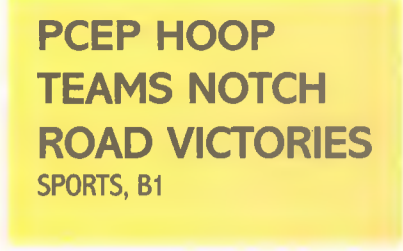


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Options offered

Representatives from Plante & Moran CRESA, the firm hired by Plymouth-Canton's Board of Education to conduct a facilities study, present options to the board for how best to utilize district facilities at a special meeting at 6 p.m. tonight (Thursday) at Discovery Middle School.

The options are expected to recommend closing at least one elementary school — with some expected to include up to four school closures — as administrators consider ways to best use facilities as they face a move to all-day kindergarten and consider additional programs such as a TAG magnet school, a STEM academy and an international baccalaureate program.

Discovery Middle School is located at 45083 Hanford in Canton.



Charles White and Meryl Davis.

U.S. champs

Congratulations to Meryl Davis (a new Plymouth resident) and Charlie White, world champion ice dancers.

Davis and White won their fourth straight title at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships last week in San Jose, Calif., skating to *Die Fledermaus*. The ice dancers train at the Arctic Edge in Canton and represented the Arctic Figure Skating Club. Davis grew up in West Bloomfield and is a graduate of Groves High School in Birmingham. White grew up in Bloomfield Hills.

'Waterland' review continues book debate

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

With a second review committee set to begin deliberating the appropriateness of a novel in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Advanced Placement English curriculum, more than two dozen speakers turned out Monday to debate the merits of the decision made by the first one.

The second committee begins debating the merits of Graham Swift's 1983 novel, *Waterland*, for use by AP students with a meeting Wednesday. That review comes a couple of weeks after a similar committee approved the use of

Books followed approval process, A3.

Beloved, Toni Morrison's Pulitzer Prize-winning book, and will follow the same pattern.

A panel of nine committee members, plus facilitator Eric MacGregor, the district's director of secondary education, will meet twice (the first meeting is open to the public), then cast anonymous ballots.

If it follows the same time frame as the first committee, a decision is likely due around Feb. 17.

In the meantime, the district's Board of

Please see DEBATE, A3



Another large crowd filled the board room, most to debate the appropriateness of books in the Advanced Placement English Curriculum, at the E.J. McClendon Education Center Monday.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Downtown Development Authority official John Buzuvis is adding to his day job by becoming an on-call firefighter with the city of Plymouth's new fire department.

Family plan

Firefighter trainee follows father's path of duty

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth's new partnership with the Northville Fire Department has city employee John Buzuvis unexpectedly continuing a family tradition.

Buzuvis, the assistant operations director for the Downtown Development Authority and the special projects director at City Hall, is anticipating taking on a third role — on-call firefighter — this year. One of six Plymouth employees in training, Buzuvis is fol-

lowing a path blazed by his father, John Buzuvis Jr., and uncle, Dennis Buzuvis, both of whom were on-call Plymouth firefighters starting in the late 1960s.

"At this stage in my career, I never thought I'd have the opportunity to follow in his footsteps," the younger Buzuvis said of his father, who joined the department in 1967 and left in the early 1980s. In addition to said, firefighter training is showing him the value of

Please see TRAINEE, A2



John Buzuvis practices tying knots.

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New group fights fire tax proposal

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

A new citizens group in Plymouth Township is urging the defeat of a ballot proposal that would create a special assessment district to help fund the Plymouth Community Fire Department.

The Friends of Plymouth

Township, formed in recent weeks and registered as a political action committee, on Tuesday sponsored what was billed as an informational session on the proposal for a special assessment district, or SAD. Voters will decide the fate of the proposal, which would give the township Board of Trustees authority to levy taxes on all taxable prop-

erty in the township, during the Tuesday, Feb. 28, state primary.

There were a lot of questions Tuesday during the group's meeting at the Plymouth District Library — and few fans of the SAD proposal among the crowd of about 40 people.

"There is no other issue," said Friends treasurer Pam Kosteva after the meeting. "Just our con-

cern regarding the issue of the special assessment district."

"To me, this is simply a blank check," said resident Dick Arlen.

A successful petition drive, and action in Wayne County Circuit Court, by another group, the Citizens Action Group of Plymouth Township, put the ques-

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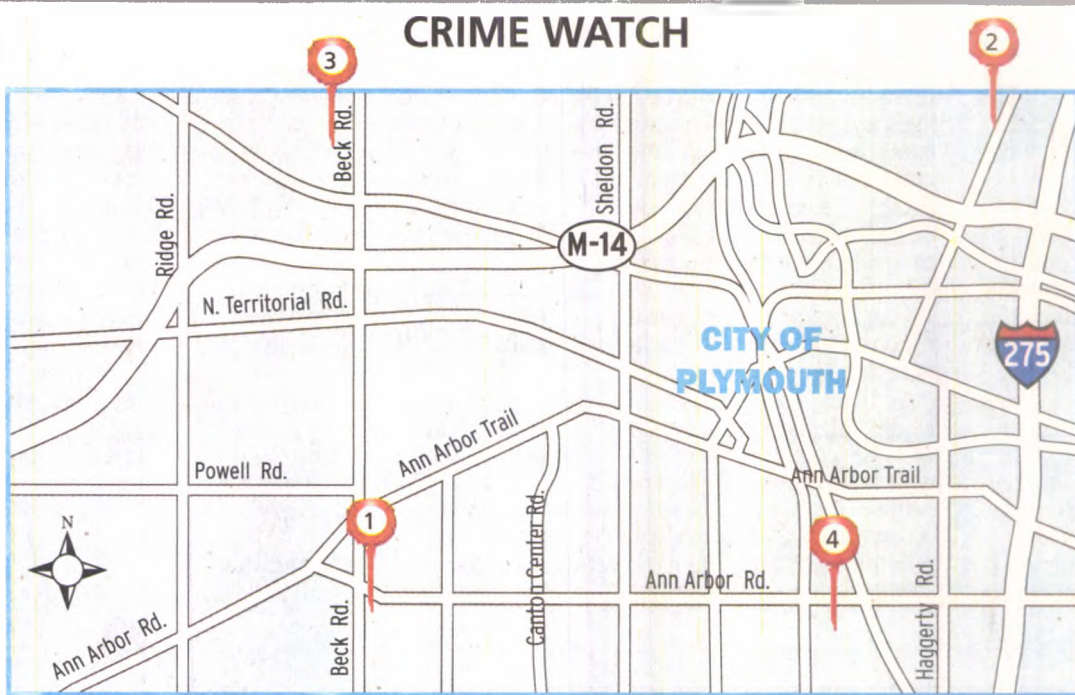


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PUBLIC SAFETY



Township police make two pot-possession arrests

1 Two people were arrested on marijuana-possession charges in Plymouth Township in separate incidents on Sunday.

The first arrest, of a male teenager from Canton Township, took place around 3 a.m. in the area of Ann Arbor Road and Beck, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. An officer on patrol stopped the driver of a Chrysler Sebring, the report said, after seeing the car cross the center line on westbound Ann Arbor Road.

Upon speaking to the driver and a male passenger, police said, the officer smelled marijuana coming from the vehicle. With the help of a drug-sniffing dog from the Canton police, officers found a pipe and rolling papers in the car and a jar of suspected marijuana in the trunk, police said.

Both males in the car denied owning the contraband, police said. The driver was arrested, ticketed and turned over to an adult; the passenger was released to an adult.

The substance police found in the jar later tested positive for marijuana, police said. A citation for marijuana possession comes with a mandatory court appearance.

Second arrest

2 The second marijuana arrest, of a man from Inkster, took place in the area of Five Mile and Maxwell, just west of Haggerty, shortly after 4 p.m., police said.

An officer had stopped the man, who was driving a Dodge Ram pickup, because of a faulty brake light, police said. The officer smelled marijuana upon speaking to the driver and, asked twice if he had anything that he shouldn't have, the man replied, "I'm not going to lie. I have marijuana inside the car," police said.

Police found two suspected marijuana buds in the truck's center console. The man was arrested, and the buds later tested positive for marijuana, police said.

Missing purse

3 A Northville Township woman reported her purse missing from the Ruby Tues-

day restaurant on Beck just south of Five Mile on Sunday.

The woman told police she left her purse at the restaurant after paying for her and her husband's dinner, a police report said. She returned to the restaurant that evening but couldn't find the purse, and the management told her it had not been turned in, police said. There were cash, credit cards, a checkbook and identification in the purse, she told police.

The woman later told police she canceled her credit cards and was closing her checking account.

Pallet theft

4 A metal pallet was reported stolen Monday from the rear parking lot at Gatco Inc., on Ann Arbor Road near Lilley.

The theft took place between 6 p.m. Sunday and 6 a.m. Monday, the manager told police.

Fire runs

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period Jan. 25-31:

- Tuesday, Jan. 31 — Rescue

runs on Ann Arbor Road, on Haggerty, on Oakcliffe and on Northville Road.

- Monday, Jan. 30 — Rescue runs on Northville Road, on North Drive, at Beck and 5 Mile, on VanBuren, on southbound I-275 at Hines Drive, on Haggerty and on Elmhurst.

- Sunday, Jan. 29 — Rescue runs on Tennyson, on southbound I-275 north of Ann Arbor Road, on Sheldon and on Northville Road.

- Saturday, Jan. 28 — Rescue runs on Harvest, on Ivanhoe, on Northville Road, on Port and on Stonehenge.

- Friday, Jan. 27 — Rescue runs on Northville Road, on Sheldon, on Haggerty, on Ann Arbor Road and on Tyler.

- Thursday, Jan. 26 — Rescue runs on Postiff, at Ann Arbor Road and Tavistock, on eastbound M-14 and Haggerty, on Northville Road, at Ford and Haggerty, on Ann Arbor Trail, on Cherry Hill and on northbound I-275 south of M-14.

- Wednesday, Jan. 25 — Rescue runs on Northville Road, on Ann Arbor Road west of Lilley, on N. Territorial and on Morrison.

— By Matt Jachman

Canton man faces trial on murder charges

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A Canton man is facing trial in Wayne County Circuit Court on charges he tortured and murdered a 57-year-old Romulus man, Frank Jones, whose son found him lying face down in his bathroom Jan. 7 with his hands tied behind his back and his head covered by a plastic bag.

The defendant, 41-year-old Michael Joseph Sutton, was ordered to stand trial for first-degree murder, felony murder and torture during his preliminary examination Wednesday in Romulus 34th District Court.

Romulus Police Chief Robert Dickerson has said Jones and Sutton had an "intimate relationship" before Jones was found dead from what the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office has ruled was blunt force trauma.

Sutton faces life in prison without parole if he is convicted as charged. He had lived in the Autumn Ridge apartment complex near Cherry Hill and Lotz roads before his arrest, Canton authorities have said.

Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner has said a Ford Mustang belonging to Jones had been found in the Walmart parking lot on Ford Road east of Lotz the day after his body was discovered in a pool of blood.

Sutton, jailed with a \$1 million bond, is facing trial following testimony Wednesday in 34th District Court. Romulus police have called Jones' death a brutal slaying, saying they used phone records and other evidence as their investigation against Sutton unfolded.

Jones lived in the 15600 block of Springhill in Romulus and was a registered sex offender. He had served three years in prison for child sexually abusive material or activity, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Jones had been released from prison in August 2009.

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FEB 18 IT'S A MAD, MAD, MAD WORLD (1963) Northville Physical Rehabilitation located at 215 E. Main, Suite B	northville physical rehabilitation
FEB 25 BYE BYE BIRDIE (1963) Keller Williams Realty Northville located at 200 N. Center	KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

Presenting sponsor: The Movies at the Marquis series is open to all guests five years and older. The historic Marquis Theatre is located in downtown Northville at 135 East Main Street. For more information and updates on the 2012 Movies at the Marquis series, visit www.downtownnorthville.com or call 248 349 0345.

Visit our website for updates at www.downtownnorthville.com

Community throws Rachel a graduation party

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Rachel Collett, a Livonia teen who's been battling cancer for six years and is currently under hospice care, celebrated her graduation from Churchill High School Friday at a party with more than 300 family members and friends.

Rachel received her diploma in a private ceremony Jan. 13 at the Livonia school after meeting all of the requirements.

Graduating from high school was high on the list of things she wanted to accomplish, said her mother, Audrey Collett.

Like any high school graduate, she wanted to celebrate that accomplishment with a party.

'Everything she wanted'

Lori Woellecke, Rachel's former counselor at Frost Middle School, helped to organize the party, thrown at no cost to the family.

Held at Plymouth Manor, the party featured a disc jockey, a video with music and photos of Rachel, a taco bar and a cake made in the numerals 2012.

"It was everything she could have wanted," Audrey Collett said.

Rachel stayed the whole time, visiting with family members, friends, nurses, former classmates and teachers including those from Livonia and her former hometown of Johannesburg in Otsego County, Mich.

Family members came from Ohio and Pennsylvania.



Rachel Collett watches a video produced for her graduation party.

"People from every part of Rachel's life were there," Audrey Collett said, adding Rachel has made a lasting impression on almost everyone she has met over the years. "They just kept coming and coming and coming."

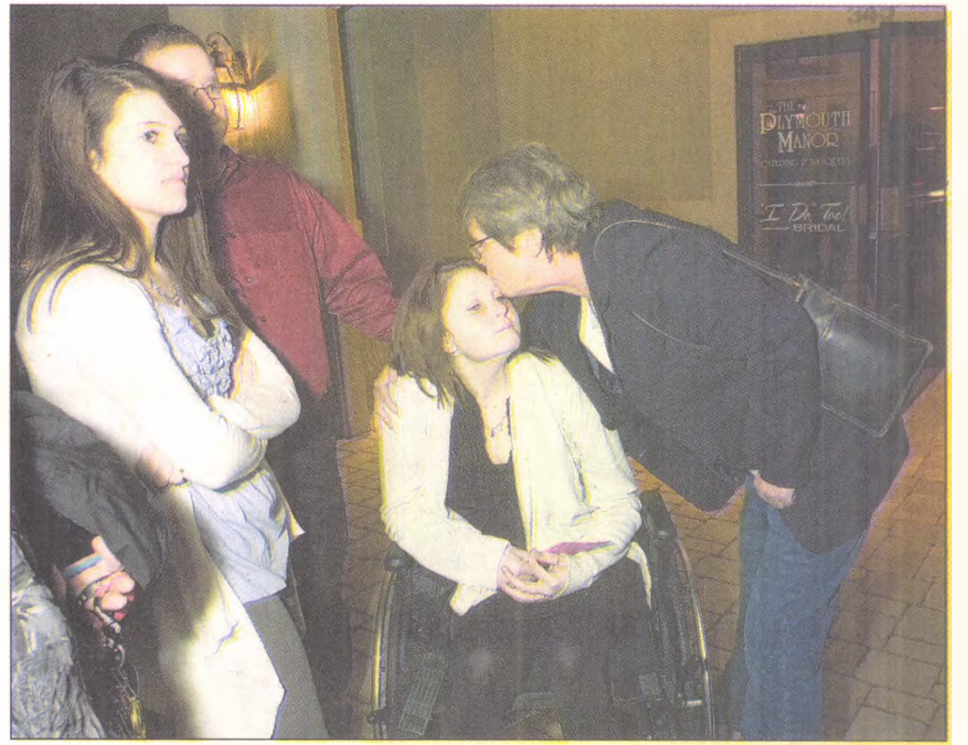
No cost to family

Nick Ristich, the owner of Plymouth Manor, donated the hall rental, staffing and some of the food after he was approached by Woellecke, a former employee, who asked how much it would cost.

"It won't cost anything. When do you want to do it?" he told her.

Vendors jumped on board, donating their services as well including deejay Joe Magrada of Ultimate Entertainment, Mr. Cake's Place of Ann Arbor and Maggie Patilla of Memory Makers, who donated chair covers and "phenomenal centerpieces," Ristich said.

Local restaurants including Little Caesars, Subway and Qdoba Mexican Grill donated food, and Ristich's grandchildren and their friends came home from Mich-



Martha Huard, a University of Michigan Hospital nurse, greets Rachel Collett at the party. At left are Rachel's friend Amber Prong and Rachel's dad, Roy Collett.

igan State University to help. Family and friends donated desserts. Three teachers from Frost donated money to purchase additional food.

"It was really a group effort," Ristich said.

Audrey Collett said she was awestruck by how beautiful the hall looked and how well everything went. "It couldn't have been more perfect," she said.

Her neighbor made the video. "She must have been stealing pictures from me of Rachel for years," she said.

Snowball effect

Audrey said she and Rachel had talked about having a party at their home. But "under the circumstances for me to plan a party (at home) would have been too

much," she said.

Woellecke learned about Rachel's desire for a party while dropping off a meal at their home. She told her parents not to commit to any other halls until she called Ristich, who she said offered the space at the Plymouth Manor "without any second guessing at all."

An hour later, Ristich called Woellecke back saying he wanted Rachel to have chair covers. "It just kind of snowballed from there."

Woellecke is one of the many people on whom Rachel has made a lasting impression.

Diagnosed with a rare form of osteosarcoma, a bone cancer, while in sixth grade, she made up her mind not to let it change who she was or the life she wanted

to lead, Woellecke said. "How can you just not be drawn to that?"

Even as a middle school student, Rachel was mature and saw the big picture in life, Woellecke said.

She didn't get drawn into the typical middle school drama and stood up to anyone being mean to someone else. "If she heard it, she said something," Woellecke said.

Her friends come from every school clique.

Woellecke said Rachel always insisted on doing all of her school work, never using her illness as an excuse.

"She graduated because she earned it; she had enough credits so she could graduate," Woellecke said. "It wasn't a gift because of the circumstances."



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Fairy tale performance

Plymouth-Canton AAUW brings 'Cinderella' to O'Leary stage

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Live children's theater will return next to O'Leary Theater at Garden City High School as the Plymouth-Canton Association of American University Women stage its version of the fairy tale classic, *Cinderella* Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 8-10.

The all-woman cast has been rehearsing at the high school since the beginning of January, and for co-director Kaytee Bellows of Waterford, it's a twist on growing up with her mother, Sue Bellows, who plays the fairy godmother.

"The tables have turned," said the Waterford resident. "She spent a lot of years telling me what to do. Now I get to do it. I'm going to take it and run with it."

This is Kaytee Bellows' first time directing the play. She's sharing the duties with Becky Copenhaver of Canton who's in the director's chair for a fourth time since joining the local AAUW branch in 1985.

"I brought my son to see the play in 1984 and commented to my husband that they were having too much fun and I needed to be up there," said Copenhaver. "I joined the next year and the very first year I was Wendy in *Peter Pan*. It was very exciting for me, but they took a chance on me."

52nd year

This is the 52nd year for the branch's chil-



Monica Nick (left) of Plymouth and Michelle Churchill (right) of Novi are play sisters Gruesue and Ugletta, while MaryBeth Riblett of Plymouth appears in the title role as Cinderella.

dren's theater production. The plays started out as a branch interest group aimed at bringing live drama to children in Plymouth. It has now become the major project of the branch, which is known around the state for its live theater and which is also a drawing card for new young members like MaryBeth Riblett of Plymouth. In her fourth year, she's playing Cinderella, the role she wanted.

"It just seemed to be a fun role, I get to do the whole fairy tale thing," she said. "I auditioned for this and one of the step-sisters. I got this and I'm having a lot of fun with it."

"Every other year I've been a boy, so I'm excited that I get to wear a dress

this year," she added.

Sue Bellows is also playing the role she wanted as Cinderella's fairy godmother. But in the branch's version of the fairy tale, she must contend with a fairy godmother in training (GIT) played by Sandy Iannucci of Plymouth.

"I'm her straight man," said Sue Bellows of Iannucci. "I'm getting up in age and can't be around forever. I'll eventually go to the fairy godmother home, but I have to deal with this fairy godmother wanna-be."

"I have to show the other side of myself," the Garden City resident added. "I was the Queen of Hearts last year and I was fabulous, if I must say so myself."

Armed with a wand that

lights up, Sue Bellows was busy showing her good side and expressing her love for the three mice — Jack, Worm and Gus.

"Oh, we love her back, but we have to keep reminding her we turn into horses," said Kay Paupore of Canton who plays Gus.

Sparkling hair

Iannucci stands out in her role with her sparkly blue wig. She admitted that sparkle caught her off guard, the first time she put it on.

"When I tried it on the first time, someone was talking to me and I couldn't talk," she said. "I couldn't concentrate because of the blue wig."

In her 12th year with the AAUW, Iannucci

CINDERELLA

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Feb. 8-9 and 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10

Location: O'Leary Auditorium at Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt Road, north of Ford Road, Garden City

Details: The Plymouth-Canton AAUW will present its annual children's play, "Cinderella." Tickets are still available for two performances on Thursday and Saturday morning for scouts interested in earning theater badges. The program includes reserved seating, acting presentation at 6:15 p.m. Thursday and 10:15 a.m. Saturday, the show and a fun patch. Tickets are \$5 in advance (includes patch for scouts) and \$6 at the door. Seating is still available for all shows. Tickets are available at Perko's Shoes, 33426 W. Five Mile, Livonia; Sideways Gifts, 505 Forest Ave., Plymouth, and Fanatic U, 30409 Ford Road Garden City.

Contact: For more information, visit the Plymouth AAUW website at www.aauw-pcmi.org.

ci admits it was the play that attracted her. At the urging of fellow member Melissa Uhl, she joined after she was told she'd enjoy it.

"I started off shy, my first play I was an Indian brave with one line," she said. "I've had a lot of roles since then and I can say I'm no longer shy. This is a great group of women."

The branch has seven different plays that it presents. Each time a play is staged, a new script is updated with news lines and characters like this year's GIT.

"We have so many talented people," said Copenhaver. "I wrote the GIT for Sandy because I knew she'd ham it up."

Kaytee Bellows took on the directing job when no one stepped up to be director by September. Copenhaver agreed to help her.

"I would rather be up

on stage, but everyone has been very helpful and offered suggestions," said Copenhaver. "I get to bounce ideas off of Kaytee, but it's nerve wracking."

The play serves as a fundraiser for the branch which uses the money to provide scholarships for women attending school or returning to school at places like Schoolcraft College and Madonna University. It also has become a popular program for scouts who attend presentations and watch the show on Thursday evening and Saturday morning, while earning fun patches. Last year, 1,100 scouts attended the two shows.

"It's pretty wonderful," said Kaytee Bellows. "They get patches with the workshop, and we have a lot of fun."

smason@hometownlife.com
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Roth IRA can be good investment tool, even for teen

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

It is important to retain tax information that is starting to arrive in the mail. Many people will be doing their return over the next few weeks and there's something that can definitely bring your children or grandchildren substantial value down the road. It is a Roth IRA.

Many people with children who have worked in 2011 forget that even though they may be minors, they are eligible to open a Roth IRA. It is important to take advantage of a Roth IRA, if your child or grandchild is eligible.

Eligibility is not a matter of their age but rather, whether they have had earned income (money earned from wages). If, for example, last summer your child had a job and received a W-2, they are eligible to invest in a Roth IRA. Even if they do not have any taxable income they are still eligible for Roth IRA contributions.

A child may also be eligible for a Roth IRA if he/she was considered self-employed. They may have worked somewhere, received a 1099 or they could have done a variety of odd jobs where they received compensation. Of course, that money would have to be reported on a tax return.

The main benefit of a Roth IRA for a child is that the money will grow tax-free for decades. The numbers are startling as to how much money will grow when it is compounded. Therefore, from a purely financial standpoint, a Roth IRA can be a great investment vehicle for a young person to

begin to save for retirement. If you think retirement is difficult today, just think about how difficult it will be 40-50 years from now. The reality of the situation is that many teenagers and young people today can potentially be retired for as many years as they've worked. We know that they are not going to have pensions available to them and we have no idea whether Social Security and Medicare will be around. The bottom line is they will have to save a substantial amount of money for retirement. The fact that they can potentially start saving now and let the money grow tax-free, is a huge benefit to them.

Another benefit to opening a Roth IRA for a child or grandchild, is that it can be used as teaching lesson regarding investing in general and the importance of saving.

Over the last few years, many financial institutions have made it more difficult for young people to invest because of high minimums and high IRA fees. However, there are still many companies that offer a variety of low-cost IRA programs. Some investor-friendly companies to consider are TD Ameritrade, Charles Schwab and Scottrade. In addition, T. Rowe Price and Vanguard also have some IRA programs worth considering. I recognize to get a teenager or a young adult to invest for their retirement is dif-

ficult. After all, we live in a society that teaches us to spend as opposed to save. Therefore, you have to look for ways to overcome this issue. For grandparents and parents who are in the financial position where they can just invest the money for the child, of course that is great. The limit for a younger person investing in a Roth IRA is \$5,000. However, the key is they must have at least \$5,000 in earned income. For example, if they only had \$3,000 in earned income, that would be the maximum contribution.

Another option may be to have a type of matching program for your child or grandchild. Tell them for every dollar they put in, you'll match it, or something similar. The bottom line is that investing in a Roth IRA provides a young person with a head start in their quest to be able to have the financial resources to enjoy a long and comfortable retirement.

When investing in a Roth IRA for a young person, remember that you're not investing for just the next

five or 10 years, you're investing for 40-50 years down the road. Therefore, you should have a portfolio that's heavily invested in equities. Remember, you're not investing the money for yourself; you're investing it for a child or grandchild who has a much longer time frame.

One of the nice things about Roth IRA contributions is that you still can do them; you can make a 2011 Roth IRA contribution up to the time tax returns are due and that is April 17 of this year so you have plenty of time.

One last note, at the same time you're considering a Roth IRA for a child or grandchild, don't forget about a Roth IRA for yourself. Roth IRAs are great vehicles and just about anyone can benefit by taking advantage of them. 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.

International vocal group brings 'S.O.U.L.' to church

Singers of United Lands (S.O.U.L.), a touring group of four professional singers from four continents, will perform folk songs from their homelands in their native tongues at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia.

This season's performers hail from Bolivia, Poland, Namibia and India. S.O.U.L.'s mission is to develop international and cultural relationships through vocal music from around

the world. More information can be found online at www.soulandlands.org.

Tickets are \$15 per person, or \$35 per family (which includes two adults and their children under 18 years of age). Tickets will be available at the door - no advance purchase necessary. Proceeds go to Justice For Our Neighbors of South-eastern Michigan, a program providing free legal immigration services, education and advocacy. Find it on the web at www.jfonsemi.org.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on **Monday, February 20th, 2012 at 9:30 A.M.** at the Extra Space Storage facility located at:

**6729 N. Canton Center Rd.
Canton, Michigan 48187
(734) 459-4821**

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.

B030	Matari Cooper
B055	Zahid Butt
C103	Umeka Burton
J357	Helen Powers

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

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1997 Chevrolet Cavalier/rs	1G1JC1241V7123962
1993 Ford Escort Lx	1FAPP15J3PW237659
2005 Chevrolet Cobalt	1G1AK52F957558210
2002 Honda Accord Se	1HGCG32092A037120
2002 Volkswagon Jetta GIs	3VWSK69M12M156797
1994 Ford Explorer	1FMDU34X8RUB90937

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Northville chief to lead police chiefs organization

By Lonnie Huhman
Correspondent

Northville Township Public Safety Director John Werth is honored to take on an even bigger public safety role after being named president of the largest organization of police chiefs in Michigan.

Werth was recently elected to head the association of Southeastern Michigan Chiefs of Police. This group is made up of the public safety departments from Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw counties, and represents over 100 agencies and 285 members.

"It's an honor any time you are elected by a group of peers," said Werth, who lives in Plymouth Township. "This is a great organization, and I'm proud to be a part of it."

He first joined the organization in 2001 when he was named chief of police in Northville Township and has consistently been a member in good standing. The association is a



Werth

part of the larger Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police (MACP), which acts as a

representative for police agencies around the state.

The association's core goals are to enhance cooperation between public safety departments, support professional growth and training, and inform legislators. Testifying on behalf of area chiefs in Lansing will be one part of Werth's role as president. He said it's important that state representatives understand "what we do" and pass good legislation to ensure public safety. The association's influence and work greatly impacts the community.

For Northville Township Manager Chip Snider, this is a natural extension of Werth's leadership, and it's one he had hoped would come to fru-

ition. After Werth's promotion, Snider asked him to complete his formal education and achieve a master's degree, and to devote his career to continuous improvement of the delivery of public safety service.

He has done both, and now he has achieved a third request of Snider.

"Lastly, I suggested he extend his leadership capabilities beyond the township's borders and in doing so improve our reputation for municipal sector leadership," Snider said. "John's election to president represents the culmination of my vision for his tenure. S.E. Chiefs serve Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw counties as the largest organization of their kind. Their input is heavily regarded by lawmakers and criminal justice professionals across the state."

In September, Werth was also named as Wayne County representative for the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police.



ArtsPowers National Touring Theater Company's production of "Are You My Mother?" hits the stage at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton for an 11 a.m. performance Saturday, Feb. 11.

Children's play hits Village Theater stage

ArtsPowers National Touring Theater Company's production of "Are You My Mother?" hits the stage at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton for an 11 a.m. performance Saturday, Feb. 11.

The enchanting children's musical is based on the classic children's book by P.D. Eastman. Organizers are calling the production a "must-see" for children in grades K-2, but say it's also "incredibly fun for the whole family."

"There's a reason that we continue to invite ArtsPower productions back to the Village Theater season after season," recreation specialist Jennifer Provenzano said. "They deliver pro-

fessional actors, original music, and unforgettable stories with charming characters and important lessons. 'Are You My Mother?' is no different. They've managed to turn a favorite P.D. Eastman picture book, from Dr. Seuss's beloved Beginner Book Collection, into a magical stage show full vibrant moments that will dance in the memories of little theatre-goers for years to come."

The musical begins when Baby Bird hatches from her egg only to find an empty nest. Unaware that her mother has left to find food, Baby Bird decides to leave the nest to look for her; along the way, she meets an array of colorful characters who help and advise her.

Persistent Baby Bird is determined to find her mother no matter what.

"Are You My Mother?" features a rich, upbeat musical score and imaginative sets. Greg Gunning, ArtsPower's Artistic Director, adapted and directed the show and wrote the lyrics. Richard DeRosa wrote and orchestrated the musical score.

Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$11 for seniors and youth, with an \$8 group rate for groups of 15 or more. The Village Theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Call (734) 394-5460; online at www.cantonvillageattheater.org; or one hour prior to show time at the box office.

Habitat holds orientation meeting

Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County is hosting a homeowner orientation meeting 5:30-7:30 p.m. today (Thursday) at the Wayne Community College Western Campus in Belleville.

Free and open to the public, the program will give participants a history of Habitat for Humanity, the application process and documents required for home ownership and how to

use the principal portion of their mortgage payments to supplement construction costs for future homes.

Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County is an organization that was founded on the conviction that every man, woman and child should have a decent, safe and affordable place to live. Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Habitat and its homeown-

er families have built or rehabilitated more than 400,000 houses. Habitat invites people of all backgrounds, races and religions to build together in partnership.

The orientation meeting will be held in the Educational Multi-Purpose Room on the Western Campus, 9555 Haggerty, Belleville. For more information, contact the Western Campus at (734) 699-7008 or visit www.wcccd.edu.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be **no fee charged until after the case is won**. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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PLYMOUTH BUSINESS BRIEFS



Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center announced they have been selected as a 2012 winner in The Knot Best of Weddings, a special section in The Knot Michigan magazine. It's the second year Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center has been voted the pick.

Best of weddings

Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center announced they have been selected as a 2012 winner in The Knot Best of Weddings, a special section in The Knot Michigan magazine and on www.theknot.com/michigan. This is the second year Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center has been voted the pick for The Knot Best of Weddings.

The Knot Best of Weddings 2012 provides a "by brides, for brides" guide to the top wedding professionals across the country, and is a must-have when it comes to selecting the best-of-the-best wedding resources. From New York florists and Seattle bridal salons to DC makeup artists, engaged couples will find detailed feedback on local wedding businesses reviewed by thousands of newlyweds who had great things to say.

"We are honored so many brides have reviewed us so favorably on The Knot in order to win this award two years in a row," said Julia Grelack, Fox Hills' director of sales and marketing. "More importantly, we are pleased to make this most important day a lifelong memory of happiness for our brides, grooms, families and friends. We welcome weddings up to 500 guests and offer three unique venues and ceremony sites. In June, we will launch our newest venue, called The Summerhouse on the Lakes. It is a beautifully stained outdoor wooden reception and ceremony site overlooking the golf course and a pond. It is a perfect fit for a bride and groom that would enjoy all the beauty of being outside."

Law principals

The law firm of Miller Canfield announced a number of people have been elected principals of the firm effective January 1, including Steven Mann of Plymouth Township.

Mann moves from associate to principal. Mann focuses his practice on serv-



Mann

ing the needs of public agencies. He serves as bond counsel helping clients understand the options available for financing public improvements, including water and sewer projects, building and facilities improvements, street and drainage improvements, and economic development initiatives. He also specializes in all facets of tax increment financing, special assessments, construction contracts for public projects, and complex issues related to the Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meetings Act. Mann received his J.D., cum laude, from Thomas M. Cooly Law School and his B.B.A., summa cum laude, from Cleary College.

Mann is a former township supervisor and current township trustee.

Business news

From the desk of the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority:

- Brett Wilson, owner of Creativibe Design & Marketing moved into offices located above 336 Main. Wilson can help with website design and development, identity branding, advertising and ad campaigns, as well as marketing strategies. Go to www.creativibe.com or contact Brett at brett@creativibe.com

- DDA officials will soon be sending out information on the 2012 Visitor's Guide, which they hope will be delivered to 40,000 mail boxes by the beginning of May. The Downtown Business Association, the marketing arm of the DDA, decided to change delivery from just before the Ice Festival to spring, as many people begin venturing out of their homes as the weather gets better.

The booklet will be smaller, ad prices are coming down and we are planning for a 25-percent discount if you sign-up early. Details will be out soon.

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

Round-table talk

The Chamber's Government Affairs Committee invites members to join them for a round table discussion with the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. The event takes place 8-9 a.m. Feb. 8 at the chamber office (850 W. Ann Arbor Trail). A member of the Michigan's chamber's lobbying team will be holding a conference call to brief attendees on what to expect in Lansing this upcoming year and the Michigan Chamber's 2012 legislative priorities. There will also be time for questions.

To RSVP for the round table, contact the chamber at teri@plymouthmich.org or call (734) 453-1540.

Speed networking

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts a "Speed Networking" event Feb. 9.

The event, which chamber officials are hailing as a sort of "speed-dating for businesses," takes place 8 a.m. at the Red Olive Restaurant, 1059 Ann Arbor Road, in Plymouth. Members will have the opportunity to meet approximately 20-25 businesses in one hour. This structured networking event will allow you to meet most of the people in the room and within two minutes learn about each other's companies.

The purpose is to meet potential customers or develop new referral partners. It is quick, efficient and a very productive way to start your work day. The event will start with everyone having the opportunity to enjoy coffee,

juice and a continental breakfast.

To respect the participants' time, chamber officials are urging people to arrive at 8 a.m. and be ready to start at 8:15 a.m. The cost to attend will be \$10 to cover the continental breakfast and beverages.

To sign up for the event, call (734) 453-1540 or e-mail teri@plymouthmich.org.

Arts fundraiser

Fresh off a fall fundraiser that raised more than twice what it raised in 2010, the Canton Partnership for the Arts and Humanities will hold another great event this spring. This year they are turning to a local favorite to raise both funds and exposure for the arts in Canton and surrounding communities.

Steve King and the Dittilies will play their brand of rock favorites for a "Rock-n-Roll Valentine's," a Feb. 10 concert at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. The event begins with a 7 p.m. reception followed by the 8 p.m. concert. Tickets are \$30 per person. Visit the theater website for your tickets today at: www.cantonvillage theater.org.

Footbridge project

A new footbridge will be installed sometime this spring in the Plymouth Township Park and will provide park-goers with a walkway across Tonquish Creek that can be used by walkers, joggers and bicyclists who frequent the park. The bridge will be made of aluminum, which is a good material to be able to withstand weather conditions and continual use at the well-visited park.

TV time has arrived

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

The most wonderful time of the year for television-crazed consumers isn't the days leading up to Black Friday. Nor is it Cyber Monday, Taco Tuesday or any other made up holiday before the holidays.

The most wonderful time of the year for prospective television buyers is right now. Historically, the best time to find a deal on a new television is after Christmas, but before the Super Bowl.

It's not because ABC Warehouse is trying to hawk a 55-inch flat screen to you before the big game. Rather, this time marks the beginning of the new television model year.

If you're looking to replace your picture tube before the Super Bowl, or want to find a deal when your current screen fizzes out - follow these tips to make your search as pain-free as possible.

- First decide on what type of TV is best for you, LCD, LED or Plasma. Generally, plasma screens are the cheapest of the trio, but they're also the best television for dark basements. For lighter areas like living rooms, or bedrooms with many windows, LCD or LED are better options.

- Next, figure out what size television you want. The biggest television possible may seem like a great idea, but small



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

rooms with close viewing areas probably don't need a 70-inch movie screen in them.

- Now that you know what size and type of TV you desire, start narrowing down your list of brands. Some manufacturers make 40-inch models, but not 42-inch sets while others make screens in 47-inches but not 46-inches. You can use sites like ABC Warehouse.com to see what brands make what size models.

- If you still need help narrowing down your selection, think about what you want most in a TV. If picture clarity is on the top of your list, a 1080p television is better than a 720p television. You also have to choose a television with a proper amount of hertz (hz). Most LCD or LED televisions have 60hz, 120hz or even 240hz. The higher the number the smoother the quality or refresh rate the television has. However, many programs and movies aren't meant to be refreshed as much as a 120hz or 240hz TV allows. In that case, your 60hz TV would be a better bet. Simply put, don't let hertz decide what type of set you buy. Just be cognizant of what

each hertz level can do for your viewing interests.

- Now that you have hopefully narrowed your TV selection to a few flat screens, try and find the store that has the best price. Some stores such as Walmart will price match and even value their online price if it is lower. Target on the other hand will price match, but not honor lower online prices. The best option might be ABC Warehouse because the local chain matches prices and will also haggle. With enough negotiating you might get the sales rep to throw in a convection oven or a blender

- And speaking of local, there's only one television manufacturer that sort of keeps their profits in America. Vizio, which is headquartered in California, makes their sets overseas.

Now that you have this handy checklist to help you decide which television to buy, all you need to do before game day is decide how many cheese dips to make. I say three.

Jon Gunnells, a Northville Township resident, is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. A 2007 graduate of Michigan State University, he holds a B.A. in journalism. When he's not working, Gunnells enjoys college sports, social media and playing basketball. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.

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OUR VIEWS



Board of Education members (from left) John Barrett, Adrienne Davis and Mike Maloney joined their colleagues at a special meeting Monday to hear public comment cut short at a meeting a week earlier.

Hear all voices

School board erred in cutting comment short

There is good news and bad news in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education's decision last week to cut short the public comment section of its agenda.

The bad news is the board broke the law, violating the Michigan Open Meetings Act by ending public comment after 45 minutes, with 15 speakers unable to have their voices heard. And the district's assertion that it was simply following a district policy that allowed breaking the law begs the question: What is the district paying its legal counsel, Collins & Blaha, for?

The decision came about because board members knew there likely would be a high volume of public comment, because the so-called "book banning" issue has been drawing large crowds for weeks. At the previous meeting, public comment had taken well over an hour of what turned out to be a four-hour meeting. The decision to cut it short last week was an effort, trustees explained, to give the board time to conduct its business.

The problem with that logic is this: Listening to the people who elected them is also the board's business.

The decision was discussed before the meeting and, while there was some dissent, all seven board members supported it, at least tacitly, by not speaking out against it at the meeting.

And there, if you look deep enough, lies the good news: Board members listened to each other's arguments, then made a decision as a group without a lot of public dissension. It's something the previous board couldn't do, at least on anything that didn't have to do with the budget, for most of the last 18 months of its reign.

Still, they broke the law, and it wasn't some meaningless law that doesn't matter. The Open Meetings Act is designed to keep the government process transparent, and to give the residents their platform for letting public bodies know how they feel about issues.

Yes, the decision to limit public comment violated that law. But the bigger picture issue — not listening to the people they were elected to represent — is a far more egregious mistake.

Listening to the people, making sure they have a stake in the decisions made, should be a priority. Board President John Barrett said as much Monday: "All of us together are seeking to make Plymouth-Canton schools the best in the state of Michigan," Barrett told the crowd gathered at Monday's meeting. "The way we do that is to listen carefully (to residents) and honor what they have to say."

Board of Education trustees did the right thing in recognizing their error and moving quickly to try to right the wrong.

It just shouldn't have been necessary in the first place.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What grade would you give Gov. Rick Snyder after his first year in office, and why?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



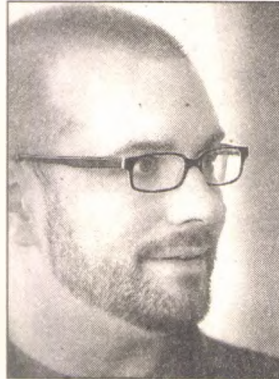
"A 'C.' I'm a teacher, and I don't think he's worked very hard on our behalf."

Rebecca Blaesser
Plymouth Township



"I'd give him an eight out of 10. I believe he has a good plan and has made (progress) at completing that plan."

Cassie Cobb
Canton Township



"I honestly don't know. I don't pay attention to it that much. I'm more focused on the presidential race."

Andy Sakowski
Plymouth Township



"B-plus." Because of what he has done compared to the previous governor. He started some programs that are beneficial to the state, and he has a plan."

Judy Grant
Northville Township

LETTERS

Only answer?

I am a bit perplexed after reading the recent mailing sent out by the Charter Township of Plymouth regarding the upcoming Special Assessment District election to assist in funding the fire department.

First let me say that I'm very much in favor of having a full-time fire department, but I question why this increase in taxes has been proposed and how effective it can be with no other options given to solve the problems the fire department appears to be facing.

After doing quite a bit of reading up on how neighboring communities run similar departments, it appears very few have chosen to follow the model Plymouth uses. It never fails to confuse me as to why a private ambulance company is allowed to show up and transport residents to the hospital and consequently collect the money that could be made by the fire department to go into their budget, keeping in mind the township appears to have all of the right tools and equipment to do so.

Correct me if I'm wrong, but that seems very much like doing a lot of work only to throw the money to be earned away at the last minute. While a certain private ambulance company may claim they do a community a really great service at no expense to the communities it serves, it's taking away so much that could go into helping our fire department, in part, support itself. I'd really like to know why this specific issue is continuously ignored by a select few "leaders" in the community.

While I do appreciate people taking the time and effort to send information about an upcoming tax increase proposal, I would much rather see an explanation as to why we cannot at least try other methods that have been proven to work by countless other communities.

I do hope the funding passes for the sake of our fire department, but I must say I find it absolutely disgusting that we put so much money and effort into other non-essential matters (like parks, etc.) when times are tough, and seem to take a step backward with public safety.

Let's try to start supporting a full-time, full-service fire department.

Matt Ankrapp
Plymouth

Blank checks?

What fool would give an endless series of undated blank checks to the government for its stated purpose?

All this SAD proposal will do is to continue to give the employees (the firemen) a better financial deal than the employer (the taxpayer) has.

Dick Arlen
Plymouth

Leftist twist

How ironic you would accuse Sharon Lolloio of exactly what you are guilty of ("Politics moves front-and-center in book debate,"

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

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Fax: (313) 223-3318

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

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

Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Observer, Jan. 29!)

Obviously, like the vast majority of the media, you are a leftist that can't take hearing the truth. Of course, you would make it look like her purpose is politically motivated and has nothing to do with values and morals. The public education system is and has been on a downward spiral for years now. I know firsthand as I was employed by two public schools systems and saw how they sway their teachings to the left.

So unfair to push one-sided opinions on children that have no way of understanding the difference and giving them a chance to form their own political views and values.

Unfortunately, many parents either agree with this form of teaching or have no knowledge of what's being taught. As far as the teachers, the majority of them are in it for the money and benefits only and will do whatever it takes to collect for themselves.

Unions, as we all know, are there for mere political purposes and as long as they provide what teachers want, they will have their full support. In turn, 90 percent of the dues go directly to support the liberal agenda and elect liberal candidates.

Shame on you for twisting an article to make an American citizen look bad, one who has as much of a right as the next person to get up and give her opinion. Leave it to the media, one-sided with no brain of their own to think as an individual but instead think as they are told in order to get and keep their job. Sad.

Pam Reitenga
Canton

Great article

Thank you for the great article in the Observer on Sunday, Jan. 29, about the book debate ("Politics moves front-and-center in book debate").

The Tea Party people are not the majority. There are still a lot of sensible people out there. We just aren't as loud.

Thank you for speaking for us!

Mary Colwell
Canton

Thank you

I just wanted to say a heartfelt "thank you" for writing an intelligent piece ("Politics moves front-and-center in book debate," Observer, Jan. 29) about the Tea Party politics being forced onto our community.

It is refreshing to see that you saw Ms. Lolloio's acts as inappropriate since they were indeed! Keep up the good work and let me know if you need any help cleaning the dog poop!

Kristen Farmer
Plymouth

Thoughtful opinion

No eFeces here. Just a thank you for a thoughtful and well-written editorial on the current book "debate" in our community ("Politics moves front-and-center in book debate," Observer, Jan. 29).

And a hope you do not receive any virile or stinky mail — e or snail variety. But then, if you do, you know you have done well in the accuracy and relevance of your observations.

Barbara Moroski-Browne
Northville

Return to sender

Thanks for writing the article on the Opinion page regarding the reading of parts of "Beloved" at the P-C school board meeting ("Politics moves front-and-center in book debate," Observer, Jan. 29).

These "Tea Partiers" actually insult my intelligence. They complain on the one hand that health care (Obamacare) is being forced down their throats but on the other hand they want to control what is taught in the public schools, even in AP classes suited for mature students.

Their way is the right way, according to them, with no middle ground.

Keep up the good work and if any mail comes to you with a suspected scent just write "return to sender" on it.

Tom Marunich
Plymouth Township

Excerpt challenge

I challenge you to post (excerpts) on the front page in the Observer from that trash of a novel, "Beloved," written at a sixth-grade reading level, I might add. Obviously other options are available and, in fact, have been chosen at schools far superior to PCEP (Catholic Central, for one). Amazing how you support the liberal agenda time after time.

You might also want to publish something on why the board incumbents were bounced out and on their way wondering why charter schools have waiting lists of 1,000+ students while PCCS continue to head downward via death spiral.

G. Gordon
Canton

Symphony founder left 'a great legacy'

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Francesco DiBlasi, founder and former conductor of the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, died Jan. 23 of heart failure at St. Jude Convalescent Center in Livonia.

He was 85. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Attendees are requested to RSVP to cmoore@yahoo.com.

Rose Kachnowski, president of the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, said DiBlasi left a great legacy. "Although his physical presence will be missed at the symphony's 40th anniversary celebration in November, the beauty of the music performed by the orchestra he began lives on."

Kachnowski said DiBlasi was a friendly, enjoyable person who made each concert fun by the music he chose or the outfit he wore while conducting.

'A brilliant musician'

Christine Moore, a stepdaughter who lives in Tustin, Calif., described DiBlasi as a "brilliant musician" who both played for and conducted various orchestras. He was third trumpet for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra for seven years in the 1950s.

"He really did have a life of accomplishment." After attending Detroit Public Schools, DiBlasi went to Julliard School of



Francesco DiBlasi, pictured here with a Rolls Royce, enjoyed driving luxury cars when he wasn't playing music or conducting an orchestra.

Music in New York City. In the 1940s he played trumpet and was assistant conductor in the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo orchestra. At the time, this company was the foremost ballet company performing in the United States, featuring illustrious lead dancers Alexandra Danilova and Frederick Franklin.

DiBlasi enjoyed the ballet, and always said his favorite ballet was *Coppelia* — about a doll who came to life and danced, his stepdaughter said.

Formation of Livonia symphony

On June 4, 1973, DiBlasi and his wife, Nelda, founded the Oakway Symphony Orchestra as a community orchestra to give talented young musicians the opportunity to play with seasoned performers under professional direction. It was designed to bring music to

the cities located in Oakland and Wayne counties; therefore, it was named Oakway Symphony.

As these communities grew and launched their own symphonies, support for the symphony became diluted. In 1988, the symphony board voted to change the name to the Livonia Symphony Orchestra because of Livonia's known support of the arts, a well-established school music education program, and the interest shown by prominent community leaders.

In 1979 under DiBlasi and the symphony board, a Young Artist Competition was inaugurated to showcase young upcoming talents. This competition was run for many years with funding provided by an active women's association. A vast array of known artists performed with the symphony under DiBlasi's direction including Victor Borge, "Fat Bob" Taylor and Alexander Zaylic, Ralph Votopek, Flavio Varani and Fedora Horowitz.

DiBlasi also taught music and conducted the orchestra at Ladywood High School in Livonia and served on the faculty of Madonna University, Livonia.

In addition, DiBlasi also performed with the American Youth Orchestra, Radio City Music Hall, New York City Opera, American Symphony Orchestra and the Metropolitan Opera. He conducted the Buffalo Philharmonic, Grand Rapids Symphony, Phila-

delphia Orchestra, Scandinavian Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Grosse Pointe Symphony, St. Cecilia Orchestra, Rome, Italy; Julliard Opera, Canton Symphony of Ohio, Detroit Women's Symphony, San Diego Symphony, and the Flint Symphony.

He attended the Detroit Institute of Musical Art and L'Ecole de Pierre Monteux. He received a bachelor of arts degree from Madonna and a master in performance from Eastern Michigan University.

Family life

DiBlasi and his wife Nelda, longtime Livonia residents, were married for 31 years before she died in 1983. He was also predeceased by a stepson, Jim Klote, in 1993.

Moore, the oldest of DiBlasi's three stepchildren and two biological children, said music was a part of their lives every waking moment. "When we were in the house with him, there was constant music. He gave us an appreciation of music," she said, recalling the summer concerts they would attend at Metro Beach.

Besides Moore, DiBlasi is survived by daughter Francine DiBlasi of Lake San Marcos, Calif., son Paul DiBlasi of Southfield, stepson John Klote of Leesburg, Va., five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, 37637 Five Mile Road, PMB#398, Livonia, MI 48154.

Fundraiser bowls for Braille books

WMGC's Chris Edmonds will be the emcee at Seedlings' 25th annual Bowling for Braille Books Saturday, March 25, at Plaza Lanes in Plymouth.

The event, presented by Ameriprise Financial, celebrates Seedlings' 25th anniversary. Registration starts at noon, with bowling beginning at 1 p.m.

The event helps place braille books into the hands of blind children locally and around the world. There will be raffle prizes, a silent auction and prize packages for the top three bowlers who raise the most pledges. Bowlers who raise \$100 or more receive a bowling T-shirt and have a braille book inscribed in their name. The first 25 bowlers to raise \$250 or more get their names entered into a drawing for a chance to win a Kindle Fire. Seedlings has set a 2012 goal of 25,000 braille books.

Bowlers will receive three games, shoes, lunch, a goody bag, and a free raffle ticket. Sponsorship oppor-

tunities are available to local businesses and organizations. Register now and reserve a spot at the event. Registration deadline is March 9, and the minimum donation per bowler is \$60.

For more information on the Bowling for Braille Books Event or on Seedlings, visit their website at www.seedlings.org or call (734) 427-8552.

Seedlings Braille Books for Children is a non-profit organization in Livonia dedicated to increasing the opportunity for braille literacy by providing high quality, low-cost braille books for blind children. Every \$10 earned at this year's Bowling for Braille Books event will create one more book.

Last year, bowlers raised more than \$32,000 to provide blind children access to popular children's books in braille and to bring them the materials they need to read and succeed.

For more information, call (734) 427-8552 or visit www.seedlings.org.

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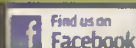
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OBSERVERLAND WRESTLING INVITATIONAL

Mat-merizing Patriots, Rockets share Observerland crown

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Not even a hanging chad could decide the team champion of the 21st annual Observerland Wrestling Invitational Saturday at Livonia Churchill.

When the final points were tallied, Livonia Franklin and Westland John Glenn shared the crown with exactly 182.5 points apiece to lead the 16-school field.

Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, which sent its 'B' or White team to Observerland while its 'A' team spent the day in Cleveland, finished third with 165.

Rounding out the top 10 were Farmington Hills Harrison (134), Wayne Memorial (133), Plymouth (125.5), Belleville (98), Farmington (82), Salem (77.5) and Northville (72).

'(Haymour's) dreamed about being Observerland champ since he was a freshman.'

DAVE CHIOLA,
FRANKLIN COACH

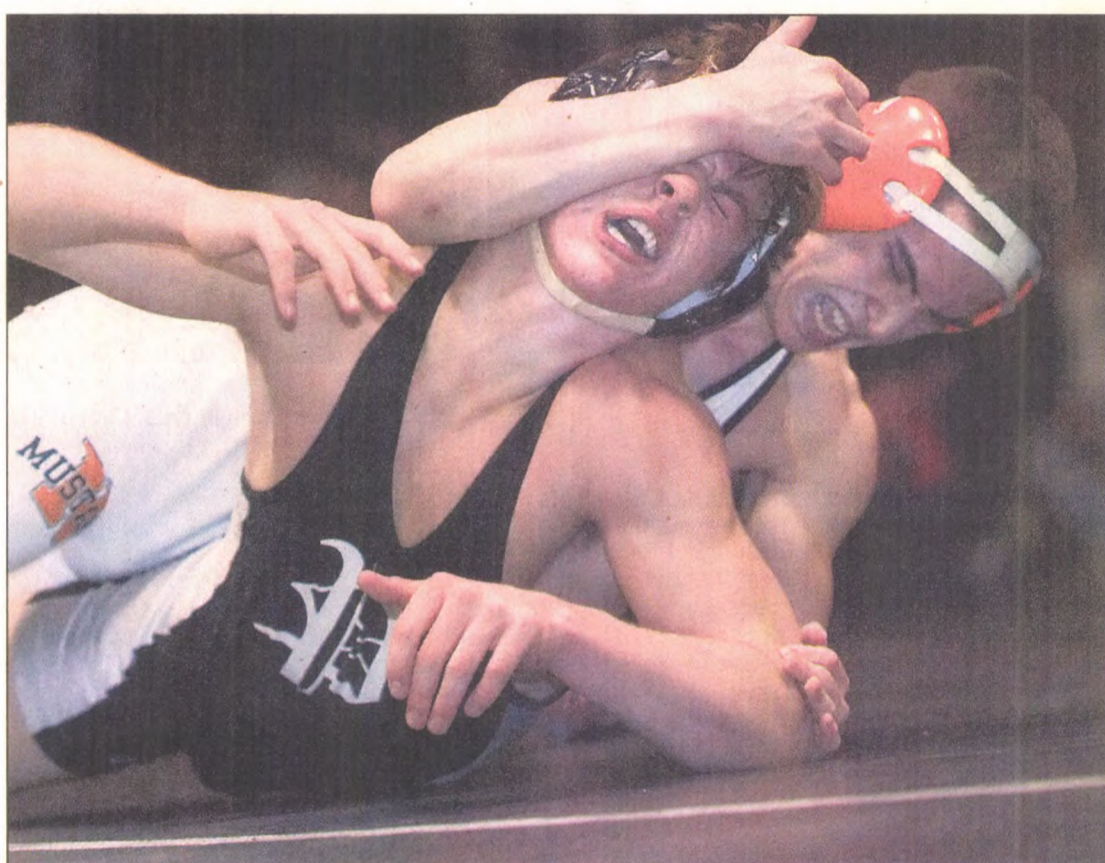
The outcome for the team champion came down to a pair of heavyweights in the final match of the tournament.

Trailing Glenn by four points, Franklin's Omar Haymour needed a victory by decision to secure a tie or come up with a pin to give the Patriots their fourth outright Observerland title.

Haymour didn't get the pin, but had enough to outlast Churchill's Manny Haddad for the 285-pound title, 1-0. "I told him (the situation), but I also said, 'Don't go for the pin and end up losing' because he's dreamed about being Observerland champ since he was a freshman," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said of his senior. "His goal was to win it last year and he didn't. So, 'Don't screw yourself up and win it for the team.'"

Haymour, who improved to 38-4 overall, tried to get Haddad on his back, but simply couldn't turn the sturdy Churchill grappler over. "He was trying, but we wrestled him (Haddad) before and it was a 1-0 match," said Chiola, whose team trailed Glenn by nine points and CC

Please see CROWN, B2



Plymouth's Alec Breckenridge (front) and Travis Compo of Northville, wrestle in the 135 finals. Compo defeated Breckenridge.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Invite launches home stretch

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Despite his team's sixth-place finish at Saturday's 21st annual Observerland Wrestling Invitational, Plymouth head coach Quinn Guernsey gets the feeling the Wildcats are generating momentum into the all-important stretch drive.

"Hopefully, we use it to keep building on this for the rest of the season," Guernsey said. "Tomorrow (Wednesday) should be a good day for us, our division is much deeper than the other one."

He was referring to a KLAAsquad team quad meet at Waterford Mott, where the Wildcats will square off against South Lyon, followed by either the host Corsairs or Grand Blanc.

Then comes Saturday's KLAAsquad individual championships, with team and individ-

ual state districts right after that.

"We're at the part of the season we've been working all year for," Guernsey emphasized.

Plymouth took sixth at the Livonia Churchill-hosted Observerland tourney, tallying 125.5 points. Taking sixth in the 16-team field was Salem, with 77.5 points.

Making strides

"A lot of our guys came through and wrestled well," said Guernsey, noting firsts by Jon Conn (130) and Said Youssef (140) among several others.

Conn (20-8 record) earned a 6-4 decision over LaRone Mack of Farmington Hills Harrison.

"Jon is only a sophomore and he's still scratching the surface of how good he can be," Guernsey said. "It was

nice for him to come up with the win, it's going to be good for his confidence" as the tourney season heats up.

Youssef improved to 25-8 with a 4-3 decision over Livonia Franklin's Jordan Atienza. Guernsey said Youssef is the only wrestler to defeat Atienza, whose record now is 37-2.

"Said is capable of beating all those kids of that caliber," Guernsey said. "There isn't anybody in the state who I would put Said out against and not think he's going to give them a competitive match."

Plymouth tallied two second-place finishes. Mo Youssef (27-7) lost at 103, pinned in 1:00 by Westland John Glenn's Kyle Gillies, described by Guernsey as "one of the best kids in the state."

Please see INVITE, B2

Road's sweet for PCEP boys cagers

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

All three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park boys basketball teams tasted victory on the road Tuesday night, as the season starts to wind down toward the districts.

Salem maintained its spot on top of the KLAAsquad Central Division standings with a rousing 63-28 win at South Lyon East, paced by senior center Chris Dierker's

15 points and career-high 20 rebounds.

Meanwhile, in a couple of KLAAsquad South Division contests, second-place Canton knocked off Wayne 57-48 and Plymouth earned a 49-45 victory over Livonia Franklin.

According to Salem head coach Bob Brodie, his team didn't get rolling until the third quarter. Salem (11-2, 5-2 in the KLAAsquad Central) still led 10-8 after one quarter and 23-17 at half-

time. "And then we cranked our defense up a little bit and hit the glass a lot better in the second half."

The end result was a 20-2 third quarter, easily salting the game into Salem's win column. The Rocks continue tied at the top of the division standings with Northville.

"All but one player scored," Brodie added. "It was a good team effort again."

In addition to Dierker, Ahmad Khalid and Tyler Stewart scored 12 and 10 points, respectively.

Chiefs prevail

A huge edge in the rebounding department and center Paul Baumgart lifted Canton to a 57-48 win over host Wayne Memorial.

Baumgart also pulled down 11 rebounds and blocked three shots for the Chiefs (10-3, 5-2 in

the KLAAsquad South).

Guard Josh Mayberry chipped in with 12 points and six boards while wing guard Kyle Adams tallied nine points and seven rebounds.

Canton's top rebounder was forward Scott Gring, with 13. The Chiefs outrebounded the Zebras (6-6, 3-4) by a 48-28 margin.

"I was pleased how we played in stretches,"

Please see BOYS, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem senior guard Bri Berberet (No. 2) goes in for a layup during a December game. Berberet has been an offensive force in recent games for the Rocks, but she struggled with her shooting on Tuesday night.

Rocks can't heat up offense in time

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

When Salem senior guard Bri Berberet is hot, she nails shots from all over the court, as she did in a 24-point performance Jan. 20 against South Lyon.

When she isn't, she still is productive.

Tuesday night was one of those nights, with the senior guard tallying 17 points and nearly helping the Rocks varsity girls basketball team pull out a last-second win over visiting South Lyon East.

But Berberet (2-for-9

from three-point territory) and her Salem teammates had stretches of ice-cold shooting in the 31-30 loss.

"When you're 0-for-6 from one foot," said veteran Salem head coach Fred Thomann with a chuckle, "you're supposed to knock those down. Had we done that, we would have been in pretty good shape."

"But obviously, that didn't happen. That's the way it's been all season long."

Berberet, however, helped the Rocks (3-10, 2-5 in the KLAAsquad Central) rally from a late 29-24 deficit

by hitting two treys in the final minute to make it a 30-30 tie.

They were the only points Salem scored in the second half that weren't collected from the foul line.

The second 3-ball came with just 16.4 seconds to play. After another Salem miss (the Rocks hit just seven of 32 two-point attempts), senior guard Katelynn Krause (six points) hustled to grab the rebound and keep the play alive.

Please see OFFENSE, B3

Faith/Family Day Feb. 12

The Plymouth Whalers announced the second annual Faith & Family Day. It will take place on Sunday, Feb. 12, at Compuware Arena.

Plymouth faces off against Saginaw in a 2 p.m. contest, which will be followed by a free concert by Christian rockers The Jason Eaton Band.

WDIV's Chuck Gaidica will be the host, with pastor Brad Cannon of Solid Rock Bible Church in Plymouth providing a message along with the music.

Andy Bathgate of the Whalers also will participate in the program.

Group tickets to the game (which include the concert) are \$10. Go to www.plymouthwhalers.com, or call (734) 453-8400 for ticket information.

Salem teams on a roll

Monday at Super Bowl in Canton, both Salem varsity bowling teams were victorious over Wayne Memorial.

In the boys contest, the Rocks earned a 23-7 win. Solid performances were turned in by junior Kevin Williams (213-254-467), seniors David Nikkila (279), Joe Mirsky (202), freshman Nolan Rudis (193) and sophomore Steven Cadwell (181).

The Salem girls won 21-9, led by juniors Kristin Larkins (208), Bridget Maul (183) and senior Ashley Hinojosa (177).

Cagers to hold bowling 'Fun-Raiser'

Canton's basketball program is presenting a "Bowling Fun-Raiser," Saturday night at Super Bowl on Ford Road.

Bowling (for adults only) will begin at 10 p.m., with check-in at 9:15 p.m. Tickets are \$20 (for two games of no-tap bowling and shoe rental). Raffles and a silent auction also are part of the festivities.

About two-thirds of proceeds will be going to the program.

Contact Lauren Delapaz (Lauren.delapaz15@gmail.com) for more information. Super Bowl is located at 45100 Ford Road.

MU softball casino trip

The Madonna University women's softball team will sponsor a fundraiser charter bus trip to Greentown Casino from 3:30-9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18.

The cost is \$30 for each passenger, who will also receive a \$20 voucher to use at the casino.

Refreshments will be served on the bus. You must be 21 years or older and have a valid photo I.D. to make the bus trip. Reservations are due by Friday, Feb. 10.

For more information, e-mail MU softball coach Al White at awhite@madonna.edu.

Arts benefit

Versatile singer and his band rock out in Canton

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

There's more to Steve King than meets the ear. The frontman for the band, Steve King and the Dittilies, King, known as the "Wayne Newton of Wayne County," began his singing career as a choir student during the 1970s at Bentley High School, where he also formed a band for a school talent show.

Through the years King also has:

- Learned to become a "survivor" while growing up in a family of 13 siblings.

- Rebuilt — and then lived in — three houses in his hometown.

- Coached soccer and taught physical education after getting a teaching degree in 2001.

- Earned a master's degree in educational leadership last summer, with an eye toward becoming a school principal.

- Served on the Livonia school board after winning a four-year term in 2006.

- Lost his bid for the Livonia City Council last November.

Through it all he has continued to sing at events as large as the Woodward Dream Cruise and as small as private birthday parties.

"I hate not being busy," King explained. "I always have 10 balls in the air and I see what happens. I have so many interests.

ROCK-N-ROLL VALENTINE'S

What: A dinner and rock music show fundraiser for the Canton Partnership for Arts and Humanities
When: 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10
Where: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: A reception kicks off the event and features appetizers by P.F. Chang's China Bistro, Northville, and Station 885, Plymouth, along with desserts from The Chop Dessert, Ann Arbor. The Showroom of Elegance and Indigo Salon and Day Spa will be on-site offering promotions. Steve King and the Dittilies play classic rock at 8 p.m. Couples can get a free appetizer by showing their concert ticket at the afterglow at Hayden's Bar and Grill, 39895 Ford Road

Tickets: \$30
Sponsors: Frank and Jill, Glenn and Patty Shaw and Don and Colleen Soenen.
Contact: www.cantonvillageheater.org or call (734) 394-5460

I love teaching, coaching and building. Pursuing my passions is what I've always done and that is the secret to well-being.

"I really enjoy performing and I would like to continue doing it for

a long time. We get around. I try to work as much as possible."

The band specializes in classic rock — tunes from the '50s-'90s — although it has expanded its repertoire to include music from the '30s and '40s. It will play a little of everything when it headlines Rock-n-Roll Valentine's, a benefit for the Canton Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, Friday, Feb. 10 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

Sing, dance along

King said the show will include a dance area for audience members who want to move to the music.

"We've never played a gig where someone didn't get up and start dancing."

The set list also will include songs that show the depth of the band and "showy stuff" that brings horns front and center.

"This gig is more challenging than most. The majority of the people will be sitting in the audience, listening. So, not only are we doing a show with people sitting there, we have to try to hit all eras because that will be the demographics."

Putting the listener first is second nature to King. When a power outage zapped the Woodward Dream Cruise in 2003, King, who was playing at a Royal Oak restaurant, said he convinced management to quickly round up generators, enabling the show to continue until



Steve King of Livonia rocks out with his band, Steve King and the Dittilies. He has performed since high school.

police shut the annual event down.

He insists on producing live sounds with a nine-piece group, rather than downsizing to a smaller band with pre-recorded tracks.

"My approach always has been that I'm here to facilitate that fun for people who come to see us. People want to have a good time. The music we do is recognizable, good songs and I make that connection from stage to the audience."

Classic tunes

He describes his favorite music — 1960s rock — as "the best ever written," with memorable melodies and lyrics. He also points out that long-time rockers who are still popular today, such as Mick Jagger and Tom Petty, got their start during that decade.

While performing in Las Vegas, Nev. last year, King noticed a table of Polish women singing along as the band played songs made

popular by the 1960s-era television show and band, The Monkees. "They didn't speak English. I asked how they knew these songs and they said 'American movies.' Any (contemporary) music style today has roots in the '60s. They are great songs. They tell a story."

For more about the Canton Partnership for Arts and Humanities visit partnershipforarts.org. For more on Steve King and the Dittilies, visit skatd.com

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TIME: 8:00 p.m.

TICKETS: \$30 per ticket



Allure Dance Company will lead dance workshops for children Sunday, Feb. 5 at The Berman Center for the Performing Arts at the Jewish Community Center, West Bloomfield.

Take a dance workshop, perform the same day

So you think you can dance? Then join Allure Dance for Dance Day — created for children, 3-11, who love to dance — 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, at The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, located at the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. No dance experience is necessary.

Members of the Allure Dance Company will lead the workshops that will feature creative movement and simple choreography.

"I Love To Dance" is for ages 8-11 and begins at 1 p.m. "Watch Me Dance" is for ages 5-7 and begins at 1 p.m. "Mommy and Me" is for ages 3-4 and starts at 1:30

p.m. Following the workshops, all students will appear in a dance program at 3 p.m.

Cost is \$10 per child and \$5 for adults involved in the "Mommy and Me" sessions. The dance performance is free for workshop participants and \$10 per guest.

Shannon Einhardt, a recent recipient of the Maggie Allesee New Choreography Award heads the Allure Dance Company.

The workshops are part of a month-long series of dance activities at The Berman Center. For a complete list visit www.theberman.org. To buy tickets, call (248) 661-1900.

GET OUT

Continued from page B6
(313) 537-3489 or Kathleen O'Neill at (313) 96-IRISH
HELLENIC CULTURAL CENTER
Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. show, Saturday, Feb. 11

Location: 36375 Joy Road, Westland

Details: 50's and 60's Valentine's Show with Legends Live tribute show features songs by the Everly Brothers, Gene Pitney, Full Throttle DooWop, Roy Orbison and Cal Roberts, along with emcee Rockin' Ronnie. Tickets are \$38 and include dinner, cash bar and show

Contact: (734) 525-3550
MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Time/Date: 2 p.m. Feb. 12; pre-concert talk at 1:15 p.m.

Location: First United Methodist Church, 45201 North Territorial Road, Plymouth

Details: "Sunday with Schubert" featuring Michigan Phil principal clarinetist Lisa Raschiatore performing the Copland Clarinet Concerto. Other works include Schubert Symphony No. 5 and Amalia Concerto for 12. Tickets are \$22 general, \$18 senior and \$10, student

Contact: (734) 451-2112; www.michiganphil.org

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month

Same Time Next Year



Aaron Alpern of Ann Arbor plays George and Diane Hill of Farmington Hills in *Doris in the Two Muses*. Theatre production of "Same Time Next Year," that runs Feb. 3-19 in Farmington Hills.

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres.

Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

PAUL'S PLAYERS

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 11 and 3 p.m. Feb. 12

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: "Love Notes" features singers Allison Soranno Boufford and Jason Wilhoite, along with instrumentalists Sue Nienhaus, Michael Soranno, and Paul Soranno, performing

selections from a wide variety of Broadway composers. The concert of love songs from Broadway will include desserts and coffee. Tickets are \$10

Contact: (248) 347-4134, or e-mail paulsplayers@gmail.com

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Monday, Friday, Saturday

Location: 884 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: Open mic on Monday; live music Friday-Saturday. Americana, folk, rock, pop, country and soul by solo singers, duos and bands

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Game-winning dips and healthy tips

Two of the most popular New Year's resolutions are losing weight and eating healthier. But by the time the big game rolls around, many people are ready for a break — or looking for an excuse to cheat. But kickoff does not have to be a signal to punt your healthy-eating habits. Registered dietitian Jodie Shield knows it can be a struggle to celebrate and stay healthy. She's put together some win-win tips and recipes — healthy and delicious — that are sure to keep fans cheering for more:

— Know your game plan. If you're the home team (i.e. the party host), you get to call the plays. Serve entrees that are lean and festive, such as Touchdown Turkey Chili. Or prepare a thin whole wheat crust pizza using reduced-fat mozzarella cheese, tomato sauce and lots of sliced veggies.

— Offer a starting line-up of healthier appetizers. Whip some traditional game day favorites into shape. Instead of nachos, serve baked chips with salsa. Pass on the salt and butter and sprinkle a dash of Parmesan cheese over popcorn. Forget the fried chicken wings and serve baked chicken tenders seasoned with Hidden Valley Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix.

— Think fresh. Skip the super subs and set up a sandwich bar with lean deli meats such as turkey breast and ham, low-fat cheese slices and prepped veggies — like sliced tomato and shredded lettuce — and low-fat toppings.

— Pass on super big portions. No matter what foods are served, remember you don't have to eat the whole thing. Grab a small plate and load half of it up with fresh veggies and baked chips.

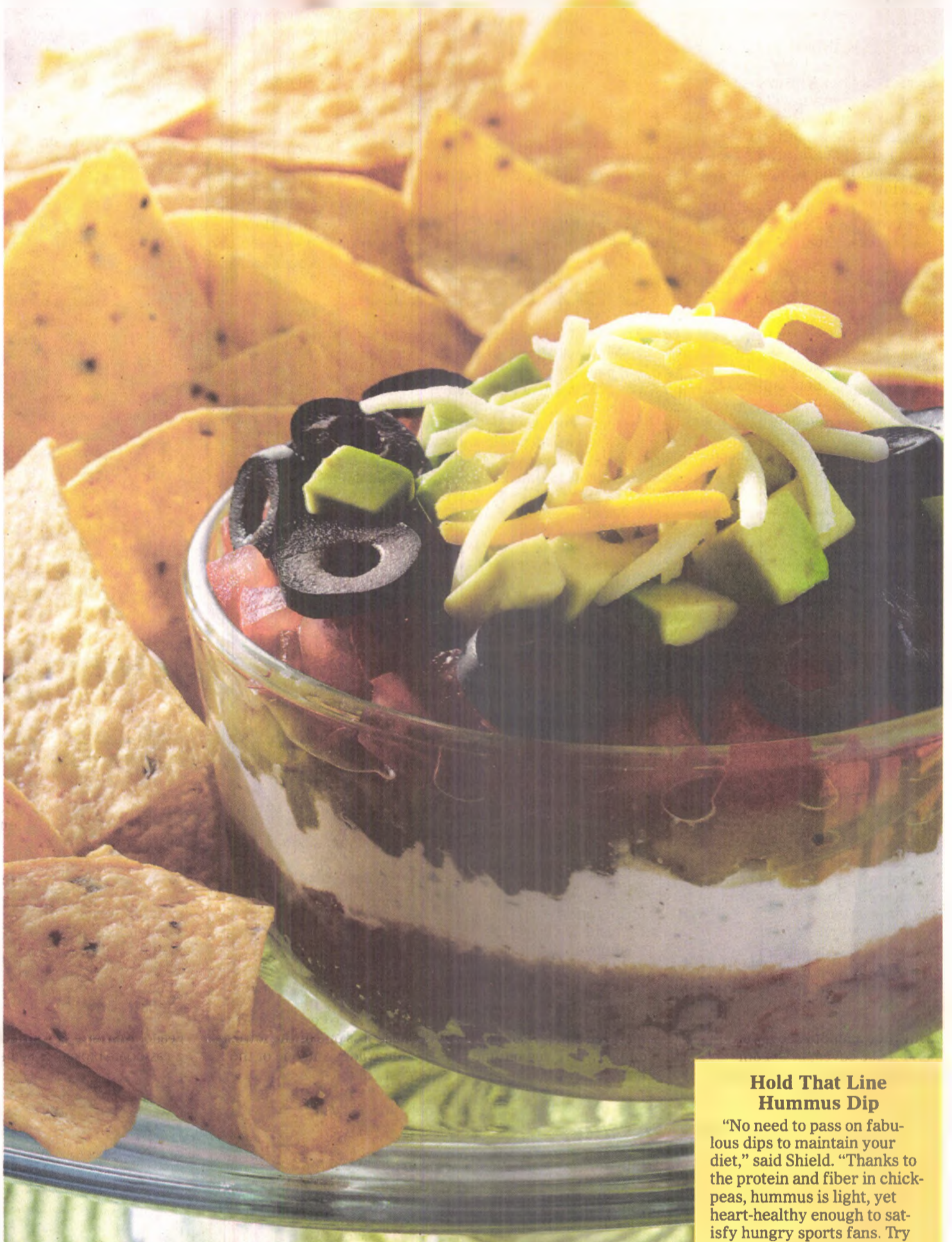
— Get in on the action. During halftime, grab your guests and head outdoors for a quick game of touch football. You can always record the commercials so you don't miss out.

7 Layer Fiesta Ranch Dip

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Makes: 10 (1/4 cup) servings

- 1 16-ounce can fat-free refried beans
- 1/2 cup guacamole
- 1 package Hidden Valley Fiesta Ranch Dips Mix
- 1 cup fat-free sour cream or plain nonfat yogurt
- 1 cup shredded reduced-fat cheddar cheese
- 6 green onions, chopped
- 1 medium tomato, chopped
- 1/2 cup sliced black olives (optional)

1. Spread each of the ingredients in the order listed over a 9-inch serving platter or pie dish.
2. Chill for an hour and serve.



Hold That Line Hummus Dip

"No need to pass on fabulous dips to maintain your diet," said Shield. "Thanks to the protein and fiber in chickpeas, hummus is light, yet heart-healthy enough to satisfy hungry sports fans. Try this easy recipe for happy game day guests."

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Makes: 8 (1/4 cup) servings

- 2 cans (15 1/2 ounces each) chickpeas, rinsed and drained
- 4 garlic cloves
- 1/2 cup lemon juice
- 1 package Hidden Valley Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix
- 4 tablespoons cold water
- 1/2 cup tahini (sesame seed paste)
- Dash of paprika for garnish

1. In a food processor, puree the chickpeas, garlic, lemon juice, salad dressing and seasoning mix and water until very smooth, about 3 minutes.
2. Add tahini paste and process an additional 2 minutes.
3. Spread hummus into a shallow serving bowl.
4. Sprinkle top with paprika.

— Courtesy Family Features

Touchdown Turkey Chili

Prep Time: 15 minutes
Cook Time: High heat cooks for 4 hours;
Low heat cooks for 8 hours
Makes: 8 (1 cup) servings

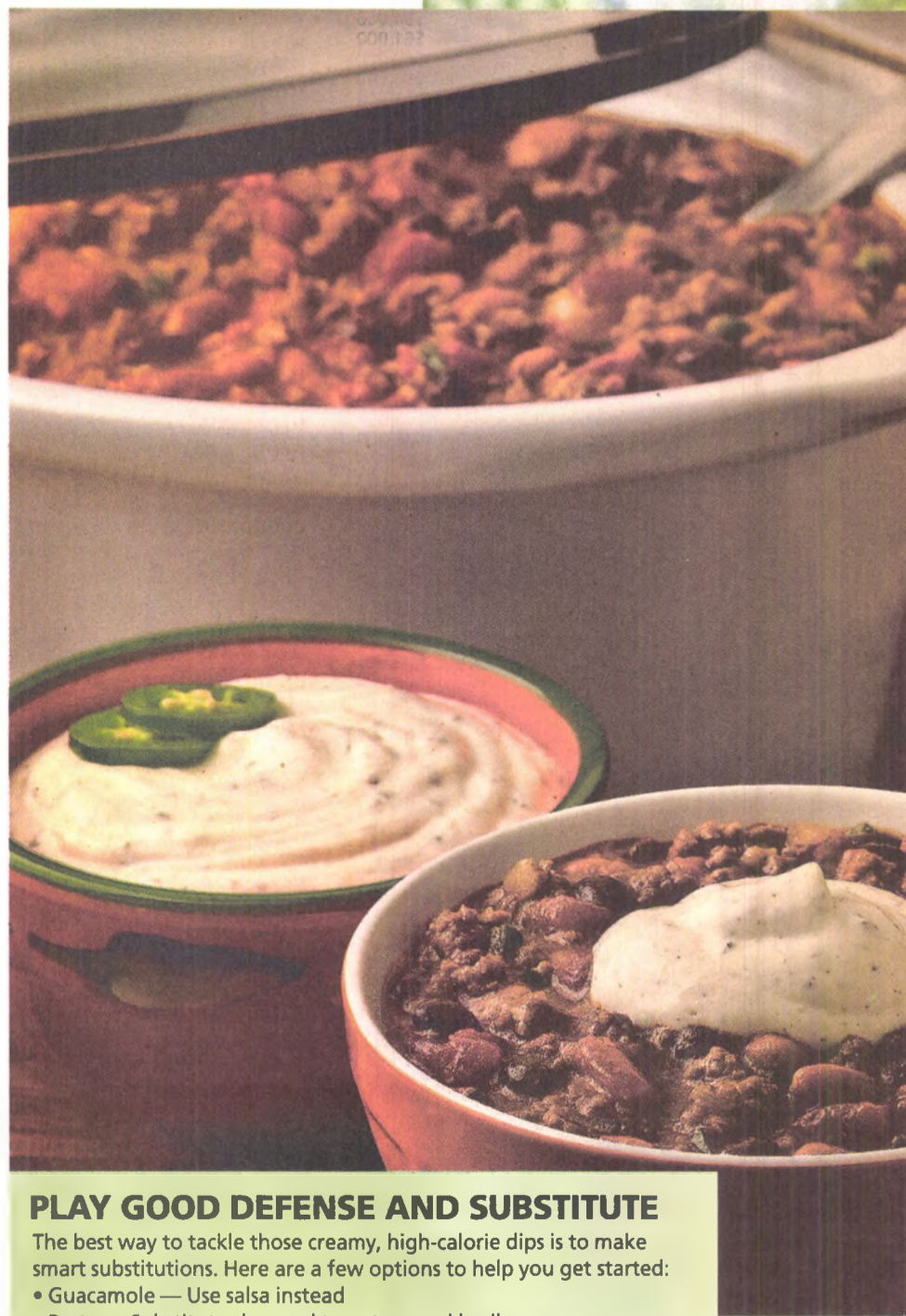
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 medium green bell pepper, chopped
- 2 pounds lean ground turkey breast
- 2 cans (14.5 ounces each) Mexican-style diced tomatoes

- 1 can (6 ounces) reduced sodium tomato paste
 - 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
 - 1 cup low sodium tomato juice
 - 1 package Hidden Valley Fiesta Ranch Dips Mix
1. Heat olive oil in a large nonstick pan over medium-high heat.
 2. Add onions and bell pepper and sauté until crisp-tender, about 5 minutes.
 3. Remove and place in slow cooker.
 4. Add ground turkey breast to the same pan and cook until crumbled and browned, about 8 to 10 minutes.
 5. Add the turkey to the slow cooker along with all of the remaining ingredients.
 6. Cover the slow cooker and cook for 4 hours on high heat or 8 hours on low heat.

Cheesy Ranch Popcorn

Prep Time: 5 minutes
Cook Time: 3 1/2 minutes
Makes: 6 (2 cup) servings

- 1 bag (3 ounces) reduced-fat, low sodium butter-flavored microwave popcorn
 - 1/2 pack (0.25 ounces) Hidden Valley Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix
 - 3 sprays from olive oil mister
 - 3 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
1. Pop popcorn according to package directions. Immediately open the bag and pour the popcorn into a large serving bowl.
 2. Spray the popcorn with three sprays from the olive oil mister, toss with the salad dressing and seasoning mix and then toss with the Parmesan cheese. Serve immediately.



PLAY GOOD DEFENSE AND SUBSTITUTE

The best way to tackle those creamy, high-calorie dips is to make smart substitutions. Here are a few options to help you get started:

- Guacamole — Use salsa instead
- Pesto — Substitute chopped tomatoes and basil
- Sour cream — Trade it for plain fat-free yogurt
- Cheese — Try reduced-fat cheese
- Cream — Substitute fat-free evaporated milk

For more recipes and tips, visit www.hiddenvalley.com.

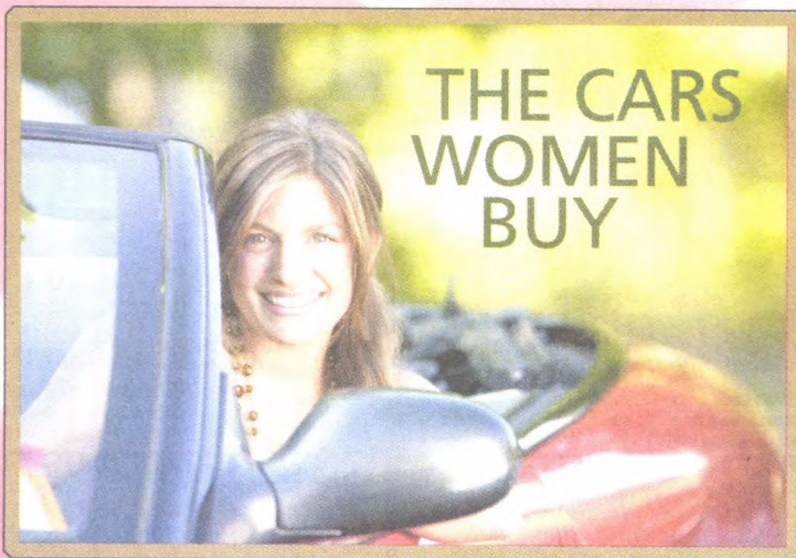
hometown life

5-MINUTE
MAKEOVER
PAGE 10

FEBRUARY 2012

WOMAN

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EDITORIAL

615 W. Lafayette Blvd.
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41304 Concept Dr.
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Publisher & Executive Editor

Susan Rosiek

srosiek@hometownlife.com

Advertising Director

Grace Perry

gperry@hometownlife.com

Retail Advertising Managers

Frank Cibor

(734) 562-8361

fcibor@hometownlife.com

Lisa Dranginis

(248) 437-2011, Ext. 238

ldranginis@gannett.com

Contributing Writers

**Jill Halpin, Bill Emerick,
Beth Jachman, Barbara Deyo**

Sales Associates

**Sally Dobkin, Caryn Fallert,
Ed Fleming, Bob Kampf, Carole Layne,
Kelley Albrant, Michelle Palmeri,
Amy Norton, Sue Sare,
Lisa Walker, Cathy White, Lisa Johnson**

Cover Design

Dan Dean

Layout/Design

Beth Jachman

Contributing Editor

Bill Emerick

Product Integration Director

Sheryl Labon

Planning/Production/Pre-Press
**Debbie Elwell, Rose Jarvis, Drew Krawiec,
Dawn Lovelady, Donna Thomas,
Cindy Wald, Tom Voyles**

Graphic Artists
**Eron Powers, Linda Rigdon,
Lynne Sharpe**

Contact us:

Phone: (313) 222-2223

E-mail: woman@hometownlife.com

Website: www.hometownlife.com

Go Red for healthy hearts

This month we are asking you to join local businesses and your neighbors in "Going Red" to

combat the No. 1 killer of women — heart disease.

Ninety percent of women have one or more risk factors for developing heart disease and 80 percent of cardiac events in women may be prevented if we make the right choices that involve diet, exercise and smoking cessation, according to the American Heart Association.

Tomorrow is the American Heart Association's National Wear Red Day, an event aimed at building awareness and inspiring action to end heart disease.

Join the movement, get educated and have some fun at the same time. Lots of



Susan Rosiek

local women will be wearing red, including the staff at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

In today's *Hometown Life Woman*, you will have the opportunity to meet area women who are sharing their stories about heart disease and why women need to be aware of their special symptoms. Read today's cover story and you'll see why heart disease is often silent, hidden and misunderstood. Inside you'll also find a list of heart-month events — seminars, walks, even a hockey game. Take time to participate. See the stories on diet and exercise tips; we also offer a couple of recipes courtesy of the American Heart Association.

And several area businesses will be "lighting the town red" Feb. 3 and beyond by lighting their buildings in red. They include the St. John Providence Health System, Comerica Park, The Wealth Advantage Group of Northville, OEM

Mico Solutions of Novi and Buca di Beppo (Livonia and Utica locations).

Although Friday marks the ninth annual Go National Wear Red Day, the entire month of February is dedicated to education and awareness of heart disease.

Following are some other ways you can get involved.

Show your support and help build awareness by wearing red, join the wear red day tweetathon and share why you wore red (use #TweetGoneRedFor), learn more about heart disease, risk factors and prevention at GoRedForWoman.org, donate funds, volunteer or support the program by shopping at ShopGoRed.org.

We can stop heart disease. It's starts today.

See you in red.

Susan Rosiek
executive editor/publisher

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Women love cars, too!



Judi Crawford of Highland in her Volkswagen Eos.

What they buy and why

By **Bill Emerick and Beth Jachman**
Contributing Writers

the past, when it comes to deciding what car to purchase, men were more often than not the king of their castle. Husbands and fathers had all the answers, while wives and mothers were left at home when it came time to buy.

Fast forward to the 21st century, though, and that stereotype is quickly fading in the rear-view mirror. Step into any new car showroom today and chances are at least 50 percent of those kicking the proverbial tires are women.

And they definitely know what they want in a car.

Trends vary

It may be easy to try to lump all female car buyers into one group, but that's not necessarily the case. What's right for one woman might be completely wrong for another.

Vita Vizachero, 50, of Northville has been a saleswoman at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia for the past eight years. She says the typical female shopper isn't really typical at all.

"It depends on what stage of their life

they're in," she said. "Someone who is raising kids isn't looking for the same things as someone who's retired."

That said, some factors are always constant.

"Fuel economy is important now," Vizachero said. "The monthly payment is certainly key."

Vizachero said women usually fixate on aesthetics, while men might look at performance.

"Their focus is mostly comfort, like heated seats," she said. "A man might notice nice wheels or the engine. Women are a little more practical than men."

Targeted audience

Jason Scott, 45, of Canton has been the general manager of the Dick Scott Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram dealership in Plymouth for 23 years. He said just about every vehicle his company offers appeals to some women.

"You can look at all the surveys and studies out there and they say some 80 percent of car sales are influenced by women," he said. "We do a lot of general

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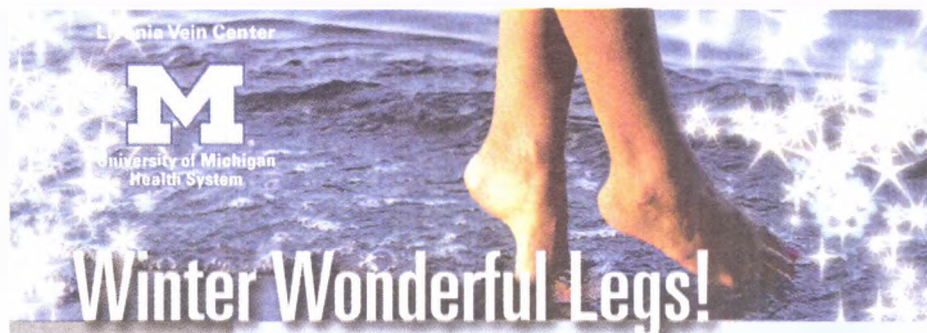
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Melissa Cohn of Novi leases a Cadillac CTS.

CARS

Continued from page 4

advertising, but specifically we'll target women audiences through certain radio or television stations."

Scott couldn't point to any particular feature or trend that is driving women into the showroom.

"Our entire lineup is great," he said. "We have features and options that both men and women love to have."

Loves her moon roof

Melissa Cohn, 34, of Novi leases a Cadillac CTS, which she just got Jan. 1. "I love it. It's a very nice vehicle," she said.

Although she considered several other cars and wasn't having much luck getting the mileage she wanted in her price range, she was surprised to find she could get a deal on a Cadillac CTS lease.

"My jaw just kind of dropped. It's not a long lease and there was no way I could turn it down," she said.

Her silver Cadillac CTS is the first American-made car she's driven in 10 years. She had been looking at a Volvo, and although buying American wasn't on the top of her list, when she ended up with a Cadillac, that made the deal all the better. "It was really good to be able to say I'm driving a GM," Cohn said.

After working at SWOCC Studios in Farmington for 11 years, she is now working in Ann Arbor and has a longer commute.

She especially likes the car's features like Onstar. "That's convenient. When it comes to directions, I'm not constantly looking down or on the phone. I'm able to hear directions," she said.

"And my moon roof, a moon roof is

what I want in any vehicle I have," she said. "I don't feel so enclosed in my car and I love it in the summer."

The Bluetooth is very helpful for hands-free talking on the phone and she feels the all-wheel drive is a necessity for the drive she makes, she said.

"I think the design and the comfort of the vehicle is up there. Once you get in the car you know it's a nice car. The styling and interior have a very posh feeling," she said.

And asked if anyone comments on her new ride, she said, "Oh, everyone. Everyone's jaw drops. Some people didn't believe me." So she reminded them that December and January are the best time to get leases on vehicles.

She says her first car was a beater. "I definitely feel every car I've gotten has always been a step up. I'm satisfied. I'm happy," she said.

Her 'bucket list'

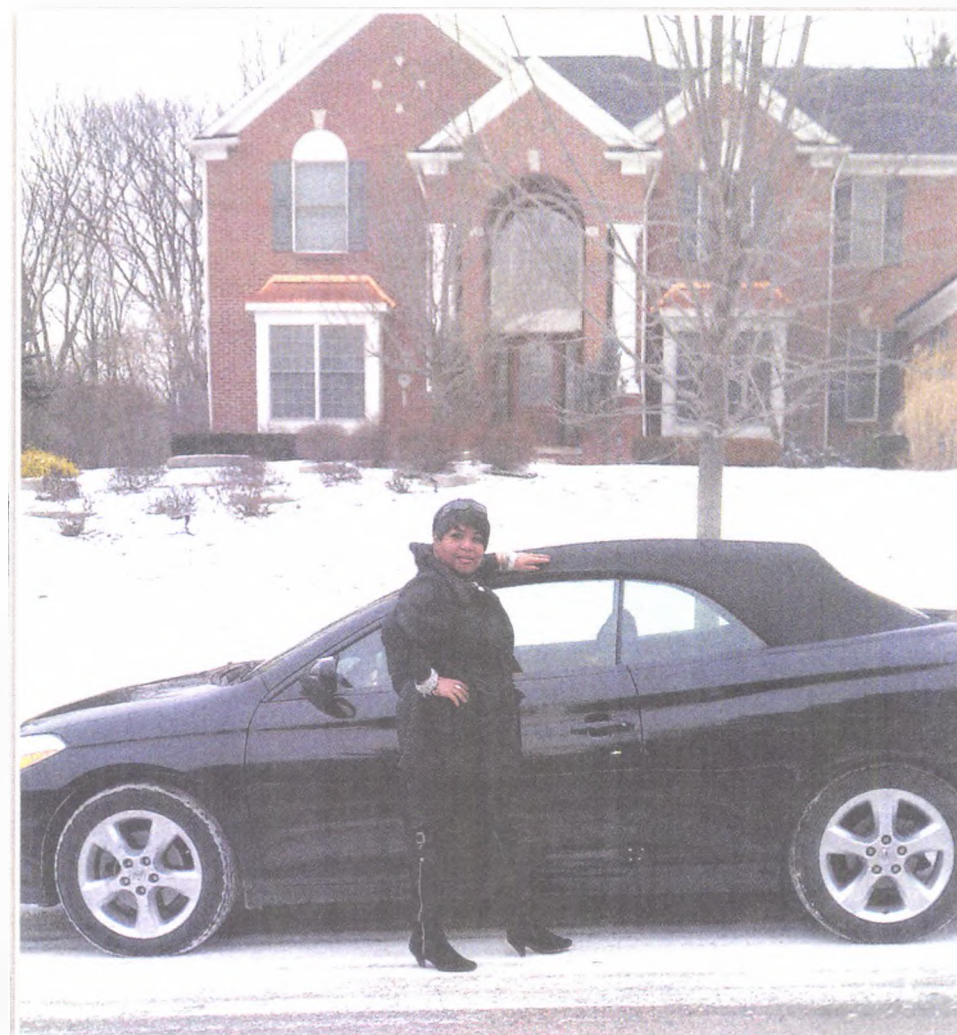
For many women, after years of driving "sensible" cars, emptying the nest afforded them the opportunity to move up to a more stylish ride. That was the case for Angie Smith, 49, a Farmington Hills resident.

Smith, after many years of driving a Chevrolet Suburban, made the plunge a few years back and bought a 2009 Toyota Camry Solara black convertible. She's had no regrets.

"I was driving a Suburban and my two older daughters were either graduated or getting ready to leave high school," Smith said. "It didn't make a lot of sense to keep driving the Suburban.

"It was on my bucket list," she said of finally buying a convertible. "I never wanted to be the minivan mom, the

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Angie Smith of Farmington Hills loves driving her 2009 Toyota Camry Solara convertible.

CARS

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soccer mom. I'm not a typical mother. I don't lug kids around in it. You need your own identity and this is it for me."

The mother of three considered a Lexus or BMW as well, but the Solara has proven to be a good buy, even in winter driving conditions.

"I just put my heated seats on and go," Smith said with a chuckle. "And it's good on gas. It only takes about \$40 or \$45 to fill it up."

It's a long way from Smith's first car, a Chevrolet Chevette given to her by her father.

Car character

"My car is me. It is me. No doubt about," Judi Crawford of Highland said of her Volkswagen Eos, which is a hard-top convertible with a sun roof. "It is so much fun to drive. This is my second one. It's a brand new one and I will get one forever."

Prior to her first Eos, she had a Chevy Malibu. "That was such a family car." But at age 63, Crawford says the Eos was well worth the wait.

"I'm a single gal that is sowing her wild oats," she said. "I had been saying I wanted a convertible for years and years and years."

And the Eos is unique: The convertible hardtop also has a sunroof, she said. On days when it is cool, she may not have top down, but will have the sunroof open. "It is a year-round car. It's small and economical," she said, describing it as in the middle between a small car and family car. Its unique look also catches the eyes of others. "People stop me on the street. Everybody asks me what kind of car it is," said Crawford, who owns a staffing agency for home health care that serves Wayne and Oakland counties.

She leased her white 2012 Eos in May from the Suburban VW dealership in Farmington Hills, trading in a navy blue

Please see CARS, 22

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Glamorous at the gala



Dawn LaRiche (left) is a firm believer of supporting her hometown merchants, so she purchased her Auto Show Charity Preview gown from B-Ella in Northville. Her friend, Sherry Evans of Grosse Ile, purchased her gown from The Perfect Dress in Trenton. LaRiche and her husband, Scott LaRiche, own Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth Township. Scott LaRiche is also the vice president of the Detroit Auto Dealers Association and a North American International Auto Show Committee member.

Area residents were among the luminaries who filled Cobo Center at the North American International Auto Show 2012 Charity Preview last month.

The black-tie crowd was served 4,200 bottles of champagne, 1,000 pounds of beef tenderloin, 20,000 bottles of wine, 35,000 bottles of beer from the Detroit Beer

Co., 1,200 pounds of shrimp and 2,100 pounds of deli meat. Five hundred limos filled the streets around Cobo Center.

Beneficiaries of the Charity Preview include: Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan, Boys Hope Girls Hope of Detroit, The Children's Center, Judson Center, the Detroit Institute for Children, Think Detroit PAL, March of Dimes, Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation and the DADA Charitable Foundation Fund, a fund of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.



PHOTOS BY JULIE YOLLES

WDIV-TV (Channel 4) 4 Traffic Reporter Ashlee Baracy of Westland was a real page-turner at Charity Preview with her one-of-a-kind Matthew Richmond-designed dress. Richmond shredded marketing brochures from Chevrolet and Toyota to construct the dress. "It took on a life of its own," said Richmond. "I just go with the artistic flow." Baracy is also wearing custom jewelry made from vintage industrial machine parts and designed by Clawson-based designer Janna Bissett. Bissett's jewelry and photography can be purchased at www.lilacpop.etsy.com.



Northville residents and friends (from left) Sharon Demmer, who purchased her dress from the Clothing Cove in Milford; Debbie Tracz, who like an overwhelming number of women at Charity Preview, was a successful shopper at Nordstrom; and Cindy Ferriman, who went to Bloomingdale's in Chicago. Demmer's husband, Bill Demmer, is the NAIAS 2003 chairman emeritus.



Melissa Zabkiewicz (left) purchased her dress at Nordstrom. And, instead of trying to find a maternity gown for the Charity Preview, Trisha Ward, who is due in April, went up four sizes at BCBG and still looks tiny in taupe. Both women are South Lyon residents.

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How to look picture perfect in 5 minutes flat!

By Barbara Deyo
Guest Columnist

When it comes to makeup, keep it simple. It's a better to put on minimal makeup well than a bunch of it badly. If your brows are groomed and your skin is even — you can throw on a bronzer, mascara and lip gloss and go.

When I started doing makeup in 1987, I was trained by Clinique™. We were taught basic facial structure and learned a few standard techniques for different face/eye shapes. I still refer back to this training today. Trends may change, but guidelines about basic bone structure do not.

When I worked for NBC in Los Angeles, I was at the mercy of the newscasters' schedules and the unforgiving reality of live television. Many times I would have less than 15 minutes to get them camera ready. So, I practiced on my sister-in-law until I got it down to 11 minutes flat — and that was full "news" makeup, lashes and all.

So really, the bottom line is — you need to get to know what you are working with. Where are your cheek bones? Where does the light reflect off your face? Which brush fits best in that contour? How much pigment is in that concealer? The idea is, the more comfortable you become with your bone structure, products and tools, the more confident you become with your abilities, and in turn, the quicker your hands will get.

Here it is, broken down — 5 minutes to start your day out right. It's kind of like breakfast.

But first, there are two imperative things to remember — get your eyebrows done and please take good care of your skin. Your makeup only looks as good as the skin underneath. Remember to exfoliate twice a week, and get monthly maintenance facials. Cleanse, tone and moisturize — morning and night.

Foundation

I prefer Sheer Mineral Tint — it is oil-free, SPF 20, and has a flattering dewy

finish. Use two to three pumps, and spread it around on your fingers (down to the start of the palm) then pat the product-covered fingers on your cheeks, forehead, nose and chin to evenly distribute, and then blend in up and out like you would moisturizer. Tinted moisturizer type products work well because they even out your skin tone, but you still see your skin through it, and generally they don't feel or look heavy.

Concealer

Load up your index finger with a foundation stick/concealer, and pat all around eye area, including inner corner closest to nose, "pat/slide" to blend all the way around.

This will even out the thinner skin around the eye area and end up looking like eye shadow in the end. Be sure to use enough product to start with so you don't "blend" it all away, and be sure to choose a color a shade or two lighter than your skin to brighten up around the eye area.

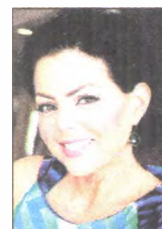
Powder

Set your foundation and concealer with pressed powder with a powder brush and primarily focus on the eye area and nose. Use a smaller amount on the rest of the face. I prefer pressed to loose mainly because it's less messy, but you can then take it with you and use it for touch ups throughout the day with a sponge.

Remember, anything that is creamy *moves*. So, you need to put something *dry* over it to set it.

Eyebrows

Fill in eyebrows with eyebrow pencil — make sure you sharpen pencil every time. Use the side to "shade" in the brow — use the points on the underside of the brow and toward the end to get more definition. Be sure to brush it through with an eyebrow brush to smooth out any excess product and to soften. Always choose a shade a few shades lighter than your hair. It will darken on the skin, and



Barbara Deyo

Please see DEYO, 22

Love your heart:

Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

Heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women in the United States. More women die from heart disease than all forms of cancer combined, yet only one in six women believe it is their greatest health threat.

Most important, however, is that heart disease is largely preventable.

Heart attack survivor Susie Dubin of West Bloomfield sends that message loud and clear. "Women need to learn to love their heart and take care of it," she said.

That is why Dubin will join with some 500 other heart attack survivors, supporters and medical professionals Feb. 17 at the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women Annual Luncheon at Detroit's MGM Grand, where they will celebrate their victory over heart disease and spread the word that heart disease can be prevented.

"There is still such a lack of awareness about cardiovascular disease," said Dr. Pamela Marcovitz, medical director of the Ministrelli Women's Heart Center at Beaumont Hospital. "One of the latest surveys showed that when asked about the number one killer of women, only half of women can answer the question correctly."

Although the American Heart Association has been trying to get the word out for the past 10-15 years, slowly but surely, it is happening, she said. However, "We have a long way to go and awareness is the key."

Good news

Nonetheless, there is a bright spot, Marcovitz said.

"Unlike some other devastating diseases, we can tell women exactly what to do to lower their risk and avoid this disease," she said. A member of the regional board of the American Heart Association since its inception in 2003, Marcovitz has been treating heart disease patients for more than 19 years.

Although 90 percent of women have one or more risk factors for developing heart disease, most women cannot identify the signs or symptoms, even in themselves.

"It is very important that women learn the about the complexity of the disease," said Dr. Delair Gardi, cardiologist and medical director of endovascular services with St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

While many women are commonly aware of the typical symptoms of heart attacks in men, they remain unaware that the symptoms can be and often are very different in women.

Learn about the risk factors of heart disease



Susie Dubin, of West Bloomfield, heart attack survivor. Photo: Courtesy of Elaina Lancaster

"When you and I think about a heart attack, we think about a man clutching his chest," said Dr. Jeffrey Zaks, adult cardiologist at St. John Providence in Novi. Although this may be characteristic of heart issues in men, it is not how symptoms commonly present themselves in women, Zaks added.

Complicating the issue is a tendency in women to put off their own health concerns while tending to others.

Heart attack survivor Julie Petschler of Dearborn says, "As women, we are caretakers of everyone else."

Farmington Hills resident Jill Jordan, an AHA regional board member, is well-versed in the female psyche.

Take care of yourself

The founder of "Getting Ahead by Getting Known," Jordan, a personal branding coach, recognizes both the positive attributes of women as caregivers as well as some of the difficulties it can present, including a selflessness that can sometimes be harmful to their health. Many women are focused on "getting the job done," often putting their own needs last.

Encouraging women to take care of themselves first is also a primary goal of the American Heart Association, said Jordan, who has lost both family and friends to heart disease.

"We, as women, take care of everyone else: our businesses, our families, even our pets. We also need to learn to take care of ourselves," she said.

The pattern is clear among the following women, all heart attack survivors from a variety of backgrounds and all with their own unique symptoms signaling cardiovascular issues that were initially unrecognized.

Jo Anne Leslie of Birmingham was a high-powered hospital finance executive when she had her first symptoms of a heart attack seven years ago.

Although it was a Saturday, she already had made plans for the day and was in the middle of a big project at work, too. In her opinion, there was no space in her agenda for a heart attack ... or trip to the hospital, for that matter. It would have to wait until she could get to it.

"All of a sudden, I got really tired — just exhausted. However, my sister (a nurse) was on her way over to my house to participate with me in a walk for the heart association. It was something we did every year, and I just did not want to bother her with my problems. I figured I would just lay low for the weekend until I felt better, and get to the doctor when I could," said Leslie, a self-described workaholic.

Leslie did finish her project that weekend. She finally booked an appointment with her physician the following Tuesday and was startled to discover that she had had a heart attack and severe heart damage.

Wakeup call

"It was a real wakeup call for me," she said. "If I would have gone in to the doctor right away, I would not have had as much heart damage. I was in denial. I was having all of these signs, but I was focused on my job and I wasn't

Please see HEART, 21

Celebrate the power of red

Heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women, taking the life of one in three women each year. According to the American Heart Association, heart disease and stroke account for 34 percent of all deaths among women in Michigan.

Women committed to fighting heart disease and living a healthier lifestyle will gather from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17, for the American Heart Association's 2012 Go Red For Women® programs and luncheon.

The event takes place in the MGM Grand Detroit. Tickets are \$175 per person and can be purchased online at <https://ahasouthfield.ejonme.org/MyEvents/20112012DetroitMIGoRedLuncheon>.

The American Heart Association event aims to educate women about heart disease and heart health. The half-day event features guest speaker Chris Powell of ABC's *Extreme Makeover: Weight Loss Edition*, health screenings and exhibits, a "personality" silent auction showcasing personalized celebrity handbags and a heart-healthy lunch.

In addition, New York-based Horsman, LTD donated 17 life-like dolls, outfitted by International Academy of Design & Technology students, which will be auctioned during the luncheon.

Co-chairs of the 2012 event are Deborah Greenman Arlin, managing counsel at Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing, North America Inc., and Paula Silver, vice president of communications at Quicken Loans, Inc.

"I am passionate about the American Heart Association and particularly, Go Red for Women," Silver said. "As someone who has a history of heart disease in my family, I pay close attention to my eating habits and exercise. I feel better both physically and emotionally when I treat myself right, when I eat sensibly and when I get on the treadmill."

"Involvement in the campaign facilitates fundraising, advocacy and education efforts for this valuable cause, Greenman Arlin said. "The health and well-being of our community and the Toyota team members and their families are a top priority."

For more on the metro area's Go Red For Women campaign, visit www.detroitgoredforwomen.org.

New York based Horsman, Ltd. has donated 17 dolls to be auctioned off at the 2012 Detroit Go Red for Women Luncheon. The fashions for the doll will be designed and created by students at the Troy-based International Academy of Design & Technology.



Go Red for Women co-chairs (left) Paula Silver and Deborah Greenman Arlin.



Recognize signs, symptoms of heart disease

By Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

Most cardiologists agree that women need to get savvy about recognizing the signs and symptoms of cardiovascular disease.

According to Dr. Cindy Grines, cardiologist and vice president of clinical affairs at Detroit Medical Center's Cardiovascular Institute, many women who might be quick to know the signs indicating possible heart issues in men do not even recognize the signs and symptoms indicating possible cardiovascular issues in themselves.

Most importantly, while the symptoms of a heart attack can sometimes be similar to those in men, often they present themselves in very different ways. Learning to recognize these symptoms and then taking prompt action are keys to avoiding possible stroke or heart damage, said Dr. Joan Crawford, medical director for Go Red for Women, the American Heart Association Greater Detroit Area and director of the Women's Program at St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospitals.

The most common symptoms of a heart attack can include the following:

- Shortness of breath: This is the most common symptom among women, Crawford said.
- Fatigue: Women need to take note of any changes in their ability to carry on routine daily tasks. "It is important to notice changes and talk to your physician about them," Crawford said. "I always ask my patients, 'How many flights of stairs can you climb and are you able to do the things you used to be able to do?'"
- Upper back pain between the shoulder blades.
- Pressure in the "epigastric" region of the body. "Women tend to get a lot of what we call 'epigas-

tric' symptoms — pain or pressure that occurs near the rib cage — which may be mistaken for ulcers or GERD (gastroesophageal reflux disease)," Crawford said.

• Sudden right or left arm pain. Another significant step women need to take to avoid cardiovascular disease is recognizing their risk factors, which are important because many of them can be minimized by modifying lifestyles, said Dr. Pam Marcovitz, director of Beaumont Hospital's Ministrelli Women's Heart Center.

Risk factors that can be controlled include:

- Diabetes: Diabetes is a huge epidemic in our country and leads to stroke and heart problems, according to Marcovitz. Diabetes is manageable through both dietary modifications and medication under the care of a doctor.
 - Smoking: Stop smoking now, Grines said. The disease risks for female smokers are even higher than they are for male smokers, Grines said.
 - High cholesterol: Doctors stress the importance of knowing your cholesterol levels. A simple blood test determines the numbers and then you can begin to work with your doctor to make changes in the numbers if necessary.
 - High blood pressure: Know your blood pressure and aim for less than 120/80. High blood pressure is a major risk factor for cardiovascular disease and can lead to heart attack and stroke.
 - Physical inactivity: Aim for 30 minutes walking or other activity at least five times a week, Marcovitz said.
 - Obesity: Talk to your physician about ideas and options on weight loss.
- For more information, visit the American Heart Association website at <http://www.heart.org>.

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FRIDAY, FEB. 3
NATIONAL GO RED DAY: WOMEN'S HEART HEALTH FORUM
The forum is presented by Garden City Hospital from 10 a.m. to noon in the Medical Office Building classrooms, 6245 Inkster Road (between Cherry Hill and Ford roads). Cardiologist Dr. Karen Wiarda will answer heart-health questions. Wear red workout clothes because the session is followed by a Polynesian aerobics class. Giveaway items and lunch are included for this free event. Risk assessments will be offered on site. To reserve a space, call (734) 458-3248.

FRIDAY, FEB. 3
GO RED FOR WOMEN EVENTS
The University of Michigan Health System Cardiovascular Center presents a series of events from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., including a healthy cooking demonstration in the Level 2 Cafe, free massage chairs in Danto Auditorium (Level 2) and Mhealthy Heart tips and AHA Heart Walk tables on Level 3. Admission is free and no registration needed. Call (734) 647-2742 for more information or questions.

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SATURDAY, FEB. 4
GO RED FOR WOMEN CASTING CALLS
The American Heart Association's Go Red For Women® movement is launching a call at Macy's locations in Westland Mall (10 a.m. to noon) and Somerset Collection in Troy (2-4 p.m.) for stories. Local women are invited to speak up about heart disease. Women who share their stories at the casting calls have the chance to become a spokesperson for the cause representing Go Red for Women® in marketing materials, at events, on GoRedForWomen.org and more.

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Please see EVENTS, 20

Diet, exercise tips for a healthy heart

Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

The best thing about cardiovascular disease is that it is both treatable and preventable in many cases, local doctors say.

The top five things you can do to help your heart right now involve diet and exercise. They include:

walking 30 minutes a day (five days a week), incorporating aerobic exercise and strength training into your fitness regimen, managing your weight, avoiding fast food and salt and quitting smoking.

New studies suggest that walking may lower your risk of heart problems by 50 percent, said Dr. Pam Marcovitz, medical director of the Ministrel-li Women's Heart Center at Beaumont Hospital. Not only is walking a good way to get in some physical activity, it also is good for your mind and lowering stress. "I often say to my patients, 'what pill can I give you that will have this big of an effect?' You just cannot walk and worry at the same time," she said.

Anything that makes your heart rate go up, like bicycling or swimming is good, said Dr. Cindy Grines, cardi-

ologist and vice president of clinical affairs at Detroit Medical Center's Cardiovascular Institute. Building and strengthening muscle is also an important step in developing cardiovascular fitness, she said.

Most doctors agree that obesity is leading to diabetes in this country and it is becoming an epidemic. Start by controlling your own food and what you are eating, advises Dr. Joan Crawford, director of the Women's Program at St John Macomb-Oakland Hospitals. She suggests bringing your own food with you to work and making your lunches and snacks the night before so they are easy to grab as you walk out the door.

"I'm as busy as everyone else, but I make sure I have what I need for the day with me. It helps me stay in control of what I am putting in my body and helps fill me up without overdoing it. It's pretty hard to overeat on chopped red peppers," Crawford said.

Grines recommends modeling eating habits after a Mediterranean diet, with lot of fish, whole grains and brightly colored-vegetables. "Olive oil is very healthy, too," she added.

For more information, visit the American Heart Association's <http://mylife-check.heart.org>



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Berry topped pudding pie in meringue-nut crust

(Recipe courtesy Alton Brown)

Ingredients

Canola or corn oil for pie pan

2 large egg whites

$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla extract

$\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon cream of tartar

$\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon salt

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup walnuts or pecans, finely chopped

1 small package fat-free, sugar-free instant lemon or vanilla pudding mix, prepared with 2 cups cold fat-free milk

12 ounces fresh berries or other fruit, sliced if needed

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup fat-free frozen whipped topping, thawed (optional)

Cooking Instructions

Preheat the oven to 300°F. Pour a small amount of oil onto a paper towel and lightly wipe the bottom and side of an 8- or 9-inch pie pan. In a large mixing bowl, using an electric mixer, beat the egg whites, vanilla, cream of tartar, and salt on medium speed until foamy. With the mixer still running, gradually add the sugar in a slow, steady stream, until stiff peaks form. (The peaks shouldn't fold over when the beater is lifted.) Very gently fold in $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of the nuts.

Using a flexible spatula or rubber scraper, spread the meringue over the bottom and up the side of the pie pan and onto the lip of the pan, but not over the edge of the pan. Sprinkle the bottom of the pan with the remaining nuts.

Bake for 50 minutes, or until the meringue is firm and lightly browned. Transfer to a cooling rack and let cool completely, at least 2 hours.

Using the package directions, prepare the pudding. Spread over the cooled crust. Arrange the fruit decoratively over the pudding. Top with the whipped topping.

Note: In warm weather, meringues will get gummy after a few days, so it's best to serve this dessert within 24 hours.

Nutritional Analysis (per serving)

Calories: 169, Total Fat 6.5 g (Saturated Fat: 0.5 g, Trans Fat: 0 g, Polyunsaturated Fat: 4.5 g, Monounsaturated Fat: 1 g) Sodium: 223 mg, Carbohydrates: 25 g; Fiber: 3 g, Sugar: 18 g, Protein: 5 g, Dietary Exchanges: $\frac{1}{2}$ fruit, 1 other carbohydrate, $1\frac{1}{2}$ fat.



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

Level: Beginner

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

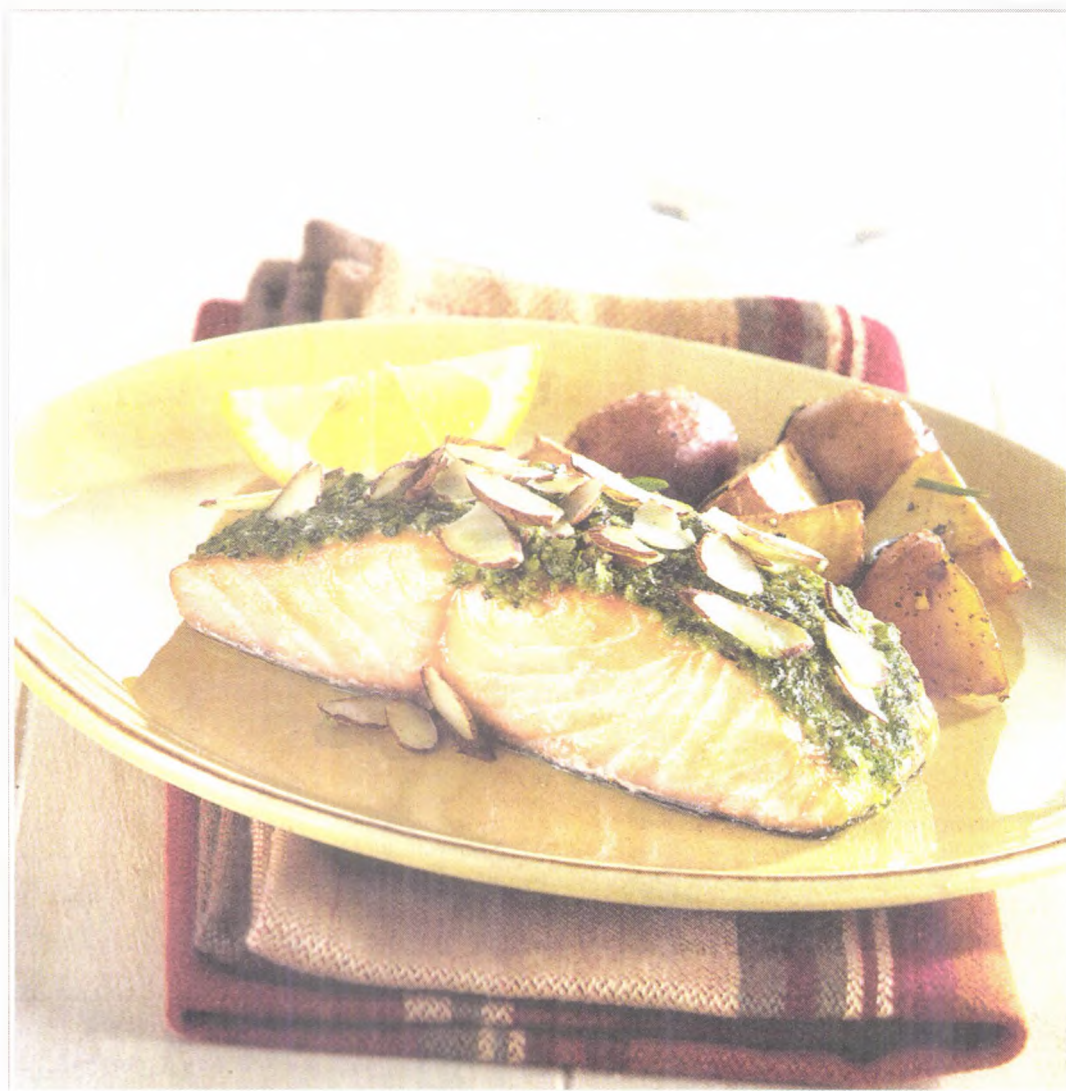
Level: Intermediate

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

Level: Advanced

Answers found on page 22

Cilantro pesto gives salmon a flavor boost



Salmon with Cilantro Pesto

Salmon with cilantro pesto

Vibrant orange salmon fillets get a double dose of crunchy almonds, one in the pesto and one in the topping. The lovely green pesto is easy to make and gets a delightful flavor boost — without salt — from the garlic-herb seasoning blend.

For a quick and pretty dish, scatter the almonds over the surface, as instructed below. If you prefer a fancier presentation, after spreading the pesto over the salmon, slightly overlap the almonds on the fillets to resemble fish scales, then bake as directed.

Ingredients

- Cooking spray (optional)
- Cilantro Pesto
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup loosely packed fresh cilantro
- 3 tablespoons fat-free, low-sodium chicken broth
- 2 tablespoons sliced almonds
- 2 tablespoons shredded or grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 teaspoon salt-free garlic-herb seasoning blend
- 4 salmon fillets (about 4 ounces each), rinsed and patted dry
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sliced almonds

Directions

Preheat the oven to 400°F. Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil or lightly spray with cooking spray.

In a food processor or blender, process the pesto ingredients for 15 to 20 seconds, or until slightly chunky.

Place the fillets about 2 inches apart on the baking

sheet. Spread the pesto evenly over the top of the fillets. Sprinkle with $\frac{1}{4}$ cup almonds.

Bake for 10 to 12 minutes, or until the fish flakes easily when tested with a fork.

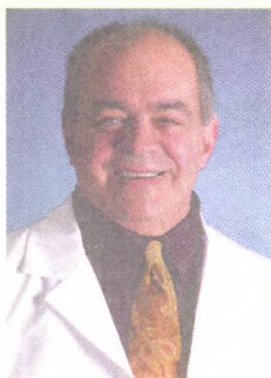
Nutrition Analysis (per serving)

- Calories 206
- Total Fat 9.5 g
- Saturated Fat 1.5 g
- Trans Fat 0.0 g
- Polyunsaturated Fat 3.0 g
- Monounsaturated Fat 4.0 g
- Cholesterol 66 mg
- Sodium 129 mg
- Carbohydrates 2 g
- Sugars 0 g
- Fiber 1 g
- Protein 28 g
- Dietary Exchanges
- $3\frac{1}{2}$ lean meat

This recipe is courtesy of the American Heart Association's Go Red For Women movement. Recipe copyright © 2005 by the American Heart Association. Look for other delicious recipes in American Heart Association cookbooks, available from booksellers everywhere or online at americanheart.org/cookbooks.

Do you suffer with **“Irritable Bowel Syndrome” (IBS), Colitis or Crohn’s Disease?**

Are you afraid to leave your house most days? Do you limit certain foods and still suffer? Has your family, work and social life been adversely affected? If you have been told you must “learn to live with it” you don’t! There are breakthrough diagnostic and nutritional techniques now available. You don’t have to suffer your entire life this way! For many the answers are quite simple...



Dr. David Atiyeh, DC

Dr. David Atiyeh, DC is holding a Free In-Office Seminar to discuss his unique approach to treating **“Irritable Bowel Syndrome” & Crohn’s Disease** **Thursday, February 9th at 6:00 p.m.**

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- The three foods that are the culprits 90% of the time
- Why drugs have such a poor outcome
- The effects of stress on your condition
- Why you go from doctor to doctor with no answers/no solutions
- What two tests that MDs do not run that may answer the question as to why you have this condition
- How this clinically proven program consistently heals your intestines without drugs
- Question & Answer session with Dr. Atiyeh, DC

WHAT OUR PATIENTS ARE SAYING:

“...I had Irritable Bowel Syndrome – I was tired all the time – too much so for a woman my age. My IBS has been going on for 8 years almost 9!... I feel great (now)! I feel a lot younger and more vibrant!... If you think you are having problems find out what it is and take care of it!” – Rita H. (48) patient/seminar attendee

“...I suffered with fatigue (and) when I came to see Dr. Atiyeh, DC, I was using the restroom 12-15 times a day! I feel like a different person... Honestly, four months ago I couldn’t even get out of bed. I was miserable. My family suffered. I feel like a new person! It changed my life!” – Jamie K. (34) patient/ seminar attendee

“...I was told I had Crohn’s Disease... I had constant bloating, constantly in the bathroom, I was upset all the time. I was constantly in the hospital... They (surgeons) have removed feet of my intestines. I suffered from depression & thyroid problems. (after 8 weeks) My symptoms are minimal. I have minimal pain, my mood is unbelievable! I have so much mental clarity!... I used to cry every day... now I never do but I cried last week because I had... my first clean CT scan in 10 years! ...my doctors were shocked! – Christine W. (37) patient/seminar attendee

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EVENTS

Continued from page 14

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8

LET'S TALK: HEART HEALTH

Program features certified nurse professionals Michelle Moccia, MSN, and Theresa Erchenbrecher, RN, at 1 p.m. at the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh Road, Westland. Registration required. Call (734) 655-8950 or visit stmarymercy.org and click on Classes & Events.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15

LET'S TALK: HEART HEALTH

Presented by Ed Motley, registered cardiovascular technologist and manager of the Heart & Vascular Center at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia. Motley will discuss increasing awareness to signs/symptoms of heart disease, understanding of diagnostic tests and treatment procedures at 6 p.m. in the hospital auditorium at the corner of Five Mile and Levan roads in Livonia. Registration required. Call (734) 655-8950 or visit stmarymercy.org and click on Classes & Events.

THURSDAY, FEB. 16

HEALTH HEARTS 101

Presented by Garden City Hospital at Village of Redford, 25300 Six Mile Road, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Garden City Hospital Cardiologist Nizam Habhab will discuss heart health. An exercise physiologist will be present to teach simple exercise techniques. A heart-healthy dinner will be served. Heart risk assessments will be offered on site. No charge, but reservations are needed. Call (734) 458-3248.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22

HOW TO HAVE A HAPPY HEALTHY HEART

"Ladies Night Out" in the St. Mary Mercy Hospital Auditorium, Five Mile and Levan roads in Livonia. A strong, healthy heart is vital for longevity. Heart health problems include coronary heart disease, abnormal heart rhythm (arrhythmia), heart valve disease, as well as cardiomyopathy, aortic aneurysm and stroke. Find out everything you need to know to manage and have a healthy happy heart. Get the facts on heart disease risks,



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preventing heart disease and treating heart problems from Delair Gardi, M.D., St. Mary Mercy Hospital cardiologist. Registration required. Health screenings and massage also featured at the event 5:30-7 p.m. Light refreshments, raffle/prize drawing included. Enter through the main lobby entrance off Five Mile Road. No charge, but registration is required. Call (734) 655-1182 or visit stmarymercy.org and click on Classes & Events.

SATURDAY, FEB. 25

HEART WALK

Garden City Hospital Heart Health Walk from 9 a.m. to noon at Westland Mall, corner of Warren and Wayne roads in Westland. A panel of experts from the hospital will be present to answer questions. Dress comfortably for a walk. Free health screening and heart risk assessments will be offered. Participation is free. Call (734) 458-3248 to sign up and reserve your space.

HEART

Continued from page 12

going to deal with them until I was ready.”

After taking a long period of time off work to recover, Leslie, now 65 and the mother of two grown sons, decided leave her job and seek another less stressful job that left time for doing the things she loves — like volunteering for the AHA.

Livonia resident Sally Heil's first symptoms showed up at a very inopportune time in 2005 — the morning of her wedding to husband Kevin Roney, an assistant city engineer in Livonia.

Heil, like Leslie, was a hard-working business executive with a high-profile career in the automotive industry and a very busy schedule. And, like Leslie, she was high-energy, physically fit and always on the go.

“I was at the church, with my sister, who was maid of honor, getting ready for my wedding,” she said. “All of a sudden, I started getting very short of breath and feeling nauseous and faint. My wedding planner brought me a glass of orange juice, but that made me feel even worse. Everyone thought I was having a panic attack, but I knew it wasn't right ... it was totally out of character for me.”

It was a second marriage, Heil said, and “I knew I wasn't panicked about anything.” Concerned more about her arriving guests and the wedding arrangements, she decided to forgo a call to 9-1-1 and wait until the following Monday to see her doctor.

“I did go in to see my primary care doctor the following Monday,” she said. “They ran a lot of tests, but did not check my cardiac enzymes, which could have signaled heart damage.” Instead, her physician sent her home without checking her heart any further. It wasn't until “almost two years to the day” that the same symptoms occurred and she landed in Botsford Hospital.

“I was in bad shape with an 80 percent blockage in one of my arteries,” she said. “I found out that I had damaged my heart so much from the first heart attack that went undetected.”

Heil, who now suffers from coronary artery disease, said that the experience has taught her many lessons, including making sure she is satisfied with her doctor's answers to her questions about her health and well-being.

“I have always felt that God always talks to me and sometimes He needs to shout,” she said. “I think He was saying, ‘You might have missed it the first time, but now you need to take care of yourself.’”

Dubin had not been feeling like herself for

quite a while when she had her first signs of a heart problem. Spending upward of 80 hours a week running her husband's busy optometric practice in downtown Farmington, a job she loved, was commonplace for the tiny dynamo, but lately she had been exhausted.

“I felt like I could never get caught up and I figured I was working too much. But of course, I didn't slow down. I just kept going,” said Dubin, married to Howard for 44 years.

She did slow down, finally, after she suffered a heart attack while driving home from work one snowy winter evening. She had worked a long day, even though she had felt like she was coming down with the flu, complete with aches and a fever.

“I was driving up Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills when it happened,” she said. “My body just exploded with heat and then my arms started to tingle; I knew it was a heart attack. I also knew I couldn't just stop in the middle of the road; it was almost as if time stopped and I was in a movie as I tried to figure out what to do to get help.”

Take action

She finally pulled up to a Starbucks coffee shop as close as she could get, rolled down the window and laid on the car horn until a store manager came outside, realized what was happening and called 9-1-1.

“I remember hearing someone in the ambulance saying, ‘Put the pedal to the metal, we have no heartbeat,’” she said.

Dubin was in surgery for three hours, flat lining for four minutes, she said. The damage to her heart was so extensive that she wiped out almost all of the muscle, she said.

A year ago, Dubin was added to the list for a heart transplant.

“I don't do anything in a small way,” she said.

Exhaustion, faintness, nausea, shortness of breath ... these were just some of the signals their bodies were sending these women that something was not right.

Although the indications were atypical of the symptoms often associated with heart attacks — chest pain or pressure; pain on the left side, symptoms most commonly ascribed to males — they were actually spot-on signs for women indicating that a heart attack or other heart issues were imminent.

Interestingly enough, however, not one of the women mentioned fit the common stereotype of heart disease patients. They were not overweight, diabetic or suffering from high blood pressure. This is why it is imperative that women learn their own risks factors for the disease and are able to recognize the signs and symptoms of cardiovascular disease, doctors say.

“You can't tell by looking at someone and you can't pick these people out of a crowd,” Marcovitz said.



Sally Heil



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CARS

Continued from page 7

one she had had for three years.

"The funny thing is I used to sell cars for a living in Milford at the Chevy dealership," she said, adding she thinks a car brings out the character in a person. Some people are into sporty, some into more of a family car, but at this stage of life Crawford feels she is ready to go and explore. "I can't ask for a more fun car. I just absolutely love it," she said.

Late driver

Certainly a convertible can be a later in life purchase, but for some it's the only car they'd ever dream of owning. Patricia Hardy, a 72-year-old member of the Bloomfield Hills City Commission, falls in the latter category. Her current ride is a 2008 Chrysler Sebring navy blue convertible.

"I've lost track of how many convertibles I've owned," she said.

Hardy's love of the rag-top can be traced to when she was 13 years old, when an uncle gave her a ride in his convertible. "I thought, 'When I grow up, I'm going to drive a convertible,'" she said.

For Hardy, who served as mayor of Bloomfield Hills in 2007 and is a former school teacher, driving a convertible could almost be considered an extension of her personality.

"There might be a connection there," she said. "I've never thought of that until now."

Hardy has fond memories of driving to the family vacation home up north with the top down and the breeze blowing.

"I love convertibles, because I love the freedom it gives you with the top down," she said. "I feel like a bird. I love having the top down."

Despite not learning to drive until the age of 21 ("My mother never did learn how to drive," Hardy said), she quickly learned enough to appreciate a little speed. In fact, Hardy received a speeding ticket on the first day she drove alone.

"Since then, my driving record has been pretty good," she said with a laugh.

"A good deal"

Deb Vigliarolo is a 55-year-old resident of Livonia who works at an area credit union. After years



of driving a Mercury Sable, she made the upgrade to a 2010 Lincoln MKZ a couple of years ago. She acquired the black-on-black ("Is there any other color?" she asked) vehicle on a three-year lease and has no complaints so far.

"I always had a Sable, but when I went to the dealership to look they had a good deal on this vehicle," she said. "I like a dependable car, kind of a luxury car. Something with front-wheel drive."

Like many car buyers, she was initially attracted to the price tag.

"The payments are less on this car," she said. "It's always about the car and the payment."

While she's not a high-mileage driver, Vigliarolo has grown fond of her MKZ.

"I like it because it's a little bit smaller than the Sable," she said. "It's not a really big car, inside or out, but it has a nice ride."

Though she does admit to once owning a Ford Pinto, Vigliarolo can't even recall the make or model of her first vehicle, "a big bomb of a car."

DEYO

Continued from page 10

if you have dark brown hair and you use dark brown pencil — trust me, it will look startling. And not in a good way. A brow powder or taupe eye shadow applied with an angle brush is a great option as well.

Mascara

Apply mascara. Lots and lots of mascara. Wiggle the applicator from the root of the lashes up to the end and go back and forth on both sides of the lashes. This will build up the volume. If you want to apply to the bottom lashes, do not go back for more product — use what's left on the wand so you don't end up with spider lashes.

Cheeks

Apply blush to underside of cheeks bone and use excess on brush to sweep onto apple of cheeks and slightly around hairline and on nose (just a little.). Pick a shade with some color! Bronzers work great and are universal year round.

Finishing powder

Finish off with a highlighting powder — go over the tops of cheek bone and under the eyes, and across the bridge of the nose and under the brow bone. This will soften the blush and add a soft glowy finish to your skin. I call this the "secret weapon." Trust me on this one.

Lips

Apply lipstick or gloss with some pop to it — and you are done.

Did you time yourself?

OK, so spend February practicing and perfecting the 5-minute face, and I promise my March column will teach you how to do a "smoky eye." Or if you can't wait, come see me at the shop.

Barbara Deyo, owner of Deyo Studio for face and body is an internationally acclaimed makeup artist, having groomed the faces of Paul McCartney, Bob Seger, Kerrie Washington, Shaun Robinson and more. She has been named Best of the Best by Allure, Hour, Real Detroit and WDIV. She also teaches a mean makeup lesson. Deyo Studio is located at 576 N. Old Woodward Ave, 2nd floor in Birmingham — (248) 203-1222 — www.deyostudio.com.

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Sudoku Answers

Beginner

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

Intermediate

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

Advanced

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

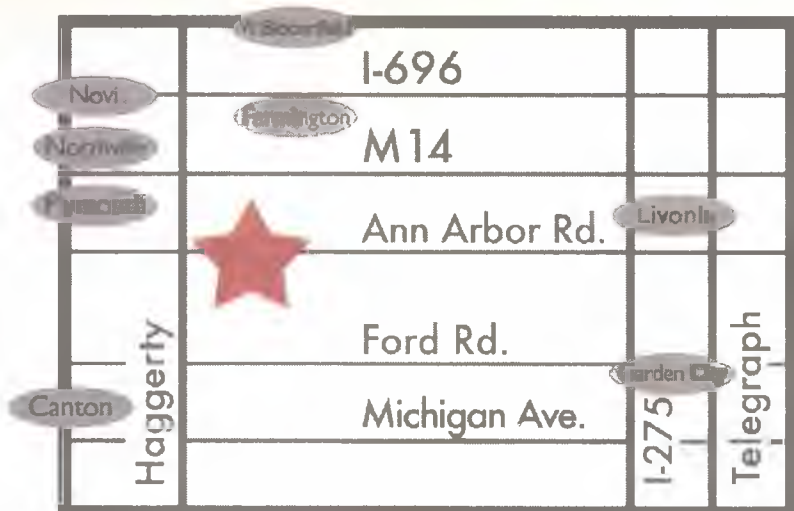
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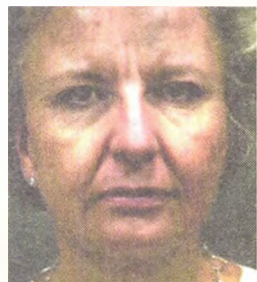
I had laser hair removal on my lip & chin over three years ago with Beth. It changed my life. I had such severe facial hair I shaved my face every morning (like 5 o'clock shadow hairy.) After waxing me one day Beth gently asked me "Why don't you have the laser hair removal done?"

I told her that I had tried that. I went to Henry Ford Fairlane paid \$1000 for my chin area and had 8 treatments. I then sarcastically said "Clearly it doesn't work." She promised me that after one treatment I'd see a difference. I really wanted to believe that it could work. I had my first treatment and noticed a difference. After 3 treatments my friends and co-workers noticed it too. By the time I was done I finally felt like a girl. My self esteem was restored. It's been three years and I have thanked Beth, Renee, & Fatima every time I see them for taking such wonderful care of me. I referred every woman I know to see them. Laser hair removal is the way to go! I'm having my underarms done now. For less than the price of a Coach purse, I'm NEVER going to have to shave my underarms again. I'm investing in ME!

I've lived in Canton, Northville and now Dearborn. I don't care how far I am from them New Face New Body is my Laser Hair Removal Spot. The Brazilian wax is awesome too. I think I'll laser that next.

Actual Testimonial from Kimmy K., Dearborn Heights, MI

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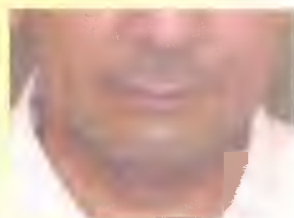
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Bikini	\$800	\$400
Brazilian	\$1,800	\$900
Full Legs	\$3,000	\$1,500
Lower Legs	\$1,000	\$500
Arms	\$1,200	\$600
Back	\$3,000	\$1,500
Stomach	\$3,000	\$1,500
Navel	\$300	\$150
Chest/nipples	\$600	\$300
Fingers/toes	\$200	\$100



TATTOO
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50% Off

DARE TO BARE

Bikini Wax.....	\$15	New Clients Only
Brazilian Wax.....	\$25	New Clients Only
Full Face Wax.....	\$9	Includes lip, chin and cheeks

Each treatment. 1 offer per visit. With this ad.
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Shish Kabob Cafe

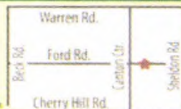
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DINE-IN
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Shish Kabob Cafe

Fresh Sandwiches
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Get One... **FREE**

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Your Next Entree...
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Shish Kabob Cafe

Your Total Bill...
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Fresh Sandwiches
Buy One,
Get One... **FREE**

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A VEGAN-VEGGIE Cafe

Your Next Entree...
50% OFF

With this coupon & the purchase of 2 drinks. Cannot be combined with any others. Expires 2-29-12.

A VEGAN-VEGGIE Cafe

Your Total Bill...
10% OFF

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