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THURSDAY February 26, 2004 75 cents

CANTON Observer

Go fish Favorite fillets hit the plate during Lent Taste, D1

VOLUME 29 NUMBER 68

www.hometownlife.com

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Ball group: The games will continue

With the president of the Canton Community Junior Baseball/Softball Association facing felony embezzlement charges, association vice president Rich Rohn wants parents and players to know that the games will go on.

District Court last week with embezzlement of funds in excess of \$20,000. He was released on a \$20,000 personal bond and faces a preliminary exam on March 5.

He said the situation came to the board's attention when some vendors did not get paid and the money was not there to pay them.

already been made in the way purchases are handled. "A purchase order must be voted on and signed by a majority of board members before any order is placed," he said.

summer league play last year, he said the group takes in about \$250,000 a year. Are the charges against Hill putting the organization under a cloud?

Memo Road Rally

The Canton Thunderbirds girls fastpitch softball team is organizing a Road Rally for Saturday, March 13. Tickets are \$25 per person and include clue solving fun, buffet dinner and soft drinks, prizes and music.

Relay kickoff

Former Canton Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Carleigh Flaharty will be the keynote speaker at the kickoff for Canton's Sixth Annual Relay for Life, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, at 7:30 p.m. March 10 at Waltonwood of Cherry Hill, 42600 Cherry Hill.

Your opinion, please

The Council for Community Excellence is soliciting nominations from the public for landscape, site and architectural design for the annual Canton Design Excellence Awards by June 30.

Girls Night Out

It was a smash last year, so Canton Leisure Services is offering women age 18 and up another opportunity to pamper themselves. The evening will feature dinner prepared by Summit Gourmet, live music and a comedian.

Expo will nail down tips for home improvement

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI STAFF WRITER

There's a good chance that everything you ever wanted to know about home construction, improvements, repairs, home decorating and landscaping may be learned at Canton's third annual Home Improvement Expo and Parade of Homes

From how to install flooring to kitchen and bath design, the expo will offer a variety of workshops. Page A2.

March 6-7 at the Summit on the Park. "It is sort of as entertaining as it is educational," said

John Weyer, Canton building official.

Both events will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 6, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 7. In addition to hundreds of local home improvement and repair businesses, the event also features myriad workshops for homeowners.

The expo was initiated as a means of creating public awareness and to allow homeowners to talk with experts in home improvement. It also develops relationships between the construction world and the township's building department, Weyer said.

The workshops came from an initial invitation to Joe Gagnon, also known as the Appliance Doctor, to speak at an early expo. "I saw that they also wanted to hear from construction people," Weyer said. "The workshops allow people to get even more information."

The Parade of Homes coincides with the expo. Signs will direct people to the homes that are in quite a few subdivisions in Canton. Maps also will be available at the expo to help people find the model homes.

"This really helps promote the product line," Weyer said. "This will also help anyone who wants home decorating and landscaping ideas."

The weekend event will be sponsored by Canton's Building and Inspection Services Division, the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

For more information, call the building division at (734) 394-5200.



What could be better?

Betty Lebioda of Canton, who is decked out in Mardi Gras beads, takes a delightful bite of a paczki to celebrate the annual Fat Tuesday, traditionally the day before Ash Wednesday at the Canton Senior Center.



Who's who? Chris and Todd LaJoy are identical twins who own the LaJoy Group, a staffing company that provides services much like a human resources department.

Double take

Twin brothers share their LaJoy Group 50-50

You're not seeing double when you walk into the offices of the LaJoy Group on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth. But a lot of clients think they are.

Owners Todd and Chris LaJoy are identical twins — "mirror twins," Chris says — and people walking into their employee placement business often do double takes.

"During the day, customers will come in and they'll think they just saw myself or Todd," Chris said. "One of us walks down the hall and the other comes back. They'll leave and then turn and come back into the office. They just had to see us together. They'll say, 'I thought somebody changed clothes too quickly.'"

Born 31 years ago in Oklahoma City where their dad, state Rep. Phil LaJoy, was working for UPS, the twins were not expected.

"He and our mom (Jean) thought there was

PLEASE SEE BROTHERS, A4

Redesigned Web site offers more news, information

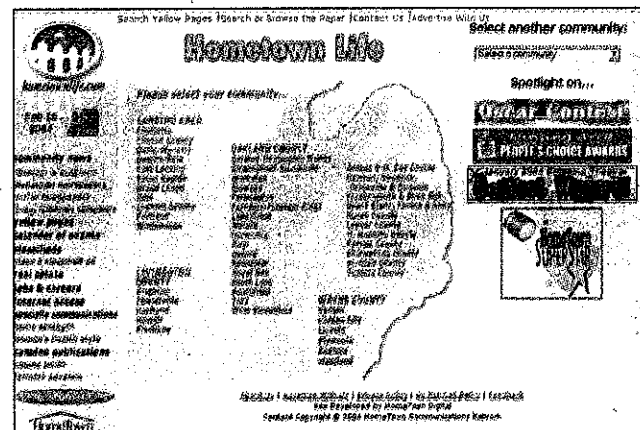
Readers of the Canton Observer are invited to access HomeTownLife.com, the most rapidly growing community-based Internet site in Michigan.

Now entirely redesigned for easier use and offering many new features, HomeTownLife.com provides local news, community information and classified ads from the Canton Observer, as well as business listings from its sister "yellow pages" telephone directories, according to Phil Power, chairman of HomeTown

Communications Network, Inc., the company that owns the Observer.

"It's been a little more than three years since we launched our Internet portal, HomeTownLife.com," said Power. "During that time, it has grown beyond what any of us dreamed. The site registered 36 million hits and 650,000 visitors viewed 2,341,000 pages during January alone - a 300 percent

PLEASE SEE WEB SITE, A4



This photo illustrates the newly redesigned home page of our Web portal site, HomeTownLife.com. On the left is a 'navigation bar,' a convenient way for readers to get to specific places on the site. In the middle is a listing of all the communities served by newspapers belonging to the HomeTownLife.com family. On the right side are ads highlighting special values and consumer opportunities.

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INDEX Apartments A4 At Home C1 Automotive G3 Classified Index F5 Crossword Puzzle For The Record A4 Jobs F7 Movie Guide E6 Obituaries G3 Real Estate F5 Sports B1 Taste D1

LOOKING AHEAD American Profile The Dvorak family of Perry, Okla., has been involved in Future Farmers of America for three generations.



Washington Mutual The Power of Yes HOME LOANS We're your new neighbor... 17909 Haggerty Road • Northville • 248-374-4501

# Workshops run throughout Expo

Get ready to learn at Canton's third annual Home Improvement Expo March 6-7. The following workshops are scheduled:

- Saturday, March 6:
  - 10 a.m. - How to install ceramic floors by Home Depot
  - 11 a.m. - How to faux finish your walls by Home Depot
  - Noon - Ask the inspector by Canton Building & Inspection Services
  - 1 p.m. - How to install a laminate floor by Home Depot
  - 2 p.m. - New products for decks by Mans Lumber and Millwork
  - 3 p.m. - Landscaping ideas by Done Rite Lawnscape
  - 4 p.m. - Kitchen and bath design by KSI Canton
- Sunday, March 7:
  - 11 a.m. - Drywall repair by Handy Pro Handyman Service
  - Noon - Natural light fixtures to brighten your home by Mechanical Energy Systems
  - 1 p.m. - Swing into spring by Interiors by Decorating Den
  - 2 p.m. - Trouble shooting

for roof repairs by Bear Residential Restoration

- 3 p.m. - How to install a laminate floor, faux finish your walls and install ceramic floors by Home Depot

The Parade of Home will run concurrently with the Expo and will include model homes in the following subdivisions:

- Abbey Woods, Charing Cross, Chatterton Square, Chatterton Village, Chelsea Square, Cherry Grove, Cherry Hill Village, Deer Creek, Grand Oaks, Hampton Ridge North.
- Links of Fellows Creek, Meadowood Townhomes, Pheasant Ridge, Ravines, Summit Creek Apartments, Tottenham, The Traditions Condominiums, Turnbury Park Apartments, Vintage Valley, Vistas II of Central Park, Vistas III of Central Park, Westchester, Wyndchase Townhomes.

Maps will be available at the Expo to help locate the subdivisions. Signs also will be posted on the roads.

# Dead and dying ash trees a threat of their own

The phrase natural catastrophe is usually associated with things like hurricanes, tornadoes and forest fires, not little green bugs from China.

Yet, the emerald ash borer is responsible for killing more than 6 million trees in southeast Michigan, a fact state and local officials believe should warrant federal disaster relief.

The large number of dead ash trees, which are common in suburban subdivisions, pose a public hazard that many municipalities are trying hard to abate. However, most municipalities, because of limited resources, are only cutting down dead trees on public properties, including right-of-ways. That leaves millions of ash trees on private property, which are potential hazards to homes and electric wires.

According to James McRay, the emerald ash borer spokesman for the Michigan Department of Agriculture, once an ash tree is infested with the emerald ash borer, it takes between three and five years to die. In 2002, it was discovered in six southeast Michigan counties, which means many trees will be dead this summer.

In the core area of the infestation, which is southern Oakland County and western Wayne County, biologists

expect 80 percent of the ash trees to die.

"We definitely think they're a hazard. Back in November, we met with numerous local governments at a Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) meeting to see if we could get federal emergency money to help with the problem," McRay said.

Since that meeting, the state has applied for funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). "That application is sitting there. It's caught up in the process right now. But we're hoping we can get some relief dollars," he said.

Most of the communities in the core zone can't wait for possible relief money, because dead and dying trees on public properties such as parks and right-of-ways are a potential liability for municipalities. As a result, communities have been concentrating on taking those trees down. But that doesn't mean the communities aren't concerned about dead ash trees on private property.

Many of the core communities, including Birmingham, Livonia and Westland, have ordinances in place prohibiting residents from having dead trees on their property, because they pose a public hazard.

James Zoumbaris, Livonia's superintendent of public services, said there are "at least" 3,000 ash trees on private property within Livonia. Although officials are worried about the problem, he doesn't think the city is ready to start writing violations.

"There is an ordinance, in which either the city or a contractor would go to the property, cut down the tree and bill the owner. But I don't think there is a mayor or city council around that's willing to take that on yet," he said.

The liability for dead trees on private property shifts to the property owner, which is why insurance companies are also keeping a close eye on the situation. Most companies, including AAA and Nationwide, won't cover damages resulting from dead trees in most circumstances.

"If homeowners have a dead tree in their yard, they should protect their homes by getting it cut down. If you know that there is a dead tree, you could have some exclusions in your insurance coverage. If you are aware of the situation and your tree falls on your neighbor's house, you are liable for the damages," said Sherry Mayfield, a homeowners claim consultant for AAA Michigan.

Another potential hazard is that dead trees will fall onto power lines, causing power failures. DTE Energy has 2.1 million electric customers in southeast Michigan. Most of

those customers live in the core zone of the ash borer infestation.

According to spokesman Len Singer, most power failures are related to falling tree limbs. He estimates there are 3.5 million trees that pose a potential power line intrusion, many of which are ash trees.

"It's too early to tell if emerald ash borer is going to exacerbate the problem or not, but we are watching the situation as it develops," Singer said.

Last summer DTE did begin an emerald ash borer policy.

Normally when company crews trim trees around power lines, they will take most of the branches with them. Because of the state's quarantine on ash tree products, they will not remove ash tree branches. Instead, they will leave them in the yards of residents.

"When it comes to ash trees, we're following the quarantine from the state. We will be leaving the logs cut up, as well as small branches and debris behind to make sure we're not spreading the bug. People can either burn them in fireplaces or dispose of them in the proper places," Singer said.

Currently the Michigan Department of Agriculture has several marshaling yards where people can drop off all ash tree products.

For locations of the yards, visit the department's Web site at [www.michigan.gov/mda](http://www.michigan.gov/mda) and click on "Emerald Ash Borer."

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 TWISTED (R) 11:50, 2:05, 4:35, 6:50, 9:00 FRISAT LS 11:15  
 WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT (PG-13)  
 11:20, 1:50, 4:15, 7:05, 9:35  
 FRISAT LS 12:00  
 CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE DRAMA QUEEN (PG) 12:00, 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:25  
 FRISAT LS 11:35  
 50 FIRST DATES (PG-13) 11:45, 2:15, 4:30, 7:10, 9:20 FRISAT LS 11:30  
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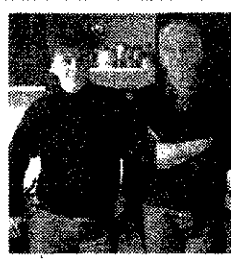
## Greenhills School

### 6-12th Grade Information Night

### Plymouth District Library

### March 4, 7:00 pm

Meet Greenhills parents and students from Plymouth/Canton, and find out why your child should be a Greenhills student.

**Some facts to talk about:**

- 100% of the Class of 2003 attended a selective college or university
- 11% of the Class of 2003 were National Merit or National Achievement finalists
- 65% of the Class of 2003 received special recognition as Advanced Placement Scholars
- Greenhills' Class C athletic program is ranked #1 in the state
- 84% of Middle School students and 75% of High School students play on at least one athletic team
- 90% of students are involved in music, drama or art
- 21% of the student body are people of color
- 15 is the average number of students per class
- 15% of Greenhills students receive financial aid

**850 Greenhills Drive**  
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# Salem rocks at national pom contest

BY BRAD KADRICH  
STAFF WRITER

For the second straight year, the Salem Rockettes did something they'd never done before at the National Dance Team Championships in Orlando, Fla.

Last year, the squad reached the finals of the pom competition for the first time.

This year, they duplicated that feat and added another first: Reaching the finals in the jazz category.

And they performed well in both categories, matching last year's 12th-place finish in a 50-team pom field, and coming in 10th of 26 teams in the jazz category.

"The girls are really pumped about that," 10th-year coach Aileen Balatico said.

"We've never done that (reach the finals in two events). We were hoping we would, but in the back of your mind, you don't want to give the girls too much reassurance that would happen, so they'd be let down if they didn't."

The performances continued a trend of the Rockettes doing well in Orlando.

They finished third in the kick competition in 2000 before reaching the pom finals last year. Two more finals appearances this year have Balatico and the Rockettes thinking about coming more often.

"I think we're just used to going down to nationals now, and we're more comfortable with it," Balatico said. "We're



A 10th-place finish in the jazz competition helped the Rockettes do something they'd never done at the National Team Dance Championships: Reach the finals in two events.

looking into going every year, depending on the talent we have."

The Rockettes qualified for the national competition with a first-place performance — using an original routine — at a summer camp sponsored by Universal Dance Association, which also sponsors the national competition.

Upon their arrival in Orlando, the goal was to reach the finals in each event. The Rockettes chose to enter the jazz competition rather than the kick category based on the

kind of team they took to Florida.

"We had a very technical dance team this year," Balatico said.

"They're very strong at the basic fundamentals of dance, so we thought we'd give it a try and see what happens."

To get the 22 girls and three coaches to Florida, the team used fund-raisers like a golf outing and their annual kids' clinics and variety show to cover air fare. The girls were then given individual fund-raisers — such as cookie dough

or poinsettias — to try to finance expenses.

There also some 50 parents who made the trip, something that was a big benefit to the team, according to its coach.

"We had a lot of parent support down there with us," Balatico said.

"I think each girl knowing her parents are there helps them get through this really stressful weekend."

bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net  
(734) 459-2700



Curtis Bragg was convicted of involuntary manslaughter in the death of Canton Officer Lew Stevens.

# Driver convicted in officer's death

A Kentucky man has been convicted of involuntary manslaughter in the death of Canton Police Officer Lew Stevens last year.

Kurtis R. Bragg was found guilty in Wayne County Circuit Court Tuesday before Judge Cynthia Hathaway. The jury deliberated for just over two hours before returning the verdict, which carries a potential 15-year sentence.

Bragg was returned to the Wayne County jail to await sentencing on March 12.

"Hopefully this verdict will provide a sense of healing to the family of Officer Stevens and members of the department," said John Santomauro, Canton public safety director.

Stevens was killed on July 23, 2003, when his police cruiser, which was stopped on the west side of Lotz Road just north of Van Born, was struck by another car driven by Bragg, who was 22 years old at the time.

At a preliminary hearing last September, a front seat passenger in Bragg's car testified that he and Bragg had been drinking at two bars a few hours before the accident

occurred.

Jeremiah McClure also of Kentucky said he and Bragg had been working temporarily at a Ford plant in Michigan, although they were not working the day of the crash.

After visiting the bars, McClure testified, they drove to the Holiday Inn on Michigan Avenue at Lotz in a rented 2002 Pontiac Grand Prix. He said that as they sat in the parking lot, Bragg, who was driving, asked him if he had ever jumped any train tracks.

"I said hell, no. I didn't think he was for real," McClure told the court.

He then testified that Bragg pulled out of the parking lot, headed down Lotz Road at over 50 miles an hour and approached the railroad tracks.

"We jumped the train tracks," he said. "We start coming down and there was a car right in front of us."

After the crash Stevens was taken to Oakwood Hospital-Annapolis where he died of multiple injuries. He was the first Canton officer to die in the line of duty.

# 'A Taste of Jazz' will close season

The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Nan Washburn, will close its subscription series with "A Taste of Jazz" March 13 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church.

The concert at the church at North Territorial and Beck roads will feature Ellen Rowe, jazz pianist, who will perform George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*. Also featured will be guest composer March



Rowe

Bernstein's *West Side Story*. The Plymouth Symphony's 2004 Youth Artist

Watkins and her work, *Five Movements in Color*. The program also will include

Gershwin's *Crazy for You Overture* and Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story*. The Plymouth Symphony's 2004 Youth Artist

Competition winners will be announced at the concert.

Before the performance, guests will have the opportunity to hear an On-Stage talk at 7:15 p.m. with Washburn and Watkins. Following the performance, guests may stay for an afterglow reception.

The concert is sponsored by the Plymouth Symphony League and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural

Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Tickets for the performance are \$17 for adults and \$15 for senior adults.

Students through 12th grade are admitted free to all subscription concerts. For more information, call the symphony office at (734) 451-2112 or by email at plymouthsymphony@aol.com

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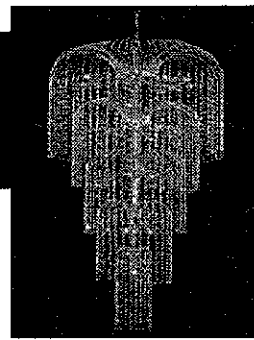
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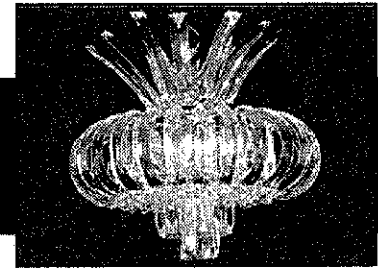
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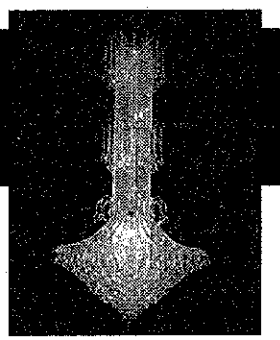


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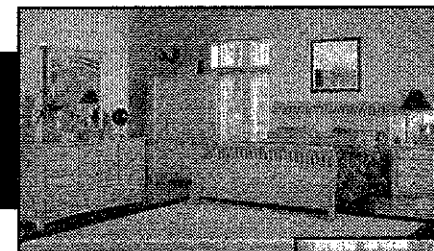


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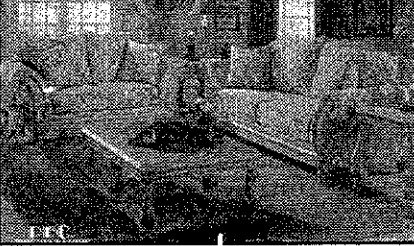
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### BROTHERS

FROM PAGE A1

just one of us," Chris said. "But then the doctor said, 'Wait a minute. There's another one.'"

Chris was born first, two minutes before Todd.

"That means he'll turn 40 before I do," Todd said.

"Yeah, but I was 21 before you were," Chris responded.

Although they're virtually identical in appearance, Todd is left-handed and Chris is right-handed. That's why they're called mirror twins.

After the family returned to Michigan in 1976, the twins went through Plymouth Canton schools, graduating from Salem High School in 1991. They then attended Western Michigan University, where each received a bachelor of business administration degree in marketing. Todd added French as a second major and studied in France for six weeks in 1995.

After graduating from Western, both Todd and Chris went to work for their father, who had a Norrell franchise in Ann Arbor. Norrell is an employment placement service, much like an extended human resources department.

"We didn't have any real experience with the business,"



### @ Work

Business: LaJoy Group  
Address: 42213 E. Ann Arbor Road  
Owners: Chris and Todd LaJoy  
Established: 2000  
Principal products: Employee Placement Services  
Number of employees: 2

"There's so many great people you work with, it doesn't seem like work."  
— Todd LaJoy

Todd said. "We did everything." After five years of working for their father, he sold his franchise after Norrell merged with Interim.

"In May of 2000 we started brainstorming about starting our own staffing service," Todd said. "We knew the industry," Chris added. "Todd was in the service area, I was in sales."

When the papers were being drawn up to start the

enterprise, they were asked who was president. The twins looked at each other.

"Do you want to be president?" Chris asked.

They decided to flip a coin, but Todd agreed to be president and Chris is secretary-treasurer. That's pretty much in name only, though, since they tend to share things 50-50.

Chris compares their operation to an extension of a company's human resources department.

They place temporary employees with a company, but handle the payroll and record-keeping themselves. Companies pay them for the service. There is no charge to the employees who are placed.

Currently they have contractual arrangements with about 15 companies in the area and have worked with about 30 companies in the past.

"We can be flexible," Chris said. "We pay attention to details. We're trying to help people gain experience with their careers."

Todd is the current president of the Canton Chamber of Commerce, while Chris is president of Detroit Chapter of the American Marketing Association. They are involved in various other organizations as well, but it's the LaJoy Group that takes up most of their time.

### WEB SITE

FROM PAGE A1

increase over last January! With our bright new redesign just coming onstream, we expect further rapid growth.

"Our subsidiary company, HomeTown Digital, Inc. manages the HomeTownLife.com site," Power added. "As of this week, we have outsourced the back end operations of the site to On Line Technologies Corporation, of Ann Arbor.

"Our relationship with On Line Technologies will bring our users a steady stream of new, user-friendly features. For our advertisers, the relationship will bring access to better technology and new, improved Internet products that will provide increased user traffic and better advertising results and value.

"We're excited about the prospect of adding features to our HomeTownLife.com site," said Power. "We're interested in your reactions to them. Just contact us at [feedback@HomeTownLife.com](mailto:feedback@HomeTownLife.com)."

Available to Web users in Canton, HomeTownLife.com offers:

- Selected local news stories from the *Canton Observer*, as well as your complete hometown community calendar. Archived news stories can be searched online by key word, while the community calendar can be searched by date and by type of event. Also available is a complete listing of local resources, such as government offices, schools, churches and service clubs. Page views of news items on HomeTownLife.com jumped to nearly 900,000 in January, compared with barely 60,000 in January 2003.
- Classified ads from the *Canton Observer*. These ads

### What do you want to do?

- See up to date news stories and the community calendar from the *Canton Observer*? Click the name of your community on the HomeTownLife.com home page.

- Search classified ads from the *Canton Observer* as well as ads from sister hometown newspapers in Michigan? Click on "classified advertising" on the home page.

- Place a classified ad in the *Canton Observer*? Just click the "place an ad" button on the HomeTownLife.com home page.

- Subscribe to the paper?

Click the "subscribe" button on your community page.

- Browse special good deals for jobs, autos, real estate and rentals? Click your community's page on the HomeTownLife.com home page and you'll find the special "Hot Ads" display.

- Find communities served by our telephone directories and browse Michigan's largest yellow pages business listings? Click on "Yellow Pages" on the home page.

- Place an item in your hometown community calendar? Click on "calendar of events" on your community page.

may be browsed or searched by key word. This part of the site includes ads from all our sister publications and is Michigan's largest source of local classified advertising.

- "Hot Listings" for jobs, rentals, autos and real estate - a highlighted area of the HomeTownLife.com site - may be searched by the *Canton Observer* readers looking for specially good deals. Users looking for jobs registered 346,148 page views this January, making HomeTownLife.com one of the most highly used help wanted sites in Michigan.

- Local real estate advertising from the *Canton Observer*. Through special arrangement with Realcomp II, Ltd., the site receives daily updated listings from this multi-list service, as well as information about listing brokers and real estate agents. Real estate listings in HomeTownLife.com may be searched by local community, by address, by MLS number, by school district, by broker and by agent. In January, HomeTownLife.com users

pulled up a total of 3,664,600 MLS listings, up 1.4 million from last year, while users viewed in detail 366,500 MLS listings.

- Local yellow page listings and ads taken from local telephone directories published by our sister company, HomeTown Directories. HomeTownLife.com users may search this robust database by name of local community, by county and by type of business - "accountants," for example.

Readers of the *Canton Observer* may use the HomeTownLife.com site to place a classified ad, subscribe to paid newspapers and submit items for the community calendar - all online. News content and classified ads on the site are updated at 6 a.m. on the date of publication of the *Canton Observer*.

"This is the only place I know of where Internet users can access local newspaper stories and information, hometown classified advertising and local telephone directories," Power said.



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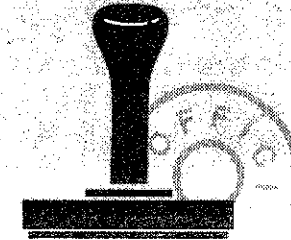
Feeling good about your appearance is an essential part of emotional health and well-being. And deciding if cosmetic surgery is right for you starts with understanding the procedures and their benefits. At Oakwood, you'll find the area's leading cosmetic surgeons trained in the most advanced approaches for the face, breast, body and skin. What's more, we offer three locations - Oakwood Healthcare Centers in Canton and Plymouth, and Oakwood Hospital & Medical Center in Dearborn. To make an appointment, call 800.543.WELL or visit [www.oakwood.org](http://www.oakwood.org).



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POFOE08183304

### FOR THE RECORD



For the Record appears in every edition of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's At Home section in *Passages* on page C7.

#### DEATHS

B

Kenneth D. Barnett II  
Barnett, 55, of Canton, died Feb. 19

Dorothy Fry (Dot) Bailey  
Bailey, 75, of Farmington Hills, died Feb. 18.

Clemontine R. Belling  
Belling, 88, of Sterling Heights, died Feb. 5.

C

Raymond L. Christensen  
Christensen, 56, of Garden City, died Feb. 17.

D

Elizabeth Joan Darin  
Darin, 71, of Birmingham, died Feb. 18.

John J. Daul  
Daul, 73, of Farmington, died Feb. 19.

Mary Drukas  
Drukas, 91, of Bloomfield Hills, died Feb. 4.

H

Arthur Herbert Hogarth  
Hogarth, 81, of Livonia, died Feb. 17.

J

Mae E. Jaruzel  
Jaruzel, 80, of Pontiac, died Feb. 1.  
Richard H. Johnson  
Johnson, 67, of Rochester Hills, died Feb. 1.

K

Sister Marjorie Koerner  
Koerner, 89, of Farmington Hills, died Feb. 18.

Melvin C. Kruger  
Kruger, 84, of Rochester, died Feb. 4.

M

Marion L. Miley  
Miley, of Troy, died Feb. 14.

S

Lynn T. Schlicher  
Schlicher, 80, died Feb. 16

W

Robert T. Williams  
Williams, 75, died Feb. 18.  
Lawrence A. Wood  
Wood, 66, of Westland, died Feb. 5.

Z

Joseph M. Zawadzki  
Zawadzki, 67, of Canton, died Feb. 18.

#### POLICE

##### Home alone

It was like a scene from the movie "Home Alone." Canton police were called to the intersection of Lotz and Winfield shortly after 9 a.m. Sunday morning by a resident who had found a 2-year-old boy sitting in the roadway.

He was dressed in his Sunday best and wearing a winter coat. The resi-

dent put the child in her car and called police.

Shortly before police arrived on the scene, the boy's father arrived. It was all a big mistake, he told the police officers.

The family had been going to church in Westland, the father told police, and he and his wife left in separate cars. He drove another son and a daughter and his wife took two other daughters and stopped en route to pick up one of their friends.

Each thought the other had the 2-year-old son. When they met up at church, they discovered he wasn't there. The father immediately returned home and found his son in the custody of the good Samaritan. Police, who notified family services of the incident, said it appeared to be an honest mistake.

##### Dog loose, chicken missing

That's what it said on the police report. And that was pretty much what happened.

A resident of the 4100 block of Barr Road called police last week to report that a chow dog belonging to a neighbor ran across his driveway and grabbed one of his chickens - a black Rhode Island chicken valued at \$6. He said the chicken then disappeared and the dog ran back into his neighbor's yard. Investigating officers reported finding dog tracks and chicken tracks. And they found the chicken whom they pronounced healthy - minus a few feathers. The dog's owner was ticketed for having a dog at large.

### ALASKA CRUISES



### VIEW VERANDAH SALE

Book an Alaska Cruise by February 29, 2004 and receive up to a 5-category stateroom upgrade (available on select departures).

- May Sailings - 5 Category Upgrade - Inside to Outside Staterooms
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- July Sailings - 2 Category Upgrade - Inside to Outside Staterooms

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<b>ms Volendam</b> Wednesday Departures: May 5, 12, 19, 26; Jun 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Jul 7, 14, 21, 28; Aug 4, 11, 18, 25; Sep 1, 8, 15, 22
<b>ms Ryndam</b> Friday Departures: May 7; Sep 17
<b>ms Zaandam</b> Saturday Departures: May 15, 22, 29; Jun 5, 12, 19, 26; Jul 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; Aug 7, 14, 21, 28; Sep 4, 11, 18
<b>ms Statendam</b> Sunday Departures: Sep 12, 19
<b>ms Veendam</b> Sunday Departures: Sep 19

Holland America's exclusive new Glacier Bay Inside Passage cruise not only features spectacular Glacier Bay National Park but also spotlights Alaska's best-kept secret - the twin Sawyer Glaciers in Tracy Arm. With rustic, frontier-friendly ports - Juneau, Skagway and Ketchikan - and two major glacier-viewing experiences, there's no better way to sail roundtrip from Vancouver.

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Outside Staterooms from	\$999	\$1,099	\$1,249
Verandah Suites	\$1,269	\$1,799	\$2,059

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@ THE LIBRARY

DID YOU KNOW?

■ The library is offering a special program to help you learn to find bargains, make money and feel safe using eBay?

Registration is limited to 75 participants and begins February 26th by calling 734-397-0999.

■ The next "Book and Pizza Club" teen book discussion will be on The Boxes by William Sleator? Call the library by March 1 to register.

■ The Internet Branch has added a new special multime-

dia collection called "Get Organized" to help you get a jumpstart on your spring-cleaning? Find it online at www.cantonpl.org/special/org anize.html.

■ The sentence "The Quick Brown Fox Jumps Over The Lazy Dog" uses every letter in the alphabet?

WEB WATCH: CHECK OUT

THESE NEW WEB SITES

- www.campaigndesk.org
- www.portrait-artist.org
- www.backofthebox.com
- www.ehistory.com

NEW ADULT BOOKS

- "I'm a Believer" - Jessica Adams (fiction)
- "Marrying Mozart" - Stephanie Cowell (fiction)
- "Contest" - Matthew Reilly (fiction)
- "The Two Americas" - Stanley Greenberg (nonfiction)

NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS

- "Starry Nights" - Judith Clarke (fiction)
- "Flying South" - Laura Malone Elliott (fiction)
- "Horace the Horrible" - Jackie French Koller (picture book)

■ "Dancing Granny" - Elizabeth Winthrop (picture book)

NEW AUDIO BOOKS

- "Truth or Dare" - Jayne Ann Krentz (fiction, CD)
- "A Life in Letters: Ann Landers Letters to Her Only Child" - (nonfiction, cassette)
- "Someone to Watch Over Me" - Judith McNaught (fiction, cassette)

NEW CD-ROMS

- "Max and the Secret Formula" (Ages 3-7)

NEW CDS

- "I'm Staying Out" - Caitlin Cary
- "A Jazz Celebration" - The Marsalis Family
- "Spoon and Rafter" - Mojave 3
- "Long Black Train" - Josh Turner

NEW VIDEOS AND DVDS

- "Fame" (DVD)
- "Johnny English" (video and DVD)
- "I Was a Male War Bride" (DVD)

HOT TOPIC OF THE WEEK

This year's Read Across America Day, March 2, honors Dr. Seuss' 100th birthday! Children under age 12 and their families are invited to celebrate at the library with a special evening program at 7 p.m.

A Canton police officer, firefighter and other local celebrities will read their favorite Seuss tales, after which kids will have the opportunity to draw their own imaginary Seuss-style creature for display in the children's library.

Golf course hosts Junior Cup

The Woodlands of Van Buren is one of 25 golf courses in the country to host a regional qualifying round for Team USA World Junior Golf Cup on Sunday, May 16.

The course is at 39670 Ecorse Road in Wayne.

At each of the qualifying sites six young golfers will be selected to play in the National Finals at the Walt Disney World® Resort June 27-30. There are two age brackets with two golfers advancing from the 13-14 age bracket and four golfers advancing from the 15-18 age bracket.

Girls and boys will compete against each other within the same age bracket from different tees. The top two finishers in the 13-14 age division and top four finishers in the 15-18 age division, will move on to nationals where approximately 150 juniors will play 36 holes over two days on the Magnolia Course, a PGA Tour venue.

At nationals, the top 12 golfers will be awarded the opportunity to play for TEAM USA and will travel to Scotland, on an all expense paid trip to represent the USA in head-to-head competition against 3 other countries. The top four finishers from the 13-14 age bracket and the top eight finishers from 15-18 age bracket will make up the 12 participants on TEAM USA.

Tournament tee-times for the Michigan qualifying round at Woodlands of Van Buren will be available approximately five days prior to the tournament date. Golfers may obtain a tee time by any of the following methods:

- Checking the WJGC Web site: <http://www.wjgc.org>
- Calling the Woodlands at Van Buren Golf Course pro shop at (734) 729-3812

■ Attending registration on the day of the tournament. Registration opens the day of the event at 6 a.m.

The driving range opens at 6 a.m. and tournament play begins at 8 a.m. on the first and 10th tees.

After play a box lunch will be provided.

A brief awards presentation to announce the US Qualifiers will take place after the tournament ends

Those planning to schedule a practice round please call the pro shop at (734) 729-3812.

The World Junior Golf Cup is preparing for its eighth season as one of the leaders within the junior ranks of promoting the game of golf. Thousands of juniors 13 to 18 years of age from across the country participate in the tournament at a very high level. Many past participants have moved on in their golf careers to compete at nationally ranked collegiate programs, won United States Amateur championships, as well as gained their PGA Tour playing privileges. Names like Hunter Mahan, Bubba Dickerson, Casey Whitenberg among others have played their way through Regional Qualifiers, finished in the top 15 at the National Finals, and were key players in representing the United States on TEAM USA in Scotland at the International Competition.

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## OUR VIEWS

# Jury's verdict was appropriate

A cluster of small American flags was stuck in a snow bank outside Neil's Party Store recently. They turned up after Leslie Gordon was found guilty of her role in the murders there that robbed four people, two from Canton, of their lives Sept. 11, 2003.

If you listened to her attorney, Marvin Barnett, Gordon also was a victim, going along with the violence meted out by Michael Schofield to save herself.

But the videotape of what happened in the party store tells a different tale, the tale of a young woman who sang and hummed as she helped Schofield carry out his grisly crime spree, who welcomed more victims in as the store's "new security."

In his closing arguments, Barnett warned jurors that, upon death, they will have to answer to a higher authority for their decision. But we disagree. In fact, we find it offensive that Barnett would prey on the jurors' consciences in such a manner.

As we see it, those 12 men and women made the proper decision. The killings that night were senseless and unnecessary. It is Barnett's client who will have to answer to a higher authority for her actions.

There is nothing that can be done to reverse the death and destruction Schofield and Gordon wrought on the party store that night. Four people are dead, the peacefulness of a neighborhood business and the neighborhood it served have been shattered.

Robbery may have been the motive, but the outcome was cold-blooded murder and another loss of innocence. The quick trip to the corner store will never be the same.

We can only hope that the families have gotten some closure with the verdict. Justice has been served.

**As we see it, those 12 men and women made the proper decision. The killings that night were senseless and unnecessary. It is Barnett's client who will have to answer to a higher authority for her actions.**

## Federal funds would help pay for replacing dead ash trees

The state of Michigan's application for federal disaster aid to deal with the millions of dead and dying trees resulting from the emerald ash borer infestation underscores how serious this crisis is.

An estimated 6 million ash trees have already succumbed to the Asian beetle, and the state agriculture department has declared Wayne and Oakland counties a "dead zone" in the fight to contain the carnage.

Simply put, it is expected that the vast majority of all ash trees in our communities will be dead within five years.

Beyond the aesthetic loss, local communities, school districts and property owners will be left with figuring out how to pay for removing the dead trees. Leaving the trees standing is not an option. Insurance companies are already warning that damage caused by dead trees toppling over will not be covered.

Michigan's Congressional delegation should push hard for Federal Emergency Management Agency funds to help cover the cost of removing and replacing the trees, estimated in the tens of millions of dollars.

The devastation caused by the emerald ash borer is less apparent now, but will become readily apparent with the onset of spring.

The first shock will be just how many more trees never sprout their spring foliage. The second shock will arrive in the form of invoices to pay for removing the trees from both public and private property.



## LETTERS

### Troubling propaganda

My parents and I were horrified to find fliers from the National Alliance on our porches and driveways in both Livonia and Plymouth, on both sides of I-275 the weekend of our King holiday.

This white supremacist group lists a post office box in Plymouth and is looking for support. They are desperate, and they are hurting financially, but they will not acknowledge it.

The white supremacist, neo-Nazi, KKK and Christian Identity groups have fortunately lost members in recent years. Their older founding members are dying off. Their younger leadership is failing due to internal dissension and ideological clashes. They need new members, and we need to be vigilant to keep them from rising again.

Often unknown to parents, our children are exposed to their propaganda over the Internet, in books, song lyrics and in these racist fliers.

I was born and raised in Livonia. My parents have lived in southwest Livonia for 45 years. I am a product of the Livonia Public Schools. I now teach social studies at Plymouth High School. I am very established here and have a lasting investment in our communities.

It is as a teacher that I find this most troubling. As a kid, I never thought I would unknowingly pick up this filth from the porch of the home where I was raised and deliver it into my parents' home! We have wonderful communities here in western Wayne County. Our school systems are prestigious. Our crime rate is low. Our property values are high. Our children go on to rewarding opportunities.

And we may have racist, ignorant white supremacists living among us.

As a U.S. history teacher especially, I implore people to get their heads out of the sand and teach our children what these people represent, the threat they are to our country, our democracy, our peace and our future.

They profess patriotism and breed raw, unbridled hate. They emphasize white European ancestry, and they don't know their own history. They blame ABC, the NAACP and the Southern Poverty Law Center, and take no responsibility themselves. They attack and ridicule Dr. King and they quote ruthless former FBI director J. Edgar Hoover as a reference.

They can be as great a danger and threat to real American values like tolerance, acceptance, inclusion, brotherly love and lasting peace as Saddam Hussein, Kim Il Jung and Osama bin Laden. They're only more subtle and poorer. Are you watching?

This should horrify, offend and shock all of us into awareness and action. You shouldn't have to be black to be concerned. I am a Japanese/German/Irish-American, the daughter of a survivor of the U.S. World War II concentration camps for Japanese-Americans, and Martin Luther King's image hangs above my fireplace in the most prominent place in my home. Where does he hang in your heart?

Parents especially, please help your children's teachers like me. Open your

eyes and ears. Be vigilant. Teach your children. Open their eyes and ears. Challenge racist thinking and speech every time you hear it and see it. Show these groups they're not welcome in our communities.

Then, have a bonfire with their poor, lame efforts to infect and recruit you!

**Ann-Nora Hiram**  
Plymouth

### Cigarette tax unfair

Gov. Jennifer Granholm is calling for a 75-cent per pack increase in the state's cigarette tax. Unfortunately, she is treading on the already paper thin skins of the constituents. The cigarette tax itself should be repealed and replaced with a tax that would be considered fair for all and placed across the board, instead of targeting the poor, the working class and minorities. She is particularly targeting Detroit residents, according to statistics obtained by cross-referencing the 2000 Census data with smoking statistics gathered by the CDC, whom are already treated unfairly and pay for more than their share of taxes in many situations. The citizens of Wayne County, as well as the rest of the state, should be concerned with the tactics that this Republican-acting Democrat has been taking. Her political actions speak much more loudly than her feigned concern.

Many smokers have sat back so far and taken the abuse of government entities because they have been forced to be ashamed of their addictions. Smoking is a drug addiction. Drug addictions are disabilities. Persons with disabilities are supposed to be protected by the law, not taken advantage of by it. There are those who smoke still because they do get some pleasure from it. Think about those who are still smoking according to the statistics. They aren't able to afford many other perks in their lives. What a great idea, let's take advantage of these people. My son is an elementary age student who could tell you that the cigarette tax is not democratic. In his school, as in many others, they are taught about the core democratic values of this great country ...

The Pursuit of Happiness, as long as you are not interfering with others, you have the right to seek happiness in your own way.

Justice, all people should be treated fairly in both the benefits and obligations of society. No individual or group should be favored over another person or group.

Equality, everyone has the right to the same treatment regardless of race, sex, religion, heritage or economic status.

... The cigarette tax is no more democratic than any other tax that has been imposed upon the people by government when the politicians decide to practice prejudice.

**Marie M. Easley-Cook**

### Soft hands

Enough is enough. I'm sick and tired of hearing people describe the "Vietnam era" National Guard as though it were a "safe haven" for the sons of politicians,

connected folks and the occasional professional athlete. Let me tell you, there was peril involved! I would defy anyone to look at the X-ray of Dan Quayle's tennis elbow and tell me "that didn't hurt."

Now we have these scurrilous rumors intimating that President George W. Bush was MIA for a year during his Air National Guard duty. HOGWASH! The man showed his pay stubs and his honorable discharge. End of discussion!

Let me ask you this Mr. tie-dyed protester and Ms. Jane Fonda wannabe. If in 1970 the Viet Cong had attempted to invade this country via Mexico, would you have been there to protect our southern border? I think NOT!

Instead, like at the Alamo, it would have been George W. and his fellow "fortunate sons" hacking and slashing at "Charlie" with 9-irons and tennis rackets and whatever else they could get their soft hands on.

Bless those boys!

**William McCleverty**

### Why worry?

Phil Power offered more "jeers" about state budget cuts for universities, but I can't figure out why anybody is concerned.

What would happen, in the worst case, if the schools had to shut their doors? Would this result in an economic crisis in Michigan? Do we fear an exodus of businesses because they've lost the huge profit potential that results from geographical proximity to a government-subsidized university?

Or are Michigan employers so economically inept that they would freely value the location of a potential employee's education more than his qualifications?

So, other than the "privilege" of paying higher taxes, what economic benefit does business enjoy from a university that is unable to stand on its own financial feet? Let's get government out of the education business, completely, so that private alternatives arise that will drive down the cost and improve the quality of education. All this the market can and will provide without stealing from the taxpayer.

**Jerry Smith**

## SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

**Mail:**  
Letters to the editor  
Canton Observer  
794 South Main  
Plymouth, MI 48170

**Fax:**  
(734) 459-4224

**E-mail:**  
jmaliszewski@oe.homecomm.net

## CANTON Observer

Part of HomeTown Communications Network™

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**Jack Lessenberry**  
V.P. Editorial

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

## QUOTABLE

**"There is obviously a cloud over all youth sports agreements and we're going to work hard for the kids of Canton. While there's an investigation going on, there's a cloud over this organization. But the season will go on as scheduled."**

— Ann Conklin, Canton Leisure Services director

## Items from the idea folder and other assorted stuff

Like most folks who write columns for newspapers, I have a file labeled "column ideas." That's where I put noteworthy clips from other newspapers, reports of various size and interest, striking quotes, notes from conversations with news sources, half-finished columns ... and God knows what else.

As with most files of this sort, mine tends to bulge and needs periodic pruning. That's time-consuming, but in the process I discover stuff that might otherwise be overlooked. I offer a sampling below.

■ Political straws in the wind. I am reliably informed that several Michigan Republican big donors were recently invited to break bread with Karl Rove, President Bush's master political strategist. Rove's message: The country is divided right down the center. Something like 45 percent of the voters love Bush, 45 percent hate him and about 10 percent are squeezed in the middle. How come Bush's ratings are dropping? Lots of media attention has been devoted to the Democratic contenders, but the Bush political machine will start to move once it's clear who the opponent will be. The Republican secret weapon: A well-funded, highly-targeted get-out-the-vote operation aimed at mobilizing every GOP activist and getting every potential Bush supporter to vote.

■ On the other side, within the past week I've had two friends approach me about politics. Both are distinguished professionals — one's a lawyer, the other a surgeon — in the prime of their careers. Both told me they plan to take a sabbatical this fall to volunteer full-time to work against Bush. This is the first time since the Vietnam War I've seen such passion in national politics. Even though Bush is the incumbent, has tons of money and sits atop the most politically competent White House in memory, the intensity of feeling against him is quite remarkable ... and could be a force this fall.

■ My own view? I still think the election is Bush's to lose, but I no longer think it'll be a landslide. ■ Good book: I've just finished Tim Skubick's new book *Off the Record*, published simultaneously late last year by the University of Michigan Press and Petoskey Publishing Co. (418 pages; \$29.95) The longest-serving reporter in the state capitol's press corps, Skubick is the host of the public television show *Off the Record*, is a political reporter for radio stations WWJ-AM (950) in Detroit and WJIM-AM (1240) in Lansing and writes a syndicated column for various Michigan newspapers. Over the past 34 years, Skubick has covered



Phil Power

four Michigan governors — Bill Milliken, Jim Blanchard, John Engler and Jennifer Granholm — and an amazing slew of legislators, politicians and activists, some classy and some not, who have rotated in and around Lansing. Skubick has seen it all. He writes in a breezy and quick style. He's funny. And he's very well-informed. Anybody who has more than a passing interest in Michigan politics should read it.

■ Something very odd is going on with the federal guidelines for the No Child Left Behind Act, which is supposed to increase quality and accountability in schools. Turns out that some top-ranked Michigan schools that received National Blue Ribbon awards failed to meet the federal guidelines this year for showing adequate yearly progress in the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP).

President Bush himself visited Southfield's Vandenberg Elementary School in 2002, hailing it as a model school that "is not afraid of accountability and as a result is excelling." Vandenberg scored two As and a B on the state report card, but failed according to the federal guidelines because it didn't have a 95-percent MEAP participation rate. And Avondale High School in Auburn Hills and Avondale Middle School in Rochester Hills both flunked the federal report card. At Avondale High, 88 percent of students took the MEAP test, one of the highest participation rates for any Michigan school, but not high enough for the feds. And Avondale Middle, which won a national Blue Ribbon designation, missed the federal cutoff by 2.4 percent, the equivalent of three or four students.

I've always felt that a key to improving schools is setting standards for what kids are supposed to learn and then finding ways to measure actual learning, not artificial criteria. In fact, I spent years on the board of the National Center for Education and the Economy, which was the national leader in pushing school accountability. But the way this federal act is working gives me — and lots of other school-oriented folks — pause.

■ Cheers to the Granholm administration for coming up with a \$1 million fund to help high-tech start-up companies compete for federal help. Even though \$1 million sounds like small change in such a context, it could leverage as much as \$25 million in federal money to do research and development for new products.

■ Thought for the day: A committee is a group of people who individually can do nothing, but together decide that nothing can be done.

Phil Power is the chairman of the board of the company that owns this newspaper. He would be pleased to get your reactions to this column either at (734) 953-2047 or at [ppower@homecomm.net](mailto:ppower@homecomm.net).

## Church hopes 'Passion' screening helps people connect with God

There have been reports of audiences viewing Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ* leaving theaters sobbing and wailing.

As I sat with some 400 others at the AMC Livonia 20 complex Monday night, in a theater bought out by the Redemption Ministry of pastors Eric and Kim Moore in Plymouth, I wondered two things:

Would this audience, invited and encouraged by the Moores and others, react that way?

Would I?

The audience came prepared for that possibility. The woman who sat next to me clutched a tissue in her hand, and assured me she had more in her pocket. In what was the quietest movie theater I've ever sat in, you could hear teardrops falling almost from the minute Jesus is captured in the Garden of Gethsemane, having been betrayed by Judas.

The movie is, at its heart, a love story. It's the story of Jesus' love for man and, more poignantly to me, a story of the love of Mary for her son. Jesus' love for man is played out in stark, gory detail as he suffers scourging at the hands of the Romans and, ultimately, crucifixion.

The Moores believe Gibson's use of violence not only doesn't diminish the weight of the movie, it underscores the depth of Jesus' love. Previous movies on the subject couldn't show the scope of the pain because society didn't want to see it.

Now, with the advent of video games and the way violence is depicted everywhere, such a telling is vital, according to the Moores.

"We're so desensitized to violence as a culture now that we can show it," said Kim Moore, who went to a screening with Gibson in Chicago. "I think people will be stunned by the lengths Jesus went to to do what he did."

"If I was a person trying to engage with God, I'd have to wrestle with the question, 'Why did he go through that?'" she added. "That's the question they'll be asking (after the movie), and there's only one possible answer: An astounding love."

Many in the audience, particularly women, identified with Mary, who, at least in Gibson's telling, viewed the entire scourging and crucifixion. Using flashbacks to paint Mary's relationship with Jesus, Gibson draws a telling picture of a mother's pain.

That's a theme that resonated Monday night. "I thought it was emotional and pretty accurate," said Kelly Baxter of Dearborn Heights, invited by friends to attend the free screening. "I'm a Christian, and I thought the

hardest part was watching Mary having to watch her son go through that."

The hardest part for Gibson and supporters of the movie may have been enduring the storm of criticism dogging him through the movie's release. Critics have called Gibson an anti-Semite because they claim the movie puts Jews in the role of killing Jesus.

The issue was fueled by Gibson's father, 85-year-old Hutton Gibson, who has been quoted saying, among other things, that the Holocaust was a myth. Although Gibson said he disagrees — "Do I believe there were concentration camps where defenseless, innocent Jews died cruelly under a Nazi regime? Of course I do. It was an atrocity of monstrous proportions" — he didn't go far enough in many views in denouncing his father's beliefs.

"This is my version of what happened, according to the gospels and what I wanted to show," Gibson told Diane Sawyer in a nationally televised interview last week. "My detractors say I'm a bigot and an anti-Semite. It's against the tenets of my faith. To be racist in any form is a sin."

The Moores believe such issues are being created by "a small, vocal minority" seeking to denigrate the movie, which officially opened Wednesday. They say instead the movie is, in its simplest form, a retelling of facts.

"The story of Jesus creates the controversy," Eric Moore said. "Jesus has always divided; people either love Him or hate Him. The movie itself isn't anti-Semitic. It's just history."

While Gibson attempts to portray Jesus' love, the movie doesn't answer the burning issues for everyone. Donna Kipus of Canton had questions going in, and she had the same ones coming out.

"I think he didn't have to suffer. It left me questioning how his dying saved all our sins," said Kipus, there at the invitation of members of the Plymouth Salvation Army congregation. "It left me with too many questions unanswered."

That's OK, because the screening wasn't meant to be a panacea for everyone. It wasn't even about recruiting people to church. For the Moores, it was about bringing them closer to God.

"We wanted people to go on the elbow of someone who knows Christ," Eric Moore said. "We see this as an investment in the lives of people around us, people who don't see God as someone who transforms them. A lot of people will be familiar with the basic story. When they see this, they'll want to get close to that."

"It's not about recruiting people to church," he added. "It's about helping them connect with God."

Brad Kadrach is community editor of the *Plymouth Observer*. He can be reached via e-mail at [bkadrach@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:bkadrach@oe.homecomm.net) or by phone at (734) 459-2700.

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# Gear heads

## Canton man rebuilds Ford as street rod

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI  
STAFF WRITER

With a little help from his friends, Pete Podrasky will sport his 1940 Ford Coupe at his first Detroit Autorama - one of the biggest and best hot rod shows in the country - this Saturday and Sunday.

"I've always wanted to do this since I was a kid," said the Canton resident and veteran General Motors Corp. employee.

By 1996, Podrasky was ready with time and money to buy a car he could transform into a street rod. He had about six models in mind. Ideally, he wanted a Chevy model years 1955-57. "The more I looked, the less I found. I didn't want to buy something that was ready to go."

He then came upon the black 1940 Ford Business Coupe. It had been built in Kentucky and didn't have one iota of rust on it. "I dismantled it," Podrasky said.

Today, the coupe - which originally didn't come with a back seat because it was designed for salesmen - has been brought up-to-date with modern brakes and automatic transmission.

"I made it into a safer car. Everything was done and replaced except the sheet metal and the engine, though I dressed it up with new carbs and electronics."

The original coupe had a 85 horsepower ignition. Today, it has 135-140 horsepower.

Though he made it a safer car to drive, Podrasky admits the materials used in the original coupe are better. "It is a solid, all steel car." The trunk lid is so heavy two people have to carry it.

The coupe was built much simpler than today's cars. "It's a good responsive car. But it doesn't have the same suspension. It doesn't take the bumps like today's cars do."

Remaking the coupe into a street rod - that today features red and yellow flames on the



The 1998 Honda Accord, Import Tuner, follows a new trend in custom cars and hot rods that is popular with the younger generation.

hood - took seven years and the help of people who have become good friends.

"I learned lots of techniques," said Podrasky, an inspector with GM Power Train in Romulus. "You run into different problems. You figure them out or you seek out the information to solve them."

What he also discovered was the camaraderie of the auto aficionados, also known as "gear heads." "They are willing to share and to help. It is a really friendly group of people."

In the end, he had plenty of help. Kerry Pankow painted the car, Roger Marks put the brightly colored flames on it, Bob Massoran did the new, white vinyl upholstery, and Bob Sharpe helped with the mechanics.

"These are the guys I met after I started this. I did most of the work, but I had to farm out some of it."

The revamped street rod is a dream come true for Podrasky. "I grew up in the '50s. These cars were part of young people's lifestyles." And it was a less expensive hobby in those days.

And he waited as life happened - three children, college educations, weddings, grandchildren. His family, including wife Jean, encouraged and supported his street rod dreams. His kids will be with

him at the Autorama. Jean is heading out on a cruise with friends.

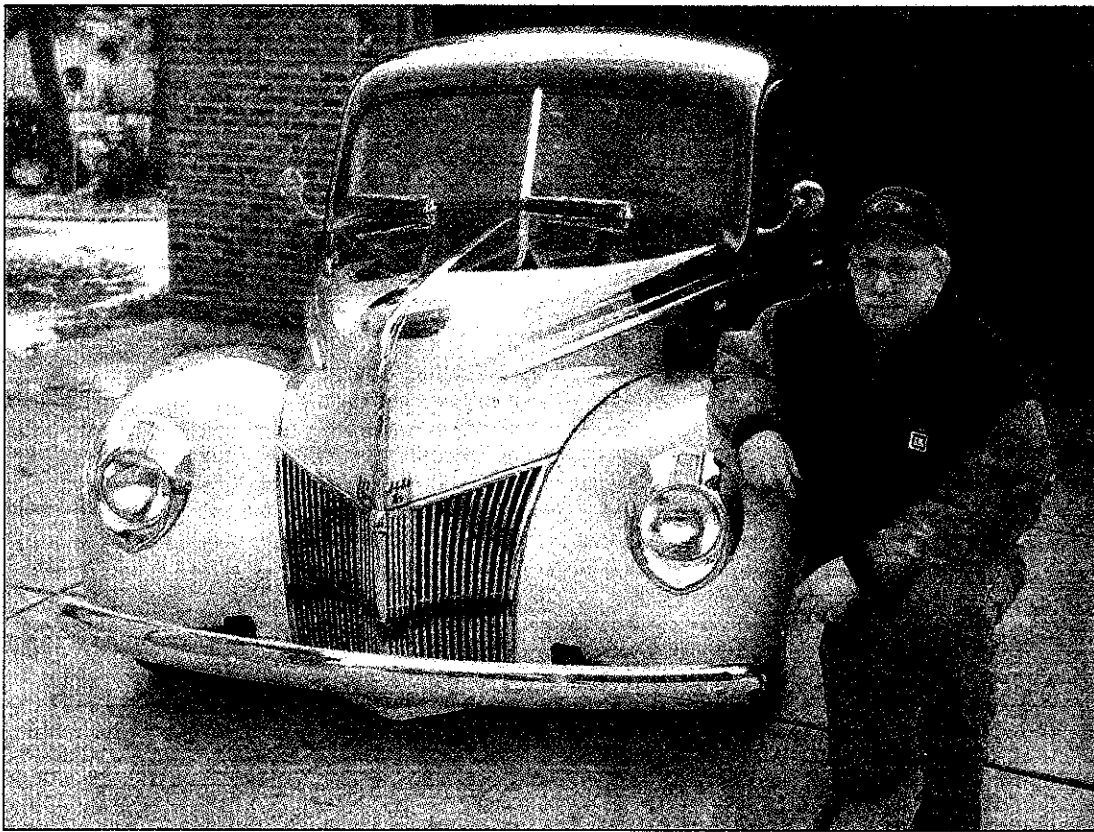
The Autorama is not the first show for Podrasky's street rod. His kids rented him space in last year's Woodward Dream Cruise. He showed the car once before that. The 52nd Annual Murray's Discount Auto Stores Detroit Autorama at the Cobo Center draws more than 1,000 chopped, channeled, dumped and decked hot rods, custom cars, trucks, vans and motorcycles, as well as bicycles.

Like all the others, Podrasky had to apply to the Autorama. He also was invited to display his car with the Cow Tongue Cruisers at the weekend show that last year drew some 165,000 people.

Canton resident Jeremie Lopez will also display his 1996 Honda Accord-Import Tuner, which is a new trend in custom cars and hot rods popular with the younger crowd.

Autorama at Cobo Center is open noon to 10:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27; 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28; and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 29. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$5 for kids ages 6 to 12. Children 5 and younger are free. Advance tickets are \$13 for adults and \$4 for kids. For more information, call (248) 373-1700.

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Pete Podrasky and his 1940 Ford Coupe that he transformed into a street rod will be at the annual Autorama at Cobo Center this weekend.

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## Sidelines

### One to remember

The decision was theirs to make.

The Monarchs, a 10-11 year-old girls team in the Plymouth-Canton Junior Basketball Association, had just four players to put on the court for their game Saturday.

Spring-break vacations had cost them four players; two others had other tournament commitments. Jack Macuga, coach of the Monarchs, figured they would have to forfeit. What made it harder to take: The team they were going to play was the Miracles, the only team to beat the Monarchs this season.

A win by the Monarchs and the two teams would tie for first place at 9-1. But how could they expect to beat an unbeaten team with just four players?

League officials convinced Macuga they should play anyway, and at least

give the four girls some on-court experience. Macuga didn't force his players; he let them make the decision whether to play a game of four-on-five or to just forfeit and go home.

They opted to play. And after 40 minutes of regulation and six minutes of overtime, the Monarchs knew they had made the right choice.

Liz Campbell hit a free throw in the closing seconds of the third OT, and that proved to be the game-winning point as the Monarchs prevailed 37-36. Campbell finished with 18 points; Lauren Macuga, the coach's daughter, scored 13.

But it was the defense applied by Lindsey Dehnke, Samantha Maksimovic, Campbell and Macuga that was the difference. The Monarchs did get a break - Chris Holland, coach of the Miracles, used one of his timeouts to extend the halftime intermission, and he offered to call some others if the Monarchs needed rest.

This was one for the record books. Or, as Macuga (the coach) said to his excited but tired players after the game, "This is something you will never forget."

### Blue, baby!

The Madonna University women's basketball team is looking for a "Blue Out" in its first-round Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Tournament game against Indiana Tech at 7:30 p.m. tonight at Madonna.

The Crusaders enter the tournament as the No. 4 seed with a 6-6 conference record. Tech is the No. 5 seed with a 5-7 WHAC mark; among the Warriors' losses is a 79-73 setback at Madonna.

The team is asking everyone in attendance to wear blue in a show of support.

All those who do will be given a free fountain drink at halftime of Thursday's game.



Salem's Lauren Price blocks Canton's Nikki Mersch's shot.

# Salem just too tough for Canton

It's one thing having a strategy. It's another learning it's the correct one.

Then there's that third element - called execution. Got to have all three to beat a state-ranked volleyball team like Salem. Canton had the first two when it hosted the Rocks Monday, but execution . . . uhh, no.

Which is why Salem won 15-4, 15-6.

The Rocks improved to 42-8-5 overall. Canton is 21-15-7. "Two things cost us the match," said Chiefs' coach Steve Anderson. "No. 1, our serve receive. We knew where it was going, but we didn't execute. If we got a pass, we destroyed the middle."

"We knew what the plan was, but we didn't execute. You can't score if you can't pass."

Salem did execute and made far fewer mistakes. The Rocks used a seven-point serve by Jordan Falcusan in the first game to go from a 2-2 tie to a 9-2 lead. Courtney Edwards followed with a four-point serve that made it 13-2 and all but put the game away.

In between, the Chiefs had a service error. It was a common occurrence for them in this match, and many came at the most inopportune times. In all, they had 11 service errors in the match, with only six aces.

"Defense and setting," was the difference, according to Salem coach Tom Teeters. "Our serving and our serve reception."

The Rocks' top outside hitter, Ellen Canale, had a sore shoulder "but she wanted to play (against Canton)," Teeters said. How quickly she recovers will be a factor in how well Salem performs at Saturday's Western Lakes Activities Association Tournament.

"If she plays injured, she won't help us much," noted Teeters. "But this gives us another tournament to try different things. We're trying different things for different reasons, like covering Ellen's loss."

Canale was hardly needed against the Chiefs, the way they self-destructed. In the second game, they spotted the Rocks a 9-0 lead, five of those again coming on Edwards' serve. A misplay on serve receive, a service ace and three kills accounted for that five-point run.

Canale and Teresa Coppellie led Salem with three kills apiece. Lauren Kurtz had three solo blocks and one block assist, and Falcusan and Edwards each had two service aces in the match. For Canton, Kelly Baker led with eight kills (and a .500 kill percentage); Andrea Johnson added four. Kristen Lillie had 15 set assists.

RICK SMITH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Rocks stay in top spot with win

An offense that was good enough and a defense that proved it could do the job kept Salem's basketball team atop the Western Lakes Activities Association's Lakes Division with a 43-39 triumph over Walled Lake Central Tuesday at Salem.

### BASKETBALL

The Rocks improved to 8-9 overall, 5-1 in the Lakes. Central is also 8-9 overall, 3-4 in the division.

"We played well enough," said Salem coach Bob Brodie. "On the defensive end we played well. On the offensive end, we struggled a bit."

"We didn't handle their pressure well at times, but we weathered the storm."

A first-half cushion helped the Rocks. They led 14-8 after one quarter and 26-16 at the half. Still, the Vikings were able to narrow the gap in the third quarter and catch Salem in the fourth before they pulled away.

Free-throw shooting didn't help Salem: 7-of-20 (35 percent). Central wasn't a heckuva lot better (8-of-16, 50 percent).

Brian Bradley led the Rocks with 10 points; Kevin Bradley added nine, and Dominique Washington grabbed eight rebounds.

Brad Burnhardt topped Central with 13 points; Jim Finn and Aaron Harola scored eight apiece.

The end of the regular season should be fun for the Rocks - they close with games at Westland John Glenn Friday and Wayne Memorial next Tuesday.

**Canton 71, Churchill 54:** Brad Waidmann led a Canton attack that

PLEASE SEE ROCKS, B5

## Madonna: A new team with high hopes

Most everything regarding the Madonna University baseball team this season is new, not the least of which is a revamped roster.

A year ago, the Crusaders labored through a 22-30 season that included a 6-18 mark in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference. It was an unhappy year for all involved, and to coach Greg Haeger that meant changes must be made.

They were. When Madonna opens its season today in

### BASEBALL PREVIEW

Homestead, Fla., against Hillsdale College - the first of 16 scheduled games on the spring trip - it will have the largest roster in its history: 37 players, of which 23 are newcomers.

That's not all. Haeger will also have more pitchers on his team than ever before, a total of 17.

They'll be needed, because four of the top seven pitchers in appearances from last season, who accounted for 16 of the team's victories, are gone. Returning are righthander Adam Kline (from Redford Catholic Central), a junior in eligibility who was the team's closer in 2003 (2-1 record, 4.50 earned run average, four saves); Dan Duffey (Farmington Hills/CC), a fifth-year senior who was 1-2 with a 3.46 ERA in limited

(26 innings) action; and righthander Bobby Houchins (from Farmington HS), a sophomore who struggled last season (0-2, 8.79 ERA).

Now here's the deal: Haeger likes this staff a lot. And not just because it's deeper. He's added four transfers - two from Concordia College, one each from Wayne State and St. Mary's College - who could make this a very imposing

PLEASE SEE MADONNA, B4

## 1st-period outburst leads to Whaler win

Nick Vernelli scored twice in the first period to help give the Plymouth Whalers a lead they never surrendered in beating the Kitchener Rangers 7-4 Saturday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena.

The win was the Whalers' fourth straight, giving them a 27-21-9-3 record (66 points), second in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division. Kitchener is 30-20-6-2 (68 points), third in the OHL's Midwest Division.

The Rangers had the early lead, getting a goal from Jesse Boucher at 4:31 of the first period. That lasted 13 seconds; Vernelli tied the game with his first goal at 4:44, with an assist from Ryan Ramsay.

Plymouth took the lead for good at 10:45 of the first, when Canton's James Wisniewski beat Kitchener goalie Brad Topping; Craig Cescon and Gino Pisellini assisted.

The Whalers got two more quickly, John Vigilante getting the first at 12:07 (from John Mitchell and Pisellini) and Vernelli the second at 13:13 (from Tim Sestito and Ramsay), to make it 4-1.

The Rangers closed the gap to two, but were never in a position to tie the game. Vaclav Meidl got a second-period goal (from Richard Power and David Liffiton) for Plymouth, and Dan Collins (from



DONALD J. ALLEY

Plymouth Whalers' Vaclav Meidl celebrates after ripping a shot past Kitchener Rangers' goalie Carlo DiRienzo, helping the Whalers to a 7-4 win Saturday.

Cescon and Wisniewski) and Mitchell (from Mike Letizia) scored in the third period.

Kitchener's other goals came from Boucher, Michael Richards and

Nathan O'Nabigon.

Carlo DiRienzo replaced Topping, in goal in the first period for the Rangers. Paul Drew was in the net for the Whalers; he stopped 36 of 40 shots.



# Shamrocks beat back ND Prep; Borgess stuns Shrine

After falling behind 23-9 just into the second quarter to lightly regarded Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, Redford Catholic Central's boys basketball team had all the swagger of a fighter one punch away from being knocked out.

But the littlest man on the floor for CC pulled the Shamrocks off the mat and got them back into the fight, as 5-9 guard Rob Fragokeyed a comeback that led to a 60-57 win Sunday at Calihan Hall.

"We were sleepwalking through the first quarter and finally got back into it in the second quarter," CC coach Rick Coratti said. "Rob was a big part of that. He's been consistent over the last couple of games and got us back into this one."

Just as ND Prep (8-8) kicked it in gear in the first quarter — taking a 21-9 lead thanks to hitting three of its eight 3-pointers in the game — the

Shamrocks turned the tables in the second.

Trailing 28-15 midway through the period, Fragokeyed a 14-2 run with eight points — including two baskets off of steals — helped by six of Dan Waterstradt's 17 points. CC trailed 30-29 at half.

"We got it in gear in the second quarter, but it was an uphill battle," Coratti said. "This is the fourth year we've played (ND Prep) and it's like this every year."

A second run in the third quarter put the Shamrocks in the lead for good, but not without worry. The Fighting Irish pushed the lead back up to 38-31 with 5:25 left on a triple by Keith Kampe.

But that was ND Prep's last hurrah. Kyle Smith hit a 3-pointer to start a 17-2 run (with nine from Smith) and give CC a 48-42 lead by quarter's end.

## CATHOLIC LEAGUE

CC got sloppy in the fourth quarter, however, and let ND Prep back into the game. A comfortable 58-51 lead with 1:48 left was cut to 58-57 as Kampe went inside for a bucket with 12 seconds left. But the Irish fouled and Fragokeyed a pair of free throws to ice the game with 3.7 seconds left.

"We didn't play smart in the last minute," Coratti said. "We threw the ball away twice. We're fortunate we're a good team from the free-throw line (8-of-9 for the game)."

Smith led CC with 18 points, while Waterstradt had 17, Fragokeyed 10, Jim Cash had eight and Derek Brooks had seven. Kampe had 20 to pace ND Prep, Eric Grozenski had 15 and James Vanden Boom had 10.

What shot the Fighting Irish in the foot was 10 turnovers in the second quarter as Fragokeyed five steals.

After shooting a dismal 3-for-12 from the floor to start the game, the Shamrocks turned it around for a respectable 25-of-55, while ND Prep was 20-for-48 but only 3-of-15 in the fourth quarter.

## Spartans surprise Shrine

The first time that Bishop Borgess played Royal Oak Shrine, the Knights spanked Borgess so soundly that there was a running clock in the fourth quarter.

That didn't happen Saturday as the Spartans surprised the A-East champions with a 61-57 win in the East-West quarterfinal.

"From the second quarter on, we were in charge," Borgess coach Anthony Woods said. "We had a 12-

point lead and we hit our free throws late. We did have a couple of costly turnovers that could have swung the other way."

A scouting report helped the Spartans on defense, while Borgess had some players step up on offense.

"We didn't have everyone last time and we didn't know how to play as a team," Woods said.

"We watched them this time and knew that (John Head) likes to go baseline and (Joe Boylan and Matt Williams) are terrific shooters. So if we watched them on the outside and cut them off on the baseline, I thought we could win."

T.R. Ellis had 25 points, including six 3-pointers, to lead the Spartans, while Joe Jones had eight points and 10 assists and DeAngelo Seale had six points, 13 rebounds and three blocks. Ray Martin led Shrine with 15 points, Boylan had 13 and Head had 12.

# Schoolcraft College seizes Eastern Conference crown

The Schoolcraft College men's basketball team got some unexpected help in clinching its fifth straight Eastern Conference championship.

On Saturday, the Ocelots took care of business with a 103-60 victory over host Henry Ford CC as seven players scored in double figures.

But instead of settling for a co-championship with Flint Mott, a team the Ocelots split with during the regular season, they were able to say a hearty "thank you" to third place Wayne County CC, which upended visiting Mott on the same day, 88-85. Mott, which slipped to 25-3 overall and 14-2 in the conference, blew a chance to earn a share of the crown.

"We felt we had a good chance because Wayne County is one of the toughest places to play on the road and

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

it's often in a hostile environment," said Schoolcraft coach Carlos Briggs, whose team finished 15-1 in the conference, one game ahead of Mott, the No. 1-ranked team in NJCAA Division II.

Ray Metcalf, John Burris and Tyrone Scott each scored 14 points in the victory over Henry Ford as Schoolcraft improved to 24-3 overall.

Lamont Arrington and Derrick Ponder added 13 points apiece, while Darien Bynum (Redford Bishop Borgess) and Ricky Morgan contributed 11 and 10, respectively.

Ponder grabbed a team-high 12 rebounds and three steals, while Metcalf had eight assists. Scott and Ryan Baumgartner added four

assists each.

Schoolcraft, which led 47-34 at halftime, sat out one starter, Marcus Johnson, and limited the play of two other starters, Morgan and Anton Palmer, to just seven minutes, for team disciplinary reasons.

Henry Ford (10-17, 4-10) got 15 points from Ron McGrew and 11 from Lawrence Baker.

Schoolcraft shot 40-of-95 from the floor, including 7-for-18 from three-point range. The Ocelots were 16-of-23 from the foul line.

On Wednesday, Schoolcraft met Glen Oaks (21-6) in the MCCA quarterfinals. The semifinals and finals will be Friday and Saturday at Mott.

"We have to continue to get better as an offensive unit and continue to understand our roles," Briggs said. "But the best part of our team is that we do guard people."

## BASEBALL TRYOUT

The WaCo Wolves U-9 travel baseball team will hold winter tryouts for the 2004 season. The team will play about 50-60 games during the season plus a World Series.

For more information, please call Bill Hardin at (734) 516-3723.

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Publish: February 26, 2004 CE08162913

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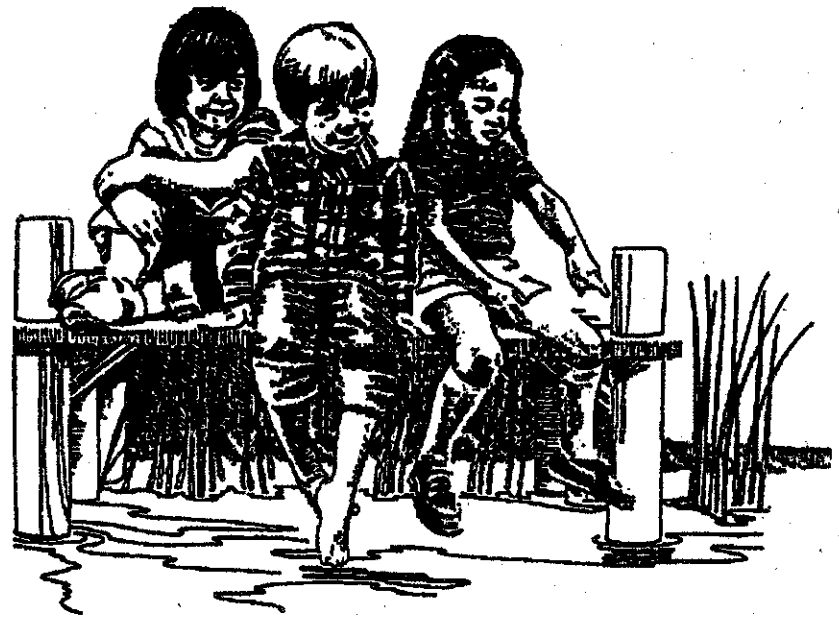
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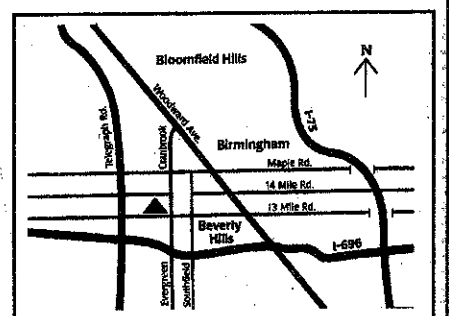
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**METRO PARENT**



**MADONNA**

FROM PAGE B1

pitching staff.

"I can't say for sure because you can never tell until you get on the field," Haeger said, "but this staff has the capability of being the best staff Madonna's ever had."

High expectations, but not based on potential alone. The transfers (they're all righthanders) are Doug Brooks, a senior who attended Wayne State and who throws in the low 90s with a pro-level slider ("He'll be my No. 1," Haeger predicted); Jeff Savage, a senior from St. Mary's who throws in the low 80s and has

"a nasty sinking fastball that will be awfully effective"; Derek Dufrane, a sophomore who experienced shoulder problems at Concordia, but can throw in the mid-80s and has good off-speed stuff; and Andrew Campbell, a sophomore in eligibility who was Concordia's closer.

Those additions alone would make Madonna formidable, but there's more. First, don't forget Kline, who will move into the starting rotation; Duffey, who "made incredible strides last season" and has earned a spot in the rotation; and Houchins, who will have to throw strikes to stay in the rotation.

Of course, this could be scrambled quite a bit by the

time the WHAC season begins. Among those who figure to get mound time: Scott Miller (Farmington Hills), a junior who was a regular at second base last season but will be a pitcher only this year, a sidearming righthander with "great movement and good velocity from underneath"; Mike Hand (North Farmington), a freshman and the Raiders' ace who guided them to the 2003 OAA Division II title and who can throw "three pitches"; Kyle Fedorka, a freshman who will also play in the middle infield; and Mike Orehek, a freshman project who has "shown an incredibly live arm."

Pitching isn't the only area that must be rebuilt. Haeger will put out an entirely new infield, with three redshirts from 2003 the only returnees: freshmen shortstops Matt Humenay (Livonia Churchill) and Gary Van Allen, and sophomore in eligibility Jason Barbeau, who won the second base job with an outstanding performance in the fall.

A left-handed hitter, Barbeau edged out junior Matt Gorske, who started at second base for St. Mary's College last season.

Either Humenay (who's the better fielder) or Van Allen

**'I can't say for sure because you can never tell until you get on the field, but this staff has the capability of being the best staff Madonna's ever had.'**

Greg Haeger  
Madonna baseball coach

(the better hitter) will start at short, with Fedorka providing depth. Barbeau and Gorske figure to be at second.

There's a logjam at first, too, with Kellen Fry, a junior and another St. Mary's transfer, and a player with a penchant for driving in runs; Greg Hocking (Farmington Harrison), a freshman talent who will get some playing time, according to Haeger; and John McCracken, a freshman with size (6-foot-3, 235 pounds) and a "great swing."

Ben Galus, a senior, will fill the void at third base; he was a three-year starter at St. Mary's before the program folded. "He can make all the plays, and he'll bat somewhere in the middle of the lineup," said

Haeger.

Jake Ghannam (Farmington Harrison), a freshman who was expected to back up Galus, has experienced knee problems and is uncertain. Fedorka could fill in if needed.

Expected to be behind the plate was sophomore Justin Fabian. However, earlier this week, Fabian fouled a ball into his mouth, putting his availability in doubt.

Sliding into the void at catcher are Mike Louwers, a freshman in eligibility, and Nick Hippler (Farmington), also a freshman in eligibility who is just returning to action after suffering a near-fatal head injury while playing in Belgium in 2001.

The outfield is Madonna's strongest area. Returning are juniors Brian Williams (Livonia/CC), who has experienced hamstring injury problems throughout his career (.220, eight runs batted in last season), and Joe Greene (.269, two home runs, 11 RBI). Williams will be in center, Greene in right.

In left field will be Preston Picard (Farmington HS), a sophomore who played last season at Florida CC. "He's speedy and runs the bases aggressively," said Haeger, giving the Crusaders lots of speed

in the outfield.

Tony Kern, a junior (.273, four RBI); Matt Loidas (Farmington Hills/CC), a transfer from Central Michigan and a great athlete with junior eligibility; Kevin Zerbo (Farmington Harrison), a freshman with superb hitting potential; and Dave Nester, a senior who is the best pure defensive outfielder on the team, will also see playing time.

"It's a young team, a brand new team," said Haeger. "With 17 pitchers, we should be able to win some games. Our next (area of strength) is the outfield — we have some kids who can swing the bat out there."

Teams to beat in the WHAC figure to be long-time powers Indiana Tech and Aquinas. Defending champ Spring Arbor can't be counted out, although the Cougars lost their top pitcher.

Haeger plans on the Crusaders challenging that trio, for WHAC and NAIA Tournament honors. They've got a new field to do it on, located just north of Livonia Ladywood HS off of Newburgh. Of course, promise and potential aren't related to reality. Turning those elements into the real deal is Haeger's challenge.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS**

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

David Medley, ADA Coordinator  
Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road  
Canton, MI 48188  
(734) 394-5260

Publish: February 26, 2004

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH  
NOTICE OF HEARING  
ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW**

The Board of Review for the City of Plymouth will convene in the City Commission Chambers, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, for an Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 at 12:00 p.m.

The regular Board of Review session will begin:  
**TUESDAY, March 2, 2004 from 12:30 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M.**  
**WEDNESDAY, March 3, 2004 from 3:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.**

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 2004 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall before an appointment can be made. The "DEADLINE" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Wednesday, March 3, 2004 by 5:00 p.m.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be submitted by Friday, March 12, 2004.

Copies of the notice stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted on the official public bulletin boards of the City and also in the local newspapers.

All Board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact (734) 453-1234, ext. 253.

MARK R. CHRISTIANSEN  
City of Plymouth  
City Assessor

Publish: February 22 & 26, 2004

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Publish: February 26, 2004

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
FY 2004 CDBG ACTION PLAN**

On Wednesday, March 10, 2004, at 2 p.m., in the Walnut Room, Summit on the Park Community Center, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, Michigan 48188, there will be a public hearing on the FY 2004 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Action Plan. The Action Plan is funded at \$434,000. Comment will be accepted on the following project proposals: First Step, \$36,000; Growth Works, \$10,500; HelpSource Adult Day Care, \$5,000; Wayne County Neighborhood Legal Services, \$20,500; Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency, \$10,000; Volunteer Coordinator, \$6,500; Leisure Services scholarships program, \$2,500; Program Administration, \$85,200; Human Service Center Construction, \$275,000 (multi-year); Housing Rehabilitation, \$9,400. Note: not all project proposals are necessarily listed; not all projects listed will necessarily be approved for FY 2004; nor will all projects accepted for funding necessarily be funded for the requested amounts. Written comments or requests for information should be directed to: Gerald Martin, Community Services Specialist, Community Services Division, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188, (734) 394-5194, Ex. 5194.

TERRY BENNETT, Clerk

Publish: February 19 and 26, 2004

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
NOTICE TO PUBLIC  
BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS**

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Terry G. Bennett, Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan to all residents of the Charter Township of Canton: that all persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. All petitions must be received in the Assessor's office by March 9, 2004.

The Board of Review will be held in the Canton Township Hall on the first floor, at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Please come prepared, as an eight (8) minute limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.

The following is the schedule for March Board of Review:

Saturday, March 6, 2004 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.  
First Come, First Serve (Walk-in-Schedule)

Monday, March 8, 2004 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.  
AND 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
(Appointments Only)

Tuesday, March 9, 2004 Hearings from 1:00 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m.  
AND 6:00 p.m. -- 9:00 p.m.  
(Appointments Only)

If you have any questions regarding the March Board of Review, you may call Dawn Harden, Secretary to the Board of Review (734) 394-5111.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK  
Charter Township of Canton

Publish: Observer  
February 19, February 22, February 26, and February 29, 2004

**Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings  
- February 17, 2004**

A regular study meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton held Tuesday, February 17, 2004 at 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, Michigan. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Roll Call Members Present: Bennett, Burdziak, Kirchgatter, Shefferly, Yack, Zarbo Members Absent: McLaughlin Staff Present: Director Durack, Director Conklin, Director Faas, Mike Ager Others Present: Paul Denski Jr., Pat Van Dusen Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, seconded by Zarbo to approve the agenda. Motion carried by members present.

**ITEM 1: CANTON WASTE RECYCLING - PAUL DENSKI, JR.** Due to Southwest corner of Canton Township's growth, it is proposed that Canton Waste Recycling breakup their route days.

**ITEM 2: VOLUNTEER PROGRAM.** Pat Van Dusen did a presentation on the volunteer program. Volunteer Event Highlights were discussed with major accomplishments of 2003 and goals and objectives for 2004 including a calendar of events for 2004. This year a total of 1,310 volunteers served a total of 4,348.50 hours.

**ITEM 3: HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION** Terry Bennett stated that the Canton Historic District Commission has completed another active year of preservation activities designed to enhance our community by retaining some of our historic character and adding to the quality of life of Canton residents. Important goals of the Commission this past year have been in the areas of outreach and volunteerism. Grant King, Historic District Commissioner, a recognized authority in historic cemetery preservation is developing a manual covering preservation/rehabilitation of grave markers, re-righting headstones, repairing markers, soils and care of grounds, and standards for landscaping, fencing, buildings and structures, preservation techniques, and signage.

**ITEM 4: CANTON CABLE TELEVISION** One of the main goals of the cable staff was to improve on the quality of our shows. To attain this goal, the full-time staff enrolled in college courses that will help further their knowledge in television production. Also computer graphics and special effects were a priority. The Township won the NATOA award for "Canton This Month", two Aurora awards for a Bike Safety PSA, and Canton Promo, and also won two (2) Videographer awards, for "24/7" and "Out and About". The budget for 2004 is chiefly comprised of equipment for the Performing Arts Center and the renovations to the Township Board Meeting Room at the Administration Building.

**ITEM 5: GRANT PROGRAMS** A list of 25 grants were presented with a grand total of \$2,962,155 and a total of 5 grants pending.

**ITEM 6: FACILITIES MAINTENANCE** The new administration offices will create an additional 33,435 square feet, Public Safety Addition, 10,000 Public Works Building Addition, 11,500 Fleet Maintenance Building, 6,727, Michigan Avenue Building, and Gun Range, 1,200 equalling a total of 67,308 square feet for maintaining. One (1) Maintenance Tech IV employee has been hired. The Facilities Maintenance Division is working with Leisure Services in developing a plan to handle the maintenance of the rooftop units at the Summit on the Park facility through a contractual arrangement.

**ITEM 7: TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM** The Canton Community Mobility Transportation Services Program was created thanks to a partnership between the municipal government of Canton Township and Huron Valley Ambulance. This program currently has two (2) vans, facilitating 15,000 rides accommodating 1,000 to 1,100 riders and promoted by Canton Foundation. ADJOURNMENT. Motion by Bennett seconded by Kirchgatter to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.. Motion carried by all members present.

- Thomas J. Yack - Supervisor / Terry G. Bennett - Clerk - Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org after Board approval.

Publish: February 26, 2004

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## Ocelots roll to victory in state tourney

A little more offense, a little better defense, and Schoolcraft College's women's basketball team easily survived its first-round game in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Tournament, slamming Glen Oaks CC 79-58 Monday at SC.

The Ocelots got their 20th win of the season, improving to 20-7. Glen Oaks is 9-17.

SC shot just 41.6 percent from the floor in the first half (15-of-36), but improved that to 48.5 percent in the second (17-of-35). They were aided by good rebounding (a 46-37 advantage, including 21 offensive boards) and a defense that forced 24 turnovers (SC had 16).

Five Ocelots scored nine points or more, led by Crystal

## ROCKS

FROM PAGE B1

outscored Livonia Churchill 25-10 in the second quarter Tuesday at Canton.

The win pushed the Chiefs' overall record to 11-7; they are 4-3 in the WLAAs Western Division. Churchill is 4-15 overall, 1-7 in the conference.

Waidmann finished with 19 points on 7-of-11 shooting from the floor and 5-of-5 at the free-throw line; he scored 12 points in the second quarter. D.J. Bridges added 17 points on 7-of-8 shooting from the field, and Andy Cortellini had 10 points, five steals and three

assists. The Chargers were led by Tristen Thomas and Tim Van Dusen with 15 points apiece; Thomas also grabbed eight boards.

Churchill was crippled by the loss of Van Dusen to an ankle injury in the first half.

**Canton Agape 81, Inter-City 70 (OT):** Canton Agape Christian won its homecoming game in style Saturday night, handing Allen Park Inter-City Baptist its first Michigan Independent Athletic Conference loss in overtime at Ypsilanti Calvary.

The score was tied at 65 apiece after regulation, sending the two teams to OT

after Inter-City tied it with a minute to go.

The Chargers would be outscored 16-5 in the extra session by Agape.

The Wolverines were spurred on by the strong play by senior guard Charlie Henry, who finished with a game-high 25 points to go with eight rebounds. Jordan Napier had 23 points and 11 boards; Derek Leathers netted 20 points and 10 rebounds; and Matt Cross contributed nine points and 10 rebounds.

"This was a big game for us," Agape coach Chuck Henry said. The Wolverines are now 6-3 in the MIAC.

The Chargers drop to 7-1 in the MIAC, 10-6 overall. They were led by Brennan

Rees' 23 points. Steven Draper had 16.

On Monday, the Wolverines fell to 13-5 overall with a non-league loss at Whitmore Lake, 73-64. The Trojans were paced by Mike Hainen's 23 points; Elliot Munz had 15 and Drew Coker got 14.

"We played pretty well, but we missed so many layups," said Henry. "Give them credit, they're a pretty good team, especially for 94 feet of floor."

Charlie Henry played great offensively for the Wolverines, totaling 31 points and seven assists.

Despite playing on a bad ankle, Napier contributed 13 points; Cross had 12 points and 11 rebounds.

## Why Michigan's electric deregulation law is bad for us and bad for you.

We've been responsible to the people of Michigan for over a hundred years. And in all that time we've never cried wolf. But now the wolf is at the door.

Because of flaws in the electric deregulation law, Public Act 141, out-of-state companies are coming in, snatching up the biggest electricity customers and leaving the rest of us to pay the price to keep the entire system running.

These outside companies don't care about homeowners or small businesses. There's not enough profit there. In fact, the law says out-of-state suppliers don't have to serve low-income customers or senior

citizens or first-time homebuyers or people out in rural areas. We do serve them, of course, we always have.

PA 141 says we must cover the entire cost of the electric system—all the power plants, a million utility poles, 42,000 miles of power lines—and all the people who make it work. The out-of-town suppliers don't contribute fairly to the maintenance and upgrading of the system. That remains our responsibility. The reliability of that system is at serious risk. The only way we can properly support and sustain the electric system is to make up for the loss of revenue by

increasing rates to homeowners and small businesses. We're talking about rate hikes of up to 30%. Is that fair to you? No. But our hands are tied. It could come to a rate increase or a very real energy crisis.

Michigan's electric deregulation law was meant to stimulate competition, give everyone a choice and keep electricity affordable. It's done none of those things.

As the law stands, it just isn't fair, not to you and not to us. It needs to be fixed. Help us change a law that simply doesn't work. Log on to [dteenergy.com](http://dteenergy.com) and find out how you can help keep energy reliable and affordable for everyone.

*Anthony F. Barley Jr.*

**Anthony F. Barley, Jr.**  
Chairman and CEO  
DTE Energy and Detroit Edison

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## WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOP

Pittman with 21 points, 10 rebounds and two blocked shots. Takara Tuff had 14 points, seven boards and three assists; Sara Tyree totaled 12 points and four steals; and Tara Charles (from Redford Bishop Borgess) and Tiffani Pattilo had nine points and five rebounds apiece, Pattilo adding four assists and two steals. Fiona Shead topped Glen Oaks with 17 points. Renee Townsend had 13 and Shannan Abnet scored 11. Mallory Craft had seven points and 13 boards.

**Madonna 91, UM-Dearborn 56:** Not much more than a practice session.

That's what Saturday's game against visiting University of Michigan-Dearborn was to Madonna. The Crusaders, who improved to 11-18 overall, led 49-17 by halftime, allowing the Wolves to convert 6-of-25 shots from the floor (24 percent) while they made 20-of-32 (62.5 percent). Every Madonna player scored, led by Marwa Ayoub with 19 points; she also had six steals. Next best was Kassi Jacob with 12 points and two steals; Sarah Thomson with 11 points and six rebounds; Hayley Myers with 10 points and three blocks; and Amy Henry (from Canton Agape Christian) with nine points and three assists.

Best for UM-Dearborn was Kristin Buchanan with 21 points. Amber Taylor had 17 and Nisreen Fahkouri scored 14.

## All-WHAC choices

The All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference basketball teams have been announced, and it's no surprise Madonna University junior Noel Emenhiser is on the squad.

The 6-foot-5 guard led the conference in scoring, averaging 20.7 points per game. He also averaged 4.4 rebounds a game, making better than 45 percent of his floor shots and 82 percent of his free throws.

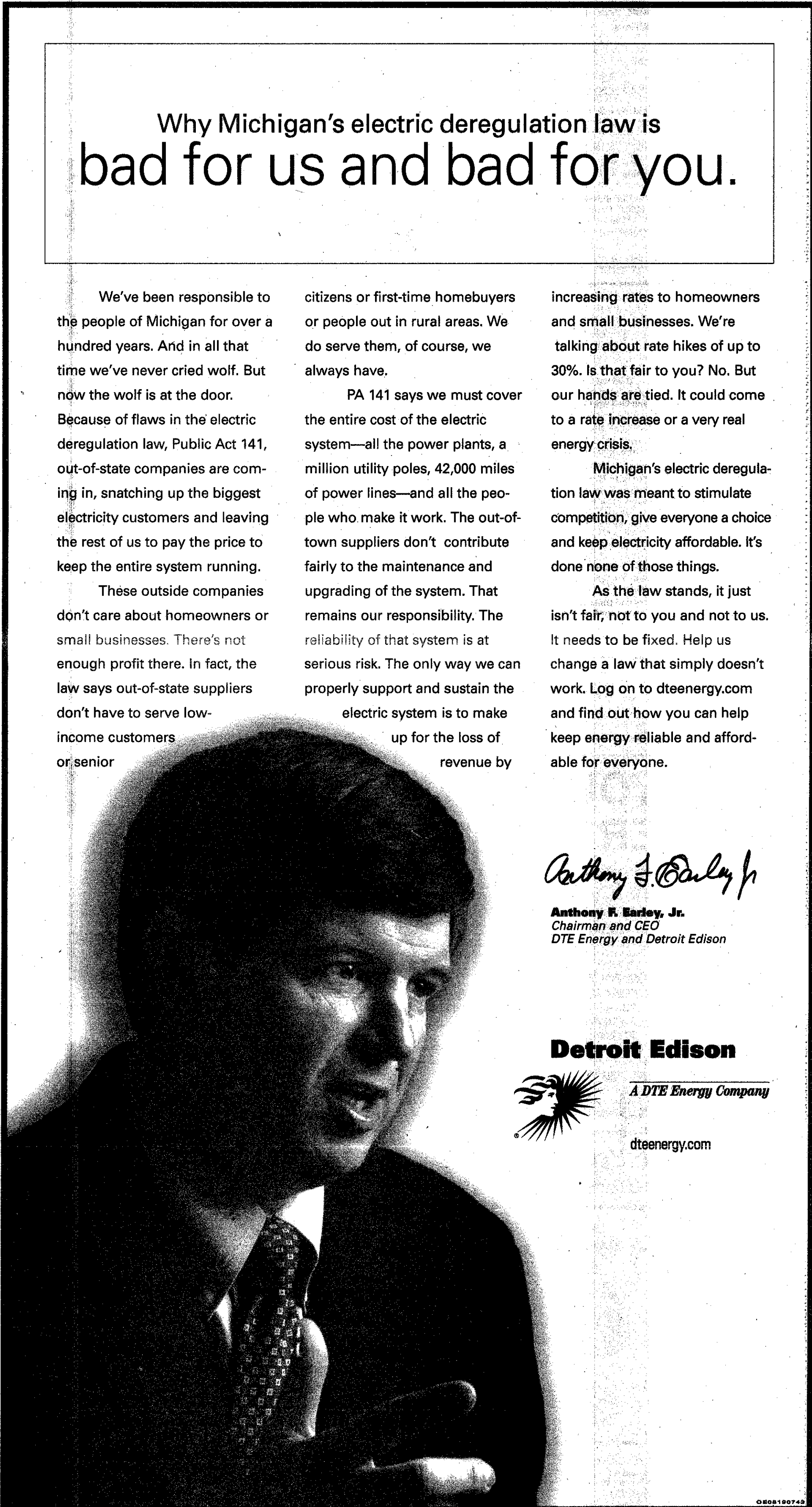
Madonna finished sixth in the conference regular season with a 3-9 record; the Crusaders were 10-18 overall.

Also honored were senior point guard Dan Kurtinaitis, selected to the third team after averaging 14.7 points and 5.9 assists per game; junior guard Joe Kofahl, named to the all-defensive squad; and Emenhiser and Jim Woodworth, both chosen for the all-academic team. Emenhiser has a 3.63 grade-point average, majoring in pre-engineering; Woodworth has a 3.28 GPA with a major in family and consumer science.

From the Madonna women's team, sophomore Sarah Thompson was selected to the first team all-conference team. The 5-foot-10 forward averaged 13.6 points and 8.2 rebounds per game this year.

Marwa Ayoub, 5-9, earned all-conference second-team honors after posting a regular season average of 12 points and seven rebounds a game. Freshman guard Stephanie Childs was selected for the all-newcomer team on the strength of 5.3 points, 3.9 rebounds per game.

Madonna junior Jackie Pinkston, who owns a 3.8 grade-point average in Business, and senior Hayley Myers, who carries a 3.32 GPA in marketing, earn All-WHAC Academic honors.



# Ex-Ocelot puts Broncos on map

## WMU's Williams enjoying the ride

Derek Jeter may be the most famous athlete ever to come out of Kalamazoo, but the toast of the town these days is Western Michigan University basketball player Mike Williams.

Chants of "MVP, MVP" rang out Feb. 18 throughout University Arena as the 6-foot-8, 190-pound forward from Schoolcraft College and Detroit City High exited the court to a rousing ovation after putting on the finishing touches of a 30-point, 11-rebound performance in an 87-62 victory over the University of Toledo before a crowd of 4,078.

Williams' sterling play this season has put the 19-3 Broncos just one win away from the MAC West Division title. WMU, 12-2 in the West, is also considered the co-favorite, along with East Division leader Kent State, to earn a bid into the NCAA Tournament.

The game was billed as a duel of Mid-American Conference MVP candidates pitting Keith Triplett of Toledo, who was averaging 19.7 points per game, against Williams, who also is averaging nearly 19.

Hounded and harassed all night by a stifling Bronco defense, Triplett finished with just eight points on 3-of-10 shooting.

Williams, meanwhile, hit 12-of-19 from the floor and 6-of-10 from the foul line for a game-high 30.

But more importantly, he made amends from a disappointing four-point effort just three days earlier in an 82-76 overtime loss at Marshall. The spindly forward played just 15 minutes in that game before fouling out.

"Mike probably had the most sour taste in his mouth, he was the most upset of anybody," WMU coach Steve Hawkins said. "He could never get going in that game."

"Mike is not what you call an explosive practice player, although he's a focused practice player. But the last two days in practice he was very focused and played almost identical to that tonight."

Williams, a senior, came out blazing, scoring his team's first six points, causing Toledo coach Stan Joplin to use an early timeout.

"He's long, he's lanky and obviously a veteran player," Joplin said of the former Schoolcraft All-America, who led the Ocelots to a 35-1 record and a third place finish in the Division I National JUCO tournament in 2002.



Williams

"He can shoot outside and put the ball on the floor. He has that wingspan. He's a fluid, talented player, a guy who can also

run the floor and do a lot of things."

Much sought-after by the media following the victory over Toledo, Williams refuses to buy into the MVP of the MAC talk.

"I can't think about that, there's a long way to go," Williams said. "That (Marshall) game brought us back down. It proves you can lose or beat any team in the MAC."

"That was my man (Marshall's Marvin Black) who scored 30. It left a real bitter taste in my mouth."

Williams capped a big night against Toledo by taking an alley-oop pass late in the second half from teammate Ben Reed and throwing it down for a dunk, which brought the University Arena house down and the subsequent "MVP" chants.

"Ben threw me a nice little alley-oop, we were clicking tonight and it showed," Williams said. "When we run, we're as good as any team around."

"I just tried to move around and stay active. Guys were getting me the ball and I was able to clean up some offensive rebounds."

On Saturday, College of Charleston (S.C.) traveled to WMU for an ESPN Bracket Buster showdown. With four MAC regular season games remaining until the conference tourney starts, Williams and his teammates are focused on just one thing — getting into the field of 64.

"Mike's won everywhere he's played — high school, junior college and now in college," said Schoolcraft coach Carlos Briggs said.

As a senior, Williams played on the state Class D runner-up squad at City High before heading to Schoolcraft where he played as a freshman, only to sit out the following year because of academics.

After leading SC to a 34-game winning streak the next season, he headed to Kalamazoo, recruited by coach Robert McCullum (now at South Florida).

### COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Last season, Williams averaged 13.6 points as the Broncos finished 20-11 and earned a spot in the NIT.

This year his numbers are not gaudy, but Jeter-like. Some describe the fundamentally-sound Williams' game as "old school."

His game, however, has matured. Williams is shooting 55.4 percent from the floor and 75.8 percent from the foul line, while grabbing 7.3 rebounds per game.

Against PAC-10 foe Southern Cal, he scored a

career-high 31. Against another PAC-10 opponent, Arizona State, he put in 27. He also had 22 against Alabama-Birmingham.

WMU reserve forward Bobby Madison, who played against Williams in the National JUCO tourney in Hutchinson, Kan., calls his teammate "a big-game player."

"I describe Mike as a player, not just a shooter or a slasher," Madison said. "He's a guy who has 25 points, and when you look at the scoresheet, you say to yourself, 'how does he do that?'"

"He just gets it done." Just like Kalamazoo's favorite son, Derek Jeter.

### HOOP SCOOP

#### HOOP SHOOT

Canton Leisure Services will sponsor the MRPA Hoop Shoot basketball skills competition at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 28 at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway. The event is free to boys and girls ages 8-15 from the community.

Players will have 60 seconds to score points from various locations on the court. Winners will advance to area competitions as representatives of the Canton community. Certificates and ribbons will be available to participants.

Check-in is at 8:30 a.m., with competition starting at 9 a.m. Participants may register in advance or the day of the event; a valid birth certificate is required the day of the event

for age verification. For more information, call (734) 483-5600.

#### 3-ON-3 TOURNAMENT

There will be a youth 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament starting at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 28 at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway. Sponsored by Canton Leisure Services, registration will begin at 11:30 a.m., with play beginning at noon. All games will be officiated, and all teams will be guaranteed two games.

There will be boys and girls divisions for grades 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 and 9-12. Awards will be presented to the tournament winners and runners-up in each division. For more information, call (734) 483-5600.

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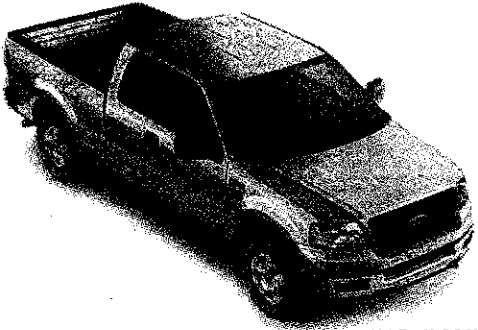


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Current Ford Employee lessees can Re-Lease a 2004 Ranger XLT 4x4

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For as low as **\$220** With \$1,565 customer cash due at signing.

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### St. Raphael Fish Fry Fridays

Every Friday During Lent Begins February 27<sup>th</sup> 2004

Hours: 4:30-7pm or until dinners are sold out (Good Friday: 3-7pm or until dinners are sold out)

**Featuring Our Own Recipe for Hand Battered Icelandic Haddock:**

Fish Dinner...\$7.00	Shrimp Dinner...\$7.00
Fish-Shrimp Combo...\$7.00	Fish Sandwich Plate...\$5.75
Hot Dog & Fries...\$1.50	Soft Drinks...\$1.00

Dinners include choice of mashed potato or fries, coleslaw, roll & butter, and choice of coffee, hot tea or milk (carry out dinners do not include take out beverage).

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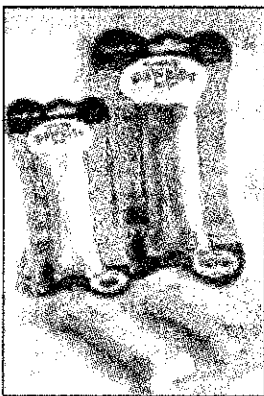
## Accents

### Bones to pick

Dogs love to chew on rawhide bones and they love to eat, too.

Now they can do both at the same time, thanks to a new baked rawhide bone treat from the OurPet's Co.

OurPet's Gourmet Rawhide Bones lend a delicious new twist to a traditional canine favorite. Made with all U.S. rawhide, using a unique baking formula, the bones are completely edible and easily digested. When chewed, they break down slowly, without splintering or crumbling. The bones also stay solid for a much longer time than regular rawhide treats, so they keep pets occupied for extended periods.



Gourmet Bones are available in eight delicious meat, fruit and vegetable flavors, including apple, bacon, beef, carrot, chicken, mint, peanut butter and pear. This tasty variety of flavors makes Gourmet Rawhide Bones more appealing than plain rawhide.

Available in small, medium and large bone shapes, Gourmet Rawhide Bones are suitable for all sizes and breeds. For best results, the bone size selected should be larger than the dog's mouth.

According to Dr. Steve Tsengas, president of OurPet's, while chewing traditional rawhide does appeal to the hunting and scavenging instinct in dogs, they can soon tire of the flavor and texture. "Gourmet Rawhide Bones give dogs a more appetizing taste in a variety of different flavors," he said. "Plus, the bones don't become slimy or break apart, so they don't have to be thrown away, and the dog doesn't lose interest in them."

OurPet's Gourmet Bones are available at leading pet stores everywhere, and have suggested retail prices ranging from \$2.99 to \$4.99, depending on size.

For more information, contact OurPet's at (800) 565-2695, or visit [www.ourpets.com](http://www.ourpets.com)

### Light touch

Here's a tip from Morris and James Carey of AP Weekly Features that sheds light on a work area problem:

When your work area is dark and it's hard to see what you're doing, sometimes even a drop light won't help. In fact, on some occasions, a drop light can cast heavy shadows and make conditions worse.

If you want to shed light on the subject, simply use a rubber band to attach a tiny flashlight to the side of the screwdriver or extension shaft of your socket wrench. Instantly you will convert your tool to a lighted, operating device.

# Warm wood

## Homeowners add comfort, value, newness with flooring

Homeowners often look for ways to add warmth and depth to a room.

They also want a new look. And that carpet is looking mighty old and worn from foot traffic and sunlight.

Today, many homeowners want wood floors. Whether it is pine, oak, cherry, bamboo or exotic woods, wood flooring is growing in popularity.

Bloomfield Hills resident Tom Hoffmeyer, owner of Property Care, a hardwood flooring business, said homeowners usually want wood floors installed not just for a new look, but also to increase the home's value.

The floors aren't restricted to one room, either. Right now, about 60 to 70 percent install the floors in the kitchen, foyer and the hallway, Hoffmeyer said.

"We do a lot of great rooms in the new homes, and they want the whole first floor done," Hoffmeyer said.

Harry Jachym, home improvement and maintenance columnist (*Ask Dad*) for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, installed wood flooring in his home in Plymouth.

"The foyer is real popular and so are kitchens, but the maintenance in these areas can be excessive, because there's dripping and spillage, and in the kitchen, you're dropping dishes," he said.

Wood trends vary, Hoffmeyer said, depending sometimes on taste and sometimes by price and availability. Brazilian cherry is cheaper than oak right now, he said. "It runs in trends, sometimes they'll want oak, then it's walnut and now it's Brazilian cherry."

Red oak is the most popular. Then there are those who will do it yourself, like Jachym.

Prefinished woods are easy to use, Jachym said. Floors come in the standard woods of oak, pine and cherry. Exotic woods (or as Jachym refers to them, "rainforest woods") also can be purchased.

If you want a floor with the more expensive woods, you should hire a knowledgeable contractor, Jachym said. Wood floors are available at the "big box" stores (Home Depot and Lowe's), but many of the smaller flooring and carpet stores also carry them.

Putting it in is easy. "You can rent a nailer for the three-quarter-inch, and there is the glue-down floors (three-eighths-inch)," Jachym said. "You put down the adhesive and lay them together as you put them down."

Jachym placed an engineered floor down with a parquet floor border. Because the parquet style was one-quarter-inch thick and the new center wood was three-eighths-inch thick, he had to build up the parquet inlay areas one-eighth inch with underlayment, then place the parquet tile on top of it.

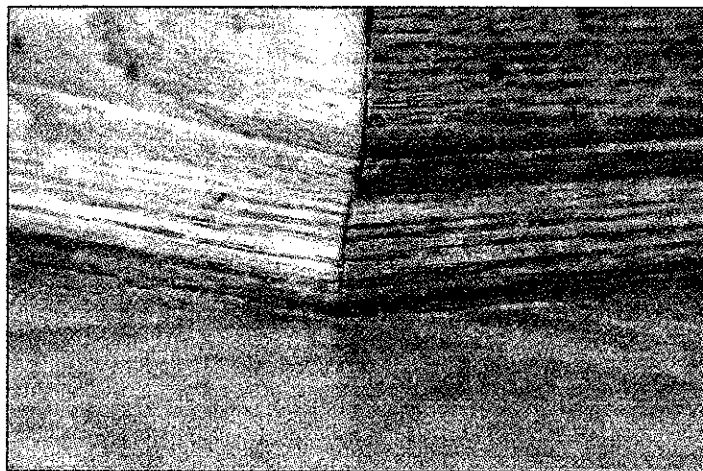
But he believes it is not that difficult of a project to do yourself.

"If anyone wants to DIY and can read instructions and has the tools, they'll be OK," Jachym said. "A miter saw is handy. A table saw helps if you have some special ripping."

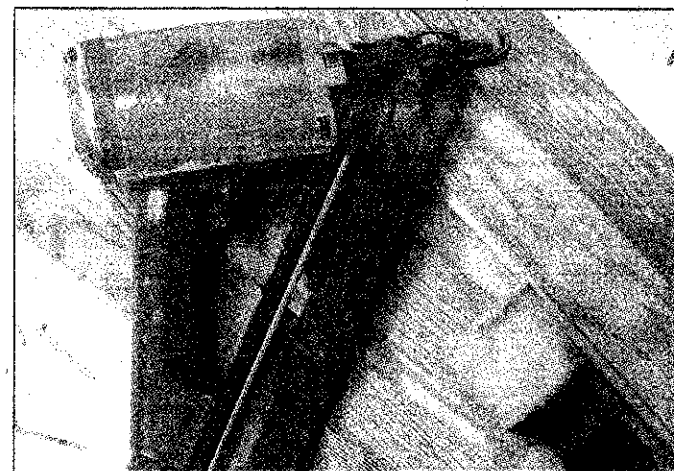
Sometimes floors may not be entirely level due to the foundation's settlement or load-bearing walls that create ups and downs in floors. Hoffmeyer offsets



Harry Jachym sits on the kitchen floor at his home in Plymouth. Jachym used both tongue-and-groove hardwood flooring along with a parquet border in his kitchen and dining room.



Corner round molding installed against base molding works well to hide any gaps that may occur as a wooden floor expands and contracts.



Instruments used in wood floor installation include a trim nailer, mallet, trim nails, flooring cleats and prefinished tongue-and-groove red oak.

that with roofing shingles and 15-pound felt to bring up those spots.

Wood floors also expand in the summer and contract in the winter. Worried about those gaps in the wood during the cold winter months?

Hoffmeyer said the gaps should not occur if the project is done correctly and the humidity is maintained. "Usually if you keep the humidity between 40 and 55 percent, the floor will stay where it is," he said.

Prefinished three-quarter-inch wood can be attached using a blind nailer or a flooring nailer, which can be rented, Jachym said.

Just gap the wood closest to the wall, Jachym said.

"When you put together the wood, you have tongue and groove put together," he said. "Tight is good. You allow instead for expansion along the edges of the room. The instructions will tell you how much to leave, then you will put molding on it to cover it up."

When the boards are laid next to one

another lengthwise, they should be staggered so they don't align with one another, but rather create a more random look. That installation method also helps prevent floor creaks.

If you install wood flooring on a lower level or basement, you want to make sure you have a good vapor barrier down, especially if the house sits on clay, Jachym said. A good test is done with a piece of aluminum foil. Set the foil on the floor overnight, then check under it the next morning. Moisture can permeate through concrete. "You can see if it's wet," he said. Warranties issued by manufacturers may not cover the wood flooring if it is installed below grade.

Building codes require a six-mil plastic layer on these floors, which will bring moisture in if the house has a high water table or poor drainage in a heavy clay soil.

The day-to-day use is easier with wood flooring, Jachym said. "It doesn't hold allergens like carpeting, but the downside is the refinishing," he said.

"You keep it up with every couple of years with the slightest bit of wear." The need for maintenance also depends on the type of finish and the amount of traffic and wear, too.

Jachym has two greyhounds, but the floor has held up well without many scuff marks.

Jachym likes to use the water-based polyurethane on the wood. Manufacturers carry high gloss or satin. "You don't have the smell of the oil base, and it's very fast drying," he said. "Oil bases have the smell and the cleanup. The volatile organic compounds tend to yellow with age. The polyurethane stays clearer longer."

Hoffmeyer said homeowners should not wash wood floors with water. "If you use water, you'll have a lot of moisture on the wood. And as that water evaporates, the moisture gets out of the wood," he said.

Homeowners should visit flooring stores and supply stores to price materials before completing such a project.

## MARKET PLACE

### Submissions

Do you have a special item you'd like to showcase in Marketplace on the front of At Home?

We'd like to feature it! Send a photo or slide of the piece, along with information, to:

Ken Abramczyk,  
At Home editor,  
Observer &  
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805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009



### Ready for red

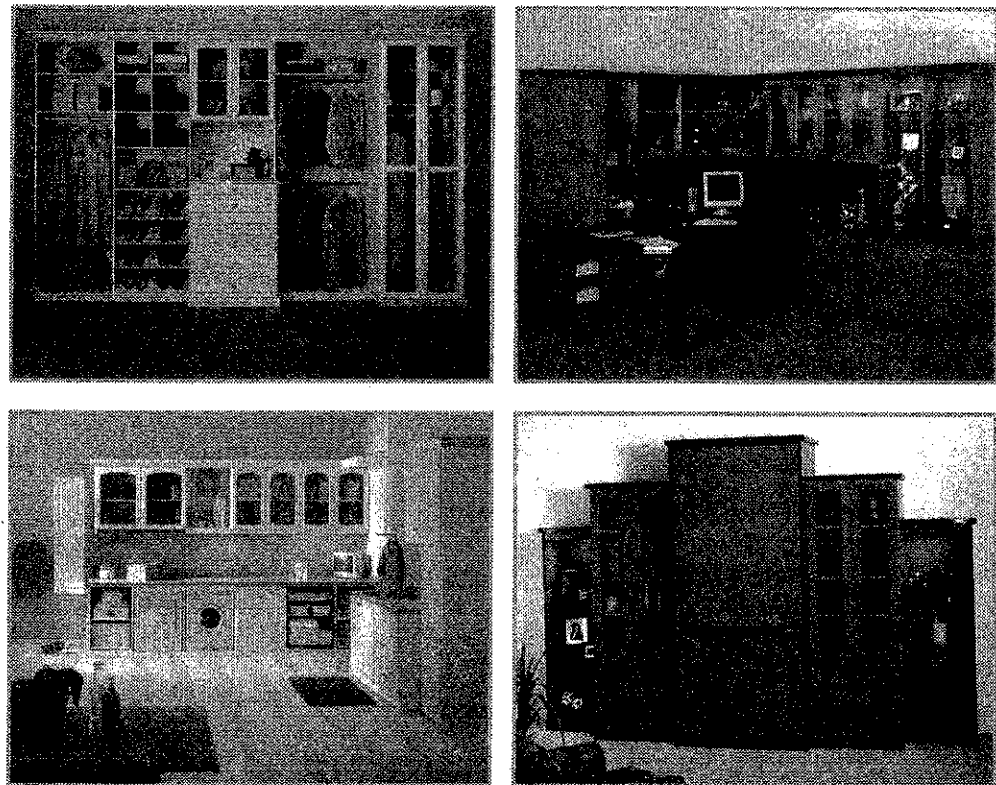
In the same way that a red dress can spice up a wardrobe, scarlet-hued accents can add vibrancy to a room's decor. The month of February might just be the time to add a punch of crimson color to enliven your interior.

Consider adding smaller touches - pillows, a throw or even an accent chair - to create a romantic tone or an element of drama.

McGuire's new Script chair by Barbara Barry is a stunning pull-up chair of hand-

crafted rattan. The design features a striking back detail that recalls the elegance and fluidity of Spencerian script. This playful and graceful calligraphic theme is paired with a bright red upholstered seat. The Script chair is available as shown in a special Camellia White finish to the trade for \$1,722, and in a Tobacco or Pecan finish at retail for \$1,550. A Script armchair is also available.

For more information, call (800) 662-4847 or visit [mcguirefurniture.com](http://mcguirefurniture.com).

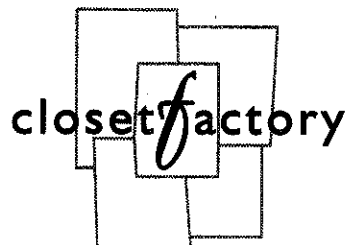


**IF ONLY YOUR LIFE WERE THIS ORGANIZED.**

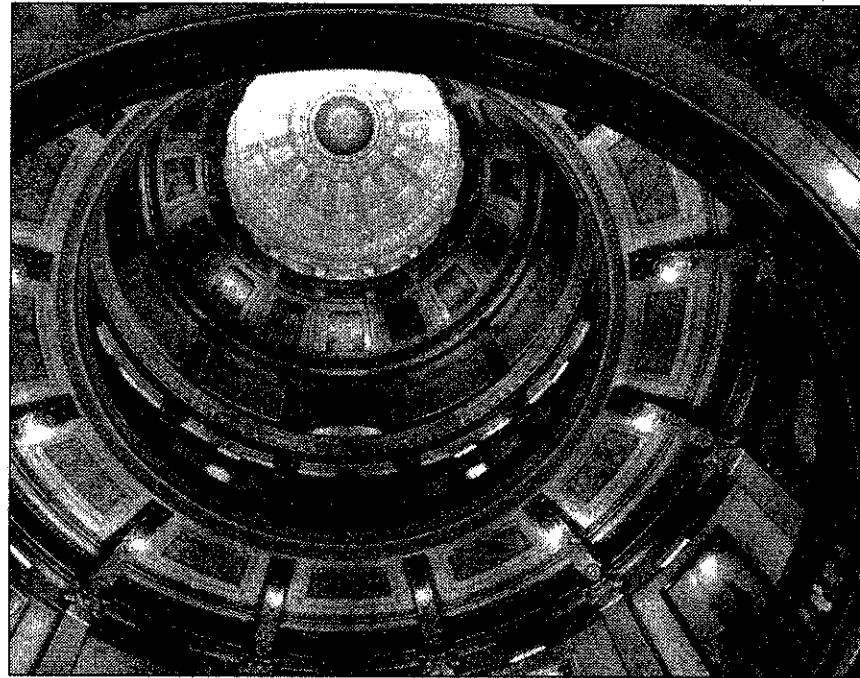
At Closet Factory, we create custom storage solutions that fit your home exactly. Our Designers are masters at making closets, entertainment centers, offices and garages efficient and easy to manage. With that out of the way, you'll have more time for carpools and grocery shopping. Lucky you.

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This is the dome of Michigan's state capitol building in Lansing. Monte Nagler used a wide angle lens and tripod to get this dramatic shot.

**Highlight indoor features in photos**

Photography is so often regarded as an outdoor activity that many amateurs overlook the photographic possibilities to be found indoors. The world contains many rooms, new and old, humble and grand, that may reveal a little of the way people live or provide a scene as attractive as a landscape.

Begin by analyzing the character of the room and selecting its most important features. In a house, it may be a curved staircase or a vaulted ceiling with dramatic beams. In a public building, look for a row of columns, a marble statue, or



**Focus on Photography**

Monte Nagler

a room that the camera angle is perpendicular to the walls. This way, vertical lines won't converge, they'll be straight up and down.

The best lighting for dramatic interiors is natural light coming in from windows and skylights. Be sure to use daylight balanced color film in your choice of slides or prints.

If there is no window light to illuminate your interior, artificial light is required. Use either flash or tungsten lights and make sure you're using the right film for proper color balance: daylight with flash and tungsten film with tungsten lighting.

The keys to effective interior photography are composition and selecting the best camera position. As in all good photography, you want to produce a meaningful photograph with impact. Try to capture the essence and personality of the interior you are photographing.

Monte Nagler is a fine art photographer based in Farmington Hills. You can leave him a message by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone. His fax number is (248) 644-1314.

perhaps a painted fresco. Select a vantage point that best shows the interior. Maybe it's from the bottom of the stairs looking up at an unusual angle or looking down from an upper balcony.

Most often, a wide angle lens between 17mm and 28mm is in order. They not only enable you to get more of the interior in the viewfinder, but they give you the all important advantage of tremendous depth-of-field. This way, you can place foreground subjects such as a vase of flowers or figurine in the foreground to add extra interest to your shot and fill the empty space at the bottom of the viewfinder. You'll need a small aperture which will require a longer shutter speed, but so what? Nothing's moving ... just get out the trusty tripod.

Make sure if shooting across

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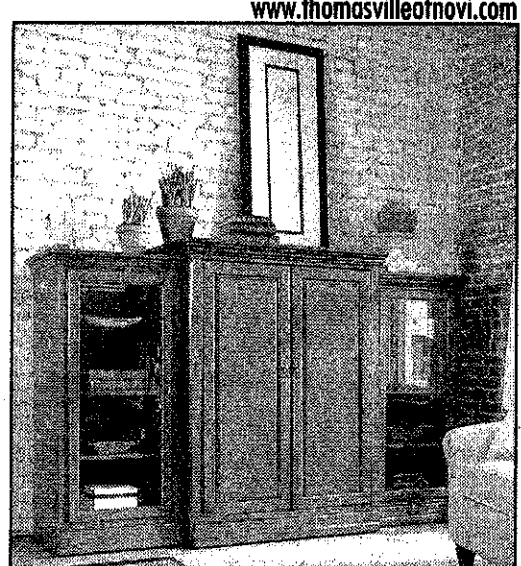
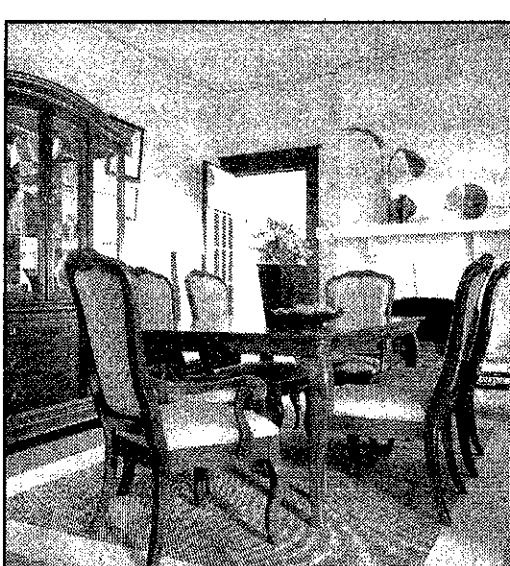
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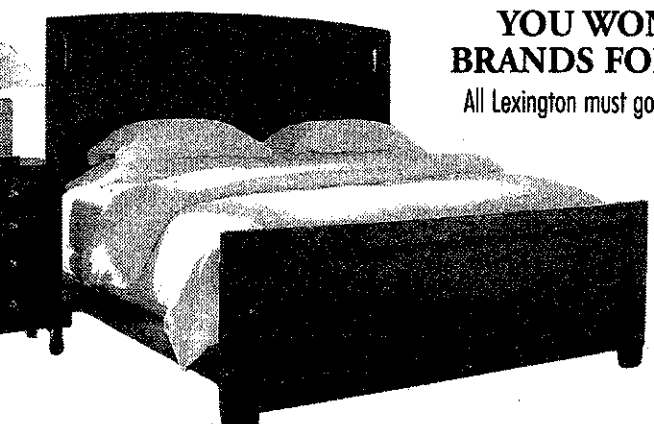
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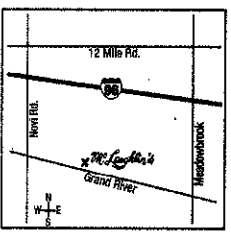
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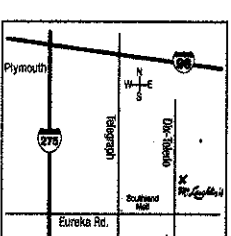
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# Woman gives woodworking instructions

Carol Reed, the Router Lady, will teach woodworking tools and skills March 4-9 at the Michigan Home & Garden Show at the Pontiac Silverdome.

Reed is known for her ability to explain every aspect of woodworking in clear, simple terms.

In addition to teaching and demonstrating at woodworking and home shows, Reed holds classes at her own woodshop in Ramona, Calif., just northeast of San Diego. She is also a furniture builder.

Her pieces have been featured in numerous books. Reed's most recent book is *Router Joinery Workshop: Common Joints, Simple Setups & Clever Jigs* that acts as a guide to the router for both beginning and experienced woodworkers.

Reed is part of a growing trend of women getting involved in home improvement and woodworking. Almost half (47 percent) of all new woodworkers are women according to *Woodworking in America*, commissioned by Rodale Press in 1998.

Women composed 19 percent of the 20.4 million woodworkers in the U.S. in 1998. There were 4 million female woodworkers in 1998 compared to 3 million in 1995, a 30-percent increase over three years.



Reed

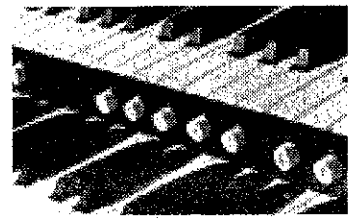
Tool companies have changed tool handles and battery packs for cordless tools to

make them easier for smaller hands to handle. Tool packaging also features pictures of women on their boxes.

Reed began professional woodworking in 1984 when her hairdresser asked her to build a rocking giraffe for her daughter. She attended Palomar College's famous woodworking school in southern California in the 1980s and returned there as an instructor in the 1990s.

The Home & Garden Show's hours are 3-9:30 p.m. Thursday; noon to 9:30 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$7, \$3 for children 6-14 and free for children 5 and under. Advance tickets, which include a free parking pass, are available online at [www.SilverdomeHomeShow.com](http://www.SilverdomeHomeShow.com). Weekday adult admission discount coupons are available at Speedway. Onsite parking is available for a fee. For more information, visit [www.SilverdomeHomeShow.com](http://www.SilverdomeHomeShow.com) or call (800) 328-6550.

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# Dispelling a few myths about pets and their care

Members of my staff and I recently discussed myths.

We didn't discuss the nuances of Ulysses or the origins of Paul Bunyan, but we were telling the stories we've held as true throughout our lives.

We swapped ghost stories, talked of vanishing hitchhikers, and mostly gave each other chills as we spoke about things we'd heard. These stories can be entertaining, and usually cause no harm.

Sometimes false beliefs can be hazardous.

Many people believe strange myths about animals, such as those who ask me about pit bulls locking their jaws, or whether motor oil can get rid of fleas.

People who believe such things are not lying, or gullible. They grew up hearing these things, so it's part of their belief system. Usually these beliefs aren't harmful, but they can be, to animals and to people, either now or down the line.



**About Animals**

Dr. Brad Davis

For example, I can't tell you how often I have heard that it's better to wait until after the first heat cycle to spay a dog or a cat.

Sharon Sheehy, doctor of veterinary medicine of the VCA of Livonia says that's foolish.

"Waiting until after the first heat allows a lot of accidental litters to occur," Dr. Sheehy said. "People do not realize how persistent male dogs can be."

"Allowing that burst of hormones from the first heat cycle to hit the mammary glands can also increase the risk of mammary cancer later in life. The risk of mammary cancer in a female dog spayed before her first heat cycle is almost zero."

Certainly they should have one litter? I am told regularly that "everyone should know they should have at least one litter."

Not at all true. Too many puppies and kittens die because there aren't enough homes. If you're not a true breeder, making more is an exercise in ignorance, and unneeded danger and discomfort for the pet giving birth.

Despite what Disney cartoons show, dogs and cats do not search for life fulfillment in their romantic relationships and in the need to be mommies and daddies. They have no deep seeded need to have a litter. Don't force them.

(Wanting the "kids to experience the magic of birth" is a terrible reason to make more babies. Rent them a video or actually talk to your children. Don't use your pet as a tool for show-and-tell.)

People always tell me that if you want a healthy dog, get yourself a mixed breed dog. They have a lot less health

problems than full breeds do. Not necessarily so.

"Owning a mixed breed dog is not a guarantee that you won't have to deal with genetic health problems," Dr. Sheehy said. "A Labrador-rottweiler mix still has a pretty good chance of developing hip dysplasia because both parent breeds have high predispositions."

"A mixed breed is much less expensive, but if you spent more and bought a purebred from a good breeder you would have known more about the parents and likely gotten a health guarantee."

Cats also get to ride the misinformation bandwagon.

I am commonly told by owners that their cat decided to stop using the litterbox "out of spite," as vengeance to get back at the owner for some misdeed like leaving them all day. This isn't true.

Remember, cats don't know this would be a bad thing for you. If they wanted to get you back for something, they might

scratch, hiss, ignore or whatever, but they don't unleash diabolical plans to make your house smell fresh.

Cats need to go outside, or else they will never be happy. Not so, says Mark Alsager, doctor of veterinary medicine at the Alsager Animal Care Center in Canton.

"Outdoor cats account for a majority of the illness and injury in a vet practice. Indoor cats thrive as long as they have something to do."

Something to do? Yes, of course. We all know about those evil cats. They can steal a baby's breath, you know!

"Only in a Steven King movie," Dr. Alsager said. "Cats generally avoid infants. . . they smell and they are noisy." Still, as a safety precaution, you should never let any pet sleep with a child.

What about pregnant women? People tell me all the time, they heard from their great aunt that pregnant women need to get rid of their cat, or else they will have trou-

ble - maybe even lose the baby! Should a pregnant woman get rid of her cat? Dr. Alsager says no.

"The concern is a parasite called toxoplasmosis," he said. This parasite is found in "outdoor cat feces as well as improperly cooked pork products."

Pregnant women should use the power of pregnancy to make sure their husband becomes the litterbox cleaner during the pregnancy. Or maybe find a hitchhiking ghost to clean it for you! They seem to have a lot of free time. At least, that's what I heard.

**Dr. Brad Davis** is the Medical Director for the VCA of Garden City, 2085 Inkster Road, Garden City, MI 48135. Feel free to write him there with questions and comments. He is also one of the hosts of the nationally syndicated radio show Animal Talk, now heard on WDSO 1480AM. Visit the web site at [www.AnimalTalkRadio.com](http://www.AnimalTalkRadio.com). Send E-mail questions or comments with your e-mail address to [Questions@animaltalkradio.com](mailto:Questions@animaltalkradio.com).

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## Volunteers sought for Cranbrook House docents

Cranbrook House Auxiliary is seeking volunteers to train as docents for guided tours of Cranbrook House on Thursdays and Sundays from May through October 2004, Cranbrook's Centennial year. The six-week training session will begin 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 2, at Cranbrook House, 380 Lone Pine Road in Bloomfield Hills. To sign up, call (248) 645-3149.

The training session is free, but docents are asked to join Cranbrook House & Gardens Auxiliary for \$35 annual dues to support its preservation. To learn more about the training, call the Cranbrook House Auxiliary office at (248) 645-3149, or e-mail docent coordinator Bob Schuler at [schulermi@comcast.net](mailto:schulermi@comcast.net). Cranbrook House is the oldest surviving manor home in metro Detroit. It was designed by Albert Kahn in 1908 for Cranbrook founders George Booth and Ellen Scripps Booth. George Booth was the former publisher of *The Detroit News*, and he founded Booth Newspapers. The Booths commissioned the finest artisans, craftsmen and studios of the period to furnish the house with hand-crafted furniture, tapestries, tiles and stained glass. In 1904, the Booths bought a run-down farm in Bloomfield Hills that evolved into one of the world's leading centers for art and education: Cranbrook. Cranbrook is dedicated to excellence in education, science and art. During its first century, Cranbrook has grown from a 174-acre rural farm and artistic center into a dynamic 315-acre National Historic Landmark campus that includes its Academy of Art, Art Museum, Institute of Science, Schools, Cranbrook House & Gardens Auxiliary and other affiliated cultural and educational programs. Centennial events are listed at [www.cranbrook.edu](http://www.cranbrook.edu).

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## Play the rebate game

If there are sweeter words in the English language than "free after rebate," I haven't heard them.

As someone who purchases a lot of gadgets and gear, I'm always on the lookout for rebate deals. Five dollars back on this, \$20 back on that - it can really add up over time.

Recently I was shopping for a wireless LAN adapter for my notebook. A promotional e-mail from eCost.com arrived at just the right time, offering a Syntax USB Wi-Fi adapter for \$29.95 - with a \$29.95 mail-in rebate.

Even shipping was free, as I'd spent over \$25. My only cost was a \$3.95 "handling fee" (an annoying eCost staple) and a 37-cent stamp to send in the rebate form.

As I write this, Best Buy is offering massive rebates on Toshiba notebooks - upwards of \$400 on some models.

This week's CompUSA deal to beat is a 200-gigabyte hard drive for just \$99.99 - the final price after a pair of mail-in rebates totaling \$100.

Needless to say, there's big money to be saved if you're willing to expend some effort and gamble just a little bit.

The effort lies in reading every word of fine print on the rebate form and following the instructions to the letter. If, for instance, the company requires the original store receipt and you send a copy, the rebate may be rejected.

The companies that offer these deals are banking on you making just such a mistake, or deciding it's not worth the hassle to fill out the form, address the envelope, and so on. I don't know about you, but I can spare 10 minutes to make \$10.

Smart rebating (hey, anting is a word,



**Tech Savvy**

**Rick Broida**

so why not rebating?) means making copies of everything you send in. It means reminding yourself to make sure the rebate check actually arrives - many people just plain forget about them.

If you have a PDA, set an alarm for two months down the road. Or just write it on your calendar. If you haven't received your check within the promised time (usually six to eight weeks), follow up with the company. You can often

find a toll-free phone number or Web address on the rebate form.

So what's the gamble? Quite simply, there's a chance you'll never get your money. This can happen for any number of reasons - lost mail, mistakes at your end, mistakes at their end, the company goes out of business, and so on - and it does happen.

Fortunately, it's rare. And what's life without a little risk? To find the latest and greatest rebate deals, head to sites like PriceGrabber.com, Spoofer.com, and Techbargains.com and visit their rebate sections.

Let the bargain hunting begin!

**Rick Broida** writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, has written for computer and technology magazines, and is a co-author of several books on handheld computing. Readers who have questions for Broida can email him at [rickbroida@excite.com](mailto:rickbroida@excite.com)

## Vent line into kitchen a no-no

Kathy from Novi recently wrote me, relaying a story about the second-hand refrigerator she bought from a neighbor about five years ago. The refrigerator is white with a textured front door.

"My problem is that I have rust all over the door on the textured surface. I have tried bleach, Oxy-clean, and rust remover products, and the list goes on. Can you help me?"

"I am about to remodel my kitchen, but the refrigerator will be an eyesore if I can't fix this problem. I don't understand why this is happening. I have my refrigerator located within 7 feet of my dryer vent which is vented into the room for humidity.

"Could this be my problem? Venting my dryer to the outside is not an option. This has never been a problem with any other refrigerator I have had. The refrigerator is only about 8 years old and works perfectly, I don't want to replace it. Please help."

Kathy, I had to give a lot of thought as to how I would answer your e-mail because the second part of your message is the most concerning.

You can forget about trying to solve the rust problem on the door by using cleaners. You would have to take the door off,



**Appliance Doctor**

**Joe Gagnon**

take it to an auto body shop and have them sand-blast it and repaint it. I did this once with an old wrought iron bed frame and it came out looking beautiful. You could try to do the refrigerator door on your own by using a sander, painting it with rust-inhibitor primer and finishing it off with an original spray paint purchased from an appliance parts company. There is a chance that when you are all done, the door will not match the appearance of your newly remodeled kitchen.

The second part of your e-mail really grabbed my attention because you informed me that your clothes dryer is vented into the kitchen and the reason is to bring in extra humidity. This is more than just a no-no, it very well could be the cause of why you have rust on the refrigerator door but most important, venting a dryer into any living quarter of a house could be a serious detriment to good health.

The great amount of humidity

that comes out of a clothes dryer is excessive, far beyond a normal level. It can cause wood to swell, such as cabinets and hardwood floors and even introduce mildew and mold into hidden areas. Another serious health hazard are by-products of a washer load sent into the air through that vent. Fabric softeners, chlorine or bleach and detergents with their additives will be removed during the dryer cycle. These substances can corrode the heat exchanger of a furnace or eat away at the solder joints on copper piping. Just imagine what effect this air you breathe can do to your lungs.

I don't think I need to tell you that this is not the norm. As a matter of fact, I can't remember anyone ever telling me that they had a vent line leading into a kitchen.

You tell me you're going to remodel your kitchen and I strongly suggest you find the option to find a way to vent the clothes dryer to the outside. All clothes dryers, gas or electric should be vented to the outside. Stay tuned.

**Joe Gagnon** can now be heard on WWJ-950 and WXYT-1270. He is a member and past president of the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals. His phone number is (248) 455-7281.

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**CASINO WINDSOR**

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# 40%

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On Everything At Classic Interiors. We Have The Best Dining Room, Bed Room, And Living Room Furniture By The Best Manufacturers In The Business Today. Come In This Week And "Buy Now While Its Cold And Grey... Pay Nothing Till It's Warm And Sunny!!" **Sale Ends March 13th**

- We Will Pay Your 6% Sales Tax, or
- Qualify For Our 6 Months Deferred Financing or
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Mon., Thurs., Fri. 9:30-9:00; Tues., Wed., Sat. 9:30-5:30; Open Sunday 1-5

\* All discounts are off manufacturer's retail prices. \* All prior sales excluded. \* Offer not valid in conjunction with any other promotional discount. \* Because of Thomasville's minimum pricing we cannot offer 8% for cash on Thomasville case goods.

CE00104778

# Your Invitation To Worship

Mail Copy To:  
Observer & Eccentric Newspapers  
36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150  
Or Fax: (734) 953-2232

For Church Page Changes And Information Regarding Advertising In  
This Directory, Please Call: Jean Etherington (734) 953-2160  
THE FRIDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION

## ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

### You Are Welcome At Tri-City Christian Center

3855 Sheldon Rd., Canton (Just N. of Michigan Ave.)  
734-397-1777 • www.Tri-City-Christian.org

#### Come Join Us

Worship Service & Children's Ministries . . . . . Sunday 9:00am & 11:00am  
Youth Service . . . . . Tuesday 7pm  
Family Night . . . . . Wednesday 7:00pm

MAKE TIME FOR  
*God*

## BAPTIST

### NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

33640 Michigan Ave. • Wayne, MI  
(Between Wayne Rd. & Merriman Rd.)  
(734) 728-2180  
Virgil Humes, Pastor



Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday Worship 7:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Pastor David Washington  
and The CCF Family would  
like to invite you to...

### Canton Christian Fellowship

"Where the Word is Relevant,  
People are Loved and Christ is the Key"

Join us for Worship Service at 10:30am  
Sunday School and/or New Members Orientation: 9:00am  
Located at 6500 N. Wayne Rd. • Westland, MI  
Between Ford Road and Warren Road  
Inside Good Shepherd Church  
734-721-9322

It's not about Religion, it's about Relationships.  
Come to a place where lives are changed, families are made whole and ministry is real!

## CATHOLIC

**ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Traditional Latin Mass  
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8  
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan  
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121  
Mass Schedule:  
First Fri. 7:00 p.m.  
First Sat. 9:30 a.m.  
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.  
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass  
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions  
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

**RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
48755 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187  
451-0444  
REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO  
Weekday Masses  
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.  
Saturday - 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

**ST. GENEVIEVE ROMAN  
CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
29015 Jamison Ave. • Livonia  
East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Schoolcraft Rds.  
MASS: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 8:00 a.m.  
Tues. 7:00 p.m. • Sat. 5:00 p.m.  
Sun. 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon  
Confessions: Sat. 3:00-4:00 p.m.  
734-427-5220

## CHURCH OF GOD

**Riverside Park  
Church of God**  
11771 Newburgh Road  
Livonia  
Corner of Plymouth  
and Newburgh  
734-464-0990  
Service Schedule:  
Sunday School.....9:30am  
Sunday Worship.....10:45am  
Sunday Evening.....6:30pm  
The Purpose Driven Life • Wednesday's at 7:00pm  
Childcare Provided

## CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

**PLYMOUTH CHURCH  
OF THE NAZARENE**  
45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1625  
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.  
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.  
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 456-3196

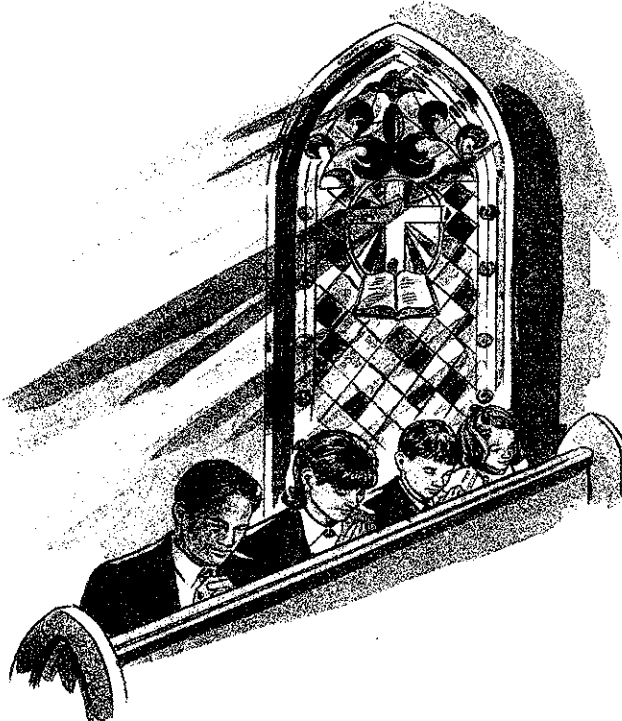
**Worship  
warms  
the heart**

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth  
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI  
734-453-0970  
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.  
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.  
Reading Room 550 South Main  
Monday-Saturday 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
734-453-1676

## CONGREGATIONAL

**Mt. Hope  
Congregational Church**  
30330 Schoolcraft Livonia • 734-425-7280  
(Between Middlebelt & Merriman)  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
Nursery Care Available  
"The Church You've Always Longed For."



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### "More than Sunday Services"

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.  
Worship Service  
• Dynamic Youth and Children's Programs  
• Excellent Music Ministries  
• Small Groups For Every Age  
• Outreach Opportunities  
Pastors:  
Dr. Dean Klump, Rev. Deborah Thomas

**First United Methodist Church  
of Plymouth**  
45201 North Territorial Road  
(West of Sheldon Road)  
(734) 453-5280  
www.ufumc.org

**Clarenceville United Methodist**  
20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia  
474-3444  
Pastor James E. Britt  
Worship Services 8:45 & 11:15 AM  
Sunday Eve. Bible Study 6:00 PM  
Nursery Provided  
Sunday School 10 AM

**ST. MATTHEW'S  
UNITED METHODIST**  
30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)  
Rev. Mary Margaret Eckhardt, Pastor  
10:00 A.M. Worship &  
Church School  
www.gbpm-umc.org/stmatthews-livonia  
Nursery Provided • 734-422-6038

*Catch the Spirit of  
Albion*  
**United Methodist Church**  
10000 Beech Daly, Redford  
Between Plymouth and W. Chicago  
Bob & Diana Goudie, Co-Pastors  
313-937-3170  
WORSHIP SCHEDULE  
8:00 a.m.  
Small and Cozy Worship  
9:30 a.m. Worship Geared Toward  
Families With Children  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship  
Handicap Accessible  
Introduction:  
**What is our  
purpose in life?**

**NEWBURG UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**  
Stephen Ministry Congregation  
36500 Ann Arbor Trail  
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.  
734-422-0149  
Worship Service  
and  
Sunday School  
9:15 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Rev. Terry W. Allen  
Rev. Barbara E. Welbaum  
visit our website: www.newburgumc.org

## PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

**ST. TIMOTHY PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH, USA**  
16700 Newburgh Road Livonia • (734) 464-8844  
Sunday School for all ages: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m.  
http://www.StTimothyPCUSA.org  
Rev. Janet Noble-Richardson, Pastor

**GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**  
5835 Sheldon Rd., Canton  
(734) 459-0013  
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9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
July & August 10:00 a.m.  
Education For All Ages  
Childcare Provided • Handicapped Accessible  
Resources for Hearing and Sight Impaired  
www.genevachurch.org

**Rosedale Gardens  
Presbyterian Church (USA)**  
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI  
(Between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)  
(734) 422-0494

**Contemporary Service**  
9:00 am  
**Traditional Service**  
10:30 am  
Nursery Care Provided  
We Welcome You To A  
Full Program Church  
Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor  
Rev. Kellie Bohlman, Associate Pastor

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
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**PLYMOUTH**  
WORSHIP SERVICES  
8:30, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
Dr. James Skimins Rev. Richard Jones  
Senior Minister Associate Minister  
Accessible to All Rev. Mary Jean Bird  
Associate Minister

## NON-DENOMINATIONAL

**BELL CREEK  
COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Casual, Contemporary,  
Excellent Children's  
Program  
Meets at Franklin H.S. in  
Livonia on Joy Road  
(Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads)  
at 10:00 a.m.  
734-425-1174  
Join us for coffee, bagels and  
donuts after the service!

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10:30 a.m. Worship  
Service  
and Youth Classes  
Nursery Care Available  
-WELCOME-

## LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

### Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Rev. Luther A. Werth, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Robert Bayer, Assistant Pastor  
With Jesus Christ, love really can be all it was meant to be!  
Sunday Worship 8:30 am & 11:00 am  
Sunday School at 9:45 am  
Staffed Nursery for young  
children every Sunday  
734-522-6830  
Early Childhood Center  
Register now for Fall child care and  
preschool (734-513-8413)  
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(Just north of I-96)  
www.christsaviors.org

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MISSOURI SYNOD**  
25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY  
313-632-2266 REDFORD TWP.  
Worship Service  
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday School  
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Nursery Provided  
The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor  
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

**HOSANNA-TABOR  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
9800 Laverne • So. Redford • 313-937-2424  
Rev. Steve Eggers  
Sunday Morning Worship  
10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m.  
Christian School  
Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade  
For more information call  
313-937-2233

**Risen Christ Lutheran**  
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth  
(1 Mile West of Sheldon) • 453-5252  
Sunday Worship Service 8:15 a.m.  
Sunday School (Adults & Children) 9:30 a.m.  
LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE  
Wednesday, March 3rd - 7:00 p.m.  
Dinner provided 6:30 p.m.  
All are Welcome! Come as you are!  
Pastor David Martin

**ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN**  
Church & School 5885 Venoy  
1 Blk. N. of Ford Rd., Westland 425-0260  
Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.  
Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.  
Monday Evening Service 7:00 P.M.  
Kurt E. Lambert, Pastor  
Richard Schumacher, Principal/Youth Director

**SALEM  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
32430 Ann Arbor Trail • Westland, MI  
734-422-5550  
Sunday Bible Study ..... 9am  
Sunday Worship Service ..... 10am  
Wednesday Evening Lenten Services ..... 7pm  
Rev. David W. Zeusschmer, Pastor

**Grace Lutheran Church**  
Rev. Kirk D. Miller  
46001 Warren Road Just west of Canton Center  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 am  
Sunday School at 10:45 am  
734-414-7422  
Our mission at Grace Lutheran is to  
make, teach and send out disciples  
who share Christ with all people.

*God Hears  
Our Prayers*

## LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

**ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN  
CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
17810 Farmington Road • Livonia • (734) 261-1360  
May thru October • Monday Night Service • 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday Worship  
Services  
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Pastor James Hoff  
Pastor Eric  
Steinbrenner

## EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

**Timothy Lutheran Church**  
8820 Wayne Rd.  
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)  
Livonia • 427-2290  
Sandra Daily, Pastor  
9:00 a.m. Sunday School (all ages)  
10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Avail.)  
http://www.timothylivonia.com

## EPISCOPAL

**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
16360 Hubbard Road  
Livonia, Michigan 48154  
421-8451  
Wednesday 9:30 A.M. .... Holy Eucharist  
Wed (Sept.-May) 6:00 P.M. .... Dinner & Classes  
Saturday 5:00 P.M. .... Holy Eucharist  
Sunday 7:45 & 10:00 A.M. .... Holy Eucharist  
Sun. (Sept.-May) 10:00 A.M. .... Sunday School  
Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available  
www.standrewschurch.net  
The Rev. C. Allen Kannappell Rector

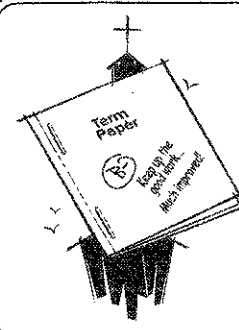
*Say  
A Prayer  
Today*

## EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

**WARD  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
40000 Six Mile Road  
"Just west of I-275"  
Northville, MI  
248-374-7400  
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor  
Traditional Worship and  
Sunday School  
7:55, 10:15, 11:30 A.M.  
Contemporary Worship  
9:05 A.M.  
Nursery Provided During All  
Morning Worship Services  
Evening Service • 7:00 P.M.  
Services Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday  
WMUZ 560 AM

## EVANGELICAL COVENANT

**FAITH COVENANT CHURCH**  
14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills  
(248) 661-9191  
Sunday Worship  
and Children's Church  
9:15 a.m. Contemporary  
11:00 a.m. Traditional  
Child Care provided for all services  
Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups



**It's Easy To Criticize...** Offering constructive criticism to others can be beneficial, but only if the other person is receptive to our comments. In teaching situations or during on-the-job training, constructive criticism is usually necessary to instruct and help a person develop a trade or vocation. However, correcting someone, even in a kind or skillful manner, can be very challenging, since we are never sure how the individual may react. Many friendships and families have been destroyed because someone has been overly critical of another person's words or actions. Knowing when we should offer our comments can also be difficult, and we should be fairly certain that our comments are truthful and necessary. It often seems so easy to criticize others because we mistakenly believe that we are without fault or are such experts on most everything. The Bible tells us that we look at the speck in our brother's eye, but we pay no attention to the log in our own (Luke 6:41). Faultfinding and being overly critical of others, especially behind their backs, are wrong and can become habit-forming. However, kind words are good for the soul and help to build a person up.

**The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.** R.S.V. Proverbs 12:15



# Buy new tiles for bathroom project

BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY  
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

**Q:** Anthony asks: I plan to remodel our bathroom and I want to remove the tub and replace it with a shower and a linen closet. The tile extends from tub to ceiling. If I could reuse the existing tile there would be more than enough to do the job. Can the tile be removed without cracking it? It is applied with an adhesive on plaster board.

**A:** We hate to be the bearers of bad news, but this is one situation when you can't make use of existing materials. It wouldn't be realistic to expect to remove most of the tile without damaging it. As patient and careful as you may be, it is virtually impossible to separate the tile from the substrate.

Even if you are able to remove a tile intact, chances are that the back surface won't be acceptable for future reinstallation because of the mastic adhesive that remains. Attempts to clean the rear surface of previously installed tile rarely are successful. Part of what makes a tile job a success is working with clean, dry, smooth surfaces.

We are as cost-conscious as the next guy, but believe this would be an appropriate time to buy new tiles. The total cost of the tile for the area should be only about \$150 to \$200 - perhaps not such bad news after all.

## Antiques exposition

The Southfield Pavilion Antiques Exposition will take place Friday-Sunday, Feb. 27-29, at the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen at Civic Center Drive (10-1/2 Mile). Hours are 2-9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$6 regular, \$5 with any ads or listings of the event, free for age 12 or under. One paid admission is good for all three days of the show. Now in its 24th season, the exposition features a diverse selection of fine American, European, Oriental and African antiques and fine art. Merchants from across the country, noted authors, and nationally known experts will exhibit and sell their antiques collections. Dining and free parking will be available. For online show previews, visit [www.antiquet.com/M&M](http://www.antiquet.com/M&M).

## Storytellers

The Storytellers will visit with guests 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 29, at Art Van Furniture, 22555 Greenfield in Southfield, to share stories about African-American heritage and the celebration of Black History Month. They will also demonstrate ethnic musical instruments. This enthusiastic duo performs lively presentations and encourages the participation of the children attending.

## Scrapbooking

Westland Adult Community Education is offering a two-week scrapbooking

class suitable for beginners and enthusiasts, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Mondays, March 1-8. Participants will learn page making and page enhancements, using the instructor's cutting systems and tools. Register with a friend and have fun. The \$25 fee includes supplies and photo organizer. Call (734) 419-2426 for registration and other class information, or (734) 326-6111 for scrapbooking information.

## Home decor

Birmingham Community Education presents a variety of home decor classes. Call (248) 203-3800 for information. The schedule includes Handpainted Furniture, four weeks beginning Thursday, Feb. 26 (fee is \$99); One-day Workshop for Furniture Painting, Saturday, Feb. 28 (\$99); and Venetian Plaster and Stucco, Tuesday, March 9 (\$25). In Handpainted Glassware, learn techniques that will help you add that special touch to your decor. All supplies will be provided, including the glassware. In the one-day workshop, you will complete a project, from prepping to decorative painting. Bring your own piece of furniture, wooden tray, plant stand - if you can transport it, it's perfect. All art materials and lunch are included in the fee. In Venetian Plaster and Stucco, learn a plaster finishing system that can

## HOME CALENDAR

develop a highly polished, marble-like appearance.

**Floral design**  
The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham, offers classes related to the home. To register or for more information, call The Community House at (248) 644-5832, or visit [www.community-house.com](http://www.community-house.com). The schedule includes A Country Garden Style Basket Bouquet,

Tuesday, March 2. Fee is \$17; materials cost of \$35 payable to the instructor includes a basket, floral foam, greens, artificial flowers and branches. Bring a sharp scissors, a wire cutter and pruners. In the class, local professional florist Jacqueline Carney will show you how to design and create a beautiful, full-size arrangement of artificial spring flowers and branches suitable for a coffee or dinner table. Techniques

taught in the class can be applied to many other styles of both fresh and artificial floral design.

If you have an item for the calendar, please submit it at least two weeks in advance of the date it should be published. Send to Ken Abramczyk, At Home Editor, Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or e-mail [kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net).



We're thinking fresh.

# HAYSTACK CONTEST!

Farmer Jack and the Observer & Eccentric have teamed up to bring you great prizes and great fun, when you play our Hidden Words in the Haystack Contest!

Just find the words in the word haystack that are listed beneath the puzzle and circle them. They may be found from right, left, diagonally, up or down.

All of the words must be found in order for your entry to be considered valid. Clip the completed game including the entry blank and mail it to us at:

Farmer Jack/O&E Haystack Contest  
36251 Schoolcraft Road  
Livonia, MI 48150

Week 1 entries must be received by March 5th for the Week 1 drawing for:

- One (1) First Prize of \$50
- Three (3) Runner Up Prizes of \$25
- All entries will be in contention for the grand prize of a \$500 SHOPPING SPREE AT FARMER JACK!!!

There are 4 more weeks to enter. You must enter each week to qualify for the weekly prizes. No purchase necessary. For contest rules, please visit our website at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

THE  
**Observer & Eccentric**  
NEWSPAPERS  
WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD

## HAYSTACK GAME

Farmer Jack  
Observer  
Eccentric  
News  
Birmingham  
Oakland  
Wayne  
Grocery  
Produce  
Subscribe  
Editor  
Customers  
Milk

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

Here's my entry form for the FARMER JACK/O&E Haystack Contest.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
How do you get your O&E? \_\_\_\_\_ Would you like to subscribe? Y N  
 Home Delivery  Vending Machine  Store  Share with a friend/neighbor  Mail subscription  Sample

Michigan's Finest  
Dolls, Bears & Accessories

☆☆☆  
**10-50% OFF**  
100's of Select Items

**FINAL DAYS**  
Ends 2/28/04

Doll Clothes, Furniture, Buggies,  
Play Dolls & Best Name Collector Dolls

The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop  
3947 W. 12 Mile • Berkley • 248-543-3145  
Mon-Wed, Fri & Sat 10-5:30 • Thurs 10-2:30

## STOREWIDE SALE!

Thursday, Friday, Saturday,  
February 26, 27, 28

**EVERYTHING in our store is on sale!**

Yes...our entire inventory of new and gently used baby clothes, children's clothes, maternity clothes, and equipment...**ALL ON SALE!**

**Hurry in for the best selection!**

**TOGGY WOODLIES**  
Children's Resale Boutique

30993 Five Mile Road • Livonia • (734) 458-5313  
On 5 Mile, just E. of Merriman, next to Blockbuster Video

# WOMEN & SLEEP

Healthy, medication free women 45-50 years of age are needed for a 4 night sleep study in the laboratory. Participants will be paid.

For more information call  
Elaine R. Douglas Research Assistant

**WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY**

**(313) 577-6588**  
Behavioral Medicine Laboratory  
C.S. Mott Center  
275 E. Hancock • Detroit • Mon.- Fri. 9 am - 3 pm  
[ac1728@wayne.edu](mailto:ac1728@wayne.edu)

## Low-Rate Home Equity Line of Credit

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## Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

## Being true to the land reaps rewards

When you think of Santa Barbara, Calif., do you think of a great grape growing region?

More than likely, sun, sand, ocean and vacation come to mind. If you are unfamiliar with Santa Barbara County, you may not realize that the Santa Ynez Valley, in northern SBC, is one of the few east-west valleys in California that benefits from a marine influence.

Most California valleys run north-south, among them Napa, Sonoma, San Joaquin, Salinas and Edna. The Santa Ynez Valley runs east-west and opens directly to the Pacific Ocean.

Chardonnay and pinot noir thrive nearest the ocean, where the climate is very cool. Further east in the valley and away from the ocean, the warmer climate is more hospitable to Bordeaux and Rhone grape varieties.

Highway 101, which runs north-south, roughly divides the Santa Ynez Valley into the west (cooler) and east (warmer) climates. Just east of Highway 101, in Ballard Canyon, Tom Beckmen established his vineyard in 1994.

### SANTA YNEZ PIONEER

Beckmen grew up in a farming community near Chicago, but became a pioneer in electronic music, founding Roland Corp., where he merged music and computer applications.

In California, Beckmen returned to the land and focused on innovative grape growing in the Santa Ynez Valley. He and winemaker son Steve ripped out the vines on the original 40-acre property and planted varieties more suited to the soil and climate of Ballard Canyon.

Convinced that they were in the right place and needing more grapes for their wine, Beckmen purchased an unplanted 365-acre ranch, uniquely suited to Rhone varieties. At an elevation of 1,250 feet, in a unique climate with rare limestone subsoil, Purisima Mountain, as it has become known, is a special vineyard.

Morning fog and cool ocean breezes ensure moderate temperatures that allow for longer ripening and concentrated wine flavor. The limestone subsoils, although rare in California, are typical in France's Rhone Valley appellations of Cote Rotie and Chateaufort-du-Pape. "Purisima Mountain Vineyard is a winemaker's dream," Steve Beckmen said. "I believe we were fortunate to be in the right place at the right time and we will continue to advance the name of SBC as a premier California wine region."

### BECKMEN VINEYARDS

Beckmen Vineyards produces a full line of estate-grown Rhone varieties including syrah, grenache, grenache blanc, grenache rose, marsanne rousanne and Cuvee Le Bec, a blend of grenache, mourvedre, syrah and counoise in the style of the southern Rhone.

PLEASE SEE WINES, D3

# Go fish

## Favorite fillets hit the plate during Lent

With the arrival Wednesday of Lent, many Christians will look to consume fish or eat vegetarian meals instead of meat Fridays for the next 40 days through Holy Saturday, the day before Easter, as part of their religious observances.

Of course, it doesn't have to be Lent for diners to enjoy fish — it just figures more prominently in many diets at this time of year.

Many enjoy fish for its ease of preparation and how quickly it is cooked for a meal. It doesn't take nearly as long as chicken or a roast in the oven baking, or a stew or soup simmering over a stove for several hours.

Chef Kevin Enright, certified executive chef and instructor at Oakland Community College's Culinary Studies Institute, enjoys fish and its plentiful varieties. It is also one of Enright's favorite foods to prepare.

"There are a lot of different varieties and a lot of different flavors," Enright said. "It is an easily done dish with a pineapple salsa or a mango salsa. You can make it a little bit tart or a little bit spicy in the background. You can make it Polynesian or Asian type with fruit or chutneys."

Swordfish is a "meaty" fish, along with halibut or salmon, which all can be grilled medium rare, Enright said. "Salmon is becoming the chicken breast of the fish world," he said.

When purchasing fish, always go with the fresh stuff, Enright said. Fish loses its moisture once it is frozen.

"You should look for moisture on the fresh fish," Enright said. "It should be a little shiny, glistening a



Sprinkled herbs top off the red snapper.

little and it shouldn't have any smell."

Fish markets often have clear plastic gloves nearby, so you can ask the worker at the counter if you can wear the gloves to touch the fish and smell it to check for freshness.

Markets that experience a lot of consumer traffic usually experience a quick turnover, so the inventory there is probably fresh, Enright said.

Salmon's price has dropped substantially with the number of farm-raised salmon that are now on the market. "And people really like it," he said.

Some of Enright's favorites are pompano, tuna, Boston bluefish, Columbia River salmon, arctic char, red snapper and dover sole.

### PREPARATION

How you prepare the fish depends on the variety you purchase. Here are cooking techniques and what fish you can use for each one, according to Kevin Enright, certified executive chef and instructor at Oakland Community College's Culinary Studies Institute:

- **Grill** — Tuna, swordfish, salmon, lake trout, arctic char and halibut
- **Sauté** — Dover sole, rainbow trout, red snapper, striped bass, cod, scrod and perch
- **Bake** — Cod, scrod, Chilean sea bass, Cape bluefish, striped bass, black bass, lake trout and whitefish
- **Smoke** — king salmon, whitefish, lake trout, sable fish (black cod), halibut, haddock (finan haddie)
- **Poach** — Dover sole, flounder, salmon, arctic char, lake trout, sea bass, Cape bluefish
- **Steam** (in papillote or parchment paper) — trout (trimmed), sole, red snapper, sea bass. (Enright recommends seasoning the fish, then topping with diced tomatoes, green onions and mushrooms and butter. Cooking times vary depending on thickness and type of fish. Paper will puff up when it is done.)

### RED SNAPPER WITH ROMA TOMATO VINAIGRETTE

4 8- to 10-ounce red snapper fillets

**Marinade:**  
1/2 tablespoons lime juice  
1/2 teaspoon cracked black pepper  
1 teaspoon finely chopped cilantro  
1/2 teaspoon ground coriander  
2 tablespoons olive oil

**Tomato Vinaigrette Sauce:**  
1/2 cup clam juice  
1 small onion, minced  
2 teaspoons minced garlic  
3 tablespoons olive oil-extra virgin  
6 roma tomatoes  
1/2 teaspoon thyme leaves  
1/2 teaspoon lemon juice  
1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar  
pinch cayenne pepper  
1/2 teaspoon ground coriander  
2 teaspoons chopped cilantro

**Horseradish Crust:**  
white bread, 6 slices without crust  
2 tablespoons prepared horseradish — drained and squeezed dry  
3 tablespoons olive oil  
1 tablespoon minced onions  
1 teaspoon garlic paste  
2 teaspoons chopped parsley  
salt and black pepper — to taste

Mix the marinade ingredients together, and then coat the fish with the marinade for 2 hours.

To make the tomato vinaigrette, blanch the tomatoes in simmering water for 2-3 minutes, shock in ice water, remove the peels, cut into four wedges, remove the seeds, save the pulp, and chop fine.

Heat the clam juice, onion and garlic in a stainless steel pot and simmer for 4-5 minutes. Add the thyme and coriander and half the tomatoes, then simmer together for 10 minutes. Cool slightly. Place the mixture in a food processor or food mill and process until smooth. Put the mixture into a stainless bowl, add lemon juice and balsamic vinegar, drizzle in the olive oil, season to taste with salt and cayenne pepper, and then fold in the rest of the diced tomatoes. Reserve to serve over the fish.

To make the horseradish crust, remove the crusts from the bread and place the bread in a food processor until crumbly. Transfer to a bowl and add the rest of the ingredients for the horseradish crust, then mix well.

Remove the snapper from the marinade and pat dry. Cut two or three diagonal slices in the skin and place on a baking sheet rubbed with two teaspoons of oil. Put the crumbs on top of the fish. Bake in a 400°F oven for 10-15 minutes. Remove and serve with the tomato vinaigrette, steamed green beans and a rice pilaf. Serves 4.



Kevin Enright, certified executive chef and instructor at Oakland Community College's Culinary Studies Institute, spoons tomato vinaigrette onto the red snapper.

## Readers write in with favorite fish recipes

We asked and you responded. Readers chimed in with their own favorite fish recipes. Chris Cloonan of Westland said cod vegetable stew is one of her favorites.

"I find that this combination of vegetables and fish are very flavorful," Cloonan wrote. "This recipe is very easy to assemble and has very much 'eye appeal and flavor.'"

"I have used chicken and leftover turkey as a substitute for the fish. The results are very delicious."

Cloonan likes the mix of vegetables with the cod. "I like the flavor, the aroma and the ease that it is done," she said. If the vegetables are chopped beforehand, the meal should take about 30 minutes to prepare.

Barb Dermody of Northville once saw teriyaki salmon fillets prepared on television. "It has become a favorite of mine," Dermody said. "Once everything is in place, it only takes minutes to get to the oven."

"What a great taste, and even better yet, the leftovers — which I make sure I have — are delicious on a bed of greens the next day."

Do you have a favorite recipe to share with the readers of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*? Send it along to us, and if we use it, we'll send you a free cookbook. Send it to Ken Abramczyk, Taste editor, *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or e-mail it to kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net.

PLEASE SEE READER RECIPES, D4



See more recipes from Chef Enright on page D2

CHEF ENRIGHT'S RECIPES

COPPER RIVER SALMON BOUILLABAISSE WITH PARSLEY PESTO

6 pieces (5 ounces each) salmon filets, boned and skinned
1 leek, washed, discard dark green leaves, cut on bias
1 carrot, washed, peeled, and cut in 1-inch strips
1/2 red pepper, cut in 1-inch strips
2 roma tomatoes, peeled and chopped
1 ear sweet corn, kernels only
1 cup clam juice
1/2 cup white wine
2 cloves garlic, chopped fine
1/2 cup olive oil
1 bay leaf
1/2 teaspoon white pepper
salt to taste

Sweat (cook over low heat) the leeks, carrot and corn in the 1/2 cup of olive oil for 3-4 minutes.

Add the chopped garlic; cook one minute on low heat.

Add the white wine, clam juice, bay leaf and red peppers, bring to a simmer, then turn down to a poaching temperature (liquid is bubbling slowly).

Add the tomatoes and the salmon filets, poach for 5-7 minutes or until fish is firm when touched.

Swirl in the parsley pesto. Season with salt and pepper, garnish with sprinkled chives and tarragon. Serve in a soup bowl with broth and steamed rice or angel hair pasta.

Parsley Pesto:

1/2 cup parsley leaves; blanched and cooled
3 cloves garlic
2 tablespoons pine nuts
1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, grated
1/2 cup olive oil

Pick the leaves from the parsley and blanch in boiling water for a few seconds, rinse under cold water immediately. Press out any liquid. Put the parsley, garlic, pine nuts, parmesan cheese and 1/2 cup olive oil in a food processor. Purée until smooth, slowly add the remaining oil with the blade running. Remove and store in refrigerator until needed. This pesto may be made a day in advance.

Garnish with 1 teaspoon each chives, sliced thin and tarragon, chopped fine.

Serves 6.

SAFFRON RICE PILAF

2 cups rice, Basmati
1/2 teaspoon saffron

1 ounce onion, finely diced
3 cups chicken stock
1 bay leaf
salt and pepper to taste
2 ounces margarine

Wash rice under cold water. Sauté onions and saffron in 2 ounces margarine. Add rice, sauté 1 minute.

Add boiling chicken stock, bay leaf and seasonings. Bring to a boil, stir once, cover. Cook in 350 F oven 15-19 minutes.

Remove from pan, stir in 2 ounces margarine.

DEVEILED CRAB CAKES WITH MUSTARD GLAZE

1 tablespoon onion, minced
2 tablespoons celery, minced
1 tablespoon red pepper, minced
1 teaspoon dry mustard
6 tablespoons butter
6 tablespoons flour
1 cup milk
16 ounces Maryland lump crab meat (king crab or dungeness also can be used)
Old Bay seasoning to taste
pinch cayenne pepper
pinch salt and white pepper
1 teaspoon lemon juice
2 teaspoons chopped fresh pars-

ley
6 tablespoons butter - for sautéing the crab cakes
flour as needed to coat the crab cakes

Mustard Glaze:
1 egg yolk
1 cup mayonnaise
2 tablespoons parmesan cheese
2 tablespoons cream
1 teaspoon chopped parsley
3 tablespoons Dijon mustard

Remove the bits of shells from the crab meat (king crab or dungeness crab also can be used).

Sauté the onions, celery and red peppers approximately 3 minutes on medium heat in 6 tablespoons butter.

Add flour, dry mustard and cook over low heat 4-5 minutes (don't brown). Season with salt, pepper and Old Bay. Add milk and lemon juice. Simmer five minutes. Remove from the heat, add the crab and parsley. Taste and re-season with salt and peppers. Shape into 12 equal patties. Cool.

For the mustard glaze, mix all those ingredients together in a stainless steel bowl, and set aside.

To finish, dust the patties on

both sides with flour. Heat a skillet, add the butter until it foams. Brown the patties on both sides. Place the patties on a cookie sheet pan. Coat each with a small amount of the mustard glaze. Place the tray under the broiler or in a 450 F oven until the glaze is brown and the crab cakes are hot. Approximately 6-8 minutes.

Serve with roasted corn stuffed crepes. Serves 6.

ROASTED CORN FILLED SCALLION CREPES

Scallion Crepes:
1 tablespoon melted butter
1/2 cup flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon white pepper
1 scallion, minced fine
2 eggs
1/2 cup milk

Roasted Corn Salad:

3 ears corn
2 scallions - white part sliced thin on a bias (save the green for the crepes)
1 small red pepper, diced fine
1 small green pepper, diced fine
1 teaspoon cilantro, chopped fine
1 teaspoon parsley, chopped fine
2 tablespoons cider vinegar
1 teaspoon sugar
salt and black pepper to taste

To make the scallion crepes, combine the flour, milk, salt and pepper and 1/2 of the butter in a bowl. Add the eggs and whip until smooth. Add the scallions. Let rest 30 minutes. Add more milk if necessary. Heat a 8-inch non-stick skillet. Add a portion of the butter, then add enough batter to just coat the bottom of the pan. Cook 1-2 minutes turn over with a thin spatula. Cool on a cookie sheet.

To make corn salad, season the corn and rub with oil, wrap with aluminum foil, roast in a 350 F oven 15-20 minutes until tender. Remove the kernels from the cob. Mix all the rest of the ingredients together, season to taste. Fill the crepes with the corn salad, slice in half on a bias, serve with crab cakes. Serves 6.

SIDE DISHES

New breads baked

Breadsmith, known for hand-crafted artisan breads, has introduced two reduced-carbohydrate breads at the store in Livonia.

These reduced-carb breads are in addition to the variety of current hand-made, hearth-baked European breads offered at the Livonia Breadsmith.

Bread is the foundation of a healthy diet, according to Breadsmith owners Bruce Carroll and Chuck Colbeck. "With the latest interest in low-carbohydrate, high-protein diets such as Atkins or the South Beach diet, Breadsmith saw a need for a reduced-carb bread that actually tasted good," Colbeck said. "We experimented with recipes in order to create a reduced-carbohydrate bread that didn't sacrifice taste, texture or appeal," Carroll said.

The result is a European-style bread, crusty on the outside and soft on the inside, available in two flavors: multigrain and wheat. The new breads average just less than six carbs per ounce compared to Breadsmith's traditional breads in the same flavors which average about 14 carbs per ounce.

Carbohydrates are reduced in the new breads by replacing regular wheat flour with soy flour, soy protein and gluten, a wheat-based protein. The new reduced-carb breads pack an average of 3.5 grams of fiber and 5 grams of protein per slice (a little more than one ounce) - both crucial for a healthy diet. Each slice of the bread averages just 53 calories.

Here's an idea

If there was one word that could sum up what most hard-working parents want for dinner, that word might be "easy."

The time-honored tradition of gathering around the dinner table as a family has fallen on hard times - the result of kids' extracurricular activities and parents working late.

A new Web site, www.DinnerMadeEasy.com helps answer the age-old question, "What's for dinner?" with tips and simple equations for making fast, delicious dinners.

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# National dish of Scotland is traditional – and tasty

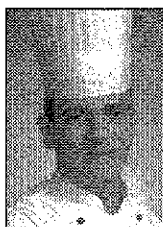
Since I hosted a Burns Night dinner at The Townsend, I will share with you a Scottish tradition – the dish of Haggis, a meat mixture traditionally boiled in a sheep's paunch.

Honestly, the Haggis is not as bad as you think. In Scotland it's our national dish and it is really good!

## THE HAGGIS AND ROBERT BURNS

The immortal memory of Scotland's most famous poet is sustained at Burns' Night dinners on Jan. 25, the date he was born. During Robert Burns' first visit to Edinburgh in 1786, he wrote his *Address to the Haggis*. It is written in Scottish, rather than the "correct" English, of the rather stiff poetry he wrote at the time to fit in with the tastes of the literary establishment in Scotland.

Scotland united with England and Wales in 1706 to become the United Kingdom. Many upper class members of Scottish society were anxiously trying to lose their Scottishness. Burns was a mas-



**Michigan's Best**

Colin Brown

ter satirist and a deeply patriotic Scot who hated pretension. He was very aware of the tendency of the gentry to try and lose their Scottish culture, and he satirizes this in the poem.

*Address to the Haggis* is highly patriotic, atmospheric and suitable for reciting in a loud voice. It is no wonder that it has survived so triumphantly.

## THE CEREMONY

Burns' Night is a key event in the Scottish year and is celebrated not only in Scotland but wherever people of Scottish descent live. Burns' Night has an established ritual, which Burns would no doubt have reveled in.

The centerpiece is the haggis, borne on a silver platter by

the cook, preceded by a kilted bagpiper. Others follow, bearing in the dishes of Swede (neaps) and potato (tatties). The Address is declaimed and the haggis is then ceremonially stabbed with the black knife (sgean dhu), kept in the Scot's stocking.

The haggis has been the subject of much ridicule and endless bad jokes. Scotland abounds with picture postcards of humanized haggis or three-legged haggis being hunted through the heather.

Traditional haggis recipes call for the savory meat mixture to be boiled in a sheep's paunch, but, as this is difficult to obtain by modern cooks, this recipe is steamed in a basin.

## HAGGIS

8 ounces liver  
6 ounces oatmeal  
2 medium onions  
8 ounces minced lamb  
6 ounces shredded suet  
Salt and pepper  
Pinch of grated nutmeg

Put the liver in a saucepan

and cover with cold water. Bring to the boil and boil for 5 minutes. Drain the liver, reserving 4 tablespoons of the water.

Toast the oatmeal under the grill or in the oven until it is golden brown. Allow to cool slightly. Meanwhile, mince the liver with the onions.

Add the oatmeal, minced lamb, suet, salt, pepper, nutmeg and the reserved cooking liquid to the minced mixture and combine thoroughly.

Spoon into an oven-proof style dish and tie a lid of greased greaseproof paper and foil on top. Make a pleat in the lid to allow for expansion.

Steam the haggis for 3 hours, replenishing the boiling water when necessary. Serve hot with bagpipes and plenty of Scotch whisky. Serves 6-8.

The next recipe is a traditional accompaniment to Haggis. The turnip in Scotland is commonly called 'brassica rapa', rutabaga or Swedish

turnip. In England it is called a Swede.

Patrick Miller of Dalswinton introduced it to Scotland in the late 18th century. He was a wealthy man, a director of the Bank of Scotland and chairman of the Carron Iron Company, and had a passionate interest in mechanical and agricultural improvement.

King Gustav III of Sweden was a satisfied customer of Carron, and he presented Miller with a gold, diamond-encrusted saffron box bearing a miniature of himself, containing rutabaga seeds. In this way the 'Swede' came to Scotland. The box and its accompanying letter can still be seen in the British Museum in London.

## RUTABAGAS

1 pound Swede (rutabagas), peeled and diced  
2 ounces butter  
Pinch of mace, optional

Cook the Swede in boiling water for 15 minutes, until tender. Drain and mash well.

Add remaining ingredients and mix well until the butter is

melted and incorporated. Season according to taste.

Mashed potatoes are always a popular main course accompaniment.

## MASHED POTATOES

1 pound potatoes, cooked  
1 ounce butter  
1 tablespoon cream

Mash the potatoes well and sieve if preferred. Add the butter and cream and mix well to incorporate. Season according to taste. Serves 4.

Colin Brown is executive chef at The Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. He studied culinary arts at the Glasgow College of Food Technology and has won several awards, including Scottish Chef of the Year, and was a member of the Scottish Culinary Olympic team, which won seven gold medals, six silver medals and four bronze medals. Married and the father of four children, Brown and his family reside in Auburn Hills. Look for his column on the fourth Thursday of the month. He welcomes comments and questions from readers. E-mail him at [www.chef@townsendhotel.com](mailto:www.chef@townsendhotel.com).

## WINES

FROM PAGE D1

Believing that wine should mirror the soil, Beckmen employs minimal intervention winemaking that respects the unique terroir of Purisima Mountain.

■ 2002 Sauvignon Blanc (\$13) has zesty lemon-lime flavors, balanced by mineral notes.

■ 2002 Purisima Mountain Roussanne (\$16) is the inaugural 250-case commercial release. If you find it, try it with spicy Asian seafood.

■ 2002 Purisima Mountain Marsanne (\$16) sports nice minerality enhanced by pear and melon characters.

■ 2001 Estate Syrah (\$24) has intense fruit with layers of plums, anise and truffles. It has a full mouth feel with earthy tannins.

■ 2001 Purisima Mountain Syrah (\$43) offers aromas of blueberries and plums, while on the palate berries merge with black pepper and earthy spice. Great concentration.

■ 2001 Cuvee Le Bec (\$21) (grenache, syrah, mourvedre and counoise blend) reveals red berries and spice aromas, followed by berry flavors, earthiness and spice, with great harmony in the finish.

■ 1999 Atelier (\$22) (cabernet franc and merlot) is in the tradition of St. Emilion, offering aromas of blackberry, licorice and vanilla with flavors of blackberry and currants.

The **Healds** are contributing editors for the internationally respected *Quarterly Review of Wines and Tries* residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Contact them by e-mail at [focusonwine@aol.com](mailto:focusonwine@aol.com).

## WINE PICKS

**Sauvignon Blanc**, with its fresh key lime, grapefruit zest, lemongrass and tropical fruit characters, is a versatile white wine for fish dishes.

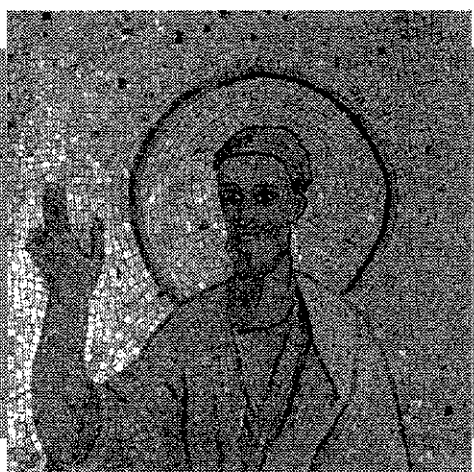
**Pick of the pack:** 2002 Hanna Sauvignon Blanc Russian River Valley, \$16.

**Outstanding:** 2002 Chateau Souverain, \$14; and 2002 Pepi, \$13.

**Excellent:** 2001 Chateau St. Jean La Petite Etoile Fume Blanc, \$20; 2002 Chateau St. Jean Fume Blanc, \$13, and 2002 Carmen Reserve, \$13.

All wines mentioned are available in metro Detroit. If a retailer does not stock a specific wine, ask that it be ordered from the distributor.

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While Your Shopping at Joe's this weekend... stop by our sampling table! We'll be sampling Joe's Pasta Sauce—all five delicious flavors! Cantoro's Bread and Joe's Parmesan Cheese. Sampling Times are: Saturday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

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**READER RECIPES**

FROM PAGE D1

**TERIYAKI SALMON FILLETS**

½ pounds salmon fillet, skin on, cut into 4 serving size pieces  
 ¼ cup teriyaki sauce (Kikkoman works well)  
 ½ cup sugar  
 olive oil to coat skillet  
 ½-1 tablespoons butter

Preheat oven to 375 ° F. Line baking pan with foil. Spray lightly with vegetable oil.

Prepare two shallow dishes; one with sugar, the other with teriyaki sauce.

Heat a heavy skillet, adding enough oil and butter to coat surface.

Dip salmon pieces, flesh side down, into teriyaki sauce and then sugar. Place in hot skillet and brown. About one minute. Be prepared — this can be smoky. The sugar/sauce mix will caramelize quickly.

With a spatula, remove fillets from skillet, and turn them, skin side down, and place on foil lined pan.

Bake in oven for 15 minutes for each inch thickness. Remove and serve. Serves 4.

Recipe courtesy of Barb Dermody of Northville.

**COD VEGETABLE STEW**

¾ cup each onion and diced carrot  
 ½ cup each chopped celery and green pepper  
 1 clove garlic minced  
 2 tablespoons oil  
 2 tablespoons flour  
 12 ounce can chicken broth  
 ¼ teaspoon each thyme and basil leaves crushed  
 ½ to 2 pounds cod or pollock fillets - thawed if necessary  
 Hot cooked rice or noodles  
 2 tablespoons chopped parsley

Saute vegetables and garlic in oil. Sprinkle flour over mixture — blend thoroughly. Add broth and herbs; cover and simmer 20 minutes. Cut fish into large chunks, add to vegetable mixture — simmer covered 10 minutes, until fish flakes easily. Serve over rice or noodles. Garnish with parsley. Serves 5 to 6.

Recipe courtesy of Chris Cloonan of Westland.

**Here are more fish recipes for the grill**

While most people order their fish grilled at restaurants, many feel a little intimidated about cooking that delicate fillet on the outdoor grill back home.

How do you keep it from sticking to the grates? How do you tell when it's done? It just doesn't seem as easy as grilling a burger, but it can be, if you follow some simple basics.

Here are pointers to guide you with a couple of delectable fish recipes from Weber's Big Book of Grilling — with one recipe from Chicago's famous Weber Grill Restaurant:

■ Is it done yet? Fish is adequately cooked when it is just opaque throughout. You'll need a knife to test it. Carefully slide a sharp knife between the layers of the fish meat, then turn it slightly to get a good look inside. If the meat still looks translucent in the middle, give it another minute or two.

■ Always use oil. To prevent sticking and leaving any of that yummy fish on the grates, you need to oil the fish before you grill it. We're not talking about a major bath here — just a good coating of spray oil, or a hearty stroke of the basting brush will do the trick. If you've already marinated the fish, you may not need to add more oil. The thinner the fillet, the better to play it safe with extra spray.

**MEDITERRANEAN SEA BASS**

The ingredients in this recipe are inspired by the Provence region in southeastern France. Keep it simple and enjoy. (Suitable substitutes for the sea bass: Red snapper, striped bass.)

For the paste:  
 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh basil  
 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh thyme

2 teaspoons dried lavender  
 1 teaspoon minced garlic  
 ½ teaspoon kosher salt  
 ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

4 skinless Chilean sea bass fillets. About 6 ounces each and 1 inch thick

lemon wedges (optional)

To make the paste: In a small bowl whisk together the paste ingredients. Spread the paste evenly on both sides of the fish fillets. Grill over direct high heat until the flesh is opaque throughout and starting to flake, 5 to 7 minutes, turning once halfway through grilling time. Serve warm and garnish with lemon wedges, if desired.

Makes 4 servings. Recipe courtesy of Weber Stephen Products.

**TEQUILA SALMON**

In this rousing dish, bright cit-

rus and classic seasonings do a hat dance with tequila around firm marinated salmon.

For the marinade:  
 ½ cup fresh orange juice  
 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
 3 tablespoons tequila  
 1 tablespoon chopped fresh cilantro  
 1 tablespoon minced jalapeno pepper, with seeds  
 1 teaspoon granulated garlic  
 1 teaspoon kosher salt  
 1 teaspoon ground cumin

4 salmon fillets (with skin), about 6 ounces each and 1 inch thick

For the dressing:  
 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice  
 ½ teaspoon chili powder  
 ½ teaspoon kosher salt  
 ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

4 handfuls mixed salad greens (3 to 4 ounces)  
 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved  
 ½ cup fresh cilantro leaves, divided

To make the marinade: In a small bowl whisk together the marinade ingredients.

Place the salmon fillets in a large, resealable plastic bag and pour in the marinade. Press the air out of the bag and seal tightly. Turn the bag to distribute the marinade, place in a bowl, and refrigerate for 30 to 45 minutes.

To make the dressing: In a large bowl whisk together the dressing ingredients. Set aside until ready to serve.

Remove the fillets from the bag and discard the marinade. Grill the salmon, flesh side down, over direct medium heat until you can lift the fillets with tongs without them sticking to the grate, 7 to 8 minutes. Turn, skin side down, and finish cooking for 2 to 3 minutes more. Slide a spatula between the skin and flesh and transfer the fillets to serving plates.

Toss the salad greens, tomatoes, and half of the cilantro in the dressing. Divide the greens among the serving plates, garnish the fillets with the remaining cilantro, and serve.

Makes 4 servings. Recipe courtesy of Weber Stephen Products

**HERB MARINATED CITRUS SWORDFISH**

For the marinade:  
 ½ cup olive oil  
 2 cloves garlic  
 3 sprigs fresh Italian parsley  
 2 sprigs fresh rosemary (cleaned)  
 2 sprigs fresh thyme (cleaned)  
 ½ teaspoon kosher salt  
 ¼ teaspoon cracked black pepper

For the citrus butter:  
 ½ pound (2 sticks) unsalted butter  
 9 sprigs fresh parsley  
 1 tablespoon shallots (minced)  
 1 lemon (zested and juiced)  
 1 lime (zested and juiced)

To make the marinade: Place all ingredients in a food processor and pulse a few times until incorporated.

To make the citrus butter: Place butter in a mixer, using a paddle, process on medium speed until butter softens, approximately 3 minutes. Remove leaves from parsley sprigs and chop. Add shallots, lemon and lime zest and juice, and mix for an additional 1 minute. Add the parsley last so that the butter does not turn green. Remove butter mixture and place on a piece of waxed paper. Roll up into a log shape, secure the ends, and place in the freezer.

Cut swordfish into 8 ounce portions. Coat each piece with 1 tablespoon of marinade, place in refrigerator for 30 minutes. Once grill is hot, place fish on Direct High heat for approximately 1 minute on each side. Move fish to a cooler part of the grill and finish over indirect heat with the cover closed, approximately 2 additional minutes. Remove fish from the grill, slice 1 tablespoon of citrus butter and place on top of each portion of hot swordfish.

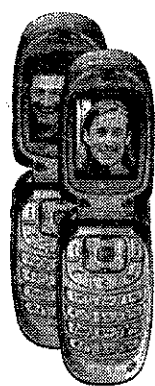
Makes 6 servings. Recipe courtesy of Weber Stephen Products.

Weber-Stephen Products Co., headquartered in Palatine, Ill., is a manufacturer of charcoal and gas grills and accessories. Weber charcoal and gas grills are available at select home centers, hardware stores, department stores, patio stores and other retail outlets.

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## “Hope and help from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.”

*Ernie Harwell*

*“At Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, we’re committed to helping our members live longer and live better. As the Blues’ Health and Fitness Advocate, I enjoy the chance to tell you about the many programs and services the Blues offer that can help us get healthy and stay healthy, and help keep quality health care affordable. Isn’t it great to know that we have a company here in Michigan that can save us money while they’re helping others save lives?”*



**When it comes to your health, it’s good to have connections.**

When a medical condition suddenly changes your life, sometimes it’s hard to know just where to turn or what to do. That’s why we introduced BlueHealthConnection®—our personalized health management program that offers a variety of ways to help our members take charge of their health care. It offers a wealth of resources they need to navigate through health problems and lead better lives. Including access to professional nurses who can offer health education, tips, and hope. With BlueHealthConnection, you’re always just a phone call away from sound information, the kind you can use to make the best health care decisions for you and your family.



**Saving money with generic drugs is an easy pill to swallow.**

One of the ways Blue Cross is helping our members save out-of-pocket expenses is by urging everyone to get the facts about generic drugs. The FDA requires generic drugs to meet the same standards for strength, purity and quality, and to contain the same active ingredients as the brand-name drugs. Which means that generics give you the same therapeutic effects—for less. Last year, Blues members saved more than \$4 million in out-of-pocket costs due to lower copays for generics. There are times when a generic equivalent is not available. But choosing a generic when possible can help hold down rising health care costs—and can add up to extra money in your pocket. To learn more about what generics can do for you, visit our web site at [www.theunadvertisedbrand.com](http://www.theunadvertisedbrand.com).



**WalkingWorks<sup>SM</sup> for us all.**

Walking is the simple way to improve your health. Just three to five times a week for 30 minutes can make a big difference in your overall fitness and well-being. With the Blues’ WalkingWorks program, we give our members a simple, easy and fun way to get the aerobic exercise needed for good health, with little risk of injury. It’s a step we’re glad to take to help folks live better—and help keep health care affordable for us all.

## Friendly advice on staying healthy.

**Look for Ernie’s new column on healthier living each week in this newspaper.**

For easy-to-follow advice on staying healthy, look for “Take It From Ernie.” It’s a new column sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan with words of wisdom from Hall of Fame broadcaster Ernie Harwell.

Each week, Ernie will highlight simple steps we can all take to improve our health and our quality of life. You’ll find entertaining information on the benefits of walking, the value of using less expensive generic drugs and simple ways to stay healthy and fit. And nobody’s a better example than Ernie himself, Blue Cross Blue Shield’s Health and Fitness Advocate, who makes healthy choices and exercises every day at 86 years of age.

So read “Take It From Ernie,” and as Ernie says, “Take care of your health before it’s lonngggg gone.”

## The truth about regular physical activity – at any age.

*By Ernie Harwell*



While it’s not uncommon for some adults to think they’re either too old or too frail to exercise, nothing could be further from the truth. Regular physical activity brings health benefits and greater well-being at any age.

Regular physical activity helps improve muscle strength, stamina, balance, joint mobility, flexibility, agility, overall physical coordination, metabolism, blood pressure, weight control, even the treatment and prevention of heart disease. It also helps slow bone loss and lowers the risk of developing adult onset diabetes. It even improves your mood.

Of course, I recommend three simple rules for regular physical activity in life’s later innings: Have a physician on your team, take a lot of intentional walks and remember that, as Yogi Berra is fond of saying, “It ain’t over ‘til it’s over.”

And please remember to take care of your health before it’s lonngggg gone!

*Ernie Harwell, “the voice of the Detroit Tigers” for more than four decades, retired after 54 years behind a major league microphone. Today, at age 86, Ernie’s days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with “Miss Lulu,” his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns entitled “Life After Baseball,” is available in bookstores beginning April 2004.*



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**CALENDAR**

Please submit items at least two weeks in advance of the date it should be published. Send to Ken Abramczyk, Taste editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, 48009 or e-mail kabramczyk@oe.hometownlife.com.

**Classic cooking**  
Busch's Meal Solutions presents the classic cooking series with "Seafood: The Ultimate Fast Food" 6-7:30 p.m. tonight at Busch's, 24445 Drake in Farmington Hills. "Poultry: All-Time Favorites" on March 11, 37083 Six Mile (at Newburgh in Livonia), March 18 at 15185 Sheldon in Plymouth and March 25 (Farmington Hills).

**Schoolcraft College**  
Enjoy the talents of the staff at Schoolcraft College with culinary seminars offered through the culinary arts department and the college's Continuing Education Services. Among the topics are Understanding California Wines, 7-9 p.m. Monday, March 8; Petit Fours & Miniature Cakes, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, March 8; Quick Easy Meals, 6-10 p.m. Wednesday, March 10; Great Cuisine for Great Events, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 13; Thai and Vietnamese Cuisine, 6-10 p.m. Wednesday, March 24; Classic French Pastry, 6-9 p.m. Thursday, March 25, and Be a Sweet Tart, 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, April 27. For a complete schedule of seminars, call (734) 462-4448 or visit the college's Continuing Education Services building, 18600 Haggerty in Livonia (south of Seven Mile Road). For information, call (734) 462-4448.

**Asian Fusion**  
Pacific Rim by Kana's chef Duc Tang will create dishes from the cuisines of Vietnam, Thailand and Japan 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 10, at MFit the University of Michigan Health System, located at East Ann Arbor Health Center

Demonstration Kitchen, 4260 Plymouth, Ann Arbor. Learn about turkey tetrazini, creole red beans and rice, spicy black bean and tortilla bake, artichoke, mushroom and potato casserole at a casserole seminar 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 24.

**Oakland Community College**  
Enjoy a Grand Culinary Buffet at Oakland Community College, presented by OCC's Culinary Studies Institute 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 28 on the third floor of Building J on the Orchard Ridge Campus, Farmington Hills. The buffet features a selection of fresh salads, vegetables, potatoes and meats and fish. The dessert table will have pastries, tarts, flans and cookies. Cost is \$8.95 per person. A buffet also is scheduled for April 22. For information, call (248) 522-3700.

**Bonnie's Patisserie**  
Low-carb Cooking and Good Food Fast are among the classes offered at Bonnie's Patisserie, 29229 Northwestern Highway in Southfield. Classes are scheduled 7-9 p.m. and cost \$35 each. The low-carb class will be offered Wednesday, March 3, while the good food class will be taught Monday, March 8, or Wednesday, March 10. (The class will be offered both nights, so class attendees will choose one of them.) Glorious Bunch IV with instructions for stuffed French toast with apple sauce, bacon potato pie, fresh and smoked salmon cakes, pear mango salad and pullaway coffee cake will be offered Monday, March 15. Call (248) 357-4540 for information.

**Bella Cucina**  
Bella Cucina of Plymouth instructs cooking classes in the lower level kitchen at Our Lady of Good Counsel church at North Territorial and Beck roads in Plymouth. The next session will give a demonstration on turkey polpet-

tone, porcini mushroom risotto, spinach salad with pancetta and pine nuts and double cheesy garlic bread. The class, taught 6:30-9:30 p.m. on March 9, and repeated March 16 and March 30, is a hands-on demonstration. Class sizes are limited to 12 with a cost of \$50 per person and payment due at registration. For information, call (734) 455-4232.

**Beer tasting**  
Enjoy various samplings and tastings of beer at the ninth annual Winterfest Beer Tasting 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College's Livonia campus, 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads. The event is sponsored by the Schoolcraft College Gourmet Club and Merchant's Fine Wine with locations in Grosse Pointe Woods, Dearborn and Royal Oak. Patrons must be 21 years of age and provide identification at the door. Tickets are \$40 per person and include fine culinary cuisine, up to 50 tastings of assorted beers, door prizes and a complimentary tasting glass. Tickets can be purchased at Merchant's Fine Wine locations or in the Student Activities Office at Schoolcraft College by calling (734) 462-4422. All tickets are pre-sale only.

**Great Lakes Great Wine**  
The Ninth Annual Great Lakes Great Wine Walk Around will be presented on April 1 by the Culinary Studies Institute at Oakland Community College in the third floor of Building J on the college's Orchard Ridge campus. Sample from some of the more than 500 wine selections from the Great Lakes region. Enjoy the tastes of specially prepared foods from leading area restaurants. Proceeds benefit the culinary student scholarships. For information, call (248) 522-3700.

**Make dinner a quick fix of steak and rice**

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lean beef, including top sirloin steak, is nutritious and easy to cook when you need dinner on the table quickly.

**BEEF STEAK WITH BROWN RICE AND VEGETABLES**

- 1 boneless beef top sirloin steak, cut 1/2-inch thick (about 1 pound)
- 1/2 cup prepared non-creamy Caesar dressing
- 2 teaspoons lemon pepper

- 1 cup uncooked instant brown rice
- 2 cups frozen vegetable mixture, such as baby green and yellow beans and carrots
- 2 tablespoons prepared non-creamy Caesar dressing
- 2 tablespoons shredded Parmesan cheese (optional)

Cut beef steak crosswise into four equal pieces. Place steaks and 1/2 cup dressing in food-safe plastic bag; turn steaks to coat. Close bag securely and marinate in refrigerator 15 minutes. Remove steaks from marinade; discard marinade. Season steaks

with lemon pepper.

Heat large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Place steaks in skillet; cook about 8 to 10 minutes for medium-rare doneness, turning once.

Meanwhile, cook rice according to package directions, including salt but omitting butter. When adding rice to saucepan, stir in vegetables. When rice is done, stir in 2 tablespoons dressing. Serve with steaks. Sprinkle with cheese, if desired.

Makes 4 servings.

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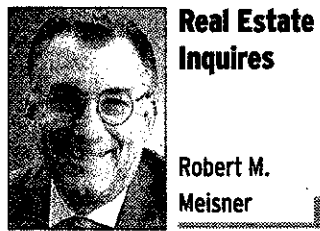
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**Real Estate Inquires**

Robert M. Meisner

## Dealing with elderly can be complex issue

Our association is faced with elderly members who have mental and/or physical problems which cause them to stop cleaning their unit, let their bathroom tub overflow and leave stove burners on. What steps can we take to deal with this situation?

Association property can be damaged and if a neighbor is hurt or his property is damaged the association could be liable if it does not take some sort of action to deal with the situation. In a sense, once the association is aware of a problem with an elderly member leaving burners on, for instance, it may have a duty to protect the safety and welfare of the neighbors and can be sued if there is an accident involving the elderly member. The association may consider one or more of the following steps: (1) communicate with the elderly member; (2) contact the member's family; (3) contract services for elderly people; (4) if necessary, file a court action seeking the appointment of a guardian or conservator or any other solution courts can offer; and/or (5) check with your lawyer concerning what state laws provide for emergency solutions. This is a complex problem that needs detailed analysis by the board in connection with the association's attorney.

We have a new restrictive covenant which we wish to add to our homeowners association's existing covenants but the covenants state that the owners may only "change or modify the restrictions." Can we add something new to it?

While I would have to look at your documents specifically, it appears that based upon a Colorado Supreme Court case on similar facts, a new restrictive covenant could be added but you are well-advised to consult with a community association attorney to confirm this result.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit [bmeisner@mich.com](mailto:bmeisner@mich.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

View the Observer & Eccentric Real Estate Classifieds on the Web:

[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

# Kitchen jewel of house in country setting



Baskets hang from the ceiling, within reach, but out of the way, in this cozy kitchen.



The kitchen is the jewel of Peggy and Jerry Goldsworthy's house in Rochester Hills.

## Series of remodeling projects does the trick

BY NORMAN PRADY  
CORRESPONDENT

If you're looking for "a room you can fall in love with," Diane Tubbs would like to show you the kitchen of a house she has for sale in the Walton/Adams Road area of Rochester Hills.

Tubbs is a Realtor with Countryside GMAC in Rochester. She said the four-bedroom house on a half-acre lot in a "country setting" is appealing in many ways, but the kitchen is the jewel.

It's a kitchen resulting from a series of remodeling projects directed by Peggy and Jerry Goldsworthy, who have owned the 48-year-old house since 1991.

"The house was really small when we bought it," Peggy said, "and we knew from the beginning that we were going to remodel it at some point."

"We put an addition at first, on the side," she said.

That's when the carport became the living room, the former living room became the dining room and the former dining room was destined to become the breakfast nook when the kitchen would be redone two years after.

While the Goldsworthys expanded their house from 1,256 square feet to 1,650, the dimensions of the kitchen remained 15 feet by 12 feet.

The kitchen, Peggy said, "was really chopped up." The cabinets were original to the house, and there were no counters on either side of the stove. The very old creamy-color countertops had lots of scratches. There were stainless steel tiles on the wall, which needless to say, came down the day the Goldsworthys closed on the house.

Twenty thousand dollars later, Peggy said, she had the kitchen she dreamed about.

In addition to more counter space, Peggy's especially pleased with the appliance garage built into a corner. She can conceal the food processor, blender, electric mixer and other tools, parking them off her inviting countertop.

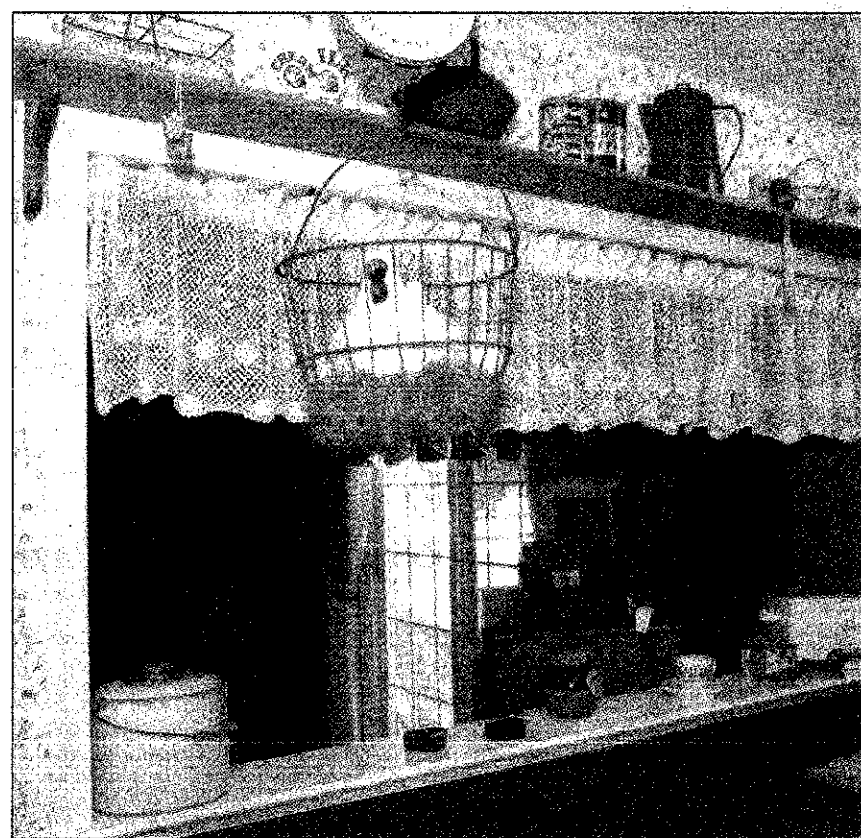
"I'm going to miss it," she said of her kitchen while thinking about their upcoming move to Almont to be near family. Their next house is ready and waiting for them.

"I already have plans," she said, "for the new kitchen."

Selling a home with a room that says "buy this house"? We'd like to hear from you so we can tell our readers about it. Contact Keely Kaleski, assistant managing editor-Features, (248) 901-2587, or e-mail [kkaleski@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:kkaleski@oe.homecomm.net)



Peggy Goldsworthy is moving to Almont and will miss this kitchen. The small space was remodeled to be more functional.



This cozy country kitchen has lots of nice details.

**Mortgage Bits**

Tim 'Timbo' Phillips



## Last call for great loan rates?

I have experienced an interesting phenomenon over the past few months: I have not had to field any phone calls asking about the direction of mortgage interest rates. I think the world has collectively decided that rates will not go lower. Now, we may all be wrong, but I think it's pretty safe to say we are at "last call" for great rates.

The more relevant question of the times is how much longer do we have before the rates begin their upward journey? Wall Street, of late, has occasionally shown some nice gains with heavy volume, and the economy seems to be showing signs of renewal.

What's that mean for interest rates? Generally, aggressive and sustained stock market growth (or a large bond market sell-off) leads to rising mortgage interest rates. When investors flood the stock market with money in the form of purchase orders, the increased demand pulls money from the competing bond market. This reduced demand, in turn, drives bond yields up. Bond yields and mortgage rates generally mirror each other, so mortgage interest rates normally rise, too.

### UPWARD TREND

Though these concepts seem simple enough, knowing our exact position in our recovery cycle is a real bugaboo. Already this year, we have seen some recovery in the stock market, but none with sustained high-volume trading. They appear to be "false starts," at first, yet the trend generally continues upward. Very curious.

Given that this year is an election year, it is unlikely that "The Fed" (a.k.a. Alan Greenspan) will want to upset the proverbial apple cart by toying with rate increases until after the general elections this fall - even if the economy warrants the change...but he might. Thus, it becomes extremely difficult to predict how much longer we will enjoy these record low interest rates.

There is really only one thing for certain. The rates are the best they have been in decades and unless the economy totally tanks they will not be this low again for a long time. If you are going to refinance or make a purchase, sooner is better than later.

Timothy J. Phillips is a mortgage broker and newspaper columnist. You may access his archives at [www.HomeQuarters.BIZ](http://www.HomeQuarters.BIZ), and you may phone him toll-free at (866) 369-4516. Homebuyers should always consult a professional for guidance specific to their situation.

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Table with mortgage rates for various lenders including Group One Mortgage Co., First International Mtg., Northlawn Financial, Golden Rule Mortgage, Direct Mortgage Funding, Home Finance of America, Ameriplus Mortgage Corp., Northwest Financial, American First Rate, and 1st Metropolitan Mortgage.

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HOMES SOLD IN WAYNE COUNTY

Table listing various homes sold in Wayne County with columns for address, price, and location (Canton, Livonia, Plymouth, Redford, Garden City).

Mortgage rates at lowest in 7 months

WASHINGTON - Mortgage rates around the country dropped this week to their lowest levels in seven months, good news for prospective home buyers. The average rate on benchmark 30-year mortgages fell to 5.58 percent, down from 5.66 percent last week, Freddie Mac, the mortgage giant, said Thursday in its weekly nationwide survey of mortgage rates.

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**BRIEFS**

Real Estate Briefs features news and notes on professional associations, office activities, upcoming meetings and seminars, new services/products and consumer publications. Write: Real Estate Briefs, Attn: Keely Kaleski, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Our fax number is (248) 644-1314. Our e-mail address is kkaleski@oe.hometownlife.com.

**Buying a home**

The Community House will present a class, **Purchasing Your Home and Obtaining a Mortgage**, 7:30-9 p.m. Monday, March 1. The class will help you understand the home buying process from the types of mortgages offered to the financial and qualifying requirements. In addition, a Realtor will be in attendance to discuss how to best shop for your new home. The seminar is presented by Sarah Chiaramonte, assistant vice president, and Ken Tomich, senior mortgage consultant, Chase Home Finance. The cost is \$5. To register, contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, (248) 644-5832, or www.communityhouse.com.

**Basement remodeling**

Livonia Community Education, in cooperation with Oakland Builders Institute, will offer an eight-hour basement remodeling seminar 6-10 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, March 1 and 3, at Holmes School, 10200 Newburgh in Livonia. The seminar costs \$101, plus an \$8 textbook fee. Pre-registration with payment is required no later than Thursday, Feb. 26, to Livonia Community Education. Call (734) 744-2602 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. to register. The instructor, a licensed builder, will explain the many facets of basement remodeling, including planning, meeting building codes, insurance, permits, estimating materials, the basics of home construction, working with subcontractors, finishing techniques, and tying into existing plumbing, electrical and heating systems.

**Home building**

Plymouth/Canton Community Education, in cooperation with Oakland Builders Institute, will offer a 16-hour seminar, **Home Building: Protecting You and Your Money**, 6-10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 2-11, at Canton High School, 8415 Canton Center Road. The seminar costs \$205, plus \$30 for two textbooks. Pre-registration with payment is required by Friday, Feb. 27, to Plymouth/Canton Community Education. To register, call (734) 416-2937 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Whether you work alone or with a contractor, you'll gain information to avoid the common pitfalls that confront most new home builders. The course will cover home financing, the building process, builder's terms and contracts, the basics of buying property, building codes and permits, getting bids for labor and materials, insurance requirements and much more. The instructor is a licensed builder.

# Featured

## HOMES OF THE WEEK

Presented By

**Canton** - Upgrades galore! 4-bed, 2 1/2 bath custom family home. Home warr, 3 car gar., F/P bsmt, 2800+ sq. ft. Designed for beauty, comfort & convenience! \$368,000 Call Susan Crider (734) 377-3773 (SC89RV)

**Livonia** - Gorgeous 3-bed, 1 1/2 bath super ranch. 2 car garage, newer windows, roof, new Berber carpet & bathroom. Freshly painted, deck off master br w/ hot tub. \$157,777 Call Jim Mariani (734) 709-7777 (JM29PEM)

**Dearborn** - Cute 3-bed home on a spacious corner lot. Bsmt, 2 car garage, updates include roof, kitchen, bath, HWH, wallside windows, furnace, C/A. \$135,900 Call Matt Schrocka (313) 580-0867 (MS40ROS)

**Detroit** - Lovely 3-bed brick bungalow. Bsmt, garage, fenced yard, new roof, furnace, HWH, entry doors, newer electrical, fresh paint, close to schools. \$105,000 Call Ed Otlewski (248) 431-2804 (EO68BRI)

**Genoa** - Sandy beach lakefront ranch. 2 car gar., 2 baths, 20 ft. bow window overlooking lake. Scenic and private lot, walk to golf course, newer seawall, sprinklers. \$339,900 Call Angie Roullier @ (313) 623-4456 (AR60BLA)

**Redford** - Beautiful 3-bed, 1 1/2 bath bungalow. Newer features include: vinyl siding, gutters, carpet, roof shingles, C/A, HWH, new sod in front yard, freshly painted, deck. Bsmt, 2 car garage & more! \$129,900 (56SUM)

**Highland** - 101 ft. White Lake canal frontage in private seven harbors sub. 4-bed, 2 bath home. Addn. in '93, 2 car garage, appliances stay. Relocating, bring offers! Call Susan Crider (734) 377-3773 (SC31WOO)

**Redford** - Fantastic 3-bed starter ranch. Florida room off master br, newer vinyl siding, roof & windows, bsmt, fenced yard, shed, 1000+ sq. ft. \$104,777 Call Jim Mariani (734) 709-7777 (JM90POI)

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<p><b>GARDEN CITY RANCH</b> Adorable 3 bedroom ranch in a nice area of Garden City. Central air, updated kitchen and bath, and an oversized 2 car garage. Nice large lot. \$132,500 (619BRO)</p>	<p><b>YOU'LL LOVE THE FLAIR</b> Delightful 2 bedroom end unit. Ceramic foyer, formal living and dining plus a large family room. Elegant master with WIC, private bath &amp; balcony overlooking a serene setting. Finished basement, garage, and a paver patio. \$179,900 (488CO)</p>	<p><b>POPULAR SUNFLOWER VILLAGE</b> Yes, you can walk to the pool when you own this freshly painted ranch. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, family room w/fireplace, spacious kitchen, full basement, and an attached garage. Updated C/A, electrical, windows, &amp; garage door. Act fast! These don't last. \$214,900 (240GA)</p>	<p><b>BEAUTIFUL END UNIT</b> Great Northville location, short walk to downtown. 3 beds, 2.5 baths, and 2132 sq. ft. Living room w/ cathedral ceiling &amp; fireplace. Kitchen w/doorwall to private deck. Master bath w/jetted tub. Partially fin. LL w/bar &amp; separate workshop. A must see. \$314,900 (224ST)</p>	<p><b>GREAT VALUE FOR TODAY'S MARKET</b> Perfect opportunity in Canton with this 4 bedroom colonial. Just a short walk to Hulsing Elementary and a neighborhood park. 1800 square feet with an updated windows, roof, kitchen, bath and more. \$214,900 (767VE)</p>	<p><b>BRICK BEAUTY</b> Wonderful brick cape cod with 4 bedrooms featuring newer windows, new carpet and paint throughout, a formal dining room, living room with natural fireplace, full basement and a 2 car garage! \$164,900 (288TE)</p>	<p><b>WHAT YOU DESERVE</b> Plymouth 2BR/2BA condo featuring a gas fireplace in living room, dining room, skylights, master with WIC, private entry, full basement, 2 car attached garage, pool, tennis courts, clubhouse and more. All the amenities at an excellent price. \$167,900 or \$1,450 lease (652PO)</p>
<p><b>GREAT NEW BEGINNINGS</b> Start with this 3 bedroom brick bungalow. 1312 square feet of living space in move in condition. Immediate occupancy is ok. Pre-approved buyers please. \$109,900 (711AS)</p>	<p><b>DOWNTOWN CONDO</b> 2 story unit with a private entry 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths and 1200- sq. ft. Living room with ample space for an office area, dining room and kitchen. Neutral décor throughout. Includes all appliances, 1st floor laundry and plenty of storage. \$134,900 (741DE)</p>	<p><b>PLYMOUTH HISTORIC FORD HOME</b> Enjoy the old world charm and character of hardwood floors, covered ceilings and crown moldings. Formal living room w/fireplace, formal dining, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, finished basement and lots of updates. Call for details. \$219,900 (613NO)</p>	<p><b>PARK-LIKE SETTING</b> Rare and wonderful describes this detached condo. One story with great room, hardwood floors, Corian counters, privacy daylight basement, gas fireplace, master suite and less than 2 years new. \$349,900 (342PL)</p>	<p><b>FIX ME UP!</b> Huge Wayne colonial has excellent potential. 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths and an oversized 2.5 car garage. 1647 square feet but needs city work to be done by buyers. Great opportunity at a nice price. \$119,900 (426SO)</p>	<p><b>SURROUNDED BY AN ACRE!</b> Almost 2000 sq.ft. brick Cape w/ hardwood floors &amp; woodwork T/O. HUGE formal dining with covered ceiling &amp; beveled glass door separating the living room. Updated roof, copper plumbing, trim &amp; eaves. Oversized in closet, laundry room. Pantry, engineered septic field, inlaid brick patio. \$217,500 (940SA)</p>	<p><b>IT'S EVERYONE'S FAVORITE</b> Hurry up to own this very special, sprucely-kept two-story. Two-car garage, security system. Large family room w/fireplace, soaring cathedral ceilings, hardwood flooring. Ideal master suite, walk-in closet, laundry room. Pantry, full-appliance package, central air and a deck! \$274,900 (975HO)</p>

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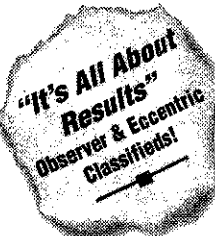
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# Automotive

**Classifieds inside**

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 26, 2004

## The 2004 Toyota Sienna

Advertising Feature

### Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

Last weekend, the 2004 Toyota Sienna was taking one of the toughest and most important tests that a vehicle can undergo: Confronting potential danger on the road in a real-life situation that involved some urgency. And I'm happy to say that the completely redesigned minivan passed that test - and everything else - with flying colors.

On our way and in a hurry to get to a college visit, we encountered menacing black ice from southbound I-275 north of Plymouth all the way westbound on M-14 around Ann Arbor to I-94 westbound, and a little beyond. Literally, dozens of vehicles of all sorts were spinning out on a route that very suddenly had become treacherous. They were freshly arrayed in various sideways and backward positions on the shoulders and beyond, and scattered all over the median, with occupants on their cell phones trying to get assistance. In degree, it was a sight I'd never seen before.

But the Sienna carrying my family and me, the front-wheel-drive version, was extremely sure-footed - so much so, in fact, that it deepened the mystery surrounding what road conditions could wipe out so many other vehicles. Even on a point at M-14 where traffic literally was stopped in the middle of the freeway as a hulking SUV struggled to get up an incline, I was able to inch the Sienna around the mess without even an inch of slippage, and back onto the unobstructed road.

I paid tacit compliments to the Vehicle Stability Control and Traction Control that were designed to help out in such situations. And I was gratified that Toyota engineers had taken the care to make Sienna - which carries around thousands of families like mine - so performance-dependable. Especially notable is the fact that I wasn't even driving the all-wheel-drive version of Sienna that is supposed to provide even an extra measure of stability.

Overall, Sienna just kept impressing me. It isn't much to look at, but it handles impeccably and rides nicely in normal conditions as well, and it has vast room inside for cargo and passengers, nearly endless interior configurability and some nice amenity inno-



The Toyota Sienna is sure-footed on icy, snowy roads.

vations for the category. At suggested retail prices ranging from \$23,000 to nearly \$37,000, the new Sienna is the minivan entry that Toyota really wanted to field several years ago, because the previous version of the vehicle was a tight squeeze inside, among other things.

This isn't to say that Sienna is unsightly. Combine the design challenges that afflict every minivan on the road with Toyota's predilection for conservative styling in the first place, however, and you've got a pretty ordinary-looking vehicle. What's good is that Toyota stretched the wheelbase of the 2004 by more than five inches compared with the 2003 version, and the length by 6.5 inches overall; the new Sienna also is nearly four inches wider and about 200 pounds heavier. In the XLE Limited version that I drove, the 17-inch wheels are a nice touch.

Sienna is capably powered by a 230-horsepower, 3.3-liter V6 engine supported by a five-speed automatic transmission. Happily, I found the combination to be very Toyota-like: extremely adequate though appropriately not explosive, and smooth in every situation. Mileage of 19 mpg in the city and 27 on the highway are acceptable for a modern minivan. Handling and other aspects of performance were exceptional as well for a minivan, including nice cornering. Toyota says that it improved the turn radius of Sienna by three feet in the new version, but it still

took a little too much space to pull a U-turn for my tastes.

Entrance and exit are facilitated by low thresholds and power-everything: side doors as well as the rear liftgate. Inside, things get even better. The cockpit is extremely roomy, a feeling that is enhanced by the huge windshield and the placement of the transmission control on the lower dash. The center console is removable, a la Chrysler's Town & Country. The leather upholstery and seats in the XLE Limited are supple and supportive. There are lots of cubbyholes, including an innovation that I - as a sipper-driver - especially appreciated: a spot to hold a soda can or other beverages low on the driver's door.

In the back, second- and third-row seats disappear into the floor providing a huge cargo area. When passengers are involved, Sienna's various configurations deliver comfort to all. Rear amenities include a standard, 115-volt outlet so that kids can run video games or whatever while in the vehicle. Power side windows are a nifty feature and new to the category.

I know you can depend on Sienna on icy roads, so I'd be more than happy to have it in my garage year-round.

Write Dale at [daledbuss@aol.com](mailto:daledbuss@aol.com).

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