEN CITY: 4 family Garage Sale 9-4, Thur-Sat. 9/15-17, 28920 Rush. Toys, maternity clothes, baby items.

GARDEN CITY: Fri-Sat, Sept. 16-17, 10-6pm. 29210 Bock St., Ford & Middlebelt. Halloween costumes, kid's clothes, housewares & more!

GARDEN CITY: Gigantic Sale. 1 day only Sat. Sept. 17, 9-5. Everything must go. Never have anymore sale. Golf clubs & bag, upright freezer, hospital bed, Air power organ, full base & cords. 3 guitars, amplifier, Fender foot pedal volume-tone, original version, not reissued. Tools, knick-knacks, new walker, collectible Coca-Cola items. Antique Hoosier kitchen cabinet, small appls, records, men's clothes, lg. metal clothes cabinet, lots more. 30825 Rosslyn. Btwn. Ford/Cherry Hill, E. off Merriman

LIVONIA: Lots of holiday decorations, misc. household. Fri., Sat. & Sun. Sept. 16, 17 & 18, 9-4pm. 30763 Dawson, Merriman & Ford Rd.

LIVONIA: Construction Equip. 3 Companies are closing. Building, Electric & HVAC. Tools, new & old, hand, power, electrical materials, commercial doors & hardware, scaffolding, misc. Sept. 17th ONLY! 10-5pm. No early birds Or Pre-sales 38005 Plymouth Rd. 1/2 mi. W of Newburgh

LIVONIA
Garage Sale - 14160 Arcola St. Livonia/Thurs-Sat., 9am-5pm. Furniture, baby/kid's clothing, toys, toddler bed & mattress, changing table, & much more.

LIVONIA: Huge Garage Sale. 30001 Hathaway. Btwn. Middlebelt/Merriman. S. of W. Chicago. Sept. 15-17, 9-6pm.

LIVONIA - HUGE GARAGE SALE! 40 years of stuff. Thurs-Sat, 9/15-9/17, 9-5pm. Sun 9/18, 11-3. 8936 Pere, Hix & Joy Rd. Ar.

LIVONIA: Moving & Estate Sale. Thurs. Sept. 15, 10am-8pm. Fri. Sept. 16, 10am-8pm. Sat. Sept. 17, 10am-5pm. Everything must go! Appliances, furniture, John Deere tractor, collectibles, dolls, shelving, TV, tools, games & even a bathroom sink. 34975 Norfolk, 48152. 1 blk. S. of 8 Mile, W. off Gill Rd.

LIVONIA: Multi-Family Sale. 9/16-18, Fri-Sat 8-5 Sun. 8-3. Lg. variety of items. 29150 Minton. 1st blk. E/Middlebelt, btwn. Joy/W. Chicago.

LIVONIA
THREE FAMILY YARD SALE 16280 Southampton St. (5 Mile & Farmington, take R15b to Southampton) Sept 15-16 9am-4pm. Antique Furniture, Cookie Jars, Books, China, Children's Toys, MTD Two Stage Snow Blower \$135, Stihl FS44 String Trimmer \$60, Gas Chain Saw \$65, etc.

LIVONIA: Thurs-Sat. 9/15-17, 10-4. 20130 Southampton. Btwn. 7 & 8, off Gill. Men's & Women's clothes, household & sports items, collectibles.

Garage/Moving Sales

LIVONIA: Yard Sale. 500+ Books, bedroom set, yard tools & more! Fri. & Sat. 9-dusk. No early birds. 30376 W. Chicago. Near Middlebelt

LYON TWP. Barn Sale. 24755 Henry Rd. (12 & Millford Rds). Fri. Sept. 16, 12-5. Sat. Sept. 17, 9-5. Downsizing 2 households, furniture & tools.

MILFORD ESTATE SALE
Antiques - furniture many old treasures. Thurs-Sat. 15-17th. 325 First St., 48381

MILFORD: Garage Sale at Gazebo's 140 W. Summit, Fri-Sat. 8-6pm. Everything plus tools, saws, pumps & sports.

MILFORD Garage Sale & Downsizing. Furniture, collectibles, antiques, holiday items, accordians, Dulcimer, crafting material, yard items, etc. etc. etc. Sept. 16-18th. 8am-7pm. 794 & 813 Abbey Ln. off N. Millford Rd.

MILFORD - Sept 16-18, 9-5pm. 743 E. Liberty, off 1st Street. Lots of misc. nothing over \$40. Furniture, golf items, ladders, children's, etc.

NORTHVILLE
16745 Yellowstone Dr. S of 6 Mile, W. of Beck. Sept 15 & 16th, 9am. Three Families!

NORTHVILLE: Furniture, clothing, accessories, appliances, pool table, weight machine, books & more! Fri. & Sat. Sept. 16 & 17, 8-5pm. Sun. Sept. 18, 9-12pm. 17175 Tall Pines Ct.

NORTHVILLE
Multi family sale AT THE BARN ANTIQUES. Antiques, housewares, garden items, furniture, children's items and much more! Bargains inside & outside! 48120 Eight Mile Rd., 48167 1/4 mi W of Beck Rd. Thurs-Sun, 9/15-9/18, 9-6pm. Tents will be set up so we will be there, rain or shine!

NOVI ESTATE SALE! 23437 Hampton Hill, Novi (10 Mile btwn Novi & Meadowbrook). Sept. 15-17, 9am-5pm. Antiques, furniture, household items. Lots of good stuff!

NOVI: Fri. Sept. 16, 9-4. Fall Clean-Up Sale. Lots of stuff. 22435 Southwick Ct. 9 Mile & Beck.

REDFORD: 11363 Royal Grand, E. of Beech Daly, S. of Plymouth. Huge Sale! Oak table, lawn equip, bikes, more. Sat-Sun. 9/17-18, 9-3pm.

Garage/Moving Sales

SOUTH LYON
Estate Sale Sept. 16-18 160 Harvard
Nice home with lots of great stuff! 248-521-5354. For pictures, choose current estates tab at: www.reallygoodstuff.com

SOUTH LYON: Rushton & 10 Mile, 12572 Coach Ln. Transfer wear, Longaberger Baskets, bedding, housewares & holiday items. Thurs-Sun. Sept. 15-18, 9-4pm.

SYLVAN LAKE: Moving! brass headboard, patio furniture, everything under the sun- everything must be sold. 9/16-9/18, 10-4pm. 2325 Fremont St., Off Orchard Lk, across from boat club, on the lake.

WAYNE BIG GARAGE SALE
Restaurant Equip. Truck, Camper, Motorcycle. 9/15-17, 9-6pm. 34504 John.

WESTLAND: Canopy covered sale! Fur coat, wedding dresses, new kitchen cabinets, baby items & lots more! 723 S. Wildwood. Thurs-Sun. 9-6pm

WESTLAND
Community Garage Sale Sat., September 17th, 9-4pm. 100 Vendors. 36601 Ford Rd. Spaces still available **734-722-7820**

WESTLAND: Lg. Sale. Dining furniture, motorcycle, Econline van, household items. Fri-Sun. 9/16-18, 9-5. 7293 Sorrel. Newburgh/Warren

Help Wanted-Medical

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

FT/PT available. Min. 1-yr exp. required. Full benefit pkg., flex hours, competitive wages & room for advancement. Northern Oakland County locations. Bloomfield, W. Bloomfield, Birmingham, Novi. Email to: jobs@savondrugs.com

PHLEBOTOMIST

Experienced. Float position. Fax resume Attn Phlebot. Mgr. Fax: 517-913-4023 or email: akimney@biotechinc.com

Help Wanted-Medical

BARTENDER/WAITSTAFF

Apply at: Jon's Goodtime Bar & Grill, 27553 Cherry Hill. Just W. of Inkster Rd.

COOK EXPERIENCED

Full & Part time. Short order. \$11 per hour. Wagon Wheel Lounge. Call: (248) 349-8686

hometownlife.com

COOK & WAITRESS

Exp'd. Full & Part-Time. Apply in person: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville

Help Wanted-Domestic

CAREGIVER - LIVE-IN

For adult male with Multiple Sclerosis, Belleville area. Call: (734) 740-5605

Attorneys/Legal Consulting

DIVORCE \$75.00

www.CSRdisability.com CS&R 734-425-1074

Cards Of Thanks

PRAYER: Pray 9 Hail Marys for 9 days. On the 9th day make 3 wishes & publish this prayer. Your wishes will be granted. M.

Absolutely Free

BATHROOM MIRROR 52" by 42" 248-486-1238

LUMBER

Great for landscaping or deck. 248-349-5612

Antiques/Collectibles

SECRETARY Antique Oak Secretary, excellent condition. \$500/best. Call evenings 5-9 (248)672-4576 or email: treacjones@comcast.net

Auction Sales

ESTATE AUCTION Sat, Sept. 17, 7pm

Cultural Center 525 Farmer Plymouth MI Furniture/Accessories Collectibles/Antiques Automotive Collectibles Household Items Boat Motor/Barbie Items Bank Debit Cards No Checks Doors Open 6pm JCC Auction Service **734.451.7444** jauctionservices.com

Rummage Sale/ Flea Market

CANTON: Garage/Rummage Sale Fundraiser. 100% proceeds toward Coats-4-Kids & Holiday Food Baskets. Thurs. Fri. & Sat. 9/15-17, 8-5. 8770 N. Canton Center Rd. Sponsored by UAW Local 845 Community Service.

Redford Aldergate Church 10000 Beech Daly, 2 blocks S. of Plymouth Rd. 313.937-3170

Rummage Sale

Sat., Sept. 17th, 9-2pm. Toys, clothes, shoes & purses, small appli., books, kitchen stuff, etc.

Garage/Moving Sales

CANTON: Fri-Sat only. Sept. 16-17, 9-5pm. 48225 Whitney Ct. W. of Beck. N. of Warren. Buckingham Place Sub. Crystal. furniture, TV's, dishes, electronics, etc.

CANTON Garage Sale - 1074 Longfellow, Canton Fri-Sat. 9-16 and 9-17, 9:00-3:00 daily. Household items, baby items, books.

CANTON: Huge Garage Sale! Lg. holiday assortment, Dept. 56. Dickens, North Pole and E. P. Graceland; tools; household & clothes. Sept. 14-16. 47232 Larchmont Dr., N. of Ford/E. of Beck

CANTON MOVING SALE
Furniture, housewares, tools, Vintage, microwave, Holiday, jewelry & more! GOOD STUFF-ALL MUST GO! Sat., 9/17, 9am-3pm. 2068 Briarfield, Palmer/Sheldon.

CANTON SUNFLOWER SUB
Thurs-Sat. Sept. 15-17, 9am-7 W. of Canton Center & N. & S. of Warren. Look for signs & yellow balloons!

Farmington Hills: Antiques, furniture, tools, canning items, Christmas & Estate items, books & more! 29401 Parkside, S off 13, W. of Farmington. 9/15-17, 9-4

Garage/Moving Sales

LIVONIA: Multi family sale AT THE BARN ANTIQUES. Antiques, housewares, garden items, furniture, children's items and much more! Bargains inside & outside! 48120 Eight Mile Rd., 48167 1/4 mi W of Beck Rd. Thurs-Sun, 9/15-9/18, 9-6pm. Tents will be set up so we will be there, rain or shine!

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IT'S ALL AT YOUR FINGERTIPS!

Look no further for the best local classifieds!

TO PLACE YOUR AD: **1-800-579-7355**

Help Wanted-Medical

BARTENDER/WAITSTAFF

Apply at: Jon's Goodtime Bar & Grill, 27553 Cherry Hill. Just W. of Inkster Rd.

COOK EXPERIENCED

Full & Part time. Short order. \$11 per hour. Wagon Wheel Lounge. Call: (248) 349-8686

hometownlife.com

COOK & WAITRESS

Exp'd. Full & Part-Time. Apply in person: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville

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CAREGIVER - LIVE-IN

For adult male with Multiple Sclerosis, Belleville area. Call: (734) 740-5605

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DIVORCE \$75.00

www.CSRdisability.com CS&R 734-425-1074

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REDFORD: 11363 Royal Grand, E. of Beech Daly, S. of Plymouth. Huge Sale! Oak table, lawn equip, bikes, more. Sat-Sun. 9/17-18, 9-3pm.

Garage/Moving Sales

LIVONIA: Moving & Estate Sale. Thurs. Sept. 15, 10am-8pm. Fri. Sept. 16, 10am-8pm. Sat. Sept. 17, 10am-5pm. Everything must go! Appliances, furniture, John Deere tractor, collectibles, dolls, shelving, TV, tools, games & even a bathroom sink. 34975 Norfolk, 48152. 1 blk. S. of 8 Mile, W. off Gill Rd.

LIVONIA: Multi-Family Sale. 9/16-18, Fri-Sat 8-5 Sun. 8-3. Lg. variety of items. 29150 Minton. 1st blk. E/Middlebelt, btwn. Joy/W. Chicago.

LIVONIA
THREE FAMILY YARD SALE 16280 Southampton St. (5 Mile & Farmington, take R15b to Southampton) Sept 15-16 9am-4pm. Antique Furniture, Cookie Jars, Books, China, Children's Toys, MTD Two Stage Snow Blower \$135, Stihl FS44 String Trimmer \$60, Gas Chain Saw \$65, etc.

LIVONIA: Thurs-Sat. 9/15-17, 10-4. 20130 Southampton. Btwn. 7 & 8, off Gill. Men's & Women's clothes, household & sports items, collectibles.

Garage/Moving Sales

SOUTH LYON
Estate Sale Sept. 16-18 160 Harvard
Nice home with lots of great stuff! 248-521-5354. For pictures, choose current estates tab at: www.reallygoodstuff.com

SOUTH LYON: Rushton & 10 Mile, 12572 Coach Ln. Transfer wear, Longaberger Baskets, bedding, housewares & holiday items. Thurs-Sun. Sept. 15-18, 9-4pm.

SYLVAN LAKE: Moving! brass headboard, patio furniture, everything under the sun- everything must be sold. 9/16-9/18, 10-4pm. 2325 Fremont St., Off Orchard Lk, across from boat club, on the lake.

WAYNE BIG GARAGE SALE
Restaurant Equip. Truck, Camper, Motorcycle. 9/15-17, 9-6pm. 34504 John.

WESTLAND: Canopy covered sale! Fur coat, wedding dresses, new kitchen cabinets, baby items & lots more! 723 S. Wildwood. Thurs-Sun. 9-6pm

WESTLAND
Community Garage Sale Sat., September 17th, 9-4pm. 100 Vendors. 36601 Ford Rd. Spaces still available **734-722-7820**

WESTLAND: Lg. Sale. Dining furniture, motorcycle, Econline van, household items. Fri-Sun. 9/16-18, 9-5. 7293 Sorrel. Newburgh/Warren

Garage/Moving Sales

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5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd
Ann Arbor MI 48103

September 17th & 18th

Market Hours
Saturday 8am-4pm
Sunday 10am-4pm

\$6 Admission -Good for 2 Days
annarborantiquesmarket.com

Antiques/Collectibles

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Very attractive SWF, 50ish, 5'8", 120lbs, brunetta, hazel eyes, light smoker, outgoing, romantic, likes music, art, movies, dancing, motorcycles, weekend getaways, camping, amusement parks,



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FORD RANGER 2006 \$16,996 Extra extra clean Only 42K miles NORTH BROS. FORD 734-402-8774

GMC 2004 PICKUP White, air, auto, \$5,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC EXTENDED CAB 2010 Pickup, 10K, \$19,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC SIERRA 2009 Autumn Sunrise, 10k, chrome and ABS! Very sharp truck! Only \$25,995! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

HONDA RIDGELINE 2006 Pickup, 4X4, \$19,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

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DODGE DURANGO 2002 Gray, sharp, only \$8,495 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

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PARK AVENUE 2003 STK #1117254 \$7,998, A MUST SEE LOW MILE, EXTRA CLEAN NORTH BROS. FORD 734-402-8774

REGAL 2002 LTH, moon, silver, \$5,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

REGAL GS 1999 White, 36K, \$8,495 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CADILLAC CTS 2007 \$16,995, White diamond, low miles, super clean DEALER 734-402-8774

Cadillac SRX 2004 AWD, loaded, \$12,995 NORTH BROS-TROY 248-643-6600

Chevrolet

CAMARO 2000 Beige Bolt, 228, convertible, and leather! Vroom Vroom! Just \$9,995! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

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SOUL 2010 \$16,998 extra clean, only 14K miles DEALER 734-402-8774

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Lincoln

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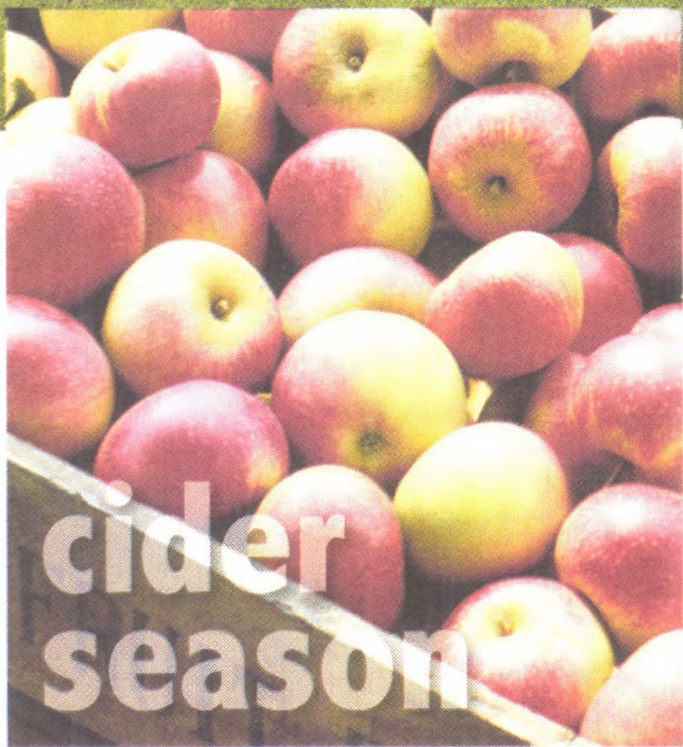
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September 2011

FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT

SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE



cider
season



local travel



Jeffrey Jaghab, D.D.S.
Stephanie Jaghab, D.D.S.

Family and Cosmetic Dentistry



*Drs. Jeffrey & Stephanie
Jaghab & Family*

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www.jaghab.com

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Tuesday 7am-6pm

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A season of change and improvement

One of the best features about living in our beautiful state is its four seasons. Hardy Michiganders know that with the dawn of a new season comes the promise of new opportunities. After a spectacular summer, autumn begins in little more than a week and with it comes cool, crisp temperatures, visions of color tours and cider mills. For homeowners, it's also a time to get ready for upcoming holi-



Susan Rosiek

days and w-i-n-t-e-r.

Today's *INSPIRE* is filled with home improvement ideas. Whether you do it yourself or hire a local firm, we have suggestions that will help you enjoy this very special season.

Dreaming about a new kitchen? Look inside for tips on how to get started. Read about how to find the right flooring for your home and discover some eco-friendly ways to embark on that fall cleanup. These are just some of the topics inside today's **Fall Home Improvement Special Section**.

Fall is also a good time to do an insurance checkup. For most of us, the family home is still not only one of the largest investments to be protected and

maintained, but also the investment with the most personal meaning. Contributing Writer Bill Emerick offers a primer on what to consider when shopping for insurance.

For a special treat, check out the "Ships in a Bottle" feature by Contributing Writer Dennis Zelazny, who takes readers on a tall ship adventure.

And finally, get in the autumn mindset with a visit to an area cider mill or orchard. A list of nearby mills and farms is inside.

As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions for upcoming editions.

Susan Rosiek,
publisher
srosiek@hometownlife.com

4

Beer tracker Liquid smoke



6

Ship shape On putting boats in bottles and more



Docent, Dennis Kelly poses for the camera in the Boblo Boat Exhibit. The swan boat is from one of the rides offered on the island.



17

 Special advertising section

DAILY:

- Animal Barn
- Farm Playground
- Corn Maze

WEEKENDS:

- FREE Wagon Rides to Apple Picking
- Face Painting • Pony Rides
- Fresh Kettle Corn
- Pork BBQ
- Large Play Inflatables

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Fresh Sweet Cider & Hot Doughnuts
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Hard Cider
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 - Homestyle BBQ & Sweet Corn
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BEER TRACKER

Liquid smoke

There is no question beer is seasonal. The herd tends to migrate toward dark ales and strong porters when temperatures start to drop. As the summer nights start to cool the unique profile of a Rauchbier can deliver a rare experience for those willing to venture down the rabbit hole of craft beer.

Let me explain. The term "Rauchbier" means smoked beer in German. The smoky quality comes from an ancient brewing process when open flames had to be used to dry the malt.

New drying methods became available in the 1700s, but some purists never gave up on the old world style.

The American Craft Beer scene has been tinkering with this oddity in recent years. Alaskan Smoked Porter from Alaska Brewing Company and Fore Stout from Michigan's very own Dark Horse Brewery are both epic efforts.

But the Godfather of smoked beer is Aecht Schlenkerla brewed by Heller-Brau in the Franconia region of Bavaria. Local beech wood is used to fuel the smoke-houses in which the malt is dried. The beer then is stored in sandstone caves where it matures for several months before it's available to loyal fanatics. The resulting beer is dark brown, with a quietly intense smokiness backed by sweet malt and a dry finish.

Many agree this unique offering is most appealing when one is nestled in an oversized chair, warmed by an open hearth on a wintery night. Others suggest the smoky flavor lends itself as the perfect pairing for barbecue, cured meats, or grilled fish. Under the stars on a cool summer night roasting marshmallows on an open fire also seems to be a fitting venue. Regardless the scenario, Aecht Schlenkerla is assertive and unique but entirely fascinating and surprisingly delicious.

Nate Parsons can be contacted at modevin@yahoo.com



Rauchbier



Nate Parsons

TASTING NOTES

- Beer: Aecht Schlenkerla Rauchbier, Urbeck
- Brewery: Heller-Brau
- Origin: Banberg, Franconia, Bavaria
- Style: Smoked Lager
- ABV: 6.6 percent
- Glassware: Mug, Stein or Cylinder
- Description: The pour releases a smoky campfire aroma with a faint bacon quality that remains evident throughout the session. A burnt white head quickly settles to a thick film atop a coffee body with amber accents when held to light. The palate matches the nose profile with additions of char and leather, which offers an unexpected complexity. Sweet malt, dried dates, round out the dry finish tempering the departure. I anticipate this will be a love-hate relationship for most but unquestionably worth the effort if only for the experience.
- Conclusion: There is something about smoky flavor that is deeply satisfying, something that is not so easy to explain logically.
- Where to Purchase
- The Brass Mug, 19213 Newburgh, Livonia - 500ml/\$4.99
- Super Fine Wine, Haggerty, Canton - 500ml/\$5
- Antonio's Liquor, Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills - 500ml/\$4.90
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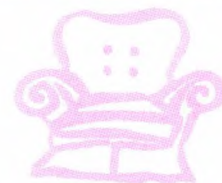
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One of four "Boats in a Bottle" examples that the Dossin Great Lakes Museum proudly displays. All four share the limelight within the display of what could be touted as the world's largest known collection of scale model ships in the world.

... for more photos of my adventure.



PHOTO BY DENNIS ZELAZNY

People who keep secrets about how it is done shouldn't put ships in bottles

By Dennis Zelazny
Contributing Writer

This *O&E/Hometown* Mariner is about to leave the dock and take you on an unexpected journey, an adventure to find ships in a bottle.

On July 8, Maryland's topsail schooner — *Pride of Baltimore II* — visited Detroit's Riverfront. She is one of the tall ships that we often hear about. Her claim to fame is that she was the fastest ship in the War of 1812. I later discovered a tall ship of our own, *Manitou*; she is the featured vessel of the Traverse Tall Ship Company in Traverse City. I contacted Dave McGinnis, senior captain, who invited me out to the ship for one of their wine-tasting events during the summer. The event offers a sample of local wines and catered cuisine as you ply the sparkling waters of Grand Traverse Bay. There are a few longer excursions available this fall. Over a bottle of wine is where my creative mind came



Dennis Zelazny

up with our adventure of finding "Ships in a Bottle."

Bob Sadler, director of Public and External Relations at the Detroit Historical Society, recommended the Dossin Great Lakes Museum.

"If you want to know about scale model ships, our museum has one of the largest known collections in the world, and our docents can provide you with all the information you will need," said Sadler.

The museum is located on Belle Isle and is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the weekends. Docent Dennis Kelly greeted me in the Gothic Room. The room is walled with the woodwork from a ship named *The City of Detroit* dating back to 1911.

As we walk the plank ... I mean the floor, he points to a huge three-dimensional map that shows the depth of all of our Great Lakes and quickly explains the theory on how the *S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald* came to meet her end in the shallow end of Lake Superior measuring only 512 feet deep. He points out the path that five ships have sailed this year through the St. Lawrence Seaway. Kelly makes history fun as he explains how

I want a ship of my very own ...

It all looks very complicated but I have patience and the desire. Bryan Hirschfield, who works at Nankin Hobby in Farmington, took the time to talk with me about my new project.

Hirschfield and I agreed that a great place to start would be to find a kit. For the real basics, we found Constructo Viking Kit LXB091, designed for ages 10 and up. For more experienced kit builders, a visit to a hobby shop is your best bet. These projects are time consuming, Hirschfield explained that the ships can be a labor of love and that, "The building process sometimes is not as rewarding as the finished project."

Plastic kits are available in pre-molded form. They require painting and gluing. A helpful hint is that the parts that need to be snapped off those plastic support bars be sanded down for a more professional result.

For a beginner, a good time frame from start to finish is a couple of weeks. Making sure you have all the right parts; studying the instructions will make your hobby time more fun and appealing.

As you get more familiar with ships and the building process you might want to try your hand at an actual wood model. These projects can be as complex as you want them to be.

A good resource is the magazine *Ships in Scale*.

There are several model ship builders in our area, and many belong to local groups that have websites. The best way to enjoy a rewarding hobby is to start yours today. Start a ship on family night and set sail for a new adventure.

Please see SHIPS, 15

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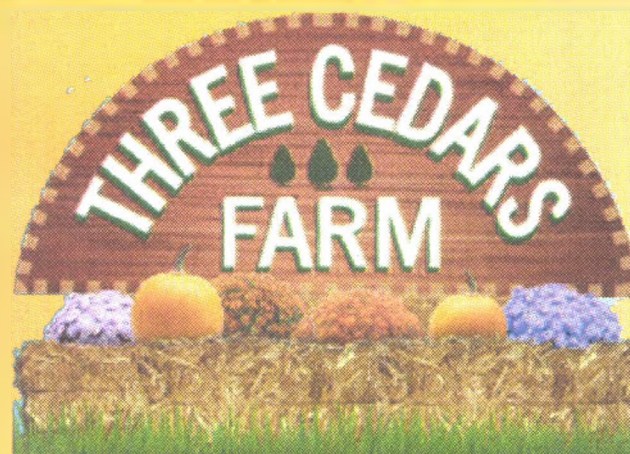


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In times of trouble

Homeowners insurance can be a lifeline after a disaster

WHY CREDIT SCORES MATTER

There are lots of different factors that come into play when determining the cost of any insurance policy. One that many consumers are unaware of is their credit score.

A credit score is a compilation of many things, including income, credit history, timeliness of payments and other categories. Insurers come up with an "insurance score," which is closely aligned with a credit score, when figuring the cost of a policy. The idea behind using these scores is that people with lower credit scores are statistically more likely to file a claim.

To keep your insurance costs as low as possible, it's best to try to keep your credit score in a good range. Paying bills on time and not spending to the maximum limits on charge cards are the best ways to keep your score high.

Keep in mind your credit score is not a fixed number. It may change by the year or even by the month. The Fair Credit Reporting Act requires each of the three main credit reporting agencies — Equifax, Experian and TransUnion — to provide a free copy of your credit report once every 12 months. Free annual credit reports can be ordered from annualcreditreport.com.

It's a good idea to monitor your credit report at least once a year. A surprising number of errors make their way into those reports, so keeping close tabs can spare unnecessary expense.

By Bill Emerick
Contributing Writer

For most people, buying a house or condominium is the largest financial investment they will ever make. Besides the emotional attachment of having someplace to call home, owning a house carries with it a significant responsibility to maintain and secure that dwelling as a safe and comfortable place to live.

An important component for anyone considering buying a house is purchasing homeowners insurance. Why invest all that money (and effort) into buying a house and filling it with your most prized possessions if it can all be lost in an instant from a blow from Mother Nature or an unwelcome visit from the neighborhood thief?

Homeowners insurance is sometimes viewed as a necessary evil — no one likes writing those monthly premium checks — but heaven help someone who is caught un- or underinsured when lightning strikes (figuratively or literally).

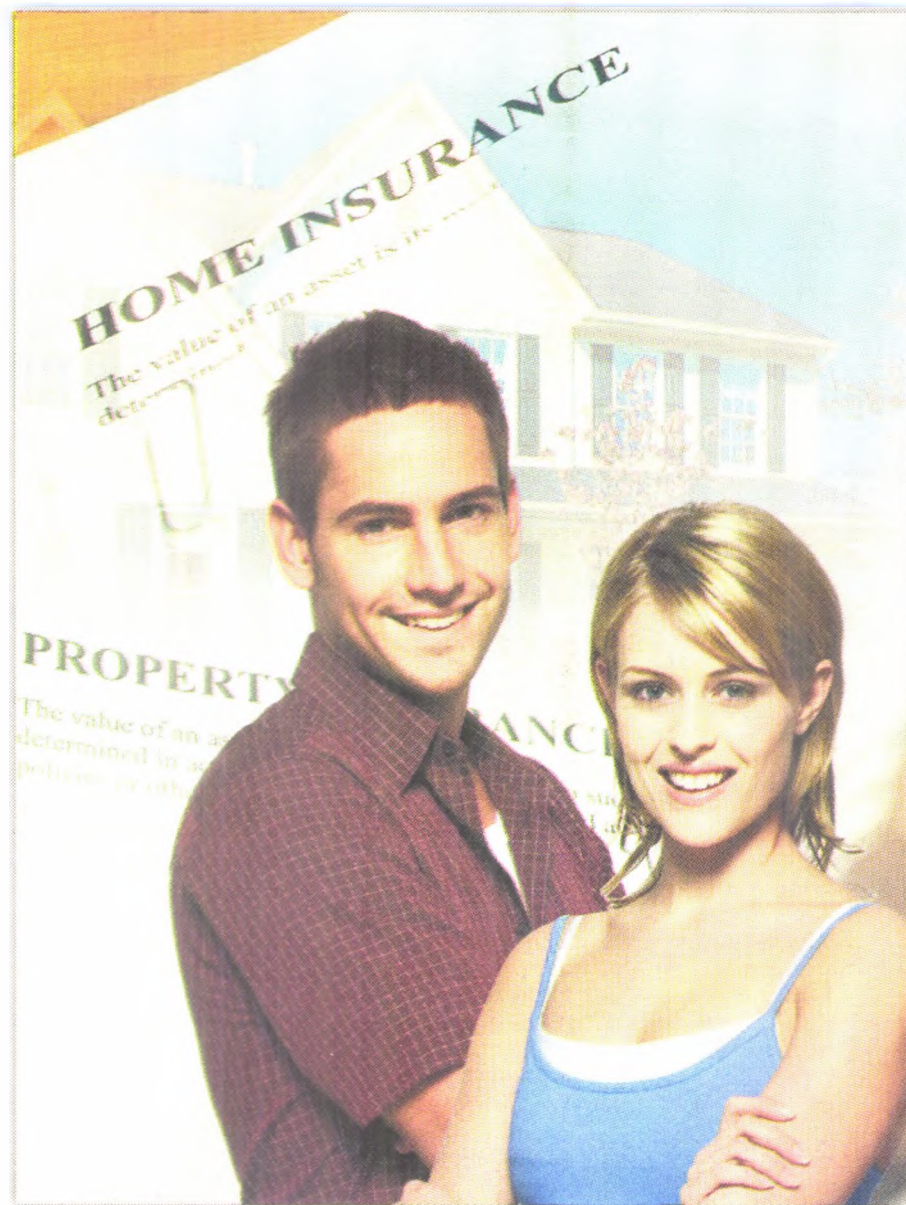
"It protects all of your assets," said Cheryl Bowker, owner of an Allstate branch in Livonia. "You want to be able to replace everything you own."

A typical homeowners insurance policy covers not only the structure of your house, but also the contents. It will also guard against injuries that happen on your property, as well as damage against others caused by members of your family — including pets.

Unlike automobile insurance, no state law requires a homeowner to carry a policy on their house. However, any house that is purchased through a mortgage underwritten by a bank or other financial institution is almost always required to have insurance, as a way of protecting the lien holder in the event a house is severely damaged by a storm or burned in a fire.

While the cost of a policy is important, Bowker said it should never be the driving factor.

"Sometimes people look too much at the price and not the coverage," she said. "A



lot of policies don't give you replacement costs. Also, liability coverage is one of the cheapest parts of a policy, but it's the most important."

What's included

The standard homeowners policy will usually have four different types of coverage.

- **Structure** — Your house is covered in the case of weather damage (with the exception of floods), fire, even civil disorder. This almost always includes unattached structures like a garage, gazebo or shed. By buying enough coverage, you can assure that your home will be repaired or rebuilt, if necessary.

- **Personal belongings** — A standard pol-

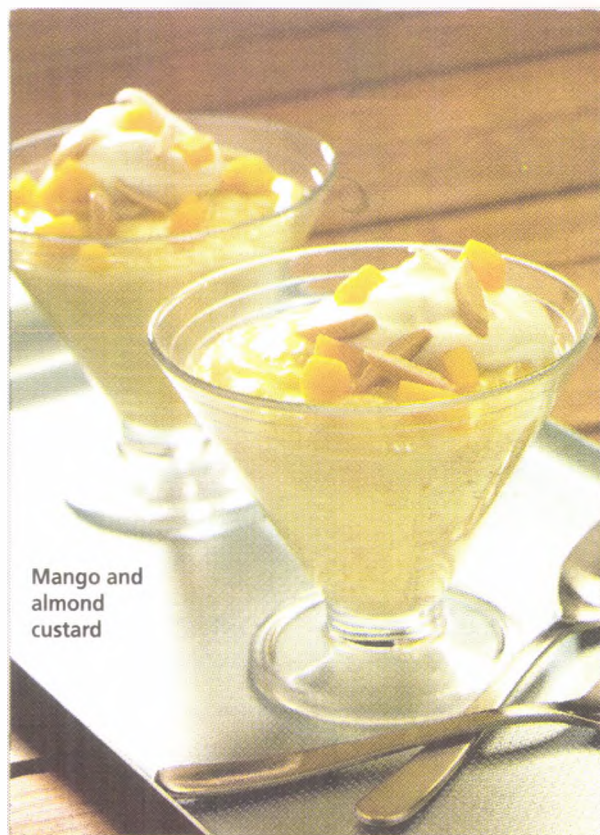
icy will pay to replace furniture, clothing, appliances and most other items that could be damaged or stolen. Most policies provide between 50 and 70 percent of the amount of insurance on a house for personal belongings. Keep in mind that expensive or rare possessions, such as jewelry or antiques, generally aren't included and require a separate rider for coverage.

- **Liability protection** — This covers against any injury or damage incurred by guests on your property or caused by members of your family against others. This can include medical bills, court costs and other related expenses. This does not include coverage for members of the

Please see **INSURANCE**, 11

Party-perfect plates

Recipes for easy entertaining



Mango and almond custard

When entertaining calls for light, refreshing recipes full of flavor, these delectable dishes pair mangos and California almonds for a main course, side dish and dessert that will have your guests clamoring for more.

The naturally sweet, refreshing taste of mango makes every dish special, and mangos serve up more than 20 different vitamins and minerals. Their exotic but versatile flavor and year-round availability make them a go-to ingredient for any kind of entertaining.

California almonds in all their forms provide a delicious depth of flavor and crunch that complement any dish. Whether whole, sliced, slivered or as almond milk or butter, almonds add a sudden sophistication and tempting appeal to a wide variety of cuisines.

Almond Crusted Pork with Mango Relish

Makes 6 servings
Prep time: 30 minutes
Cook time: 30 minutes

Mango Relish:

2 large, ripe mangos, peeled, pitted and diced
¼ cup minced red onion
¼ cup minced red bell pepper
1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
1 teaspoon chopped fresh mint
Sea salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Almond Crusted Pork:

¾ cup chopped, toasted almonds, divided
2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 teaspoon ground coriander
¼ teaspoon cinnamon



Almond crusted pork with mango relish

2 pounds pork tenderloin
1 ½ tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
Sea salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

For relish, stir together mangos, onion, bell pepper, vinegar, mint, and salt and pepper in a medium bowl; cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.

To prepare pork on grill: Finely chop ½ cup almonds and stir in brown sugar and seasonings. Brush pork with oil then season with salt and pepper; roll in almond mixture, pressing into the surface. Transfer to a piece of heavy-duty foil and press any remaining nuts onto the top. Grill over medium heat, turning occasionally to brown each side, for 35-40 minutes or until the internal temperature reads 160°F on a meat thermometer. Let stand for 5 minutes before slicing.

To prepare pork in oven: Adjust oven rack to middle position and heat oven to 450°F. For the pork, finely chop ½ cup almonds. Stir in brown sugar and seasonings; transfer almond mixture to baking sheet. Brush pork with 1 ½ tablespoons oil then season with salt and pepper; roll in almond mixture, pressing into the surface. Lightly spray pork with olive oil spray. Cook pork on foil-lined baking sheet until exterior is golden brown and meat reaches 160°F, 35-40 minutes, turning pork halfway through cooking. Let stand for 5 minutes before slicing.

To assemble, top sliced pork with mango relish and toasted almonds.

Mango and Almond Custard

Makes 6 servings

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes
Chill time: minimum 3 hours

¾ cup sugar
3 tablespoons cornstarch
¼ teaspoon salt
3 cups half-and-half
4 large egg yolks
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
2 ripe mangos, peeled, pitted and diced; divided
¾ cup whipping cream
2 tablespoons powdered sugar
¼ teaspoon cinnamon
½ cup slivered, toasted almonds

In medium saucepan, combine sugar, cornstarch and salt. Whisk in half-and-half and egg yolks. Over medium-high heat, bring mixture to a simmer, whisking constantly. Reduce heat to medium-low and cook, stirring constantly, until the mixture thickens, about 2 minutes.

Pour custard through a fine mesh strainer into a medium bowl. Stir in vanilla extract. Cover with plastic wrap, placing plastic wrap directly on surface of custard. Refrigerate, until cooled and set, at least 3 hours.

Meanwhile, puree ½ of the diced mango in blender or food processor until smooth, stir into cooled custard. Set aside remaining diced mango.

In another medium bowl, beat cream, powdered sugar and cinnamon until stiff peaks form. Spoon custard into 6 dessert cups and top with whipped cream, then sprinkle equal amounts of almonds and the reserved diced mango.

Almond and Mango Couscous Salad

Makes 6 servings
Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: about 15 minutes
Chill time: at least 1 hour

Vinaigrette:

3 tablespoons rice vinegar
¼ cup extra virgin olive oil
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
2 cloves garlic, chopped
¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro

Couscous Salad:

1 tablespoon olive oil
1 ¾ cups pearl (Israeli) couscous
2 cups water
1 mango, peeled, pitted and diced
½ cup sliced green onions
½ cup diced red bell pepper
½ cup golden raisins
1 cup sliced almonds, toasted
½ cup crumbled feta cheese

For vinaigrette: In a small bowl, whisk vinegar, oil, salt, crushed red pepper and garlic until combined. Stir in cilantro and cover and refrigerate until ready to use.

For salad: In a medium saucepan cook couscous for 1 minute in oil over medium-low heat to lightly toast, stirring frequently. Add water and reduce heat to low, and simmer covered for 10 minutes or until liquid is absorbed. Fluff with a fork and let cool slightly.

To assemble, transfer couscous to a large bowl and stir in dressing, mango, green onions, bell pepper and raisins; cover and chill for at least 1 hour. Just before serving sprinkle with almonds and feta.



Almond and mango couscous salad

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FALL FUN



Cider mills, apple orchards are perfect fall outings

Apple cider with an oven-fresh doughnut is the perfect complement to a fall afternoon.

Nearby orchards invite the public to enjoy apples and other fruits this fall season. Pick a wide variety of apples and pumpkins. Most even offer tractor rides to the orchards and an opportunity to be left off where your favorite apple variety grows.

Erwin Orchards, a third-generation family farm in South Lyon, offers some 14 apple varieties, sweet cherries, raspberries and pumpkins. Visitors looking for more can also test their navigational skills in mazes carved from cornfield. Erwin Orchards also offers wagon rides, a petting farm and other special events.

Three Cedars Farm in Salem Township offers cider and doughnuts (made from an old family recipe), U-pick pumpkins, apples, a seven-acre corn maze, hayrides, a barnyard playland and bonfire sites for private parties. Try a cider slush with a cinnamon sugar doughnut or caramel apple. Visitors can also purchase a variety of jams, apple and butter pumpkin butters and other baking mixes and mulling spices at the farm store.

The Franklin Cider Mill is packed with history and charm along with apples, fresh cider, doughnuts, candied and caramel apples and other goodies.

The mill was completed in 1837 and the current water wheel, one of the largest in the country, was installed soon after the turn of the century.

Plymouth Orchards provides wagon rides, apples, pumpkins, a petting farm and live music. Call ahead for the times and dates of the performances.

Some cider mills, like Parmenter's in Northville even offer on site wineries where customers can choose from a variety of alcoholic wines, three hard

cider flavors and one nonalcoholic sparkling cider. The Chow Mill (open on weekends), owned and operated by the Northville Cider Mill, is just outside the building. Patrons whose hunger is greater than a bag of doughnuts can order Dearborn brand hot dogs and kielbasa, chips and more.

Whether you visit a cider mill, orchard or farm close by or in the country, each is sure to provide a great autumn day. Call ahead, or go online, to learn more.

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Please see CIDER, 13

ADVICE FOR RENTERS

People who don't own their house and who live in either a rented apartment or house should still pay the price for a renter's insurance policy. While the landlord will most likely have coverage for the structure, a renter is not covered for loss or damage to a house's contents from fire, theft or other

catastrophe unless they have a separate policy.

Consequently, because a renter's policy only covers their belongings — and not the structure itself — this type of coverage is much less expensive than typical homeowners insurance.

As with standard homeowners insurance, a renter's policy will cover damage or loss of furniture, clothing, appliances and other items (minus the usual exclusions for expensive or rare possessions). It will also include liability coverage for injury or off-property damage, as well as additional living expenses in the event of an extended stay in a hotel or apartment.

Renters can also choose between an actual cash value policy (which includes a deduction for depreciation) or a replacement cost policy (which does not).

INSURANCE

Continued from page 8

household, though.

- **Additional living expenses** — If you are forced out of your house due to damage or other calamity, this portion pays for the cost of living in a hotel or apartment while your home is repaired. This can include meals and other related expenses, over and above the actual cost to replace the structure.

What's not included

- **Flood damage** — A standard policy will not guard against flooding, although special flood insurance is available through the National Flood Insurance Program. Anyone living in a designated flood plain is required to carry the additional coverage.

- **Earthquakes** — Damage caused by earthquakes is not usually covered, although it's possible to purchase extra coverage or a separate policy. In areas where earthquakes are common, this type of policy can require a high deductible.

- **Maintenance damage** — A homeowner is expected to keep up with routine duties. Coverage is not provided for mold infestation, rodent or pest damage or other circumstances that could easily be avoided.

- **Sewer backup** — This comes as a surprise to many homeowners. Damage from a sump pump failure or basement flooding is not only not included in a standard policy, it's also not covered by a special flood rider. Additional coverage can be purchased to provide relief.

Levels of coverage

As with most things in life, it's true of homeowners insurance that you get what you pay for. There are three different broad types of policies available, with varying degrees of coverage:

- **Actual cash value** — This type of policy pays to replace your house or its contents minus a deduction for depreciation.

- **Replacement cost** — This will pay for replacement/rebuilding without any deduction for depreciation.

- **Extended replacement cost** — Although this type of policy will cost more, it provides the most peace of mind. It will provide the true cost of replacing or rebuilding, even if it exceeds the limits of your coverage. This policy can be difficult to obtain if you own an older house.

What will it cost?

Here's where things can get a bit hazy. With all the variables in place (age, size, location, materials) regarding any house, prices for a policy can vary widely between companies. Level of coverage, extra riders, amount of deductible — all these factors play a role in determining how much a policy costs.

A simple formula can help determine a dollar amount of coverage necessary: multiply the square footage of your house with the cost per square foot for construction that prevails in your area. You can find this by talking to a local contractor, a building inspector or a real estate agent.

An insurance agent will also take into account the following factors:

- Type of exterior structure
- Age of the house
- Style of the house
- Number of rooms
- Style of roofing
- Additional structures
- Any recent improvements

Other variables that can affect the cost of homeowners insurance are distance from a fire station and/or hydrants; crime statistics; likelihood of natural disasters; and the condition of the house at the time the policy is bought.

Source: Insurance Information Institute

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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!

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

Level: Beginner

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

Level: Intermediate

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

Level: Advanced

Answers found on page 14

Frayed wires: The shocking truth

Q: At the back of my house where the electrical line comes to the house and down the siding the wiring is all frayed and bare wires are exposed. Is it my responsibility to call Edison?

A: While inspecting homes I find very, very frequently that the service entrance conductor (that is what the wire is called) is frayed and bare wires are exposed. Water in turn gets into the fuse or circuit breaker box. I didn't do well in school, is it water and electricity that don't mix?

The utility companies are responsible for the service drop, that's the cable from the pole up to the house. Once the cable touches your house, it's called the service entrance conductor.

Shocking as it may seem, it is your responsibility to repair or replace that frayed electrical service.

As I said, DTE maintains the meter and the service drop from the pole to the service head. Your frayed service entrance must be replaced and a licensed electrician should do

it. You're dealing with 220-volts. If you're talking about doing it yourself, you're talking electrocution, not just a permanent "perm" to your hair. Hire an electrician.

Q: Where would I find the main water shut-off valve for my water?

A: All the books tell you that the first thing to do when checking out your plumbing is to locate the main shut-off valve. If a leak occurs, and you can't isolate the problem line quickly, then you have to be able to shut off the flow of water to the entire house.

The water meter could be anywhere in your house. When inspecting houses in our area I've found them under sinks or basins, in the garage (worst place), in the basement under the stairs or along any of the walls. It is very important to know where it is. If you cannot locate it, call the handiest person you know to help, or you can call a handyman or plumber.

Sometimes, an old valve that has remained undisturbed for years will be rusted tight in the open position. No amount of twisting on the handle will budge some of those "frozen" valves. In fact, excessive twisting with a

wrench may succeed only in breaking the handle. You don't want to discover that you have a frozen valve just when your basement is starting to fill up with water.

About the only way to deal with a stuck valve is to liberally soak the valve with a penetrating lubricant like "Liquid Wrench." Give the valve a few raps with a hammer to help the Liquid Wrench penetrate and then leave the valve alone for a day. If this doesn't loosen the valve, repeat the dousing and rapping. After doing this two or three times, if the valve stem is still stuck — so are you! It means you'll probably have to replace the whole valve. In the case of houses connected to city water, this mean cutting off the water at the street. This is definitely a licensed plumber time. Speaking of time — I'm out of it.

Lon Grossman of Bloomfield Hills is president of Technihouse Inspections Inc., a southeast Michigan residential and commercial inspection company. E-mail your questions to him at drdy@comcast.net. Call (248) 855-5566. Visit his website www.technihouse.com.



Lon Grossman

Sample food and wine at Schoolcraft culinary event

The Schoolcraft College Foundation presents its annual Culinary Extravaganza, a premier food and wine event that highlights the culinary talent of metro area restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors on Sunday, Sept. 25.

This year's event, 2-5 p.m. marks two special anniversaries — the 20th year of the food and wine event and the college's 50th.

The extravaganza allows guests to sample a variety of fine food, wine, beverages and desserts in one afternoon, while at the same time support student scholarships. All proceeds from the event benefit the Schoolcraft College Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, providing scholarships for students, including those in the college's renowned culinary arts program.

Tickets are \$50 per person (\$20 of which is tax-deductible) and are available by calling 734-462-4518 or by visiting the www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation.

This year's event will feature more than 50 food, wine and dessert stations, a silent auction and raffle, along with a wine-tasting

seminar and wholesome healthy foods demonstration by master chef Jeff Gabriel.

Food and beverage vendors include Sive Restaurant at St. John's Inn in Plymouth Township, Toasted Oak Grill and Market in Novi, Old World Olive Press in Plymouth, Zumba Mexican Grille in Birmingham and McCormick Distilling Co., Armitage Catering/Finnish Banquet & Conference Center, Farmington Hills; Dream Cakes LLC of Commerce and many more.

In addition to food, attendees can bid on a variety of gifts cards and baskets, including a VIP wine-tasting at Chateau Chantal, a weekend stay at the Townsend Hotel in downtown Birmingham or sports and entertainment packages.

Highlight of this year's raffle is a Hearts on Fire Diamond necklace from Orin Jewelers in Garden City and Northville valued at \$3,400. Other raffle prizes include \$500 cash, \$250 cash (two winners) and dinner for two at the American Harvest Restaurant at Schoolcraft (three winners). Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10.

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2011 CROP HIGHLIGHTS

- Apples are Michigan's largest and most valuable fruit crop, with an average annual economic contribution to the state of \$700-\$900 million.

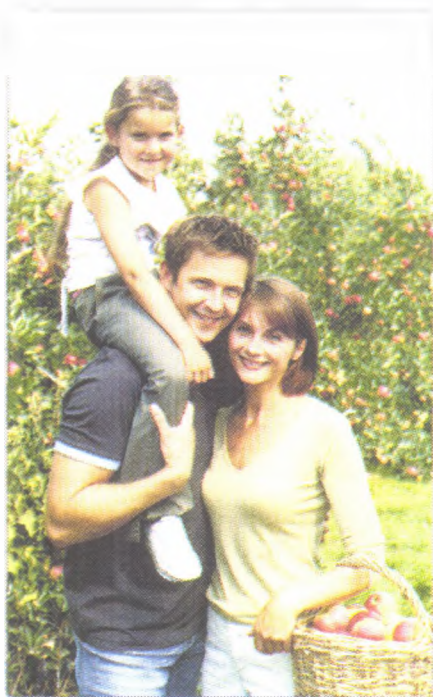
- On average, Michigan harvests about 20 million bushels (840 million pounds) of apples per year. This year's prime growing conditions are expected to boost the 2011 crop to 26 million bushels, 30 percent higher than average.

- In spring 2011, Michigan apple growers through the Michigan Apple Committee became the first commodity group to partner with Pure Michigan, the multi-million dollar award-winning state tourism and travel campaign.

- There are 900 family-operated farms throughout Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Small family farmers operating their own orchards continue to dominate the landscape. According to statistics, 65 percent of Michigan orchards had fewer than 200 acres in apples.

- Michigan is the third largest apple-producing state in the nation.

- Michigan has more than 7.5 million apple trees in commercial production, covering some 37,500 acres.



CIDER

Continued from page 10

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www.threecedarsfarm.org

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www.wasemfruitfarm.com

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(734) 482-7744
www.wiards.com

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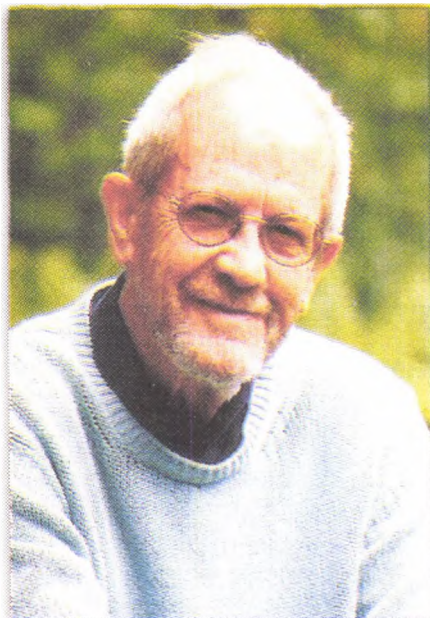





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Tim Allen



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Jeff Daniels

Michigan's famous faces

By **Candy Spiegel**

Gannett News Service

Michigan residents have been making a difference in the lives of people around the world for centuries. The list of famous individuals who were either born or resided in the state includes Charles Lindbergh, Thomas A. Edison, President Gerald R. Ford, Rosa Parks, Sojourner Truth, Ernie Harwell and Malcolm X.

The following list represents a sampling of the celebrities and entrepreneurs who have also called Michigan home:

- Actors Tim Allen, Jeff Daniels, Charlton Heston, James Earl Jones, Richard

Kiel, Lee Majors, Steven Seagal, George C. Scott, Tom Selleck, Danny Thomas and Robert Wagner

- Actresses Kristen Bell, Sandra Bernhard, Marlo Thomas
- The founders of Boeing, Kellogg, Upjohn, Montgomery Ward, Dow Chemical, Post and Kmart
- Albert Kahn, architect
- Comedians Dick Martin, Ed McMahon, Gilda Radner, Sinbad and Lily Tomlin
- Gen. George Armstrong Custer
- Berry Gordy, founder of Motown
- Automobile designers, inventors and/or manufacturers David Buick, Louis Chevrolet, Walter P. Chrysler, James

Couzens, Harlow H. Curtice, John F. Dodge, Horace E. Dodge, William Crape Durant, Henry Ford, Henry M. Leland and Ransom E. Olds

- Sports stars Muhammad Ali, Ty Cobb, Charlie Gehringer, Todd Eldredge, Kirk Gibson, George "The Gipper" Gipp, Gordie Howe, Derek Jeter, Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Joe Louis, Sugar Ray Robinson, Serena Williams
- Chris Van Allsburg, illustrator of children's books, including *Jumanji* and *The Polar Express*
- Inventor Elijah McCoy, where the phrase "The Real McCoy" originated
- Lilian Jackson Braun, author of *The Cat Who ...* books. Although never official-

ly declared, many believe the town in the book is modeled after Bad Axe where she once lived.

- Jim Cash and Jack Epps Jr., screenwriters for *Top Gun* and *Dick Tracy*
- Musicians Anita Baker, Sonny Bono, Alice Cooper, Eminem, Aretha Franklin, Glenn Frey, Kid Rock, Madonna, Ted Nugent, Iggy Pop, Martha Reeves, Diana Ross, Smokey Robinson, Bob Seger and Stevie Wonder
- Magician Harry Blackstone
- Directors Francis Ford Coppola and John Hughes
- Elmore "Dutch" Leonard, western, crime and suspense novelist and screenwriter for *Justified* on FX.




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

Intermediate

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

Advanced

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

SHIPS

Continued from page 6

this system of locks, canals and channels permit ocean-going vessels to travel from the Atlantic Ocean to the North American Great Lakes, as far as Lake Superior.

The collection of ship models is very impressive. Visitors will want to take a few minutes to enjoy the Boblo Boat Exhibit. There are displays of game prizes and candy and a photo op where visitors can sit in one of the original Swan Rides. The scale model of the S.S. Ste. Claire a.k.a. the Boblo Boat, is a favorite of everyone.

The rear wall of the museum is all glass offering a wonderful view of the Detroit River. The William Clay Ford pilothouse has been attached to the building. Yes, the real one. You are invited to walk up its steel staircase and view Windsor, Canada. Windsor's waterfront at that point is only 1,800 feet in front of you.

When I was there, a freighter was passing through and over the PA I was allowed to listen in to what the captain had to say. It is a very realistic setting and I was told that the pilothouse looks exactly as it would have in 1986.

There are so many model ships but I passed one that sits ever so unnoticed, it is the model of the ship that housed the original museum. I will leave all the details for you to find out about because coming up is my treasure.

On a pedestal in the middle of the room I found four beautiful examples of "ships built in a bottle." Ships in bottles have been around for more than 200 years. There was one, believed to be around 250 years old; it was found in Germany and is in a private



On July 8 and 9, The Pride of Baltimore II dropped anchor in front of the Renaissance Center and allowed admirers to board the ship and walk her decks to see her beauty up close.

collection. The ones here have been anonymously donated. Although not much information is available about them, the detailing is outstanding and they are a perfect representation of how a sailor would have crafted one.

Bottled ships made by old seafarers have generated admiration from landlubbers, who inevitably asked: "... How did that ship get inside that bottle?" Old sailors were loath to give away their secrets, though. The method of making ships in bottles dates back to the 19th century when clear glass bottles were introduced. Sailors liked modeling, and making small models and ships in bottles did not take up space.

My seafaring journey is over but there is more information (see related story) on how you can continue the tradition of ship modeling and have a "Ship in a Bottle."

Coming in October: Non-Spooky Halloween fun.

Places to drop anchor for more information:

Dossin Great Lakes Museum
100 Strand Drive on Belle Isle
Detroit MI 48207
(313) 833-1803
www.detroithistorical.org

Detroit Historical Society
5401 Woodward
Detroit, MI 480202
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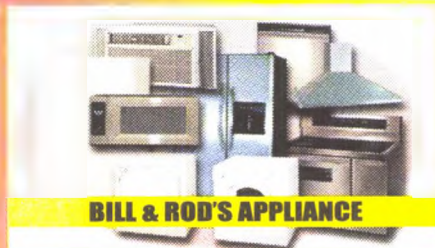


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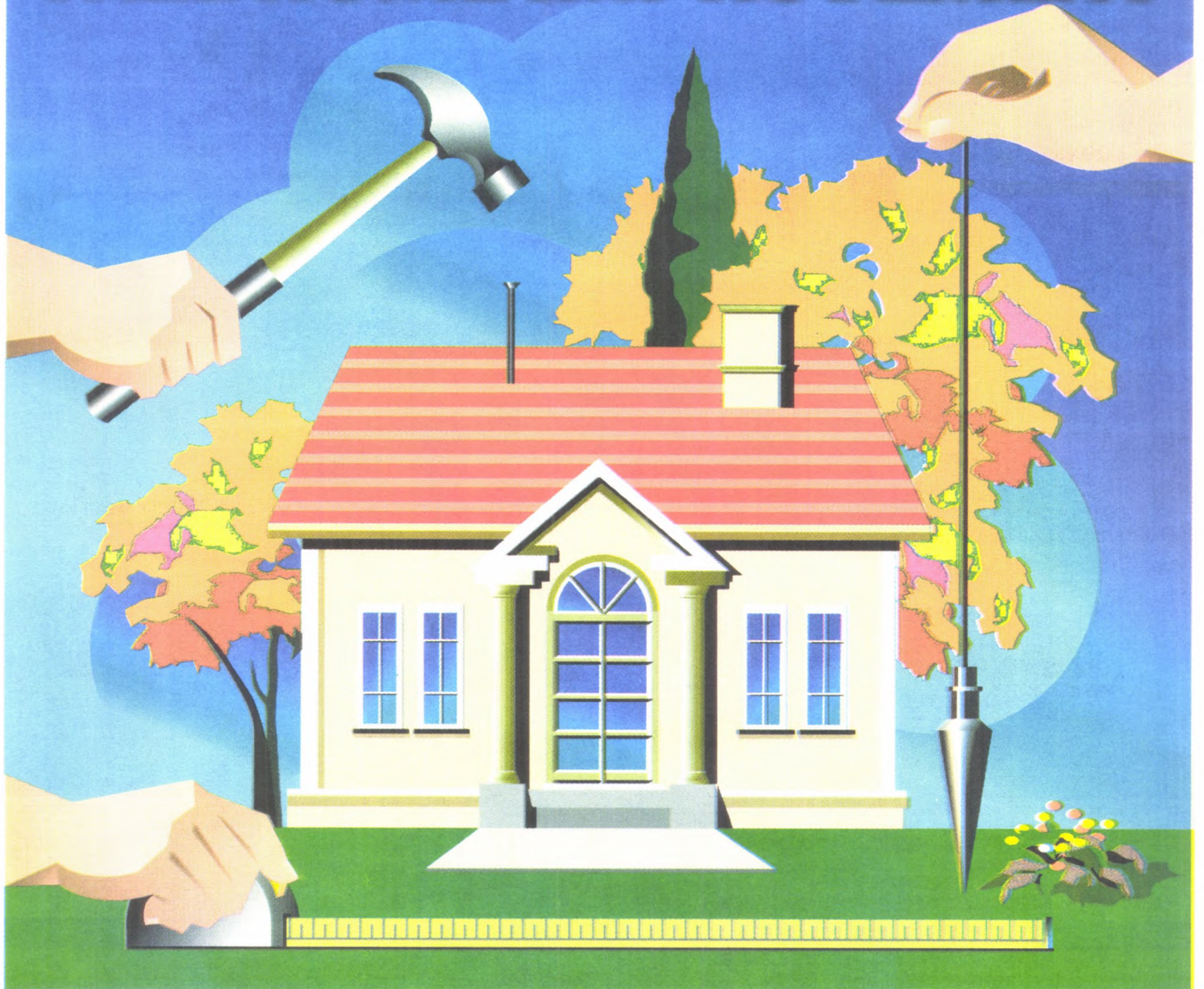
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FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT

20 Customize your home to suit your lifestyle	42 Master suite remodeling tips
22 The crown jewel to room decor: the fireplace	44 Colorful decorating
24 Blueprint for a greener home	48 Create a 3-D home theater
26 Innovative solutions for home	50 Add value with a steam shower
30 Fall care for heat-damaged yards	52 Find the right flooring for your home
34 Repurpose, fallen leaves	54 Planning, permits and protection
36 Build your dream deck	56 Top 10 kitchen remodeling ideas
37 Sprucing up the home exterior	58 Keep your home healthy
38 Green is beautiful	60 Upgrade technology on everyday items
40 Renovate your insurance	62 Green makes the kitchen even better

Ready to entertain this fall?

Fall Home Improvement Advertisers Index

American Carpet50	F.J. La Fontaine & Sons: Landscapes & Maintenance.....54	Ryan's Blade Runners Lawn & Landscapes, LLC38
American Fireplace & Barbeque Dist.....46	GutterDude.com56	SafeBet Hidden Fencing29
American Power Vac.....58	Gutter Guards of America40	Seghi Renovations.....49
Amish Reflections.....55	Heating & Cooling Mr. Comfort.....42	Selective Heating & Cooling, Inc.45
Beckway Garage Door36	Herald Wholesale39	Siding World.....32, 33
Bell's Landscape Services, Inc.27	Hollow Oak Farm59	Soltman Heating & Cooling40
Catholic Vantage Financial.....43	IDC-Heating, Cooling, Plumbing ... 48, 54	Tarnow Doors60
ClearWater Construction51	Jerry's Heating & Air Conditioning LLC .36	Teknicolor Paints.....24
Consign and Design37	Jonboy Landscaping60	Town 'n' Country Hardware35
Consignment & Outlet Store.....61	KC Construction, Inc18	United Temperature53
Country Cupboard48	Marsh Power Tools.....37	Upholstery Innovation56
Crown Granite Tops.....51	Milarch Nursery, Inc.42	Wayne Lawn & Garden Center.....47
Dalton Flooring23, 57	Neighborhood Heating & Cooling.....24	Welker Construction LLC59
Dande Hardwood Floor Co.....60	Northville Lumber, Co.54	Westland Lawn & Snow.....55
Executive Landscape19	Perfect Floors41	Wholesale Builders Supply, Inc.63
Expert Heating & Cooling57	Pine Tree Lighting22	Wisti Landscape Supplies.....30
Extraordinary Works21	Planned Home Improvement53	World Stone Group45
Family Heating, Cooling & Electrical, Inc.....31	Pro Built25	Zoro's Christmas Lights27
FireSide Hearth & Home28	Royal Oak Heating and Cooling, Inc....48	

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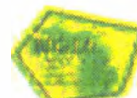
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Homeowners who opt to stay in their homes rather than buy new ones or those who need to reallocate space to accommodate an extended family can create a "new" living environment tailored to their tastes and needs with some well-planned changes. Check out the following Woodcraft tips and tools to help you.

Envision A New Look

Give your entrance a fresh appearance by installing a new front door or painting the existing door. Update your home's interior with crown molding, chair rails and trim that reflect your tastes and give your living space a unique architectural look. Bring new life to your kitchen by replacing countertops and installing

new cabinet hardware or buying or building new cabinets.

Explore Space Management

Look for creative ways to make maximum use of space. Use shelving and modular storage units in closets, bathrooms and garages, and incorporate bookcases or decorative shelving either built-in or freestanding, for more storage and a custom look. If space is really cramped, consider removing a wall to create a larger, multiuse area or, if you live in a year-round warm climate, build an enclosed porch or deck to gain more living space.

Listen To An Expert

Veteran remodeling contractor Danny Lipford, host of Today's Homeowner program and Homefront with Danny Lipford, offers the following advice: "If you are a beginner DIYer, start with modest projects, and then move on to more ambitious tasks once you have the confidence and a little more experience. Also, do your research to choose the right tools for the job; it will minimize the frustrations."

Then Round Up Some Tools & Supplies To Help!

Several user-friendly tools will make these projects easier.

- The Rockwell BladeRunner is a portable, multipurpose precision cutter that utilizes any T-Shank jigsaw blades. The variable speed motor control and simple blade changing mechanism allow you to cut wood, metal, plastic, aluminum and ceramic tile. The 18-lb. tool can be operated on any bench top surface or mounted to the wall (bracket included).

- For quick and easy joinery, choose the Kreg Jig K4 Master System that includes what you need to create strong pocket-hole joints with only a saw and drill.

- The new Rockwell 3Rill 12V Lithium-Ion Cordless Drill -- a three-in-one cordless tool that functions as a drill driver, screw-

driver or impact driver -- is another handy helper. Use it to drill holes in wood and metal, drive small screws with controlled torque, or fasten bolts or screws with high speed.

- Kreg Crown-Pro Mittersaw Guide gives trim carpenters and DIY enthusiasts alike a fast and easy way to add beautiful crown molding to any room. The Crown-Pro works with molding up to 5 1/2" wide and is easy to use for inside and outside corners.

- Tackle nearly any sanding task with a 5" or 6" lightweight (2 lbs.) Mirka Ceros Random-Orbital Sander powered by a brushless DC motor that delivers controlled variable speeds from 4,000 to 10,000 RPMs for an ideal finish in a variety of applications.

- Titebond Molding Glue is specially formulated for finish trim and carpentry, including crown molding, baseboards, and window casings.

- For indoor projects, Waterlox Original and General Finishes Arm-R-Seal Clear Finishes are nearly goof-proof, provide superior results and age well.

- General Finishes Milk Paint is a tough, durable premixed water-based acrylic for both indoor and outdoor applications. Traditional milk paint colors produce a flat finish, but an overcoat can be applied to change the sheen.

- OneTIME Wood, an exterior finish available in five colors, works for new wood or wood that has had a previous coating removed.

- System Three Spar Varnish and Waterlox Marine Finish are exterior coatings suitable for extended duty.

For more information about Woodcraft, contact the store nearest you, visit www.woodcraft.com or call (800) 535-4482.

When you are considering your home renovation projects, asking questions is a great tool. Sometimes we need the help of the professionals who have been dealing in the areas of home improvement that you are about to embark on. The answers we seek are just a phone call away.

Northville Lumber in

Northville, business manager John Kruse said "Northville Lumber Company, has been a family-owned business since 1845, and still is "what a lumber yard should be". At Northville Lumber, traditional, old-fashioned service meets the advances of today's building materials. You'll get the best of both of these worlds at Northville Lumber located in Historical Northville. Call (248) 349-0220 or visit www.nothvillelumber.com.

Kim Engles of Wholesale Building Supply in Wixom said, "Buy where the builder buy, let our experienced team do all the work." Wholesale Builder Supply is the recognized cabinet and appliance specialist across Southeastern Michigan. Their expertise is in customized design solutions, offering world-class, affordable designs. They work closely with you to tailor your dream kitchen and/or bathroom. Call (248) 347-6290 or visit www.wbscabinets.com.

At Tarnow Doors of Farmington Hills manager Bud Helgemo said, "Tarnow Knows Doors." They carry every type of door you can imagine, including garage doors. Tarnow Doors has a huge selection of entry and storm doors for your home and business. They also offer motorized screens, these flyaway screen doors add versatility to porches and garages. Call (248) 478-9060 or visit www.tarnowdoor.com

And if you are considering a new countertop take a look at World Stone Group in Farmington Hills where Emilie Aubuchon said, "Join more than 15,000 satisfied homeowners who have received their countertops factory direct from World Stone Group! Visit our designer showroom today and hand select your slabs for your new countertops." Our goal is to make the process of selecting, designing and purchasing your product an enjoyable, stress-free experience. Call (248) 477-8848 or visit www.worldstone.cc.

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Andrew Bondi, Woodcraft power tool sales manager, "test drives" Mirka's new Ceros Random-Orbital Sander.

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A FIREPLACE CAN BE THE CROWNING JEWEL TO A ROOMS DECOR

A warm and inviting fireplace is frequently recognized as a sought after architectural detail in any home. Unfortunately, not all homes are equipped with a luxury fireplace. However a late innovation called the blue flame gas heater can provide the warmth aesthetic appeal of a fireplace into every room.

A warm and inviting fireplace is frequently recognized as a sought after architectural detail in any home. Unfortunately, not all homes are equipped with a luxury fireplace. However a late innovation called the blue flame gas heater can provide the warmth aesthetic appeal of a fireplace into every room.

A blue flame gas heater is both classical in appearance and stylish enough to meet contemporary expectations. Single-family houses, condominiums, and studios alike will benefit from the impeccable function and

stylized detail only a blue flame gas heater can offer. However seamless function only scratches the surface when considering the many benefits of owning a blue flame gas heater.

The appealing aesthetics of a blue flame gas-heating unit only seek to complement the unit's durable and convenient function. These heaters are designed to offer users an economic and truly powerful heat source that can be used in place of or in conjunction with other methods of heating. Homeowners who use frequently use central heating and air will find the use of a blue flame gas heater can be an amazing benefit. The use of a ventless gas blue flame-heating unit save homeowner's an extensive sum of money on electricity bills in the winter months.

Homeowners and renters alike will find that these units are easy to operate

and extremely economic. A ventless blue flame gas heater offers users extreme control over the temperature that truly outshines a traditional fireplace. Not only that, but the style of the unit will make it a focal point all its own.

When not being used, a blue flame gas heater is stylish and appealing for a number of reasons. They can be easily integrated into any home decor. Heaters like these first came onto the scene in the Victorian era and have been tweaked and redesigned over the years. Modern technology now makes it possible to own heaters that are highly efficient, ventless, and gas fueled.

If you've searching for a high quality heater, a blue flame gas heater may be perfect for your home. Today is the day to call the experts at ventless-gas-heaters.com.

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YOUR BLUEPRINT FOR A GREENER HOME

A home is probably the largest purchase you'll make in your lifetime. And the costs don't stop with a mortgage payment — rising energy prices make it expensive to operate and maintain a home. According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), homes account for 21 percent of the energy used in this country every year, with an average annual utility bill of \$1,767.

So it's no surprise that a 2010 survey by the Shelton Group found that 64 percent of respondents were interested in owning or renting an energy-efficient home. If you want to make some energy-saving upgrades, here are things you can do to get greener while saving some green.

• Windows and doors should be weather-stripped. See the DOE Energy Savers website, www.energysavers.gov, for a comprehensive description of different types of caulking and weather stripping material.

Inspect Insulation

When correctly installed, insulation delivers comfort while lowering energy bills during the hottest and coldest times of the year. There are several common types of insulation:

- Fiberglass (in both batt and blown forms)
- Cellulose
- Rigid foam board
- Spray foam

Reflective insulation (also called radiant barrier) is another insulating product which can help save energy in hot, sunny climates.

To get the biggest savings, the easiest place to add insulation is usually in the attic. A quick way to see if you need more insulation is to look across your uncovered attic floor. If the insulation is level with or below the attic floor joists, you probably need to add more insulation.

A qualified home energy auditor will include an insulation check as a routine part of a whole-house energy assessment. You can find more information to help you determine what is most cost-effective for your home at www.energysavers.gov.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

Improve Water Usage

Typically the largest use of water within a home is involved in toilet flushing. On average this comes out to about 25,000 gallons a year for a family of four. Working with American Standard, the DOE project team for the ReVision Retrofit Home in Las Vegas selected an effective and water efficient dual-flush toilet. The dual flush technology features two operational levels: 1.6 gallons per flush; and 1.0 gallon per flush, for heavy or light flushing respectively. This switch can save a family of four up to 17,000 gallons of water a year.

• A typical bathroom faucet will draw 2.2 gallons per minute. Changing to a WaterSense listed 1.5 gpm faucet can save a family of four over 8,000 gallons a year.

• Most conventional washing machines use between 25 and 40 gallons of water per complete cycle. Water-saving versions can cut water (and energy) usage by more than 40 percent. The most energy-efficient washing machines are typically front-loading machines. They use about one third the water as a conventional machine to wash the same amount of clothes.

—COURTESY OF FAMILY FEATURES

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Seghi said, "Our Design Center in South Lyon will give you a chance to experience thousands of quality brand-name building products, and our design staff can help you coordinate cabinets and countertops, flooring and fixtures, tile and hardware, roofing and siding, and more. Do-It-Yourselfers can buy direct too! Call (248) 437-2454 For a Free Consultation or visit www.jim-seghirenovations.com.

If you have some problem areas that could benefit from the latest unique home solutions, here are some tips:

Deck kits enhance outdoor spaces

With the emergence of new deck materials such as solid PVC, homeowners no longer have to waste excessive time or money on deck maintenance. The vast array of rich colors and surface textures, along with stain and scratch resistant materials have made these items a smart choice over wood. Now, there are kits that accessorize these deck options.

If you've ever made a mad dash to retrieve cushions or other items when it rains, then in-deck storage may be in order, according to Mike Gori, deck expert for AZEK Building Products, maker of AZEK Deck. This clever idea provides 17.5 cubic feet of safe, dry storage space that uses the area below the deck. "You don't have to sacrifice living space or ruin your view with unsightly plastic tubs," says Gori. The storage unit's lid sits flush with the deck surface and holds up to 500 pounds. "There are also kits for building benches with planter boxes and custom gates," he says. "It's never been easier to accessorize a new or existing deck."

Perhaps now would be a good time for you to think about an expanding the footprint of your home. Planned Home

Improvement is located in Westland. Mike and Mark Kwolek are the owners that offer over 40 years of real-world experience in designing a wide variety of attractive and practical additions and remodels that blend well with their original structures. Are you staying put and thinking about expanding or updating your current home? They suggest that you beautify where you are! And they have the working knowledge to get the job done right. Call (734) 729-3200 or visit www.planned-homeimprovement.com for more information.

The caulk cure for energy costs

One of your home's biggest money drains can be energy waste — whether it's warm or cool air leaking out or outside temperatures sneaking in. That is where a bead of quality caulk can be the best bang for your buck. One caulk problem happens when homeowners paint caulk too early, which can cause cracks to form, letting in air and moisture.

"What we came up with is an advanced sealant called ColorCure that actually tells you when the caulk can be painted — it turns from pink to white," says Jason Ringling, director of marketing at Red Devil, Inc. "If you test caulk by touching the wet bead, the finish is ruined."



Applying caulk around baseboards is a wise thought, sealing out any possible drafts can only help with heating costs.



A beautiful shade pergola is a perfect picture perfect addition to your "outdoor living space", and are great near the pool or near the garden.

Another good practice is to use new caulk and sealant products that are better for the environment as well as high performance. "It's not only environmentally friendly, but solvent-free and low VOC — and with no plasticizers it won't leach or pick up dirt which is perfect for painted finishes," Ringling says.

Another area of your home

that uses caulk are your gutters. Our local expert Gutter Dude in Livonia specializes in cleaning and repairing gutters. A two man certified gutter-cleaning team will blow off the entire roof of leaves, and foliage debris. They fully inspect the condition of your roof and clear the debris out of the gutters and downspouts. Downspouts are tested for proper drainage. Dave Heslop owner said, "Don't forget to ask about gutter screening service." Call (734) 658-5170 or visit www.gutterdude.com

Have a great room outdoors

Shade pergolas can provide the convenience of a great room in the great outdoors for entertaining al fresco. With dignified beauty, pergolas have many style options that create a picture-perfect gathering spot near the garden or pool.

"These versatile, stylish outdoor rooms provide semi-privacy and are ideal for entertaining or relaxing with your family," says

Sue Donahue, marketing manager for Walpole Woodworkers a leader in premium outdoor structures.

Another advantage to today's pergola designs is the addition of protective fabric canopies that let the party go on, rain or shine. "Canopies, either operated manually or by remote control, keep furniture and outdoor decor protected at the first sign of inclement weather," she says.

Pergola styles include arched or classic straight tops, and columns are typically square, tapered, or round. A lattice screen can add more privacy and bring color to the area, with climbing plant and vines. Donahue says to look for pergolas in wood or the new wood-alternative solid PVC materials that are low maintenance and long lasting.

If this all sounds interesting to you but you're not very handy or short on time there is a guy in town you need to know about. Hire my Hubby has been around for a while, Scott Truss is the hubby and has been a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

Michigan licensed builder since 1990. His wife Donna explains people are always amazed by my hubby's skills and his eye for detail. He will not walk into your home and tell you what should be done. Scott will explain options and/or ideas. You will know soon after meeting him that he is experienced and confident to get your project completed. Call (248) 987-2866 or visit www.hiremyhubby.net.

Prepare for wet weather extremes

Extreme weather events can happen in a flash. Even if you're not in an official flood zone, inches of rainfall in a matter of minutes, hurricanes and other freakish weather events can cause flooding. The experts at Wayne Water Systems advise consumers to look for durable, reliable, worry-free water handling pumps.

As homeowner Bill Bellaver of Troy,

Mich. reports, his sump pump protected his home for 33 years before taking its last gasp. His friends and neighbors were not so lucky. "Our Wayne pump has worked well without any issues, while friends with lower quality or no pumps have suffered damage or loss of valuables," he says.

Getting your home ready for fall can be exhausting but fun but before we put the tools away how about adding the possibilities of a fireplace upgrade? Fireside Hearth and Home has two locations, on Ford Road in Canton and the other one on Hall Road in Utica. This family owned and operated business deals with direct-vent fireplaces, wood-burning fireplaces, direct vent gas inserts and wood inserts. The company offers delivery services as well as installation and repairs. They are your one stop fireplace shop Call (734) 844-1164 in Canton, or (586) 726-7100 in Utica.

Homeowners can make smarter choices with today's new home solutions. It's a way to reduce hassles, save money and add convenience to their current lifestyle.

—COURTESY OF ARA WITH CONTRIBUTION BY DENNIS ZELAZNY



Bill Bellaver homeowner in Troy, MI, explains that his quality sump pump protected his home for 33 years before having to be replaced.

Paid Advertisement

'SafeBet Hidden Fencing' keeping pets safe in the yard for over 8 years

These days people don't need a wooden or metal fence to keep their pet out of the pound. In fact the best way to ensure the family dog doesn't become the neighborhood stray can't be seen at all. "The idea when we set this business up was to offer a high quality product at a reasonable price. Something everybody can afford," said Randy Badour, owner of SafeBet Hidden Fencing of Michigan LLC. "With some of the other companies out there, you call them up, have them come out and they give you a price that is usually very, very expensive. We wanted to offer something that everybody could do.

"What Randy's business offers is a safe, economical alternative to chain link fencing. His product, Hidden Fence, is 99.2 percent effective at training a dog to respect the boundaries of a yard. Not to mention Hidden Fence can save pet owners \$1,000's compared to wood or metal fence installation.

There's no guarantees that a chain link fence will work either. Dogs can climb over them or dig under them or someone will make the mistake of leaving the gate open. I've had plenty of calls to go put in an electric fence inside their fence.

"With Hidden Fence, the dog is fit with a collar which emits a warning sound when the animal wanders too close to the boundaries specified at installation. If the animal continues towards the boundaries the collar delivers a mild corrective stimulation.

"Depending on the dog, you are talking about two to four weeks for training. Once they hear that warning tone that is all it takes," said Badour, who uses Hidden Fence to keep his dog, Kramer, from terrorizing the neighbors.



Randy Badour, started SafeBet Hidden Fencing in Michigan 8 years ago. He and his dog Kramer, will help you keep your pet where it belongs.

Hidden Fence's collar interacts with a boundary of wire installed into the ground. The process of setting up the wire takes between two and four hours. Badour and his crew slice open the ground in order to thread Hidden Fence across the yard. The grass makes a complete recovery within days of installation.

"We're a local business. I think we offer a little more personal touch for the customer. We're available when the customer calls and we're there the same day doing whatever they need, from any problems they have with the system to training their dog," said Badour.

All of Badour's packages include up to one acre of Hidden Fence wiring.

As well as keeping pets in the yard, SafeBet also offers solutions inside the home, in the form of small

battery powered units which will safeguard anything from a garbage can or toilet bowl to a computer room.

"If you have something in the house you want to keep the cat away from, these will do the trick," said Badour.

The aforementioned devices and others including training equipment for sporting dogs and other remote training collars are available for purchase online at www.safebethiddenfence.com.

Discipline for a dog is one thing, Badour has pet owners in mind with the newest addition to the SafeBet stable.

Now, anyone who owns a goldfish, parakeet, cat, dog or any other house pet can go SafeBet Hidden Fencing's website and purchase everything from food to collars. "Order what you want and it's delivered right to your door," said Badour.

Customers can either make a one time purchase or schedule regular deliveries of a wide array of high quality products.

People are so busy now they don't want to mess with buying pet food. Whatever they need just comes automatically and they don't even have to think about it," said Badour.

SafeBet is most proud of making pet protection and training products more affordable for everyone. SafeBet Hidden Fencing is available for appointments year round, Monday thru Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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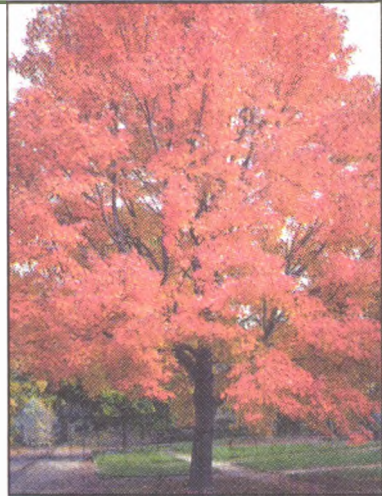
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FALL CARE FOR HEAT-DAMAGED YARDS

Extreme weather over the summer left a lot of lawns and landscapes showing signs of damage. With some time, patience and work, it's possible to get your yard back in order and ready for the winter.

"Signs of typical summer wear and tear on lawns were amplified as they were stressed by the above-normal temperatures experienced across the United States," said Ben Hamza, Ph.D., director of technical operations at TruGreen, the nation's largest professional lawn care service. "Fall is the ideal time to nurture lawns and landscapes to help ensure your yard's health for spring."

Grasses

Thoroughly walk your property and inspect the lawn, trees and shrubs. Note patchy areas, where grass has thinned out or is in need of valuable nutrients and appears as light green. Also look for weed and plant pest infestations and overgrown trees and shrubs, especially those with the potential for interfering with roof and power lines. Consider a qualified expert, such as TruGreen, to properly gauge your lawn and landscape needs.

Replace

Fall is the right time to seed bare lawn areas and overseed existing grass to improve lawn thickness and density. After a detailed inspection of your lawn's trouble spots, your TruGreen specialist could recommend one of several reseeding techniques:

- Spot Seeding — fills in small areas that are thin or infested with weeds.
- Overseeding — generally used for larger areas where the turf is thin, but not bare.
- Slit Seeding — a premium service using a specialized machine to cut slits into the soil and sow turf seeds directly into the slits.

Lightly rake an inch of surface soil to remove dead debris and properly prepare

the area for seeding. Choose a grass seed that is the same type as the grass already growing in your lawn. Lightly apply seed to the soil surface and gently pack to firm the seed into the soil. Apply a light layer of straw or seeding mulch to encourage rapid seed germination. Water lightly until the seed has fully emerged. Do not apply crabgrass preventive to newly seeded areas of your lawn.

Feed

Fall feeding gives roots of lawns, trees and shrubs the energy needed to prepare for a healthy spring green revival. Be sure to keep fertilizer on target to prevent run-off. Using a trained specialist, such as TruGreen, for insect and disease control measures customized to your region will help trees and shrubs thrive. If you fertilize your own lawn, make sure you read and follow the product directions and sweep all fertilizer granules that may reach pavement back onto your lawn.

Maintain

Throughout the fall, there are things you can do to maintain your yard's appearance and health:

- Rake and clean. Keeping leaves and debris cleared off your lawn will keep your lawn healthier.
- Continue to clear away debris that can become matted and damage your lawn.
- Inspect your landscape mulch in the fall. Clean up beds, refresh mulch and make sure that no more than two to three inches of mulch remains in the beds.
- Do not walk on frost-covered lawns. Doing so may cause brown footprints to appear later. These footprints may remain visible until spring green-up begins.

With these tips, your lawn and landscape can recover from the difficult summer and spring back into shape next year. For more expert advice, visit www.TruGreen.com.

—COURTESY OF FAMILY FEATURES



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CLEAN UP LEAVES AND REPURPOSE THEM

Every fall homeowners are faced with cascades of red, purple, orange, and yellow leaves falling from the sky. Amid this rainbow of autumn activity, some people still have "green" on their minds — as in eco-friendly ways they can embark on fall clean-up.

Removing leaves from the lawn and yard is a task that few people relish. It can often mean hours spent gathering leaves and then finding ways to dispose of them. Some homeowners stack leaves at the curb in bins and bags. Others torch them in a huge bonfire. Still others scatter them to the street with a gas-powered blower. While these methods may be fast or efficient in their own ways, they are not the most environmentally friendly ways to handle leaf removal. There are some other tactics you can take.

Instead of thinking about ways to remove leaves, a greener idea is to think of ways to repurpose leaves. Even though they've passed their prime on the limbs of trees, fallen leaves can be an essential part of the ecosystem after they've fallen.

Much about mulch

Fallen leaves can make an ideal mulch, helping to deliver nutrients to the soil during the stark, winter months. Placing shredded leaves around the base of shrubbery and trees can help insulate the root systems and nourish them. Decomposing leaves also provide food to soil insects, including earthworms.

'Leaf' them alone

Unless the lawn is completely inundated with leaves, it's alright to leave some behind. Animals preparing their winter nests or hibernation can collect leaves and use them to insulate their cozy retreats. Leaves can act as fertilizer to the lawn and also food sources to insects.

Get composting

Savvy homeowners who have a compost pile to create "black gold" for their vegetables and

Instead of thinking about ways to remove leaves, a greener idea is to think of ways to repurpose leaves. Even though they've passed their prime on the limbs of trees, fallen leaves can be an essential part of the ecosystem after they've fallen.

flowers can add fallen leaves to the pile as part of the secret recipe to wonderful fertilizer. What's more, because this compost pile is likely close by, individuals won't need to cart heavy leaves long distances for disposal. Simply wheelbarrow them over to the compost heap and dump.

Rake for health

Leaf blowers may make fast work of gathering leaves to one area, but they are noisy, smelly and burn gasoline unnecessarily. Instead, look to the old-fashioned garden rake. A person won't need to visit the gym that day because raking can burn hundreds of calories in an hour and work the muscles in the arms and shoulders effectively. For those prone to blisters, wear gloves and take frequent breaks.

Ideal insulation

Leaves can insulate more than chipmunk nests. Rake some into bags to place around the perimeter of the home's foundation for a little extra weatherproofing when it's cold. Surround outdoor garden containers to insulate the soil of delicate plants that will overwinter outside or in the garage. Trees like palms or figs that need to be covered when it gets cold can get extra warmth from insulating bags of leaves.



Raking leaves is a green way to clean-up the landscape.

Art projects

Although you can't use all of the leaves that fall from trees, children and adults can make home decor or art projects with some of the best of the bunch. String leaves for autumn decorating garlands on mailboxes or around doors. Press leaves between waxed paper and iron lightly to make keepsakes. Place leaves in between pieces of clear contact paper or laminating paper. Cut around the leaf design and punch a hole at the top for a hanging string. Use as a bookmark, ornament or doorknob sign. The possibilities for green uses

art Home and Garden Showplace. Call (734) 453-5500 or visit www.plymouthnursery.net

Another great source for your landscaping materials would be Jonboy Landscaping in Redford. Owner Jon Sternfels tell us that JonBoy Landscaping is an experienced full service provider for residential and commercial accounts. They are your trusted experts in lawn maintenance, landscaping design / installation, snow removal plus much more. They take complete care of your lawn during the growing season: everything from lawn maintenance to fall leaf clean-up. And in the winter they offer snow removal services as well. Call (313) 937-9893 or visit www.jon-boylandscaping.com

If your thinking about a whole new look for your home you will want to call Executive Landscape in Northville, Owner Andy Whitmire said, "Executive Landscape has been providing the finest landscape design, installation and maintenance for Southeast Michigan since 1994. Knowledge, professionalism, and experience drive Executive Landscape to be a leader in the landscape industry. They have won awards for their landscaping projects in multiple cities in the area. Call (248) 348-8422 or visit www.executivelandscape.net

As long as we are talking about your yard how about a beautiful new pool for next season? Clearwater Pool and Spa in Livonia has some suggestions for you. Owner Art Grace said "Our family run business offers courteous professionalism, affordable prices and many levels of service from which you can choose." Clearwater Pool & Spa can turn your dream of an in-ground pool into a reality. They also offer home construction, heating and cooling and electrical services. They have been in business since 1980. Call (734) 502-5060 or visit www.clearwaterconstructionservices.com

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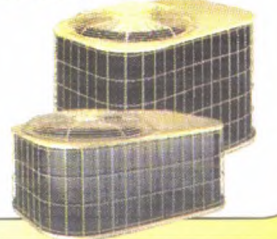
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SEVEN TIPS FOR BUILDING YOUR DREAM DECK

Most people build a new deck to enjoy their outdoor space. But did you know adding a new deck or upgrading your deck can add value to your home?

Remodeling Magazine rated adding a backyard deck as one of the best value projects in its most recent Cost vs. Value Survey, noting decks are relatively inexpensive to construct, but are almost considered essential by potential homeowners.

If you want to build a new deck, or just improve the one you have, HGTV/DIY Network star Jeff Wilson shares his experience gleaned from 25 years of professional experience and his own backyard makeover:

1. Dream big: What's your ideal outdoor space? Books, magazines, TV shows and online content provide a wealth of inspiration. Even if you don't have the budget now for everything you want, establishing a long-term plan ensures you won't be tearing something out later to make way for your dream deck.

2. Trial run: Sometimes numbers like "10-foot-wide deck" don't translate to usable space in the real world. Lay out your planned deck in the space where it will be built using rope, a garden hose, or stakes and string. Arrange objects in the space as you envisioned them in the plan. Make sure that there's enough clearance between furniture and deck features to allow for traffic flow. This lets you catch problems before they're too costly to fix.

3. Don't forget the details: Have you considered lighting? Do you want to listen to music or have an all-outdoor home theater

system? Maybe you want to run a natural gas line to your grill so your propane tank will never run out in the middle of a big party. Or water lines to a sink or outdoor shower — all of these details need to be sketched out in advance so that wiring and piping can be installed along the way.

4. Color your world: Do a little research on color options for your deck. You may want a clear coating for the most natural wood look. But you can also get tinted waterproofer and stains to add color to the wood. For instance, the Thompson's Water Seal line has 117 different shades of stain to accent and protect your deck. If you don't know where to start in choosing a color, look at the most dominant, unchanging color in the environment — probably your home's exterior — and choose a complimentary shade.

5. Permits and setbacks: Take your plan to your local codes office to verify local building codes and property-line setbacks. Don't try to start work without your building

permit, or you may be in for removing work you've already completed in the future.

6. Green with envy: Consider the environmental effect of building your deck. Choose FSC-certified sustainability harvested lumber, solar lighting, rain barrels or "pillows," and reused materials when planning your deck.

7. Get the best deal: If you're hiring a contractor, get at least three estimates. Don't automatically pick the lowest number — sometimes it's worth paying a little more if the contractor is committed to a quality job and if they're able to listen and incorporate your ideas.

If you're going to do it yourself, don't wait until the last minute to order materials. If you order everything at once, lumberyards will often deliver the materials for free. Check deals on contractor credit — some big box stores offer 10 percent off your first order if you open a commercial account. This can be a big savings if you're prepared ahead of time.

For more do-it-yourself tips, or to enter for the chance to win a \$10,000 makeover budget along with an in-person visit and consultation from Wilson, visit www.thompsonswaterseal.com/dreamdeck.

—COURTESY OF ARA



A new deck can add value to your house and allow your family to enjoy your outdoor space.



SPRUCE UP YOUR HOME'S EXTERIOR

With fall quickly settling in, there's no better time to spruce up your home. But while most families are reorganizing closets and making trips to Goodwill, they are neglecting the part of their home guests see first — its exterior. After this year's summer activities, the outside of your home probably needs more than a little TLC.

Here are some tips and tricks for sprucing up your home's exterior:

Make your home's siding shine:

After getting hit with record-breaking heat waves, the exterior of most homes took a beating. Now that it's getting cooler, it's the perfect time to freshen up your home's siding or maybe even replace it. Take a look around your neighborhood and see what other have done. Call in a

professional and get their opinion, when assessing the condition of your homes exterior.

Put life back into your driveway:

A cracked, weathered driveway doesn't do much for a home's curb appeal and it's often the first thing guests' see when they visit your home. Unfortunately, driveway resealing is a project that many homeowners neglect due to the mess and time it requires. But, resealing a driveway doesn't have to be a time-consuming and messy project. Thanks to breakthrough technology, homeowners can rejuvenate their driveways in one easy step with EPOXYSHIELD Blacktop Coating. Unlike other blacktop sealers that must be applied with a squeegee, EPOXYSHIELD Blacktop Coating can be

rolled onto the surface, just like paint. It's drive-ready in just four hours, leaving a jet-black finish, plus it lasts longer than traditional driveway sealers.

Don't forget your walkways:

It's easy to revive worn sidewalks, porches and entryways without spending a small fortune on replacing them. Select a product like Epoxyshield Concrete Resurfacer. It comes in a kit complete with all of the tools you need to renew and restore aged, patched and cracked concrete surfaces. The best part is it can be rolled on, eliminating the mess of replacement or traditional application.

For additional spring spruce up ideas and outdoor cleaning tips, visit www.rustoleum.com.

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A strong push toward global conservation continues to grow and gather steam. Scores of corporations have committed to becoming more "green" in recent years and countless environment-focused initiatives and organizations have popped up around the world. But even on an individual level, some small changes to your lifestyle can make a big difference in preserving the Earth for future generations.

Recycle

Though the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been encouraging Americans to recycle for decades, a recent study found that less than 34 percent of the nation's waste was recovered or recycled in 2009, while 12 percent was burned at combustion facilities and the remaining 54 percent went to landfills. Recycling and composting saved 82 million tons of material from being dumped or burned in 2009, preserving the country's air and land immensely. To find out more about recycling, composting and how your family can help preserve the environment, visit

www.epa.gov/epawaste.

Fume-free

With vehicles constantly emitting harmful chemicals into the atmosphere, it is important to avoid products that put off hazardous components whenever possible. In some situations, this is simply a matter of choosing an environmentally responsible brand over another.

Boycott bottles

Although plastic bottles are recyclable, more than 80 percent are thrown out, creating more than 1.5 million tons of waste each year. Add this to the fact that tap water costs an estimated .002 cents per gallon while many Americans pay more than \$1 per bottle, and bottled water is taking a huge toll on the U.S. landfills and wallets. Purchase a water filter for your home and fill a reusable water bottle from the filtered tap; you'll be saving the environment as well as your bank account, and your taste buds won't know the difference.

Unplug

People may think they're

conserving electricity by turning off appliances when not in use, but televisions, stereos, microwaves and other home electronics are using electricity as long as they are plugged in, even if the power is off. Although it may not seem practical to unplug every appliance after every use, there are ways to avoid this standby power effect. Use "smart" power strips to block energy loss when appliances are off, or determine which devices use the most standby power and unplug those when they're not being used.

Investing

By making small adjustments to your lifestyle, you can make a lasting impact on the environment and keep the world safe and beautiful for generations to come.

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RENOVATING YOUR HOME? RENOVATE YOUR INSURANCE

Whether you are upgrading a kitchen, adding on a master suite, or gutting a newly purchased structure, you need to reassess your insurance needs both before and after your renovation.

It's common to plan every major step of the renovation. But one thing that's tough to plan for is the unexpected. What if an oily rag left unattended starts a fire and your home goes up in smoke? The remodeling work done to date may have an impact on your homeowners insurance - unless you let your insurance agent in on the plans ahead of time.

For example, Fireman's Fund Insurance Company policyholders are required to let their agent know about any renovation projected to increase the replacement cost of your home by more than \$25,000 in order for the crucial full-cost replacement coverage to remain in force.

"Your insurance company and your agent can help you find gaps in your coverage related to remodeling and establish appropriate replacement costs," says Don Soss, vice president of personal insurance at Fireman's Fund. "We can also make sure your contractor and subs have adequate liability insurance in case of damage to your property from poor workmanship or carelessness."

In addition, risk managers at the insurance company can provide advice to minimize the possibility of fires, theft, and mishaps. Good risk management practices also minimize potential project delays. This may be a good time to add security and safety features such as water flow monitoring devices or upgraded burglary and fire alarm systems.

One of the most common issues is maintaining a secure environment during the work phase. For example, contractors often disable a home's existing fire alarm system because dust and particulates generated by construction tend to trigger false alarms. It is important for temporary measures such as fencing and alternate alarms to be in place to keep the property secure.

Demolition debris should also be secured so it can't become airborne in high winds. Toxic or explosive materials need to be stored and handled appropriately, and rebar should be capped to prevent injury to workmen and residents.

Often, the family moves to temporary housing during a remodel. It may be a good idea to put art collections and other valuables that could be damaged in an



It's important to know if your insurance has any gaps relating to remodeling and replacement costs.

offsite secure storage facility for optimal protection.

Even before your work is complete, your agent can go over your current homeowners insurance and make sure you have the replacement value of your home updated. This will reflect increases in construction materials and labor, changes in building codes, installation of new safety devices, changes in square footage, and custom features and appliances.

Top tips for homeowners considering a renovation:

1. Contact your agent before construction starts for coverage of your remodeling work and the value of your completed home.
2. Make sure your contractor and subcontractors have adequate liability insurance. Many contractors carry the generally recommended limits of at least twice the replacement value of the home.
3. Ask the contractor to maintain adequate safety and security devices such as fire and burglar alarms.
4. Save all records related to your project (receipts and appraisals). Store copies of these records in a secure off-site location. Videotaping your house and possessions is also recommended.

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GO FOR THE GOLD: MASTER SUITE REMODELING TIPS

If kitchen and bathroom remodels are the gold and silver medalists in the Olympics of home renovation, then a master suite remodel is a very respectable bronze. But while the superstars of the renovation world may reap more in terms of resale value, a master suite remodel can be more rewarding for your soul.

After all, we spend a lot of time in the bedroom - and we're doing more than just sleeping. For many Americans, the master suite has become a refuge, the area of the house where we can relax and put the day's stresses and cares out of our minds. Anything we do to make that small (or large) suite of rooms more appealing can help enhance our overall enjoyment of our homes.

While adding a master suite can deliver a return on investment of about 63 percent at resale (according to Remodeling Magazine's 2011 Cost vs. Value Report), few of us have the budget for such a sweeping renovation. Fortunately, a few cost-effective moves can boost a master suite's appeal exponentially. Here are a few master suite remodeling ideas that can deliver big bang for not many bucks:

Liven up the walls

A coat of fresh paint remains one of the easiest, lowest-cost ways to freshen any room. Restive, comforting hues can set a relaxing, welcoming tone in a master suite. And since these shades also tend to be

neutral, repainting a master bedroom and bath can enhance resale value as well. It's OK to paint the bedroom and bath different colors, but keep in mind they should be harmonious and complementary - not jarringly different from each other.

While you're repainting, don't forget to do the walk-in closet, if your suite has one. You may be the only ones seeing the closet walls for now, but having the master suite color carried into the closet (rather than leaving it stark white) can help create visual continuity for potential buyers.

Let the sun shine in

A skylight is an upgrade that is both luxurious and practical. Adding one to a master suite is a great way to bring rejuvenating natural light into your home, reduce the need for electric lighting and lower your power bills. No-leak skylights from skylight maker Velux, also eliminate one of the traditional concerns about skylights; when properly installed they are no more likely to leak than any other type of quality window. Venting skylights, especially in a bath, can also provide passive ventilation to carry odors and moisture out of the room. Privacy is also a plus with skylights; they admit natural light without providing an interesting view to your neighbors.

If your master suite is on the first floor, you may think you can't do a skylight. Tubular skylights, such as Sun Tunnels, can deliver natural light into spots where a



Electric venting skylights in bedrooms and baths can be operated by remotes and provide not only natural light and a dramatic view to the sky, but also passive ventilation and privacy.

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Sun Tunnel tubular skylights in baths welcome diffused sunlight and, with a light kit, serve as a 24-hour source of illumination.

traditional skylight won't work - such as on the ground floor of a multi-level home. If you're not sure how a skylight will fit into your master suite, consider downloading the free Velux Skylight Planner App, available for iPhones, iPods, iPads and Android phones. The app helps you see what a skylight might look like in your home. Visit www.veluxusa.com to learn more.

Lavish the bath

A great bathroom is important anywhere in your house, but it's vital to creating a luxurious master suite. Fortunately, the bath is one room where it's easy to make a big impact with not much money.

After you've repainted the room, consider adding touches like decorative frames

around bathroom mirrors, upgraded light fixtures and decadent accessories such as plush towels and a warming towel rack. If you have a few more dollars to spend, replacing a soaking tub with a jetted one is a luxury upgrade that pays off big in terms of enjoyment. You can also replace a standard shower-head with one that offers multiple jets. Replacing a plain shower door with a decorative one, or swapping out a straight shower curtain bar for a curved one are also simple improvements.

With a bronze-level investment of time and money, you can remodel a master suite into a luxurious at-home escape - one that pays off at a gold-medal level.

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GET INSPIRED WITH COLORFUL DECORATING

The change of seasons always provides fresh inspiration and motivation for home updates. Colors and textures are discovered anew in blooming gardens, strolls to local farmers' markets and leisurely bicycle rides.

A refreshed decor doesn't mean having to invest in a big-ticket item like new furniture. Try these easy and affordable design tips to transform the look of your home:

All about color

From ever-popular traditional styles to streamlined modern looks, there is a place for a splash of color in any room. Don't be afraid to add color in unexpected places, from window treatments that pop to a vivid paint shade in an entryway.

For example, Accordia Cellular Shades from Levolor are available in more than 200 fabric choices, including exclusive woven fabrics (Linen, Designer Textures and Translucence) that give rich color and texture to any room. Create an energetic kids' playroom with vivid red Sangria light-filtering shades or a serene master suite with cozy beige Candlelight room-darkening shades.



Bold color used on window treatments may seem to be daring but give a new visual interest as well as texture to your windows.

A refreshed décor doesn't mean having to invest in a big-ticket item like new furniture. These easy and affordable design tips can transform the look of your home.

"Window treatments don't have to fade into the background," says Stephen Smith, vice president of marketing for Levolor. "Embrace color and texture, and let your shades stand out and be the fashionable focal point of the room."

Sweat the small stuff

The latest trend in home decorating is the un-trend. Do-it-yourself truly classifies as such. Customize with touches such as vintage flea-market finds and repurposed accessories to reflect your personal style.

Make the details count. Change out pillow covers for the season and hang a colorful fabric valance

to add visual interest. Celebrate spring and summertime with fresh flowers and greenery in decorative vases, fruit or seashells in glass bowls.

Small updates can make a big difference to the exterior of your home, too. Plant colorful annuals to enhance curb appeal. Try painting the front door and trim with a glossy finish to coordinate with interior window treatments.

Colorful app-ortunity

Ensure color harmony throughout your entire home by taking advantage of mobile technology to custom match paint hues to your favorite pieces. It's as simple as downloading a smartphone application and unleashing your creativity.

For example, ColorSnap is a free app that allows users to quickly and easily match colors in images with more than 1,500 Sherwin-Williams hues and complementary palettes. Simply snap a photo of your favorite vase or new window treatment and you'll be presented with the closest color match. From there, you'll be provided with complementary colors which will ensure seamless color flow of your home decor. Plus, it's easy to test the suggested paint colors within your space with quart-sized paint samples.

If you're looking for color suggestions, you can't go wrong with green.

"One of the most fashionable colors in decorating today is green," says Jackie Jordan, director of color marketing for



Amazing, is the effect of what a new coat of paint can bring to a room. New colors can bring out new dimensions and style.

Sherwin-Williams. "Green is everywhere, including urban environments where rooftop gardens continue to sprout. Today's green trend is heavily influenced by nature, such as leaves and moss."

And don't forget that green is more than just a color when it comes to home updates. Energy loss through windows can account for 10 to 20 percent of a home's heating and cooling costs. Accordia features exclusive Energy Shield technology, which provides additional insulation to help block air and reduces your heating and cooling cost year round.

No matter your personal decor style, the change of seasons is a perfect time to refresh your scenery.

To learn more, visit levolor.com and sherwin-williams.com.

Adding color is a great way to jump-start a rooms make over. Teknicolor Paints in Farmington, is a paint store and more! Kevin Westfall, general manager said, "We sell the largest volume of Benjamin Moore Paints in Michigan." Breathe easy with Natura Paint; it is an interior waterborne paint, which pro-

vides a durable, washable, and fade-resistant finish. It goes on smoothly, cleans up easily, dries to the touch in 30 minutes, and can be recoated in only one hour. And is virtually odorless. Call (248) 994-1300 or for more information visit www.teknicolors.com

Replacing furniture and accessories can really give you the wow factor that you are looking for. Amish Reflections located in Midland is where owner Lanis Swaney said, "We provide you value that is unmatched by offering you the most amazing selection of beautifully designed and crafted Amish Furniture, straight from the Amish wood shop to your home!" We are able to offer you options that are endless with an exclusive collection of handcrafted Oak, Cherry, Maple, Elm, and Hickory furniture from the country's premier Amish Craftsmen. Call (989) 835-3253 or visit www.amishreflections.com.

And if you already have some wonderful furniture pieces but the color is not right then Upholstery Innovations in Northville, has an answer for you. They specialize in all types

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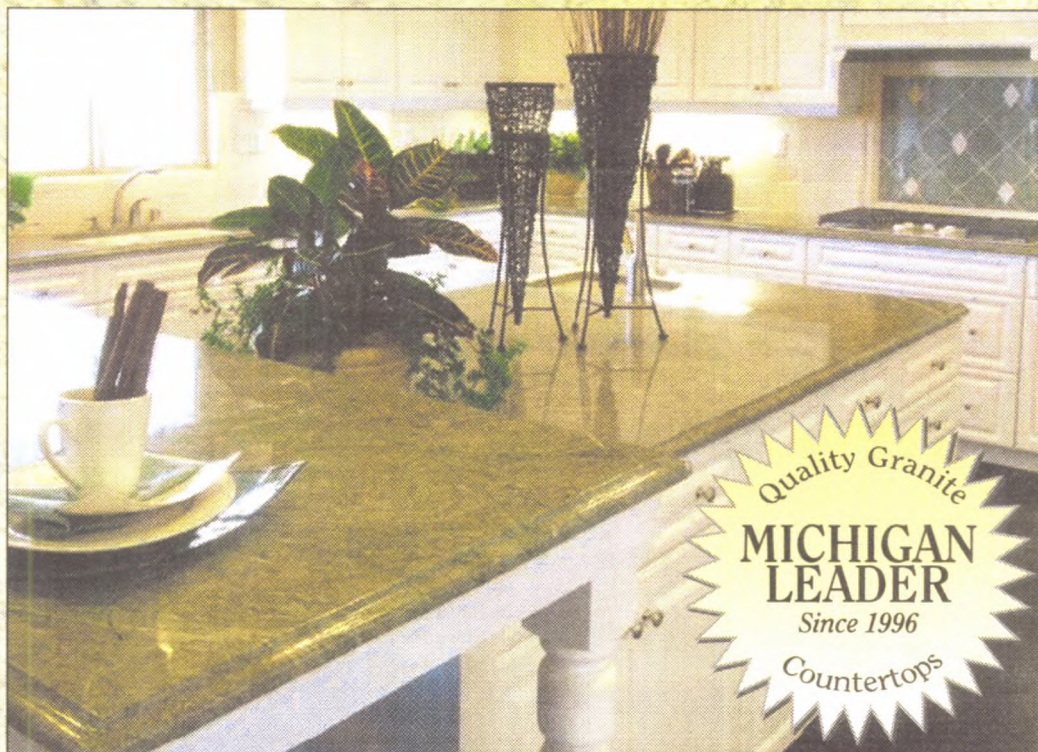
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 44

of furniture refinishing... from family heirlooms to commercial cabinets. Their clients range from homeowners to businesses, so whatever your needs are, they can do the job. Many satisfied customers highly recommend them... both on quality and in price! Custom Furniture Refinishing has been serving Livingston, Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties since 1994. Call (248) 912-1212 or visit www.customfurniturerefinishing.com.

When your budget is tight, or you just to explore some other options Todd Schiffr of Consignment and Outlet in Livonia said, "We strive to get top dollar for Consigners, while still giving the buyer great bargains." They are Michigan's largest resale

liquidation store with over 18000 sq. ft. of upscale resale consignment. Their goal is to provide and sell quality used, new and liquidation items. Call (734) 261-9423 or visit www.consignmentoutlet.com for more details.

Another possible option and a design service is available from Consign & Design in Canton, Marlene Prater owner said, "We make shopping consignment cool." At Consign and Design they are fully committed to redefining the standards of consignment shopping as an upscale resale furniture and home decor boutique for today's buyer. Ask about their color consultation programs. Call (734) 254-0705 or visit www.consignanddesigncanton.com And when the job is

done don't forget about your pets. Having a clean pet will help keep your new look, looking new for a longer time. Aussie Pet Mobile, owner Arlene Dalida, said, "Our technicians are experts when it comes to pets." Aussie Pet Mobile provides a 15 Step mobile grooming Spa Treatment for your dogs and cats, that comes to you and your pet. They have the ability to groom your pet at your doorstep. Their one on one service uses no cages and has proven to be less stressful for your pet and more convenient for you! Call (734) 730-2242 or visit www.petgroom-metrodetroit.com for more information.

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THREE SECRETS TO CREATING A 3-D HOME THEATER



Higher gas prices, rising movie theater ticket costs and advances in 3-D technology just might make this your year to invest your money in a 3-D home theater.

Three-dimensional entertainment is the hottest trend, both at home and in theaters, and it doesn't show signs of abating any time soon. If you've already decided to make the commitment to a 3-D TV, it probably makes sense to create an optimum-viewing environment so you can get the most enjoyment out of your investment.

Whether you're creating a 3-D home theater from scratch or upgrading an existing home theater to 3-D, you should keep a few considerations in mind. The home entertainment furnishing and accessories experts at Sanus offer some advice for your 3-D home theater:

Bigger is better

While advances in high-definition viewing mean you can now get a great image on virtually any size set, when it comes to 3-D viewing a larger screen will provide optimum enjoyment. Choose the largest screen you can afford and that you have space for. You'll also need to arrange seating to allow more dis-

tance between the larger 3-D TV and your eyes, to help minimize eyestrain. Sanus recommends positioning a TV so your eyes are level with the middle of the screen. For most people, this is between 40 and 60 inches off the ground.

A wall mount that provides a full range of motion, like the VLF311 Super Slim, will make it easier to achieve the proper distance and viewing angle for your 3-D TV. Plus, wall mounting a flat screen more closely evokes the movie theater experience.

Dark is desirable

Minimizing light is important for any home theater, but even more so for 3-D viewing. No matter how good your 3-D set is, if the room is too bright your enjoyment of the images will suffer; 3-D images are significantly less bright than 2-D ones. If you're lucky enough to have a dedicated home theater room, paint the walls in dark colors. Use carpeting to eliminate reflection off floors, and room-darkening blinds or drapes to cover windows.

Be aware of items in the room that might create reflections such as glass or lights near the screen. Move items away from the screen that might distract

your vision. For example, if you choose to wall mount your 3-D TV above a fireplace, remove everything from the mantel beneath it and cover the glass fireplace screen with something nonreflective.

Functional furnishings

After spending the money on a 3-D TV, it would really drag down your home theater experience to have components like your 3-D Blu-ray player sitting on the floor. Furnishings made to house components not only create a neat, orderly environment, they can help protect and preserve expensive electronic equipment.

You can find a wide variety of home theater furniture, from speaker stands to devices that mount components on the wall, at www.sanus.com. Finally, don't forget to include a dedicated place to store and charge your 3-D glasses. These costly, delicate devices are essential for 3-D viewing, and it will be more cost-effective in the long run to spend a little bit of money creating a safe spot in which to house them, than it will be to keep replacing lost or damaged ones.

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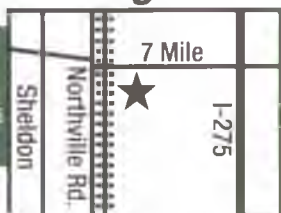
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HOW TO ADD VALUE TO YOUR BATHROOM WITH AN AFFORDABLE STEAM SHOWER

Many people planning a bathroom remodel think a home steam shower with aromatic oils, mood lighting and music speakers must be out of their remodeling budget range. Surprisingly, this might not be a correct assumption.

If your bathroom remodel includes plans to open the walls and you're already paying for labor costs, you can include a quality steam shower system for as little as \$1,700. Starting at about the size of a briefcase, generators from Mr. Steam fit neatly inside a closet, under a bench or inside a vanity. They can be positioned up to 60 feet from the steam shower enclosure itself, even on another floor.

The quality of the steam room generator is critical to long-term, hassle-free enjoyment. As with any major investment for your home, durability counts, so look for industrial-grade components that will deliver reliable performance through years of use despite demanding water conditions. Follow these five tips for buying the best steam room generator.

1. Look for "Intelligent" steam generators that operate from a single platform that can be quickly and easily upgraded with plug-and-play technologies - instead of bulky, expensive add-ons - for enhancements such as music, aroma and color therapies. Controls should be simple and intuitive for both user and installer, easy to program and easy to read.

2. Insist on a system with industrial-grade heating elements and other heavy-

duty components. Such a system will deliver the most reliable performance over the life of the product, especially if you live in a hard-water area.

3. Spend more time steaming than cleaning. Look for systems that drain the steam-shower generator after each use to avoid calcium buildup. This type of system automatically delivers clean steam every time.

4. Check for certification by a respected, independent agency, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), CE (Europe's Conformance Européenne) and NOM (Norma Oficial Mexicana).

5. Ask about system diagnostics, and be sure the heating elements of the steam generator can be serviced separately, rather than replacing the entire steam generator.

Best of all, a home steam shower delivers tangible wellness benefits, recognizable to everyone who has ever used a vaporizer to facilitate breathing or draped a towel over a steaming pot of water for deep facial cleansing. "I have long recommended steam therapy for its health benefits and use it frequently myself," says Dr. Andrew Weil, author of *8 Weeks to Optimum Health*. "It relaxes mind and body and neutralizes stress."

Steam room benefits are perfect for active, healthy adults looking to stay that way. They are now within reach of just about anyone planning a bathroom remodel. For more information, visit mrsteam.com.

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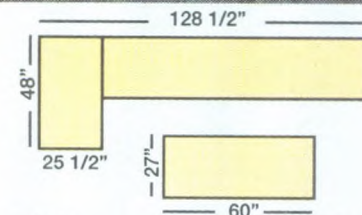
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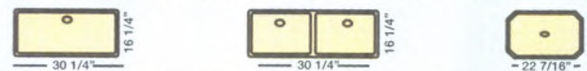
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HOW TO FIND THE RIGHT FLOORING FOR YOUR HOME

Selecting the perfect flooring for any room in your home isn't easy. Chances are a visit to your local flooring retailer might leave you wandering through a sea of samples, evaluating them for different materials, designs and overall durability and function. How do you choose from all of the options to find the right flooring that not only will provide comfort and durability but also complement your home's style and all within your budget? Jack Eadeh from American

Carpet in Northville said, "We offer carpeting in a wide variety of styles and colors for you to choose from. You will also find many styles of hardwood flooring, ceramic, laminate and vinyl to choose from." For more information call 248-305-0963 or visit www.americancarpetcenter.com.

Your lifestyle and your budget should be the first deciding factors when narrowing down flooring options. Determine those parameters and think about the room where you'll be

installing the flooring. What does it look like, how much is it used and what kind of traffic flow does it have? For most people, maintenance and performance concerns also factor in the decision.

Ron Williams owner of Perfect Floors in South Lyon, tells us that, "We let you take our samples home so you can select just the right carpet, hardwood, or tile for your space." We will also help you in deciding which products will work best for you. They have two locations Rochester Hills (248) 650-5199 and South Lyon (248) 437-2838 or visit them at www.perfectfloors-inc.com.

Be sure to explore nontraditional options. Modern, stylish products like laminate and resilient vinyl flooring offer durable, affordable and easy-to-maintain surfaces that will hold up through years of everyday living.

Selecting a style for your home

Whatever flooring you choose should blend effortlessly with your home's style, whether it's Victorian, country, traditional, contemporary or eclectic. The size of the room where you plan to install the flooring is important for the overall design equation. Tiny designs will be too busy in a large room, while a large-scale design will overwhelm a smaller space.

Akram Ismail from Dalton Flooring tells us that they carry a wide range of floor coverings, including solids and patterns. Whether you're looking for classic to contemporary, they have many designs and can work with most budgets. They want to create your home sweet home feeling for your home. They have two locations, Livonia (734) 522-5100 and Southgate (734) 283-7030 and you can also visit them on the web at www.dalton-flooringcenter.com

While natural materials, such as slate, stone, bamboo and hardwood catch many homeowners'



Tarkett Residential FiberFloor Silverton Flagstone provides maximum comfort and unmatched durability and makes finding a floor to fit a home and family lifestyle a simple task.

attention; consider the variety that modern flooring technology has to offer. The latest advances in resilient and laminate flooring offer the best of both worlds - fashionable colors and realistic textures, combined with unsurpassed durability, comfort, function, easy maintenance and affordability.

Comfortable and quiet

Modern flooring technology holds up to the demands of everyday living better, and more comfortably, than natural hard-surface options. Laminate and resilient floors feel soft and have insulation properties that make them warm underfoot. These modern flooring technologies are also engineered to be quiet and not carry sound.

Defined durability

When choosing flooring, you might also want to consider how it will stand up to factors like direct sunlight, water spills, furniture scrapes, tracked-in dirt, ongoing foot traffic and cleaning. Natural materials, such as hardwood or ceramic tiles, are more fragile than many other options available in modern

flooring technology.

Dande Hardwood Floor Co. in Redford has a lot of suggestions for you. Owners Fran and Vincent Desanto have a showroom filled with flooring samples and be sure to ask about their custom services. They also offer refinishing and repair services as well. Estimates are always free. Call (800) 522-7701 or visit www.dandefloors.com for more information.

So you love hardwood but know the room where you want to install it experiences high traffic and heavy use? You can get a true visual match to the natural wood look by installing laminate flooring. In addition, laminate floors are easy to clean and maintain - for day-to-day maintenance, all you need is a damp mop.

Lastly, don't forget about warranties. Some products have at least 10- to 15-year warranties while others offer limited lifetime warranties, thus ensuring your flooring's beauty and durability for a very long time.

— COURTESY OF ARA
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Resilient products like the FiberFloor Ambiente collection from Tarkett Residential, provide the perfect solution for design-savvy consumers who desire more color and pattern options for their floors.

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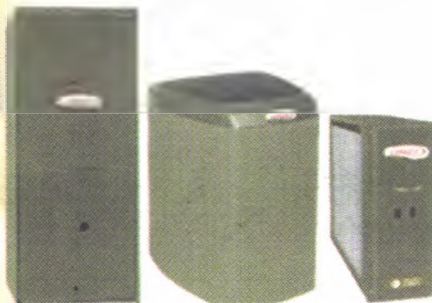


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PLANNING, PERMITS AND PROTECTION ARE THE KEYS TO YOUR SUCCESS

Every home project begins with an idea and ends with the culmination of the job. In between, there are three main components of an improvement project that can mean the difference between success and frustration: planning, permits and protection.

Planning

The initial stage of a renovation is the planning stage. Planning is when a homeowner works through the concept of the project and determines what is necessary to complete the task.

Many people find it helpful to write out plans and draw up the concept on paper. This doesn't require expensive architectural software. A simple piece of graph paper plotted with measurements and a sketch is often sufficient for small projects. If the job will be expansive and require an architect or engineer, he or she will often provide a technical drawing.

If the project focuses more on decorating than building, some find it helpful to create a design board. This is where fabric swatches, paint color samples, pictures of furniture and accessories, and any other components of the room are put together. Having a design board enables the homeowner to go to the store with board in tow and match up items to things in the store.

Another part of the planning stage is establishing a budget and determining the project's financing. It can be helpful to make a list of all income and expenses and find out how much funding is left over for a project. When getting estimates on the work, whether a contractor or a DIY project will do it, the homeowner should then make a list of approximate costs (rounding up) and then compare it against the available funds.

Permits

Many projects, especially those involving building, demolition, electrical work, or mold remediation, require permits issued by the town, province or city in which the work will be taking place.

Homeowners looking to circumvent the system often question the purpose of permits and subsequent inspections. However, building permits are required to ensure public safety, health and welfare as they are affected by building construction, structural strength, zoning, and code requirements. In essence, building permits are how the government regulates safety

and protects both current and future residents of the property.

In many cases, homeowners will need to visit the municipal building in their respective towns and apply for a permit. The permit may not immediately be issued. Oftentimes, there is a waiting period during which the project's legality and safety is examined. Once the project is approved, the applicant will be able to file for the actual permit(s). There is usually a fee or fees for permit application, which covers any clerical work.

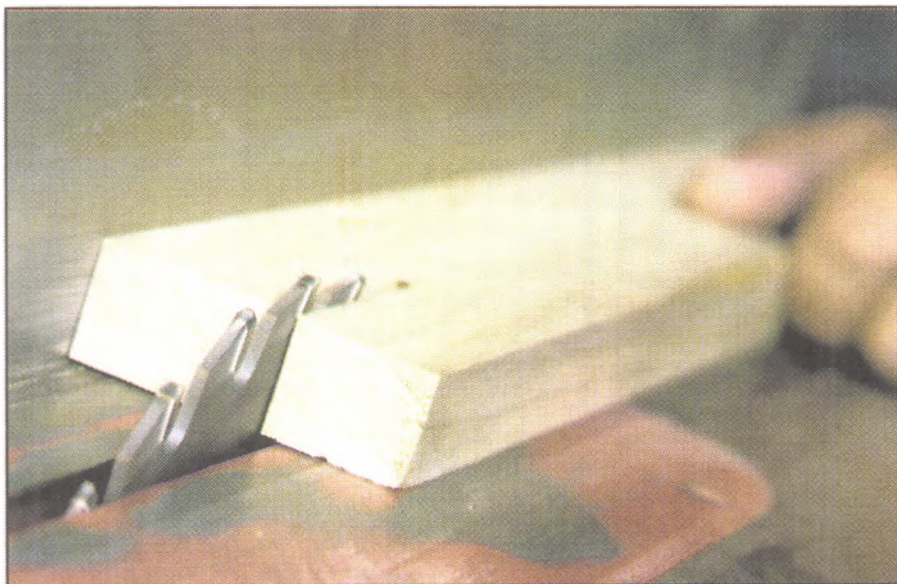
Work should not begin until a permit is received, and then the permit generally has to be placed in plain sight, such as in a window of the building. Depending on building codes, inspections of the work may need to take place after the entire project is completed or during certain phases. For example, the building of a deck may require inspections after footings are installed and secured, and before the upper portions of the decking materials are attached. If an inspection takes place afterward, the inspector will be looking for key code issues to determine whether the work was completed successfully. If a contractor was used, he or she may have to be present at the time of the inspection. If the work passes, an approval will be given and put on record. If the work fails, applicable repairs will have to be made and a re-inspection will be scheduled.

Should a home be put on the market, all permits may need to be on file or in the homeowners' possession in order for a certificate of occupancy to be issued to the new buyer. Failure to have permits can hold up the process or result in fines.

Protection

Homeowners about to begin a project also need to emphasize safety. There are a number of things that can be on hand to make a work environment safer. These include:

- **Eye protection:** This is especially important when working with flying debris, cutting items, mixing caustic chemicals, etc.
- **Respirator or facemask:** Cover the nose or mouth when there is dust or debris in the air that can enter the lungs. When working with toxic fumes, such as when using spray paints or chemical lubricants, a respirator can offer clean air.
- **Boots:** Proper footwear ensures protection should an item fall on the foot or



Don't cut it twice to only find out that it's still too short. Same thoughts for your remodeling plans. Make the most out of your planning time, get the proper permits and always work with safety in mind.

when walking where nails or other sharp items are located.

- **Fire extinguisher:** A fire extinguisher should be nearby in the event of a mishap.
- **First aid kit:** An abrasion or cut may occur, requiring prompt care.
- **Gloves:** When the hands need to be protected or extra traction on surfaces is required, gloves can be a necessity.
- **Headphones:** Safety headphones can protect the ears against loud, consistent noises from power equipment and tools.
- **Locks:** A locked cabinet can store tools, paints, chemicals, and other improvement supplies so that young children or pets won't have access.

When homeowners take the time to plan, obtain permits, and secure the needed protection for a job, they help ensure a safer job that is done correctly.

While you are considering what steps to take for your next project it is always a good idea to also know about new and exciting products. We asked some of the professionals in our area and this is what we found out.

Herald Wholesale in Troy has a new 12,000 square foot showroom that showcases some of the world's finest plumbing, lighting and door hardware. Visit their showroom and experience the beauty and the quality of the products they sell. They can satisfy all your needs from a single faucet to an entire household. In addition they offer cabinet hardware, custom glass enclosures, furniture, vanities, mailboxes, wall plaques, and much more. Call (248) 398-4560 or visit www.heraldwholesale.com.

Diane Christopher of Pinetree Lighting in Lake Orion said, "Whether your taste is

traditional, contemporary or transitional, you will find just the right solution. If you are searching for beautiful solutions to lighting challenges for home, office, studio, or hideaway, you can have total confidence in the wide selection of high quality merchandise at Pine Tree Lighting." Call (248) 693-6248 or visit www.pinetreelighting.com for more information.

Ron Pederson owner of Marsh Power Tools in Livonia said, "Marsh Power Tools is Detroit's leading distributor of portable power tools, woodworking machinery and accessories." They are Michigan's premier industrial power tool specialist and have one of the largest showrooms in Metro Detroit. Their sales personnel are readily available to answer questions whether in person or over the phone. They have recently expanded to a second location in Brighton. Call (248) 476-7744 or visit www.marshpowertools.com.

And for the outside of your home, Siding World in Detroit, Bob Paquette, chairman said "Siding World has provided contractors and homeowners with quality exterior home improvement products since 1974." They are the leading supplier of siding, windows, gutters, roofing, decking, and doors. With the ever-growing popularity of do-it-yourself home projects all of our 17 locations are open to the public and have 100+ colors and styles in stock. They also carry tools, accessories; installation manuals along with reliable contractor referrals that you need to complete your projects. Call (313) 891-2902 or visit www.siding-world.com.

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TOP 10 KITCHEN REMODELING CONSIDERATIONS



Remodeling your kitchen can seem like a daunting task at first glance. You want your new space to function well for your needs, accommodate your lifestyle, and reflect your personal design style. But how do you get started? Sarah Reep, KraftMaid director of designer relations and education, recommends considering the following before you begin a kitchen remodel.

1) Determine the remodel scope.

Projects can range from replacing the kitchen countertops to completely reconfiguring the kitchen's floor plan.

2) Identify ways your kitchen remodel can complement your lifestyle.

Do you want an open floor plan with room for entertaining? Do you enjoy cooking? To make your kitchen functional, all of these elements should play a part in the layout of a room.

3) **Choose your involvement.** Is this a do-it-yourself project or do you need to call in the pros? If you plan on doing it yourself, seek guidance from designers.

4) **Find the remodeler or design firm right for you.** When looking for a remodeler, seek recommendations from your friends, neighbors and local home builders association. Ask your remodeler for references from previous customers and a copy of his or her license.

5) **Set your budget.** When setting a budget, be flexible and don't forget to add a buffer for the unexpected. Tools like KraftMaid Cabinetry's Budget Calculator can help you estimate costs and stay on budget.

6) **Consider your timeline.** A kitchen remodel isn't a weekend project. Don't forget to take into consideration any events that could interfere with your timeline, such as a family vacation.

7) **Consider your design style.** Do

you consider yourself a traditional person? Or do you prefer a sleek, modern look? Narrowing down a design style in the beginning will make the process of choosing colors, appliances and finishes easier. Design tools like KraftMaid's Inspiration Board can help you transfer your ideas to paper. The design tool allows you to create collages with images, colors and textures that can be shared with your designer. The KraftMyStyle app from KraftMaid allows iPhone, iPod and iPad users to create and share Inspiration Boards on the go.

8) **Browse showrooms, magazines and websites for ideas.** When it comes to decorating and remodeling, the options are endless. Page through your favorite magazines and visit a local showroom to gather design ideas. KraftMaid offers a kitchen idea gallery to get the dreaming started.

9) **Choose your appliances.** When choosing appliances, consider the size of your household and kitchen. Collect images of the appliances you like from magazines and brochures. Identify what you like about each appliance and consider how the appliance will contribute to the overall look and function of the kitchen.

10) **Create a kitchen contingency plan.** During the remodeling process, there will be times you won't be able to use your kitchen. Ask your remodeler or designer to help you create a plan to allow you to use your kitchen at least partially during different points in the remodeling process.

Though remodeling can seem stressful at first, the right amount of planning and research will simplify the process and result in the kitchen of your dreams. For more design and remodeling tips from Sarah Reep, visit www.KraftMaid.com.

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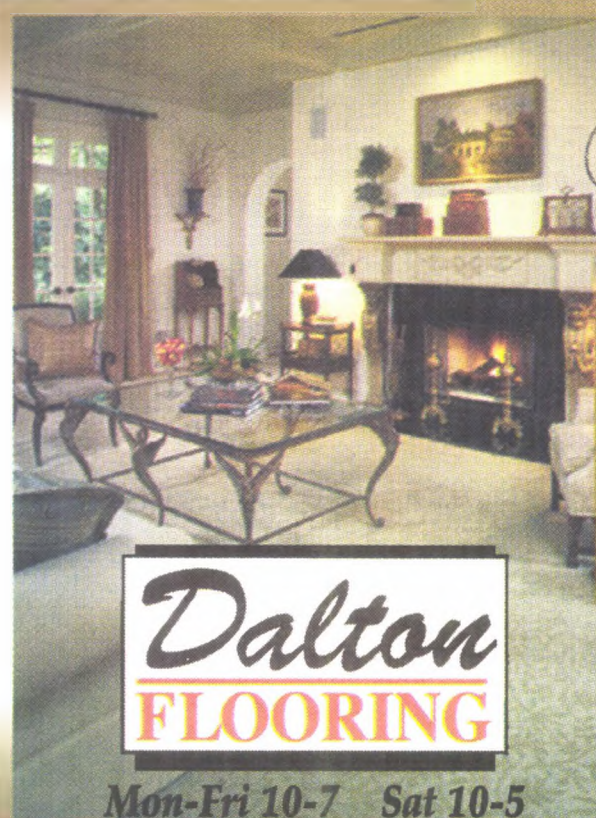
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I'm Keith Meadows, owner and operator of American Power Vac, Inc. For years, I've been improving our community's health one family at a time.

By now we've all heard the statistics:

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They tell me they dust the T.V. on Friday, but by Sunday they are pushing the dust out of the way again so they can watch Desperate Housewives, and none of them know exactly where it's coming from. Well, I'm here to tell you that it's not because you're a bad housekeeper, I tell people that by simply having your ducts cleaned will drastically reduce household dust, and the reason is, your cold air returns.

Cold air returns suck in dirty air, and over time it builds up until you have the same type of debris that you would find in your vacuum bag.

Visit our website at www.americanpowervac.com for an actual photo of the debris that is pulled from a typical home. Cold air returns are also the reason new homeowners are experiencing dust. While your drywall was being sanded, your cold air returns sucked all of the dust through the system and it settled on the bottom of the duct lines where a little at a time gets blown back into your home. To prove it, take a walk down into your basement, look up at the ceiling for thin sheets of tin nailed between your floor joists. These are your cold air return lines. Give them a good pounding. You'll see puffs of dust seeping out of the edges. That my, friends, is the reason you have uncontrollable dust problems!

This debris cannot be removed without a professional. Which brings me to my next point: choosing an air duct cleaning company. Most companies

use portable units, which are like a shop vac that you would vacuum your car with, obviously absolutely useless. Then there are companies who claim they have a truck-mounted system. In reality, they have a low powered

portable system attached inside a van, again, absolutely useless.

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**- Mrs. Fouts,
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"You guys are great. I will recommend American Power Vac to all my friends who may need professional duct cleaning."

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR HOME HEALTHY

Maintaining a healthy home is critical for your family's welfare, especially now as the weather cools and you begin to spend more time indoors. Applying a few simple solutions now will ensure your indoor living environment is safe and healthy for seasons to come.

Reduce toxins

Less desirable weather may make fall and winter seem like an ideal time to tackle your indoor painting projects. However, you need to be mindful of the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) found in many interior paints and finishes. VOCs are one of the biggest threats to indoor air quality; they include a variety of chemicals, some of which may have both short and long-term health effects. For indoor jobs, select paint with low or no VOCs to keep your air fresher. Additionally, some houseplants such as ivy and gerbera daisies can help to naturally remove VOCs from your indoor air.

Clean your indoor air

Ragweed and pollen will trigger allergy symptoms for millions of people this fall; however, the worst allergy triggers are often found inside the home. Installing a whole-home air filtration system can help to remove indoor allergens including dust, mildew, pet dander and pollen from the air you breathe.

Prevent mold

During the cooler fall and winter months, people

tend to seal up their homes and spend more time inside, which traps moisture and humidity, which are both significant contributors to indoor mold growth. Maintain healthy indoor humidity levels by venting bathrooms and clothes dryers and using an exhaust fan while cooking. Install an air humidifier to provide year-round control of your indoor moisture level, and keep your home at 50 percent humidity or lower to reduce the chance for mold growth.

Maintaining a healthy home is critical for your family's welfare, especially now as the weather cools and you begin to spend more time indoors. Applying a few simple solutions now will ensure your indoor living environment is safe and healthy for seasons to come.

Watch out for CO

Protect your indoor living environment from carbon monoxide or CO by installing CO detectors or alarms throughout your home. This fall, make sure

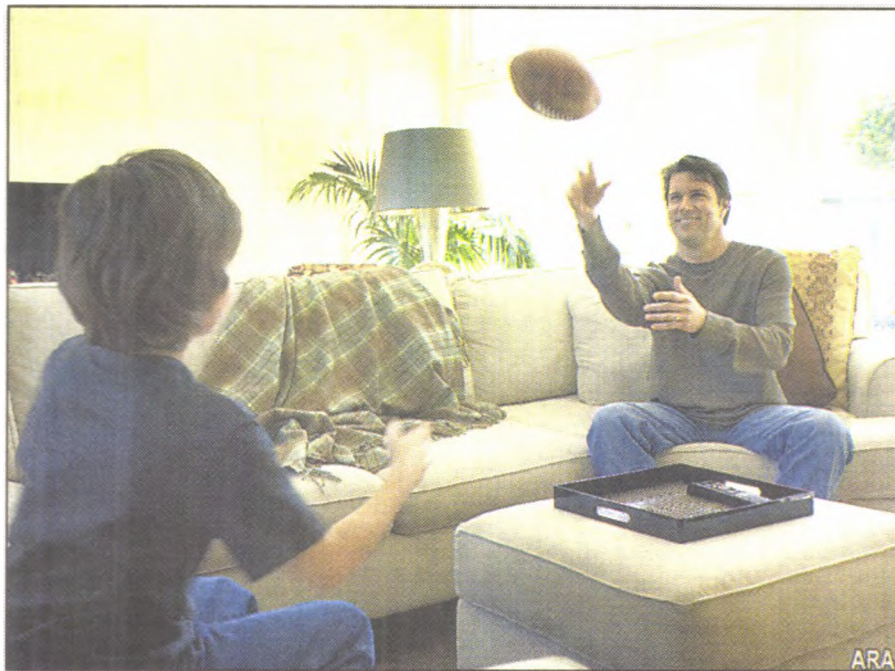
your home's heating system, including items such as a furnace or heat pump, vents and chimney, are inspected and serviced by a professional contractor. And, if there is a fireplace in your home, open the damper before lighting a fire to help prevent the buildup of potentially poisonous gases inside of your home.

Keep a seasonal routine

Most homeowners already know it's important to test their smoke alarms on a monthly basis, but how often do you change the alarm's batteries? One way to keep track of alarm maintenance is to make battery changing a seasonal activity. For example, beginning this fall, replace the batteries in your smoke alarms (and CO detectors), every time you reset your clocks.

By taking these simple steps now, you'll create a safer and healthier home, allowing your family to relax and enjoy all the delights the fall season has to offer, both outdoors and indoors.

And as summer comes to a close you should be thinking about your home's heating system. Mark Santoni owner of Selective Heating and Cooling in Wixom, is gearing up for the cold weather season. Santoni is a hot water specialist, dealing with boilers and heating systems. Selective Heating and Cooling is a full service heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system installation and repair



A comfortable home is a healthy home. Make sure your homes' heating unit is in good condition and check the quality of the air you are breathing.

company. The company has been family owned and operated since 1979. Call (248) 486-4640 or visit www.selectivehvac.com for more information.

Expert Heating and Cooling is always looking for ways to save you money on your utilities bills. Owner Mark Angellotti, suggests an annual residential HVAC inspection to keep you comfortable all year long. "Whether your heating or cooling system needs routine maintenance or needs to be repaired, our technicians are NATE-certified and are ready to solve any problem." In the Canton area call (734) 459-3971 or the Woodhaven

area call (734) 676-4488, for additional information visit www.expertheatcool.com.

Dennis Cline of Royal Oak Heating and Cooling in Royal Oak, said that they are your single source for everything you need—from putting together the right products to create your perfect system, to installation, service & more. They are the only authorized Bryant Dealer in Royal Oak! They have very dependable professionals that would like to show you how to improve the quality of air in your home. Call (248) 542-9353 or visit www.royaloakheating.com for more information.

George Klumpert owner

of Family Heating, Cooling & Electrical, Inc. has been helping families and businesses to live in comfort for many years. Joe Gagnon, "The Appliance Doctor", endorses them. Also on staff is a full service master electrician. They have a large showroom & parts facility. Family Heating and Cooling and Electrical is currently in two locations, Garden City (734) 422-8080 and Madison Heights (248) 548-9565, you can visit them on the web at www.familyheating.com.

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WHEN GRADING YOUR HOME'S TECHNOLOGY... DON'T FORGET YOUR EVERYDAY ITEMS

Technology has changed so much, so quickly, that it might be difficult to remember how you lived life prior to carrying around a cell phone, having a tablet computer or, for that matter, multiple remotes to turn on all the electronic devices at home.

But many homeowners, who have integrated technology into other aspects of their lives, still ignore one everyday object that is very likely completely out of date — their toilets.

Flushing technologies have made great leaps and bounds over the past two decades — improving water efficiency, flushing performance and even a user's comfort. And if you haven't considered replacing your toilet with one that is equipped with advanced flushing technology, you might be surprised at what is available, and how much it could help your water savings.

The average family of four uses about 400 gallons of potable (treated) water each day, and bathrooms represent more than 50 percent of all home indoor water use, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. In the past, less water usage usually meant a less reliable flush. But technology has improved so that toilets with low water usage ratings are more efficient and hygienic than their water-guzzling predecessors.

If you don't know about high-efficiency toilets and all the options that are available, here are a few water-saving flush options to help you upgrade the technology in your bathroom:

• **Dual flushing** — Liquid waste doesn't require nearly as much water for flushing as solid



waste, which is where dual-flushing technology comes in handy. You can select which volume of water flush you want; which will help you save water and money. Because users may not be fully educated about the difference between the light flush, and the bulk flush, these toilets aren't recommended for high-traffic areas, or public places. But in your home, your family could easily save water by using the lighter flush when appropriate.

• **Pressure assistance** — Flushing performance can't get any better than toilets with pressure assist technology. This technology pressurizes the water, giving your home's toilet commercial-grade flushing capabilities without the commercial-grade noise. Kohler Pressure Lite technology is powerful — the 1.0 gallon models save a family 18,600 gallons of water per year compared to a 3.5 gallon per flush toilet.

• **Gravity flushing** — Gravity flushing is the most typical technology found in residential homes. The innovative Class Five flushing technology combines gravity with a powerful flush that also addresses bowl cleaning. The Kohler Wellworth toilet family uses this technology and one new model flushes just 1.28

gallons, saving a family of four up to 16,500 gallons of water a year. This certifies the 1.28 gallon model to carry the EPA's WaterSense label for using at least 20 percent less water than standard 1.6 gallon toilets. The Wellworth family also is compliant with the new California Green Building Code standards. These toilets have a versatile tank design featuring an elegant flare to complement a wide range of bathroom designs.

• **NUMI Flushing Technology** — The ultimate flushing experience combines technology, comfort and style into one universal, stylish package. If you're looking for a toilet with an interactive LCD touch-screen interface, bidet and deodorizer, dual-flush technology with .6 and 1.28 gallons per flush, built in music system, heated seat and foot warmer and intuitive auto open and close lid, check out the Kohler Numi toilet with bidet functionality.

When you upgrade your technical devices, you probably review all the benefits and options the new device will provide you. So make sure to do your due diligence by reviewing toilets and flushing options before you choose the one that will become a vital part of your everyday life.

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GREEN MAKES YOUR KITCHEN EVEN BETTER

The mantra of the green earth movement — reduce, reuse, recycle — can easily be adapted in your kitchen. No need to redo your entire kitchen with bamboo floors, the newest energy efficient appliances, counters made of recycled paper and yogurt containers, and locally made antique cabinetry. In fact, the greenest option is to keep the kitchen you already have and adopt some new practices.

Stocking your kitchen

“The most important starting point is to stock your kitchen with simple basic foods so you can cook at home when possible,” says chef Anthony Mandriota of The Art Institute of Tennessee — Nashville. “And try to incorporate locally produced, unrefined, and organic foods into the pantry whenever possible.”

You’ll need olive or canola oil, different vinegars, salt, pepper, dried herbs and spices, rice, pasta, beans (preferably dried), and if you intend to do some baking — flours, sugar or other natural sweeteners, baking powder and baking soda (also useful for cleaning). Perishable items include basic vegetables like onions, garlic, carrots and celery, seasonal vegetables (including salad greens) and fruits, milk, eggs, butter or natural margarine, cheese, nuts, bread and meat, poultry and fish.

For locally sourced pro-

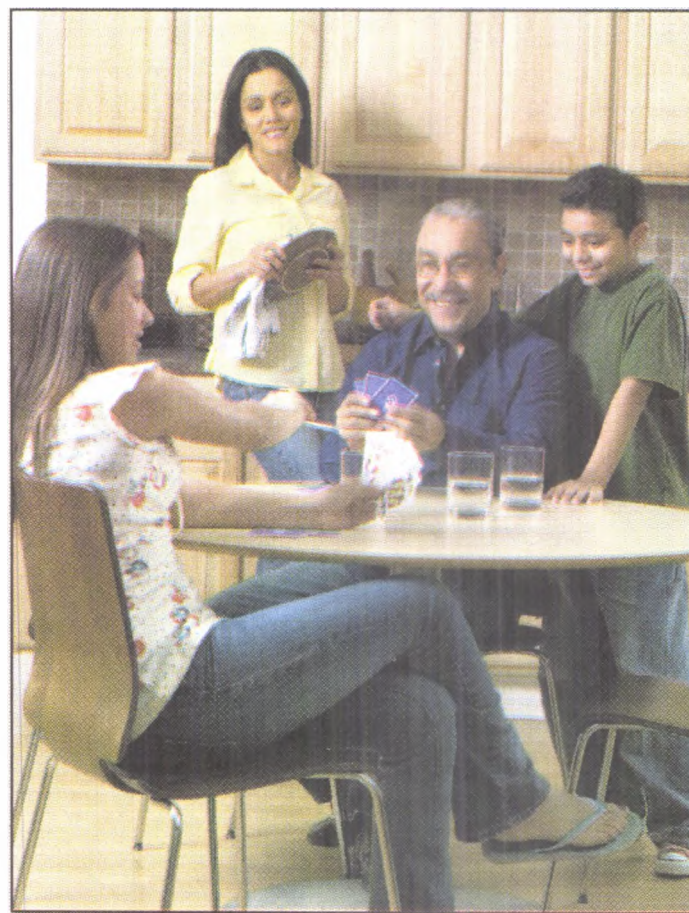
duce, consider joining a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture), which is a group of people who support a farming operation in order to receive fresh fruits and vegetables each week as they are produced. There are many different models; research what’s available in your area on the Internet or ask at your local organic food market.

Chef Noel Ridsdale of The Art Institute of Jacksonville says: “Locally sourced ingredients, whether from a farmer’s market, CSA, or your local food store, offer great taste and freshness as well as a lower carbon footprint than food that’s been flown across the country or from the other side of the world.”

Cooking at home

Cooking at home doesn’t need to be overly complex or time-consuming. Chef Eric Watson of The Art Institute of Charleston, advises, “Most cooking is based on a few foundation techniques. You may wish to take a class at a local cooking school or ask a family member or friend to teach you. Even videos or cooking shows on TV can provide you with the fundamentals.”

Start with basic knife skills — peeling and cutting up vegetables and fruits, and chopping herbs. From there, basic techniques include mixing, roasting or baking, sauteing, grilling, simmering and steaming. Learn



The kitchen still remains the number one gathering spot in most homes, keep it clean and germ free.

these simple techniques by heart and you’ll be able to prepare a roast chicken with vegetables and salad for dinner in an hour, without a recipe.

A couple hours spent organizing, planning and doing advance preparation in your kitchen each week can really pay off in making those home-cooked dinners a breeze.

Kitchen clean up

You don’t need to sacrifice sanitation and food safety to make your kitchen green. “Make sure you avoid cross contamination,” warns chef Jim Gallivan of The Art Institute of Atlanta. “Use warm soapy water to wash knives, utensils and cutting boards between preparing poultry, meat or fish and vegetables or fruit.”

Cut down on waste by using

dish towels instead of paper products as much as possible, and by recycling what you can’t reuse. Save water by running water only when absolutely necessary. Save energy by letting the dishes in the dishwasher air dry with the door open. Use environmentally-friendly cleaning solutions — they are almost always less toxic to your family and pets, too. Antibacterial soaps are not usually necessary. Did you know that baking soda can scrub pots and pans without scratching?

If you have even a small yard, you can compost vegetable and fruit scraps, egg shells and leftover grains. (Don’t include any meat or fish products to avoid attracting pests.) See your local garden center or visit your state extension service’s website for information. Compost is great for shrubs, flowers, and vegetables.

—COURTESY OF ARA



A floral arrangement can be the perfect touch to a beautiful new counter top.

ARE YOU READY TO ENTERTAIN THIS FALL?

No matter what the occasion, the gathering place at any party is the kitchen. Home entertaining expert Jeanne Benedict offers tips for preparing your kitchen, including beautifying what she calls the centerpiece of the kitchen, your countertop.

“When properly cleaned and protected, there is nothing that surrounds a room in luxury and stands the test of time like natural stone,” says Benedict, host of DIY Network’s “Weekend Entertaining” and author of four books including “The Sophisticated Cookie” and “Celebrations.”

For everyday cleaning, avoid the use of all-purpose cleaners that can degrade the sealer and dull the surface. A better choice would be DuPont Granite and Marble Countertop Cleaner + Protector, because it cleans and reinforces stone’s protective seal as you use it.

Benedict’s next prep step is to de-clutter. Because kitchen counters and tables are magnets for stray take-out menus, phone books, crayons and gadgets, she recommends finding them a permanent home when possible.

Decorative container options are easy to find — from stylish boxes to desktop organizers. In a pinch, store keys or cell phones in an empty cookie jar, and slip papers into cookbooks that may be on the counter.

Finish off the natural look of stone with fresh flowers or a plant to add some life to the atmosphere.

—COURTESY OF FAMILY FEATURES



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