



SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE



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Empty seat

After accepting former Trustee Barry Simescu's resignation from the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education last week, administrators and board members have established the system they'll use to replace him.

The district will take "letters of interest" for the vacant seat through 4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 22. The selected applicant will then serve the remainder of Simescu's term, which expires in November 2014.

Interested applicants can submit letters to the board office, 454 S. Harvey in Plymouth, or by e-mail to board President John Barrett at john.barrett@pccsmail.net.

Interviews are currently scheduled for Feb. 4. If a substantial number of letters is received — there were 13 people on the November 2011 ballot — the board may schedule more than one night of interviews.



Mary Maguire is sworn to her responsibilities as a Plymouth District Library board member.

Library leaders

The Plymouth District Library's leadership team got to work this week, beginning with a swearing-in ceremony conducted by outgoing Library President Kim Hickey.

Board members sworn in by Hickey included Mary Maguire and Nancy Anderson. Other board members present included Eric Bacynski, Brian Anderson and new President Mike Pappas. Absent from the ceremony was Trustee Jackie George, whose term also began.

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The Observer & Eccentric Volume 126 • Number 46

Home Delivery: (866) 887-2737

Return Address: 41304 Concept Dr. Plymouth MI 48170



DADA chief: Auto show big, exciting

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

Northville Township resident Scott LaRiche said he'll be running on fumes and drinking lots of coffee the next two weeks.

The vice president/executive manager at Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth Township is president of the Detroit Auto Dealers Association, the group responsible for oversight of one of the world's most important auto shows — the North American International Auto Show at Cobo Center in Detroit.

He described this show as one of the most thrilling.

"Last year's auto show, the big theme was 'we're back,'" he said. "And now, it has taken off to a whole new level with the excitement."

Attendance numbers dropped in recent

years, but a significant rebound is expected this year, LaRiche said. He's hoping to see between 800,000 and 850,000 people come through Cobo Center this January, up from the 770,000 last year.

"I think we're going to have 850,000, weather permitting," he said. "It's a big number."

Several indicators point to a recovery by the auto show for Lariche, including the number of new media members attending this week, as well as the attendance figures for the charity gala, taking place Friday night.

LaRiche said numbers have increased 25 percent from last year's gala, which benefits more than just the auto show.

"We're going to see a big, big change," he said. "And the bonus for that is, you have

Please see AUTO SHOW, A2



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Scott LaRiche, of Plymouth's Lou LaRiche Chevrolet, talks with O&E Media reporter David Veselenak during the Media Day of the North American International Auto Show in Detroit. LaRiche is also on the Executive Committee of the auto show.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ryan Urbanowicz, of Plymouth, gets a cap signed by Red Wing Patrick Eaves. Ryan really wanted an autograph on his Datsyuk jersey from his hero, Pavel Datsyuk. He got it, along with a handshake.

Fan favorites

If local reaction means much, fans just 'glad' to have hockey

By Brad Kadrich Staff Writer



Eleven-year-old Eric Polzin, of Livonia, got an autograph on his cell phone from Red Wing player Niklas Kronwall, as well as Pavel Datsyuk. Eric plays goalie for the Westland Blazers.

Way back when, Joan Tingstad had a sister who wanted to marry Red Wings great Gordie Howe so badly that she cried when he married someone else.

Howe has long since been forgiven, and now Tingstad, a Northville resident who caught Red Wings practice Tuesday at Plymouth Township's Compuware Arena, is equally ready to forgive the NHL for the lockout that cost her half a season. Tingstad, who said she's a fan "from the Abel-Lindsay-Howe" era, watched the practice with her daughter and fellow fan, Holly Evans of Westland.

"A lot of people are really mad, but I'm not," Tingstad said of the lockout, which nearly cut the NHL season in

Salvaged season heats up business for E.G. Nick's, A3.

half. "I love hockey. I'm looking forward to the season."

Evans lamented the length of the practice — "It was too short," she said — and said she was surprised to even see them playing.

"I thought they were done," the Westland resident said. "At this late date, I thought (the season) was over."

Fans have crowded into Compuware Arena to watch the Red Wings practice the last few days, including Tuesday night's Red and White scrimmage. Local fans, at least, are seemingly willing to forgive both the players and the league for the 113-day lockout that cost so much of the season (the Wings open

Please see HOCKEY, A3

Winter play planned for ice festival

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

Central Plymouth will be transformed into a winter-themed playground this weekend when the 31st annual Plymouth Ice Festival glides into town.

With more than 100 ice sculptures in Kellogg Park and on city sidewalks, carving demonstrations and crowd pleasers such as Dueling Chainsaws speed-carving and the lighting of the Fire and Ice towers, the festival will also offer features that invite visitors to strap on skis or skates, get out the camera or even bang out a tune or two.

"I'm a big fan of interactive stuff," said Sam Walton, whose company, Signature Professional Group, organizes and produces the festival. "Almost every feature that we're putting on the map has some kind of interactive aspect to it."

That includes, new this year, a piano made of ice. The ice piano will be located in Kellogg Park and open to the public.

"They can bang on the keys or, if they know how to play, they can actually play for the people around them," Walton said.

Other hands-on features at the park will include a skating rink of synthetic ice, a cross country skiing course and snowboarding and skiing on Forest Avenue, where professionals from AGA (Adrenaline Games Association) Nation will offer clinics Friday and Saturday. In addition, an AGA Nation "rail jam" — a term borrowed from skateboarding — will take place in the parking lot behind E.G. Nick's, with demonstrations by professionals, open course time for the public and, Saturday, competitions among the area's best snowboarders and skiers.

With most of the snow gone after last weekend's thaw, Walton said he may have to truck in snow for the AGA events.

Other ice festival events include favorites from recent years, such as food vendors and the Hot Spot warming area (inside The Gathering), plus arts and crafts for children and collegiate carving competitions for individuals (Saturday) and teams (Sunday).

Please see FESTIVAL, A2

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AUTO SHOW

Continued from page A1

about \$3 million for children's charities last year. This year, it's going to be closer to \$4 million."

Many local dealers are offering auto show specials on cars this month, and LaRiche hopes the specials will increase consumer visits to showrooms afterward.

His hope is that the buzz created in Detroit this month will continue throughout the year.

"It's going to bring people here, of course, and then bring people into the showroom," he said.

"Some of the consumers were waiting until all the auto show bonus money was announced. This week, it's all coming in."

The highlights that he's seen so far this week include the 2014 Chevrolet Corvette, one of the

most anticipated releases during the auto show. In addition, the naming of the Cadillac ATS — another General Motors brand — as Car of the Year signified to LaRiche that the show will be good to GM.

"It's a real big hit for GM," he said. "This will be a big show for us."

But other makes have stepped up their displays as well, LaRiche said. More than 500 cars are on display this year.

"I really haven't had a chance to walk the whole floor, but I know that Mercedes has a brand-new display," he said. "They really spent a lot of time and money to get that happening."

And his favorite car at the show? He didn't even have to think about it.

"It has to be the Corvette," he said. "It is gorgeous."

LaRiche, a third-generation dealer, has been

part of the family business with his father, Lou, and brothers, John and Robert, for more than 30 years (all of whom are active in day-to-day operations at various locations).

Lou LaRiche Chevrolet on Plymouth Road was established in 1970 by his father, Lou.

Scott LaRiche has served as a DADA board member for six years, beginning with his position as Dealer Line Group chairman for Chevrolet. He served as DADA treasurer/secretary and vice president prior to his election as president in December 2012.

Joining LaRiche on the NAIAS Executive Committee are chairman Jim Seavitt, owner of Village Ford in Dearborn, and vice chairman Bob Shuman, owner of Shuman Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram in Walled Lake.

FESTIVAL

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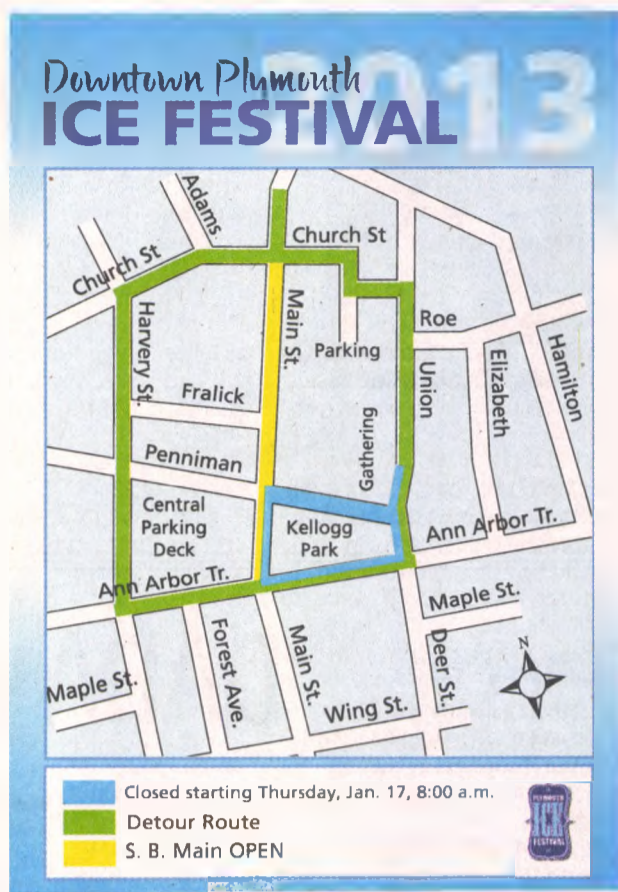
New this year will be a Made in Michigan Marketplace on Forest, offering products made in the state.

Entertainment, onstage in the area of Penniman and Union, will include a live broadcast by Radio Disney (noon to 3 p.m. Saturday), a winter fashion show (3-4:30 p.m. Saturday and 1-3 p.m. Sunday) and a live carving demonstration by Aaron Costic, a longtime festival participant (noon to 1 p.m. Sunday). The Dueling Chainsaws event, expanded from four to eight carvers, will take the stage at 7 p.m. Saturday.

"We're trying our best to keep something happening onstage during the open hours of the festival," Walton said.

There will be two lightings of a Fire and Ice Tower this year, at about 8 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday in the park.

Festival-goers can also visit the MGM Grand Casino Party Lot, in the parking lot behind E.G. Nick's, for drinks, live music and a good seat for the rail jam taking place nearby. The party lot,



being held in conjunction with the festival, will be open from 6 p.m. to midnight both Friday and Saturday.

The festival opens at 3 p.m. Friday, with an opening ceremony, featuring state and local officials and a performance from an Eastern Michigan University choir, scheduled

for 7 p.m. at Kellogg Park.

Plymouth Ice Festival hours are 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. For more information, visit the website plymouthicefestival.com.

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AROUND PLYMOUTH

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

TABLE-TOP GAMES

Date/Time: Jan. 19 and Feb. 16, 2-4 p.m.
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth

Details: The Plymouth District Library is offering an afternoon of table top board and card games for adults. Games such as Settlers of Catan, Munchkin and 7 Wonders, will be provided or attendees can bring their own games. Treats will be provided by Friends of the Library.

Contact: Sign-up is requested online, in person, or by phone at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

FREE THROW CONTEST

Date/Time: Jan. 19, 10 a.m.

Location: St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton

Details: Knights of Columbus, Father Victor J. Renaud Council #3292 of Plymouth, hosts a free-throw shooting contest. All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of state competition for 2013 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. International champions are announced by the K of C international headquarters based on scores from the state level competitions. Last year more than 120,000 sharpshooters participated in over 3,600 local competitions. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

Contact: For entry forms or additional information contact Andrew Bishop at ajbishop1@comcast.net.

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Salvaged season heats up business for E.G. Nick's

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Labor strife in the National Hockey League has been putting part of Frank Agostini's business on ice, so the downtown Plymouth restaurateur is as glad as anyone to see the belated hockey season get started.

Agostini is one of the owners of E.G. Nick's in downtown Plymouth, which also does big business in catering for professional athletic teams, including many visiting NHL teams that have just played the Red Wings and are on their way out of town.

"I'm very happy to see it back, even with the short season. We'll just get it rolling this year and it'll be over," said Agostini.

An agreement between the players union and team owners recently ended a 113-day lockout, and teams around the NHL

will begin hitting the ice this weekend for a 48-game season. The Detroit Red Wings will begin their season Saturday with an away game against the St. Louis Blues.

Agostini, who has been catering for sports professionals for 25 years, said he didn't want to disclose how much business the delayed NHL season cost him, but said it was a "big" number. E.G. Nick's also does catering for National Basketball Association teams, and picked up a few more this season, but not enough, he said, to offset the hockey loss.

"We lost the whole preseason and the whole first part of the season," he said.

Agostini works with brokers and airlines to land catering orders for visiting teams' chartered flights out of Metropolitan Airport, providing snacks, salads, sandwiches, entrees, drinks and more. There is a specific order for each flight,

and the restaurant staff consults with team trainers about the kinds of food the staff will be preparing.

The athletes consume a lot of calories, but tend toward healthier dishes, he said. "You can't just throw a bunch of fattening food on there," Agostini said.

With experience, Agostini and his crew have developed their own way of packaging and transporting the food to keep it hot, or cold, if necessary, in transit. "We do those things to keep it as fresh as possible," Agostini said.

The catering has been done under the E.G. Nick's name for some time, and although Agostini has considered branching off that portion of his business, he doesn't want to tamper with the formula.

"You don't want to mess with something when you've been doing it that long under that name," he said.

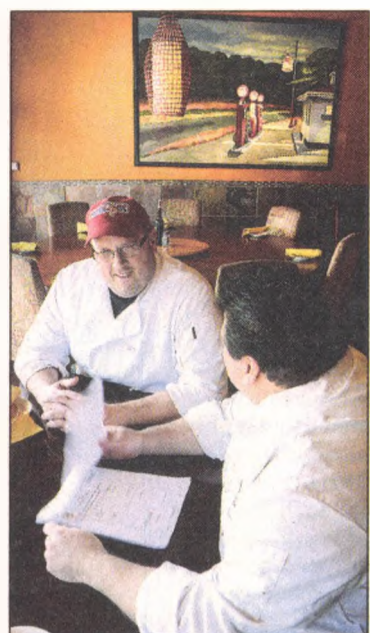
The restaurant has also done catering for other kinds of chartered flights, taking its food to airports as far away as Grand Rapids, Toledo and Lansing. That includes catering for high-level politicians, including U.S. presidents and presidential campaigns.

Once, during the 2008 campaign, Agostini said, E.G. Nick's handled catering for then-candidates Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats, plus John McCain and Sarah Palin, the Republicans, on the same day. All four were flying out of different airports in the region, he said.

"That was a juggling act," Agostini said.

Agostini said his loss of business due to the NHL lockout is just one "piece of the puzzle" in the big picture of how the dispute affected people economically.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Lou Somerville, chef and kitchen manager, and owner Frank Agostini look over the catering plans for a sports team flying into Detroit.

HOCKEY

Continued from page A1

the regular season Saturday at St. Louis).

Jimmy Garlit of Plymouth said he's been a fan of the Wings for some 50 years, and he's ready to watch some hockey. He and his wife of 21 years, Julie Anne, watched the team go through its paces Tuesday morning.

"It's completely unnecessary. ... That's just the nature of the business," Garlit said of the lockout. "To me, there are only two sports (teams) in this town — the Tigers and the Red Wings. I'm incredibly glad they're back."

Julie Anne Garlit has only been a fan since she and Jimmy have been together — "That's 21 years ... if you can't beat 'em, join 'em," she said with a laugh — and she



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Glenn Aldrich of Canton has Red Wing Patrick Eaves sign his copy of the book 'Hockey Gods' following a practice session at Compuware Arena Tuesday.

remembered her husband's reaction when the lockout ended.

"He heard about it and said, 'My prayers have been answered,'" she said.

Larry Rafalski of Canton said he watched

the lockout and said he "could see the players' point and the clubs' point." He said it was exciting to see them up close in the friendly confines of Compuware.

"They looked good con-

sidering how long they've been off," Rafalski said. "It was great to see them up close. Their reflexes are amazing. (But) with that long break, you lose something. I hope it doesn't hurt them."



Adam Kaptanowski of Livonia gets an autograph from Red Wing Patrick Eaves following the Wings' practice session at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township Tuesday.

Zak Fadden and Shannon Perry, both Plymouth residents, took in the practice together. Fadden said he thought the NHL took a growth step last year, with the Los Angeles Kings winning their first Stanley Cup.

"I thought the NHL grew last year, but the lockout might have hurt that," Fadden said. "I'm just glad they're back."

Perry said she thought the Wings "looked tired," and doesn't really care about all that other stuff. She expressed the same emotion the NHL might be hoping to hear from everyone.

"It was fun," she said of watching them practice. "I love the Red Wings."

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Canton woman victim of money scam

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

An 82-year-old Canton woman became an apparent victim of a money scam after she received a letter by mail alleging she was entered in a \$3.9 million contest and advising her to supply a \$20 personal check.

The woman mailed the check, but she contacted Canton police Monday to report she declined two subsequent requests after she received other letters indicating she could win large amounts of money.

Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said no one should send a check

that contains personal information if they in any way suspect they are falling victim to a money scam.

"People really have to be conscientious about safeguarding their personal information and not fall victim to others who are preying on getting that information by using these kinds of tricks," he said. "Be leery of scams and contests you're not familiar with and don't fall victim to predators."

Elderly people can become more prone to such scams, Schreiner said, and he urged anyone to contact the Canton Police Department at

(734) 394-5400 for advice if they receive mailings or phone calls that seem suspicious.

The 82-year-old victim said she made the initial check out to F.A.A. She said she received other letters from companies dubbed Allocated Department Authority and Entry Entitlement Services, both of which had a post office box address out of Miami, Fla. None of the letters had phone numbers listed.

The woman told police that she contacted Publishers Clearing House and was told the companies were fraudulent.

Schreiner warned that scam artists can repro-

duce a personal check and siphon money out of bank accounts. He advised anyone who has fallen victim to such a scam to close the account in question and open a new one.

Schreiner said victims can become even more susceptible if their personal checks contain information such as a driver's license number or telephone number.

"Protect your personal information like you would protect any other possessions that are important or valuable to you," he said.

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Serving Plymouth

Capt. Bradly Westfall has been with the dept. for 36 years. He is a graduate of Northville High, and has strong ties to the both the Plymouth and Northville communities. His father was born and raised in Plymouth, and retired as a Northville police lieutenant and fire captain. His grandfather was a retired Plymouth police officer and firefighter. Bradly's tireless effort and dedication to duty have been instrumental in the standup of operations at the Plymouth Station. He served three years in the U.S. Army as a combat medic, and today works for Kocian Excavating. Westfall is married with two children, and three grandchildren.



PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Fraud times two

Two incidents of fraud, one involving a debit card and the other a credit card, were reported to police in Plymouth Township on Friday.

One was discovered the day before, when a township woman was informed by her bank that her debit card had been used at an Office Max store in Gurnee, Ill., a township police report said.

The woman canceled the card, and reported the incident to police the next day, telling them she had given no one permission to use the card, the report said.

The second incident was discovered Friday, when a township man received a phone call to verify an online credit-card purchase he had not made, a police report said. He also canceled the card, and reported the fraud to police the same day.

The man also found that several other unauthorized purchases had recently been made with the card, police said.

Theft attempt

Two wheel covers on a Hyundai were the targets of a theft attempt on the night of Jan. 10 or early the next day.

The covers were not taken, the complainant told police, but there was damage to the car. The car was parked off of Newport Drive, in the area of Haggerty and Joy Road, when the attempt occurred between about 8 p.m. Jan. 10 and just before 8:30 a.m. Friday, police said.

Lift lifted

Part of an aluminum boat lift was reported stolen Friday from behind a building on Cleat Street, south of Five Mile and west of Sheldon Road, police said.

The lift had been padlocked to a utility pole, police said, but had been partially dismantled by the thief or thieves, with the parts left behind still attached to the pole.

The theft occurred between about 5:30 p.m. Jan. 10 and 9:30 a.m. Friday, a police report said. The complainant told police the lift had been the target of a theft attempt in recent months, and that's why he had locked it to the pole. He said a pickup or flatbed truck would have been needed to haul the lift away.

CANTON CRIME WATCH

Party on

A loud party brought Canton police to Crossbow Circle in the Meadowood Townhomes complex northeast of Palmer and Haggerty after a neighbor reported a disturbance, a police report said.

A neighbor notified police about 5 a.m. Saturday of a loud party in which people were arguing and fighting. She told police it is a recurring problem at the residence.

Police went to the scene and saw 15-20 people inside the residence, drinking and shouting. Officers knocked on the door, and a 19-year-old resident said she would keep it quiet the rest of the morning, a police report said.

A half hour later, police received another call of shouting and fighting, and when they

arrived they encountered about 10 people outside of the residence. Police disbursed the group and went inside, where they found what was described in a police report as a stripper pole, open bottles of liquor, beer and wine.

The woman who lives there isn't of legal drinking age, but she told police she had friends over and they got out of hand. She was cited for having an open house party, according to the report.

The woman told police she has a young daughter who was staying with an ex-boyfriend at the time of the party.

Car flipped

Canton police went to South Lotz and Van Born roads about 1 a.m. Friday after receiving a report that a white Toyota Corol-

la was on its side off the north side of Van Born, a police report said.

The car had heavy front-end damage.

Police traced the car to a 29-year-old Wayne man who told authorities he was on his way to pick up his girlfriend when he hit a large puddle of water, lost control of the car, ran off the road and struck a tree — causing the car to land on its side, the police report said.

The man told police he had his 1-year-old son with him at the time, but nobody was seriously injured.

According to the report, the man said he didn't contact police because he had a suspended driver's license and outstanding warrants for having a dog at large and failing to appear in court on an alcohol charge.

The police report indi-

cated the man was being cited for leaving the scene of the accident, driving while his license was suspended and operating an unregistered vehicle, in addition to the earlier warrants he had.

Cable confusion

A 45-year-old Canton woman who lives on Indian Creek, southwest of Warren and Canton Center, notified police Sunday that DTE and Comcast accounts had been fraudulently opened in her home.

The woman told police the accounts had been opened in November. She became aware of the fraud after she checked her credit report.

According to a police report, the Comcast account was linked to a Warren Road address in Detroit that is no longer valid.

— By Darrell Clem

— By Matt Jachman

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ZF Group continues to grow in Northville

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

There is a positive vibe emanating through the North American headquarters of ZF Group in Northville Township these days.

The German company had a record setting 2012 — which included a total sales volume of \$23 billion, increasing the number of employees to 75,000 worldwide and investing \$1.7 billion in research and development — that is expected to continue into this year.

According to the company's website, ZF Group develops and produces transmissions, steering systems, axles and chassis components, as well as complete systems for passenger cars, commercial vehicles and off-road machinery.

"We believe in the

future and we believe we can continue our story of successful growth of new technologies in the future," ZF Group CEO Stefan Sommer said at the first press conference Tuesday at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit.

The company's success is showing in Northville Township, as construction is nearly complete on an expansion to the facility.

The building, which also serves as a technical center, was built in 1999, with a major expansion done in 2004. This final project was done to aid an expanding steering group within the company.

Bryan Johnson, a Canton resident and manager of marketing and communications for the ZF Group, said it is nearing 500 employees as the company's presence in

North America increases. "We have key products and technologies that are being adapted more and more to the American market," he said.

Improving fuel efficiency has been a major area of focus for the ZF Group, and a new nine-speed automatic transmission is expected to help in that regard. Sommer said it will offer fuel savings from 10 percent up to 16 percent.

"We have the right products for the right market and we really meet the general trend of the world, especially in automotive," he said.

As the company continues to grow worldwide, the Northville Township headquarters is focusing on attracting talent locally.

Alexandra Iordache, a Shelby Township resident and member of the marketing and communica-

tions department for ZF Group, said Jan. 25 the company will be hosting a "college day" to help students learn about the many opportunities within ZF Group.

Johnson said the goal is to build relationships and find new talent.

The current employees also are reaching out to do more community service, something Johnson said cannot be a one-time thing.

Several employees donated their time to tear down a house in Redford with Blight Busters and also volunteered at a soup kitchen last year.

"It gives you a sense of ownership and it has to be part of our culture," he said. "It's something we are growing into."



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Thomas Wenzel, senior manager of the ZF Group, talks about the company's nine-speed automatic transmissions at Monday's North American International Auto Show in Detroit. ZF has a research and development facility in Northville Township.

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Oakmont Northville resident Leatha Litsenberger receives a greeting from a well-wisher on Jan. 8 as she celebrated her 103rd birthday two days early at the Northville assisted living community. Litsenberger was born Jan. 10, 1910. To her right are two other 100-year-olds, Theresa Ugic and Ruth Franson (right).

Woman reflects on century-plus of life

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Leatha Litsenberger, 103, was a career woman long before it became fashionable.

"I was a salesgirl," said Litsenberger of Northville Township on her birthday, Thursday, Jan. 10. "I was a buyer and head salesgirl at a dress shop in Plymouth."

The longtime Northville resident worked many years at Cassady's, owned by Norma Cassady in downtown Plymouth.

"I had regular steady ones," she recalled of customers. "I had my little book on their sizes. I knew their taste and just what they wanted."

When she'd go to lunch on work days, "Mrs. Cassady would say, 'She'll be back in a little while.'" Only Litsenberger could wait on those Cassady's customers.

She agreed life in general has improved over her century-plus.

"I think so. More things to do. We had to make up our own things to do," she said.

She went to high school in Maine and followed her sister to Northville.

"I was 33 years old when I came here, I came to visit my sister and stayed." Litsenberger married Robert, a Northville native, and built a life here. She hadn't seen her sister since high school, as travel was more difficult, so that was good. Her older sister came here alone and then married.

She recalled men who shopped for their wives at Cassady's, and how she would pick those gifts

and wrap them: "They didn't know what was in it until she opened it," Litsenberger said.

During World War II, the shop stayed open later on Fridays to accommodate women working for Kelsey-Hayes.

There was also Plymouth's Dunning's dress shop, later Minerva-Dunning's, and Litsenberger was good friends with a woman who staffed it. "I wasn't mad at her."

She remembers the Mayflower Hotel in downtown Plymouth. "I used to go there for my lunch at noon. I had a lot of meals at the Mayflower."

Her niece may take her to Plymouth soon, and Litsenberger wondered if people would recognize her.

"A lot of changes. I didn't have white hair." She doesn't have big secrets to longevity.

"I didn't expect to live this long. Get up in the morning and go to bed at night, that's it." She lives now at Oakmont Northville.

"I've had fun here too," she said of Oakmont. "I know a lot of people. I like it."

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North American International Auto Show • Jan. 19-27

Local dealers like the buzz about Cadillac ATS, Ram 1500

By David Veselenak
and Nathan Mueller
Staff Writers

Edward Pobur is looking forward to a good year of sales.

With the Cadillac ATS being named North American Car of the Year earlier this week, the sales manager at Cadillac of Novi is hoping the award will prop up the vehicle line and attract interest that might not have been there before.

"It gives you a leg up on the competition," he said. "It has a long shelf life."

Pobur said he still has customers come in looking for the Cadillac CTS, which was a finalist for North American Car of the Year in 2008, showing the power of winning the prestigious award.

Also named North American Truck/Utility of the Year was the Ram 1500. Paul Schmid, salesman at Snethkamp Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram in Redford Township, said the selection is a great one, since it's garnered so much interest with buyers.

"Everybody is wanting to come in and get information on them," the Farmington Hills resident said. "We cannot keep the brochures on the shelves."



Dennis Locklear polishes up the Ram 1500 before the North American Car and Truck of the Year awards were announced Monday. The vehicle won top honors for truck/utility.



The Cadillac ATS was named North American Car of the Year earlier this week.

The top honors, awarded after a jury vote from several dozen journalists in North America, returned to domestic automakers after going to two international makers last year. The car award is the first for Cadillac and the fifth for General Motors. The win is Chrysler's third for trucks.

This was the first year with a change in the title for the awards. With an emergence of utility vehicles coming into the marketplace, those were also considered for the North

American Truck/Utility of the Year.

Other finalists for North American Car of the Year included the Ford Fusion and Honda Accord. Finalists for North American Truck/Utility of the Year were Ford C-Max and Mazda CX-5.

Several factors led to the ATS winning the award, Pobur said. He believed an aggressive marketing campaign by Cadillac is helping the consumer buzz, showcasing the wide range of options and branding the ATS as a car

different than its competitors.

"It rivals any of the small, sedan segments of the marketplace. We can stack that car up against any of those cars and win the battle," Pobur said. "We haven't been able to say that in years past."

Bob Pollock, general manager at Don Massey Cadillac in Plymouth, said ATS sales in January have surpassed all of December before the announcement. He expects them to get even better after the award.

fresh new approach."

The Ram 1500 returned to the podium after nearly 20 years. It won North American Truck of the Year while still under the Dodge name in 1994.

Fred Diaz, president and CEO Ram Truck Brand and Chrysler de Mexico, called the honor a "surreal moment" considering "the hell" the company went through three years ago.

"This means so much," Diaz said. "It's the proudest moment ever for the Ram Truck Brand to be able to accept this award."

That multi-purpose function is appealing to customers stopping in at Snethkamp.

"The pickup truck isn't what it used to be anymore," Schmid said. "It gets great fuel economy and people are using it for 'practical purposes.'"

Johnson Controls highlights new seat design

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

One of the automotive seats being featured at this year's North American International Auto Show has Wayne County roots.

Johnson Controls released several new seats this week at Cobo Center in Detroit, including one seat design director Thomas Gould highlighted called the Gen 3 Synergy Seat, a luxury seat designed to be light and comfortable.

"This is really a showcase of a lot of things coming together," he said.

The seats are the product of many area workers at the company's Plymouth Township office, Gould said. About 30 designers and many engineers have put in time at the Plymouth Township location, 49200 Halyard Drive, to design the seats.

The collaboration of employees around the world in several locations helped bring the seat to fruition, Gould said.

"All the different regions rely on each other for technologies, and then we transfer those technologies and share them across the region," he said.

The seat is designed with dual layers of foam to provide comfort for both long- and short-term drives, a low-mass fiberglass composite back and Climate Fabric inserts that will move away moisture from the chair's occupants.

While no vehicles currently have the Gen 3 Synergy Seats installed in them, Gould said his design team is happy with the result of the seats.

The composite back is a big step for the seat, Gould said, because it eliminates the need for additional materials on the seat, decreasing the weight of the chair.

"That's exposed in the back," he said. "We don't have to put structures



Ronald Bedro of Johnson Controls shows off some of the Plymouth-based automotive components' seating solutions at the media day-opening press conference. Bedro is in charge of the company's Foam Header and Restraint division.

in there that are going to cover it up."

It's a process that began last spring and continued through the summer and fall.

"We pretty much start this in May," he said. "We start beginning talking about what the strategy is, how things come together."

Another announcement made Monday could have an indirect positive effect on the Plymouth facility.

Alex Molinaroli, a vice president of Johnson Controls, said the company has moved all of its lithium ion battery production from France to its

facility to Holland, Mich.

"We're now supporting our major OE customers, as well as several global development contracts out of Holland," he said.

Gould said a sort of "trickle down" effect from the production shifting locally could increase sales efforts and could lead to more work for Plymouth.

"The group we have working in Plymouth primarily works with our customers," he said. "As those needs grow, as our industry is expanding, the needs there will be expanded as well."

AUTO SHOW BRIEFS

Interactive displays

Looking for something to do at the North American International Auto Show besides see the cars? Many displays give patrons the opportunity to experience the cars. Here are just a few of the interactive exhibits:

- To satisfy the video gamers at the show, a simulation booth with the game Gran Turismo is offered at the Chevrolet display. Two people at a time can hop into the vehicles and test-drive the cars in a simulator. If you're fast, you'll have another honor coming your way: your name on the chalk leaderboard at the Chevy display.

- Drive Land, a simulator powered by the Microsoft Kinect set, is available at the Toyota display. Drivers can sit in a real Prius seat, and simulate driving on the screen by just using their hands to maneuver the vehicle.

- A different type of simulation is offered at the Michelin display. Have you ever wondered what the road would feel like from a tire's perspective? Michelin gives patrons that exact opportunity. Two users at a time step onto the simulator, placing their hands and feet on designated areas. Hit start and the hand and foot areas begin to vibrate and simulation what a tire would feel on the road.

- One of the more intricate simulators resides in the Ford display. The ST Simulator places riders into a pod complete with hydraulics and allows riders to simulate the ride in a Ford vehicle. The simulator requires a waiver, and riders must be at least 5-foot-2. Children under 18 must have a parent or guardian present who can be present for the ride and sign the liability waiver.

Show opens

The auto show opens to the public at 9 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, and continues through Sunday, Jan. 27.

Show hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. (no admittance after 9 p.m.) Jan. 19-26. The show ends Jan. 27 and hours that day are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (no admittance after 6 p.m.). Tickets are \$12 per person and \$6 for seniors (65 and older) and children (7-12 years old). Children ages 6 and under are free with parent or guardian.

Going to Friday gala?

If you are going to Friday's Auto Show Charity Preview we want to hear from you.

Julie Yolles of Birmingham, *O&E Media's* Social Scene columnist, and Bill Bresler, *O&E Media* photographer, will cover the event — one of the hottest parties of the year.

"I would love to hear from local residents in advance so I can meet them at Cobo Center the night of the preview or at one of the local insider auto parties," said Yolles, who will also be at the autoglow party at Ford Field after the charity preview Friday.

Contact Yolles at jyolles@comcast.net or call her at (248) 642-9465. Contact Bresler by leaving a Facebook message or text (734) 788-8099.

Marketing to younger, tech-savvy buyers

Northville resident Mike Murphy knows Ford is going to need young buyers to ensure his company will succeed.

Those 18- to 34-year-olds are a market looking to combine technology, affordability and sustainability into their vehicles, a set of criteria Ford is taking very seriously.

"They are critical and at the forefront of our products," said Murphy, Ford's Global C-Car marketing manager.

Murphy is one of many area residents working at this year's auto show, and has

worked specifically in trying to market smaller vehicles to buyers in the beginning stages of their car-buying lives.

Murphy said the car seeing the most movement with younger buyers, including those in the Detroit area, is the Fiesta, a compact car introduced in recent years and geared toward younger drivers.

The hope, Murphy said, is that those driving Fiestas or other smaller cars, such as the Focus, will be happy with their experience and stay loyal to the Ford brand. The cars other younger drivers have flocked to include the Mus-

tang, Escape and Focus.

"Fiesta is clearly our gateway for younger customers," he said.

Many of the vehicles aimed toward those new drivers employ technology they're used to with other devices, Murphy said. Included are Bluetooth and MyFord Touch, an entertainment and communications system located inside the car with a touch screen.

And it isn't just the cars themselves that Murphy touts as being catered to younger drivers. With more people without well-paying jobs and some who can't

afford a car, Ford financial staffers have stepped in and offered financing rates sometimes lower than what banks and lenders are able to match.

With more young people with bad credit or no credit being able to buy with a low APR, the likelihood of those drivers coming to Ford has increased, Murphy said.

"The ability to finance that product over a reasonable amount of time, that's definitely brought us a higher conquest rate," he said. "It's our highest amount of new customers coming into the Ford portfolio."

International festival wows a crowd

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Canton's International Festival Saturday, which featured music, dance and drama from around the world, was expected to provide a look at various cultures.

It didn't disappoint. The annual program offers entertainment celebrating diverse customs and traditions. Various cultural groups will offer dance performances representing places such as India, Tahiti, Hawaii, New Zealand, Ireland, Scotland, China, the Middle East and the United States.

"My wife, Susie, and I were able to attend and really enjoyed the event," said Don Turner of Canton. "We felt lucky to have an opportunity to learn and enjoy aspects of other cultures right in our own community. It was great entertainment

and made us proud to help celebrate the diversity that makes up Canton Township."

The event included choral performances by the New Century Chinese School and the Plymouth-Canton Chinese Learning Center. Other performances include The Yangtze Melody Group and opera singers Sonja Srinivasan and Errin Brooks from The Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan, with accompaniment by pianist Raffaela Medoro-Naurato. New this year: the Motor City Ukes, a Ukulele Band; the Kopenski School of Highland Dance; and Dancin' Feet Competition Team of Canton. Youth from New Hope Church will offer performances by Praise Dancers, Mimes of Ministry and Steppers of Soul.

An international food table offered small snacks from various countries.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Young dancers watch "Ta Ge" by the adult performers in the Dong Yun Dance Group, from Plymouth-Canton Chinese Learning Center.

"I was totally impressed with the variety and the quality of the presentations," said Deana Sahaney of Canton. "It is good to see so many cultures represented within our township. I found everyone to be so willing

and eager to share information about their cultures. I also got a chance (very nicely) to sample a few of the goodies from various countries."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
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Richa Javkar makes a henna design, a traditional Indian art called mehndi, on Mari Skinner's hand. They are both 12 years old.



Rehearsing before they go on stage, Fawn Kopas, Chris Koczynski and Craig Fuller, belong to the Motor City Ukes.



Young dancers from the New Century Chinese School perform their dance.

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Learn to use new gadgets, technology at the library

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

The holiday season brought you a new piece of technology but you don't know how to use it? You don't need to pay top dollar to start learning how to use your new gadget – whether it may be a smartphone, tablet, camera, eReader or computer.

There's no better resource than your local library to help you learn about new technology or even provide technology when you need it.

"In Canton, we have user groups on Jan. 29 and a class for Kindle Users on Jan. 16," said Laurie Golden, marketing and communications manager of the Canton Public Library. "We also have a blog with tips, tricks and instructional videos. Our librarians also offer eReader support by phone or walk-ins."

The Canton Public Library blog is located at <https://www.cantonpl.org/ebooks>

Canton however, isn't the only community offering technology support to community members. The Farmington Community Library has upcoming eReader and Kindle courses and Jan. 22 is the next one. Libraries in Plymouth, Dearborn and Royal Oak are also offering eReader and Kindle support throughout the month of January.

In Northville, free computer classes and



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

free one on one tutoring sessions are available to residents who know how to use a mouse. There will be

drop-in tutoring at the Northville Public Library on Saturday Jan. 26, Feb. 9 and Feb. 23 from 10 a.m. to noon. Community members may also pre-register for tutoring on Thursday Jan. 17 or Feb. 14 for 40-minute sessions. All computer training is made possible through teen volunteers.

Like the Canton Public Library, the Northville Public Library has eBook help available. Users can pre-register for 40-minute training sessions that are held each Thursday night between 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

In Livonia, the Civic Center Library has one on one tutoring by appointment. The Civic Center Library also offers basic, weekly computer sessions for Microsoft Office and other computer programs and monthly eReader courses.

Libraries are also a great resource to download free content for your devices. The Novi Public Library for instance offers free and legal downloads of popular music, eBooks and audio books. For

instance, users can download up to three free songs per week through the Novi Public Library, via Sony Music and IODA catalogs.

And just about every local library has many more tools for residents who may be in a pinch. Basic, internet-enabled computer workstations, printers, scanners and fax machines are staples of libraries that can help you don't have a computer or your computer breaks.

The Plymouth Public Library for instance has computers available to those with a library card. They even have special sections for teens and adults plus dedicated computers for family research and job searches, plus email kiosks and free wireless internet. The Canton Public Library has similar offers with wireless internet, printing and more than 150 computers for kids, teens and adults.

So before you get frustrated with a potentially-difficult learning curve on your new computer or tablet, contact your local library to see what resources they have to help. It is a much more reasonable option than expensive in-home tutoring, online courses or self-help DVDs.

Jon Gunnells is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.

American arrival



By 1:30 p.m. Saturday, the American Coney Island that opened in Canton was crowded by a fast-moving line of customers (above) eager to try what, until then, had been a downtown Detroit attraction. American Coney, the home of the original Detroit "Coney Dog," opened its new restaurant at 44532 Michigan Ave., in Canton to a large crowd of excited diners. The new location is a 50-seat restaurant where diners can opt to eat in, carry-out or drive-thru, the first for American Coney Island. (Left) Six-year-old Leisha Niece enjoys a hot dog during Saturday's grand opening.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Yazaki exec

Yazaki North America, Inc., headquartered in Canton, announced the promotion of Gregory Rochowiak to Vice President of Engineering of the United States Original Equipment Manufacturers Business Unit, reporting to Colleen Haley, Executive Vice President, US OEM Business Unit.

In this role, Gregory is responsible for the execution of design deliverables for North American programs including tool, process, and design quality. During his career at Yazaki, his global leadership responsibility for these customers has continued to expand, including executing global programs, driving common templates and tool sets, and global customer interface.

"We believe (Rochowiak's) leadership and his contribution to the Engineering team's business results and customer satisfaction will play a vital role in our global business, and we look forward to his continued growth with Yazaki," Haley said.

Rochowiak has been in the automotive industry for more than 25 years, starting his career as an Electrician assembling control panels for automotive machine tools. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology from Lawrence Technological University.



Rochowiak

Painter's palate

D&M Art Studio in Canton and Vintner's Canton Winery combine their love for painting and wine Jan. 18 and Feb. 2 as they present "The Painter's Palate," a night for participants to explore their inner artist and their love of wine.

D&M owner Sharon Dillenbeck will guide painters as they create a canvas painting if a famous master, while Kathy and Darryl Nowacki of Vintner's guide them through a tasting of award-winning wines.

Participants are asked to bring a small hors d'oeuvre for 6-8 fellow artists to accompany the wines served.

For more information or to make a reservation, call D&M Art Studio at (734) 453-3710, or Vintner's at (734) 354-9463.

Sardine success

The Sardine Room received the distinction of being listed by *Detroit News* food critic Molly Abraham as one of the 13 best restaurants to visit. Here is the link: <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130103/OPINION03/301030303#ixzz2GvZAXGv0>

Earlier, *Detroit Free Press* Food Critic Sylvia Rector rated The Sardine Room as one of the best new restaurants of 2012. The entire review is at <http://www.freep.com/article/20121212/ENT08/312130185/10-best-bew-restaurants-2012-metro-Detroit?odyssey=tabltopnews|text|FRONTPAGE>.

CHAMBER CHAT

Kick-off breakfast

Chamber Chairman Mark Baker of PNC Bank, and the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors host the annual Chamber Kick-off Breakfast 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, at The Inn at St. John's. The event will feature presentation of a new five-year plan for the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

"We are working on new dynamic ways we can serve our members and better promote the area to attract residents, businesses and visitors," said Wes Graff, executive director of the Plymouth chamber. "We also will introduce our Board of Directors, highlight upcoming events, provide opportunities for members to volunteer and introduce our new Chamber app."

The event will feature exhibit stations to learn more about the Chamber's initiatives and committees. There will also be the opportunity to join committees and volunteer to help with Chamber events.

Last year the breakfast attracted 140 members, making it one of the best networking opportunities of the year. The cost to attend this event is \$5. Reservations must be made by Friday, Jan. 20.

The Inn at St. John's is located at 44045 Sheldon (the corner of Sheldon and Five Mile roads).

To register, contact the chamber at teri@plymouthmich.org or call (734) 453-1540.

Email power

Tamara Jaros and Kim Schott will reveal the closely-guarded secrets to attracting and keeping more visitors on your website and social media sites, cutting lead costs, being seen by more prospects, increasing sales and profits at a seminar, "How to attract all the customers you need using the POWER of Email Marketing," Thursday, Jan. 24, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Canton Chamber of Commerce, 45525 Hanford.

To register online go to: <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event>.

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All Makes and Models

Read the fine print on charge card offers

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

We live in a world that is constantly changing. This year alone the change in tax laws will impact the personal finances of all consumers. Because of the pace of change, we have a tendency to think if "it ain't broke, don't fix it." In other words, if we could put things on automatic pilot and leave it as is, that is sometimes the preferred course. Unfortunately, we sometimes do so to our own detriment.

Whether it's broken or not, one area that we should look at is our relationship with our charge cards.

I'm frequently asked which charge card is the best. My answer is no one charge card is the best. The key is to find one that best suits your situation. How you use your charge card should be the determining factor in what card you use.

Too many people focus on the rewards that a charge card offers. However, rewards are not the most important thing. It reminds me of when banks gave a free gift (such as a toaster oven) to anyone who would open an account. All too often, people focused on the toaster oven as opposed to the interest they received. The same is true with charge cards. People sometimes are so focused on the rewards that they don't factor in how much the rewards cost.

The first step in determining which charge card to select is identify how the card will be used. Do you use it as a means of convenience? In other words, do you pay your bill every month, or



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

do you use it as a means of financing? If you do not pay your bill at the end of the month and carry a balance, then the most important thing to focus on is the interest rate and not the perks.

Many people mistakenly believe that all charge cards have the same interest rate and are computed the same way; that is not the case. For example, some have a variable rate while others are fixed. If you carry a balance focus should be on the interest you pay. If you find a card that is consumer-friendly and that charges a low rate of interest, consider it. If you can save a few percentage points on interest, the money will add up more than any rewards you could receive.

It is important to look at all fees involved with a card whether or not you carry a balance. For example, some charge cards charge an annual fee. In addition, some cards have high fees if you are late on a payment and some even raise your interest if you miss a payment deadline. These things are important. One late fee may wipe out any benefits that you may have accrued.

For those who don't carry a balance and use a charge card as a means of convenience, one key area to examine is the grace period, the time you have to make a payment once you receive a bill. Some charge cards no longer have a

grace period so you start paying interest from the date of purchase. Even if you pay your bill on time, there is an interest charge.

Only after you understand how you use your charge card and what fees are involved, should you consider the perks. Even though some of the perks sound great, some aren't worth that much. The key is to focus on rewards and benefits that you will actually use.

Read the fine print before you sign up for a new charge card. Marketing materials may tell you one thing, but the fine print will give you the whole story. If you want to know about late fees, cash advances or policy regarding shopping in a foreign country, read the fine print.

We all use charge cards. They are an important financial and a fact of life in America. Because of that, it is important to make sure you're using the right card at all times. Do your homework and shop around for the best card that makes sense. There are lots of websites to help. One site that I use is www.bankrate.com.

Just like everything else in our society, the terms of your charge card may have changed. Over the next month or so, spend some time reviewing how you use your charge card to determine if you're using the right one. If not, there's no time like the present for a change. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like Bloom to respond to your questions, please e-mail him at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

THE TOP 9 REASONS NOT TO SETTLE FOR U-VERSE

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The most HD choices	YES	NO
The most live sports	YES	NO
WatchESPN app so you can watch your favorite ESPN content anywhere on your iPhone® or iPad®	YES	NO
The fastest internet	YES	NO
The fastest in-home Wi-Fi with the most coverage in your home	YES	NO
More Internet protection included at no additional cost with Norton™ Security Suite, IDENTITY GUARD® and Comcast Secure Backup & Share	YES	NO
Advanced home phone calling features like Readable Voicemail and Text Messaging at no extra cost	YES	NO
Skype™ video calling on your TV with HD-quality video	YES	NO

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OUR VIEWS

The right voice

With much on agenda, kids are top priority

When Barry Simescu resigned his seat on the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education last week, the board lost arguably its most analytical, reasoned voice. Now it's up to the other six board members to find the right replacement. And we hope they pick someone who has no other agenda than the success of the students.

The position is bound to draw plenty of interest, considering 13 people were on the November 2011 ballot that saw current Trustees Sheila Paton, John Barrett, Mark Horvath and Mike Maloney.

Maloney finished just ahead of incumbent Nancy Eggenberger, with Mike Andro and Matt Dame sixth and seventh, respectively. Dame and Andro ran as a team with Horvath and Maloney.

The board has several issues to deal with in the next few months — a potential bond request that's expected to be decided at Tuesday's meeting, the selection of a new superintendent to replace Dr. Jeremy Hughes, who leaves at the end of this school year, and yet another looming budget question.

We would have preferred that Simescu stayed until these decisions were made, because his reasonable approach would have benefitted the board and the district. But Simescu, who took on additional responsibility at work and felt he could no longer give the board seat his full attention, felt it would be better for the new board member to get involved in the discussion and be a part of the decisions.

The new voice needs to be cut from similar cloth as Simescu's. It should be someone who is familiar with district issues, particularly the budget, and who has no particular ax to grind with either the board or the administration. Certainly, sharp minds and varying personalities shouldn't be discarded in favor of someone who will simply vote in lock-step with any or all of the remaining board members.

The November 2011 election got politicized, and none of that should enter into the choice of Simescu's replacement.

In choosing the new board member, the board should only keep one agenda in mind:

What is best for students in Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

Ice festival a must-see

The Plymouth Ice Festival has become such a staple of life around these parts, so synonymous with Plymouth, that it's difficult to believe there's anyone around who doesn't know about it.

But there are, and this weekend those folks get the chance to find out firsthand what all the fuss is about.

The 31st annual festival brings some of the same things it brings every year — some 100 statues carved from thousands of blocks of ice, a college carving competition and the chainsaw carving demonstration that has become popular the last couple of years.

It's going to look a little different this year, with a couple of additions in a synthetic skating rink and a snowboarding display behind E.G. Nick's Restaurant on Forest Avenue. It also brings back the popular cross country ski path.

But the heart of the festival is still there. It still features professional carvers, including home-grown champions like Ted Wakar of Canton and Tajana Rakaur of Plymouth, along with the traditional collegiate competition.

Kellogg Park is, as always, the heart of the festival. Booths and activities have typically lined Main Street and Ann Arbor Trail, but last year's festival was expanded to include Forest Avenue, which offered sculptures, live music and a petting zoo for children, and this year's event will include Forest plus Penniman Avenue.

If you've seen it before, it's worth seeing again. If you've never taken the opportunity, have a look this year. It's a memory that'll be frozen in your mind forever.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Are you planning on going to the North American International Auto Show in Detroit this year, and why or why not?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"No, I'm not interested in that. ... If it was a quilt show, I'd go."

Mary Edgerton
Plymouth



"Probably not. I'm not really into cars."

Joan Meyers
Plymouth Township



"I should, yeah. I like cars, a buddy of mine likes cars, my dad likes cars. It becomes a social occasion."

Matt Daniel
Northville Township



"Definitely. I'm looking for a new car, and this would be a good time to trade mine in."

Cheryl Gerstein
Ann Arbor

LETTERS

Ask a teacher

In response to the NRA proposal for teachers and officers to be armed at every school in the country ... Are they out of their mind?

The most glaring source absent from interviews is one of society's most sacred professions — teachers. Which reporters and politicians have ever asked teachers if they want to be armed at work? Talk to the people in the trenches, the foot soldiers, people who spend the most time in the classroom.

Which reporters and politicians have ever asked students if they want their teachers to be armed at school? How will their sense of safety be affected if the staff is armed? Don't tell us what you think. Ask us. Go to the heart of the setting. Don't rely on only politicians, NRA, and law enforcement.

I appreciate more how teachers and students are so much alike — we hate having so many things proposed, researched, discussed, voted on, implemented, that affect our lives more than the average person, without those in power prioritizing our wisdom.

I don't want a weapon in my classroom or on any teacher in our school district. I don't want to attend endless meetings, student events, or parent-teacher conferences with weapons

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Submit letters by the following formats:

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Mail: Letters to the Editor, Plymouth Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226

Fax: (313) 223-3318

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

present. Many people treasure their right to own guns, but much of our country has grossly underestimated how much many Americans don't want to be around others' guns.

I teach. I am not a police officer. I am not a bodyguard. I am not a mental health professional. I teach. Stop asking teachers to do more, and more, and now be armed too. It is ludicrous and beyond. Where is my thesaurus?

I remember being in the classroom the day after the 1999 Columbine massacre and facing scared and uncertain teenagers, and answering their questions with my own uncertainty. I was already outraged 14 years ago. Where were we as a nation?

I was outraged by the Newtown massacre. I was even more outraged when our nation finally reacted with more seeming intolerance and determination to reduce gun violence,

like we have finally gone over a fence, because the latest victims were younger. My students are no less important or innocent. They are on the verge of adulthood and becoming productive, taxpaying citizens, full of talent, ambition, and dreams. They are also our next new voters.

We have allowed the gun lobby to dominate and manipulate this issue for decades. The NRA has resisted every reasonable measure that encourages responsibly owning guns. Wayne LaPierre pontificates about guns, while I doubt he knows much about classrooms. We get the kind of government that we expect. Let's expect more of our leadership — and ourselves.

I teach and respect the Second Amendment, but it isn't sacred compared to the safety of students. We don't get freedom from owning a weapon. We are patriotic by exercising and living up to the freedoms we already have in the core democratic values all social studies teachers, like me, teach. They include life, the rule of law, and the public and common good. May we all sacrifice for the public and common good.

My New Year resolution? I will not let the NRA speak for me or my profession. Amen.

Ann-Nora Hiram
Plymouth

STAFF COLUMN

Right to work or freeloader? Depends on who's speaking ...

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The political and media professions are dependent on rhetorical shorthand, stock words and phrases used to convey complex information, ideas and policies that, if fully explained, would bog down an article, newscast, position paper or speech.



Matt Jachman

Oftentimes, this shorthand harmlessly, if shallowly, gets the job done, helping the casual reader or listener get from Point A to Point B to Point C without having to understand the inner workings of, for example, the banking system or the Internet. It's not ideal, but a fact in our sound-bite, mile-a-minute society, and, as a reporter for a general audience whose range of topics is not limited by his personal expertise, it is a strategy I have employed myself.

However, there are times when these words of convenience are deliberately deceptive, used to gloss over unpleasant facts, conceal the truth, and sell ideas that, had they been more closely scrutinized, might not be received very well. Case in point — now there's a

stock phrase for you — is right to work.

The phrase is dishonest in the way it has been employed thousands of times in Michigan in the media and among the political class during the last few weeks.

The "right-to-work" legislation signed into law last month is more accurately described as giving workers in union shops the ability to benefit from collective bargaining — wages, benefits and working conditions — without having to pay for that advocacy through union dues or an agency fee.

The term "right to work" is far from neutral, but completely skewed toward those who favor the policy, putting a sunny facade on a controversial idea that, at its base, promotes freeloading.

Who, after all, could be against the right to work? The very title implies that it is a no-brainer that only trolls standing in the way of progress could oppose.

But from the opposite point of view, the policy could just as accurately be described as "right to freeloader" or the "right to exploit." Yet no media professional would allow those kinds of biased descriptive phrases into an "objective" story, outside of direct quotes, nor should they. So why does "right to work" get a pass?

A little further from the debate — but not too far — "right to

work" is described as something along the lines of "the right not to join a union as a condition of employment," implying that all of us in Michigan had to knuckle under to big, bad "union bosses" before the right-to-work crowd rescued us.

The facts that there were already protections of individual rights, and that some 83 percent of the state's work force is not unionized anyway, were ignored. (It should be noted that the new law mysteriously denies this magical "right to work" to unionized police officers and firefighters. But maybe that's fodder for another column.)

My criticism of the phrase "right to work" cuts decidedly against the right — a label I usually avoid, but that fits here — but the dishonest use of shorthand knows no ideology. The media needs to be more careful to distinguish between the innocuous cliché and the deceptive label, and not afraid to call out politicians who use the latter. Audiences need to be more skeptical when such stock terms are casually thrown about, when the description becomes the sales pitch.

Matt Jachman is a reporter for the Plymouth Observer. He can be reached at (313) 222-2405 or via e-mail at mjachman@hometownlife.com.

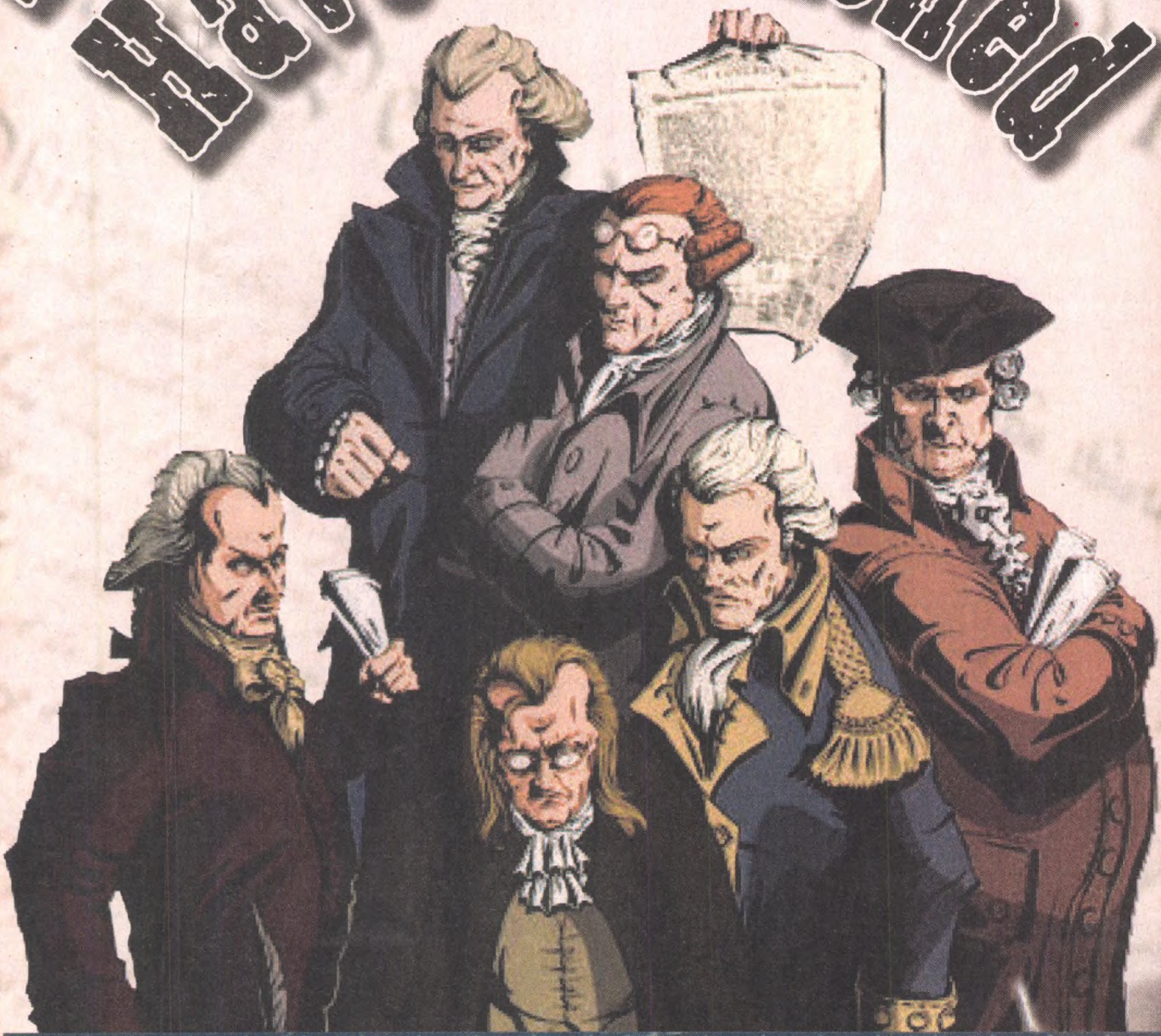
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Hey Hockeytown, Whalers never left

True fans of the Plymouth Whalers understandably must be having a spike in blood pressure this week.

Numerous media reports keep returning to the phrase "hockey finally is back," when it never left venues such as Plymouth Township's Compuware Arena, longtime home of the OHL Whalers.

And don't forget about college, prep and youth hockey making noise in

rinks all around the area. Hey, Plymouth's Wildcats are 13-1-1 and could be a state championship contender.

Hockey never left for those who love it at any level they can get it.

Making it feel like a hockey stick in the gut to fans such as Livonian Steve Martin is the fact the Detroit Red Wings took over Compuware for three days this week.

Those Red Wings came in to town for a quick tune-up before unveiling the 2013 model Saturday night, following the unfathomable NHL lock-out.

And, as predictable as can be, a throng of media types armed with lap-



Vince Trocheck (No. 25), shown chasing Erie's Stephen Harper (No. 10) during Saturday's game at Compuware Arena, is one of many Plymouth Whalers worth catching.

tops, voice recorders and video equipment filled the facility to hurriedly dispatch various blogs, tweets and even full-

blown reports.

You say 40-year-old Mike Knuble's making a comeback bid? Really? It's a story.

That's to be expected in so-called Hockeytown.

But where was everybody in September, October, November and December to watch an exciting Whalers team featuring 11 — that's right, 11 — players who belong to National Hockey League teams?

Attendance has been decent this season, but good seats can be had for almost every Plymouth contest.

On Saturday night against Erie, a less-than-capacity crowd of about 3,300 fans came out to watch an exciting game featuring two standouts of Team USA's

Please see SMITH, B3

K-of-C foul shot contest

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship for boys and girls ages 9-14 will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20, at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton.

Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. All age-group contestants will be recognized for their participation in the event, which will progress through local, district and state competition.

Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

For more information, call Dave Lengel at (734) 516-4930 or e-mail dlengel2@yahoo.com.

Learning curve

Rocks take Novi to the wire, but fall short

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The points stopped falling in the fourth quarter for Salem's varsity girls basketball team Tuesday against visiting Novi.

But Rocks' veteran head coach Fred Thomann is confident it's only a matter of time before his hard-working team starts to score and win more consistently.

Although Salem carried a 25-24 lead into the fourth quarter of the KLAA Central Division matchup, it was all Novi in the fourth. The division-leading Wildcats outscored the Rocks 10-4 in the final frame to earn a 35-29 victory.

"We're working really hard on learning how to close out games," Thomann said. "And we're so close, the last three losses we had were gettable and we just couldn't get them."

"We were tied or ahead in all three of those losses — Plymouth, Northville and now Novi."

After falling behind 20-15 at halftime, the Rocks (2-7 overall, 2-2 in the KLAA Central) went on a 10-0 run to open the

third. A layup by forward Bre Beaver (11 points) opened up a 25-20 Salem lead with about three minutes to play in the third.

Stopping that run was a trey by Novi's Amanda Geiger (10 points) with 2:20 left in the frame to cut the lead to a deuce and the Wildcats really got it going in the fourth with a mix of strong defensive pressure and tough luck around the basket for Salem.

"They didn't do anything that we didn't expect," Thomann said. "When the heat comes on you got to do a better job of executing."

"We did a little bit of it, but we had a couple key turnovers, a couple missed shots."

Thomann cited one series where the Rocks "had five offensive rebounds trying to score and we couldn't get the dang thing in. That was a huge possession right there."

Novi (9-1 overall, 4-0 in the KLAA Central) lost starting point guard Kerri McMahan to an ankle injury in the first half.

McMahan didn't register a

Please see HOOPS, B4



Salem junior guard Kayla Kavulich (No. 3) battles for the basketball with Novi's Jade Antolec (left) and Mallory Daschke during Tuesday's game.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jones to host pitcher clinic

Detroit Tigers pitching coach Jeff Jones, along with the Livonia Stevenson High baseball program, will stage two sessions of pitching clinics Sunday, Jan. 20, at the high school fieldhouse.

Session 1 (ages 9-12) will be from 10 a.m. to noon, followed by Session 2 (ages 13-18) 12:30-2:30 p.m.

The cost is \$40 per person.

For more information, call Stevenson varsity baseball coach Rick Berryman at (734) 455-8623 or e-mail Berry3724@aol.com.

Salem needs discus coach

The Salem varsity girls track and field team is looking for an assistant coach who specializes in the throwing events.

Please contact head coach Dave Gerlach at (734) 416-7708 or SalemGirlsTrackandField@pccsmail.net if interested.



Turner Solterman of Salem swims toward a second-place finish Tuesday in the 500-yard freestyle.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem depth sinks young Chiefs

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Tuesday's campus matchup between Salem and Canton pitted varsity boys swim teams currently in different phases.

The veteran Rocks posted a 125-60 victory over Canton's young squad in a KLAA cross-over dual meet at Salem High School's natatorium.

"We were able to move some guys around, give some others shots at swimming for some points," said Salem head coach Chuck Olson, whose team improved to 3-0. "They had some decent swims. The more information you have the easier it is to make out your lineup."

As for the Chiefs, head coach Dave Le didn't sound like his

team — which has a combined 29 freshmen and sophomores — lost by 65 points to drop to 3-0 on the year.

"They've made a ton of progress so far," Le said. "From the first day of practice until now you can see huge improvement."

"I'm excited to see what happens at the end of the year and in the years going forward for them."

Le didn't want to single out any of his swimmers, but stressed that the Chiefs "had some pretty good swims all across the board."

Trying things out

Olson said his experimentation with the lineup revealed that distance freestyler Brian Kuang is a pretty good

backstroke. Kuang won the 100 backstroke with a time of 59.51.

"He broke a minute in the 100 back, which is a good swim for Brian (and) will help our team, having that flexibility," Olson noted.

Another swimmer showing versatility was freestyler Matt Pairitz, second to teammate Charles Liu in the 200 IM, Liu finished in 2:09.90; Pairitz swam the race in 2:13.49.

"Matt swam the IM tonight, he hasn't had many opportunities to do that," Olson continued. "He had a nice swim there, and showed some potential."

"It's that kind of meet, you experiment a little bit."

Please see SWIMMING, B2

Chiefs' draw feels like win

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Turns out this season's biggest triumph for Canton's varsity boys hockey team was a tie.

On Saturday at Arctic Edge Arena, the Chiefs earned a 2-2 draw against Muskegon Mona Shores, the No. 4-ranked team in Division 1. Entering the contest, the Sailors had won all 13 games.

"We were their first blemish," Canton head coach Jeremy Majsak said. "They (Chiefs) feel pretty good, obviously."

That tie followed Friday's 4-2 victory over Forest Hills Northeastern.

Since starting the season 0-8, the Chiefs stand at 3-10-1 (3-2-1 since the holiday break) and hope to continue making progress ahead of the KLAA and state tournament.

"We're building toward playoffs and every game we're trying to give ourselves a new goal," Majsak said. "When we came back from break, our goal was to play at a higher level and we did that."

Against Mona Shores, sophomore forwards Cooper Rice (from senior forward and captain Matt Cox) and Tommy Kiddle scored, with Kiddle pouncing on a loose puck in the high slot and blasting it home.

"He's come out of nowhere," Majsak said about Kiddle. "He had three goals and two assists this past weekend. He's been on fire."

Flicking the puck into the Mona Shores zone to start the play was Cox.

BOYS HOCKEY

Please see ICERS, B2

Salem tennis meeting set

A mandatory meeting for those interested in playing Salem girls tennis this spring is slated for 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 28, in the Salem High School library.

Forms will be filled out and uniforms ordered for the upcoming season. This will be the only opportunity to order a uniform.

Interested players should bring a current physical dated after April 30, 2012, as well as the following: health care policy information; a copy of parent's driver's license and car insurance for team travel; a check made out to Salem Girls Tennis to order a uniform.

Taylor earns GLIAC award

For the second time this season, Grand Valley State University senior forward Brianna Taylor (Livonia Franklin) was named Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference North Division women's basketball Player of the Week.

The 5-foot-10 Taylor scored a season-high 30 points in a win Saturday over visiting Tech after scoring 24 in the victory Thursday against Northern Michigan.



JV Rockettes 1st in Cinci!

The Salem Rockettes junior varsity pom team finished first in two categories at last month's UDA Cincinnati Winterfest. They won the hip hop and pom competitions. Pictured in the top row (from left) are Rachel Pritchard, Madison Harvath, Jillian Pertler, Becky DeWater, Kelcie Rocheleau, Jackie Kuhn, Erica Garczynski, Morgan Poluos and Sarah O'Donnell. In the front row are captains Sophia Portelli, Lauren Larchowski and Kayla Sager. Not pictured are coaches Kyra Boprie and Jessica Kubin.



Rockettes hot at Winterfest

The Salem Rockettes varsity pom team had an excellent showing last month at the UDA Cincinnati Winterfest. They placed second in the hip hop competition and fourth in pom. Pictured are: (back row, from left) Olivia Ozeranic, Rachel Duprey, Abbey Shreiner, Raven Reynolds, Meghan Grossmann, Brianna Dotson, Lindsey Shirmer and Kayla Stokfisz; (front row, from left) captain Mianna Krause, Alyssa Alva, captain Jenna Newman, Vanessa Bank and Taylor Harvath. Not pictured is coach Kaithlin Fettes.

SWIMMING

Continued from page B1

He also mentioned Turner Solterman, usually penciled in for the 100 breaststroke and who finished second in the 500 free with a time of 5:07.85.

Salem's Jason Zhang won that event in 5:00.85. The Rocks piled up the points by going 1-2 in eight of the 12 events.

Capturing multiple individual wins were Zhang (500 free, 200 free) and Liu (200 IM, 100 breast). Finishing first in one event each for the Rocks were Kuang (100 back), Pairitz (100 butterfly), Kenny McManimon (50 free) and Jerry Bai (100 free).

Meanwhile, Salem grabbed first-place honors in all three relays.

The team of Smaran Bhaktawara, Solterman, Bai and McManimon won the 200 medley relay in 1:48.55.

Liu, Danny Lynch, McManimon and Jason Basanese took the top spot in the 200 free relay (1:36.72).

In the 400 free relay, the quartet of Solterman, Pairitz, Bai and Zhang won with a time of 3:29.69.

Canton's lone first-place finish was in 1-meter diving, where Nick Osann



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On the way to a first-place finish in the 100 butterfly Tuesday is Salem's Matt Pairitz.



One of Canton's bright spots Tuesday was Alex Bourdreau, shown swimming the 100 breaststroke. He finished second in the event.

tallied 131.50 points. In second was teammate Austin Tetlow (126.75).

The Chiefs did have two relay teams to score second-place points.

In the 200 medley relay, Canton's team of Kyle Bindas, Alex Bourdreau, Gerard Niermann and Josh Joy came in second with a mark of 1:54.97.

The tandem of Trevis Majtara, Alex Sogge, Kyle Spence and Niermann took second in the 200 free relay (1:44.29).

Also placing second for Canton was Bourdreau, with a mark of 1:08.95 in the 100 breast.

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BOYS SWIM RESULTS

DUAL MEET RESULTS

SALEM 125

CANTON 60

Jan. 15 at Salem

200-yard medley relay: 1. Salem (Smaran Bhaktawara, Turner Solterman, Jerry Bai, Kenny McManimon), 1:48.55; 2. Canton (Kyle Bindas, Alex Bourdreau, Gerard Niermann, Josh Joy), 1:54.97; 3. Salem (Brendan Wellman, Brandin Yee, Colin Urbaczewski, Gregory Payne), 1:59.98.

200 freestyle: 1. Jason Zhang (S), 1:48.81; 2. Danny Lynch (S), 1:56.26; 3. Jason Basanese (S), 2:03.17.

200 individual medley: 1. Charles Liu (S), 2:09.90; 2. Matt

Pairitz (S), 2:13.49; 3. Patrick Casey (S), 2:19.14.

50 freestyle: 1. McManimon (S), 24.36; 2. Brian Kuang (S), 24.51; 3. Bindas (C), 25.50.

1-meter diving: 1. Nick Osann (C), 131.50 points; 2. Austin Tetlow (C), 126.75; 3. Zach Bartolec (S), 109.80.

100 butterfly: 1. Pairitz (S), 1:01.49; 2. Urbaczewski (S), 1:05.64; 3. Trevis Majtara (C), 1:08.10.

100 freestyle: 1. Bai (S), 52.71; 2. Basanese (S), 54.07; 3. Joy (C), 58.28.

500 freestyle: 1. Zhang (S), 5:00.85; 2. Solterman (S), 5:07.80; 3. Nathan Benjamin (C), 5:52.58.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Salem

(Liu, Lynch, McManimon, Basanese), 1:36.72; 2. Canton (Majtara, Alex Sogge, Kyle Spence, Niermann), 1:44.29; 3. Salem (Casey, Urbaczewski, Payne, Wellman), 1:44.39.

100 backstroke: 1. Kuang (S), 59.51; 2. Bhaktawara (S), 1:02.40; 3. Bindas (C), 1:08.19.

100 breaststroke: 1. Liu (S), 1:07.52; 2. Bourdreau (C), 1:08.95; 3. Niermann (C), 1:12.68.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Solterman, Pairitz, Bai, Zhang), 3:29.69; 2. Salem (Lynch, Kuang, Casey, Bhaktawara), 3:39.65; 3. Canton (Bindas, Travis Alber, Chris Jenner, Joy), 4:00.53.

Dual meet records: Salem, 3-0 overall; Canton, 0-3 overall.

ICERS

Continued from page B1

Mona Shores took a 2-1 lead into the second period and had numerous chances to pad that edge with seven power plays.

The Chiefs, backstopped by junior goalie Justin Kolbicz, never wavered.

"I think it's a combination of people stepping up and finally getting it," he said. "We were a very young team mentally and systematically. We only had five or six returning players from last year.

"The kids are doing it together as a team, moving as one cohesive unit instead of five individuals, which is huge."

In the win over Forest Hills Northeastern, senior defenseman and captain Brad Ceci set up Kiddle to put the Chiefs up 1-0 and junior forward

Ian Fagan followed up with a marker for a two-goal edge.

The opponents made it 2-1 before the end of the period and tied things up in the third before the Chiefs regained the lead on Kiddle's second of the night.

"Tommy has really stepped it up," Majszak said. "He believes in his team, he believes in the system and it's really starting to show."

Providing an insurance goal late in the third was Cox, digging out a loose puck and scoring shortly after Canton killed off a penalty.

The Chiefs will visit South Lyon Wednesday and then host Brighton at 8:30 p.m. Friday.

On Wednesday, Jan. 23, Canton welcomes Salem for a 6:30 p.m. matchup at Arctic Edge.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

CHS Hall of Fame

The 11th annual Livonia Churchill Athletic Patron Hall of Fame induction will be at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 21 at the Italian-American Hall, 392000 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

Among the inductees are the 2007 Class A state champion girls volleyball team, former Churchill baseball player Rod Hawraney and parent volunteers Don and Jane DeRoo.

Tickets are \$35 per person (if purchased by March 1) or \$40 (after March 1).

The evening includes hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, dinner and program (from 7:30-9 p.m.)

For more information, call Rob Suida at (313) 617-5448; or email rjsuida@cmsenergy.com.

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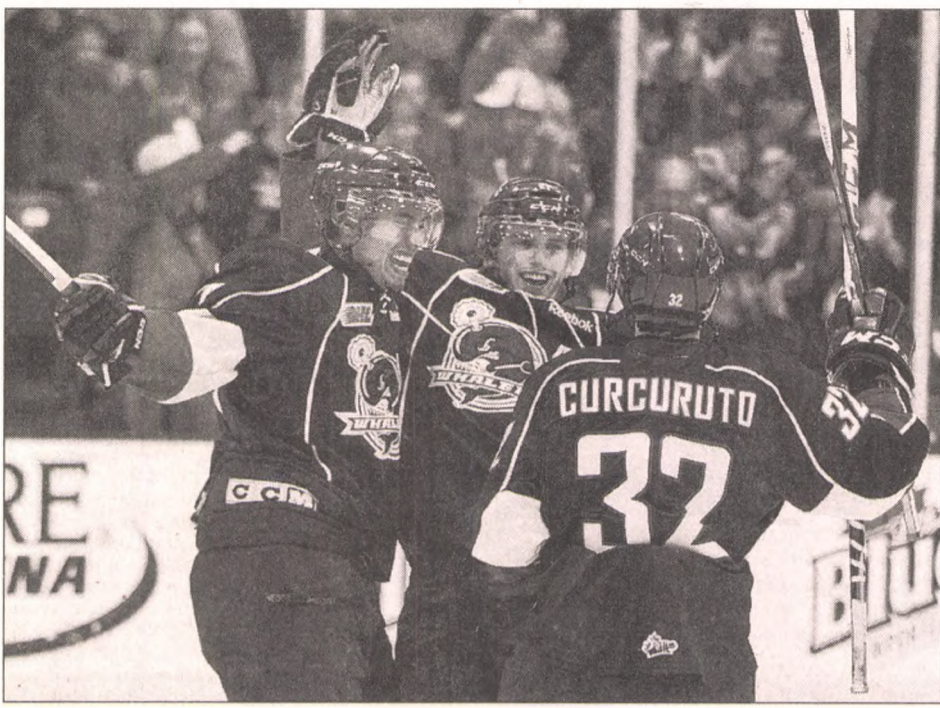
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RENA LAVERTY

Ryan Hartman (middle) celebrates with Plymouth Whalers' teammates Austin Levi (left) and Gianluca Curcuruto after scoring one of his three goals Saturday against Erie.

'Golden' combo sparks Whalers

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Last week's trade for forward Vince Trocheck is paying huge immediate dividends for the Plymouth Whalers, with Exhibit A being Saturday's 4-3 overtime win over Erie.

Trocheck tallied three assists, moved like a bullet train and hit like a sledgehammer during every shift with linemates Ryan Hartman and Cody Payne. Compuware Arena crackled with electricity whenever they took the ice.

And Hartman — who led the way with a hat trick, including the winning goal at 20 seconds of overtime — could only smile and shake his head when asked about Trocheck following the Ontario Hockey League contest.

"It's easy to play with a guy like that," Hartman said. "He's a great player, he puts up a lot of points and you can see why."

"Having a guy like that really brings up the whole team and it's been awesome so far."

On the winning goal, Trocheck skated into the right circle in Erie's zone and wired the puck across to Hartman.

Otters goalie Oscar Dansk barely moved on the subsequent blast, into the top-right corner.

"It was a cross-ice pass and no one (was) really around, so I just thought I'd throw it on the net," Hartman said. "It hap-

OHL HOCKEY

Dynamic duo

For the 3,271 fans in attendance, it was obvious that the Trocheck-Hartman combo brought over some mojo from the World Junior Championships. They were teammates on gold medal-winning Team USA.

Concurring was Whalers coach and general manager Mike Vellucci, who Dec. 10 pulled the trigger on the deal that sent forward Zach Bratina and three draft picks to Saginaw.

"They're both good players," Vellucci said. "They played over at World Juniors together, so maybe that helped them. They made some great plays and it definitely looked like they had chemistry."

Vellucci, meanwhile, also gave credit to Payne for his contributions to the line.

"Payne played pretty well on that line too," he said. "He had a nice goal there. He's a big body, he gets in the front and he has good hands."

The Whalers (21-13-5-3, 50 points in the OHL West Division) fought back from a 3-1 deficit after one period, with the equalizer being Payne's marker at 3:03 of the third.

Trocheck (who led Saginaw with 52 points in 36 games) and Hartman each drew an assist on

the goal, which Payne completed with a nice deflection in front of Dansk.

Plymouth's first two goals were netted by Hartman (16 goals). He scored at 11:35 of the opening period on a feed from Garrett Meurs.

Hartman's persistence resulted in a power-play goal at 16:30 of the middle period. He jammed his own rebound past Dansk (40 saves), with assists to Trocheck and defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto.

The game might not have turned in Plymouth's favor without outstanding penalty killing earlier in the second. The Whalers fought off a four-minute penalty, with goaltender Matt Mahalak (20 saves) stopping all three shots he faced during that stretch.

Now, Plymouth will look to add to a modest two-game winning streak with 7 p.m. home games Friday against Mississauga and Saturday against Sault Ste. Marie.

Having Trocheck and Hartman back from World Juniors will help alleviate the sting of having forwards Tom Wilson, Stefan Noesen and Rickard Rakell at National Hockey League camps this week. All are expected to rejoin the Whalers this weekend.

"They have to come back if they don't make the NHL," Vellucci said.

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As we speak, Plymouth players Tom Wilson, Stefan Noesen and Rickard Rakell are in NHL camps getting a taste of their future.

And it's disappointing that the Whalers usually receive just a blurb here, a paragraph there in the dailies — even with a lineup featuring Hartman and now Trocheck, just a week or so after they helped Team USA grab the gold.

People such as Martin know all about the high quality of hockey played by the Whalers, a team on a two-decade play-off streak just like the fawned-over Wings.

He also wonders why the long lockout didn't funnel more fans and attention to Compuware.

"I don't know if it's still the economy a little bit," said Martin, 45, a member of the Whalers' booster club. "But you're in the Plymouth area that has a little more money, and Novi, Northville."

"You think they'd be able to pack the stands."

Back to normal

Just in the last couple weeks, they would have

watched the Whalers win one game in the final minute and two others in overtime.

"It's a good bang for the buck to come here and watch the top-rated stars of the future," Martin said.

Yep, quite a few of the OHL players most "hockey" fans miss out on will someday grace the ice at Joe Louis Arena. Some might even wear red and white.

Then, people will trip over themselves to see what they can do. Of course, that's well into the future.

As for now, the Wings will be gone by Thursday and Compuware will be back to normal. The Whalers play Friday and Saturday and not one TV station will be there.

That's just how it is in Red Wing Town. It's enough to give headaches to genuine hockey lovers who appreciate all levels of the game.

Tim Smith is sports editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached at tsmith@hometownlife.com or (734) 469-4128.

Wildcats pass test with comeback

BOYS HOCKEY

Plymouth's varsity boys hockey team came from behind Saturday to post a 6-3 win against Sault, one of the state's leading Division 3 teams.

As part of the Cooper Classic Showcase played at Lake Superior State University's Taffy Abel Arena, the Wildcats scored three third period goals to break a 3-3 tie and earn their eighth straight victory.

Senior forward Joe Burke tapped in a rebound for his sixth goal of the season, 2:32 into the third period to give Plymouth the lead for good.

A power-play goal by senior defenseman Dean Gunther gave the Wildcats some insurance with 3 minutes left in the game.

Junior forward Mike Schultz's power-play goal capped the scoring with 1:04 remaining, for his second goal of the game and 20th of the season.

"We knew this game was going to be a test for our team, and the boys were ready for the challenge," Wildcats head coach Gerry Vento said. "The Sault is a good-skating team with skill and

I thought we matched them in those departments."

See-saw affair

It was a back-and-forth battle for the first two periods. Plymouth opened the scoring with Schultz's first goal 3:07 into the game as he poked home a rebound created by a shot by junior forward Zach Tavierne.

The Blue Devils (11-4-1) responded later in the period with a power-play goal by C.J. Wilkins. The goal ended a streak of 33 consecutive successful penalty kills by the Wildcats.

Sault took a 2-1 lead 7:41 into the second period on a power-play goal by Will Gauthier, but the Wildcats responded 15 seconds later with senior forward Nick Schultz's 22nd goal of the season. He also added four assists in the game.

The Blue Devils regained the lead less than three minutes later with another power-play goal by Gauthier, but the Wildcats tied it 1:54 later

with Tavierne's 11th goal of the season.

Sophomore goalie Jared Maddock stopped 29 of 32 shots to earn his seventh win of the season. Plymouth (13-1-1) fired 31 shots at Sault goalie Jacob Schopp and converted two of eight power-play chances.

"Jared made some big saves to keep us in the game, and in the third period, I thought we were the better-conditioned team, and that made a big difference," Vento added. "Without a doubt, it was a team effort, and it made for a great weekend."

PLYMOUTH 8, CHEBOYGAN 0

The Wildcats blitzed the Chiefs for a mercy victory that ended early in the third period at the Taffy Abel Arena on Friday.

Nick Schultz led the attack with four goals (two short-handed) and two assists in the game.

Plymouth also got scores from Tavierne, Burke, Mike Schultz and senior forward Tom Kelly. Senior forward Mitch Claggett chipped in two assists.

Sophomore goalie Erik VandenBosch stopped all 14 shots he faced to earn his second shutout and sixth victory of the season.

Plymouth fired 27 shots on goal and scored on one of two power-play chances.

Salem boys second at PCS bowling tourney

The Westland John Glenn boys bowling team racked up a total of 3,517 pins to capture the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Tournament Saturday at Super Bowl in Canton.

Salem, which had beaten Glenn earlier in the week, was runner-up with 3,398.

Canton finished fourth (3,281) while Plymouth came in 10th with a 3,065 tally.

"We were in first place after the first game," Rocks' head coach Kathie Hahn said. "But then the spare shooting killed us that second game and dropped us down to second, which we were able to hold onto."

Salem rolled a total of 3,398, including a total of 756 in the four baker games. In the first regular game, the Rocks defeated the Rockets 951-921.

Kevin Williams spearheaded the Game 1 win with a 256 game. He finished with a 614, good for third place behind overall winner Michael Richards of Canton (205-248-211-664) and

South Lyon East's Jeremy Dinsmore (194-213-244-651).

Other impressive Salem showings were turned in by 13th-place Steven Cadwell (188-166-205-559) and Tyler Snyder (182-149-195-526).

For the Chiefs, Richards rolled 200 games in each game, highlighted by his 248 in the Game 2.

Alex Champagne (157-173-186-516) and Aaron Madsen (164-164-182-510) also had solid showings.

Plymouth's top bowler for the day was Ryan Riva, who placed 18th with a 167-175-192-534 scoreline.

Zach Behr had a 351 series over two games (178 high score) while Evan Grimme chipped in with a 156-201-132-489 scoreline.

Maul 4th overall

Waterford Mott came away with the PCS girls tournament title with a 3,212 total, while PCEP teams finished 7-9.

The top individual performer from the

Park was Salem's Bridget Maul. She came in fourth overall with a 162-182-193-537 series.

In the team standings, Plymouth finished seventh with a 2,784 total. The Wildcats were followed by Salem (eighth, 2,760) and Canton (ninth, 2,655).

Leading Plymouth was Emily Fraser, who finished 16th with a 189-159-155-503 scoreline. Teammate Megan Blanck came in 20th, rolling a 492 series with a high game of 179.

Chipping in for the Wildcats was Caitlyn Webb. She only bowled two games, but tallied a 375 series (203, 172).

Pacing the Chiefs was 11th place Brianna Bailey, who registered a 167-143-197-507 scoreline, followed by Charlotte Zimmer (135-133-204-472) and Jessica Holowicki (131-151-131-413).

In addition to Maul, the Rocks featured Kristin Larkin's 145-169-192-506 series (13th place) with the next finisher being Rachel Lopez (147-123-143-413).

Salem grapplers showing promise

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

It's still early in the high school wrestling season, but Salem head coach Pete Israel likes the upward trend of some of his athletes.

Consider Saturday's Blue Water Classic at Port Huron Northern. At that invitational, five Salem wrestlers placed — including two individual championships.

At 160 pounds, Tyler Gross needed just 1:26 to pin Anchor Bay's Ross Morissette in the finals. With that, Gross won the championship of his weight class for the third consecutive invitational, Israel said.

Also earning a championship was 189-pounder Mitchell Gross. A 7-5 decision over Port Huron's Jordan Cor-

by made it back-to-back titles for the sophomore.

"Mitchell continues to wrestle with great mat savvy," Israel noted. "As a sophomore he has good presence and mat awareness."

Coming in fourth at Northern was Caleb McCabe, in the 130-pound weight class.

"Caleb has kept improving week after week and showed it with a fourth place finish," Israel added. "As Caleb does the little things he needs to do, I see more improvement yet to come."

Sixths were registered by Bekim Muca (215) and Alex Arble (112) and Israel is optimistic both wrestlers will continue to move up the ladder.

"Bekim's a smaller 215-pounder (and) was weight disadvantaged," he said. "But he did well using his

strength and technique."

Israel said Arble "needs to keep working hard and good things will come." The coach cited second-place showings at the recent Lakeland Invitational and Salem Elks varsity tourney.

After Wednesday's road dual meet at South Lyon East, the Rocks will compete at this weekend's Williamston Tournament.

FRANKLIN 40, PLYMOUTH 35

On Jan. 9, the Wildcats were edged by Livonia Franklin in a matchup of KLAAS South Division teams.

Earning firsts for Plymouth were Collin Reed (103), Mo Youssef (112), Jeff Harris (119), Trey Berry (125), Jon Conn (135), Alec Breckenridge (140) and Hussein Youssef (145).

Berry, Conn and Breckenridge all pinned their opponents.

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SMITH

Continued from page B1

recent gold-medal championship at the World Juniors.

And there was a free concert of country music following the game as a bonus.

For those who did come out, such as season-ticket holder Martin, they watched an incredible performance by Plymouth forwards Ryan Hartman and Vince Trocheck, the latter a recent acquisition by the Whalers.

Literally right in their face, due to the cozy arena, are big-league worthy speed, playmaking, bone-crunching hits and spectacular saves.

Big-league talent

Many nights, most local media members stay home. But the corridors of Compuware are usually filled with NHL scouts taking notes.

Remember Tyler Seguin? He played two scintillating seasons for the Whalers and already is an established star with the Boston Bruins.

HOOPS

Continued from page B1

point before the injury, largely due to the defensive shadowing of Salem guard Kayla Kavulich.

"She (Kavulich) did a really nice job on her," Thomann said. "We had solid team D for the most part."

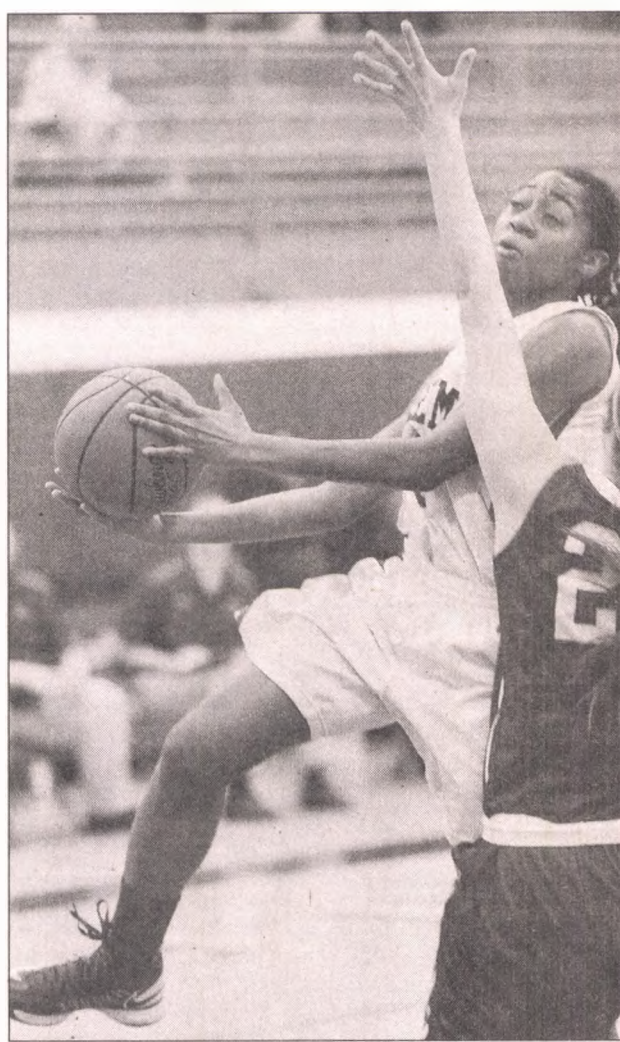
The Rocks hung in there despite not having Beaver on the floor for most of the first half after collecting three early fouls.

Other Salem contributions were turned in by guard Jamyra Wilson (10 points, including six free throws), Kavulich and Shara Long (four points each).

Despite the loss, which ended Salem's modest two-game winning streak, Thomann sees better days ahead.

"The one thing I really, really like about this group is they work really hard," Thomann emphasized. "They're going to start figuring this out."

Salem visits South Lyon at 7 p.m. Friday.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Taking it strong to the basket Tuesday night is Salem's Jamyra Wilson (No. 4), while Novi defender Kristin Schubring (No. 23) tries in vain to stop her.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

'Cats, Chiefs topple KLAAs opponents

Plymouth defeated host Wayne Memorial 56-48 Tuesday night in a KLAAs South Division varsity boys basketball contest.

The Wildcats, who improved to 4-6 overall and 2-2 in the division, led 26-22 at halftime and picked up the pace in the second half.

"We had a strong third quarter," Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup said. "And we pulled away at the end with some free throws."

For Plymouth, Josh Priebe continued his fine season with 13 points to lead the team.

Shane Clark tallied 11 points and led the Wildcats with seven rebounds.

Other contributions came from Jake Divens (eight points), Sid Acharya (five points, five boards) and Brendan Swanson (four points, six

BOYS BASKETBALL

boards).

Rafael Parks scored 10 points for Wayne (2-7, 0-4).

Soukup said Friday's home game against Westland John Glenn will be another key test in the KLAAs South for his squad.

CANTON 45, CHURCHILL 31: The host Chiefs (5-5, 3-1 in the KLAAs South) defeated Livonia Churchill (3-6, 1-3) Tuesday night to make it three victories in a row.

"Greg Williams was very solid tonight and we did an excellent job defensively, especially in the third quarter," Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said.

A 12-3 edge in the fourth quarter helped the Chiefs finish off the Chargers, who made only 23 percent of their shots from the field (10-43) for the night.

Williams paced the Canton attack with 12 points and chipped in with seven rebounds — six at the defensive end.

Josh Mayberry (11 points, five steals), Scott Gring (six points,

six boards), Davon Taylor (six points) and Jordan Nobles (seven boards, three steals) made their presence known.

NOVI 64, SALEM 60: A furious fourth-quarter rally by Salem (7-3, 3-1 in the KLAAs Central Division) fell short Tuesday night at Novi (5-4, 3-1).

The Rocks trailed 49-40 after three frames and cranked up the offense in the fourth, outscoring the Wildcats 20-15. But it wasn't enough.

Nate Sass had a strong game for Salem, with 16 points along with seven rebounds.

Chris Dierker (13 points, nine boards), KJ Mack (eight points, three steals), Austin Whitted and Ahmad Khalid (seven points each) chipped in.

Salem had an off night shooting-wise, making 34 percent of field-goal attempts (20-59).

The Rocks will look to bounce back Friday night in a home game against South Lyon.

PCA 74, GRASS LAKE 44: Mick Noel registered 20 points to spearhead Plymouth Christian Academy's road victory Monday night at Grass Lake.

Also playing strong games for the Eagles (7-1) were Daniel Jipping (13 points, 10 rebounds), Alex Huber (12 points) and Drew Ibach (nine points, 14 boards, six assists, four blocks).

PCA will visit Allen Park Inter-City Baptist (No. 2 in Class D) for a big MIAC matchup. Tip-off is at 8:30 p.m.

Area teams come up big

Another game, another strong defensive performance by Canton's varsity girls basketball team.

The visiting Chiefs gave up just 11 first-half points Tuesday and went on to a 39-29 KLAAs South Division win over Livonia Churchill.

Canton improved to 7-3 overall and 3-1 in the KLAAs South.

As was the case Friday against Plymouth, Paige Aresco was the offensive force for the Chiefs. She scored 14 points.

Helping the cause were Rachel Winters (nine points, five steals), Taylor Hunley and Alanna Brown (eight points each).

Hunley helped seal the victory with perfect free-throw shooting in the final minutes.

"I thought we defended really well," Samulski said. "Rach (Winters) got us off to a good start offensively shooting the ball from the perimeter."

Canton went up 21-11 at halftime and pretty much maintained a double-digit lead the rest of the way.

"Taylor did a great job going 6-6 from the line down the stretch," he said. "Paige was solid, Alanna played a great second half and Nat's (Natalie Winters) pressure on the ball was awesome."

"It was a battle but the kids did a great job of fighting through it and getting it done."

Canton will host Livonia Franklin 7 p.m. Friday in another division matchup.

PLYMOUTH 66, WAYNE 22: A big disparity on the glass Tuesday night fueled the host Wildcats (4-6 overall, 3-1 in

GIRLS BASKETBALL

the KLAAs South Division) to this romp over Wayne Memorial.

Jada Woody scored 20 points for the Wildcats, with Shelby Cheston (12 points, 11 rebounds) and Kylie Robb (10 points) also in double figures.

Ashley Bland led the Zebras with 12 points. Plymouth outboarded Wayne by a 34-8 margin, with Cheston, Tionne Johnson (nine rebounds) and Leah Kliczinski (seven boards along with nine points) doing most of the damage.

Wayne also committed 24 turnovers (to 11 by Plymouth), which led to many more chances for the Wildcats to score. Plymouth hit 30 of 70 field-goal attempts (42.9 percent) while the Zebras took only 40 shots, making nine (22.5 percent).

After leading 13-8 after the first, Plymouth enjoyed a 16-0 scoring edge in the second to go up 29-8 at halftime.

"Tonight we defended and we hit the offensive boards (23)," Plymouth coach Bob de Bear said. "We really shared the ball (21 assists) and scored inside. Everyone contributed."

Strong passing also sparked the victory, with Cheston and Lexie McGhee each contributing five assists and Johnson four.

PCA 49, CHANDLER PARK 40: A big second half propelled Plymouth Christian Academy (6-3) to this home victory Monday night.

It was a 25-19 Chandler Park lead entering the third quarter, but the Eagles turned things around with a 16-6 frame to go up 35-31 entering the fourth.

PCA added to that lead in the final stanza, with contributions from Jenny Malcolm (16 points, seven rebounds), Karen Windle (eight points, five rebounds), Rachael Fuller (eight points) and Emily Gerulis (seven points, 12 rebounds, six assists, five steals, four blocks). Playing well against Chandler Park's press was Jenna Abraham.

Eagles head coach Carol Gerulis said she talked to the team at halftime about concentrating on making more layups and in-close buckets in the second half, and that's

what happened.

After intermission, for example, Fuller scored all of her points on four back-door cuts. "Jenny Malcolm had a good game all around for us," she said. "Karen Windle and Emily Gerulis both had a great defensive night ... (and) Emily also had a good all-around game."

Others who helped the cause on D were Rachel Smith and Martha Mullett.

LUTH. WESTLAND 41, BAPTIST PARK 25: Aldreanna Fikes had eight points, 12 rebounds and two blocks Tuesday lifting Lutheran Westland (3-6, 2-0) to a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division win over host Taylor Baptist Park Christian (4-5, 1-4).

Angela Morrison and Alissa Flury added eight and six points, respectively, for the Warriors, who won their third straight.

LUTH. SOUTH 38, HVL 29: Junior Krista Smrcka scored 17 points and senior Molly Roebke added 15 Tuesday to propel Newport Lutheran South (2-5, 2-2) to a MIAC Red Division win over visiting Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (5-3, 2-3).

Sophomore Julie St. John paced the Hawks with 10 points and eight steals.

"We have to play all four quarters," said HVL coach Kris Ruth, whose team was outscored 13-2 in the second period.

South made only 8-of-19 free throws, while Huron Valley made just 3-of-12.

DIVINE CHILD 59, LADYWOOD 51: Senior guard Shelby Walsh scored a game-high 27 points Saturday afternoon, but it wasn't enough as Livonia Ladywood (5-4, 1-2) fell to host Dearborn Divine Child (7-2, 3-0) in a Catholic League Central Division encounter.

The Blazers, who played without injured starting senior point-guard Andie Anastos, also got 10 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists from senior forward Sara Even.

Morgan Blair led the victorious Falcons with 22 points, while Nicole Urbanek added 14.

Divine Child, which led 37-19 at halftime, made 12-of-19 free throws.

Ladywood hit 10-of-15.

McGrath paces Madonna women

Livonia Stevenson's Kaylee McGrath tallied a team-high 20 points and senior guard Kristie Porada added a career-high 17 to power the Madonna University women's basketball team to a 78-52 win Saturday over visiting Aquinas College.

MU, which jumped out to a 40-24 halftime lead, is 11-7 overall and 7-4 in the Wolverine Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Shantelle Herring, a senior guard, also scored 17 in the win as the Crusaders shots 25-of-59 from the floor (42.4 percent) and 23-of-31 from the foul line (74.2 percent).

Aquinas (9-8, 5-6) got 17 off the bench from Marisa Marx and 13 off the bench from Shelby Carter.

The Saints shot only 18-of-55 from the floor (32.7 percent) and a dismal 10-of-27 from the foul line (37 percent).

HENRY FORD 71, S'CRAFT 65: Charisse Carr poured in 33 points and grabbed 13 rebounds to spark Henry Ford



Schoolcraft's Brianna Berberet (22) launches a shot against Henry Ford in Saturday's MCCA Eastern Conference clash.

GARY KIELYKA

Community College (9-6, 2-2) to an MCCA Eastern Conference comeback win Saturday at Schoolcraft College (4-10, 1-3).

The Hawks, who also got 18 points and 14 rebounds from Dejanique Reddix, erased a 13-point second-half deficit. Asha Payne chipped in with nine points and 10 boards for Henry Ford, which is coached by Leslie Williams (formerly of Wayne Memorial).

Courtney Dyer led the Lady

Ocelots with 23 points, while Alexis Smith (Livonia Franklin) came off the bench to score 12 points and grab six rebounds.

Brianna Berberet (Salem) added 11 points and seven boards, while Ajai Meeks had nine points and 10 rebounds before fouling out (and receiving a technical foul).

Schoolcraft was outscored 56-52 and shot only 25-of-74 from the field (33.8 percent) to go along with 23 turnovers.

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NOTICE PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the Plymouth Charter Township Department of Public Works within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered. Notice should be mailed to Plymouth Charter Township, Department of Public Works, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Failure to provide the written notice will prevent recovery of damages. Contact the Department of Public Works, 734-354-3270, Extension 3, for assistance immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup.

Thank You

PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

NANCY CONZELMAN
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: January 17 & 24, 2013

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

By-Law Nos. 0164.1: Regular Meetings - Time, Place, and Notification

Regular meetings of the Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month (except the regular meeting in July will be on the third Tuesday, and there will be no meeting on the first Tuesday in April and the second Tuesday in February and December) at 7:00 p.m. at the following location (except as agreed herein) unless otherwise directed by a majority vote of the members:

E. J. McClendon Educational Center
454 South Harvey Street
Plymouth, Michigan 48170

By-Law No. 0164.2 Special Meetings - Time, Place, and Notification

Special meetings of the Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, may be called by the President of the Board, or any two members thereof, by serving on the other members a written notice of the day, time, and place of such special meetings, or by a majority vote of the Board.

Service of the notice shall be by:

- Delivering the notices to the members personally at least twenty-four (24) hours before such meeting is to take place, or
- Leaving the notice at the member's residence with a person of the household at least twenty-four (24) hours before such meeting is to take place, or
- Depositing the notice in a government mail receptacle enclosed in a sealed envelope plainly addressed to such member at his/her last known address at least seventy-two (72) hours before such meeting is to take place.

Services as above described may be made by a member of the Board or any employee of the Board.

PUBLIC NOTICE of each special meeting and of each rescheduled regular or special meeting shall be given by posting a copy of the NOTICE on the message board by the front entrance to the E. J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time of the meeting.

Publish: January 17, 2013

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The deadline to submit your ad is Wednesday, February 6, 2013
(Ads will run in the Thursday, February 14, 2013 Observer and Hometown newspapers only.)

Improve job-finding skills, networking at Plymouth church

NorthRidge Church in Plymouth has reorganized its Jobseekers care group, designed to help individuals find employment.

"It's more structured and there is a topic each week," said Marijo Swanson, Care coordinator. "Before that it was come as you are and tell us what kind of job you're looking for. It was more loosely structure, a more random kind of evening." Led by two church vol-

unteers, the program now includes different topics, covered from 7-9 p.m. on Monday. The schedule repeats every six weeks.

The Jan. 21 session will focus on using social media to find job postings, tips on LinkedIn and Twitter, networking for introverts and more.

The meeting on Jan. 28 will include discussion about body language, among other topics and the Feb. 5 session will help participants consid-

er their choices and planning for employment.

The program will continue Feb. 18 with a look at the job market and skills that every employer wants. The following Monday, Feb. 25, the group will consider resumes and "elevator speeches."

"It's an open, drop-in type of format. It's a networking type of meeting," Swanson said.

"There's no cost and no registration needed."

Jobseekers is one of more than 20 different support groups offered on Monday nights at the church.

"We offer a wide variety — single dads, anger, addiction, healthy living," Swanson said.

She said attendance at the Jobseekers sessions recently had decreased. The new format is designed to renew interest in the program.

"We feel people were getting discouraged or

giving up, learning to adjust to a lifestyle on unemployment. That's why my leaders are trying to do something different with it."

The weekly schedule is

available on the NorthRidge website at northridgechurch.com. The church is located at 49555 N. Territorial Road; (734) 414-7777.

By Sharon Dargay

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

January

ANNULMENTS

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 30

Location: St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: The Rev. Ron Richards, a canon lawyer with experience working on the Tribunal for the Archdiocese of Detroit, will present information about annulments in a question and answer format. He'll answer such questions as: What is an annulment? How does one get an annulment? How long does it take to get an annulment. Call the parish office to register

Contact: (734) 455-5910

BIBLE STUDY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Monday, starting Jan. 14 and 9:30 a.m. Friday, starting Jan. 18

Location: Praise Baptist Church, 45000 N. Territorial, Plymouth

Details: Beth Moore's 10-week Bible study for women will explore the account of the building of the Old Testament tabernacle, the significance of its intricate design, the pivotal role in God's eternal plan, the grand fulfillment of its purpose by Jesus Christ, and its variety of meanings for a woman's walk with God today. Participants will be challenged to prepare their hearts to become a home for God's love and glory. Cost is \$15 for a workbook. All women are welcome

Contact: (734) 542-9816 or irenejim1@hotmail.com

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Sunday, Jan. 20

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: All you can eat pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, juice, milk. Sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10

Contact: (734) 425-4421

FILM

Time/Date: Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and movie starts at 7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 19

Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia

Details: Screening of "October Baby," a film about a young woman who discovers she was adopted after a failed abortion attempt. She embarks on a journey to discover her hidden past in this film by the same producers as "Courageous" and "FireProof"

Contact: www.christoursavior.org

FILM

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market, Farmington Hills

Details: Free movie night features the film "Sarah's Choice," about a career woman who has an unexpected pregnancy. She envisions three options and then makes a choice. There will be a special meal of braised country ribs (free will offering) along with the film. Call the church for dinner reservations

Contact: (248) 553-3380

FILM

Time/Date: 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

Details: The church and AAA Pregnancy Resource Center show "The Voice of John," a documentary about abortion and pro-choice laws. Admission is free and free child care will be available during the movie

Contact: (734) 459-3333

GREEN FILM SERIES

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17

Location: Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Road, Birmingham

Details: PRI's John Hockenberry goes inside the organizations that fought the scientific establishment to shift the direction of the climate debate. Film is followed by a discussion with Kathryn L. Savoie, Ph.D., an authorized presenter of the Climate Reality Project, trained directly by former Vice President Al Gore. Free admission. Sponsored by the church's Green Ministry

Contact: www.ccbucc.org

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 1:30-3 p.m. Wednesday, beginning Jan. 30

Location: Congregation Shary Zedek, 27375 Bell, Southfield

Details: Runs through March 6, is nonsectarian and designed for those who have lost a spouse. Call the National Council of Jewish Women Greater Detroit Section for information and registration. There is no charge but donations are accepted

Contact: (248) 355-3300, Ext. 0

OPEN HOUSE

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

Thursday, Jan. 31

Location: St. Genevieve Catholic School, 28933 Jamison, Livonia

Details: Tour the school, talk to other parents and staff during this open house for the school, which includes classes for preschool through middle school, CYO sports, bus transportation for Livonia residents, and flexible payment plans. Registration packets will be available at the open house

Contact: www.saintgenevieve.org or call (734) 425-4420

OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 27

Location: 11311 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: St. Michael's School, Livonia's oldest and largest K-8 parochial school, invites all interested families to take student-led tours of their facilities, to meet staff members who will be available to answer questions and concerns, and to share refreshments and conversation with other parents and students. St. Michael's, SE Michigan's only two-time MANS accredited School of Distinction, offers a traditional faith-filled environment, with a commitment to high academic standards, service to others, a strong science and technology curriculum, coupled with many opportunities for significant parent involvement and extracurricular activities such as sports and scouts. St. Michael's offers half or full-day kindergarten, latch-key programming, and an extended curriculum which includes computer science, art, music, and Spanish.

Contact: (734) 261-1455, Ext. 225, or www.livoniast-michael.org

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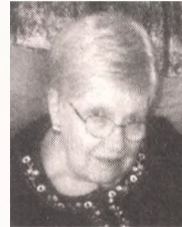
How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com

Deadlines: Friday, 4:15 p.m. for Sunday paper
Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. for Thursday paper



FLYNN, ELWOOD 'JOE'

Age 85, January 13, 2013. Beloved husband of Sue. Dear father of Peter (Mary). Grandfather of Matthew & Shawn. Brother of Lola Sharp and Earl Flynn. Brother-in-law of Gilbert 'Jr.' Stebbins, Patricia (Ronald) Griffith, John 'JC' Stebbins, Elizabeth Stebbins and Lydia Stebbins. In state Thursday 10:30 am followed by the 11:30 am Funeral Service at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City (Just South of Ford Rd.). Family suggests memorials to Garden City Presbyterian Church. Arrangements by Santeiu & Son Funeral Home. www.Santeiufuneralhome.com



LUDWIG, JOYCE CLARK

Age 83, Joyce was a devout Christian that went to be with the Lord on January 9th, 2013. Loving mother of Cathy (Larry) Heidloff of Florida and Barb (Mike) Anthony of North Carolina. Will also be missed by her grandchildren Preston, Meredith and Matt and her grandcats, Noah and Sammy. Survived by her brother Neal Clark of Texas. Joyce proudly worked for 28 years at Schoolcraft College. Visitation Wednesday 4-9pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Rd., in Livonia. Funeral Thursday in state 10 am until the time of service at 11 am at Grace Lutheran Church, 25630 Grand River Ave., in Redford. Interment Highland Cemetery in Ypsilanti. Memorial contributions may be made in Joyce's name to Hospice of Wake County, 250 Hospice Circle, Raleigh, NC 27607.



SCHEER, JANET K.

Age 75, January 13, 2013 of Cadillac formerly of Farmington. Beloved wife of Charles. Dear mother of David (Michele), Mary (Robert) Bush, Martha (Harrison Y.) Smith, Elizabeth (Randy) Dick. Also survived by 9 grandchildren. Funeral Service Friday at 11:30am at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Visitation Thursday 4-8pm. Those wishing to make a contribution in Janet's name are asked to consider the United Methodist Women's Association of Farmington or American Cancer Society Hope Lodge, Grand Rapids. Please share a memory at: www.rgrgharris.com



ROGERS, DON H.

Age 69, January 15, 2013 of Livonia. Beloved husband of Barbara. Loving father of David and Debrah (Jim) Craig. Dear brother of Lois (John) Eriksson and Gail (Jim) Smith. Dear grandfather of Casmer, David, Robert, Emily, James, Molly and Matthew. Funeral Service Friday 11am at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Visitation Thursday 2-9 pm. Please share a memory at: www.rgrgharris.com

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Sunday Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
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Traditional Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.
The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, Just north of I-96
www.christoursavior.org
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am
Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413
Staffed Nursery Available
Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden
734-522-6830

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Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
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St. Paul's Ev. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD
LIVONIA (734)261-1380
WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11 A.M.
THURSDAY: 8:30 P.M.
website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org

PRESBYTERIAN

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

UNITY WORLDWIDE MINISTRIES

Friends of Unity
774 North Sheldon Road
Plymouth, MI
(Plymouth Community Arts Building)
www.friendsofunity.org
Sunday Service and Youth Programs 10 a.m.
Florence Erzen, Licensed Unity Teacher
734.454.0015

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

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13 Mile & Farmington Rd.
(248) 626-7906
www.antiochelca.org
Celebrate the installation of our new pastor, David Vineguerra
Saturday, Jan. 26 at 2 p.m. featuring special music and open Holy Communion. All are welcome.
Sunday services: 8:30 and 11 a.m.

For Information

regarding this Directory, please call
Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247
or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

Talent on four paws

Cats, dogs and friends bring comedy show to Redford Theatre

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

When Gregory Popovich does his sound check at the Redford Theatre on Jan. 26, he'll insist that his theater troupe also takes a smell check.

"I have them go on stage and smell and check it out. They walk around on stage. If I do a show without this, they look around during the show and wonder what is going on."

His stars, walking on four paws, will take about 20 minutes to get acquainted with the stage before they're comfortable enough to perform without losing focus during their Popovich Comedy Pet Theater show.

"We have more than 30 pets including 14 cats, 12 dogs, three geese, two parrots and mice," said Popovich, 48, who performs regularly with his cast at Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, Nev. The show will kick off its three-month tour in Detroit at the Redford Theatre, then travel throughout the Midwest and East Coast before returning home, where Popovich, and his wife live with their furry and feathered brood. His daughter, who has assisted with the show, is at college.

Circus family

Popovich, who holds several world records in juggling and gold medals in international competition, has performed for

POPOVICH COMEDY PET THEATER

What: Variety show with juggling, physical comedy, featuring Gregory Popovich and his 30 performing pets, as well as acrobats from the Moscow Circus
When: 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26
Where: Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser, Detroit
Tickets: \$25 for adults and \$10 for children
Contact: (313) 537-2560, redfordtheatre.com or (248) 660-4264, dedushka@gmail.com



A cat takes a willing dog for a stroll during a scene in Popovich Comedy Pet Theater's show.

most of his life. The Russian-born son of circus performers — his parents both juggled and trained dogs — began assisting on stage with his mother's dog act as a child. He learned to juggle when he was 6 and became a member of the Moscow Circus 11 years later. He earned a featured spot in 1992 at Circus Circus in Las Vegas, where he eventually shared the stage with felines.

Popovich began adding cats to the show after introducing the family juggling and gold medals in international competition, has performed for

working with me. Four help with the pets and I have four acrobats from the Moscow Circus. This is not only a pet show. There is physical comedy," he said, adding that he also juggles in the show. "Of course, the main attraction, the stars, are the pets. We are the human chorus line."

Natural talent

All of his cats and dogs are from shelters. With a full contingent of performers — and a couple of retired pets at home — Popovich doesn't add to the cast often these days. When he does search for a new pet, he looks for "natural talent" in the rows of shelter kennels and cages.

"I don't push them to do something. I try to let the pets play, and I play with them, and see what they can do, what they like to do," he explained his method of selecting cast members. "I create a part for them. I see what kind of pet is fit for an idea I have."

Rather than teaching his stars to perform specific stunts and tricks, he helps them show off their individual personalities and talents. If a cat likes to climb, it performs that action in a routine on stage. If a dog likes to

jump, it shows off its skill for the audience.

"I have a dog that just looks good. When I ask in dog school (a routine) to give an answer and come to the board, he is always hiding behind his desk. He doesn't want to do difficult tricks or jumping. He looks like a lazy student. I created this part for him. It's more funny than action."

"I use natural habits in the show," he said. "The mice are interesting pets. They are smart. By nature if you give them feed they go to a higher level naturally." He integrates that habit into a routine that has mice moving from lower to higher levels.

Working with a new dog or cat requires a few months to gain trust and build communication and another six to nine months to learn routines. Popovich uses voice commands to cue his stars.

Adopting from shelters

One of his favorite stunts includes a piggyback-riding cat and a dog.

"One of the most difficult tricks came when puppy and kitty were playing in the backyard and sometimes the kitty would jump on the dog. I'm proud of this because the pets gave me the idea for the trick," he said. "I repeated and repeated it and sewed a special jacket for the dog. It became one of my trademarks."

Another favorite routine involves a scene about a homeless circus performer, played by Popovich, and a homeless dog that steals his lunch.

"It's emotional. Everyone understands that this guy is homeless and the dog is homeless. He has no friends and finally he finds a friend on the street."

The routine conveys a subtle message about finding adoptable "friends" at animal shelters, a practice that Popovich promotes.

"If after my show a few people go to the shelter, I feel that my main mission is complete."

Auditions set for youth interested in performing

The Plymouth Community Arts Council will hold open auditions for its youth theater group, Plymouth Uptown Players (PUPS), 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20, at the Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth.

Open auditions for *Wonderland* also will be held 1:30-6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26 at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills.

Suggested audition times in Plymouth are for age groups are: 1-1:45 p.m., kindergartners through second graders; 2-2:45 p.m. third graders through fifth graders; 3:30-5 p.m., sixth graders through eighth graders. Siblings may audition during the same time period. If actors can't audition on Sunday, they may call the Council to make other arrangements.

Actors should prepare a monologue of a minute or less in length to read for the audition. The director also will have pieces to read. Everyone who auditions will get a part in the play.

The cost is \$150 per actor, with a 10 percent discount for additional siblings registered for the same season. A Council membership is also required.

Registration forms, medical and photo releases and complete season rehearsal schedule are available at www.plymoutharts.com.

The main goal of the PUPS program is to have fun while making the participants feel comfortable and confident in front of a live audience. Actors will learn stage direction, cues, blocking, voice projection, role-play, character-

ization and improvisation.

Rehearsals are held Sunday afternoons through the April performance day.

Staff from Northville's Tipping Pointe Theatre directs the program.

Farmington Hills

No advance preparation is needed for the *Wonderland* auditions. The play is an adaptation of Lewis Carroll's classic *Through the Looking Glass*, with all the characters from the original tale including Alice, the Cheshire Cat, the White Rabbit, and more, with many parts for young actors in two large casts.

Audition times are 1:30-3 p.m. for grades 3 and 4; 3-4:30 p.m. for grades 5 and 6; and 4:30-6 p.m. for grades 8-12.

Participants should bring a recent school photo to the audition. All other materials will be supplied. Audition forms are available at www.fhgov.com under Cultural Arts/Youth Theatre.

Rehearsal dates and times vary from Feb. 13-April 24, with leading roles requiring more rehearsals than supporting cast. Actors cast in the show must pay a registration fee and attend a mandatory parent meeting from 7-9 p.m. Feb. 11 at the Costick Center. Final show dates are April 25-28. *Wonderland* is produced in conjunction with Sky's the Limit Productions.

Youth theatre participants make new friends, build confidence, and learn about theater productions.

For more information, call the Cultural Arts Division at (248) 473-1859.



Gregory Popovich strikes a pose with two of his many performing pets.

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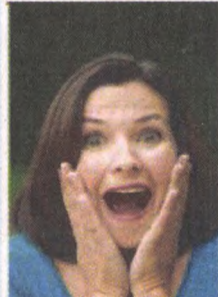
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Party tent offers music, drinks, festival viewing area

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

If you belly up to the bar at E.G. Nicks this weekend, make sure you're wearing layers.

The restaurant will get into the spirit of the Plymouth Ice Festival by offering two outdoor serving bars sculpted from ice. One will be located on the restaurant's patio and the other under a heated tent, the MGM Party Lot Lodge.

"You don't lean on the bar for sure," advised Frank Agostini, E.G. Nicks owner, as he considered the challenge of tending bar — or ordering drinks — on ice. "They are big. They are nine- or 10-block sculptures. Plus they carve something to store bottles. They make it so well, it's a structure, like anything else."

This is the restaurant's third winter tent. It will be open from 6 p.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday, Jan. 18-19. The Bluescasters will perform from 7 p.m. to midnight, Friday and JR and the Sellouts take the stage 7 p.m.-midnight, Saturday.

"It's like a lodge, with music, tables and drink specials. The heated tent is a place to go out and have a good time."

Patrons can watch the AGA Nation Downtown Rail Jam, involving ski and snowboard competitions, from the tent. The patio on Forest Ave., is heated, although not tented, and offers a view of Rail Jam's snowboard and skiing instructional clinics.

"It looks like the weather will be perfect to come out and enjoy the ice," Agostini said. "This place



GLENN YEAGER

The ice bar at E.G. Nicks serves specialty drinks during last year's Plymouth Ice Festival.

will be hopping. We'll have drink specials and giveaways."

Ski shots — alcohol shots served on a single ski with participants all drinking them at once — and an ice luge will be

available. At the luge, the bartender pours a drink down the icy chute and the customer is "at the bottom to receive it."

Look for hot drinks like "Toasted Caramel Mocha," as well as cider,

snow cones and other creations at the outdoor bars.

"We're limited in what we can pour out there. You're at an ice bar. It's not plumbed in with Coke guns," Agostini added.

The party tent and Rail Jam are the tip of the iceberg in terms of activities at the Plymouth Ice Festival, which will run 3-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 19 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20.

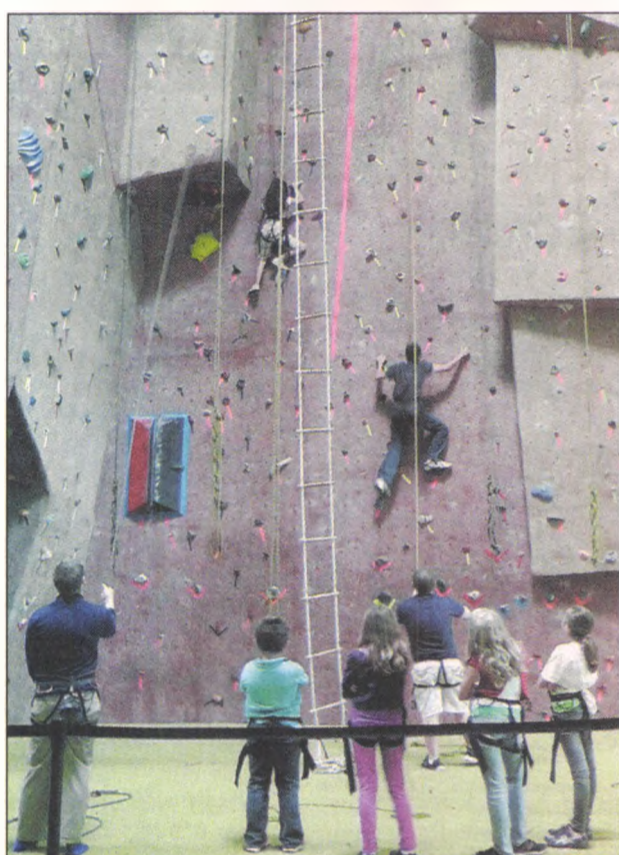
The event also will include a skating rink — complete with skate rentals — in Kellogg Park, ice sculptures and carving demonstrations. A speed carving competition is set for 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19 and college carving contests will be held both festival days.

The Eastern Michigan University Choir will sing

at opening ceremonies at 7 p.m., Friday, Jan. 18 on the main stage in the Kellogg Park area. Radio Disney will take the main stage from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, followed by a winter fashion show from 3-4:30 p.m. The fashion show will repeat from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20.

A Made in Michigan Marketplace will be stationed along Forest Ave., and food vendors will offer gourmet dining options. A warming tent located in the Gathering, across from Kellogg Park will feature local vendors, product demonstrations and seating. Free arts and crafts projects will be available from 1-4 p.m. both festival days in the warming tent.

For more information call (855) 423-3378 or e-mail to info@plymouthicefestival.com.



Visitors can try the rock wall, among other features, at the Livonia Community Recreation Center open house, Sunday, Jan. 20.

Try free classes at rec center open house

Swim, rock climb, take a demo class or a guided tour at Livonia Community Recreation Center's open house, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20, 15100 Hubbard, at Five Mile.

Admission is free and the center is open to residents and non-residents alike.

Free demo classes on the day of the event include:

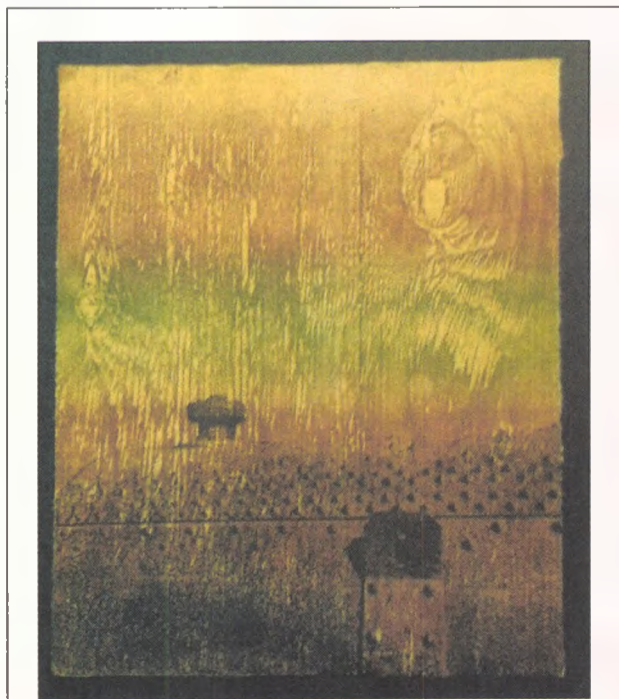
- 11:30 a.m. - Express Women on Weights
- Noon - Express Core
- 12:30 p.m. - Express Zumba
- 1 p.m. - Express Yoga
- 1:30 p.m. - Super Kids Karate
- 2 p.m. - Kung Fu
- 2:30 p.m. - Tai Chi
- 3 p.m. - Tae Kwon Do

- Emphasizing in Self Defense

The giant water slide will open at noon.

The Center includes a leisure pool, lap pool, rock wall, game room, splash pad, fitness hub, soccer fields, water tube slide, indoor track, skate park, locker rooms, indoor and roller hockey rinks, vending area, dry sauna, sand volleyball courts, kid quarters, tree fort play area, massage therapy, two gymnasiums, outdoor walking path, personal training, sports leagues, adult lounge, physical therapy and sports medicine clinic, and more.

For more information call (734) 466-2900.



"Basic Elements" by Celeste Roe of Farmington is among the works on display in the Best of the Best show, noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday, noon to 9 p.m. Thursday-Friday, through Jan. 25 at Lawrence Street Gallery, 220 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Allen Brooks of Livonia also has a photo on display in the show.



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The sweet and spicy secret to the perfect meal

If you're looking for a main dish recipe that will wow your guests, there's a secret ingredient you should know about. Inside its soft velvety skin, and wrapped in a slightly spicy aroma, is a honey-like sweetness with a subtle berry flavor that many cooks find extraordinary. What is it? The fig.

Figs, both fresh and dried, offer a unique flavor that can be used in both sweet and savory dishes. Their intense sweetness is well complemented by tangy balsamic or sherry vinegars, salty cured meats such as ham and prosciutto, roasted meats, and warm herbs and spices such as rosemary, thyme, cinnamon and cardamom.

Figs aren't only rich in flavor, they're rich in nutrients. They bring antioxidants and all-important dietary fiber with every delicious bite. Available year-round, California Dried Figs are ready to eat right out of the package or are easily diced, sliced or poached for cooking and baking.

For more information about fresh and dried fig recipes and tips, visit www.californiafigs.com.



Turkey Sliders with California Pepper Fig Salsa

Fig-Cocoa Glazed Beef Tenderloin

From Robert Del Grande, RDG + Bar Annie, Houston TX
Serves: 16

Fig-Cocoa Glaze:
8 ounces dried California Mission figs; stemmed and quartered

6 cloves garlic, peeled
1 cup water
2 tablespoons sugar
2 tablespoons vinegar
½ cup extra virgin olive oil
1 tablespoon cocoa powder
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar

2 ½ to 3 pounds fully-trimmed beef tenderloin

Mission Fig Steak Sauce:
8 ounces dried California Mission figs; stemmed and quartered

2 guajillo, ancho or New Mexico chiles; stemmed and seeded

½ white onion; peeled and coarsely chopped
4 cloves garlic, peeled
1 bay leaf
1 quart water

1 chipotle chile canned in adobo or 1 tablespoon smoked chile sauce

1 ½ teaspoons sherry vinegar
1 ½ teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Fig-Cocoa Glaze:

Combine quartered figs and garlic in 1-quart saucepan. Stir in water, sugar and vinegar; bring to a boil and simmer gently for about 30 minutes or until figs are soft. Cool. Put into blender container and add remaining ingredients; process until smooth, adding water as needed to make a slightly thick paste. Store in refrigerator.

Tenderloin:

Preheat oven to 400°F. Rub tenderloin generously with glaze and arrange on rack in roasting pan. Place in oven and roast for 15 minutes. Reduce heat to 300°F and roast for 20 minutes more, or until internal temperature is 145°F for rare to 160°F for medium.

Mission Fig Steak Sauce:

Combine quartered figs, chiles, onion, garlic, bay leaf and water in 2-quart saucepan; heat to a boil and simmer gently, about 30 minutes or until figs are soft. Cool.

Turn into blender container and add remaining ingredients; process until smooth, adding water as needed to desired consistency. Store in refrigerator.

To serve, let tenderloin stand for 10 to 15 minutes when done. Then, slice and serve with Mission Fig Steak Sauce on the side.



Fig-Cocoa Glazed Beef Tenderloin

Halibut with Asian Fig and Ginger Sauce



Halibut with Asian Fig and Ginger Sauce

Serves 4

Asian Fig and Ginger Sauce:
4 ounces dried California Calimyrna figs; stemmed and quartered

2 cloves garlic, chopped
¼ white onion; chopped
2 Fresno chiles; stems and seeds removed
1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger root
1-½ cups clam juice
¼ cup cream
½ teaspoon sesame oil
1 teaspoon fresh lime juice
½ teaspoon salt

4 halibut fillets, 6 to 8 ounces each

2 tablespoons olive oil

2 cups water

1 teaspoon salt

8 jumbo shrimp; peeled and deveined

2 cups water

½ teaspoon salt

2 cups hot cooked long grain white rice

1 tablespoon butter

4 fresh or dried California Calimyrna figs stemmed and sliced

2 tablespoons chopped chives

Asian Fig and Ginger Sauce:

In 2-quart saucepan, combine figs, garlic, onion, chiles, fresh ginger root and clam juice. Heat to simmer, and cook about 20 minutes until figs are softened. Set aside to cool. Turn into blender container, and process until smooth, about 30 seconds. Return to saucepan, and set aside.

Halibut and Shrimp:

In large heavy skillet, heat olive oil until hot. Gently sauté halibut on both sides until golden brown. Reduce heat and continue to cook until just cooked through.

In 2-quart saucepan, combine shrimp with water and salt. Heat to a boil, and drain, immediately. Turn into warm skillet with halibut and keep warm until ready to serve.

To serve, reheat sauce to simmer, and stir in cream, sesame seed oil, lime juice and salt. Divide ½ cup hot cooked rice onto each of 4 warm dinner plates, and layer halibut on top. Divide and spoon sauce over and around. Garnish with poached shrimp, sliced figs and chopped chives.

Turkey Sliders with California Pepper Fig Salsa

Yields: 12 Sliders
Serves: 6 (2 Sliders for main dish); 12 (1 Slider for appetizer)

California Pepper Fig

Salsa:

2 ½ cups diced fresh California figs

½ cup diced red bell pepper

½ cup golden raisins

2 green onions, thinly sliced

1 jalapeno pepper; stemmed, seeded and minced

1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

½ teaspoon ground ginger

Sliders:

1 package (20 ounces) fresh lean ground turkey

1 cup finely minced dried California figs

¼ cup sliced green onions

2 tablespoons chopped herbs, i.e. fresh marjoram, thyme, rosemary, and sage; or to taste

¼ teaspoon sea salt

1 cup baby arugula

12 small dinner rolls; cut in half, horizontally

Combine Salsa ingredients in medium bowl and stir together. Cover and chill for several hours.

For Sliders, combine turkey, minced dried figs, green onions, herbs and sea salt in medium bowl and mix to combine well. Divide and shape into 12 small, flat burgers. Generously oil grill or barbecue and cook over medium-high heat for 3 to 5 minutes on each side, until done (165°F).

Arrange a few arugula leaves on bottom half of each roll; top with turkey burger and spoon on salsa. Replace tops and secure with toothpicks, if desired. Serve with additional salsa on the side.

Fig and Apple Stir Fry with Chicken

Serves 8

Stir-Fry Sauce:

2 teaspoons cornstarch

1 teaspoon water

½ cup low-sodium chicken broth

2 tablespoons low-sodium soy sauce

½ teaspoon sugar

¼ teaspoon ground red pepper (optional)

1 tablespoon plus 2 teaspoons canola oil

3 skinless, boneless chicken breasts, diced (about 1 pound)

8 dried California figs, stemmed and chopped

1 unpeeled red apple, diced

1 cup snow peas, stem ends removed

1 carrot, peeled and sliced

2 baby bok choy, trimmed

1 scallion, sliced

½ cup cashews

½ cup prepared Stir-Fry Sauce (recipe above)

For Stir-Fry Sauce, dissolve cornstarch in water; add remaining ingredients and mix together well. Set aside.

Heat large skillet or wok to very hot. Add 1 tablespoon oil and stir-fry chicken until golden; remove and set aside. Add 1 teaspoon oil; reheat pan and add figs, apples, snow peas and carrot; cook for 3 to 4 minutes. Remove and set aside with chicken.

Reheat pan to very hot again and add remaining 1 teaspoon oil. Add bok choy and toss for 1 minute. Add chicken-fry mixture, scallions, cashews, and Stir-Fry Sauce; toss to coat well, and cook until sauce is transparent. Serve with rice or noodles.

California Fig and Blue Cheese Fritters

Yields: 32 fritters

¼ cup half-and-half

8 tablespoons (4 ounces) unsalted butter, cut into ¼-inch cubes

½ teaspoon kosher salt

¾ cup plus 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour

3 large eggs, lightly beaten

½ teaspoon dried thyme

1 teaspoon Dijon mustard

3 ounces crumbled blue cheese

*2 cups finely grated dry jack cheese

¾ cup stemmed and coarsely chopped dried California figs

Vegetable oil; for deep frying

In a small saucepan, over medium heat, bring the half-and-half, butter, and salt to a boil. Remove from heat and whisk in the flour. Return to the heat, cook, stirring constantly with a wooden spoon, until the mixture draws back from the sides of the pan, 3 to 5 minutes. Remove from heat.

Add the eggs, one at a time, stirring to incorporate each before adding the next one. Stir in the thyme and mustard. Allow mixture to cool completely. Add both cheeses and the figs.

Line a baking sheet with waxed or parchment paper. With a small scoop or a tablespoon measure, make 1-inch balls of dough, and place on the prepared sheet. Continue with the remaining dough.

Fill a large, deep, heavy-bottomed saucepan or stockpot, fitted with a candy or deep-fat thermometer, half way with oil. Bring to 350°F. Line a baking sheet with paper towels. Fry the fritters 4 to 5 at a time, being careful not to crowd, until browned, 3 to 4 minutes. Drain on towels and serve hot.

Home Builders Association: Climb predicted in single-family building

The Home Builders Association of Michigan (HBA Michigan) is forecasting that single-family home construction in 2013 will increase by 39 percent over 2012 levels. HBA Michigan attributes the positive forecast to a stronger Michigan economy and state legislation aimed at stimulating the housing industry.

"With record low new home production for the past several years, pent up demand is finally beginning to burst through in the marketplace," noted Robert Filka, CEO of HBA Michigan. "When combined with positive tax and regulatory changes that will encourage more investment, our outlook is more optimistic than it's been in nearly a decade."

The number of single-family home permits recorded year-to-date in Michigan was up 36 percent through the end of October 2012. Those are the latest numbers available from the US Census Bureau. Current projections are for some 10,000 single-family home permits to be issued in Michigan for all of 2012.

Looking ahead at single-family home permits in 2013 — following a reasonable solution to the U.S. "fiscal cliff" negotiations — HBA Michigan forecasts 13,928 permits to be issued in the coming year. In addition to stronger economic factors, Filka said the housing industry will be assisted next year



Willie Norwood (left) and Dale Graham of Norwood Boyle Construction Services posed by a vacant house their company remodeled in Redford as part of SNAP, a federal stimulus program. Builders are optimistic about an upswing in residential building activity for 2013.

by a new law adopted by the state legislature and recently signed by Gov. Rick Snyder. Public Act 494 of 2012 reduces the tax on new inventory homes that are constructed by home builders.

"Reducing this punitive tax on inventory homes will lower risk and encourage homebuilders to construct more

homes in the future," said Filka. "Building inventory homes is a critical marketing tool that has proven successful in generating new home sales. Thanks to the foresight of the legislature and the governor, homebuilders will now be able to invest more in our communities around the state."

The Home Builders Association of Michigan is a professional trade association comprised of 27 local homebuilder associations around the state and their builder, subcontractor and supplier members. HBA of Michigan works to promote the building industry and impact legislative, regulatory and legal issues affecting housing affordability.

Talk to neighbor before suit

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: I have a unique situation where my neighbor constructed within a 40-foot-wide easement on my property that ran parallel to the roadway laid out in the easement and placed log decks and other personal property on the other side of the road creating a "cow chute." These acts narrowed the area in which cars could pass. Do I have a basis to sue my neighbor for what he did? He claims that the width of the easement was only a 12-to-14-foot paved area based on the historical use.

A: While it is obviously fact intensive, in a similar case, a Washington State appellate court held that your neighbor's placement



Robert Meisner

of structures within the easement might lead to an adverse possession claim that would terminate the

easement. In addition, a zoning ordinance that prohibited the location of buildings and structures within the easement made what would have been your neighbor's activities a nuisance per se, requiring removal of the fence and other property. It may result in a lawsuit, but you should advise your neighbor of the legal ramifications of what he has done.

Q: I am in a situation where one of my tenants has suffered some lead poisoning. He is now claiming that I am responsible under a negligence theory, even though he was responsible for maintaining the premises. What do you think?

A: Well, it all depends upon the state in which you are involved, but in a recent case out of Virginia, the court held that absent fraud or concealment a landlord who has given possession of the premises to the tenant owes no duty of care to maintain the premises since that duty rests with the tenant. In that case, the court rejected the argument that the landlord's retention of the right to enter to make repairs created a duty because this reserved right did not displace the tenant's full right of possession. The court also found that the state's statutory requirement that the landlords comply with building codes created a contractual warranty but not a tort liability. Moreover, the court dismissed a claim under common law negligence for failure to warn of the presence of lead paint which is, of course, required in Michigan because a landlord had made a lead paint disclosure and the conditions were obvious and open to view. Obviously, you should consult with your own attorney with respect to the claim.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition, available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also wrote *Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 24-28, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
43599 Abbey Cir	\$213,000
6938 Ardsley Dr	\$110,000
6713 Carlton Rd	\$203,000
7114 Copper Creek Cir	\$112,000
1704 Crowndale Ln	\$316,000
1689 Dunston Rd	\$128,000
48515 Gladstone Rd	\$373,000
47120 Glenhurst Dr	\$255,000
42243 Hartford Ct	\$123,000
46461 Killarney Cir	\$190,000
8002 Labana Ct	\$306,000
45576 Morningside Rd	\$130,000
41765 Princess Dr	\$288,000
45636 S Stonewood Rd	\$178,000

3607 Shepherd Ln	\$175,000
43715 Simsbury St	\$170,000
1763 Thistle Dr	\$200,000
1277 W Crystal Cir	\$168,000
8650 Westchester Ln	\$165,000
GARDEN CITY	
29800 Cambridge St	\$34,000
1552 Henry Ruff Rd	\$120,000
221 Hubbard St	\$66,000
LIVONIA	
36706 Angeline Cir	\$132,000
11345 Arcola St	\$58,000
11015 Blackburn St	\$92,000
31812 Bretton St	\$100,000
14546 Cavell St	\$182,000
17608 Dolores St	\$80,000
15743 Edington St	\$119,000
16856 Farmington Rd	\$140,000
27464 Five Mile Rd	\$40,000
34009 Fonville Dr	\$175,000
27505 Goff St	\$25,000
16029 Harrison St	\$127,000
15446 Knolson St	\$180,000
9819 Melrose St	\$146,000

28450 Pickford St	\$105,000
16574 Rougeway St	\$90,000
15201 Santa Anita St	\$47,000
14206 Sunset St	\$129,000
17899 University Park Dr	\$77,000
29687 Westfield St	\$98,000
NORTHVILLE	
44456 Birchwood Ct	\$333,000
373 Linden St	\$239,000
42754 Lyric Ct	\$83,000
320 Orchard Dr	\$440,000
49650 S Glacier	\$346,000
19824 Scenic Harbour Dr	\$252,000
511 W Cady St	\$289,000
PLYMOUTH	
346 Auburn St	\$425,000
1115 Dewey St	\$228,000
11725 N Beck Rd	\$225,000
730 Penniman Ave # 203	\$185,000
730 Penniman Ave # 301	\$232,000
101 S Union St Unit 203	\$150,000
45309 Stonehedge Dr	\$220,000
8865 Trillium Ln	\$274,000
REDFORD	

17615 Centralia	\$21,000
15574 Fox	\$34,000
17749 Gaylord	\$40,000
26940 Lyndon	\$20,000
15478 Macarthur	\$34,000
16643 Macarthur	\$55,000
13478 Marion	\$74,000
9558 Mercedes	\$30,000
12845 Mercedes	\$47,000
8838 Riverview	\$39,000
WESTLAND	
30602 Avondale St	\$43,000
33647 Blackfoot St	\$35,000
8275 Carrousel Blvd	\$69,000
2104 Edgerton Ct	\$15,000
32372 Fairchild St	\$32,000
29938 Gladys Ave	\$115,000
33423 Hively St	\$113,000
29196 Manchester St	\$19,000
33452 Melton St	\$42,000
37612 N Butler Cir	\$105,000
8401 Narise St	\$140,000
2038 S Parent Ave	\$32,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 10-14, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
16964 Beechwood Ave	\$210,000
19690 Beverly Rd	\$298,000
15725 Birwood Ave	\$105,000
31245 Old Stage Rd	\$402,000
BINGHAM FARMS	
23810 Ravineview Ct	\$273,000
BIRMINGHAM	
355 Hanna St	\$265,000
920 N Glenhurst Dr	\$565,000
644 Ridgedale Ave	\$350,000
712 Ridgedale Ave	\$276,000
811 Tottenham Rd	\$320,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	

186 Eileen Dr	\$78,000
2850 Aspen Ln	\$270,000
3621 Berkshire Dr	\$252,000
2925 Farmingdale Dr	\$185,000
6450 Gilbert Lake Rd	\$245,000
4600 Lahser Rd	\$1,600,000
215 Martell Dr	\$875,000
2945 S Woodward Ave Unit 69	\$110,000
1260 Stuyvesant Rd	\$400,000
100 W Hickory Grove Rd # FB	\$43,000
2033 Wabeek Hill Ct	\$369,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
1965 Lone Pine Rd	\$299,000
1551 Old Chatham Dr	\$218,000
651 Sedgefield Dr	\$150,000
729 Upper Scotsborough Way	\$275,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
3243 Lacosta Ct	\$240,000
2294 Palmetto	\$240,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	

28965 Appleblossom Ln	\$280,000
29536 Belfast St	\$124,000
30402 Club House Ct	\$210,000
28339 Green Willow St	\$130,000
25739 Kilreigh Ct	\$205,000
30779 Knighton Dr	\$267,000
28900 Lake Park Dr	\$190,000
38428 Saratoga Cir	\$150,000
31699 Staman Cir	\$125,000
29860 W 12 Mile Rd # 608	\$43,000
28576 W Nine Mile Rd	\$90,000
MILFORD	
864 E Liberty St	\$237,000
1056 Eagle Nest Dr	\$230,000
2860 Honeywell Lake Rd	\$390,000
850 Laurel Ln	\$200,000
620 Millford Meadows Dr	\$345,000
303 Teromi Trl	\$300,000
1419 Timber Ridge Ct	\$567,000
217 W Commerce St	\$275,000
NOVI	
45200 Bartlett Dr	\$84,000
28159 Carlton Way Dr	\$135,000

41682 Charleston Ln	\$190,000
29052 Hearthstone Dr	\$265,000
40618 Lenox Park Dr	\$268,000
22398 Mill Rd	\$185,000
24759 Willowbrook	\$265,000
SOUTH LYON	
60125 Nine Mile Rd	\$91,000
24495 Brompton Way	\$40,000
24601 Brompton Way	\$320,000
639 E Crest Ln	\$129,000
57877 International Dr	\$255,000
61069 Topsfield Ln	\$164,000
603 Wellington Dr	\$149,000
SOUTHFIELD	
18950 Goldwin St	\$115,000
20365 Harbor Ln	\$82,000
15801 Providence Dr # 12a	\$53,000
25471 Saint James	\$69,000
WHITE LAKE	
9480 Cedar Island Rd	\$175,000
576 Farnsworth Rd	\$118,000
1077 Oxbow Lake Rd	\$75,000
8365 Pontiac Lake Rd # 4	\$24,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar

Learn about a \$50,000 income guarantee. Thursday, Jan. 17, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth.

For more information, contact Jim Raines at (734) 459-4700 or jimraines@kw.com.

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures and what it takes to get started. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also discuss the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved. Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quan-

tum Real Estate is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or e-mail june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Colonial

Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Participants will discuss what they have learned. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update.

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. each first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate. Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership.

Any questions or concerns, call Wayne Koehler at (313) 277-4168.

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Large 1 bdrm.
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Tons of closet space
\$300 Deposit*
*restrictions apply
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upper. 1 occupant. \$600/mo +
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Spacious 1 bedroom
Private entry
On-site maintenance
Hurry, won't last!
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Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Well-dressed
- Semisheer material
- Scolding
- Bumper-to-bumper
- Natural intelligence
- 1960s attire
- Canine command
- Pharmacist — Lilly
- Barely sufficient
- Intense anger
- Regard as
- Puffed-grain cereal
- Fortas and Vigoda
- Remnant
- Paged through
- Drag along
- California's Big —
- Wrinkle-free
- Toe woe

DOWN

- Followed a pattern
- Posted
- More creative
- Diamond loc.
- Antacid brand
- Like the universe
- Lama's chant

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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8 Drink
9 Looked wolfishly
10 Moves with caution
12 Enjoy a lollipop
13 Gives bad luck to
16 Picture hanger
22 Juicy fruit
24 Frizzy hairdos
26 Rev the engine
28 Before Sept.
30 Understands (2 wds.)
32 Trace element in salt
33 Prepares coffee beans
34 Part of CD
36 Perfect world
37 Soup server
38 Raj title
40 Must have
42 Male adornment
44 Spark coil outputs
45 Math course, briefly
51 Look — that!
53 Bookkeeping entry

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

GET ORGANIZED WORD SEARCH

WORDS

ALPHABETIZE EXPORT
ASSISTANCE FILING
BACKUP GARAGE
BASEMENT MEMORY
BOXES MESS
CABINET NEAT
CLEAN ORGANIZE
CLOSET PAPERS
CLUTTER RECYCLE
COMPUTER ROOM
CONCENTRATE SALE
CONDENSE SCAN
CULL SHELVING
DESK SORTING
DIGITAL STACKED
DOCUMENTS STORAGE
DRAWERS TRASH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

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

Word Search

FRNKXCL...
KEEIOBT...
GNITROS...
BXVBR...
AURAO...
CIGFEME...
KEXNDO...
UYMYGRE...
PAPER...
DOCUMENT...
RMGNIL...
ACWDEK...
XRETTUL...
RECYCLE...
LFWFBE...
AEDUXA...
TELPNE...
BFOMKA...
KRZVC...
TYOAML...

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Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	3.25	0	2.625	0	J/A
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Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	3.875	0.25	3.125	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	3.75	0	3	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	3.75	0	3	0	J/A/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(888) 293-3477	3	1.5	2.5	0.25	J/A/V/F
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The Water and Sewer Division seeks a qualified person to fill a full-time Laborer position at \$16.96 an hour with excellent benefits. Job responsibilities include: read, install and repair water meters, maintenance and emergency repair to water/sewer mains.

Qualifications include:
high school diploma or equivalent, previous maintenance experience; possess a current valid Michigan Operator's License, and CDL Permit-Type B.

Applications are available at our website www.twp.northville.mi.us returned completed with copies of license to:

Charter Township of Northville
Human Resource Department
44405 Six Mile Rd.
Northville, MI 48168
by 4:30 p.m.
Friday, February 1, 2013.
Resumes will not be accepted without an application.
Equal Employment Opportunity.

TELEMARKETER/ APPOINTMENT SETTER
Exp'd. Dimension Systems. Walled Lake. Motivated person to make outbound B2B calls to set appts. with executives. Effective communicator, confident, professional, able to overcome objections. Email resume to: jcornish@dsisys.com or call Jen 248-926-3400 x210

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT
Full-time person needed for retirement community in Westland. Requires general knowledge of preventative maintenance. Fax resume to: (734) 729-9840

PET SITTER HELPER
Part-time pet care/ walker. Plymouth/ Northville area. Reliable transp. Avail 7 days + holidays. 734-891-6446 or petsitterhelper@aol.com

Q.C. INSPECTOR
Minimum 2 years' experience preferred. Familiar with set-up and use of precision hand gaging. Basic machining experience a plus. Overtime with excellent benefit package. Apply between 7:00-4:00 in person or send resume to: Ventura Aerospace 46301 Port St. Plymouth, MI 48170
Call: 734-357-1010
Fax: 734-357-0117
tina@venturaaerospace.net

Sanitation Coordinator
Must have extensive janitorial and/or cleaning experience, preferably in a warehouse environment. Must also be able to work in a refrigerated environment and be able to perform moderate to heavy physical labor. EOE. Resumes only to ssloddard@gctb.org

SECURITY OFFICERS
We are currently accepting applications for full/part time employment in the Plymouth, Livonia, Farmington Hills & Southfield areas.
Requirements: HS diploma or GED, drug free, no criminal history, computer proficient, strong customer service skills, valid driver's license. Benefits: free individual health insurance, tuition assistance, free uniforms.
Please call to schedule an interview at: 248-553-9900

• VET TECH
• VET ASSISTANT
• GROUNTER
Fax: 248-348-0369
Email: mianimahospital@gmail.com

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Help Wanted - General
Software Developers, Systems Software; Computer Systems Analysts; Business Analysts; DBAs & CIS Managers
Needed to work in Farmington, MI & at various unanticipated locations throughout U.S./ multiple openings. All positions involve use of 1 or more of the following: PL/SQL, Oracle, HTML, ASP, JML, XML, J2EE, VB.NET, WebLogic, VB Script, Java, JavaScript, MS Visio, ClearQuest, Quick Test Pro, Rational RequisitePro, Quality Center, Bach's or Master's (or foreign educ equiv) in related field &/or reliev exp. req'd, depending on position. For some positions requiring exp, applicants must have exp using 1 or more skills listed above. We also have some position openings requiring reliev exp only. For certain positions, we accept deg equiv in educ & exp or any equally suitable comb. of educ, training &/or exp qualifying applicant to perform job duties. Travel/relocation to various unanticipated work locations throughout U.S. required. Send resume & specify position seeking to Technology Consultants-MA, Inc., 33505 State St, Ste 200, Farmington, MI 48335. EOE

Help Wanted - Office Clerical
FRONT OFFICE COORDINATOR
Immediate FT position avail. with a very busy sales office. Would be required to work directly with people and manage a multi line phone system. Computer and telemarketing a must. Send resume: dana_corning@yahoo.com

Help Wanted - Medical
EXP MEDICAL ASSISTANT
2-3yr. min exp. GI drs. office. Farmington Hills area. Fax resume to: 248.471.8904

MEDICAL BILLING ASSISTANT
Allergy Office -- W. Bloomfield 32-35 hrs/wk. Exc. Salary & benefits. Exp. a MUST. Cover Letter, Resume + Names of references. MUST be included with application. FAX: 248-932-0182

Food - Beverage
• COOKS - With Pizza Exp. • Wait Staff
Apply in person: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - Office Clerical
FRONT OFFICE COORDINATOR
Immediate FT position avail. with a very busy sales office. Would be required to work directly with people and manage a multi line phone system. Computer and telemarketing a must. Send resume: dana_corning@yahoo.com

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Food - Beverage

• COOKS - With Pizza Exp. • Wait Staff

Apply in person: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville

Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies Newspapers

+ CareerBuilder
+ Yahoo!

= The right candidate!

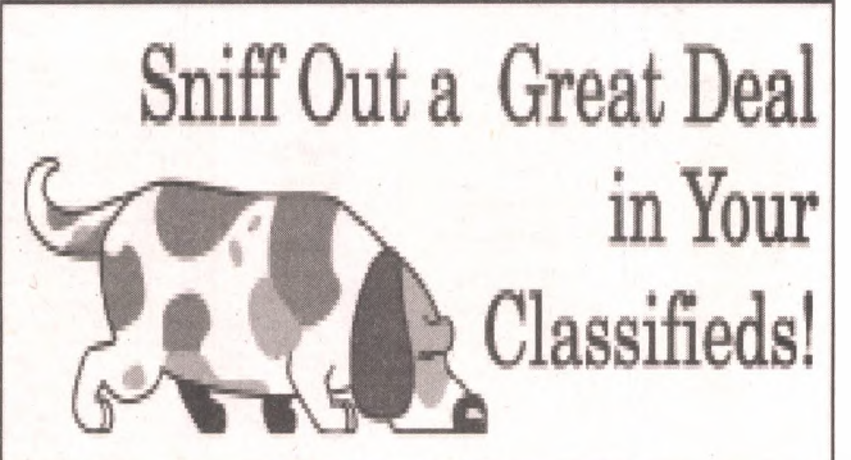
To learn more, Call 800-579-7355

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General



To Place An Ad Call 1-800-579-SELL

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Observer & Eccentric Media
A Gannett Company

Observer & Eccentric Media specializes in community-based information on a variety of platforms – print, web, mobile and video. O&E Media publishes 13 individually edited newspapers, a website and more than 75 special sections and specialty products annually. The staff includes more than 40 journalists, 25 advertising account executives and other key support personnel in circulation and production. O&E Media - Because local matters. Come join our team.

Observer and Eccentric Media is looking for an Account Executive for the Birmingham, MI Territory. This position will work out of the Sterling Heights, MI location.

RESPONSIBILITIES: This position is responsible for all sales and related activities to advertisers within an assigned geographic territory. Will mainly be servicing businesses with the opportunity to sell into the Hometown Weeklies, Observer & Eccentric publications and DMP products. Primary responsibility is managing the territory to achieve sales quotas and developing new business. The Account Executive will develop strategies, make presentations to new and existing advertisers and be responsive to customer needs. Sales orders, reports and documentation are prepared for management's review.

REQUIREMENTS: An Associate's degree and two years of sales experience and/or equivalent. Bachelor's degree preferred. Professional communication, presentation and organizational skills are required. Must be highly motivated, analytical, detail-oriented and able to work under deadline pressure. Proficiency using a personal computer is required. Use of personal vehicle, valid driver's license, state mandated auto insurance and good driving record are required.

Our Company
Gannett is a media and marketing solutions company with a diverse portfolio of broadcast, digital, mobile and publishing companies.

Gannett provides consumers easy access to the things that matter most to them – any way and anywhere.

Gannett's portfolio of trusted brands helps business customers connect with these highly engaged audiences through its industry-leading marketing services, customized solutions and national-to-local-to-personal reach.

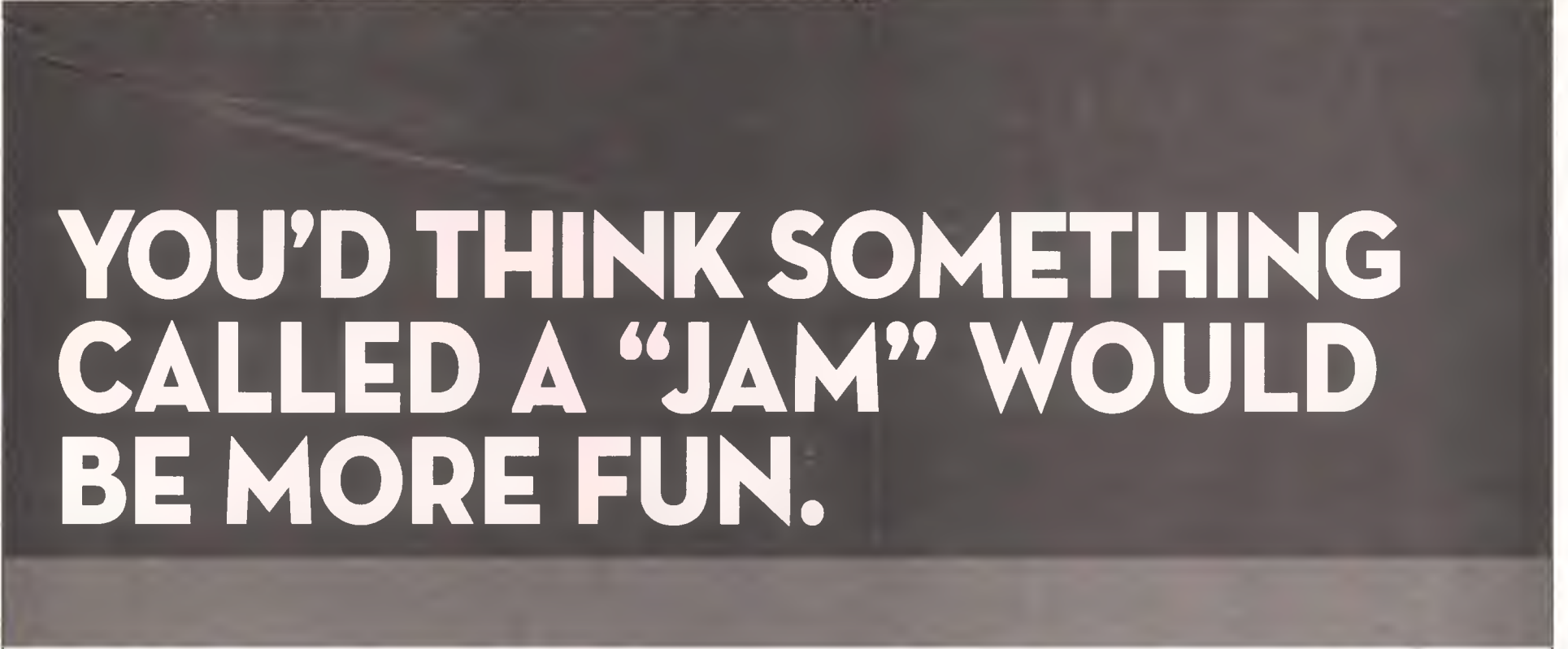
The company's 82 U.S. daily newspapers, including USA TODAY, reach 11.6 million readers every weekday and 12 million readers every Sunday, providing important news and information from their customers' neighborhoods and around the globe. USA TODAY, the nation's No. 1 newspaper in print circulation, and USATODAY.com reach a combined 6.6 million readers daily.

The Broadcasting Division's 23 TV stations reach 21 million households, covering 18.2 percent of the U.S. population. Through its Captivate subsidiary, the Broadcasting Division delivers news, information and advertising to a highly desirable audience demographic on 9,500 video screens located in elevators of office towers and select hotel lobbies in 25 major cities across North America.

Newsquest is one of the U.K.'s leading regional community news providers and its digital portfolio of newspaper and online-only brands attracts nearly 7.5 million unique users each month. It has a portfolio of 17 daily paid-for newspapers and more than 200 weekly newspapers, magazines and trade publications. Newsquest owns a successful online publisher called s1, which is a leading recruitment site in Scotland. Gannett is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to a policy of equal employment opportunity for all persons.

Email resumes to: gpperry@hometownlife.com. Attn: Sales EEOC

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
hometownlife.com
A GANNETT COMPANY



Hate waiting in traffic? Find a local job on CareerBuilder.com.

careerbuilder.com
START BUILDING

JOBS careerbuilder.com

Food - Beverage

MITCHELL'S FISH MARKET Mitchell's Fish Market is a premier upscale-casual seafood restaurant...

SERVERS HOST

Apply in person Monday-Friday 3pm-5pm 17600 Haggerty Road Livonia, MI

We offer: *Great Food *Fun Atmosphere *Flexible Scheduling *Great Benefits *Competitive Wages and More!

www.mitchellsfishmarket.com EOE

Help Wanted - Domestic

LADY for General Housecleaning & IRONING. Tues. & Fri. 9-5 in the West Bloomfield area...

Position Wanted

Newly Retired Special Education Teacher Would like to offer tutoring services...

Attorney & Legal Counsel

DIVORCE \$75.00 www.CSRdisability.com CS&R 734-425-1074

Business Opportunities

BE YOUR OWN BOSS! The New Chesterfield MENDARDS Has a great opportunity for an individual wanting to start their own delivery business...

DELIVERY TRUCK! This GREAT opportunity comes with SUPER SECURITY and UNLIMITED Earning Potential. This is YOUR opportunity to work with the #1 Home Improvement Center!

PERSONALS hometownlife.com

Card of Thanks

ST. JUDE Apostle and Maryr, great in virtue, rich in miracles, kinsman of Christ, intercessor of all who invoke your aid in time of need...

BUY & SELL hometownlife.com

Absolutely Free

TV: 35" RCA Home Theater TV. 7 Mile & US 23 area. 734-449-4030

Antiques & Collectibles

HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANTIQUE SHOW Sat. Jan. 19, 9-4. S3. Liberty School, 7265 AA - Saline Rd., Saline, 48176. 734-944-0713

Auction Sales

ESTATE AUCTION Sat., Jan. 19, 7pm Cultural Center 525 Farmer Plymouth MI Collectibles & Antiques Furniture, Glassware Railroad Items, Clocks; BB Guns; Tools Cash/MC/Visa Bank Debit Cards No Checks Doors Open 6pm Joe Carli, Professional Auction Service 734-451-7444 jcauctionservices.com

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Garage/Moving Sales

LIVONIA Estate Sale of a Shop-a-Holic 2777 Schoolcraft Rd., Suite 9, southeast of 96, Wixomster. Jan. 18-20, 10-5pm. Almost everything is Brand New & Cool Vintage furniture...

NORTHVILLE TWP. Estate Sale

49129 Rainbow Lane S. S. Of Six Mile, E. of Ridge Rd. (Arcadia Ridge). Fr., 10-5pm & Sat., 10am-4pm. Oak barrister book case, 2 oak dining room table & chairs, oak buffet, library desk w/file drawers/cabinet/wall-unit, sleeper bed sofa, bedroom set, area carpets, refrigerator, chest freezer, decorations, dishes, crystal, household goods, tools, file cabinets & etc.

Household Goods

DINING ROOM SET: 6 chairs, table, china cabinet, excel. shape, \$55. Reclining couch - new, paid \$800, asking \$195. Two lg speakers, brand new. \$50. Custom built, complete computer, \$195, 1 air cond., \$45. 5 Mile/Farmington. 734-367-0556

MISC ITEMS- Bdrm set, wall unit \$500. Queen mattress set, \$300. Dresser w/mirror \$300. Full size mattress, \$50. Snow blower \$300. Microwave \$250. Printer desk, \$75. 313-254-1651

Computers

COMPUTER Apple G5 computer for parts. Includes Aircard & wireless antenna. \$125/best. 734-634-8196

Lawn Garden & Snow Equip

RIDING LAWN MOWER - OLDER J OHN DEER As is, \$150. Call: 248-347-9664

SNOWBLOWERS - TORO: One pull start, \$110; one electric start, \$150. Excel. cond. Call: (248) 476-2724

Misc. For Sale

TRADE CENTER Shop at over 200 booths! 8 Mile east of Van Dyke in the Bel-Air Mall 866-323-3357 New Vendors Always Welcome!

Musical Instruments

ESTATE Instrument Collection Vintage Guitars, Amps, Sax's, Cello, Violins and More! DougDaltonAuctioneer.com (800)801-6452 DougDalton@comcast.net

Sporting Goods

CLUB CAR GOLF CART 2008: Electric, \$2200. 313-702-2266, 313-320-2014

Wanted - Buy

WANTED - FIRE ARMS, COLLECTIBLES & MILITARY RELICS Call Richard 248-767-1579

WANTED: Old Fishing Tackle & related items. Successful Deer Hunter Patches Call Bill: (734) 890-1047

Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies Newspapers

CareerBuilder

Yahoo!

The right candidate! To learn more, Call 800-579-7355

Job Opportunities

PETS hometownlife.com

Cats

CAT - Fixed female, long hair, black. No young children. Needs loving home. 248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

FOUND: Beautiful, sweet disposition, young yellow male cat, needs good home. Call: (734) 261-1676

Dogs

SHIH TZU PUPS, AKC Vet checked, shots, highly socialized, males. Ready to go & Priced to go. 734-699-9525

Found - Pets

FOUND CATS: Black and white, near Palmer and Wildwood, Westland. Call: (734) 397-8187

FOUND CAT: Tan & White, long haired. Near Palmer & Wildwood, Westland. Call: (734) 397-8187

WHEELS cars.com

Boat & Vehicle Storage

RV, Trucks & Boat Storage 24 hr. camera surveillance & access. Redford area. Call Paul: (313) 506-3850

Auto Misc.

WE PAY TOP DOLLAR For Clean USED CARS AVIS FORD (248) 355-7500

Trucks for Sale

CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2010 Sateen Silver, pl. pw, and 4WD! Ready to work hard for you! Reduced to \$18,920! 888-372-9836

FORD F-150 2010 13T6047A - S/C, Fx4, 4x4, 5.4 V8, full pwr, alloys. Certified! Rates as low as 0.9%. \$21,988 North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Job Opportunities

Trucks for Sale

FORD F-150 S/CAB 2005 12T6069A- 4x4, V8, 4WD, full power, alloys, fully inspected & warranty. Showroom New. \$13,988 North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

FORD F350 1979 w/snow plow, V-blade, strong 400, V-8, 56,000 miles, no rust. \$2500! best offer. 734-353-9593

FORD F-350 2010 P2125 - XLT, 15 passenger, auto, a/c, full pwr, rear a/c. Only 44,000 one owner miles! \$22,988 North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

GMC SIERRA 1500 2000 - Z71 Off road pkg. V8, 5300. 4 wheel drive, extended cab, exc cond., loaded, 1 owner. 95,400 miles. \$8900. For more info go to craigslist. 313-388-0616

GMC YUKON XL 2008 Gray, 85k, 4x4, only \$23,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Mini-Vans

PONTIAC MONTANA 2002 Brown, \$6,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Vans

BUICK TERRAZA 2005 Red, loaded, 87k, Only \$7,995. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CALIBER 2011 White, 37k \$13,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Sports Utility

BUICK ENCLAVE 2010 AWD, loaded, White, Must See! \$28,900 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

BUICK ENCLAVE 2010 Silver CXL, 40k, \$27,995. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

BUICK LACROSSE 2009 CXL, Dark Gray, 47k, \$16,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVROLET EQUINOX 2006 Silver Ice, LT, and AWD! Beat the elements this year! Only \$12,566! 888-372-9836

CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2009 Blizzard White, long bed, and ABS! Hard working truck! Only \$13,989! 888-372-9836

CHEVROLET TAHOE 2009 Silver Birch, LTZ, and 4WD! All the bells and whistles! Reduced to \$24,649! 888-372-9836

CHEVY SILVERADO 2009 12T2016B C/Cab, 4x4, auto, a/c, full pwr, only 37,000 careful owner miles. Priced to move! \$23,988! North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

CHEVY SILVERADO 2011 Ext. 4x4, Gray, 30K, \$24,495 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY SUBURBAN 2005 Burgundy LT, loaded, 4x4 \$13,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY TAHOE 2007 LTZ White, Loaded, Only \$18,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY T-BLAZER 2005 LS, 4x4, \$9,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 2007 Shadow Black, LT, and 4WD! Excite your senses! Reduced to \$13,327! 888-372-9836

Job Opportunities

Sports Utility

CHEVY TRAVERSE 2009 Blue, Must See \$18,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

DODGE DURANGO SLT 2006 Very nice. \$11,495. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

DODGE JOURNEY 2009 Shadow Black, R/T, and loaded! Own the road! Reduced to \$15,419! 888-372-9836

FORD EDGE SPORT 2011 13T5064A - Leather, Full Pwr, only 16,000 1 owner miles. Rates as low as 0.9%, \$31,888 North Brothers Certified 800-586-7931

FORD ESCAPE 2008 Polar White, Limited, and sun-roof! Ready for Adventure! Only \$14,988! 888-372-9836

FORD ESCAPE 2013 13T6022A, Titanium, 2.0 Ecobost, 4WD, Navigation, Only 5000 Miles. Save thousands, over new! North Brothers Main 800-586-7931

FORD EXPEDITION 2002 P21573, XLT, 4x4, Runs & drives great, newer tires, spotless condition \$4,988 North Brothers Value Lot 800-586-7931

GMC ACADIA 2010 SLE, 38k, \$22,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC ENVOY 2008 Gray Horizon, SLE, and sunroof! Ready for the winter elements! Reduced to \$15,899! 888-372-9836

GMC ENVOY XL 2006 Silver Shine, SLT, leather, and remote start! Room for 7! Reduced to \$12,995! 888-372-9836

LAND ROVER LR 3 2006 13,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

MERCURY Mountainer 2009 P21577 - Premier, AWD, leather, moonroof, chrome, non-smoker. Certified! Rates as low as 0.9%. \$21,988 North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

Sports & Imported

BMW X5 2007 Galaxy Gray, 3.0si, leather, AWD, chrome! Luxury meets durability! Reduced to \$26,987! 888-372-9836

CHEVROLET EQUINOX 2010 Summit White, AWD, SR, and remote start! Show the snow who's boss! Only \$20,800! 888-372-9836

Acura

ACURA TL 2007 12T6131A - Navigation, leather, moonroof, alloys, fully inspected & warranted. Priced to move! \$13,988 North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

BMW

ENCLAVE 2010 Black, FWD, \$23,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

LACROSSE CXL 2010 White, \$23,495 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

LACROSSE CXL 2011 27K, Silver, loaded, \$29,995! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

LACROSSE CXL 2011 27K, Silver, Only \$22,795! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Job Opportunities

Buick

LUCERNE 2009 CXL Special Silver, 35K, Only \$18,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

REGAL 2011 Gold, 23K, Only \$20,995! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

REGAL 2011 T/B, Silver, 26K, Only \$20,749! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Cadillac

CADILLAC SRX 2004 Silver, runs great! \$8,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CADILLAC SRX 2011 13T4002A - Leather, panoramic roof, full power, only 4,600 miles! \$31,988 North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

SRX 2007 Silver, 72K, AWD, Now \$14,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVROLET CRUZE 2012 Jet Black, 4K, & power options! Many safety features! Reduced to \$16,722! 888-372-9836

HHR 2008 Harvest Orange, remote start, & power options! Happy Cruise! Reduced to \$9,918! 888-372-9836

MALIBU 2006 Light Metallic, \$7995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

MALIBU 2009 Black Knight, LT, leather & remote start! Feeling good...looking good! Reduced to \$14,919! 888-372-9836

MALIBU 2013 Pearl White, 2LT, and loaded! Equipped with E-assist! Reduced to \$24,383! 888-372-9836

Auto Misc.

Chrysler-Plymouth

CHRYSLER 200 2012 Touring, Silver 22k, \$14,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC 734-453-2500S

Ford

FIESTA 2011 12C8667B, Ford Certified, 5 Spd, A/C, Only 27K miles. Rates as low as 0.9% \$12,988 North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

FOCUS FLEX SEL 2009 13T1114A, leather, alloys, full power, rates as low as 0.9% \$22,988 North Brothers Certified 800-586-7931

FUSION 2007 Silver Streak, SE, and power options! Won't be around long! Only \$12,587! 888-372-9836

FUSION SPORT 2011 P21555, auto, a/c, full pwr., alloys, only 18K. Rates as low as 0.9%. \$22,988 North Brothers Certified 800-586-7931

TAURUS 2008 Black-Blue, 63K, \$13,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Honda

CIVIC 2010 Silver, 4 door, \$13,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

HONDA CIVIC 2007 Ocean Blue, LX, and ABS! Gas sipper! Only \$10,587! 888-372-9836

Hyundai

HYUNDAI SONATA 2011 Phantom Black, GLS, and power options! Quick to impress! Only \$11,881! 888-372-9836

Jepi

JEEP COMPASS 2008 Candy Apple Red, 4WD, and alloys! Control nature's elements! Only 11,888! 888-372-9836

JEEP WRANGLER 2008 56K, Must See \$16,495 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Auto Misc.

Mazda

MIATA MX-5 2010 13T9074B- 6 spd., leather, retractable hard top convertible 6000 1 owner miles. showroom new! \$20,988 North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

Mercury

MONTEGO PREMIER 2007 P21571, leather, full power, fully inspected & warranted, \$10,988 North Brothers Value Lot 800-586-7931

Pontiac

GRAND PRIX GT 2002 Very nice, \$6,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GRAND PRIX GT 2002 White, loaded, 76K, Only \$6,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

PONTIAC G6 2006 Victory Red, GT, and convertible! One sweet ride! Reduced to \$11,206! 888-372-9836

PONTIAC G8 2009 Black leather, roof, 27k, \$19,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

PONTIAC GRAND PRIX 2007 13T6032B, GT, auto, A/C, moonroof, alloys, only 70,000 careful owner miles. \$11,488. North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

Saturn

OUTLOOK 2007 XE, AWD, \$12,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

OUTLOOK 2008 Red, \$17,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

SATURN VUE XE 2010 P21562- Auto, a/c, full power, alloys, super clean, fully inspected & warranted. \$15,988 North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

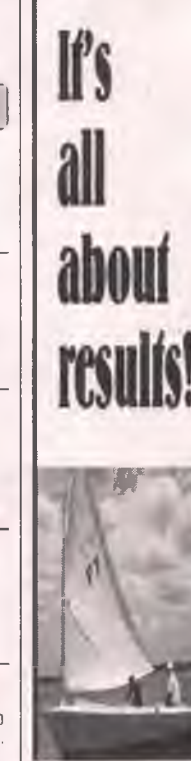
VUE 2008 AWD, Only \$10,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Auto Misc.

Vaux

C70 2006 55K. Red convertible, \$22,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

XC70, 2008 Excellent condition. Leather, blis, black, 83K miles. 248-310-2274



...and it's all here!

1-800-579-SELL (7355)

Auto Misc.

Lou LaRiche CHEVROLET Big Savings! Best Deals! USE UP TO \$3,000 IN GM CARD BONUS EARNINGS AT LOU LARICHE CHEVROLET Take Advantage of AUTO SHOW BONUS CASH on Purchases & Leases for Malibu, Equinox, Camaro & Silverado. Aunts, Uncles, Nieces & Nephews now qualify for the GM Employee Purchase Program!

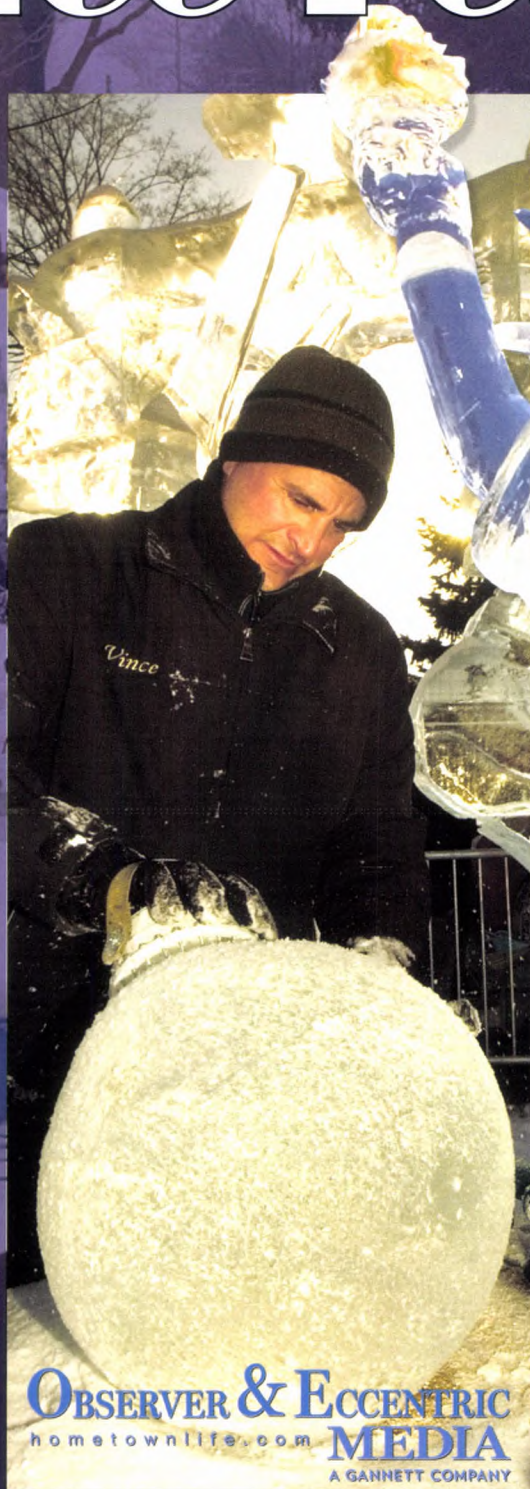
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numbs up! Whatever you're after, you'll find it in the Classifieds. That's all there is to it! 1-800-579-7355 Fax: 586-826-7318 www.hometownlife.com

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Friday, Jan. 18 through Sunday, Jan. 20

Plymouth Ice Festival



OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
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A GANNETT COMPANY

Supplement to the Canton Observer, Livonia Observer, Plymouth Observer and Northville Record

AN O&E MEDIA PUBLICATION . www.hometownlife.com



Our 3 Best-Kept Secrets

1. Breakfast

Our NEW breakfast menu features oatmeal, breakfast quiches, yogurt parfaits, fresh fruit and more - great companions to our 5 varieties of gourmet coffee, fresh-baked cinnamon rolls, turnovers and muffins.



2. Lunch

Our soup, salad and hot and cold sandwich menu has something for everyone's taste in the comfort of a bright and spacious dining room.



3. Dinner

We have become the area's comfort food headquarters with a variety of hot soups, fresh-baked quiches and pot pies, and a choice of combos for when it's too hard to make up your mind.

Bring your Appetite
It's Comfort Food Time!

3-Course COMBO

Slice of pie,
side house salad
and...

**FRESH-BAKED
QUICHE \$8.99**

-or-

**FRESH-BAKED
POT PIE \$9.99**

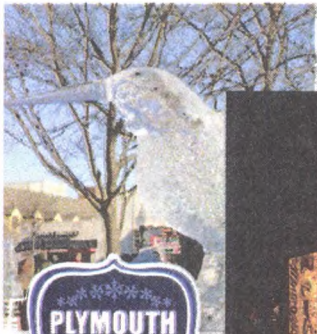
No substitutions. Valid only at
Plymouth location.

Available daily 11am-7pm.

Expires 3/31/13.

Taste The Warmth!

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PIE COMPANY
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1/4 Mile W. of Haggerty
(734) 459-9200**



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The Plymouth Ice Festival
MADE IN MICHIGAN MARKETPLACE

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Welcome to Plymouth's 31st Ice Festival

This year Plymouth celebrates its 31st year hosting the internationally known Plymouth Ice Festival. Every January our community welcomes thousands of visitors to downtown Plymouth for a festival that highlights the talents of amateur and professional ice carvers and offers a wide array



Dwyer

of artistic sculptures for visitors to enjoy. Organizers this year are adding some new features, including a synthetic skate rink

designed to provide an extra boost of winter fun.

There will be activities to entertain youngsters of all ages that will provide three days of eye-popping, teeth-chattering fun.

The folks organizing the festival are working hard to make it a memorable experience. We know you'll love

the time you spend in beautiful downtown Plymouth.

Be sure to keep up on all of our special events by checking us out on the web at www.downtownplymouth.org.

Welcome!

Dan Dwyer, mayor
city of Plymouth

Ice Fest heats Plymouth streets

The 2013 Plymouth Ice Festival will heat up the streets of downtown Plymouth.

The city's 31st ice festival takes place in Kellogg Park, The Gathering and on the streets of downtown Plymouth.

For this year's festival, organizer Sam Walton has increased the winter sports activities to include ice skating and snowboarding as well as cross country skiing, which was introduced in 2011.

"I'm looking forward not only to a great event, but also some nice cold weather," said Sam Walton, whose Signature Audio Group produces the show.

Plans include a synthetic ice rink made of textured plastic panels treated with a nontoxic lubricant — in case of warmer weather. The popular cross country skiing course is back, along with a new snowboarding area.

Among the planned activities are an opening ceremony, live entertainment, collegiate ice-carving competitions and the Dueling Chainsaws speed-carving competition, expanded to eight carvers from four this year.

Walton said he also wants to improve the sheltered Hot Spot in The Gathering, where there will be refreshments, product demonstra-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Thousands of visitors will walk Plymouth streets to see the 31st annual Plymouth Ice Festival.

ICE TIME

What: 31st Plymouth Ice Festival

Where: Downtown Plymouth, Kellogg Park, The Gathering

When: Friday-Sunday, Jan. 18-20

Times: Official hours of operation are 3-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20.

Also: Sculptures are available for viewing 24 hours a day and will remain standing after the event, weather permitting.

tions and a chance to meet with carvers and watch them at work.

Ice carver Aaron Whitten eyes the details on the sculpture he carved at last year's Plymouth Ice Festival.



— By Matt Jachman

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The sculptures are interactive, as 6-year-old Jared Olsonbaker found out last year while getting his picture taken with one of them.

Things to do at Plymouth's Ice Festival

Here's a list of all the things you can enjoy during your visit to the 31st Plymouth Ice Festival:

Featured events

- **Greenhills School Ice Skating Rink** — For the first year at the ice festival, you and your family can take a spin around Kellogg Park on a beautiful ice rink. Skates available. Open during all official open hours of the event.
- **DTE Energy Hot Spot Warming Tent** — The Hot Spot Warming Tent is under The Gathering directly across from Kellogg Park. It features more than 20 local vendors and businesses, product demonstrations, a sitting area to take a load off your feet and (most

importantly) lots of heat. Open during all the official hours of the event.

- **MGM Grand Party Lot** — At E.G. Nick's on Forest Avenue, 6 p.m. to midnight Friday, Jan. 18 (with The Bluecasters playing from 7 p.m. to midnight); 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Jan. 19 (JR and the Sellouts playing at 7 p.m.). Facility features cold refreshments, drink specials, live music and the best seat in the house for the AGA Nation Rail Jam.
- **Interactive ice sculptures** — Visitors can get their picture taken with some of the most amazing ice creations around.
- **College carving competitions** — Individual carving competition Saturday, Jan. 19; team carving competition

Sunday, Jan. 20. Sponsored by Geni-sys Credit Union. All judging is done by experienced and professional judges. A win at the festival means that the students can move forward to regional competition status.

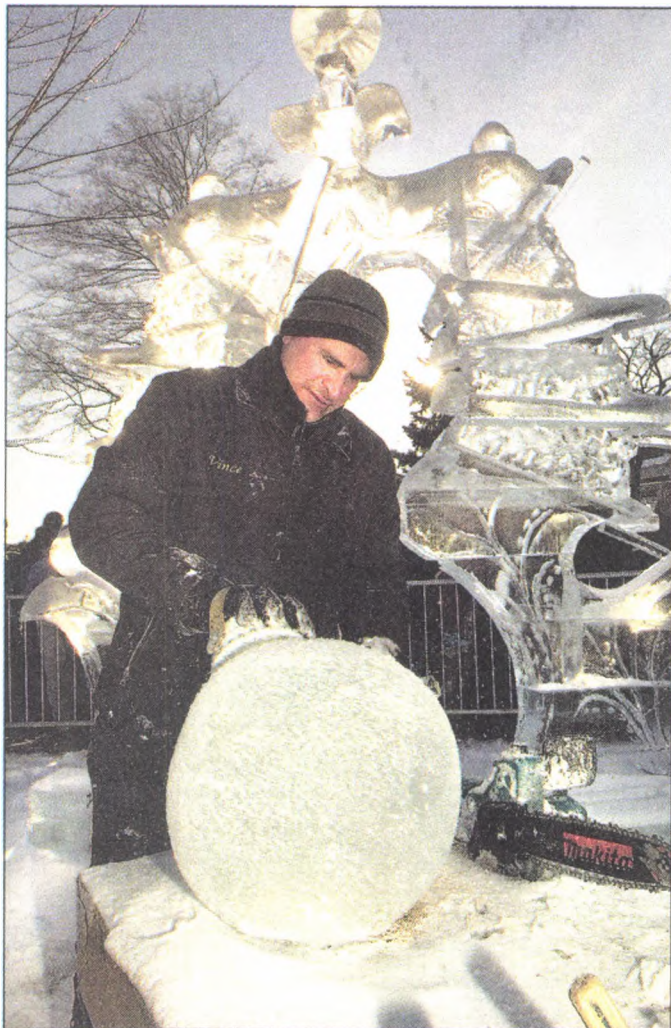
Main stage

The Community Financial Main Stage features live entertainment, awards ceremonies, presentations and music throughout the weekend of the festival.

Dueling Chainsaws

- Saturday, Jan. 19, 7 p.m. — The Dueling Chainsaws Speed Carving

Please see **EVENTS, 7**



Vince Terrana made this sphere for the large sculpture in the background at last year's festival.

EVENTS

Continued from page 6

Competition returns to the Community Financial Main Stage. Visitors can watch professional ice carvers create works of art right before your eyes. These professionals take audience requests.

Fire and Ice Towers

- Friday, Jan. 18, and Saturday, Jan. 19, approximately 8 p.m. both nights. Fire and ice are combined to create a dazzling display. Towers will burn for approximately two hours.

Family fun

- The Blue Care Network of Michigan Sports Family Fun Zone, presented by Sun

& Snow Sports, is open during all official hours of the festival. Bring the family down to Kellogg Park to try cross country skiing, with seasoned professionals providing advice.

Party trailer

Visitors can check out video games in an enclosed (and warm) custom trailer with four 50-inch screens. Players can see and feel the game experience like never before.

Michigan made

- ACO Hardware Made in Michigan Marketplace on Forest Avenue. Take a stroll down the street to see what is made right here in the mitten state. Check the ice fest website for a list of vendors.

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The Plymouth Ice Festival partners with AGA Nation to help visitors experience the thrill of snowboarding, located on Forest Avenue.

Snowboarding at ice fest

The Plymouth Ice Festival partners with AGA Nation to help visitors experience the thrill of snowboarding, located on Forest Avenue.

- Kickoff 3 p.m., Friday, Jan. 18. Top instructors on-site for special skier and snowboard instruction located right on Forest Avenue in front of E.G. Nick's. Friday Night riding is free courtesy of the Plymouth Ice Festival, Labatt Blue, Svedka Vodka, Tuaca and E.G. Nick's.

Complete AGA Nation Schedule of Events:

- Friday, Jan. 18 (Forest Avenue Clinic and Rail Jam) 3-10 p.m. – AGA Nation Clinic on Forest Avenue 6 p.m. to midnight – AGA Nation Downtown Rail Jam in E.G. Nicks parking lot, with open riding and demonstrations.

- Saturday, Jan. 19 (Skiers and snowboarders):

10 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., AGA Nation Clinic on Forest Avenue

6-7 p.m., AGA Nation Downtown Rail Jam, registration, practice and open session

7-8 p.m., Downtown Rail Jam Competition, Advanced and Intermediate divisions

8-9 p.m., Open Break for grooming and course maintenance

9-11 p.m., Demonstrations plus Saturday's Night Main Event Finals

11-11:30 p.m., awards presentation

On Saturday, Jan. 19, under the lights at the Downtown Rail Jam, the area's top snowboarders and skiers converge to compete for cash, prizes and more. For riders who wish to compete on Saturday, entry fee is \$10. Free riding is also available.

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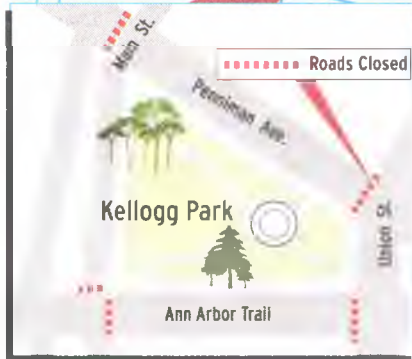
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2013 Plymouth Ice Festival



View sculptures 24 hours in Kellogg Park, the Gathering, Central Parking Deck and throughout the Downtown area.

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- WindowPro
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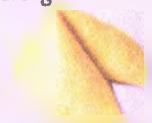
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Plenty of places to eat during festival

Elephant ears, popcorn, roasted almonds and hot chocolate are available along with BBQ, gourmet hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza and more. Food sales on-site can be enjoyed in the warmth of the DTE Energy Hot Spot — tables and chairs are provided.

If you're looking to enjoy a meal indoors, try one of these nearby downtown restaurants or visit Old Village.

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Ironwood Grill

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Randy Cline and daughter Cristina watched carvers at the 2012 Plymouth Ice Festival. The father-daughter duo made the trip from Birmingham.

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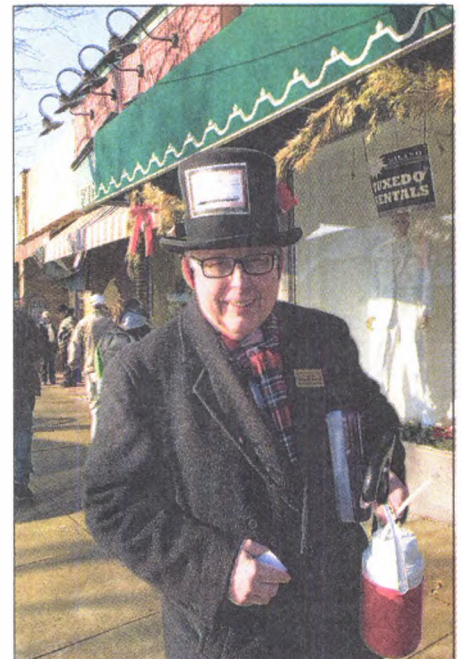
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George Harvell welcomed visitors to Plymouth for last year's ice festival.

Ski track puts focus on outdoor sports

A last-minute idea to give youngsters a little something else to do during the Plymouth Ice Festival a couple of years ago turned into one of the event's more popular activities.

And, after seeing wall-to-wall crowds the last two years, the owners of Sun & Snow in downtown Plymouth are bringing back their cross country ski track.

"It came to us the first night of ice festival," said Rob Parent, co-owner of Sun & Snow. "It was one of those last-minute ideas that just worked."

The whole idea, Parent said, is to expose people — mostly kids — to outdoor sports. It fits right into the mission of Sun & Snow, a full-service ski, snowboard, kayak, canoe swim and apparel shop. Family-owned and -operated for more than 35 years, Parent said the Sun & Snow staff is committed to serving customers' active lifestyles.

"We actually use the equipment we sell, and we spend time with each customer to understand their needs and set them up with the right gear for them," a disclaimer on the company's website says. "Sun & Snow only carries equipment from top-quality manufacturers, and we stand unequivocally behind the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Five-year-old Reagan Warren of Farmington Hills tried cross country skiing at last year's festival.

products we sell."

Parent said the track was incredibly popular again last year.

"They were lined up all day," he said. "It's an even bigger hit with parents, who saw the smiles on their kids' faces. That's really the best part of the whole thing."

The track will be operating during festival hours Saturday and Sunday.

Parent said while development of the track was designed primarily to provide an activity for children, a side benefit was a boost in attention to outdoor sports that resulted.

"There was definitely an influx of (ski) rentals right after that," Parent said. "It becomes a family activity."

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Ice sculptors carved revival with festival's support

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

The Plymouth Ice Festival has strengthened culinary education programs and helped revive the art of ice carving in Michigan over the last three decades, according to a veteran carver and instructor.

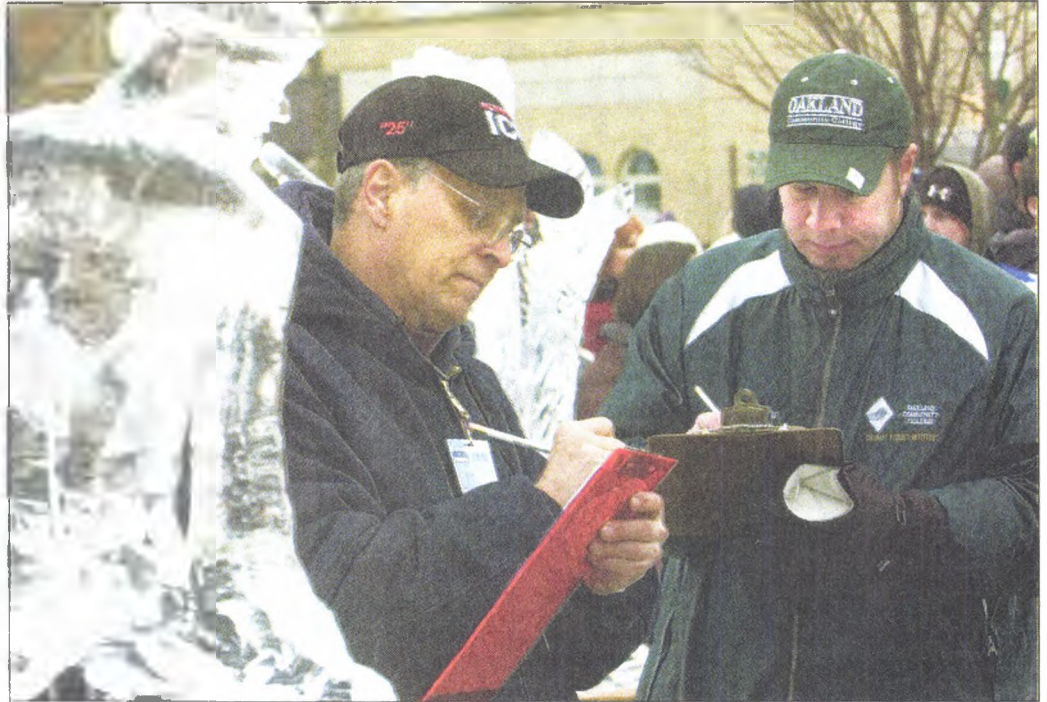
Richard Teeple, who recently retired from Henry Ford Community College, where he taught in the culinary arts program for more than 30 years, said "there's no question" the festival has been a boost to his school and to ice carving in general.

"Many of my students over the last 30 years have gotten their start there, and they have opened up very successful ice-carving businesses," said Teeple, who still advises at HFCC and will help coordinate the collegiate competition during this year's festival.

The 2013 edition of the Plymouth Ice Festival, the 31st annual, is Friday, Jan. 18, through Sunday, Jan. 20, at Kellogg Park and nearby downtown streets. It will feature more than 100 ice sculptures, team and individual competitions, the popular "Dueling Chainsaws" competition, entertainment, refreshments, wintertime sports and more.

Teeple said the art of ice carving "was dying" at the time the festival began in the 1980s, and that by providing a venue for student carvers and the expensive raw materials — blocks of ice — the show in Plymouth helped bring it back.

"It was one of the reasons why Henry Ford has invested so much time and money



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Richard Teeple, who is retired from Henry Ford Community College (here judging a recent carving competition with Doug Ganhs of Oakland Community College) said the annual Plymouth Ice Festival has helped revive the art of ice carving in Michigan.



Jeff Lao smoothed his sculpture, while Michelle Klucka stood back from the torches while competing for Henry Ford Community College.

into developing an ice program, was because of the ice festival," Teeple said. The college went on to build top ice-carving teams that would tour a dozen or so cit-

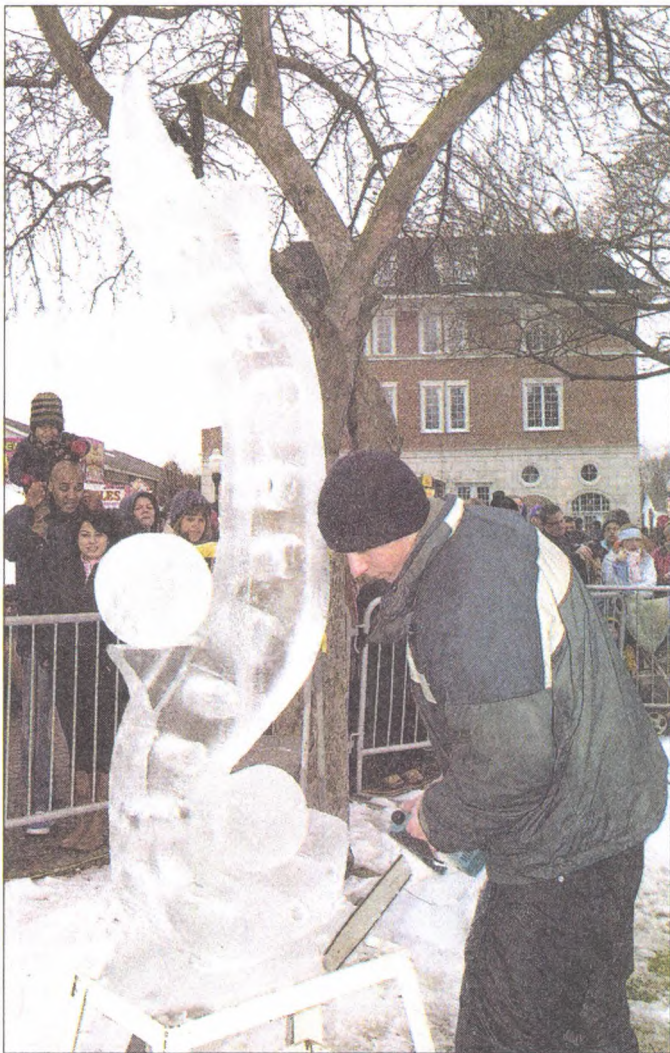
ies, in other states and even other countries, every year, he said.

"You could always count on getting experience" at the Plymouth show, he said.

"The community colleges' participation in the ice festival is crucial as it ensures the art of ice sculpting continues," said Sam Walton, the event producer. "The schools that participate always bring their finest sculptors, and the public really gets a lot of enjoyment out of their carving demonstrations."

Teeple said that, so far this year, 38 students and 14 different teams have signed up for the collegiate competition, and that others are continuing to register. Schools that will be represented include the University of Michigan, Macomb Community College and Washtenaw Community College, in addition to HFCC, he said.

Please see **SCULPTORS**, 13



Macomb Community College student Sean Ess worked on this sculpture right down to the final minutes of competition.

SCULPTORS

Continued from page 12

Individual collegiate competition will take place Saturday, Jan. 19, and team competition Sunday, Jan. 20, both in Kellogg Park.

Teeplesaid that since the festival's early days, decorative ice carvings have expanded into functional pieces such as serving trays, punch bowls and "shot luges."

"Ice carving has really evolved," he said.

Another way to measure the growth in popularity of ice carving, he said, is the increasing use of carvings at weddings, parties and corporate events and in television commer-

cial. Sculptures of corporate logos have also become much more common, he said.

Teeplesaid, who helped organize early ice festivals, said he's not planning to pick up the chisel this year.

"This is the first time in 30 years I'm not carving anything with this show, so I'm having withdrawal," he said.

Hours for this year's Plymouth Ice Festival are 3-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20. For more information, visit the festival website, plymouthicefestival.com.

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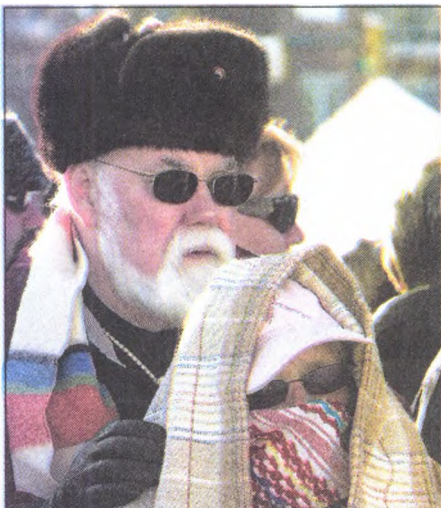
Ice festival provides plenty of memories



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton professional sculptor Ted Wakar (above) went to work on his sculpture at last year's Plymouth Ice Festival. Wakar is a perennial favorite at the festival. The Statue of Liberty (top), at the corner of Main and Penniman, was one of the larger pieces at last year's ice festival. The sculptures in Kellogg Park are available for 24/7 viewing.

Don and Joy Crawford were ready for the chilly walk around Kellogg Park during the 2012 festival.



Four-year old Yohnathan Rappoport got down low to get a bird's-eye view while watching ice carvers in Kellogg Park.

Festival helped shape Plymouth's image

By **Matt Jachman**
Staff Writer

Visitors can thank a four-decades-old television news magazine for inspiring a local institution, the Plymouth Ice Festival, that now also has some years — this is its 31st — behind it.

Festival founder Scott Lorenz says he was inspired 30 years ago by a segment of CBS's *60 Minutes* that spotlighted the Sapporo Snow Festival, a giant display of snow statues and ice sculptures in Japan's fourth-largest city.

"This was incredible, because they had these giant ice sculptures that were as big as a building," Lorenz said, recalling the *60 Minutes* episode.

Lorenz, then general manager of the Mayflower Hotel, which was owned by his family, envisioned staging a similar event in downtown Plymouth. He approached his father, Ralph, with the idea.

"You're crazy. It'll never work," was the response, he said. Then-City Manager Hank Graper said the same thing, according to Lorenz.

Quick first launch

But Graper got back to him shortly with an assist: he had mentioned the idea to a few people, and suddenly had some sponsors and a budget. And Ralph Lorenz, too, offered help, suggesting his son get in touch with

the chefs who taught ice carving at Schoolcraft College. After contacting Midwest Ice, a Detroit supplier dating from the 1920s, they were in business.

"We put the first one together in 45 days," said Lorenz, who owns a public relations firm, Westwind Communications. The first show had a dozen or two sculptures, he said.

The festival grew steadily in the 1980s, and Lorenz said he tried to continually improve it, traveling to ice shows around the country to glean ideas, flying to Japan to attract top carvers, signing big sponsors such as Northwest Air-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lady Liberty watched over last year's Plymouth Ice Festival from her perch in Kellogg Park.

Please see IMAGE, 16

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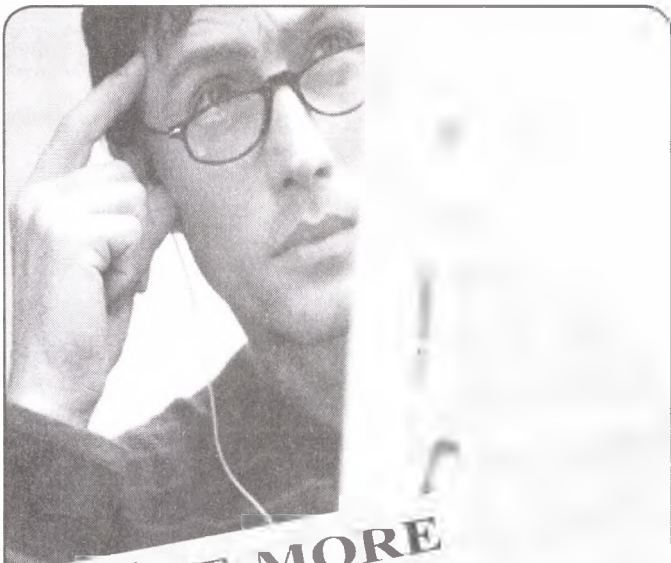
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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton ice sculptor Ted Wakar has been a big part of the Plymouth Ice Festival, which marks its 31st year Jan. 18-20.

IMAGE

Continued from page 15

lines, and adding sculptures that let the festival branch out from Kellogg Park into a number of downtown streets.

At its peak in the late '80s, Lorenz said, there were about 200 sculptures on the streets and a few dozen in the park.

The public was drawn to it, the media loved it, and the festival put Plymouth on the map for a lot of people, Lorenz said.

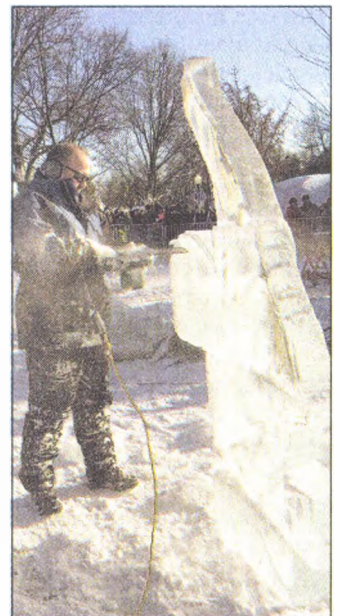
"As far as publicity and exposure for the town, nothing else comes close," he said.

31st on tap

The 31st annual Plymouth Ice Festival is scheduled for Jan. 18-20. Producer Sam Walton has said the foundation built by Lorenz and others, as well as the show's loyal following, has gotten it this far.

"It's a testament to patrons and promoters," Walton said recently of the festival's longevity. "The momentum that's been developed has just been fantastic, and that's what's gotten us 30 years down the road."

Walton, producing his fourth festival, has said it's a family friendly event with



Sculptor Jim Bur is a popular figure at most Plymouth Ice Festival events.

more ice and more activities than the last one.

"The ice is obviously a big draw, but we're trying to offer something for everybody," Walton said.

Lorenz, who went on to direct the Christmas light display at Domino's Farms from 1992-97, remains a big fan of the festival he started.

"If I'm in town, I go. And it's great," he said. "It's great not to worry about it, too."

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Answers to common ice festival questions

The answers to some commonly asked questions about the Plymouth Ice Festival, the oldest and largest continuously running ice carving event in America:

How and why did the event begin?

Scott Lorenz, son of the owner of the Plymouth Mayflower Hotel, came up with the idea after visiting a similar event in Japan. The event was established to fill a void in the post-holiday retail slowdown. (Hotel, restaurant and retail business takes a nosedive immediately after the holiday season.)

The concept was to create an event that was so unique that it would draw large numbers of people to Plymouth in the hope that they would also shop and eat. With an average annual attendance of more than 500,000, the event has exceeded expectations of the festival's founders.

How did the art of ice carving start?

As the story goes, once upon a time a czarina in Russia was enamored with a local man who was in love with a woman from his village. As was the custom of the day, the man went to the czarina to get her permission to wed the woman he loved. The czarina was not pleased by the request, and decided to show her displeasure by agreeing to let the couple wed only if they would spend their wedding night in a castle made of ice. She was sure this would cool their passion for each other, and/or ruin their wedding night.

Much to her surprise, love won out and the couple agreed to her condition. The czarina had her army cut blocks of ice from Lake Baikal, and build a house of ice complete with furnishings including tables, chairs and a bed for the newlyweds.



BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Judge Jeff Peterscak examined the works at last year's festival.

The couple married, spent their wedding night in the house of ice and lived happily ever after. However, word spread about the strange house of ice, and eventually people from all over Russia and Europe visited the site to gaze at the first ice castle. It was so popular that it was recreated as a tourist attraction for many years to come.

How did the art of ice carving spread?

Hearing about the unusual use of ice from countrymen who had traveled to Russia to see the famous ice castle, a French chef developed the idea of carving serving bowls of ice to keep perishable foods from spoiling and to decorate the table of the king. This idea may have been a necessity because, at the time, spoiled food or illness from a dinner could cost the chef his head in a guillotine. The French carried the art with them to the Orient, and today the Japanese are the finest and most prolific carvers in the world.

Who carves the ice statues at the Plymouth Ice Festival?

Professional ice carvers, chefs, culinary instructors and culinary art students from the area and across the country have carved the displays. The professional chef carvers, amateur carvers and student carvers all compete in the team and individual carving competitions.

Who funds the event?

The event is funded by

donations, corporate sponsorships and various fundraisers. All the monies collected go to the presentation of the event.

How much does it cost to present the event?

Organizer Sam Walton figures it costs some \$75,000 to fund the Plymouth Ice Festival.

Who benefits from the event?

The entire business community of Plymouth benefits from the presentation of the ice festival. This event has become one of the single busiest retail and restaurant weeks of the year. Many businesses in the community rely heavily on the business it generates to make ends meet in the two to three slow months that follow the holiday season. The

event also creates numerous jobs for young people in the community and, most importantly, garners more than \$1 million annually in local, regional, national and international publicity for the city of Plymouth and Plymouth Township area.

Culinary art students at area community colleges and trade high schools who need to acquire ice-carving skills to enhance their education benefit from the event. Money donated to their club is used to purchase blocks of ice for them to practice on and carving tools. Students who compete in the competitions benefit from the experience and the instruction that is given to them by the educators and professional carvers before, during and after each event.

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Sights from the ice festival

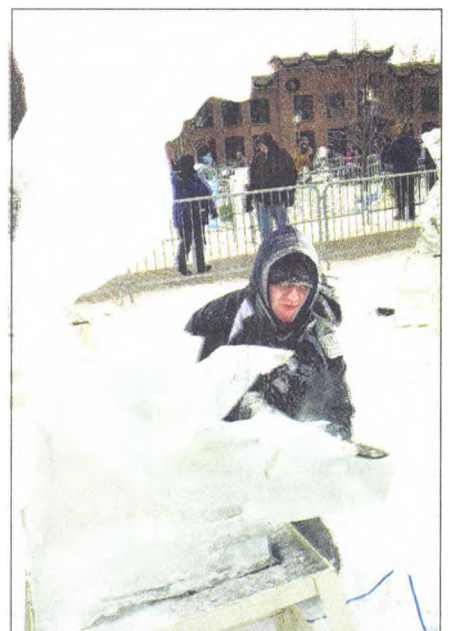


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A tyrannosaurus keeps an eye on the ice festival crowd.



The ice festival draws fans from all over the area. Cindy Folden and William Johnson, here looking at Kellogg Park sculptures, are from Melvindale.



Oakland Community College ice carver Adam Curry lives in Clarkston.



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A promotional advertisement for Antonio's Cucina Italiana. The top half of the image shows a still life with Italian wine bottles (Ruffini, Tommasi, Gattinara), a glass of red wine, and a plate of bread. The bottom half shows a plate of ravioli and a bowl of lasagna. The text is overlaid on the image.

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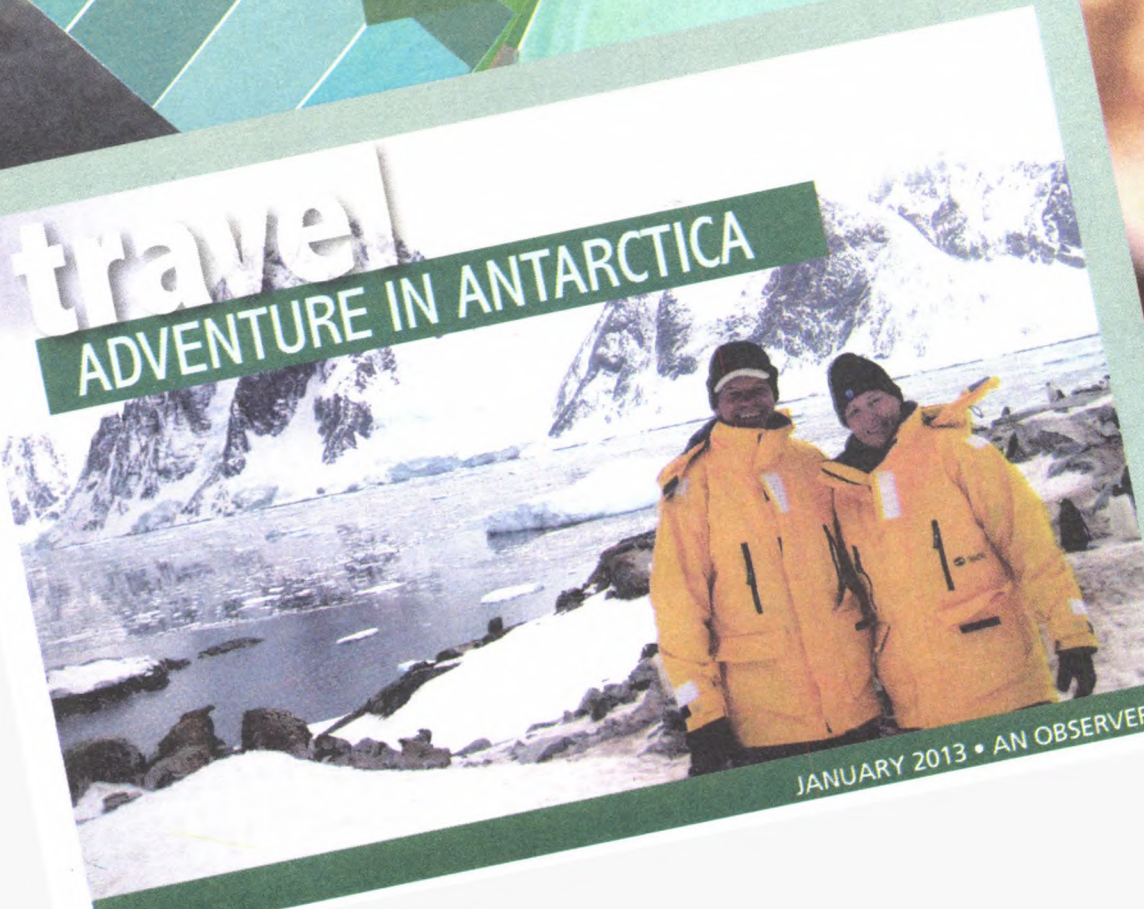


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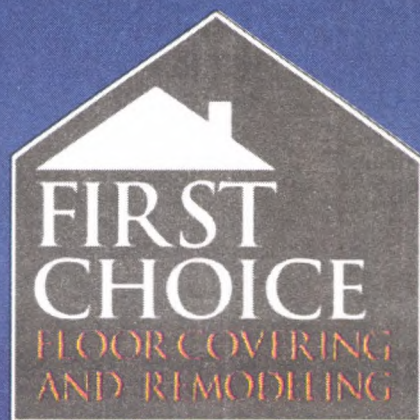


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Antarctica: The Ice Continent Journey to the bottom of the world



Chinstrap penguin mother and her newly-born chick.

By Steve Jochmans

Contributing Writer

Why would you go there? How do you get there? What is there to see? Is it cold there?

These are just a few of the questions friends ask when I tell them I am going to Antarctica for the second time in four years. Not exactly a place on everyone's vacation "bucket list." In fact, I had to drag my wife on our first trip. But after that trip, she couldn't wait to return.

Antarctica has a way of capturing your soul while piquing your interest and testing your endurance on Mother Nature's terms. It can have a profound, even life-changing experience. It is a metaphysical landscape. The only place on the planet not tied down by ownership, laws, a human population. Immense, unspoiled, and populated by some of the world's most enchanting (and brutal) creatures.

This is not a cruise, but an expedition. Early explorers Robert Scott, Roald Amundsen and Ernest Shackleton declared this region as an inhospitable continent, yet Antarctica has become a magnet that many



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE JOCHMANS

This King penguin was very curious about Steve Jochmans' camera and got unbelievably close. "I was giddy with excitement," Jochmans said.

people can't help returning to again and again.

'Simply magical'

It is one of the last pristine wildernesses, one and a half times the size of the United States and holding three-quarters of the

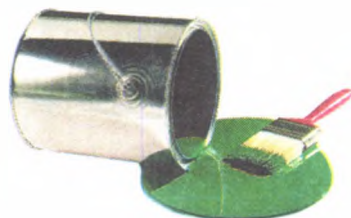
world's freshwater. It is a gigantic ice desert and is the highest, driest, windiest, emptiest, coldest place on Earth, while representing 90 percent of the planet's ice. It is simply magical.

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Go with cellulose for insulation

By **Lon Grossman**
Guest columnist

Q: I have read many pros and cons of fiberglass vs. cellulose insulation. What are your recommendations?

A: Cellulose is made from recycled, shredded and fluffed newspaper. It is mixed with a borate-based fire retardant that resists mold and insects. The insulation is mechanically blown in wet or dry and has an R-value of between 3.6 and 3.9 per inch.

Fiberglass is spun glass with an R-value between 2.25 and 3.14. Newer fiberglass insulation is environmentally greener. In the past, I recommended fiberglass. A homeowner could easily install batts or rolls, but due to cellulose's higher R-value and because it's about 85 percent recycled and greener for our planet, I'm now recommending cellulose.



Lon Grossman

Q: We have steam heat and sometimes the whole radiator doesn't get hot. Many years ago I heard bleeding of the radiators, how do I do that?

A: One-pipe systems have a chrome vent on the opposite side of the radiator where the steam pipe enters each radiator.

A two-pipe system has a pipe bringing steam into the radiator as well as a return pipe that carries condensate back to the boiler.

A few factors could be contributing to your problem:

- Improper venting.
- The vent is clogged.
- The supply to the radiator is too small.
- The metal tongue in the vent is defective or removed.
- The supply pipe is improperly pitched.
- Air leakage into the system.

Now to answer your question: Turn down the thermostat and unscrew the air vent. Soak it in vinegar to clean it. Turn the thermostat all the way up. After a few minutes, you'll hear a hissing sound from the opening in the radiator. It will be followed by a little bit of water spurting out. Finally, steam will start exiting that hole. Turn off the radiator valve and replace the vent. It should be straight up and hand tight. You should not need or use a wrench. Your radiator is now bled.

If the problem continues, check the other possible problems.

Q: I am having a problem with noise from my heating system ducts. When the heat comes on there are loud popping sounds. What is causing this and how can I solve the problem?

A: The noises you are experiencing are referred to as "oil canning." There are a few solutions you can try.

The noise is usually caused by the ductwork expanding and contracting as warm air passes through them. See if you can locate the area of the ductwork that is causing the noise and when you do, the easiest and cheapest solution is to screw 1"x2" wood strips at a 45-degree angle onto the ductwork. They strengthen the thin metal and prevent the metal from buckling as it heats up. If you still have the problem, remove the nails holding the duct straps to the bottom of the joists and replace them with rubber spacers and screws. Only remove and replace one screw at a time, unless you want the ductwork to fall.

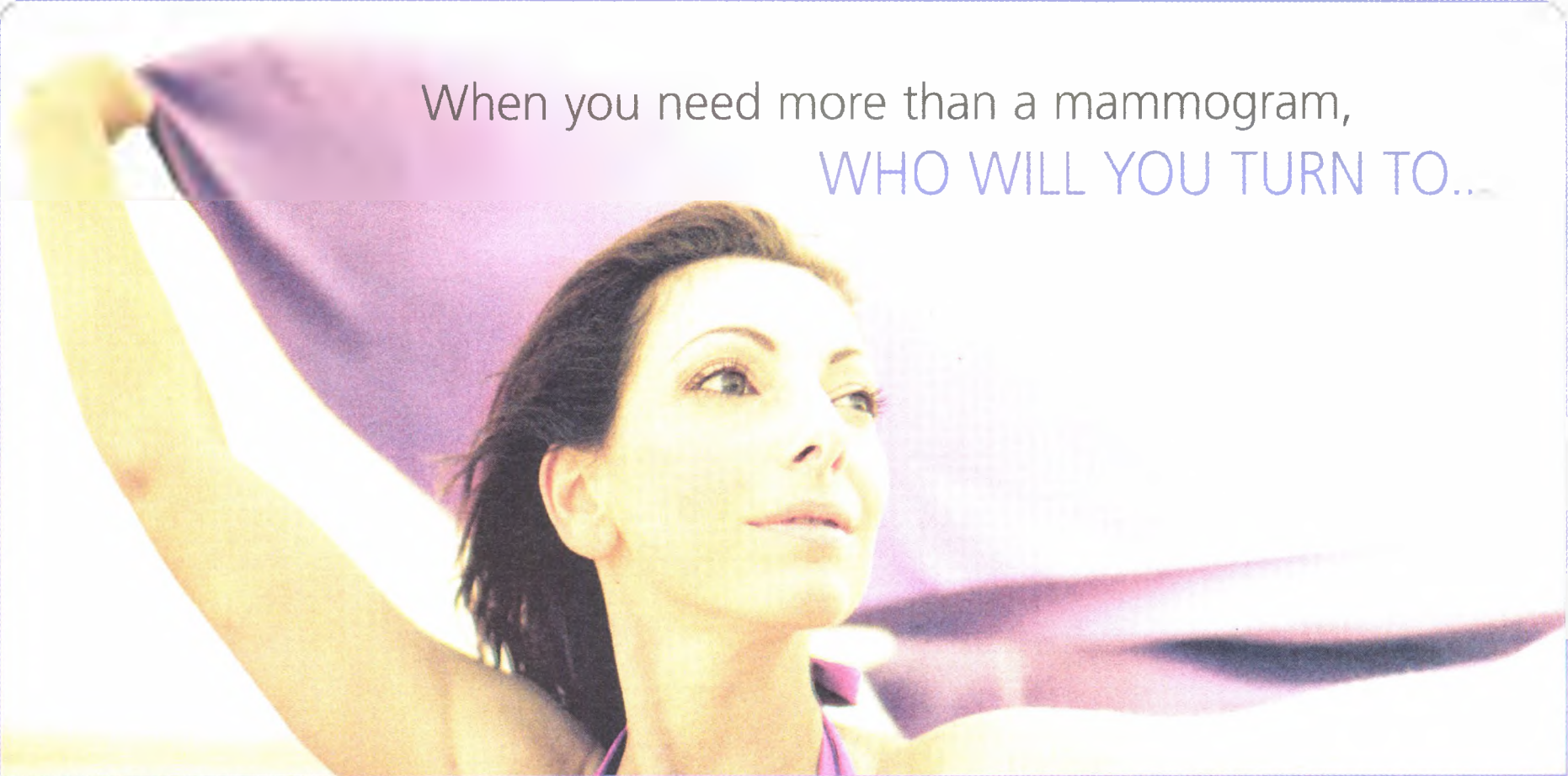
If you still have the problem, have a heating company come out to install isolation sound shields between your furnace and ductwork. They are cloth spacers that bridge sections of ductwork and prevent noise from being telegraphed by the metal. They also reduce the "oil canning."

Dear Readers,

I was trying to adhere brushed aluminum numbers onto smooth polished granite. It was to be used for an outside lawn address marker. I didn't know what adhesive would bond the two surfaces and not come off in winter's bitter cold, summer heat, as well as rain.

I've been in sticky situations before so I called the experts at Loctite. They have Loctite Quick Set epoxy. It bonds wood, metals, plastics, ceramics, glass laminates and other products and is resistant to solvents, moisture and impact. They told me to thoroughly mix equal parts of the resin and the hardener together and quickly apply it to the object. Within five minutes it set, and fully cured in 24 hours. You can find Loctite Quick Set at hardware and home centers. This is one time you want to get stuck with your problem.

Lon Grossman of Bloomfield Hills is president of Technihouse Inspections Inc., a southeast Michigan residential and commercial inspection company. E-mail your questions to him at drdiy@comcast.net. Call (248) 855-5566. Visit his website www.technihouse.com. Follow Lon's Blog at <http://drdiy.wordpress.com/>.



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Color trends

for paint, floors, appliances

By Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

The phrase "going green" takes on a completely new meaning in 2013 as home decor trends turn toward a lush, elegant emerald that conjures up images of verdant forests and deep woodland lakes.

Gone are the days of bold reds, ushered out with the old year only to be replaced by their opposite on the color wheel.

From kitchens to bedrooms to bathrooms, both vividly jeweled-toned and tranquilly sophisticated greens are making their place on walls and home furnishings alike.

"It's what I call a mysterious color — this bluish-green that can be both relaxing and invigorating," said Sarah Jason, owner of Fancy Home Interiors in Troy.

One of the winning attributes of the blue-green hue is its adaptability to different rooms in a home.

A softer shade with more grey undertones can create a serene, spa-like setting in the bedroom or the bathroom, Jason said, while deeper shades can create an upbeat, energizing feel in the kitchen.

"That is the great thing about color — it has the ability to help create a mood or ambiance that suit your lifestyle," she said.

Whether you are looking at updating the walls in your family room, dining room, kitchen or bath, remember that paint provides the biggest bang for your buck.

"Paint is the least expensive decorating tool there is. You can totally transform your room and your mood simply by changing the color of the paint," Jason said.

The trend toward deeper, richer tones also extends to flooring, according to Ron Williams of Perfect Floors in South Lyon.

"The whites and nearly whites are out. We are seeing a lot of darker, earthier tones in both in carpeting and in wood flooring," Williams said.

There is also a growing trend away from the oak floor and leaning toward other types of wood.

Both ash and hickory offer "more character," Williams said, with different grains.

Although the medium to darker tones of wood flooring are popular right now, Williams cautions homeowners to remember that the "really dark tones show everything" and may require more maintenance than a medium shade of flooring.

For carpeting, deeper shades of tans, taupes and greys have gained in pop-

Please see COLOR, 7

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Feed the birds:

Experts offer tips for a winter menu

By Michelle Muñoz
Contributing Writer

If you look out at your bird feeder this winter it might look different, but not for lack of birds. Local experts say you can get just as many birds in the winter as any other time of year if you do things correctly.

Gary Phillips, owner of Backyard Birds in downtown Plymouth, said those with feeders should not completely overhaul their system, just make some modifications. Not all birds head for warmer climates in the winter. And to some birds, southeast Michigan is south. Those who are here for the winter have different demands.

"You are going to get as many birds, actual bird count, in your yard it's just that you aren't going to get as many species," said Phillips, who opened Backyard Birds with his wife, Gene, in 1995. "The bug-eaters and the nectar-eaters and fruit-eaters have gone down South."

Winter birds are looking for water, Phillips said. Food is still available to them in the wild, but water is hard to come by. Cardinals, doves, tufted titmice and blue jays are among the species you'll likely see patronizing your feeders during colder weather.

Heating your bird bath is a way to keep water from freezing and attract some feathered friends to your yard. If you have an unheated bath, a heater that can be dropped in will do the trick.

Without leaves on the trees to provide camouflage, birds need a place to hide from predators. Weather can also prove dangerous. Phillips suggests a roosting box where small birds can huddle together and wait for danger to pass.

Mike Broughton, interpreter at Kensington Metropark in Milford, said to remain consistent with filling feeders. Keep filling feeders as much in the winter as in warm weather so birds know they can rely on your feeders for nutrition.

The hawks that cruise your yard looking for a meal no longer have as much prey, so their diet is mostly birds, Phillips said. The arrangement of your feeders can attract birds because of their protection.

Broughton suggests keeping feeders near bushes or trees, not out in the open. He said some people will use their Christmas trees around their feeders after they are done using them inside. Spreading out the feeders around your home is also a good idea, Phillips said. That means there is always a place for the birds to go to hide from a hawk's sight.

Phillips said it is important to always use a pure feed without fillers like wheat, oats or barley.

"Birds eat for free so if they don't like what you have to offer ... they'll just leave," Phillips said.

Of course, every species has its favorite feed. Black and white mixes are good for attracting songbirds.



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kate Mann of Livonia uses some sunflower seeds to get a songbird to land in her hand during a recent visit to Kensington Metropark. The park's nature center held its annual New Year's bird count earlier this month.

Goldfinches, chickadees and other birds with small beaks will feast on thistle. Suet will attract cardinals, woodpeckers and nearly all birds. Certain feeders can make food inaccessible to some species of birds, and therefore make food last longer.

Phillips advises anyone interested in bird feeding to do research, but always have fun.

"You don't need another job," Phillips said. "The idea is to invite as many species of birds as you can into your yard to enjoy their viewing, but you've got no ability to feed them all."



COLOR

Continued from page 6

ularity over recent years, replacing the lighter shades that show every foot print.

"It is really about whatever works best with your furnishings and your lifestyle," Williams said.

Another big change in home decor for 2013 is the re-emergence of black and white as stainless steel fades into the background.

Spurred on by Whirlpool's introduction of "Black Ice" (black appliances with stainless accents) and "White

Ice" (white appliances with stainless accents), the trend is growing in popularity with local homeowners, said Joe Legato, manager of Bill and Rod's Appliances in Livonia.

"Black has really caught on in recent months — it can give a kitchen a really warm look, and white has always been a classic: perfect for smaller kitchens," Legato said.

While stainless appliances can sometimes create an industrial look, small stainless accents can give a room more depth and character, he said.

Color sets the tone for any room, so do your homework before making a selection.

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JOURNEY

Continued from page 3

Antarctica trips (I call them expeditions because you are discovering and learning during your journey) occur November through March, which is the “summer season.” Don’t think sunscreen, but rather three-layered jackets. Temps average between 25-35 before you factor in the chill factor. Trips average 10-13 days to the Antarctica Peninsula. If you are adventurous, there are 20- to 22-day trips that include the Falklands and South Georgia Island along with the Antarctica Peninsula.

We arrived in Buenos Aires, Argentina, after a nine-hour flight from the U.S., only to fly another 3½ hours to Ushuaia, Argentina (the southernmost city on the planet), where we join our expedition ship National Geographic Explorer.

The Explorer holds 125 people. Ship amenities and accommodations are very nice, but don’t think cruise ship. There are two staffs onboard. One is responsible for the overall ship operation and safety, the other is the expedition staff of naturalists, photographers, zodiac drivers and various experts and historians on the Antarctica wildlife and environment, with more than 100 Antarctica trips between them.

The first thing you notice about the expedition staff is their passion in discussing the upcoming trip. You are now living on a National Geographic Channel 24/7. Hang on tight for this adventure.

Getting to the Antarctica Peninsula requires crossing the 500-mile Drake Passage, otherwise known as either the Drake Lake or Drake Shake, depending on the weather when you cross. At times it can have the roughest seas on the planet with winds raging over 65 mph. It is Mother Nature at her wildest and most unpredictable.

This time the Drake treated us well, with light winds and seas, albatross and petrels in flight and blue skies. During the crossing, the expedition team prepares us for our wildlife and landscape encounters with various presentations to enhance our enjoyment.

Iceberg welcome

We arrive to the Antarctica Peninsula and are welcomed by a few rogue icebergs. Seen in the distance, their sizes are foreboding. As we get closer, these massive giants dwarf the ship and stand as tall as buildings. We are treated to a few Humpback whale sightings. Docile and majestic, these massive creatures glide through the water and tantalize us with their distinctive flukes.

We anchor about a mile off shore. Shuttled to the landmass by zodiac boats, we are met by a rookery of Gentoo penguins no more than two feet tall. They are nine on the cuteness scale of 10. It is chaos of excitement as thousands of Gentoos are waddling in unison from the rookery to water’s edge.

Their squabbling presence and undeniable guano smell (penguin poop) is overwhelming. We are reminded to stay at least 15 feet away from the penguins and not to inhibit their normal routine. After all, what does a human look like to a two-foot tall penguin?

I lay flat in the snow and the penguins become very curious and come within a few feet of me, cautiously staring at me for several minutes. What awesome photos I am able to gather with this approach.

Antarctica: The Ice Continent



PHOTOS BY STEVE JOCHMANS

Zodiacs are used to transport the group which witnesses the “breathtaking, awesome, majestic landscapes.” Glaciers appear frequently and throughout the area and a muffled explosion results in the crashing of an ice wall into the sea.



On South Georgia Island two male elephant seals display their testosterone-fueled anger towards one another. Winner claims the title of “Beachmaster” of the harem and the other finds other beachfront property. The King penguins are scampering away in anticipation of a battle.



Eight-month-old King penguin chicks.

On a nearby ice floe near the shore lays a sleek, sinister-looking beast with razor-sharp teeth and an expression of sheer menace on its face — a leopard seal. As the name suggests, this is a ruthless predator that hunts penguins. Closer inspection reveals something strange next to him. An expedition staff member tells us that it is the remains of a Gentoo penguin eaten inside out. Mother Nature can be brutal at times.

‘Penguin highway’

A few days later, we arrive in South Shetland at Deception Island, which is one of the safest harbors in Antarctica. The island is the caldera of an active volcano, which caused significant damage to scientific and whaling station remains in 1967 and 1969. Bailey Head is home to a Chinstrap penguin colony of more than 200,000 nesting pairs. We arrive via zodiac and immediately scramble to avoid the thousands strolling on the “penguin highway” between rookery and water’s edge.

The sight of thousands of Chinstrap penguins along the full length of the coastline leaves me speechless. Just out to sea, hundreds of them are “porpoising” their way back from feeding grounds and getting ashore in artful displays.

At the water’s edge we have a front-row seat to this hilarious and fun-filled show . . . penguins surfing the waves as they come ashore, while others time the shore waves to enter the water. At times these tiny flightless birds appear to be actually flying on top of the waves.

We make our way up the mountain to the rookery and are rewarded with the beautiful sights of eggs and young chicks. Luckily, the expedition team gives us a couple of hours to spend here. I find a quiet spot for some solitude to take in the enormity of the awesome landscape and simply marvel at the bond between parent and chick and their relationship. Priceless photos of Mother Nature at her most tender moment. Among all this chaos and activity, we are mesmerized by this penguin symphony.

The ship enters the caldera, where the waters are calm and steam rises near the shoreline, evidence of the hot springs still active deep down. Zodiacs again bring us to shore to investigate the remains of a whaling station that nearly wiped out the entire southern oceans’ whale population in the 1800s and early 1900s. It’s amazing how intact the buildings, storage tanks and shipwrecks are in this harsh environment.

The real reason we came ashore is to do the “polar plunge.” How can you come this far south and not take a dip in the refreshing waters of Antarctica? How cold was it? Think of drinking a 7-Eleven slurpee too fast and getting a brain freeze, but now imagine this over your entire body.

Orca experience

We arrive at the Lemaire Channel in the peninsula and are greeted by a pod of six Orcas. Orcas are commonly referred to as killer whales, but are more accurately killer of whales. They are a member of the dolphin family and are considered by most marine biologists as the smart-

est mammal on Earth, after man. We witnessed a happening that has only been filmed once by National Geographic . . . the organized teamwork of Orcas in the hunting of a seal on ice.

Two female Orcas were attempting to wash a Weddell seal off a small ice floe. Over the next 10-12 minutes, we watched with front-row seats in our zodiacs as they worked in unison to create a pressure wave to wash over the ice and knock the seal off. First attempts were unsuccessful, but each wave made the ice floe smaller.

After each attempt the Orcas would stand on their tail, head above the water, and survey the ice condition and the seal. We cheered for the underdog seal after each attempt. However, Mother Nature can be callous and cruel and, eventually, the inevitable occurs. The seal suddenly vanishes off the ice and the Orcas no longer surface.

A few days later, we arrive in South Georgia Island of the Sandwich Islands, located 800 miles northeast of the Antarctica Peninsula and 1,000 miles east of the southern tip of South America. The historical significance of South Georgia is



This female Orca is surveying the condition of the ice and seal. Orcas routinely stand on their tail for 3-5 seconds to visually inspect their prey and situation in order to formulate an attack plan. This seal did eventually meet its fate after 15 minutes.

its historic whaling industry and the near extinction of the southern ocean whales, elephant seals and fur seals; and where Sir Ernest Shackleton landed to bring about the rescue of his ill-fated crew from Elephant Island after their ship Endurance was destroyed by pack ice in 1917.

The pursuit of blubber and skin by American and European whaling seamen was at a “California Gold Rush” fever. Hundreds of thousands of fur seals and hundreds of tons of blubber shrank the maritime population to near zero. The dwindling remaining numbers survived only because it was no longer profitable to hunt so few, thus allowing the populations to slowly build.

Extreme weather

We arrive for the first of three days, and will experience severe weather extremes — snow blowing sideways, howling winds, rough seas in the morning — followed by still winds, blue skies in the early afternoon, only to be run over by overcast skies and cold temperatures in the late afternoon. But this is an expedition and we can only imagine what the early explorers and whalers endured for months on end.

When able, we make landfall and meet our



Gentoo penguin jumps into the water.

first elephant seals, fur seals and king penguins. The elephant seals lie side by side like giant greasy slugs as the dominant male either patrols the water’s edge or basks in the middle of his harem. These four-ton creatures are loud and ferocious as we witnessed frequent taunts of dominance between rival males.

Fur seals, as cuddly as they appear, did show us their huge teeth if we got too close. This time of season was highlighted by the nursing of many young fur seal pups. Another magical Mother Nature moment.

King penguins are simply colorful and majestic. Combinations of black, orange, yellow and snow white are simply spectacular on these birds. Their chicks, still wearing the thick brown down of their youth, look nothing like their parents, but still cling close by for their daily feeding.

I’ve yet to speak of the breathtaking, awesome majestic landscapes. Antarctica is technically a landmass of solid rock. Many parts of the landmass have never seen the light of day, buried under hundreds of feet of ice and snow.

Ice mass

Glaciers appear frequently and at times we are lucky to witness the calving at water’s edge of these massive ice sculptures. You first hear a muffled explosion and then you quickly scan the shore to hopefully find the crashing of an ice wall into the sea.

If the ice is significant or large sections of ice fall, it generates a sizeable wave that sweeps toward the Explorer and gently rocks her. We experienced this twice. We witness the birth of little icebergs.

If you think icebergs are totally white, think again. Some sections of the icebergs are actually blue, a beautiful, turquoise blue. These sections are composed of extremely compressed gases that reflect all the colors of the visible light spectrum except blue. The ice near the bottom is compressed by the ice above it. The fewer air bubbles and compacted ice crystals realign in such a way that all the light that shines through the ice is absorbed, with the exception of blue.

Days later, we arrive in Ushuaia, where we started in wonder of the normalcy of wildlife and mammal populations in these frigid cold regions. We are forever in awe of Mother Nature’s spectacle and wonder and, finally, mystified at the majestic beauty of ice and snow in its pristine glory.

Steve and Jody Jochmans are Northville residents. They have taken four trips with Lindblad Expeditions and will be taking their fifth trip in September 2013 to the Galapagos Islands. For more information, call Lindblad Expeditions at (800) 397-3348 or visit www.lindblad.com.

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!

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

Level: Beginner

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

Level: Intermediate

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

Level: Advanced



In a recent survey, people said they want their bedroom to be a "tranquil retreat."

Transforming your bedroom into a stylish, functional retreat

In today's busy, on-the-go world, having a haven to come home to is a must. And for many people, that sanctuary is the bedroom.

In fact, a recent study by Leggett & Platt Adjustable Bed Group found that 90 percent of people surveyed want their master suite to be a tranquil retreat.

"Today's bedroom is for more than just sleeping," says Emily Henderson, host of "Secrets from a Stylist" and HGTV's Season 5 "Design Star" winner. "From working and engaging with media to reading, relaxing and watching TV, we are doing more in our bedrooms than before. But that doesn't

mean we have to compromise great style and comfort. I like to help create spaces that are comfortable and exude warmth no matter their use."

Henderson recently shared a few of her designer secrets to help anyone create a peaceful and luxurious haven.

Choose the right color palette

Color really sets the mood for a room. While soft, cool colors and neutrals create a soothing mood, strong colors add drama.

Henderson says that some colors, such as red, yellow and hot colors like fuchsia and orange, can feel aggressive.

"As much as I love a bold color, I often work with blues, grays and creams as the dominant colors for a bedroom," says Henderson. "Go for a neutral like taupe or ivory if you want it to feel warmer, or a cooler neutral like light blue or grey if you want it to feel more calming. Then you can add hits of a stronger accent color."

A good rule of thumb when choosing colors is 60-30-10. Sixty percent of the room should be the dominant color (walls), 30 percent a secondary color (upholstery) and 10 percent an accent color (accessories.)

Please see **BEDROOM, 13**

Answers found on page 14

BEDROOM

Continued from page 12

When choosing your colors, start with something you love as your inspiration. It can be a painting, a pillow or even your favorite vase. Use that item to build out the perfect color palette for your bedroom.

Beautify your bed and bedding

The Better Sleep Council says that, in general, a mattress set that has been in use for seven years should be replaced in order to give you the best comfort and support possible. "If it's time to replace your mattress, think about upgrading your whole bed," says Henderson. "An adjustable bed can offer not only customizable comfort but a chic look, too. I have one from Leggett & Platt's Designer Series that lets me adjust the head, knees and feet — and I have massage options. It's made a big difference in my life, and it looks great, too!"

She recommends considering an upholstered bed for a look that is softer and more cozy; a simple platform bed for something more modern; or an ornate iron bed frame for something more antique and old world.

To get the designer look you see in magazines and on websites for your bed, Henderson says you need to choose great bedding, and learn how to layer it.

"Make sure you have tons of textures and layers," she said. "More than any other room, upholstery is important. In your bedroom, you want everything soft. You don't necessarily need a lot of patterns or colors. The key is to contrast textures like wools, linens, cashmeres and knits to make it feel inviting. Remember to keep everything in your color palette to avoid it looking messy or feeling busy."

Here is her step-by-step guide to layering bedding like a pro:

Start with sheets — Make sure you have comfortable sheets that feel good against your skin. Sheets with some detailing on the end, such as lace or embroidery, add a nice decorative touch. You can choose a solid color or a pattern that complements your bedspread.

Add a blanket — The next layer is a soft blanket. Depending on the season and the climate in your area, you can go with a lighter cotton or fleecy blanket, or a heavier wool one.

Top it off — A quilt, duvet or bedspread is the top layer of your bedding and has the most visual impact. It needs to pull together all the layers of



Emily Henderson

your bed and complement the colors of your room.

Accent each layer — Fold the top layer back about a quarter of the way down the bed. Follow with the blanket and the sheet, leaving each layer visible.

Add pillows and accessories — Don't overdo it with layers and layers of pillows. Use larger, European style pillows and shams for a backdrop, your sleeping pillows in front of those, then an accent pillow or two. Add a textured throw or silky quilt folded at the end of the bed for a finishing touch.

Put the accent on style

Accent pieces really finish off a room and give it a complete look. Henderson says she likes to use mirrors on the wall instead of big, bold art. "Mirrors expand the space and fill the wall, but they don't add a lot of contrast or busyness. Other ideas for stylish accents include:

— A tray on the nightstand that holds a dish for jewelry, scented candle and lamp.

— Small throw rugs for either side of the bed. Rugs add color, texture and a luxurious feel to a room.

— A collection of small vases or frames in the same color with various shapes.

For more tips from Emily Henderson on creating the perfect bedroom haven, visit: www.lpadjustablebases.com.

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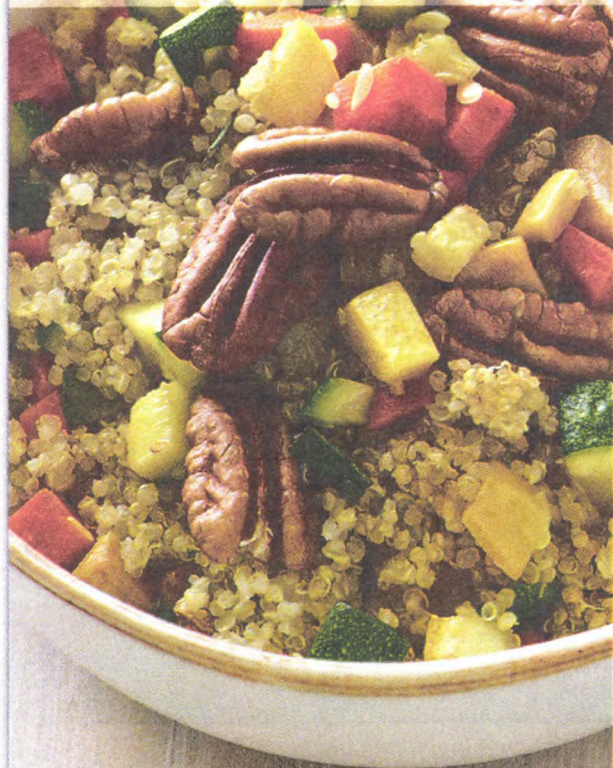


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Healthy, gluten-free salads feed the senses



Georgia Pecan Confetti Quinoa

Many people think eating a salad is healthy. However, add-on ingredients like cheese, bacon, croutons and loads of salad dressing pretty much take that salad out of the healthy category. But it really is possible to make a great-tasting salad that is still good for you.

Carolyn O'Neil, M.S., R.D., and co-author of "The Dish on Eating Healthy and Being Fabulous!" recommends salads that appeal to all of the senses. O'Neil created the two recipes below, which are beautiful to look at, have refreshing aromas, great taste and the satisfying crunch of Georgia pecans. With the highest amount of antioxidants of any tree nut, Georgia pecans are an excellent inclusion in a heart-smart diet and have earned the American Heart Association's Heart Check-mark certification.

- The Avocado-Grapefruit Salad adds beauty and interest to your plate with healthy, colorful, crunchy ingredients. Dark greens add a big flavor punch, and grapefruit brings the tangy taste of citrus. Avocados are a good alternative for cheese. Toasted, heart-healthy Georgia pecans substitute for the crunch of croutons and for the flavor hit of bacon. (You could even use smoked pecans.) The vinaigrette is made with fresh grapefruit juice from the segmented grapefruit and red wine vinegar.

- The Georgia Pecan Confetti Quinoa is a satisfying salad without any greens. Quinoa is a delicious gluten-free grain that cooks up light and fluffy like rice but contains more protein. This recipe, featuring confetti colored sprinklings of orange, green and yellow veggies, is flavored with garlic and rosemary. Crunchy Georgia pecans add even more great taste and nutrition because pecans are a super source of heart-healthy fats and antioxidants, and are low on the glycemic index.

Get more delicious ways to eat healthy at www.georgiapecans.org.

Georgia Pecan Confetti Quinoa

Yield: 6 half-cup servings

- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup diced carrots
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup diced zucchini
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup diced yellow squash
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 2 cups cooked quinoa (prepared to package directions)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon finely chopped rosemary leaves
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup toasted Georgia pecan halves (reserve 2 tablespoons for garnish)

Heat oil in large skillet and add carrots, zucchini, yellow squash and garlic. Cook until crisp tender.



Avocado-Grapefruit Salad with grapefruit vinaigrette and toasted Georgia pecans.

Fold in cooked quinoa, rosemary and pecans. Season to taste with freshly ground black pepper and sea salt.

Present quinoa on a large platter and garnish with additional toasted pecans.

Avocado-Grapefruit Salad

with Grapefruit Vinaigrette and Toasted Georgia Pecans
Yield: 4 servings

For salad:

- 1-2 heads Bibb lettuce, torn into bite sized pieces
- 1 bunch arugula, torn into bite sized pieces
- 2 Haas avocados, ripe but firm, peeled and cubed
- 2 ruby red or pink grapefruits, peeled and segmented, reserve excess juice
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup toasted Georgia pecan halves (toasted in a saute pan)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup minced fresh parsley

For dressing:

- $\frac{3}{8}$ cup extra virgin olive oil
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup red wine vinegar
- Juice from segmented grapefruit (approximately 3 tablespoons)
- Fresh ground salt and black pepper to taste.

Arrange lettuce and arugula on large platter. Arrange avocado and grapefruit segments on the bed of greens.

Combine ingredients for dressing, and drizzle over entire salad.

Garnish with toasted pecans.

Add final garnish of minced parsley.

Nutrition Note: Healthy fats come from pecans, avocados and the olive oil-based vinaigrette. Vitamins, antioxidants, fiber and other plant nutrients are in the grapefruit, greens, avocado and Georgia Pecans.

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Sudoku Answers

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

Intermediate

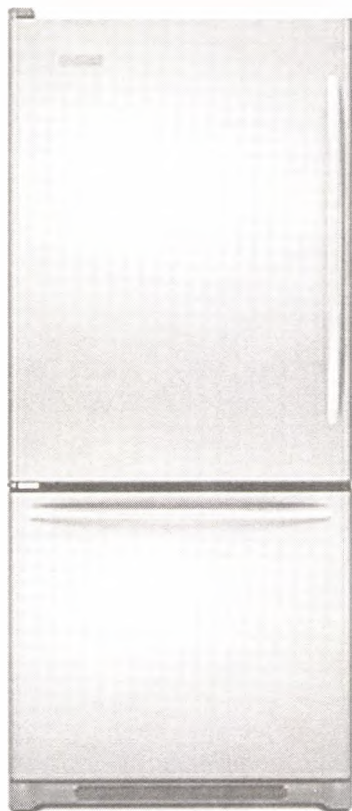
2	7	6	8	3	1	4	9	5
1	9	3	2	5	4	8	7	6
8	4	5	7	9	6	1	2	3
7	2	4	1	6	9	3	5	8
3	8	1	4	2	5	7	6	9
6	5	9	3	7	8	2	1	4
4	6	2	5	8	7	9	3	1
5	3	8	9	1	2	6	4	7
9	1	7	6	4	3	5	8	2

Advanced

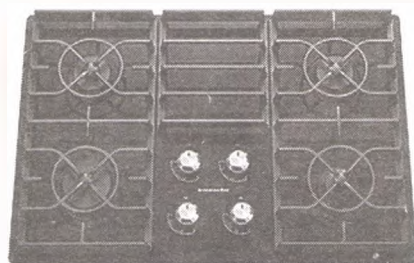
5	2	4	7	1	8	6	9	3
1	7	6	3	9	5	2	8	4
8	9	3	6	4	2	5	1	7
4	5	8	1	2	3	7	6	9
6	3	2	9	5	7	8	4	1
9	1	7	4	8	6	3	5	2
2	8	9	5	3	1	4	7	6
3	6	1	8	7	4	9	2	5
7	4	5	2	6	9	1	3	8

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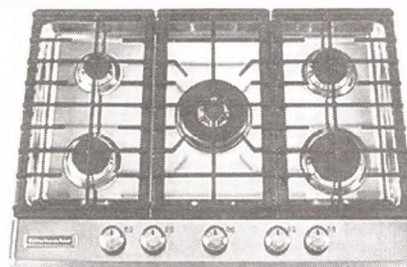
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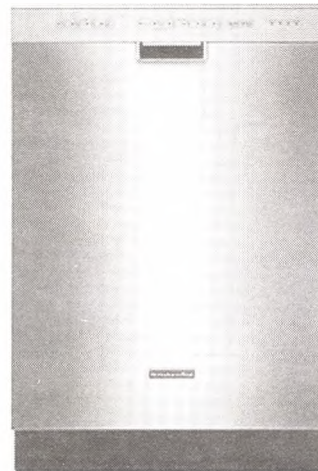
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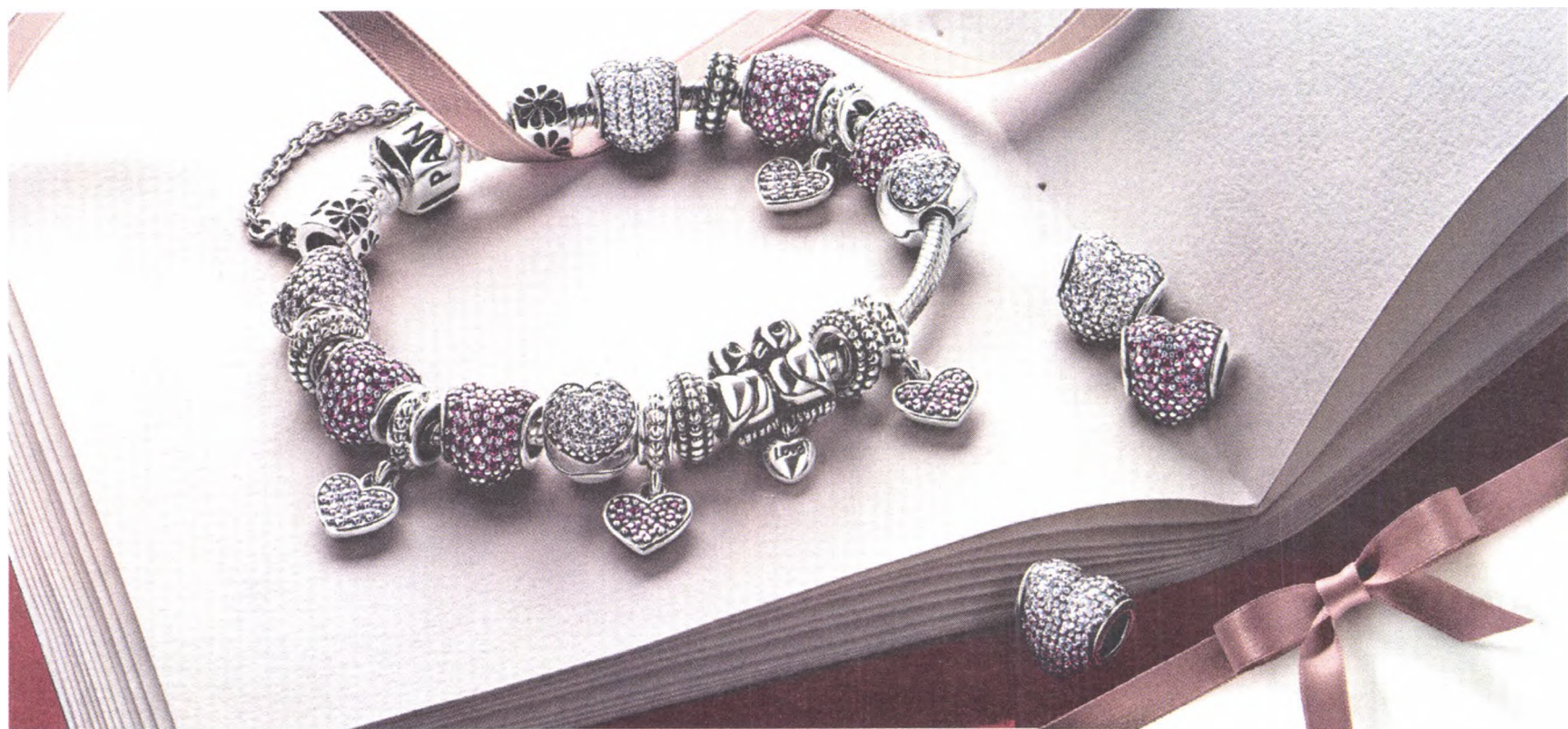
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