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SUNDAY April 25, 2004

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MPA'S SINT

School district eyes fewer layoffs

SECTION C



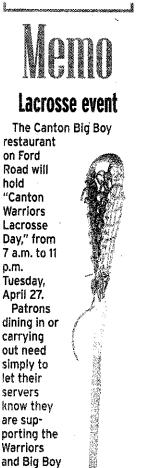
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PATT

Motivation is the key to success with exercise.

PAGE C6



BY TONY BRUSCATO

STAFF WRITER

Superintendent Jim Ryan believes he

deficit next school year with fewer lay-

enrollment, strict fiscal management

and the fund balance to help alleviate

The school board has given Ryan

authority to pursue \$1.6 million in cuts

and use \$6 million of the district's fund

balance. That leaves a \$1 million gap to

"I'm asking the board to not consider

'Ryan is banking on increased student

can weather an \$8.6 million budget

Plymouth-Canton Schools

offs than previously anticipated.

the projected shortfall.

balance the budget.

any other major cuts ... and let me work on another million dollars in reductions as the year goes on," said Ryan at Tuesday's workshop session. "We just didn't feel there were any more cuts we could recommend, and you would feel comfortable approving, as we looked at a potential \$15.5 million fund balance."

Among the \$1.6 million in budget cuts are 31 employees for a total savings of \$1 million; a \$200,000 reduction in the high school athletic budget, for the second consecutive year; and a \$32,000 (20 percent) cut in the middle school athletic budget.

Of the 31 employees losing their jobs, 16 are custodians as the district expects to save \$480,000 by performing what

Ryan termed "modified cleaning" in all buildings.

Despite earlier thoughts of laying off four of the five school nurses in the district, the net loss will only be one because of a retirement, saving the district \$75,000 in salary.

"It's really hard to think about cutting nurses when you potential have a \$15.5 million fund balance," said board president Judy Mardigian.

Ryan said he still needs to finalize a reorganization of the high school athletic department, partly because of the high cost of employing three high school athletic directors. Currently, Sue Heinzman at Canton High School earns \$98,021; Tom Willette at Salem and Terry

Sawchuk at Plymouth each earn \$83,395. "It's still unresolved, so on the (April)

27th they will get the official layoff notice," he said, "until we can come up with a plan on how we want to approach that, and the costs associated with the three athletic directors."

Ryan said he's still contemplating a change in the high school sports student participation fee. "We're looking at a comparison of the \$125 one-time fee compared to a lower amount, such as \$75 per sport," he said. "We'll also see if that's a viable option for the middle school as we look at cuts to the sports programs next year.

tbruscato@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 459-2700

A classical world

Local concert pianist returns to first love

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI STAFF WRITER

A child prodigy, Andrew Song just stopped playing piano when he was a high school junior.

"My parents were angry," said the Canton resident, who later graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in literature. "I wanted to be a lawyer."

But he didn't do that. He took a job as a catering director for a restaurant-deli. "I built it from the ground up," he said, allowing him to turn the position over to someone else when he left to work with a friend in a multi-media company. He opened the graphics and Web design portion for the company and three years later sold it.

"Then finally, I decided the piano might be my thing," said Song, a Sterling Heights High School graduate who is now in his 30s. "I found that the piano really made me happy."

That was the beginning of his performing career. Recently, he dazzled a Madonna



coupon at the register get a chance to win a Big Boy pie.

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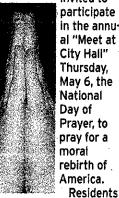
sales to the

their total

team.

Day of prayer

Canton residents are invited to



will meet to pray at 12:20-12:40 p.m. at the War Memorial in Heritage Park, directly behind the administration building, 1150 S. Canton Center. For more information, call Barbara Schmid, (734) 981-3442.

Concert pianist Andrew Song's hands are a blur as they dance across the over the piano keys.

Canton man announces run for Congress against McCotter

Abdullah Haydar, a 28-year-old Canton resident and computer consultant, has announced his candidacy for the 11th District Congressional seat held by Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia. Haydar is running as an independent. The most important issue in his platform,

he says, is campaign finance reform. He says he is so committed to that issue that he will not accept monetary donations of any kind.

"Money has corrupted politics across the world for millennia," he said. "In some societies, that has taken the form of illegal bribes. In our society, the two main parties have legalized bribery in the form of campaign contributions from special interests."



Charging that such "immoral" contributions influence the types of legislation that gets passed, he says he wants to change that.

"Today, I am launching my campaign to put an end to this practice and return to a

government of the people, by the people, for the people," he said.

Haydar said he will not run any television ads in his grass-roots campaign, but will spend, and has already spent, a lot of time knocking on doors.

The son of Syrian immigrants, Haydar was born in Dearborn, grew up in the

Flint area and has lived in Canton for about two years. He and his wife have three sons.

He said his parents were a big influence on his decision to run for Congress.

"My parents were immigrants," he said. "There was not a lot of political activity going on in Syria - just a few people running things. I was born in America. I grew up here. My parents said, 'Take advantage of it."

He says he intends to start a movement of government reform based on two principles:

Banning all money from the electoral process. Politicians should not have to seek funds from anyone to get their messages out in the campaign for office."

Return to the government intended by the U.S. Constitution: The U.S. House of Representatives is supposed to be comprised of ordinary citizens taking a few years away from their normal jobs to represent their fellow citizens in government. Instead, it is now comprised of life-long politicians who spend most of their time meeting with special interests who contribute very large amounts of money in exchange for undue influence on the legislative process."

Calling himself an "independent conservative," Haydar said he will represent the voters and no one else.

He has a Web site, which he designed and maintains himself, at www.haydarforcongress.com.



BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI STAFF WRITER

Canton's Leisure Services shares top billing with similar departments in Miami Beach, Kansas City, Las Vegas and New York's Westchester County now that it has received national accreditation.

"For us, this is just the beginning," said Ann Conklin, Leisure Services director. "Now, how do we make ourselves stronger and better? This gives us the tools we need."

Canton is also the only community in Michigan that has received the special designation that is designed to assure the public that programs are provided in accordance with approved professional practice.

"This community deserves the very best and we are committed to providing the best," Conklin said. "We hope it tells the residents of the community that we have sound practices and systems in place and we can assure the best use of their investment."

It was no easy task to secure accreditation through the National Recreation and Park Association. Months upon months of work and compiling data faced staff members. Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz, manager of recreation and facilities, took the lead.

"It took us 17 months to perform the selfassessment evaluation on our standards. We had to show what processes and systems we have in place," she said.

The process began in May 2002 and the

self-assessment was submitted in October 2003. This past January, a team from the accreditation group visited Canton.

"They did their evaluation. They spent four very busy, intense days here," Bilbrey-Honsowetz said.

On Feb. 27, she and Conklin went to Washington D.C. prepared to answer any questions the accreditation commission had. "We were then asked to leave the room for a few minutes," Bilbrey-Honsowetz said. When they were asked to return, they got the good news: accreditation.

Today, the documents that were prepared for the process fill large-ring binders, all of

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University audience with his Faith and Devotion concert, which will result in a new CD. Song has taken classic hymns and devotional music and rearranged it. "I

PLEASE SEE SONG. AS

School chief gets top marks

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

On a scale of 1 to 5, Wayne-Westland school Superintendent Greg Baracy has come away with a top mark of 5 for the job he is doing. That's the grade the school board has given him following his annual evaluation.

"It was an unanimous decision," board President Skip Monit said. "We are all pleased to have Greg Baracy as the leader for the school district and pleased to have him continue as superintendent. We all look forward to his continued guidance and outstanding leadership."

Speaking on behalf of the school board, Monit said the new review looked at highpriority goals of continuing to implement the district's marketing plan, staying financially sound, closing the gap between Wayne-Westland's MEAP scores and state scores, and sustaining the level of technology in the district.

The board agreed unanimously that Baracy, who has been superintendent for seven years, met those goals, and he scored outstanding in other areas - his professional leadership and personal qualities, curriculum and instruction, business and finance, and relations with employees, the board, students and other levels of government.

"Every board member had a chance to make remarks and rate the superintendent," Monit said. "The discussion was open and honest, issues were presented and wellreceived. We reached a consensus on every topic. Using a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being outstanding, we came up with an outstanding rating.



Baracy

"We want to congratulate (Baracy) on an excellent report."

In a press release, issued after the board announced its decision at its April meeting, Baracy was cited for continuing "to exhibit a high energy level when dealing with all aspects of

school district operations."

It went on to say that "he continues to motivate the staff to address the board of education goals set for the district and has experienced much success," and that he "received an outstanding evaluation due to his deep commitment, strong work ethic and passion for the students and community of the Wayne-Westland schools."

Baracy accepted the high marks by thanking the board and the community for the opportunity to serve as superintendent.

"I again pledge to you that myself and the entire central office administration will work hard to sustain and improve the programs and opportunities for the child and devote all of our energies to do (that) with resources we have available," Baracy said.

The reviews generally are tied in with compensation. However, Monit said that in light of the financial crisis that local officials say has been caused by the state. Baracy requested no further contract consideration for 2004-05.

"He has suggested a salary freeze consistent with other negotiated contracts until finances improve," Monit added.

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Canton author signs books today at Plymouth store

The Red Hat Society hosts an open house at the Little Book Shoppe on the Park from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, April 25, for all Red Hat Society members as well as for any interested folks who'd like to drop by.

The book store will serve light refreshments and it will be a fun time to celebrate the accomplishment of women in literature. Local author Linda Daly of Canton, who recently published her first novel, Virtuous Dove, will sign books for anyone interested.

Virtuous Dove is the story of Felicity, an abolitionist who flees America after witnessing her parents' being brutally murdered for helping slaves

escape via the Underground Railroad," Daly explains. "She ends up with relatives in England, and quickly learns first-hand that the idyllic life in England that her grandmother had always portrayed to her, didn't really exist for everyone. In England, just as in America, there were poor people, down on their luck with no means of escaping the harsh reality of their lives. Entire families were separated from one another, living in separate blocks of the workhouses; they owned nothing but the clothes on their backs and had to work long hours for very little pay. Even the children! A stark contrast to the wealthy -- the elite of

society -- who gave very little thought to the plight of those less fortunate.

Daly's second novel, Rebel Dove, which runs parallel to Virtuous Dove, is currently being reviewed by the acquisitions department at PublishAmerica! and Daly is cautiously confident that it, too, will be published, in time for the summer reading season in 2004. Additionally, Daly is working on four other novels in the 'Dove Collect' series, two intrigue/mysteries, two feature-film screenplays and a screenplay for a mini-series.

Little Book Shoppe on the Park is located on Main Street, directly across from Kellogg Park.

AROUND TOWN

CHIEFETTE POMPON CLINIC

If you would like to be a junior Canton Chiefette, don't miss the annual Kids Pompon Clinic 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday, May 1 at the Canton High School cafeteria.

The clinic is for kids ages 5-13. The fee is \$35, which includes a t-shirt and snack. Register the day of the clinic 9-10 a.m. in the lobby outside the cafeteria.

COMMUNITY BAND CLASS

From 6-9 p.m. Thursdays, April 29, May 6,13, 20, and 27 at Cherry Hill School. at Ridge and Cherry Hill roads.

This is the beginning of a community band for musicians ages 16 and older. The goal is to organize, play concerts in the new Village Theater at Cherry Hill, in the parks and other locations throughout the community. Fee is \$20.

MUSIC MAN JUNIOR

Music Man Junior will be performed by the Ever After Productions, a brand new youth theater company directed by Emily Sherman, with music by Janine Grady. This 70-minute production will feature 70 local youth, 6-18 years old. Tickets are \$8 in advance at the Summit front desk or \$10 at the door. Performances will be at Discovery Middle School on Hanford Road. Dates of the show are May 14-15-16.

Gelebrate Your

DINNER AND MURDER

Spotlight Players Dinner Theater presents Murder at the Howard Johnson's April 25 and 30, and May 1-2. Sunday performances are at 1 p.m. in the Maple-Oak room at the Summit on the Park. Tickets are \$30.

The Spotlight Players present this comedy in two acts. Arlene, Mitchell and Paul all try their bet to make life easier by removing each other. Use your VISA or MasterCard to purchase tickets by phoning (734) 394-5460 or in person at the Summit front desk. All shows are general seating. Groups of eight that purchase all at once can request reserved seating.

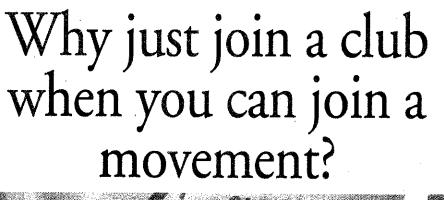
Auditions will be held Aug. 8-10 for the next Spotlight production, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, which will be the first Spotlight production in the new Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

ROCKETTES TALENT SHOW

The Salem Varsity Rockettes, along with the co-starring Junior Varsity Rockettes, are set for their annual Rockette Show 2004, scheduled for April 30-May 1 at the Gloria Logan Theatre for the Performing Arts in Salem High School.

The shows start at 7 p.m. and feature dance performances by both the varsity and JV Rockettes, as well as acts from other students who auditioned for the show.

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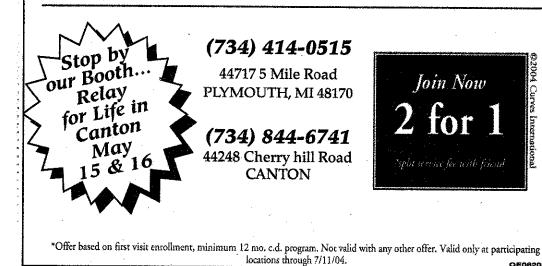




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Volunteers thanked Library honors 'friends'

BY JACK GLADDEN STAFF WRITER

"With a little help from my friends (and volunteers)" (Beatles fans will understand) could have been the theme for this year's annual luncheon honoring Friends and Volunteers at the Canton Public Library.

And, according to Jean Tabor, library director, and Marcia Barker, Friends and Volunteers coordinator, the friends and volunteers provide more than just a "little" help.

"Our volunteers give over 4,000 hours a year to the Canton Library," Barker told the group at Thursday's luncheon. "We couldn't accomplish all that we accomplish without you."

And, according to Tabor, those are no small accomplishments.

"This year, if we keep going the way we are," she said, "we're going to be circulating 1-1/2million items, easily making us the busiest library with one branch in the state of Michigan. Thank you for helping us make this another banner year."

Tabor said the library has been so busy it now has a night crew on Saturdays (when the library is closed) to put books back on the shelves.

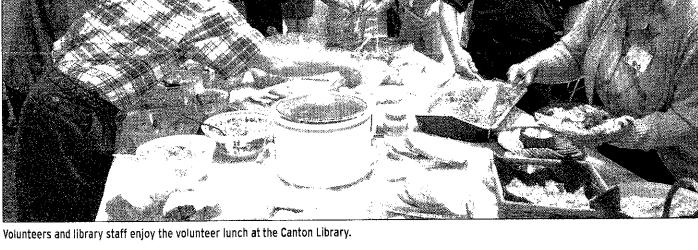
Certificates were presented to members of the Multicultural Initiative Committee, Friends of the Canton Public Library, Service Volunteers and Secondhand Prose Book Crew.

Gary Simon received the Wally Baker Award as Friend of the Year. Ken Marshall was honored

at Volunteer of the Year.



Shirley Reynolds of Canton receives an award for her volunteer work at the Canton Library by Gale Forster with library technical services.



The library honorees

Here are the honorees from the library luncheon.

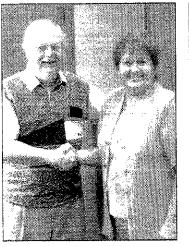
The Multicultural Initiative Committee (various staff members and these volunteers): Yusef Hai, Iltefat Hamzavi, Mina Jaura, Charlie Jones, Celena Khatib, Wendy Li, Yingzi Liu, Joanne Maliszewski, Philip Ray and Carol Saunders.

Friends of the Canton Library: Linda Garrett, Larry Hoelscher, Larry Johnson, Carolyn Kaump, Shirley Reynolds, Gary Simon, John Spencer, Nancy Spencer, Rhoda Wolshon, Bevis Richardson and Peg Moore (used books), and Coy Sandrock (book discussion group).

Service volunteers include Bharti Bhavsar, Paulette Chung, Louise Croteau, Nancy Daum, Phyllis Demaine, Don Douglass, Mildred Kladzyk,

Theresa Litke, Ken Marshall, Diane Miner, Audrey Moore, Gary Moore, Carl Pellow. Shirley Reynolds, Nila Rowland, Ilene Saunders, Gene Scharf, Marjorie Sheffieck, Carolyn Sumner, Jaishree Vithal, Norma West, Mark Worpell. Secondhand Prose (used

book store) crew includes: Pat Arbour, Beverly Bazzell, Marilyn Bergstrom, Peg Britz, Nancy Camp, Ann Colwell, Chris Dancy, Odette Dawood, Marie Davis, Paul Gackenback, Linda Garrett, Lori Gilbo, Susan Gondoly, Gail Hoelscher, Dorothy Jeffery, Patty Jenkins, Larry Johnson, Linda Johnson, Shirley Kelley, Loretta Loftus, Linda Luke, Diane Lutz, Audrey Moore, Gary Moore, Peg Moore, Lois Morrison, Loretta Powell, Shirley Reynolds, Bevis Richardson,



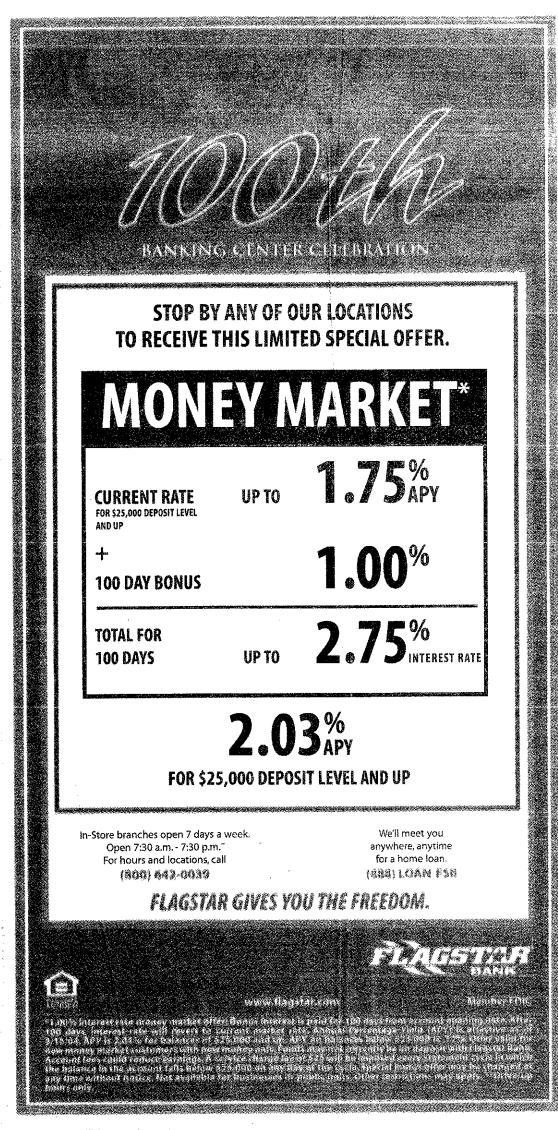
Gary Simon, pictured with Marcia Barker, friends and volunteers coordinator for the library, was honored as the "Friend of the Year."

Judy Richardson, Larry Richardson, Ralph Richardson, Nila Rowland, Delphine Rusaki, Coy Sandrock, Sandi Santimore, Ilene Saunders, Gary Simon,



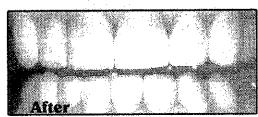
and volunteer coordinator, at the Library's annual Friends and Volunteers luncheon.

JoAnn Smith, John Spencer, Nancy Spencer, Sue Stichler, Karen Stover, Maggie VanHoeck, Ray VanHoeck. Carol Weyandt, Rhoda Wolshon.



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Our doctors will always explore non-surgical treatments considering surgical intervention. But for many patients who continue to suffer with neuroma or heel pain this new procedure can offer significant benefit.

FOR THE RECORD

DEATHS

(C)

Dorothy E. Bigelow, 86, of Rochester Hills, died April 12. Natalie Ann Brewster, 60, of Port St. Lucie, Fla., formerly of Rochester Hills, died April 20.

Kenneth V. Cassidy, 79, of Shelby Township, died April 12. Ann L. Chmela, 95, of Rochester Hills, died April 19. G Jean M. Gere, 79, of Rochester Hills died April 16. Wanda Lee Smith Johnson, 44, of Rochester Hills, died Feb. 14.

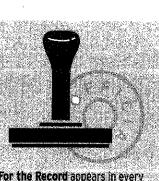
ĸ Agnes E. Kinggo, 90, of Farmington

Hills, died April 18. Helen Frances Mackalski, of Westland, died April 22.

Barbara A. Milton, 68, of Beverly Hills, died April 14. Kathryn E. Perrie, of Westland, died

April 21.

Theodore G. Rekstis "Knapp," 62, of



For the Record appears in every edition of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's Observer Life section in Passages on page C4.

Rochester Hills, died April 12. James Ritz, 70, of Royal Oak, died April 21.

Gertrude P. Swisher, 90, of Rochester Hills, died April 10.

Mary E. Tiffany, 88, of Rochester Hills, died April 8. Ann B. Hughes Todd, 82, of Clinton Township, died April 17. Gloria M. Trudeau, 80, of Ortonville, died April 11.

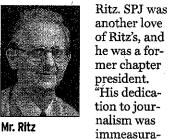
BY GREG KOWALSKI STAFF WRITER

The Chief is gone. Jim Ritz died Thursday, April 22, 2004, in William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak of complications related to heart disease. He was 70. For nearly 18 years, Ritz was a lead copy editor for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

To some he seemed — and was — an irascible old coot who could debate for hours the placement of a comma. And if you were the one who misplaced it, you would hear about it from Ritz, a longtime Royal Oak resident.

But he earned his title as The Chief for being a rocksolid journalist who put his heart into his work.

"He just loved the profession so well," said Susan Hood, who now is with The Oakland Press and served on the board of directors of the Society of Professional Journalists with



ble," Hood said.

"He led SPJ through some of its leanest years in terms of membership and finances," said Tony Malta, SPJ Chapter administrative assistant. "Jim kept the chapter together." Ritz was chiefly responsible for growing the SPJ Laurain Scholarship fund from a \$50 to a \$2,500 annual award. Prior to joining the $O \otimes E$,

Ritz worked at the Dearborn Press and The Daily Tribune of Royal Oak, serving as managing editor for a time. He also edited and wrote for a variety of publications, most recently with The Jewish News.

But it was with the $O \mathfrak{S} E$ that Ritz acquired the persona of

The Chief. On the copy desk, his favorite phrase was "So what?" delivered in the harshest tone. Copy editors had to run headlines past The Chief and invariably he'd stop on one or two and say, "So what!? What does that mean!?" A clearer, sharper headline was demanded. Community editors routinely would receive calls, sometimes several, after 2 a.m. from The Chief with a question.

But he just as easily would serenade the newsroom with a rendition of Oklahoma! or a homemade paean to pizza.

Ritz retired from the $O \mathfrak{S} E$ in 2001, shortly after being given a lifetime achievement award by the company.

"He deserved it," said Phil Power, chairman of the board of HomeTown

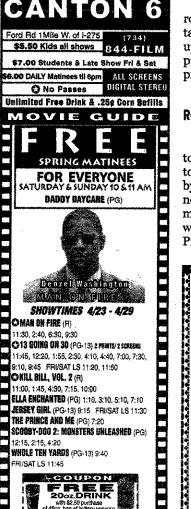
Communications, the parent company of the OSE. "He was the consummate 'desk man,' a terrific editor with a great flair for rewriting a lifeless story. He succeeded in improving the

copy of hundreds of reporters through his career, and he was no slouch as a reporter, either. He was a gentleman, a happy face in the newsroom and an ornament to our trade."

Ritz was born Nov. 27, 1933, at Clarksburg, Pa. He received a bachelor's degree from Wayne State University.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane; children, Jennifer (Jason) McNaughton and Michael Ritz; grandchildren, Emma Jane and Brandon Bishop; and siblings Marian J. Klimas, Michael (Čarolyn) Ritz and Edward Ritz. He was preceded in death by brother Andrew Ritz.

Visitation will be 2-9 p.m. Sunday, April 25, at the Gramer Funeral Home, 705 N. Main in Clawson. Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 48 Parson Street, in Detroit. Burial will be in White Chapel Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the donor's choice or St. Patrick's Senior Center.



The following is an update on various road construction projects currently taking place in Canton, as well as an update on locations of resurfacing road projects, utility extensions, sidewalk programs and traffic signals.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Saltz Road paving (Canton Center to Ridge) - Construction is anticipated to begin in early June and completed by the end of September. New bituminous pavement and drainage improvements will occur for 2 miles. The road will have one lane in each direction. Project is out for bids and is anticipated to be awarded for construction in mid-May.

Lotz Road paving (between Ford and Warren) - Wayne County is currently reviewing the bids to award the contract for construction. Project to start in the Summer 2004. The portion of the water main on the east side of Lotz Road will be relocated before the road is constructed.

Lotz Road special assessment district (Michigan Avenue, south 1,500 feet) - Paving and drainage improvements began in early April. The road is closed except for "local traffic" for residents and commercial. Follow the posted detour route. A temporary road will be in place prior to paving, which

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

will start on April 30. The road will need one week to cure after paving.

Copy editor recalled for his top-notch skills

■ Michigan Avenue (Belleville to Denton) - Construction started April 12. One lane of traffic on the outside lanes is permitted due to construction within the median. Traffic will be switched in July to the inside lanes to allow for completion of the outside lanes. Beck Road will remain open. Several crossovers will be closed, however. Alternate routes are advised until construction is completed in early October. New concrete pavement will be placed for the reconstruction of Michigan Avenue.

Cherry Hill Road and N. Ridge Road - Construction for paving and drainage improvements is scheduled to begin in early May. Mastarms to be placed at the intersections of Cherry Hill Road and Denton Road, Cherry Hill Road and N. Ridge Road, and Cherry Hill Road and S. Ridge Road. Construction to be complete in late August.

Denton Road Extension (N. Cherry) Hill Road) - Construction for the future extension of Denton Road to begin in late May. A proposed roundabout is anticipated upon Wayne County approval at the intersection of Saltz, Ridge roads and the future extension of Denton Road. Construction for portion of road to be completed in mid-September.

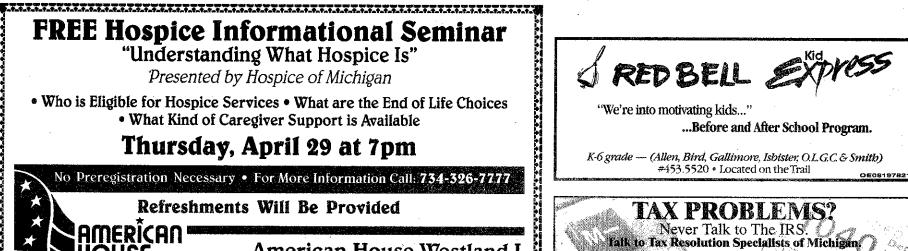
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SONG

FROM PAGE A1

wanted to find something to give back to the community. People can identify with this music.

His decision to walk away from his musical talent while in high school may have surprised his parents, but probably not Song himself. "I had a tough time growing up. I was home-tutored. My mom and me went around the world to competitions."

His list of wins at competitions as a child would impress any musical aficionado. But as a kid, life was not easy. "The other kids my age couldn't understand. It was really taxing. I practiced six hours a day. I wanted to play with friends."

Time and life experience have allowed Song, who lives in the Cherry Hill Village subdivision, to return to his first love. He is a concert pianist with an unabiding love for classical music.

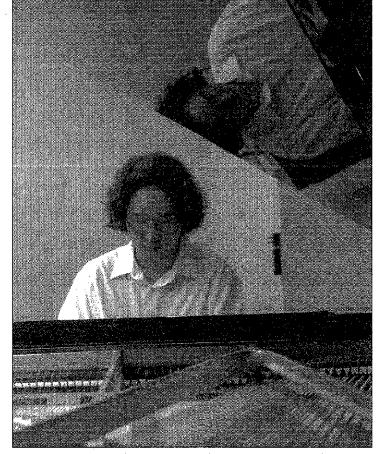
"Every classical pianist feels they are alone in their own world," said Song, who is not interested in composing his own music.

At 5, Song's mom began teaching him the piano. For a couple of years it worked. "But I was more than she could handle." He was turned over to Misha Kottler of Detroit.

"He was a phenomenal teacher. He produced many stars," Song said.

Kottler introduced Song to classical music and "how to really play. I was playing the notes. He taught me a larger meaning to the piece. What the overall song means to you as an artist. That's what you have to do."

Through Kottler, Song



Concert pianist Andrew Song plays on a Shigeru Kawai at Evola Music.

developed an appreciation and love for Eastern European and Russian composers. "He taught me to play with virtuosity."

His decision to stop playing while in high school certainly gave him an opportunity to experience life and other professions. "That's all their world is," Song said about child prodigies.

Returning as an adult classical pianist, however, has had its own difficulties. It's harder for him to get noticed. "Maybe I would have been bigger by now. I have crossed the age limit for all the competitions." He recalls how he felt at age 10 when he played with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Windsor Symphony. "It seems like a blur. As a kid you just go out and do what you are told. But I remember a strange, but comfortable feeling. To hear the roar of it, that's what got me hooked."

His concert resume also includes the Los Angeles Philharmonic. "I also played with every local symphony in this state when I was a kid."

While practicing four hours a day and arranging concerts through his company, Elaire Artists — which represents

Song also teaches piano to 50 students, many of whom he claims are among the best in the state.

Song is not a one-instrument man. He also plays the guitar, oboe and saxophone, as well as video games. But the piano is in his heart as is classical music. "I think there is a belief that great things should last." Among his favorite classical composers are Bach, Chopin, Lyst, Beethoven and his all time favorite, Rachmaninov.

"I would love to just continue to perform and grow my career," said Song, who is lining up his Faith and Devotion concerts, of which he donates onehalf the proceeds to churches where he performs.

Song works with Evola Music and its line of Kawai pianos, especially the Shigeru Kawai, which is handcrafted. "The person who made the piano will come out - wherever you are — and adjust and work on it."

He plans to perform at the Detroit Institute of Arts, and is working toward performing with the Phoenix Symphony, as well as the DSO. The new Village Theater at Cherry Hill also will be a welcome venue for Song. He is also performing in many Korean venues. "To play for my own culture is pretty cool."

When practicing, Song says he is also working on what the piece means to him. He is essentially interpreting the music for the audience. "Music is so subjective. Each person comes away with a different impression. But I want them to enjoy the way I have interpreted it. I let the music dictate the mood."

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

LEISURE

FROM PAGE A1

which fit into two filing cabinets.

The move toward accreditation came when the Leisure Services department was formed in June 2000. Until then, the recreation and leisure activities - golf, recreation, parks and the Summit - operated fairly independently.

"We were a relatively new department. We had this stuff. We didn't have it in a consistent format," Conklin said.

When she was hired to lead Leisure Services, Conklin



Ann Conklin, Canton Leisure Services director, has 50 full-time and about 350 seasonal and part-time employees.

accreditation was made, Bilbrey-Honsowetz took the lead. Right off the bat, she and other staff found there were about 155 standards Leisure Services had to comply with. Of those, about 36 were fundamental and mandatory. Of the remaining 120, about 85 percent had to be met. Conklin said.

"We got all but four," she said, adding those items were irrelevant to Canton.

The accreditation is more than a label for Leisure Services. It became a motivator for the department, but also established a definite method for how things should be done.

"We operate much more efficiently as a department," Bilbrey-Honsowetz said. "I think the staff is proud to achieve this. These documents won't become a paper weight. We actually use them."

Conklin credits the township board and Supervisor Tom Yack for the Leisure Services department's success: "We're not typical. It's because of our leadership.

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For Anyone Meeting the Needs of Older Adults



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A5 (C)

recalled, she was asked to

work with policies, procedures and systems for parks and recreation, as well as the Summit and golf courses.

"Early on, I decided this would be a good avenue to follow for those policies, procedures and systems," Conklin said. "I decided we needed to do this because it would make us a stronger department."

For example, through the accreditation process, parks employees now have a manual for daily operations. "It tells them when they will fertilize, when they will do all the tasks for taking care of the parks," Conklin said. "This is going to be a system

that transcends the people who are here now."

When the decision to seek

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2004

LOCAL NEWS

Through the eyes of children

Artist program shows youngsters' view of the world

Photographer Monte Nagler, conducting an artist-in-residence program with Hulsing and Allen elementary students, knew he couldn't just hand a bunch of fifth-graders a 27exposure camera without a little guidance.

So Nagler, an Observer columnist, shared his thoughts on lighting, horizons, backgrounds and other photographic tips, then sent them on their way to shoot some pictures.

The result: An exhibit at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, April 26-30. An artists' reception is set 6-8 p.m. April 29.

"I think it was great for the kids," said Leslie Greeneisen, the PCAC's art education coordinator. "It gave them a chance to learn from a professional how to take a good photograph."

While the exhibit might not necessarily qualify as a "fine art" show, it does provide adult observers with a unique opportunity to see the world through the eyes of fifth-graders.

The photos, one from each student, will be part of the PCAC's Emerging Artists



Cristina Bugescu of Hulsing Elementary School captured this view of the sky as part of the artist-in-residence prooram.

Exhibit, which will showcase art from several different groups, including this year's Damaris Award winner, the Artist Mentorship Program,

Artist-in-Residency Program and the Village Potters Guild. The presentation of the Damaris Award takes place 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 28. Paul

Barbero is this year's recipient of a Fine Arts Scholarship for outstanding artistic ability and the commitment toward the continuation of art education.



An Allen Elementary School student captured this ballet-type movement on a playground as part of her assignment with a disposable camera.

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Canton gets ash borer grant

Five local communities received 2004 emerald ash borer grants to assist with tree planting projects, Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, announced today.

The Department of Natural Resources Urban and **Community Forestry program** administered these grants as a response to the problem. The funding came from the USDA

Forest Service.

"Last year, I sponsored and the Senate passed Senate Resolution 49 seeking federal assistance due to this invasive insect," Patterson said. "Millions of trees have been lost and the solution needs to come from Washington to contain the problem. This money reflects efforts to help municipalities replace the trees and other vegetation that were affected." Local communities in Sen. Patterson's district receiving grants are:

Canton Township -\$20,000

■ Flat Rock – \$20,000 Plymouth Township. -

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353

- \$15,000 ■ Van Buren Township \$17,600
- Woodhaven \$17,000

Fishing derby for kids is May 1

essary. A \$2 fee per child will

cial fishing derby ribbon will

be given to each child fishing

There is a three-fish per per-

in session one.

be collected on site and an offi-

Grab your fishing pole and head for the ponds - in Canton's Heritage Park.

The annual fishing derby is coming up Saturday, May 1, when the ponds will be stocked

with rainbow trout. Kids 12 and under can fish from 8:30-11:30 a.m. No fish-

son limit. From noon to 3 p.m. ponds will be available for Canton youth age 16 and under. A \$2 fee will be collected on site and

each fisherman will be given a fishing ribbon.

Open fishing begins at 3:30 p.m. when the ponds will be available for any Canton resident to fish - no license required.

Proof of Canton residency will be required and all fishermen must bring their own equipment.

ing license is required and advance registration is not nec-

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SUNDAY PERSPECTIVES

Highland Park's rich history | Local Arabs working hard deserves more than despair to bring peace to Middle East

ou'd never guess it, but our modern era was born in Highland Park, a tiny town where many of the side streets look like a scene from some post-nuclear hell.

There are abandoned and burned-out buildings; soggy sofas and old tires and all manner of garbage lying on front lawns in this tiny enclave city that was once the place to be. That's on the west side of Woodward Avenue.

Blocks away, over on the east side, a giant abandoned factory stretches for more than a block behind a shopping plaza that recently lost the city's only full-service grocery store. But you can tell it was once something special, and it was. Ninety years ago, thousands worked



Jack.

Lessenberry

here, creating the 20th century. One day in 1913, they took a picture of 12,000 of them surrounding the building, called "the most expensive photo ever made," since they posed on company time.

Ford Motor Co., that is. What was made here was the Model T, the car which put the nation on wheels. That changed everything; how we saw ourselves and our world. Fifteen million

Model Ts clattered out of this building. Now, however, it is abandoned and forgotten. When Detroit was celebrating its 300th anniversary three years ago, nobody said a word about Highland Park, the city where the automotive revolution began. Ford did nothing, despite the pleas of Harriet Saperstein, whose nonprofit economic growth organization, HP Devco, is responsible for what tiny flickers of life exist in a city that by any reasonable measure, should be given

up as lost. Today, the most optimistic thing you can say about Highland Park is that it is in desperate shape. When the last Model T rolled off the line in 1927, it had something like 53,000 residents in three jam-packed square miles. They lived mainly in comfortable-to-elegant wood-frame homes.

The population today is barely 16,000, who are disproportionately old, jobless, terribly poor and nearly all black. Unemployment was 22.7 percent last month. That was good news; it had been 24 percent.

Nearly half the children in the city live in deep poverty. The city is being run by an emergency financial manager appointed in 2001, after the city could not pay its bills. She found the records were in complete chaos.

Today, on the surface, things look even worse. The epidemic of arson that devastated many streets seems to have abated. But the city's one Blockbuster video store has closed. The Farmer Jack, which opened in 1997 to considerable fanfare in front of the old plant (shoppers entered the store walking under a glass-enclosed Model T) was replaced by a no-frills Food Basics store.

When Detroit was celebrating its 300th anniversary three years ago, nobody said a word about Highland Park, the city where the automotive revolution began.

How did the city that put America on wheels come to this?

What happened was "that a lot of people made money here and then abandoned Highland Park," said Saperstein, whose job is to be constantly on

the lookout for anything that might bring in jobs. Ford gradually phased out of the city after the Model T ended production in 1927. But that wasn't the end of Highland Park. For many more years it served as Chrysler's headquarters. But in 1987, Chrysler left, too.

That finished the town. Nearly three-quarters of the city's tax base immediately vanished. To Chrysler's credit, it contributed \$5 million to start HP Devco, the cause for which Harriet, the wife of a physics professor at Wayne State, and a few faithful lieutenants have labored for years. They've had their successes, mainly an industrial park on the east side of town. One employer, Budco, Inc., has created more than 1,000 jobs. But it isn't enough. It is hard to see how the city can ever make it.

Titus McClary believes, however. He was elected mayor last fall, replacing a man who spent much of his time in Tennessee. "I think we've turned the corner," said McClary, 66, a retired policeman whose mother moved to Highland Park in 1952 because the school system provided free books.

The mayor is happy that the city was allowed to issue \$6.3 million in bonds earlier this year. That enabled Highland Park to pay pensions it had gotten behind on, plus some other debts. "Now we just have to get some new business to move to the city," McClary said. That won't be easy, he concedes, largely because of crime. There isn't much left of the city's police force, but sheriff's deputies now patrol Highland Park's streets.

Saperstein thinks it would help a lot if the company that started it all would do its part. Repeatedly, she has asked Ford for some help. But Ford said no; it was putting its philanthropic efforts elsewhere. (A Ford spokesman didn't return a call for this column.)

"I do believe that Ford has more responsibility to Highland Park than it has shown so far," she said. The town sprung up, she notes, because of the automaker, which then left it to rot. Ford, she believes, needs a better idea.

Jack Lessenberry is editorial vice president of HomeTown Communications. He can be reached by phone at (248) 901-2561 or by e-mail at ilessenberry@homecomm.net.

he disintegrating situation in the Middle East is a distant event for many of us that

occasionally reaches our internal radar via television news briefs, newspaper articles or Internet news sites.

For Nicola Antakli, a Bloomfield Hills resident and chairman and CEO of Troy-based Intraco Corp., the escalating conflict is not only a real and growing threat to his business interests, but to the two countries he holds dearest: His native land of Syria and his adopted country the United States.

It is not in Antakli's nature to sit around and let others solve problems. He is a man of considerable influence both locally and throughout the Middle



Joe

Bauman

East. His company, which he founded in 1971, has grown into a thriving multinational trade, consulting and distribution firm with interests in Lebanon, Syria and the United Arab Emirates.

For his efforts, Antakli has been bestowed a number of personal and professional awards over the years, most notably the Ellis

Island Medal of Honor in 1996. Antakli believes his native land is being treated unfairly by the U.S. government and the Bush administration in particular, which is painting it as a country friendly to Saddam Hussein and terrorists, and slapping unnecessary and punitive sanctions on it as part of the Svrian Accountability Act, passed by Congress shortly after the war with Iraq began.

Antakli's views are shared by many Arab-Americans who call southeast Michigan home. To build his case, Antakli used his influence to bring Syria's new ambassador to the United States, Dr. Imad Moustapha, to town to meet with local Arab leaders and speak directly with the media about Syria's role in the Middle East.

Moustapha embodies what he and Antakli say is the real Syria, one not seen nor accurately portrayed in the West: open, diverse, committed to peace and optimistic about the future.

Moustapha, 43, has served as ambassador for a little more than a year. In that time, he has been heralded as a lead reformer for his government and, unlike his predecessors, embraces public appearances and uses every chance he gets to change the image of his country.

A computer engineer and classical music fan who has his own Web site, Moustapha is not a career politician, precisely why he was tapped for the position because of his forward-thinking ways by a government committed to reform.

Moustapha was particularly interested in one

of the guests at the luncheon, which was held last weekend at the Oakland Hills Country Club in Bloomfield Township where Antakli is a member: U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg.

Moustapha seemed eager to try to convince Knollenberg, a Republican whose district includes Troy where Antakli's corporation is based and a staunch supporter of the Bush administration, that Syria wants to play a role in bringing peace to the Middle East.

Following Moustapha's luncheon speech, I had a chance to chat privately with him, and asked how he thought his comments were received by Knollenberg, whom he had never met before the lunch.

"I am not going to pretend that there are not real differences between our two countries on issues related to the Middle East, but we are both civilized countries and should be able to work out our differences," he said. "The key to success is dialogue and a better understanding of each other."

For instance, Moustapha said his government has offered to work in concert with U.S. military forces to seal off his country's border with Iraq. Not only has the offer been rebuffed, he said, but the Bush administration has accused Syria of offering safe passage to those loyal to Saddam Hussein.

"If they think we are bluffing about working together on the border issue, why does the Bush administration not call our bluff?" he said. "What is there to lose?"

I also asked him how he thought average Americans — like some he met during his visit to southeast Michigan - viewed his country.

"I think there are misperceptions about Syria that we are anti-American and anti-Semitic and are opposed to lasting peace," he said. "Yes, we have differences as it relates to the Israeli-Palestinian issue, but we all want peace and stability. We just want everyone treated fairly and the same."

Moustapha said he realizes the size of the task in changing Syria's image. His country is making real efforts at reform, he said, and the key is making sure people know about it. And that includes the president.

"I met with President Bush two weeks ago and I had my wife with me," he recalled. "I introduced my wife to the president, and told him that she was a Ph.D. candidate in computer science.

"Your president seemed genuinely surprised that a Syrian woman could hold such a position, so I took the opportunity to remind him that in my country, women long have held important positions and are empowered to do many things. We are all not fundamentalists and radicals in the Middle East."

Joe Bauman is managing editor for the Eccentric Newspapers. He welcomes feedback at jbauman@oe.homecomm.net

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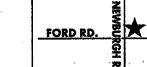
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COUNTY NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2004

Students will check health of the Rouge River

Participating schools

About 100 schools throughout Oakland and Wayne counties are participating in the Rouge Education Project this year. Students from the following schools will be monitoring the health of the Rouge River next week:

Canton:

Canton High School Field Elementary Plymouth High School Salem High School Tonda Elementary Farmington:

Farmington High School Power Middle School Warner Middle School Farmington Hills: Dunckel Middle School

Harrison High School Highmeadow Common Campus

North Farmington High School Steppingstone School Garden City:

Garden City High School Livonia:

- Churchill High School
- Emerson High School
- Franklin High School
- Frost Middle School
- Ladywood High School **Plymouth:**

Our Lady of Good Counsel Starkweather Education

Center Redford:

Fisher Elementary Hilbert Middle School

Pierce Middle School

St. Valentine School Wayne:

Franklin Middle School

Westland:

Edison Elementary Huron Valley Lutheran High

School

Marshall Middle School

Schweitzer Elementary Tinkham Alternative High

School

Don't be surprised to see school buses parked in some unusual spots on May 5, a day when the Rouge River will become a living classroom for students from almost 100 area schools. More than 7,000 students -

from Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills to Plymouth and Canton - will be monitoring the health of the Rouge as part of the Rouge Education Project (REP), a program that has grown dramatically since it was founded in 1987. The REP is coordinated by Friends of the Rouge, a Dearborn Heights-based non-profit organization dedicated to restoring and protecting the Rouge.

According to Christina Bartoli, associate coordinator of the REP, 95 schools are participating this year, which is up from only 16 schools when the program began 18 years ago. It is open to elementary, middle school and high school students.

"It's an opportunity for the students to get out of the classroom and do some real, hands-on field work," she said. "It also gets them engaged with a natural resource that most of them don't even know exists, despite the fact the Rouge runs through our backyard."

Students perform as many as nine different chemical tests, and check for the level of dissolved oxygen, pH, total phosphates, nitrates, and fecal

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coliform bacteria, commonly referred to as E. coli. They also look for the presence of macroinvertebrates, the aquatic insects, crayfish, snails and other organisms that can tell a great deal about the health of a river.

"The chemical tests give you an instant snapshot of what's happening with the river at any given time, but the results fluctuate as different variables change upstream," Bartoli said. "The macroinvertebrate counts are what really tell us about the overall health of the river, because if they can survive it tells us the river is pretty healthy."

The students take the test results back to the classroom, where they are tabulated and then reported to Friends of the Rouge's Web site. Friends of the Rouge compile all the results on the Web site, so they can be viewed by the public. Some of the results are even reported to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, something that helps the agency monitor the Rouge. While the program is really

designed to raise awareness of

the Rouge and its pollution sources, there have been cases where the students have identified real problems. In the early 1990s, for example, students from Farmington High School found a broken sewer pipe that was spewing sewage into the Rouge near 12 Mile and Orchard Lake roads.

Reef Morse, of Steppingstone School in Farmington Hills, is one of 184 teachers taking part in the REP this year. This will be his third year taking students down to a Rouge tributary in Farmington Hills. He said the program is a favorite for his students.

"In addition to doing the chemical and physical tests, we spend a lot of time discussing the bigger picture, such as the concept of a watershed and what happens when people pour things down the stormdrains," said Morse, who is a co-founder of the independent school for gifted students.

"We want the kids to know they are part of a community and their actions affect that community. After we do this,

the kids start to have a real sense of being able to look at their environment. And the theme we try to get across is: 'What do you want your environment to look like?'. Although some of them are and only in fourth or fifth grade, they really seem to get it. They just love this program."



This student checks the chemical makeup of the Rouge River last year. He was one of thousands of students from around the watershed to take part in the Rouge Education Project, which is in its 18th year.

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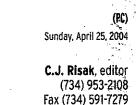




Observer SPORTS

SWEEP - PCA takes doubleheader from Oakland Christian.

PERFECT START - Salem starts softball season 2-0.



cjrisak@oe.homecomm.net

4

5

Section **B**

www.hometownlife.com

Salem repels **Canton rally**

Give Canton credit for its doggedness. And give Salem credit for its steadfastness.

The Rocks struck for four runs in the first three innings and, behind an impressive defensive performance, kept the Chiefs off the scoreboard for six innings.

But it took some collective cool by Salem to withstand a seventhinning Canton rally and emerge with a 4-3 victory.

The Rocks improve to 6-5 overall, 1-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association. Canton is 2-9 overall, 0-1 in the WLAA.

Considering there were a total of 21 hits by the two teams in the game, it should be no surprise that defense was the key component. And although the Chiefs played well, converting two double plays in the game, Salem made big plays when it had to.

Two in particular stood out. In the third inning, with the Rocks up 3-0, the Chiefs had runners on first and second with two out. Tarik Khasawneh hit a line shot toward the gap in right-center field, but Salem right-fielder Brian Bradley made a diving catch to end the inning.

"We kind of take those plays by Brian for granted," said Salem coach Dale Rumberger. "It's a hard play but he's a great athlete."

The second proved to be even more pivotal. Trailing 4-0, Canton opened the sixth inning with a double by Dave Neu. Khasawneh followed with a line shot down the left-field line, and Canton coach Scott Dickey sent Neu racing home.

It proved to be a costly gamble. Salem leftfielder Dylan Tobin fielded the ball and fired it to the cutoff man, third baseman Dave Pawlukiewicz, who turned and cut down Neu at the plate with a throw to catcher Drew Parling. When Khasawneh tried to move to second on the play, Parling threw him out, too.

Instead of having a run in and a man on base with no one out, Canton had two out with the bases clear.

"The ball was hit harder than I thought," said Dickey, "and I was trying to be aggressive, trying to get something going. Their guys made the play. I was disappointed about that."

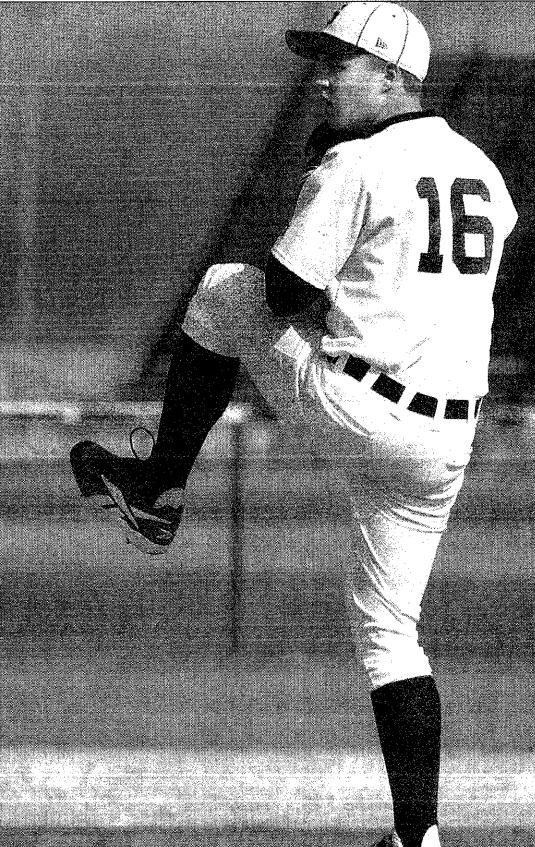
Rumberger would hardly fault Dickey on the play, which surprised him as well. "We practice that all the time, but high school kids aren't always going to make good throws," he said.

"How many times are high school kids going to make three good throws on one play? That was good baseball right there. How often is that going to happen?"

Salem scored twice in the first inning, Bradley getting it started with a base hit and Parling following with a hit-and-run single that put runners at second and third. Steve Cox then singled to score both runners.

The Rocks added a run with two out in the third, Cox doubling and Andy Thackaberry singling him in.

It looked as if Salem would break the game open in the fifth when it loaded the bases against Canton pitcher Eric Byrne with no one out on singles by Parling and Cox and a walk to Thackaberry.



PLEASE SEE BASEBALL, B4 Nic England pitched six shutout innings for Salem against arch-rival Canton Thursday.



Albion College's baseball team still remained in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association race with a 7-3 record, thanks in part to the play of junior outfielder Chris Trott.

A Salem graduate, Trott hit .471 through last weekend (April18). collecting eight hits in 17 at-bats with a home run, a double and four runs batted in. He also stole two bases.

For the season, Trott is batting .306 with 34 hits, including four doubles, a triple and two homers, with 18 RBI and 26 runs scored. Albion is 17-14 overall.

Hole in one

Ricky Huetter, a 15year-old from Plymouth, had a dream come true when he visited the Disney Resorts in Orlando over the holidav.

Huetter got a hole-inone at the 172-yard seventh hole at Eagle Pine. Huetter used a five iron; it was his first ace ever.

Track scorers

The Canton boys track team had three topthree performances at the Farmington Freshmen/Sophomore Invitational Friday at Farmington Harrison HS.

Eric Zech, Nathan

On top: Salem's off to a strong start

At last spring's Western Lakes Activities Association Girls Golf Tournament, Salem showed it was something very special by finishing second to Livonia Stevenson.

What made the Rocks so promising was that only one of their top 10 golfers graduated. That means this year they should be one of the teams to beat, in both the WLAA and at the state regional.

Nothing Salem's done thus far has altered that assumption. On Wednesday at Hilltop, the Rocks opened their WLAA dual-meet season with a 188-213 triumph over cross-campus rival Canton.

All four Salem scorers shot 49 or bet-



ter. And that was with one of the Rocks' best, Jamie Siedlaczek, struggling through a very rare off-day. Siedlaczek shot a 55, but her teammates more than made up for it.

Ashley Smith, just a sophomore, and Amyrose Mitchell led Salem with 46s. Kristen Schwan shot a 47 and Danielle Powers had a 49. Emily Brockschmidt was the Rocks other golfer; she had a 60.

Canton was paced by Heather Hughesian with a 52. Katie Hoeksma and Beth Treadwell had 53s, Natalie Slupek shot 55, Cami Milwood carded a 74 and Jackie Croyle finished with a 79.

"All of these kids are experienced," said Salem coach Rick Wilson of his team. Smith, who finished second at the WLAA Tournament last season, has been particularly impressive.

"She could be really special," said Wilson. On Friday at the Hartland Best Ball Tournament at Dunham Hills in Hartland, Smith and Siedlaczek proved just how

PLEASE SEE GOLF, B4

Sarkesian lifts Rocks to victory.

Marissa Sarkesian poured in five goals and added an assist as Salem pounded Livonia Churchill 10-2 Wednesday in a Western Lakes Activities Association

crossover soccer match played at Churchill.



SOCCER

The Rocks improved to 2-0-1 overall. The Chargers fell to 0-7.

Salem led 4-1 at the half. Kristin March contributed two goals for the Rocks, with Amy Gizicki adding a goal and two assists and Kim Towne contributing a goal and an assist.

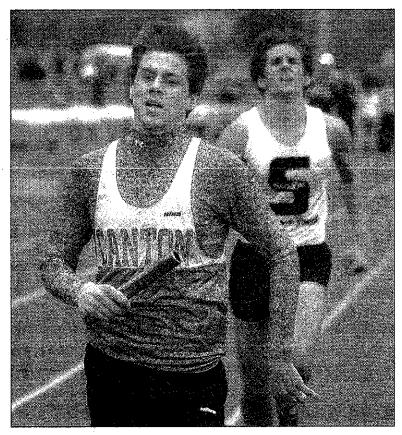
Kathryn Wheatley also scored a goal, and Megan McCarthy had two assists. Other assists went to Jordan Falcusan and Jenna Foster.

Both Churchill goals were scored by Jacqui Gatt. Canton 7, W.L. Central 0: Bailey Fagan carved up Walled Lake Central with three goals and an assist in leading Canton to a lopsided win Wednesday at Canton.

The Chiefs improved to 5-0-1 overall with a victory in its first WLAA match.

Andrea Johnson added two goals for Canton, and Lisa Ealy had a goal and two assists. Kelsey Zemanski also scored a goal.

Rachel Perry contributed two assists, with Katie Mills and keeper Brittany Cervi adding one assist apiece.



A helping hand

Eric Zech, shown here running in the city meet, finished second in 10:45.2 in the 3,200-meter run Thursday against Northville, helping Canton to a dual-meet victory. For meet results, please turn to B3.

Rocks pound out 2 wins in WLAA duals

They're swinging pretty good to start with.

Salem's tennis team opened its season with a pair of dual-meet victories over Western Lakes Activities Association competition, defeating Walled Lake Western 5-3 on Thursday and Livonia Franklin 7-1 on Friday.

On Thursday against Western, Salem's No. 1 singles Pat Shaw came from a set down to beat Ryan Jackson 3-6, 6-2, 6-2. Chris Treadwell had an easier time at No. 2 singles, besting the Warriors' Dan Cohen 6-0, 6-3.

At No. 3, Salem's Robby Wallen was a winner, 6-0, 6-2 over Charlie Kim, but at No. 4, Hitomi Maeda of Western topped the Rocks' David Jung 6-0, 6-0.

In doubles play, Western came away with wins at Nos. 1 and 2, but Salem's Blake Foster and Neil Bakshi won 6-1, 6-1 at No. 3 and Cam Loftus and Mit Shah got a 6-3, 6-2 victory at No. 4.

In the match against Franklin on Friday, Salem's only defeat came at No. 1 singles, where Shaw was edged by Ryan Kingsbury 7-6, 7-5.

Treadwell was a 6-3, 6-2 winner at No. 2 singles over Dave Kosmalski, and Wallen won out at No. 3, 6-1, 6-0 over Franklin's Steve Vert. No. 4 singles went to Salem's Roma Buffa, who returned to the lineup and beat Pat Harris 6-2, 6-0.

The Rocks' Kushal Mistry and Alex Poe were 2-6, 7-6, 7-5 winners over Corey Stram and Ryan Monarch at No. 1 doubles. At No. 2, John Schellhase and Dave Geick topped Alex Witte Matt Vincin 6-1, 6-0, and at No. 3, Salem's Bakshi and Foster bettered the Patriots' Kyle Fox and Jason Madbuich, 6-0, 6-0. Loftus and Shah were 6-0, 6-3 victors over Franklin's Eric Cierpal and Dave Kokowski at No. 4.

Salem travels to Livonia Churchill Monday for its next WLAA meet.

Phillips, Andy Rossow and Cyrus Azizi turned in a first-place finish in the distance medley relay, winning the event in 11:35.7.

Steve Paye and Rossow also took a second in the high jump relay with a combined total of 11-feet, 4-inch es, and Ben Norville, 📆 Rossow, Azizi and Phaltiel Whitlock were third in the sprint medley relay.

Wildcat boosters

The Plymouth Wildcat Football Boosters will have their next meeting at 7 p.m. May 4 in Room 401 of Plymouth HS. All parents of current and incoming freshmen football players are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Softball clinic

The Canton HS softball team and coaches will have their annual girls softball clinic from noon to 4 p.m. May 1 at Canton HS.

Varsity players and coaches will give instruction in hitting, fielding, base-running and throwing. The cost is \$25 and is for girls 8: 14 years old.

To register, call Colleen Brown at (734)? 455-1614 or email her at

cbrown57@comcast.nef. Girls must pre-register to participate.

Skating lessons

Skateland West has openings for its springsession inline and roller skating lessons, which begin May 18. The cost is \$30 for six weeks. Private lessons are also available.

Call (734) 326-2801 for more information,

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2004

WOMEN'S GOLF

The Hickory Creek Ladies Golf League, which plays on Thursday mornings throughout the summer, is looking for new members in the Plymouth/Canton area.

The nine-hole league is played at Hickory Creek Golf Course, which is located at Ford Road and Napier Road in Canton.

League members tee off every

Thursday at 8 a.m. beginning May 6. For more information, contact Susan Morman at (734) 414-9941.

CO-ED GOLF LEAGUE

Northville Parks and Recreation is offering an 18week adult co-ed golf league starting Monday, May 3 at Brae Burn Golf Course. Tee time start is 5:29 p.m. The cost is \$450.

For more information, call (248) 449 - 9947.

WALKING CLUB

The city of Plymouth Recreation Department will offer a new Walking Club beginning March 29. Everyday, on a drop-in basis, people will meet at the Plymouth Cultural Center (located at 525 Farmer) and walk a variety of routes mapped out by the Recreation

PDF0E08204132



Don't Miss Round 2 of the Hockeytown Concert Series, featuring the bands Goose Gator and Tim Diaz, followed by Joe Vision With all the Sights and Sounds of a Home Game!

ROUND 2, GAME 3 Tuesday, April 27th - Concert starts at 8:00 PM

ROUND 2, GAME 4 Thursday, April 29th - Concert starts at 9:00 PM

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Department, or they can blaze their own trail. There are no fees or registrations involved. The morning start time is 9:30 a.m.: the evening start time is 6:30 p.m. For more information, call the city of Plymouth Recreation Department at (734) 455-6620; ext. 302.

ADULT CO-ED KICKBALL

Northville Parks and Recreation is offering an adult co-ed kickball league starting Friday, May 14 (minimum 15 games).

The entry fee is \$240 per team (umpire fees extra). There will be double-headers. For more information, call

(248) 449-9947. **BADMINTON EQUIPMENT**

Northville Parks and Recreation is offering any level school badminton program free used feathered badminton shuttlecocks. For more information, call

(248) 449-9947.

BASEBALL TRYOUTS

The Motor City Cobras 11and-under travel baseball team will hold spring tryouts for the 2004 season. The team will play about 50 to 60 games during the season, plus a World Series.

For more information, please call Don Haase at (734) 326-8904.

The Canton Mustangs U12 travel baseball team needs a few players for its 2004 squad. The Mustangs play in the Kensington Valley Baseball and Softball Association, with 20 league games and 4-to-5 weekend tournaments (approximately 35 games in all).

For tryout appointments, call Jeff Gatt at (248) 752-7376.

■ 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.

The 11-and-under Michigan Wolves, a travel baseball team based in Livonia, is seeking players to fill out their roster for the 2004 season. To be eligible, your birthday must be after July 31, 1992.

For more information about

tryout dates, call Scott Linser at (734) 422-4576 or Dave Seger at (734) 422-7741.

The Dearborn Heights Knights, an 11-and-under travel baseball team affiliated with American Amateur Baseball Congress, is scheduling open tryouts for the 2004 season.

For more information, call Rich Grucz at 1-800-949-9834.

SOFTBALL LEAGUES

■ Thunderbird Softball Inc. (TSI) will be registering and holding tryouts for all area girls interested in playing fastpitch softball, ages eight and under through 19 and over. Openings are available in both the recreation leagues (which guarantee playing time) and for the more competitive travel and tournament teams.

Please call coach Bruce at (734) 981-1796 or email at: playfastpitch@hotmail.com for tryout locations and times and to register at the Canton Softball Center. Tryout applications are also available on our webpage thunderbirdsoftball.tripod.com.

The Thunderbirds are not affiliated with the CCJBSA or its subsidiary, Pride Fastpitch. The 501(c)3 nonprofit group offers ASA-certified coaches and fun fund-raising opportunities. Girls seeking community service work should also call coach Bruce.

Northville Parks and Recreation will be offering an adult women's softball league, starting Tuesday, May 6, along with an adult co-ed softball league, starting Sunday, May

Cost for each league (12 games) is \$410 per team. For more information, call (248) 449-9947.

BADMINTON TOURNEY

Northville Parks and Recreation is sponsoring its third annual Midwest Stephen Race Badminton Tournament, Friday through Sunday, May 7-9, at the Recreation Center at Hillside.

Race was a player who was instrumental in building badminton popularity in the midwest.

Last year, 110 players participated from Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Indiana and Ontario.

Tournament officials expect 120 participants for the 2004 tourney including 2000 Olympic gold medal winner Tony Gunawan.

For more information, call Joe Barberio at (248) 449-9947.

WATER EXERCISE, CHALLENGE

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will hold its River Challenge classes at 6 p.m. Wednesdays and 8 a.m. Saturdays, along with its Deep Water Exercise classes 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Fridays at the **Community Center Aquatics** pool.

The River Challenge class is a 50-minute class. (Webbed water . gloves provided. You must wear your own water shoes to each class.)

The Deep Water Exercise class will provide effective resistance to strengthen and tone the upper and lower body, as well as an abdomen workout to achieve greater flexibility. It is also therapy for sports injuries.

Swim ability is not necessary. Water jogging belts are available, or you can bring your own. You must wear your own water shoes to each class.

For more information, or to register, call (734) 466-2925 or visit www.ci.livonia.mi.us.

FRANKLIN FOOTBALL ALUMNI

The Livonia Franklin High Football Varsity Alumni Association will stage its second annual dinner from 6 p.m. to midnight, Thursday, May 27, at the Italian-American Club, located on Five Mile Road (just west of the I-275 overpass).

Those interested should send a \$50 check: Franklin Football Varsity Alumni Association, C/O George Lovich, 44142 Parkside Road, Canton, Mi. 48187.

STEVENSON GRID REUNION

Livonia Stevenson High School plans to stage a 40year football all-player reunion, Friday, Sept. 10, during its game against Livonia Churchill.

For more information, call coach Tim Gabel at (734) 744-2660 or e-mail tgabel@livonia.k12.mi.us You can also visit http://shs.freewebspace.com.



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CREDIT CARD INFORMATION	That I may be reasoned from the competition. I give my hill gambiden to the Konnes Poundetion and its loos! Affiliates and Rouge and their spearers and corporate cpanson, to use any shockageness, widewates, er other moorthings of an that sum made during the course of this svent. NOTICE OF DRUG TESTINGS Paulicipants in this competition may be subject to formal drug teeling in concerdance with USA TeP rate- and HAAF Rule 144. Paulicipants with refuse to be seard as sho test poskise for beamed subtance will be disqualified from this creat and will be heading to form competitions.
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TRACK RESULTS

B3 (PC)

WAYNE MEMORIAL 42 SALEM 95

April 22 at Wayne Shot put: Andrew Crushshon (WM), 41-feet, 11 1/2-inches. Discus: Ike Mbanugo (S), 132-4. Long jump: John Johnson (S), 18-8 1/4. High jump: Johnson (S), 5-6. Pole vault: Jayson Wurtzbacher (S), 11-6,

4x800-meter relay: Salem (Brian Kutnick, Joe Crist, Adam Kosteva, Adam Warner), 8:56.0 110 high hurdles: Matt Kappler (S), 16.4.

100 dash: Terrill Ford (WM), 11.8. 4x200 relay: Wayne (Stedman Frye, Duane Robinson, Derrian Miller, Blaine Simmons),

1:38.21,600: Kosteva (S), 5:06.5.

4x100 relay: Wayne (Stedman Frye, Duane Robinson, Derrian Miller, Blaine Simmons),

400: Brian Barnes (S), 55.2. 300 hurdles: Chip Fisher (S), 45.3. 800: Warner (S), 2:12.1. 200: Miller (WM), 23.7. 3,200: Kosteva (S), 11:18.1.

4x400 relay: Salem (Kevin Wesley, Wurtzbacher, Barnes, Kutnick), 3:45.4. Dual-meet records: Wayne, 0-2 overall, 0-2 in the WLAA; Salem, 2-1 overall, 2-1 in the

CANTON 83 **NORTHVILLE 54**

WLAA.

April 22 at Canton

Discus: 1. Brad Waidmann (C), 144-feet, 10inches: 3. Chris Snider (C), 113-6. High jump: 1. Waidmann (C), 6-4; 3. Mike

Lanius (C), 5-8. Long jump: 1, Bill Brown (N), 21-3; 2, Julian Smith (C), 19-2 1/2; 3. Rodney Preston (C), 18-11 1/2.

Pole vault: 1. Jon Chapman (C), 12-3; 2. Derek Reeves (C), 11-3; 3. Rich Hensel (C), 10-9, Shot put: 1. Snider (C), 43-3; 2. Waidmann (C), 42-3/4; 3. Lester Booker (C), 41-6 3/4.

4x800-meter relay: 1. Northville (Cukein, Dalton, Keiffer, Steiner), 9:20.7.

110 high hurdles: 1. Preston (C), 15.4: 3. Waidmann (C), 15.6.

100 dash: 1. Devin Thomas (C), 11.3. 4x200 relay: 1. Canton (Andy Rossow, Preston, Dave Calille, Brandon Reeves), 1:33.8. 1,600: 1. Tim Dalton (C), 4:42.3; 2. Scott

George (C), 4:43.7. 4x100 relay: Canton (Smith, Brandon

Reeves, Calille, Thomas), 44.1 400: 1. Rossow (C), 51.5; 2. Cyrus Azizi (C), 51.6.

300 hurdles: 1. Preston (C), 40.7; 3. Corey Stewart (C), 42.6.

800: 1. Collin Keiffer (N), 2:06.5; 3. Phaltiel Whitlock (C), 2:11.0.

200: 1. Brandon Reeves (C), 22.9: 3. Smith (C), 23.5. 3,200: 1. Jason Turnbull (N), 10:18.2; 2. Eric

Zech (C), 10:45.2; 3. Dave Otting (C), 11:05.7. 4x400 relay: 1. Northville (Steiner, Keiffer,

Dalton, Filev), 3:36.0. Bob Richardson, Canton coach: "Field events led the way for us again. We were up 34-11 after that. There were some really close races that we won by a tenth of a second or

"That was one of our goals, to stop any one-twos by Northville. That (the 800) was the only event they did it. We didn't want it to come down to the the mile relay - they went 3:28 last weekend and I couldn't put a team like that together. So I told the kids we had to have it won before that. And we got a couple of sweeps that we had to have."

Dual-meet records: Canton, 3-0 overall, 3-0 in WLAA, 1-0 in Western Division; Northville, 2-1 overall, 1-1 in the WLAA, 0-1 in the Western Division.

SALEM 98 WAYNE MEMORIAL 41 April 22 at Salem

Shot put: 1. Anna Wilson (S), 32-feet,10inches; 2. Maggie Fisher (S), 31-4; 3. Carly Schwan (S), 26-9. Discus: 1. Wilson (S), 99-1; 2. Schwan (S), 77-

0; 3. Jennie Jansen (S), 63-3. High jump: 1. Lindsay Miles (S), 4-6; 2.

Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m.

Salem's Dana Eldred finished first in the 100 low hurdles during a dual meet with Wayne Memorial April 22.

Megan Dunnigan (S), 4-3; 3. Erin Freeman (S),

Long jump: 1. Jennifer Anderson (WM), 18-9; 2. Moore (WM), 16-1; 3. Daniels (WM), 13-11

Pole vault: 1. Allie Vraniak (S), 9-0; 2. Sara Schmidt (S) 6-6; 3. Ashley Aquinto (S), 6-6. 4x800-meter relay: 1. Salem, 11:41.34.

100 hurdles: 1. Dana Eldred (S), 17.01; 2. Andrea Lang (S), 17.5; 3. Alyssa Cercone (S),

100 dash: 1. Tiffany James (WM), 12.4; 2. Moore (WM), 13.0; 3. Brewer (WM), 13.26. 4x200 relay: 1. Salem (Lynden Gault, Miles, Brittany Jones, Vraniak), 1:56.96.

Kristen Tedders (WM), 5:41.0; 3. Liane Griffiths

400: 1. Brittany Lockhart (S), 1:04.41; 2.

300 hurdles: 1. Lang (S), 51.09; 2. Eldred

Carpinelli (S), 2:42.78; 3. Allison Janda (S), 2:43.4

28.3; 3. Vraniak (S), 28.68.

hang with us."

200: 1. James (WM), 26.5; 2. Brewer (WM),

12:50.0; 3. Griffiths (S), 13:06.0. 4x400 relay: 1. Salem (Lockhart, Edwards,

Friedman, Vraniak), 4:23.0. Kevin Conte, Salem's coach: "We ran away

with it pretty handily. (Wayne) ran well in the sprints, but they didn't have the numbers to

Dual-meet record: Salem, 3-0 overall, 3-0 in WLAA, 1-0 in the Lakes Division.

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 100 PLYMOUTH HIGH 37 April 22 at Plymouth

Shot put: Jenna Hudy (LF), 31 feet, 7 inch-

Discus: Sarah James (LF), 92-0.

100 dash: Pam Bryant (LF), 13.2. 15 200: Megan Wilson (LF), 28.0. 400: Hanchett (P), 1:05.4. $^{\circ}$ 10 800: Laura Marshall (LF), 2:40.3. 1411 1,600: Allison Milican (LF), 5:53.2. 103 3.200: Kirstian Tyler (LF), 12:41.6. 4x100 relay: Franklin (Wilson, Lynett, Supplee, Bryant), 53.9. 4x200 relay: Franklin (Rachel Parsons, Celia DeVitis, Supplee, Bryant), 1:56.3. 4x400 relay: Franklin (Mondella, Amanda Owen, Marshall, Milican), 4:36.9. 4x800 relay: Franklin (Mondella, Kari Saarela, Milican, Tyler), 11:01.6. Franklin's dual meet record: 3-0 overall. LIVONIA FRANKLIN 82 PLYMOUTH 55

High jump: Alyssa Supplee (LF), 5-2 Long jump: Chrysten Guyton (P), 13-8

Pole vault: Lauren Yockey (LF), 7-6. 100-meter hurdles: Casey Lynett (LF), 18.0.

300 hurdles: Amanda Mondella (LF), 52.5.

April 22 at Plymouth Shot put: Jon Whaley (LF), 43 feet, 4 inch

es. Discus: Mike Toner (LF), 123-0. High jump: Joe Mielke (LF), 6-0. Long jump: Mielke (LF), 20-0. Pole vault (tie): Jeremy Peer (LF) and ndy Knisley (P), 8-0 each. 110-meter hurdles: Ghoiston (P), 16.6. 300 hurdles: Mielke (LF), 43.9. 100 dash: Andy Lynett (LF), 11.6. 200: Lynett (LF), 24.2. 400: Wade (P), 54.6.

800: Movesian (P), 2:16.7.

1,600: Dillon (P), 5:04.5. 3,200: Scaparo (P), 11:19.1

4x100 relay: Franklin (Lynett, James Kelly Taylor Hurst, Justin Bending), 46.5.

4x200 relay: Franklin (Kelly, Bending, Mat Coston, Anthony Farthing), 1:38.5. 4x400 relay: Franklin (Tim Gault, Jef

Osiwala, Dan Cheynoweth, Mielke), 3:46.2. 4x800 relay: Plymouth, 9:21.1. Franklin's dual meet record: 3-0 overall,

0 WLAA-Western.

PREP BASEBALL Monday, April 26

Canton at Dear. Divine Child (2), 4 p.m. Churchill at Northville, 4 p.m. Franklin at W.L. Western, 4 p.m. Salem at Stevenson, 4 p.m. John Glenn at W.L. Central, 4 p.m. W.L. Northern at Wayne, 4 p.m. Country Day at Redford CC, 4:15 p.m. Clarenceville at Luth. East, 4:30 p.m. Liggett at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 27 Det. Bethesda at Ply. Christian, 4 p.m. Franklin Road at Canton Agape, 4:30 p.m. Huron Valley at Zoe Christian, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 28 W.L. Western at Canton, 4 p.m. Churchill vs. Franklin (Ford Field), 4 p.m. W.L. Central at Stevenson, 4 p.m. Wayne at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Luth, North at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m. Luth. East at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 29 A.P. Inter-City at Ply. Christian, 4 p.m. Agape at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 30 Salem at W.L. Western, 4 p.m. W.L. Central at Canton, 4 p.m. Stevenson at Churchill, 4 p.m. Wayne vs. Franklin (Ford Field), 4 p.m. John Glenn at Northville, 4 p.m. Clarenceville at Liggett, 4:30 p.m. Luth. Westland at Luth. North, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1 Canton at Farmington Inv. at Harrison, 9 a.m. Canton Agape at Ply. Christian, noon (all double-headers) Salem at Milford, II a.m Churchill at Thurston, noon. U-D Jesuit at Redford CC, 2 p.m. GIRLS SOFTBALL Monday, April 26

W.L. Central at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Wayne at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m. Clarenceville at Lutheran East, 4:30 p.m. Liggett at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 27 Salem at Chelsea (2), 4 p.m. Ply. Christian at Baptist Park, 4 p.m. Ladywood at Marian (2), 4 p.m. Huron Valley at Zoe Christian, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 28 Canton at W.L. Western, 4 p.m Franklin at Churchill, 4 p.m. Stevenson at W.L. Central, 4 p.m. John Glenn at Wayne, 4 p.m. Lutheran North at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m. Luth, East at Luth, Westland, 4:30 n.m. Thursday, April 29 Ply. Christian at A.P. Inter-City, 4 p.m. Mercy at Ladywood (2), 4 p.m. Agape at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 30 W.L. Western at Salem, 4 p.m. Canton at W.L. Central, 4 p.m. Churchill at Stevenson, 4 p.m. Franklin at Wayne, 4 p.m. Northville at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Clarenceville at G.P. Liggett, 4:30 p.m. Luth, Westland at Luth, North, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1 Brandon Invitational, 9 a.m. Salem Invitational, 10 a.m. Canton Agape at Ply. Christian, TBA Sunday, May 2 Brandon Invitational, 9 a.m. BOYS TRACK Monday, April 26 Redford CC at O.L. St. Mary's, 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, April 27 Liv. City Meet at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m. Cranbrook, Harper Woods at Lutheran Westland, 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 29

Franklin at W.L. Western, 3:30 p.m. Stevenson at Salem, 3:30 p.m. W.L. Central at John Glenn, 3:30 p.m. W.L. Northern at Wayne, 3:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1 Observerland Relays at Churchill, 3:30 p.m. GIRLS TRACK Tuesday, April 27 Liv. City Meet at Churchill, 3:30 p.m. Ladywood at Mercy, 4 p.m. Kingswood, Harper Woods at Lutheran Westland, 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 29 Northville at Churchill, 3:30 p.m. Franklin at W.L. Western, 3:30 p.m. Salem at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m. John Glenn at W.L. Central, 3:30 p.m. Wayne at W.L. Northern, 3:30 p.m. Plymouth at Canton, 5:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1 Stafford Relays at W.L. Western, 9 a.m. Stevenson Invitational 10 a.m. **GIRLS SOCCER** Monday, April 26 Canton at Wayne, 4 p.m. Churchill at Stevenson, 7 p.m. Franklin at Salem, 7 p.m. John Glenn at Northville, 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 27 Liggett at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m Marian at Ladywood, 5:30 p.m Wednesday, April 28 Churchill at Wayne, 4 p.m. Canton at Northville, 5:30 p.m. Franklin at W.L. Central, 7 p.m. Stevenson at Salem, 7 p.m. John Glenn at W.L. Western, 7 n.m. Thursday, April 29 Luth. Westland at Harper Wds., 4:30 p.m. Ladywood at Divine Child, 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 30 John Glenn at Belleville, 4 p.m. peper at Luth, Westland, 4:30

Saturday, May 1 Canton at Northville, 9:30 a.m. BOYS TENNIS Monday, April 26 Redford CC at U-D Jesuit, 4 p.m. Salem at Churchill, 4 p.m. W.L. Central at Franklin, 4 p.m. Wayne at Stevenson, 4 p.m. John Glenn at Canton, 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 28 Plymouth at Salem, 4 p.m. Canton at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m. Redford CC at Cranbrook, 4 p.m. Churchill at W.L. Central, 4 p.m. Franklin at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Stevenson at Northville, 4 p.m. W.L. Western at Wayne, 4 p.m. Thursday, April 29 Harrison at Churchill, 4 p.m. Farmington at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Friday, April 30 Salem at Northville, 4 p.m. John Glenn at Churchill, 4 p.m. W.L. Northern at Franklin, 4 p.m. W.L. Western at Stevenson, 4 p.m. Wayne at Canton, 4 p.m. Saturday, May 1 A.A. Huron Tournament, 8:15 a.m. **GIRLS GOLF** Monday, April 26 Franklin vs. W.L. Central at idyl Wyld, 2:45 p.m. Northville vs. Plymouth at Hilltop, 3 p.m. Ladywood vs. Divine Child at Dearborn Country Club, 3 p.m. Wayne vs. Stevensor

at Fox Creek, 3 p.m. Churchill vs. Salem at Whispering Willows, 3 p.m. John Glenn vs. Canton at Hilltop, 3 p.m. Tuesday, April 27 John Glenn vs. A.A. Huron at Leslie Park, 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 28 W.L. Western vs. Wayne at Fellows Creek, 2:30 p.m. Salem ys. Grosse lle at Grossé lle G.C., 3 p.m. Canton at W.L. Northern, 3 p.m. Stevenson vs. Northville at Tanglewood, 3 p.m. Churchill vs. W.L. Central at Eldorado, 3 p.m. Franklin vs. John Glenn at Fellows Creek, 3 p.m.: Thursday, April 29 Salem vs. Pivmouth at St. John's, 3 p.m. Ladywood vs. Marian at St. John's G.C., 3 p.m. Friday, April 30 Traverse City Invitational, TBA. Franklin vs. W.L. Northern at Idyl Wyld, 2:45 p.m. W.L. Central vs. Plymouth at Hilltop, 3 p.m. John Glenn vs. Churchill at Whispering Willows, 3 p.m. Wayne vs. Canton (Hilltop), 3 p.m. Saturday, May 1 Traverse City Invitational, TBA

PREP LACROSSE Monday, April 26 South Lyon at Ladywood, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 27 E. Grand Rapids at Redford CC, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 28 Yosi, Lincoln at Canton (Flodin), 6:30 p.m. Bloomfield at Ladywood, 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 30 CC at Franklin (Pa.) Regional, 7 p.m. Saturday, May 1 Canton at Lincoln Tourn. vs. Mattawan, 10 a.m.; vs. Avondale, 2 p.m. Redford CC at Mt. Lebanon (Pa.), 1 p.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL (all double-headers) Sunday, April 25 Indiana Tech at Madonna, 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 27 Ohio Dominican at Madonna, 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 28 Madonna at Rochester College, 2 p.m. Saturday, May 1 Concordia at Madonna, 1 p.m. Sunday, May 2 Madonna at Concordia, 1 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL, (all double-headers) Sunday, April 25 Siena Heights at Madonna, 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 27 Madonna at Aquinas College, 4 p.m. Thursday, April 29 Cornerstone at Madonna, 4 p.m. Friday, April 30 Madonna at Cornerstone, 4 p.m.

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3,200: 1. Tedders (WM), 12:34.0; 2. Kane (S), THE WEEK AHEAD

(S), 6:10.0 Dye, Anderson, Aisha Moore), 50.6. Gault (S), 1:07.29; 3. Cindy Edwards (S), 1:08.44.

(S), 52.0; 3. Cercone (S), 53.13.

1,600: 1. Laura Friedman (S), 5:37.0; 2. 4x100 relay: 1. Wayne (James, Amanda

800: 1. Lauren Kane (S), 2:39.34; 2. Marisa



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BASEBALL

PCA sweeps Oakland Christian, Plymouth BASEBALL

Two hits. That's all that Auburn Hills Oakland Christian's baseball team could manage against Plymouth Christian Academy Thursday at PCA.

And that was in two official games.

B4

(PC)

The Eagles improved to 4-1 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference by sweeping the Lancers 10-4 and 12-1. The first game lasted five innings, with Andrew Shumaker improving to 3-0 with a two-hitter.

The second game went three innings, Eric Immerfall tossing a no-hitter.

In the first game, Shumaker pitched all five innings, allowing one earned run with one walk and two hit batsmen, striking out five. Justin Sellers took the loss for Oakland Christian.

Aaron Ciborowski led the 10-hit attack for PCA with two hits and two runs batted in. Drew Gallagher also had two hits, scoring two runs, and Immerfall collected two hits. Jordan Johnston had one hit, stole two bases and drove in two runs.

In the second game, Immerfall did not allow an earned run, walking five and fanning four. Joe Dixon was the losing pitcher.

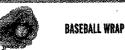
Gallagher, Ciborowski and Ryan Hutton each had two hits for PCA, Gallagher scoring two runs and driving in another, Ciborowski getting

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three RBI and Hutton adding two RBI. Dave Bahbah had a triple and scored twice.

On Friday, the Eagles battled back from a 10-3 deficit after three innings to beat Plymouth HS 16-10 in a nonleague game at PCA. The win gave PCA a 5-1 overall record. The big inning for the Eagles proved to be the six-

run fourth, which was ignited by Ciborowski's grand slam home run. He also had a single in the game.

Other offensive standouts for PCA were Johnston, who had three hits and three stolen bases, and Steve Sumner, who had three hits.

Shumaker improved his pitching record to 4-0 with a sparkling relief pitching job. Shumaker, a junior, entered the game with two out in the third. After allowing a base hit he shut the Wildcats down; they did not score a run off of him in 41/3innings. He allowed three hits and one walk, striking out five while retiring 13 of the 16 batters he faced.

Last Tuesday, the Eagles suffered their first loss of the season, 13-2 to Southfield Christian at PCA. Bahbah was the losing pitcher; he and reliever Sumner surrendered 10 hits in the fiveinning mercy. Brian

2004 RX 330

Sternberg was the winning pitcher for Southfield Christian; he also had three hits in the game. Ciborowski had two of PCA's six hits. Baptist Park 17, Agape 7:

Canton Agape Christian was up 7-6 after two innings, batting around their batting order in each of the first two innings. But things fell apart after that.

The Wolverines slipped to 1-3 overall, 0-2 in the MIAC. Taylor Baptist Park is 1-2 overall, 1-1 in the MIAC.

Kyle Miller and Gabe Molnar each had two hits in the game, Molnar driving in a run. Matt Molnar had a tworun single in the first and finished with three RBI.

Matt Molnar took the pitching loss. He worked two innings, allowing nine runs (five earned) on six hits and six walks, striking out two. Tyler Stanley got the win for Baptist Park.

CC 5-3, DeLaSalle 8-2: Redford Catholic Central struggled in the opener and evened the score in the nightcap on Wednesday as the Shamrocks split a Central Division doubleheader with Warren De La Salle.

CC took a 3-0 lead in the first game, but the Pilots came back for an 8-5 win. It was a pitchers' duel in the second game as the Shamrocks took a 3-2 win. "Mike Monterey gave us a great lift pitching after we

took our fourth loss in a row," said CC coach John Salter. "We was pretty dominant until the fifth inning - having given up a homer and one other error until then. They loaded the bases in the sixth, but struck out a hitter with the bases loaded and retired the side in the seventh."

Monterey (1-0) struck out 11, allowed four hits and didn't walk a batter in getting the win, while Tim McDonald took the loss for the Pilots. Greg Marrone went 2-for-3 with a double for CC (6-5, 3-3), while Eric Vojtkofsky's single was the only other hit. Derek Brooks's sacrifice fly in the sixth was the game-winning RBI. Jose Bosch was 2-for-4 for the Pilots (2-6) with a solo homer in the second inning and an RBI single in the sixth.

In the first game, a fourrun third inning made the difference for De La Salle. Drew Amble and Derek Brooks both went 2-for-4 for CC, while Leo Loria had an **RBI** double for the Pilots.

Steve Mazur earned the win for the Pilots, scattering six hits and four walks to go with four earned runs and six strikeouts. Matt Rodeghier (1-1) took the loss, with five hits and four earned runs in two innings. Marrone finished up, allowing five hits and a walk to go with four

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strikeouts in four innings.

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Canton's sixth-inning problems. But the Chiefs did not give up. They started the seventh with a walk to Brad Gallison. After Rich DeMeyere singled, Rumberger called in Dom

D'Aguanno to pitch. Reece McCabe greeted the Salem reliever with a base hit, loading the bases. Steve Campbell's groundout to second scored a run and left runners at second and third; Craig Galarnau singled to score another run, making it 4-2 and putting runners at the corners.

But Tobin bounced into a force

bases full, and although a flyout

to center field by Cliff Thomas

scored a run, it also ended the

inning when Thackaberry got

caught in a rundown between

pretty good with Nic England

pitching well - especially after

Still, Salem's 4-0 lead looked

second and third.

out at the plate, leaving the

A grounder to deep short by Dave Mintz turned into an infield single, scoring a run to make it 4-3 with runners at first and second. Neu followed with

GOLF

FROM PAGE BI

good they could be by tying for second overall and leading Salem to a tournament title.

The Rocks three two-person teams shot a combined 264 to finish well ahead of Farmington, which shot 276. Hartland's A team was third with a 278, followed by South Lyon at 287; Novi, Ann Arbor Pioneer and Milford all tied for fifth at 294; Lakeland eighth at 296; Canton ninth at 300; Fenton 10th at 312; Hartland's B 11th at 319; Ortonville-Brandon 12th at 327; Davison 13th at 330; Pinckney 14th at 337; and Howell 15th at 343.

Smith and Siedlaczek combined for an 81, tying Canton's Treadwell and Slupek and a Hartland A team for second place. Lakeland's Emily Tucker and Lindsay Pipkin took top honors with a 76.

Salem's other scorers were Powers and Schwan, 88, and Mitchell and Anna Ross, 95. "It was really a good test of

golf," said Wilson. "It was a very

another base hit, but Dickey held the runner at third, loading the bases with one out.

However, the Chiefs couldn't get the tying run in. Khasawneh took a called third strike and Russ Bruner flied out to shortstop Dave Cardenas to end the game.

"It was a good game," said Dickey. "(Salem) pretty much dominated the first six innings. And we're a young ball club. But we played probably our most sound defensive game of the season."

It didn't help that Canton lost Jake Powers when he was hit in the face on the second pitch in their half of the first inning. He was taken to the hospital in an ambulance; his availability is uncertain.

Powers is the fourth key player for the Chiefs to be sidelined thus far this season. He joins Matt Hemmelgarn, Kevin Kwiatkowski and Shawn Little, who make up the bulk of Canton's pitching staff.

Cox led Salem with three hits and two runs batted in. Parling, Pawlukiewicz and D'Aguanno each added two hits. Canton got two hits apiece from Neu and DeMeyere.

tough golf course, with rolling hills and greens that were very fast.

"It was a good start for us, a good first week."

Included was a 184-206 triumph over WLAA rival Livonia Franklin Thursday at St. John's. Smith led Salem with a 39; Siedlaczek was next at 45, followed by Powers (47), Ross (53), Schwan (55) and Jesse Silberi (56).

Franklin was paced by Jordan Caskmell at 45, followed by Kim Hoskins (46), Rebekah Zurenka (57) and Sarah Monarch (58).

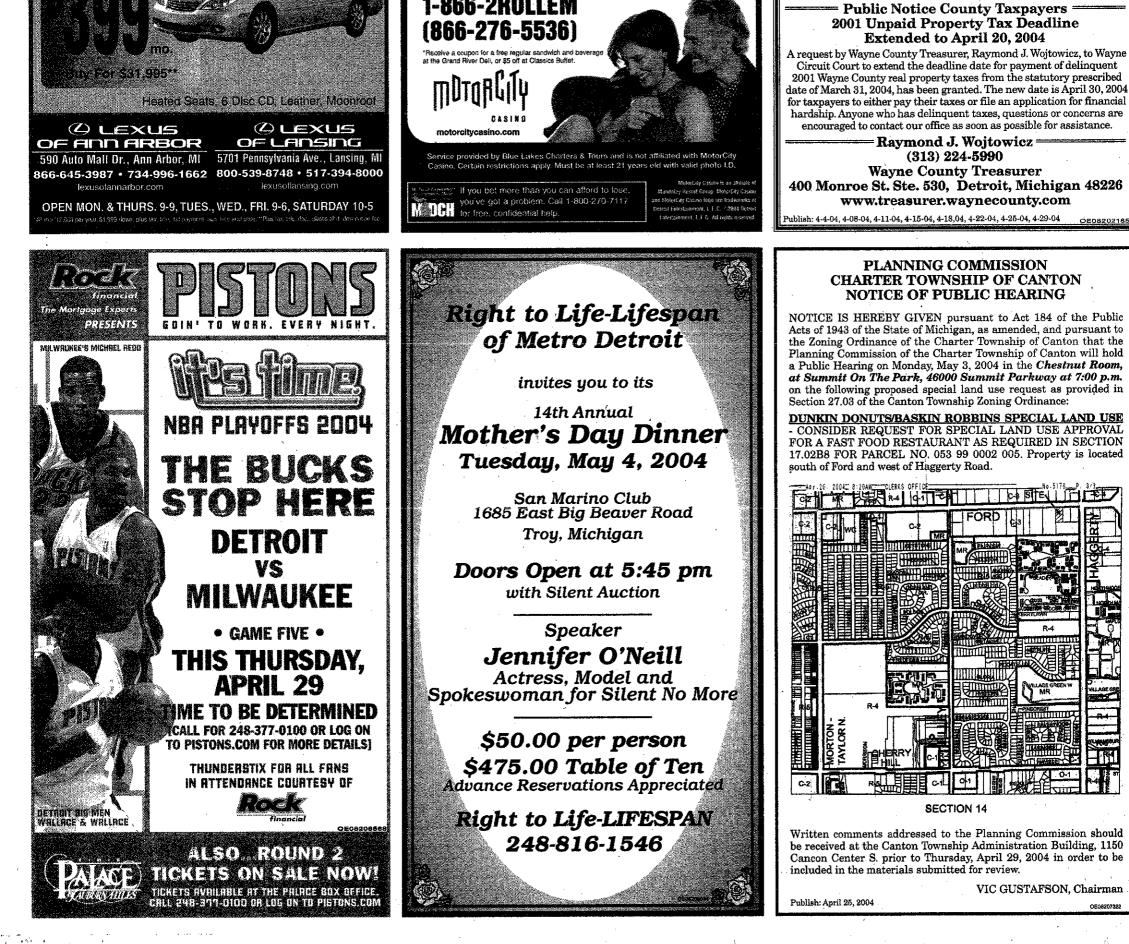
"I don't want to get overly excited," said a cautious Wilson. "But I was very pleased. I don't remember the last time we won a tournament.

"We've got some depth. If Ashley and Jamie score like they're capable of, we can do well every match. We might be one of the favorites (in the WLAA). We were second last year and we have all but one of our people back. All of our key players are back."

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Rocks roll over Roosevelt; Chiefs win Dearborn ends Pats' win streak

After getting rained out Wednesday, Salem's softball team finally saw some action Thursday and made the most of it, sweeping a non-league double-header from Wyandotte Roosevelt, 13-1 and 7-3 in Wyandotte.

The wins allow the Rocks to start the season at 2-0.

The first game was a sixinning mercy, with Salem pitching ace Kelli Szczepanski surrendering just three hits and one walk while striking out four. Szczepanski also helped herself at the plate, collecting three hits and a run batted in.

"Kelli had a great game and proved she is ready to lead this team to great things this year," said Salem coach Bonnie Southerland.

Cortney Edwards added three hits and scored three runs, and both Brook Posler and Emily Maletic collected two hits and scored two runs each. Sarah Amann contributed a two-run triple, Maureen Bohr had a run-scoring double, and Natalie Szawara laced a two-run single.

Stacey Brewer took the loss for Wyandotte.

Szczepanski returned to the mound in the second game and got a second win, tossing six scoreless innings. She also got two more hits at the plate.

Edwards got two more hits with two runs scored and one RBI, and Posler had two hits.

Kristy Crawly took the loss for the Bears.

Corutney Davis relieved Szczepanski in the seventh inning and gave up three unearned runs.

Salem again was aggressive at the plate," said Southerland. "I thought they were swinging the bat very well, especially for opening day for us.

"The girls played very well and are swinging the bats hard. It's only going to get better."

Canton 6, Northville 0: Molly Conlon tossed a five-hit shutout as Canton opened its Western Lakes Activities Association season with a win at Northville Friday.

Conlon struck out four for the Chiefs in seven innings. Rachel Wade had two hits, including a triple, and drove in one run, and Lauren Delapaz added two hits and an RBI. Brittany Scero had one hit and two RBI.

PCA 13-18, Oakland Christian 1-8: Amanda Saagman threw a twohitter in the first game, a fiveinning mercy, and then combined with Justine Cane on a two-hitter in the second game as Plymouth Christian Academy swept a pair from Auburn Hills Oakland Christian Thursday at PCA.

SOFTBALL

Liza Terkoski and Cane chipped in with two hits and two RBI each.

In the second game, the mercy rule came into play after six innings. Shumaker and Saagman each had four hits, Saagman getting two triples and three RBI and Shumaker adding one triple and two RBI. Pew had two hits and four RBI, and both Amy Anderson and Carissa Elenbaas got two hits, Elenbaas driving in three runs.

Cane got the pitching win, working the first three innings and allowing eight runs on one hit and 11 walks with four strikeouts. Saagman worked the final three innings and did not give up a run, surrendering one hit with no walks and four strikeouts.

Macomb Christian 12, Agape Christian 11: Canton Agape Christian scored 11 runs in the first four innings Thursday at Macomb, but the Crusaders overcame an 11-9 deficit by scoring two in the fifth and getting the game-winner in the bottom of the seventh.

The Wolverines fell to 0-3 overall, 0-1 in the MIAC Red Division,

"As you can see, the game was close and we exchanged the lead several times," said Agape coach Clark Sexton. "In the end, we couldn't score and they did. Not to take anything away from Macomb, but we threw the ball around too much and shot ourselves in the foot."

Four Agape players had three hits each: Rebekah Pummill scored twice after her three hits, Eileen Jarman had a triple among her three, Brittany Pierson scored two runs and Tarah Armbrester got three safties.

Amanda Tashnick took the loss for Agape.

Regina 6-4, Ladywood 0-0: Nicole Nemitz and Andrea Ligotti pitched back-to-back shutouts Thursday, lifting unbeaten Harper Woods Regina (6-0, 4-0) past visiting Livonia Ladywood (4-3, 1-3) in a Catholic League Central Division twinbill.

Nemitz, a sophomore, tossed a no-hitter in the opener. She struck out 14.

Ladywood freshman pitcher Lauren Taylor took the loss. She allowed 10 hits and struck out 10.

Ligotti hurled a five-hitter in

coach Bill Duncan.

Jenny Hamel, the winning pitcher, allowed just three hits in seven innings. She struck out four and walked one.

Glenn starter Dana Baran also went the distance, allowing nine hits and one walk. She also fanned four.

Amanda Alpert had two hits, including an RBI single. Roya St. Clair also collected two hits, while Jessica Pepp and Jessica Michael each doubles. (Pepp scored on Michaels' double.)

Rebecca Oros had two of Glenn's three hits. Baran had an RBI single, while Jenny Boris scored on a fielders' choice.

Glenn's Devin Ross cut down two Stevenson runners at the plate on outstanding plays by Oros, the catcher.

W.L. Western 4, Churchill 0: On Friday, Walled Lake Western pitcher Lauren Talbot blanked visiting Livonia Churchill on four hits in the WLAA-Western Division opener for both teams. Western is 4-0 overall, while

Churchill is 2-4. Talbot, who got the Chargers to chase her riseball after taking the first strike, fanned 12 and did not allow a walk.

Losing pitcher Bridget Long allowed seven hits, walked four and struck out five in six innings.

Laura Schmidt went 3-for-4 to pace the Warriors' offensive attack, while Churchill's Sarah Pernak went 2-for-3.

Huron Valley 10, Macomb Christian 0: Senior Lauren Greer pitched a two-hit, five-inning shutout Thursday as host Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (2-2, 1-0) downed Macomb Christian in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference encounter.

Greer also helped her own cause with two hits and three RBI. Junior third baseman Keri Koch went 3-for-4 with two RBI. Kayla Moore went 2-for-2 with a sacrifice and two RBI.

A.A. Huron 8-18, John Glenn 2-0: On Thursday, Ann Arbor Huron swept a double-header from Westland John Glenn as Dana Baran was the losing pitcher in the opener and starter Amanda Fullerton took the loss in the nightcap.

Liz Brozek had two hits for Glenn in the opener. Churchill 11, John Glenn 4: Livonia Churchill (2-3) collected just three hits Wednesday, but took advantage of six Westland John Glenn (0-3)

Franklin clipped, 2-0

Livonia Franklin's five-game winning streak in girls soccer came to a halt as Dearborn scored a pair of goals in the final nine minutes to earn the non-league victory, 2-0, in a game played at Livonia Churchill.

Lauren Imsande scored on a penalty kick with 8:37 to play after a handball call. With 5:09 remaining, Jessica Sipperley scored to seal the win for the Pioneers. The loss drops Franklin to 5-

2 overall. "I'm pleased with the way the girls played and the way they adjusted to the late goal to try and come back," Franklin coach Jenny Barker said. "We were a bit unlucky at times and didn't capitalize on the chances we had.

"It seems as though we spent a fair amount of time in their end and the middle of the park, but we weren't able to get all the way in and finish tonight."

Barker added that her three defenders - junior Jessica Cadwell, senior Shannon Powers and junior Carly Muncy - combined to do a stellar job of limiting Dearborn's shot attempts.

N. Farmington 2, John Glenn O: North Farmington won its second game in as many days Friday, earning a shutout over host Westland John Glenn.

Following a scoreless first half, the Raiders (2-2-2) got second-half goals from Lynette Camaj and Annie Gabriel. In the 50th minute, Catherine Munaco sent a cross to the Glenn goal, and Camaj

scored off a scramble in front

of the net.

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Adrienne Sundquist started the second scoring play 10 minutes later when she pushed up field with the ball and threaded a through ball to Stephanie Licavoli, who sent the ball to the far post.

Gabriel was sprinting from the right wing and redirected Licavoli's pass into the net. The Raiders outshot the

Rockets, 14-6. Most of the Glenn shots were from long distances, and the Rockets (1-6-1) never seriously threatened to score.

Lutheran North 7, Lutheran Westland 0: Erin Pykkonen tallied a pair of goals Thursday to power host Macomb Lutheran North to a Metro Conference triumph over Lutheran High Westland (0-3-1, 0-1).

Warriors' goalkeeper Amanda Poole made a total of 20 saves.

Lutheran Westland also received strong play in the midfield from Samantha Wiemer, according to coach Ken Shingledecker.

Stevenson 10, John Glenn 0: Melissa Dobbyn scored a hat trick Wednesday as Livonia Stevenson (4-0-2, 1-0) opened Lakes Division play in the Western Lakes Activities Association with a mercy-rule win at Westland John Glenn (1-5-1, 0-1).

Stevenson jumped out to an 8-0 halftime lead and put it away with two goals in the second half.

Kate Howe contributed two goals and two assists, while Lia Williamson finished with two goals and one assist.

Jamie Radley and Megan McConnell also chipped in with one goal and one assist apiece. Wendy Hoots had the other goal for the Spartans, while Danielle Winiesdorffer

and Caitlin Boyak also drew assists.

Goalkeepers Mindy Magoulick and Shaina O'Connor split time for the shutout.

Franklin 3, Wayne 0: In a WLAA crossover match played Wednesday at Livonia Stevenson, host Livonia Franklin (5-1) blanked Wayne Memorial (3-4) on first-half goals by freshman forward Mandy McAuliffe, sophomore forward Jessica Austin and junior defender Carly Muncy.

McAuliffe scored two minutes into the match when she connected from the top of in front of the Wayne goal.

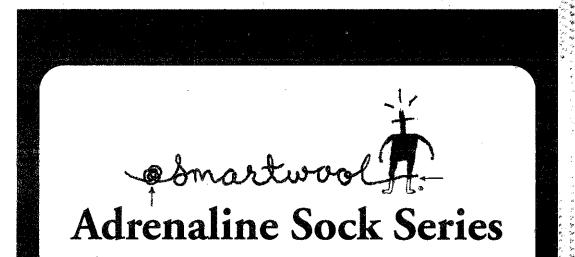
Austin's goal came with 29 minutes remaining when she took on a Zebra defender and drove a shot in from outside 💬 the post. Muncy's goal came off an assist from junior Renee Farrell with just under six minutes left in the half.

"Although it wasn't the best half of soccer for us, the first is when we did all of $our_{C_{1}}$ scoring," Franklin coach Jenny Barker said. "The second half was a better played half for us even though we didn't get any more goals on the board. The Wayne goalkeeper (Jenny Hardy) did a 👍 : great job of taking away great job of taking away some of our better chances."

Hardy came on in the sec-> ond half for the injured Angie Jones. 13.14

Barker also praised the play of freshman midfielder Kelly Roulier and senior midfielder Shannon Powers, along with defenders Farrell and junior Jessica Cadwell.

"We played a very talented Franklin team," Wayne coach Larry Brenner said. "Our offensive line couldn't get through Franklin's defensive unit."



The Eagles improved to 5-2 overall, 3-0 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. Oakland Christian is 1-6 overall, 0-3 in the MIAC.

In the opener, Saagman allowed one run on two hits and two walks, striking out six. She also went 3-for-4 at the plate with two doubles and two RBI.

Lindsay Pew provided the big bat, collecting three hits – two of them triples - and driving in three runs. Sarah Shumaker,

the nightcap and Nemitz collected three of Regina's nine hits

Kaitlyn Huddas, who went the distance for Ladywood, suffered the loss. She struck out five.

Amanda McClellan had two hits for the Blazers.

"Regina is a good team, the best I've seen so far," Ladywood coach Bob Lulek said.

Stevenson 5, John Glenn 2: Livonia Stevenson got off to a solid start in the Lakes Division portion of its WLAA schedule with a win over Westland John Glenn Friday.

With the win, the Spartans improve to 3-6 overall and 1-0 in the loss. Glenn is winless in five games under first-year

errors to earn the WLAA crossover win.

Churchill tallied six in the third inning, one in the fourth and four in the top of the seventh to put it away.

Winning pitcher Bridget Long (2-1) allowed just two hits over seven innings. She struck out 11 and walked only two

Losing pitcher Dana Baran gave up three hits and five walks while striking out seven in going the distance.

Cat Sidor led the Chargers offensively, going 2-for-3 with two RBI. Brynn Kerr went 1for-3 and scored a pair of runs. Stephanie Reese and Liz Brozek collected the only hits for Glenn.

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GOOD MORALS AND VALUES OPEN YOUR HEART TO ME SWCF. 42, slim, humorous and active. Enjoys travel, the outdoors. Exotic looking, SAF, 53, 5'5", 127 Ibs., sophisticated yet down-to-earth. Enjoys music, traveling, movies, dining and more. Seeking a SCM, 40-48, who is honest, lov long walks and laughter. Looking for a SWM, 50-60, with similar ing, loyal and has good morals. Ad#:682247 interests. Ad#:718320

SOMETHING MISSING

NO GAMES SWF, 42, 5'6", 125 lbs., enjoys going to the

Seeking a SWM, 35-55, who isn't

into head games. Ad#:682223

PATIENTLY WAITING FOR YOU

SWF, 60, auburn hair, green eyes, professional. Enjoys travel, week-

end get-a-ways, camping, cuddling

and more, Seeking a SWM, 57-70

who is loving, humorous, N/S, N/D, fun and affectionate. Ad#:405309

SNAF, 54, looks younger, black hair, brown eyes, full-figured,

45-65, who is honest and compas-

SHF, 29, mother of 2, 5'5", 130 lbs., brown hair and eyes, N/S, occasional drinker. Enjoys sports, dancing and more. Seeking a SM,

trustworthy and down-to-earth Ad#:681926

I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

SBF, 63, N/S, social drinker, ener-

getic and retired. Enjoys traveling,

fessional and hoping to meet an

WHAT MORE DO YOU NEED?

faithful and likes having

some fun and excitement back into

romantic

good conversation and mo

who is understanding

riety of things. Seeking a SM,

GOOD CONVERSATIONALIST

retired with arown children. En

sionate, Ad#:681971

LOVES TO HAVE FUN

27-39

56 years young want a special friend in my life. Missing the little things: a hug, a kiss, holding hands. Enjoys just about every-thing, but missing the most important thing... the other half in my life. Ad#:406107

Æ

CAN YOU KEEP UP? Retired, active SWF, 69, enloys traveling, is easygoing, and is not ready for the rocking chair. Looking for a SWM, 65-73, who would like to be my companion , and share special times. Ad#:717844

ARE YOU RIGHT FOR ME? SBF, 40 years old. I enjoy dinners, cuddling & walks in the park, and I'm in search of a caring, SBM, 35-55, around 5'9". Ad#:717497

RESCUE ME

'm an attractive DWF, 51, 5', with long blonde hair, I'm looking fo an honest, stable, hardworking compassionate male, I'm ar employed home owner, whe enjoys cooking, gardening, church, family, music and movies, Only marriage minded need call. Ad#:715220

GET IN TOUCH

Seeking a SBM, 60-69, to get to know. Ad#:681889 Adventurous, SBF, 19, enjoys movies, playing spades and hav-ing fun. Looking for a fun, outgo-ARE YOU THE ONE? ing, SBM, 18-25, Ad#:715908 SWF, 33, 5'4", very active, a pro-

COMPANION WANTED

intelligent, professional, SWM, 32-42, in Michigan, for a possible rela-Classy, romantic, SWF, 57, 5'6", 190 lbs., with long blonde hair and green eyes. Enjoys antiquing, craft tionship. Ad#:680543 shows, garage sales, casinos, ANXIOUSLY WAITING

playing cards and board games. Looking for a SWM, 50-65, who's

TOUCH OF CLASS

SWF, 60, 5'2", brown hair, medium build. Wants to meet a SWM, 55classy and would like tr 70, who is tall, medlum build, likes enjoy life together. Ad#:715804 o go places, is affectionate and seeking a commitment. Ad#:680347

fun. Ad#:653751

A LITTLE SPICE

her life. Ad#:653750

Attractive, trim, fun, N/D, N/S, SWCF, 72, from Bloomfleid. Looking forward to a companion-ship with a SWM, 72-75, who's a

SWF, 45, 5'4", 129 lbs., with real centlemen. Ad#:653117 blonde hair & blue eyes. Enjoys boating, camping, motorcycles and just kicking back having fun. Looking for a SWM, 35-50, who is VERY KIND LADY SBF, 28, is seeking a SBM, 30-40, for friendship first and maybe could turn into more. Ad#:712726 carino

RESPONSIBILITY IS KEY

WF, 41, 5'5", 120 lbs., two chil-Iren at home. Seeking an attracdren a tive SWM, 37+, who likes children and is responsible, Ad#:712290 TAKE IT SLOW

DWF, 46, 5'9", 128 lbs., smoker with blonde bair and hazel eves

Enjoys football, hockey, NASCAR, Harleys, concerts and shooting MODNLIT WALKS... Interested? Romantic, SWF, 59, 5'4", 135 lbs., brownish/red hair, pool. Looking for a tall, secure SWM, 39-50 who's honest, caring and doesn't play games. Ad#:712188 Enjoys walks under the moonlight Looking for a caring, ron SWM, under 65. Ad#664097

FM YOUR LADY

MAKE MY DAY!

ing, movies and trips. Looking for an established, spunky, D/WWM, 47-67, who is done with games. Ad#:675614

FUN TO BE WITH SWF, 43, 5'7", with long brown hair, brown eyes, and 2 children. Enjoys bingo, casinos, plontos, boating, long walks, drive-ins, and SWF, 19, 5'1", 110 lbs., with blue eyes. Enjoys bowling, the outdoors and much more. Looking for a tall, dark and handsome SWM, 20-29, carnivals. Looking for an who is responsible and independent. Ad#:679632 employed, honest, caring, affec-tionate, SWM, 43 or older, with similar interests. Ad#:712171 NO TIME FOR GAMES

Fun, SBF, 50, enloys family, danc-

SBCF, 39, 5'9", adventurous and spontaneous, Seeking a SBCM under 48, who is very honest venturous, fun-loving hearted and knows how to treat a woman. Ad#:679589

ood conversation, p Hopes to meet a SWM, 50-60 Ad# 659405 SEEKS FRIENDSHIP

SWF, 58, enjoys boating, reading, movies and dining cut. She is look-ing for a N/S. SWM, 5'9" or taker.

social drinker ok with salt and pep-per hair. If this sounds like you give her a call. Ad#:659790

SWF, 53, 5'3", weight proportion-ate. Enjoys gardening, movies, fine

CALL & CHAT WITH ME

Very SWF, 50, 5'7", weight proportion-ate, retired. Loves dancing, time at ne, and people. Looking for a ers and quiet times. Looking for a SWM, 47-60, Ad#:656997 sincere SWM, 30-50, who can be flexible due to my busy schedule, and is

ONE IN A MILLION Professional, educated, DWF, 43. with one child. Enjoys movies, din-ing out, swimming, bike riding, and more. Looking for an honest, sincere, SWM, 35-52, who's not into games, knows what they want enjoys the outdoors. Ad#:656858

HUSBAND WANTED.

SWF, 38, attractive, blonde, likes to cuddle, fine arts/dining, movies, is honest, caring, romantic, passionlar interests. Ad#:643372 THE COFFEE IS ON SWF, 57, natural blonde, blue eves ate, N/S, not outdoor type. Seeks with grown children. Looking for a SWM, 35-55, 6'+, attractive, stable, serious relationship, passion for spending quality time, no sports/bar type Ad#:656162 57-80, who would like to get together and talk over a cup of cof

ALL OUR TOMORROWS

43, enjoys spending time with her children, reading, cooking and the beach. Looking for a good hearted, SWM, 40-50, who's likes to have a good time and likes children. Ad#:656043

END MY SEARCHI

I'm an honest, dependable, SW Mom, 25, 5'5", 105 lbs., smoker, with brown hair & hazel eves. Looking for a long-term relation ship with a tall, SW gentleman, 30 50, who enjoys summer and winte activities, and has time for me. Ad#:655797

WHY NOT CALL? SW Mom. 24, 5'6", 120 lbs, Enjoys

shopping, movies, etc. Seeks a SBM, 25-30, who enjoys going to church, and trying new things. Ad#:655731 CONTACT ME

Brown-eyed, SBF, 30 years old, mother of two. She enjoys movies, bowling, and is seeking a nice SBM, 21-40, who loves kids. Ad#:654399 CHAT SBF, 26, 5'7", 116 lbs., with a great

Retired, SWF, 62, enjoys dining out, dancing, traveling, or staying home for a quiet evening, She's looking for a SWM, 58-64, to put

sense of humor and no children. Looking for a SM, 22-32, who is good-looking. Ad#:654219 **RESPECTING EACH OTHER**

Full figured, educated, SBF, 37, 5'11", no children, N/S, N/D. Enjoys watching sports on TV, reading, bowling and the simple things in life. Looking for an hon-est, mature, SBM, 37-50, who's employed and has his own trans-portation. Ad#:644676

JUST THE GAL FOR YOUI Attractive, SWF, 61, 5'6", brown hair/eyes. Enjoys theater, travel,



Looking for SWM, 50-60, with same interests, No couch pota and if interested give me a call. Thank You, Ad#:616570 WHAT-S YOUR SIGN? Witty, faithful, outgoing, SWF, 41, blue-eyed blonde, 5'2". Loves roller coasters, computers, cards, racing, camping and fishing Looking for a good-humored open-minded, passionate, SM, 35

READY TO SETTLE DOWN SWF, 47, 5'2", attractive blonde hazel eyes with a beautiful smile Seeking a honest and caring SWM with that special someone Ad#:641159

55, who enjoys life. Ad#:536207

LETS SHARE LIFE TOGETHER SBF, weight proportionate, 47, enjoys travel, weekend getaways, camping, movies, plays, di In/out, romantic days, in search or a SCM, 45-65, family-oriented with similar interests. Ad#:640890 SEEKING CHURCH-GOING MAN

SBF, 22, enjoys going to church. Looking for a fun, respectable, clean-cut, SB gentleman, 18-30 N/S, N/D, who is serious about a relationship. Ad#:640709 TRY IT OUT SWF, 49, beautiful blonde, who is romantic, and sophisticated, Enjoys the bookstore, entertaining romanti and cooking. Seeks a ispecial

SWM, to make her house a home He should be intelligent, financial ly/emotionally secure, handsome, generous & marriage-minded

1996 - 1996 - 199**7** - 1996 - 1996 - 1996 - 1996 - 1996 - 1996 - 1996 - 1996 - 1996 - 1996 - 1996 - 1996 - 1996 FRIENDS TO START busy, SWF, 38, enjoys es, traveling, theater, computmen

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educated, employed.

proportionate.

interested in friendship to start,

SWF, 40, 5'5", with brown eyes height/weight proportionate

Enjoys fishing, camping, writing,

photography, and more. Looking for a SM, under 50, who has simi

pt, N/S, N/D, mature, SWN

51, WF, independent. Hike movies,

travel, dining out, dancing

maybe more later: Ad#:643444

HEART OF A POET

fee, Ad#:642834

LET'S LIVE



\$2.19 per minute. \$2.19 per call connect fee

ONE OF A KIND Good looking, SWM, 55. retired, enjoys dancing, camping and sail-ng. Looking for that special lady a SWF. 45-51. slim. attractive. fun oving and honest. Ad#:681800

LIFE IS BETTER SHARED 🛛 🖉 White male, dentist, 6', 173 lbs. 54, very successful and attractive ing a white female, 38 to 53 5'4" plus, slim, non-smoker, very attractive and physically fit, who loves fine dining, travel, cuddlin seeking a best friend. Ad#:403950

FUN LIFE SWM, 68, 6'1", 210 lbs., brown hair and eyes, active, easygoing and fun to be around. Seeking an affectionate SF. ade unimportant who is fun to be with! Ad#:683232

SOUND GOOD TO YOU? (*) Nice-looking SWM, 45, 5'9", 170 lbs., with light brown hair and dark brown eyes. He enjoys a wide vari ety of outdoor activities. Searching for a SWF, 30-50, who would like to talk and get to know each othe where it goes from there Ad#:716074

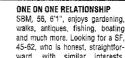
EDUCATED PROFESSIONAL SWM, 45, 5'8", fit, light brown hair, blue eyes. Looking for a passionate, compassionate, profes sional, SWF, 28-45, Oakland or Wayne County. Ad#:449863

ARE YOU READY? SDM, 25, 6', S/D, N/S, with two children that are not at home. Seeking an upbeat SWF 23-30 who has a nice personality and is ready for a long term relationship Ad#:720948

ROAD TO ADVENTURE SWM, 39, 6'2", 180 lbs., with brown hair and brown eyes. Enjoys sports, movies, dancing, dining out and more. Looking for a SF, 27-45, who's 5'4"-5'9", easygoing, attractive and easy to get along with. Ad#:720736

SEE WHAT HAPPENS

SBM, 35, 6'1", medium build, with brown eyes, short hair, a smoker home. Enjoys cuddling on the couch, volleyball, etc. Hopes to and a social drinker. He's looking meet a SF, 31-51, to share time for a compatible relationship with a with. Ad#:719299 SBF. Ad#:715931



ward, with similar interests Ad#:718090 SHOW ME THE WAY TO LOVE SWM, 20, 6', with brown hair and blue eves. Interests include the

drinker. Enjoys sports, chess dominos and more. Seeking a SF outdoors and sporting events. Looking for a SWF, 18-24, who's a who is caring, loving, honest and enjoys the same. Ad#:711740 nood woman to get to know and UNIQUE & FASCINATING see what develops. Ad#:717822 Self employed, DWCM, 55, 6'3", who enjoys the out doors, talks in

STABLE MINDED 🔎 SWM, 52, 5'6", medium build brown hair, green eyes, N/S. Seeking a SWF, 38-51, who is kind,

caring and stable. Ad#:701914

for a possible long term relation-ship. Ad#:643411 CHECK ME OUT! WHATS UP LADIES SWM, 23, 5'8", 140 lbs., brown SBM, 26, is seeking a SF, over 18, for a possible long term relationhair, hazel eyes, open-minded, outship. Ad#:711290 going and funny. Enjoys the outdoors, jet skiing, snow mobiling **GOLF ANYONE?** and more. Seeking a SF, who SWM, 50, 5'10", 190 lbs., blue eyes and grey hair. Enjoys working eniovs the same. Ad#:717770

CALL ME SM, 45, 5'9", 150 lbs., long brown hair, blue eyes. Seeking an easygoing, SF in the Pontiac area to get to know. Ad#:714660

LET~S MEET I'LL TREAT YOU RIGHT SBM, 29, 5'9", 160 lbs., hardwork-ing. Llkes going out and having fun, going to the movies, hanging SWM, 39, 5'9", 155 lbs., with brown hair & green eyes, a smok out with friends and bowling. Seeking a SBF, 20+, with similar interests. Ad#:709674 er. Enjoys camping, fishing, boating, etc. Seeks a SWF, 18-25, for fun times. Ad#:717310

LET ME LOVE YOU

Fun, lonely SBM, 31, 5'6", 220 lbs, big build. Seeking a full-figured, lovable, tough, SF, who's openminded, likes to cuddle and doesn't play games. Ad#:717229

ARE YOU READY? () Do you have a passport? Do you

have a swimsuit? Do have dance shoes? I'm 55+, tall, slim, active ready for friendship, companion ship, romance with a SWF, 48-60. who is my equal! Phone replies only please! Ad#:612394

EASY TO TALK TO! Ad#:404066

DWM, 41, flexible, owns his own CAPTURE MY ATTENTION

Looking for a SBF, 18-38, with a medium complexion, green eves ONE IN A MILLION SBM, 27, a father, college graduate enjoys music, basketball, movies and travelling. Seeking a SF, who is sweet and motivated. Ad#:712237 and no children. Ad#:685727 THE SEARCH IS OVER SWM, 48, 6', 235 lbs., with blonde

det to know me. Ad#:713076

SWM. 49. looks 39, knows how to treat a lady. someone who has a nice build and a pleasant personal-ity. I am looking for a woman that

is looking for a good man. Hope to

hear from you as soon as possible.

SBM, 43, 6', 220 lbs., N/S, social

front of the fireplace and traveli

Looking for a prudent SWCF, 43-55, who's attractive, fit and looking

out, boating, swimming, golf and more. Seeking a SWF, age unim-

portant, who knows how to play

golf or who wants to lear

DATING WORLD AGAIN SWM, 66, 5'6", N/S, N/D. Enjoys

crafts, craft shows, casinos and

movies. Looking for a very outgo ing, slim to medium-built, SWF

ing, slim to medium-ound, or, 50-65, with no children at hom who likes crafts and would li

companionship. Ad#:705654

KEEPS AN OPEN MIND

Ad#:710867

FUN TIMES

Redford area. Ad#:411537

I'M WAITING

THIS IS IT!

hair, smoker, N/D, Enjoys golf, Las TAKE A CHANCE ON ME SBM, 33, hazel eyes, 5'11", 210 lbs., tattoo. Looking for an Inde-pendent, confident, SF, around 6', Vegas and bike riding. Looking for a SWF, 35-48, who's honest, easy going, height to weight proportion slim with tattoos Ad# 685604 easy on the eyes. Ad#:685692

ATTENTION LADIES ...

SWM, 19, 6'5", 190 lbs., with and athletic build, black hair and blue eyes. Looking for a SF, to have fun LET'S MEET SWM, 44, brown hair, green eyes, medium build. Enjoys walking, dining out and more. Seeking a SWF, 25-45, to meet for a casual with, someone who's easy to talk to. Let's talk and see where it leads us. Ad#:685663 drink and get to know betters

SWF, under 48, for quiet romantic

SBM. 31, 611", 190 lbs., with black hair, green eyes and children not

living at home. Enjoys dancing

and

bowling

times together. Ad#:686504

LOOK INTO MY EYES

walking, sports

2 Chatting Bu Phone

Hey Bob!

PIESS 2

to CHAT LIVE or

leave a voice message for

any of them right now!

Ad#:681244

LOOKING FOR ELEGANCE

Dashing, talented gentleman, 38 athletic, brown hair. If you

friends say you are too skinny, i

am already making time for you

slip into a dress, point your toes

and click your heels, I'm your "James Bond" and that drives me wild. Ad#:680641

STILL LOVE THE BEACH BOYS

I'm a sandy and athletic, SWM, 5'11", 38, but look and feel much

younger. Where is my surfer girl? If you are slender and slow mov-ing, I will sweep you off your fee

and sing to you every day and night. Ad#:680637

Retired, educated, SWM, 60, 5'9"

Enjoys bowling, long walks

A REAL GENTLEMAN

county. Ad#:663655

an: 38

I'm your

BLUE EYES, BROWN HAIR

Good looking and financial secure, SWM, 32, Seeking a SWF 27-37, who likes dining out, bowling and a good home cooked meal. Ad#:685402

REQUIRED: LOVE

SWM, 40, with black/gray hair. Enjoys time with his teenage child. Looking for a SWF, 35-45, who is nice and loving friendlv Ad#:684089

END MY SEARCH

DWM, 50, 5'10", 180 lbs., smoker, in search of a nice-looking, good-humored, SWF, 35-50, who enjoys sports, music, dancing, and trying new things. Ad#:682841

TIRED OF BEING ALONE

SWM, 49, hardworking, 5'8", 175 Ibs. Seeking a SWF, 45-48, who is 160 lbs., with blue eyes & darl easygoing, intelligent and fit, for a dining out, dancing and romantic long-term relationship in the evenings. Looking for a SWF, 45 Redford area only. No E-mails 60, who's active, for a long terr please! Ad#:406401 pleasant relationship. Oaklan

SBM, 27, 5'9", short hair, light brown complexion. Seeking a SF, 20-41, to have fun with. Ad#:706374

MUST BE SPIRITUAL SWM, 38, 6'2", shaved head, blue 50~S. WHITE MALE eyes, affectionate, funny, spiritual in his 50's, N/S, clean-cut, smoker. Enjoys bowling, movies, the outdoors, sports and more. Seeking a SF, who is affectionate. Likes long drives and gardening. Seeks a down-to-earth, neat lady, weight proportionate, age one humorous, communicative and nesse County. Phone respons enjoys the same. Ad#:682226 es only. Ad#:557006

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Caring and kind, SWM, 53, straw-SWM, 30, 5'11", 180 lbs., black hair, green eyes. Seeking a SF berry/blonds hair, mustache biue eyes, 5'7", 175 lbs. Likes going to the movies, sightsee, dine out and under 45, who is adventurous and down-to-earth. Ad#:680479 more. Seeking a SWF, 18-45 Ad#:682089 The Publisher assumes no lia The Publisher assumes no lia-bility for the content of, or replies to, any advertisement or voice greeting. Such liability rests exclusively with the advertiser or respondent. The advertiser and reproduction

DESIRES OF THE HEART SNAM, 24, has a variety of hobbies and interests. Seeking a SAF, 18and interests. Seeking a SAF, 18-25, preferable a blonde with blue/green eyes, who is outgoing and independent. Ad#:682069

HERE~S TO NEW BEGINNINGS

LET ME KNOW SWM, 46, N/S, easygoing and fun-lovin. Seeking a SWF, 25-35, who is honest, loving, dedicated and sincere. Ad#:681984

NOT YOUR AVERAGE JOE Tired of guys who take up their Sundays with sports? Try me... I'm a considerate, open-mi 47, looking for a SWF, 35-48. Ad#:681517

HELLO, HELLO, HELLO

SWF, 22-35, Ad#:681382

Nice down-to-earth SBM, 35, Ilkes

going out, having fun, laughter and has a variety of other interests.

Looking for the same qualities in a

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Place your FREE word ad, call toll free 1-800-487-2038



watching movies and being togeth er. Ad#:697835

LOOKING FOR YOU SWM, 52, 5'7". with brown hair/eyes, likes scuba diving, trav-eling, landscaping, etc. Seeking a SWF, 62-82, retired and ready to have fun. Ad#:693394

OUTDOORS CALENDAR

Tourney to see a whole lotta shakin' goin' on - or not

^{*}his year's edition of the Michigan State Bowling

Tournament is going to undergo a major shake-up in the standings as my group of teams will be participating together in the Team event Saturday, May 1 and the Singles and Doubles on Sunday, May 2.

I will be there wearing my red, white and blue striped Greater Detroit Bowling Association team shirt and ready to vie for the top spots. I may not bowl all that well, but the only way to compete is with a winning attitude. I am sure the rest of our guys will be putting out their best effort and with the Detroit Red Wings attitude, "we are going to win this one today" and that will help make it happen, for sure.

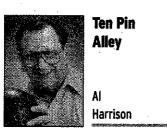
The championship team from the Greenfield Mixed league bowling Friday nights at **Country Lanes in Farmington** Hills had the claw and scratch their way in the roll-offs in order to get past the winning team of the second half.

Team 16 with Matt and Heidi Boettcher and teammates Bob and Carol Rice all from Livonia who virtually came out of nowhere to beat everyone else for the half. Now it was up to Team 11 with Captain Lila Hickok of Livonia, Tom Cadeau of Redford along with Debra and Tony VanMeter of Farmington Hills fighting it out on the lanes as each team took

MARY C. McDONALD

4425 W. Olive, Suite #144

Attorney At Law



turns in winning the first two games.

The third and deciding game went to the tenth frame and either team could win with a little break. The little break was decisive as the last bowler on 16 left a 1-2-4-10 washout on his first ball and came within a fraction of an inch in making it, and Tony VanMeter just had to keep his first ball on the lane to win. And he did just that to seal the league championship.

It was just about as hectic for the pair of roll-off teams in the Sunday Goodtimers also at Country Lanes as the 8 team, The Good Men with Harry Goodman and Stuart Taub of Southfield, Keith Oswald of Farmington Hills and Dave Rosenthal of West Bloomfield whose efforts won the first half vs. 4 E.T. with Mike and Noah Zipser of Farmington Hills, Marc Keppleman and Alan Silver of West Bloomfield who won the second half.

This one took a little longer as the rest of the league was bowling a "high-low" doubles in a No-Tap format. It meant that the championship pair had to keep the scores both ways, the regular format for the championship and on paper for the No-tap prize money.

This one also was decided in the last frame of the last game and it was the E.T.'s that hung on for the victory. To add to the excitement Mark Silverstein of Farmington Hills rolled a 181 game in the opener, not all that good but just the right score to cash the mystery game. He followed that one with a 300 and stayed glued to the pocket with 20 strikes in a row, mostly ten pin strikes

Sorry, Mark, no ring, no prizes from the American Bowling Congress or other recognition on for the 300 game and 20 in a row performance, it was only in no-tap, but you did have a real one in 1998. Charles Bykonnen also bowled a 300 game.

Town 'n Country Lanes in Westland is where the Tuesday Jr. Classic league meets with a house-full of good bowlers each week. Now they have just finished their season with team 17 "D&S Service" comprised of Lance Howey, Ron Blanchard, Tom Pritchard, and Jim Jesson. In the Mixed Doubles league, team 8 "you and I" with Westlanders Cookie Struppa and



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS MEETING NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN (734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals will be held on Thursday, May 6, 2004 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following items: Z 04-10 1375 W. Ann Arbor Tr Non-Use Variance Requested Existing Garage Rear Yard

		Setback Variance Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential Applicant: Patrick Tortora
Z 04-11	110 W. Ann Arbor Rd 1490 W. Ann Arbor Rd. 480 N. Main	Use Variance Requested 3-Temporary Sales Tent Stands Zoned: PUD, ARC & B-3, General Business Applicant: Greg Every
Z 04-12	886 N. Mill	Non-Use Variance Requested Parking Variance Zoned: MU, Mixed Use

All interested persons are invited to attend. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and

Applicant: D.J. Maltese

services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes or printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

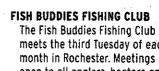
Carol Stone, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street

Jerry Adamus took their league championship title.

Woodland Lanes in Livonia will be hosting two different charity fund-raisers on the same weekend as they will have the American Cancer Society on Friday, May 21 at 7 p.m. (check in at 6:30 p.m.) There is a bowling fee of \$20 per person which includes three games of No-tap bowling, shoe rental and pizza. There will also be mystery games, a 50-50 raffle and door prizes.

Mickey says "sign up early and bring a friend." On the following day, Saturday, May 22 there will be the Bowl-A-Rama to benefit the "Second Chance at Life" Walk-A-Thon (All proceeds go to the University of Michigan Transplant Center to further education on the importance of organ donation). Check-in time is 6:15 p.m. and the fee is \$20 per person, including pizza, 50-50 raffle, Lucky Strike and free prizes (sorry, no children). To reserve a lane with your team of four or more, call Carol Mancini at (734) 432-2625 by May 3.

Al Harrison is a resident of Livonia and a director of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association. He can be reached at (248) 477-1839. or Email: tenpinalley@sbcglobal.net



meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester. Meetings are open to all anglers, boaters and non-boaters. Call Harold Leider at (248) 656-0556 for more information.

ACTIVITIES

DOWNRIVER BASS ASSOCIATION

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain (14100 Pardee Road) in Taylor. For more information, call Ron Fodor at (734) 676-2863 or send an e-mail to riverrat122@home.com.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Livonia senior center located on the southeast corner of Farmington and Five Mile. Call Henry Nabors at (248) 258-5502 for more information. **MICHIGAN FLY FISHING**

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Middle School, located on Middlebelt Road between Seven and Eight Mile roads. Visit www.mffc.org on the Internet for more information. FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. the first

Wednesday of each month at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road. Meetings are open to boaters and nonboaters and the club is open to new members. Visitors are welcome to the family club. For more information, call Mark Boggs at (734) 464-6155 or e-mail fourseasonsfishingclub@yahoo.com. HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS

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(PC)

The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each; month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Road, Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for more information.

CLINTON RIVER BASS 'N RATS

The recently organized Clinton River Bass in Rats meets the first Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Gander Mountain Lodge. Call (810) 247-9900 for direction and additional information. The club is an affiliated chapter of the B.A.S.S. National Federation.

METROPARKS

METROPARK REQUIREMENTS

Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178; Hudson Mills, 1-800-477-3191.

MARY C. McDONALD Attorney At Law 4425 W. Olive, Suite #144 Glendale, AZ 85302 (623) 435-1000

Mary C. McDonald - State Bar No. 7205

Attorney for Petitioner

SHARON COLLINS,

VS.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE ARIZONA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

No. FC 2004-001527

PETITION FOR TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT CUSTODY ANDREW RICHARD COLLINS, DETERMINATION PURSUANT TO A.R.S. 25-415

Respondents.

AMBER MARIA SAVAGE,

Petitioner,

COMES NOW the Petitioner, Sharon Collins, by and through counsel undersigned, and for her Petition for an Order for Custody, both Temporarily and Permanently, of her grandchildren, Andrew Richard Collins and Jasmin Marie Collins, alleges as follows:

I.

That she is the paternal grandmother of Andrew Richard Collins Date of Birth September 19, 1997 and Jasmin Marie Collins, Date of Birth November 1, 1999. That the legal/natural parents of the children are Amber Maria Savage and Andrew Richard Collins. The parents were never married.

Π.

Mary C. McDonald – State Bar N	Jo. 7205
Attorney for Petitioner	
	RIOR COURT OF 'E ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE CO	OUNTY OF MARICOPA
SHARON COLLINS,) No. FC 2004-001527
Petitioner,))
vs.	NOTICE OF HEARING
ANDREW RICHARD COLLINS, AMBER MARIA SAVAGE,)
Respondents.)

Hearing has been set to consider any objections to the petition that may be filed by Mother on the 20th day of May, 2004, at 9:30 a.m. before Judge Robert Budoff, Maricopa County Courthouse, Central Court Building, 201 W. Jefferson, Phoenix, AZ 85003,

Dated this 30th day of March, 2004.

MARY C. McDONALD Attorney for Grandmother

Publish: April 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2004

SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS

Notice is herby given that the following units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of open auction on 05/07/04 at approximately 9:00 a.m. at the following locations:

Shurgard of Canton 2101 Haggerty Rd. Canton, MI 48187 734-981-0300

Unit 4221 household goods Unit 4244 household goods Unit 4253 household goods Unit 4267 household goods Unit 5041 household goods Unit 5212 household goods Unit 6217 household goods

Shurgard of Canton South 45229 Michigan Ave. Canton, MI 48188 734-398-5416

Unit 4017 household goods Unit 4041 household goods Unit 4058 household goods Unit 4109 household goods Unit 5108 household goods Unit 5324 household goods

Shurgard of Westland 36001 Warren Rd. Westland, MI 48185 734-326-6000

Unit 5148 household goods Shurgard of Plymouth

41889 Joy Rd. Canton, MI 48187 734-459-2200

Unit 1006 household goods Unit 1029 household goods Unit 1041 household goods Unit 2054 household goods Unit 3020 household goods

Shurgard of Dearborn 24920 Trowbridge Rd. Dearborn, MI 48124 313-277-2000

Unit 1276 household goods

Shurgard of Livonia 30300 Plymouth Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 734-522-7811

Unit 2017 household goods Unit 3101 household goods Unit 4048 household goods Unit 4060 household goods Unit 9020 household goods

Shurgard of Walled Lake 1091 East West Maple Rd. Walled Lake, MI 48390 248-669-4020

Unit 1134 household goods Unit 4006 household goods Unit 7031 household goods Publish: April 18 & 25, 2004

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Shurgard of Taylor 9300 Pelham Rd. Taylor, MI 48180 313-292-2950 Unit 2003 household goods Unit 3029 household goods Unit 3052 household goods Unit 4011 household goods Unit 5067 household goods Unit 5086 household goods Unit 6082 household goods **Shurgard of Southfield** 19350 W. 8 Mile Rd. Southfield. MI 48075 248-357-1137 Unit 1015 household goods Unit 1044 household goods Unit 1096 household goods Unit 1101 household goods Unit 1123 household goods Unit 1145 household goods Unit 1169 household goods Unit 1234 household goods Unit 1302 household goods Unit 2006 household goods Unit 2109 household goods Unit 2135 household goods Unit 2149 household goods Unit 2159 household goods Unit 2243 household goods Shurgard of Sthfld @ Telegraph 24200 Telegraph Rd. Southfield, MI 48034 248-208-9000 Unit 1043 household goods Unit 1082 household goods

Unit 1131 household goods Unit 1143 household goods Unit 2001 household goods Unit 2091 household goods Unit 2108 household goods Unit 2140 household goods Unit 2175 household goods Unit 3008 household goods Unit 3010 household goods Unit 3038 household goods Unit 3049 household goods

Shurgard of Ann Arbor 2500 Industrial Hwy. Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734-973-2212

Unit 1027 household goods Unit 1061 household goods Unit 2012 household goods Unit 3051 household goods Unit 3053 household goods Unit 4110 household goods Unit 6014 household goods Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

Publish: April 25, 2004

Name of Person Filing:	N
Your Address:	4
Your City, State, Zip Code:	G
Your Telephone Number:	(
ATLAS Number (if applicable):	`
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Atto Representing [] Self (Without an Attorney) or [X] Petitioner or [] Respondent

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA MARICOPA COUNTY

SHARON COLLINS Name of Petitioners/Plaintiff Name of Petitioners/Plaintiff <u>ANDREW RICHARD COLLINS</u> **SUMMONS** IF YOU WANT THE ADVICE OF <u>A LAWYER</u>, YOU MAY WISH TO AMBER MARIA SAVAGE Name of Respondent/Defendants

Mary C. McDonald 4425 W. Olive, Ste. 144 Glendale, AZ 85302

623) 435-1000

07205

OE08207967

Case No: FC 2004 001527

CONTACT THE LAWYER. REFERRAL SERVICE AT 602-257-4484 OR ON-LINE AT

WWW.LAWYERFINDERS.ORG. LRS IS SPONSORED BY THE MARICOPA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION.

WARNING: This is an official document from the court that affects your rights. Read this carefully. If you do not understand it, contact a lawyer for help.

FROM THE STATE OF ARIZONA TO Amber Maria Savage

- A lawsuit has been filed against you. A copy of the lawsuit and other court papers are served on you with this "Summons".
- 2. If you do not want a judgment or order taken against you without your input, you must file an "Answer" or a "Response" in writing with the court, and pay the filing fee. If you do not file an "Answer" or "Response" the other party may be given the relief requested in his/her Petition or Complaint. To file your "Answer" or "Response" take, or send, the "Answer" or "Response" to the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court, 201 West Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003-2205 or the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court, 222 East Javelina Drive, Mesa, Arizona 85210-6201. Mail a copy of your "Response" or "Answer" to the other party at the address listed on the top of this Summons.
- If this "Summons" and the other court papers were served on 3. you by a registered process server or the Sheriff, within the State of Arizona, your "Response" or "Answer" must be filed within TWENTY (20) CALENDAR DAYS from the date you were served, not counting the day you were served. If this "Summons" and the other papers were served on you by a registered process server or the Sheriff outside the State of Arizona, your Response must be filed within THIRTY (30) CALENDAR DAYS from the date you were served, not counting the day you were served. Service by a registered process server or the Sheriff is complete when made. Service by Publication is complete thirty (30) days after the date of the first publication.
- You can get a copy of the court papers filed in this case from the Petitioner at the address at the top of this paper, or from the Clerk of the Superior Court at the address listed in Paragraph 2 above.
- Requests for reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities must be made to the office of the judge or 5. commissioner assigned to the case, at least five (5) days before your scheduled court date.

SIGNED AND SEALED this date: MICHAEL JEANES, CLERK OF COURT

Publish: April 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2004

That the children have been in her care continuously since December, 1997, as to Andrew and since July, 2002 as to Jasmin. Because of the length of time the children have lived with Petitioner/grandmother, she has formed a meaningful relationship with the children who treat her as a parent.

III.

Because of these facts, the Petitioner stand "in loco parentis" to these children and, therefore, is able to file this Petition pursuant to A.R.S. 25-415.

That she should be awarded the temporary custody of the children until the Court hearing date for permanent custody. V.

IV.

That it would be significantly detrimental to the children to be placed in the custody of either natural 'parent. The children's mother, Amber Maria Savage, lives in Michigan and has not had any contact with either child for almost two (2) years.

The father, Andrew Richard Collins, lives in Michigan and does not have the financial and housing capacity to take care of the children at this time. Father, Andrew Richard Collins, agrees that his mother, Petitioner Sharon Collins, should be awarded the custody of these children both temporary and permanently.

VI.

That a Court of competent jurisdiction has not entered or approved an order concerning the custody of these children within one year before the Petitioner filed this Petition.

VII.

That it is in the children's best interest to remain with the Petitioner, both temporarily and permanently.

VIII.

That neither the mother or father has the ability to pay child support currently and Petitioner, therefore, requests no child support Order be entered at this time.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests that this Court enter the following orders after a full evidentiary hearing:

1) Award custody of the children, Andrew Richard Collins and Jasmin Marie Collins, to the Petitioner, both temporarily and permanently;

2) Award parenting time to the mother and father in length and frequently that the court or the grandmother determines is in the best interest of the children:

3) Order Petitioner to provide medical insurance for the benefit of the children;

4) Order neither parent to pay child support because, at the present time, neither parent is capable of paying.

5) Enter such other orders as the Court deems appropriate.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 11th day of February, 2004.

MARY C. McDONALD Attorney for Petitioner

VERIFICATION

SS.

STATE OF ARIZONA

County of Maricopa

SHARON COLLINS, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and states that she is the Petitioner named in the foregoing cause of action; that she has read the foregoing Petition for Custody Determination Pursuant to A.R.S. 25-415 and the facts stated therein are true and correct according to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

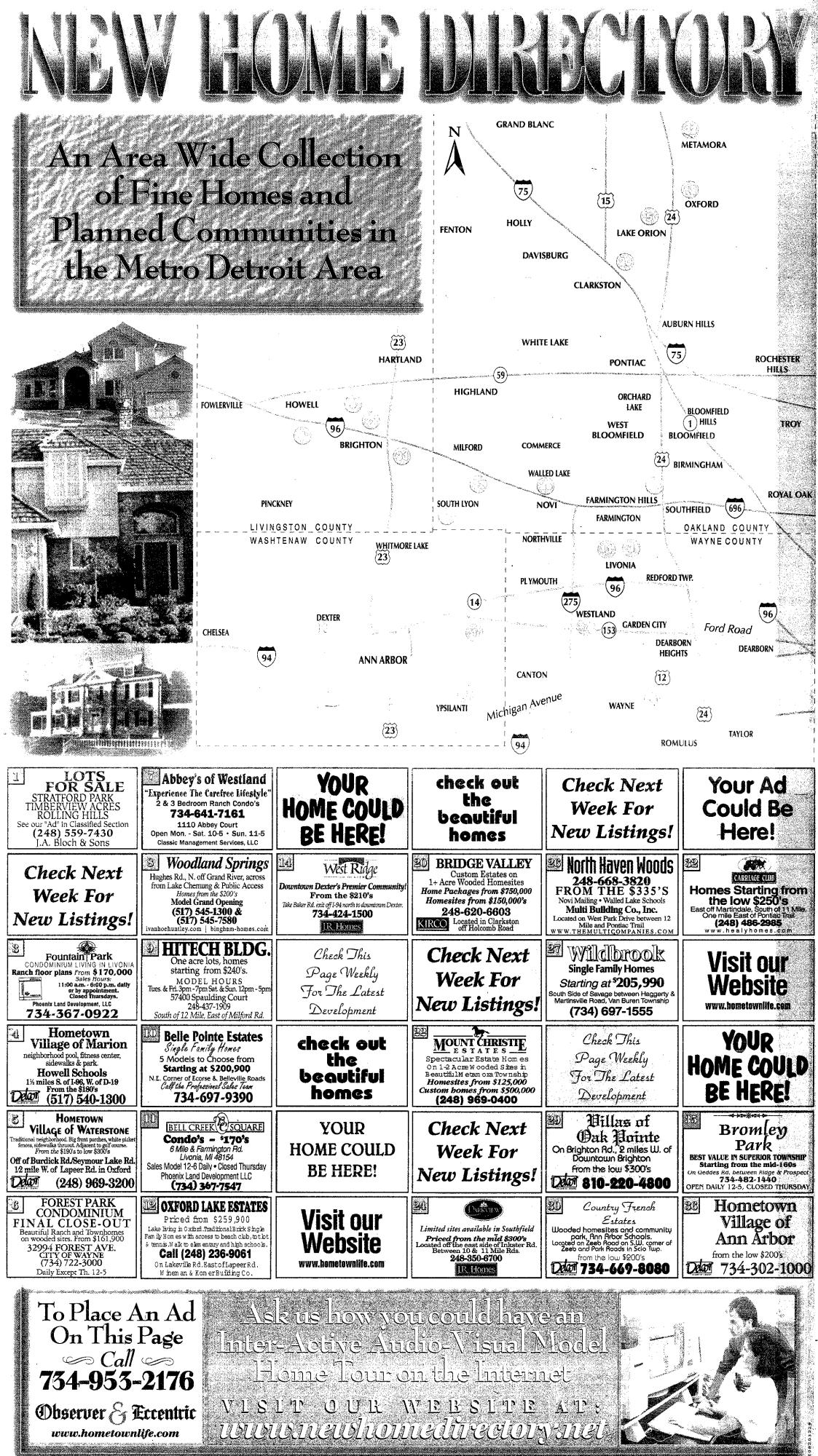
SHARON COLLINS Petitioner

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO, before me this 11th day of February, 2004.

ANNIE L. MICKELS NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: Publish: April 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2004

OE08201473





Adoption needs firm approach

Dear Lisa: My husband and I have been trying to have a child for approximately 10 years now. I am 33 and he is 35. We have gone through two attempts at in vitro fertilization and we have had nothing but problems. We have decided that it would be best if we adopted a baby. We have no clue how to start this process or what to do. Our only problem is that we are not rich. We are full of love and would love to have a family. We don't know how to get started trying to have a family through adoption. Laurie and David H.

Dear Laurie and David: As adoption is not my area of expertise, I did some research and spoke to several people who do specialize in this area to get answers to your questions. I can share the information that was provided to me. First, think carefully about the kind of child you want to adopt and the kind of child you feel you would best parent. You need to consider things like age, race and ethnicity and sex. You also need to decide if you want to be able to have contact with the birth parent(s) and if you want a child from the U.S. or from another country. Once you are clear about what you want, stay firm. People tend to be very vulnerable because this is such an emotional issue, however, it is very important that you approach this as a process, which takes time and research. You will need to stay true to yourselves and not accept the first adoption opportunity that comes along if it does not meet the criteria you have established necessary for your family. I was told that it is a misconception that adoption has to be excessively costly. There are several types of adoption and the cost varies.

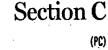
The first thing to do is to make contact with as many adoption agencies as you can.



HOROSCOPE - Read Dennis Fairchild's predictions.

PET ADOPTION - Zoo's the place to be.

www.hometownlife.com



2

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Sunday, April 25, 2004

Brad Kadrich, editor (734) 459-2700 Fax (734) 459-4224 bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net

Camps and classes liven up dog days

As a kid, Jon LaFever dreaded long summer days until discovering Canton Leisure Services' playground program. Now as youth development director, LaFever makes sure no kid is bored during the dog days of summer. He's lined up a list of fun activities, including those at 20 neighborhood playground sites.

Canton Leisure Services offers camps and classes for every interest, from a youth baseball camp July 13-16 (ages 7-15); to multi-sport camps (ages 5-13); weekend Team Challenge Camp (ages 11-15) at the Indian Valley Campground in Middleville May 21-23; field trips for preschoolers and performing arts camps run by Ever After Productions July 19-23 and Aug. 9-13; and Spotlight Players July 26 to Aug. 6. A June 21 to July 2 camp gives students (grades seven-12) portunity to learn from profesthe o sional artists. Call (734) 394-5460. Eight-week Camp Canton programs run 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. June 21 to Aug. 13 (first to eighth grade). Highlights are field trips to a waterpark and Detroit Science Center. Camp Able is a therapeutic camp for children and youths ages 8-15 with disabilities. The field trips, games and arts and crafts are tailored for children with emotional and physical impairments and ADHD. Costs range from \$24 to \$34 per day. "I have memories of going to the parks and playing games," LaFever said. "It was a supervised and safe environment and run so that children grow and learn. All activities are planned by kids in our programs. I'm excited about my camp for grades six through eight. It really promotes independence and responsibility."

Camps aren't just for fun anymore. Science, history and the fine arts come alive in summer settings. Check with YMCAs and recreation departments for offerings in your community. Several like Farmington Hills Special Services schedule a variety of camps for football, gymnastics, lacrosse, inline hockey, skateboarding, dance, art and technology. Call (248) 473-1800. Brainiacs (kindergarten to second grade) tackle topics such as dinosaurs, slimy science and creepy crawlers 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 14-18. Master Minds (third to fifth grade) invent and construct a robot and participate in experiments. Weeklong camps (9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for ages 6-10) feature games, arts and crafts, swimming and field trips. A children's tour program travels to a different museum or waterpark each day of the week.

SCIENCE/NATURE

Bailey Recreation Center (Westland Parks & Recreation), 36651 Ford Road, Westland. Call (734) 722-7620. Mad Science returns with camps (July 26-30) for preschool from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (\$75-\$78) and kindergarten to grade 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (\$135-\$138). Children learn about everything from robots to space, weather and nature. The Summer Park Program has been eliminated this year due to funding cuts, but classes in gymnastics (ages 2-5), tennis (age 7-11), bowling and the Rockers Soccer Camp (ages 4-14) July 12-16 are still available. Westland Parks & Rec sponsors or assists several programs for Wayne County Parks, including pottery, babysitting classes, sports leagues, drama camps by Shoe String Theatre and cheerleading. Call (734) 261-1990. Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. Call (734) 995-5439. Science Camp for kindergarten to eighth grade 9 a.m. to noon or 1-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, June 23 to Aug. 15, at Central Academy, 2495 S. Industrial. More than 50 courses range from Grossed Out to Ingenious Inventions. All other camps

held at museum. Exploring Science Together is for toddlers age 24 months to 3 years; Adventures in Science for ag:: 4-5. Trio Grande Day Camp in collaboration with Ann Arbor Art Center and Wild Swan Theater July 7-11 or July 14-18 (K-fifth grade); students experience one topic from perspective of science, art and drama.

St. Joseph Mercy Health Exploration Station, 1600 S. Canton Center, Canton. Call (734) 398-7518. Is there a future doctor or nurse in your family? "Amazing Me," a weeklong camp (second to fourth grades) focuses on health and the human body, including bones, muscles and skin; heart and lungs; brain and nerves; and first aid and safety, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, July 12-16, Aug. 2-6 (\$169) and includes hands-on projects, dissections, field trips, interactive games, two nutritious snacks each day. Plus there will be plenty of time for campers to explore the Health Exploration Station gallery. Kids can see real germs grow, crawl through a giant intestinal tract, learn about body systems while playing a TV-style game show. The St. Joseph Mercy Health Exploration Station is Michigan's first interactive health education center and one of only about 30 in the country. **Detroit Zoo,** 8450 W. 10 Mile at Woodward, Royal Oak. Summer Safari Camps (ages 4-13) explore the wonders of the animal kingdom through tours, hands-on activities, games, arts and crafts. Campers choose from a variety of single-day, week-long and overnight sessions. This one-of-a-kind camp teaches respect for wildlife and conservation. Costs range from \$30-\$35 for single day adventures to \$105-\$110 for a week. Save \$5-\$10 by becoming a Detroit Zoological Society member. Call (248) 541-5717.

three-acre park. Camps (ages 8-14) run 9 a.m. to noon Monday-Friday beginning week of June 21. Offerings include 30-foot rock wall for climbing, soccer, board games, martial arts, theater, horseback riding, model rocketry, golf, remote control cars, basketball, arts and crafts, science and a girls camp featuring yoga, pilates, hip-hop, aerobics, selfdefense, nutrition, careers, self-esteem building (\$55 to \$220). After-camp program (noon to 5 p.m.) is \$4 per hour per child. Activities include watergames, sports, mini-golf, indoor activities.

Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Call Continuing Education Services at (734) 462-4448 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu. Swimming for



People you know are often good sources of information and may have referrals. The Family Independence Agency on the State of Michigan Web site is one good resource (www.mi.gov.). Contact agencies that are listed there or in the phone book, or online to seek out as much information you can about adoption. Have a list of questions to ask. Listen and take notes. If an agency tells you that what you are looking for is not possible, it is likely the wrong agency for you. If you initially feel it is a good fit, make an appointment to explore the process further. There should be no cost involved in this initial meeting; therefore there is no financial investment as you are doing your research. I was told that one way to find out the reputation and reliability of the agency you are considering working with, is by contacting the local court where the agency is located.

There are many good books available about the many facets of adoption. You also may want to consult with a therapist who specializes in adoption as you move through the process, as there are so many psychological and emotional factors involved for you as the parents and for the child you will be adopting. The most common, consistent information that I received as I researched this was to "Be a Good Consumer." Though it may feel overwhelming, always remember the result. This will help sustain you and give you the patience required to do the necessary research and manage the inevitable waiting involved. Lisa Kruman, M.S.W., A.C.S.W., is a clinical social worker at Davis **Counseling Center in Farmington** Hills. She can be reached at NewParents@DavisCounseling.com or (248) 553-8550.

ATHLETIC/SPORTS

Camp Mirage, Oasis Golf Center, 39500 Five Mile, Plymouth. Call (734) 420-4655 or visit the Web site at www.campmirage.com. Located on a ages preschool and up, karate, golf and tennis.

EDUCATIONAL

Kids on Campus at Schoolcraft College, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4448. Looking for great classes designed just for children? Schoolcraft's Kids on Campus offers a large variety of educational programs (ages 5-15) beginning Saturday, July 12. Enrichment classes include computers, math, science, study skills, theater, video production and art. TAG classes are designed specifically for

PLEASE SEE FUN, C3

Book tells about rebuilding her life, marriage

turned to sleet," she wrote. He

cut off the conversation, and

when she asked who it was, he

answered: "Jerry. He was call-

ing on business." "The sleet in

continued. "For the first time in

Burton, now 61, had built his

almost 30 years of marriage, I

knew my husband was lying."

my veins turned to ice," she

BY JUDITH DONER BERNE CORRESPONDENT

As their dream house took shape above a scenic ravine in Franklin Village in 1997, journalist Suzy Farbman knew that her nearly 30-year marriage to metro Detroit real estate magnate Burton Farbman was crumbling.

"The thought that I might never live here was devastating," Suzy, 59, told me last Monday, as we toured the stunning yet cozy home they call "Acorn Hill."

I knew that — and much more — after reading an early copy of her first book, *Back From Betrayal: Saving a Marriage, a Family, a Life*, due in local bookstores this week. The book, with an "Afterward" in Burton's words, is a tell-all account of how extramarital affairs nearly destroyed the marriage of one of metro Detroit's high-profile couples.

As Suzy described it: They were driving along Northwestern Highway on their way to see how their new



Burt and Suzy Farbman, today a happy couple again, overcame their marriage crisis and hope that her book will help others, too.

house was progressing when Burton's mobile phone rang. When he answered, she could hear in the quiet car, the unmistakable sound of a woman trilling "Hiiiiiiiii."

'MY HUSBAND WAS LYING'

"The blood in my veins

based in Southfield, into one of the state's largest full-service real estate firms. After raising their two sons, Suzy stepped up her writing about fashion, design and the arts for various publications. They belonged to a country club, traveled widely, chaired events to benefit major Detroit institutions, attended fancy parties, owned vacation property in northern Michigan.

company, The Farbman Group

As she wrote in one of the early chapters: "We were neither perfect nor imperfect together, although there were years when some friends called us the perfect couple, when I did what I could to foster that image, when I almost believed it myself."

In his early 50s, Burton decided he wanted to work less and enjoy life more. His dad had died young and he wasn't interested in making more money. He had sons David and, later, Andrew take over the business he had built while he played golf, rode horses and enjoyed time away at their Charlevoix farm. Meanwhile, Suzy's career had taken a leap forward. She became regional editor for *Better Homes and Gardens* with stories to research and deadlines to meet. She was tasting her own success and she didn't want to just "play."

As she determined to fight for her marriage, she sought an understanding of how it had begun to disintegrate.

"Maybe the trouble began when my mother's foot surgery failed, and I spent so much time trying to help," Suzy began the chapter titled "Falling Apart." "Maybe it was when Burton lost interest in making love. ... Maybe it was when he no longer wanted to play golf with me. When he stopped holding my hand at the movies. When he didn't call me 'Gorgeous' anymore.

"Nights when I returned from visiting my mother I held my breath as I pulled into our driveway. ... More often than not his car was missing. I tried

PLEASE SEE BOOK, C2

COMMUNITY LIFE

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Grief aid given

New Hope Center for Grief Support, a Christian-based bereavement outreach center, offers grief support for widows and widowers with children on the second and fourth Tuesday night of each month. The groups for widows and widowers of all ages are offered in Wayne, Oakland, Livingston and Macomb counties. Groups will be provided for parents who have lost a child, parental loss, widows and widowers, suicide loss, and other losses due to death. Call (248) 348-0115.

Lam-Fountain

Melissa Judith Lam and Ian Fountain were married April 25, 2004, at the Martha-Mary Chapel at Greenfield Village, with the Rev. Tom Burdette officiating.

The bride is the daughter of David and Judy Lam of Royal Oak. She earned a bachelor's degree in computer science from the University of Michigan-Dearborn and is employed with the Sitel Corp. in Detroit.

The groom is the son of Harry and Claudette Fountain of Plymouth. He earned a bachelor's degree in computer

ANNOUNCEMENT

science from the University of Michigan-Dearborn and is employed by Creative Solutions in Dexter.

The bride was attended by Christina Lam, Vicki Low, Mary Bradford, Sarah Klein and Trisha Boledovich.

The groom was attended by Nathan Fountain, Ben Good, Randy Lam, Rob Mohr and Peter Vachor.

After a reception at St. John's Golf & Conference Center in Plymouth Township and a honeymoon to Little Dix Bay, Virgin Gourda, British Virgin Islands, the couple will reside in Plymouth Township.



Star Struck

(April 25-April 28)

By Dennis Fairchild

ARIES (March 21-April 20)

Old buds, relatives or family matters will take up a lot of your time, so don't plan too much on the work front because you'll get angry and frustrated when you find that your options are limited. If you deal with domestic issues now, they won't distract you later.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

Ignore the fights and feuds that are taking place around you and focus on things that mean something to you. Now that the Sun has re-entered your sign, you must block out all distractions and begin taking steps to de-clutter your fair -weather friends and dumb day-to-day doldrums.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

A month from now the Sun will move into your birth sign and a whole new solar year will begin, but it's what you do between now and then that will determine how successful that year is going to be. Your aim this week should be to empty the anxiety closet.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)

If you can imagine it, you can do it. The metaphysical message of the stars as the week begins is that nothing is impossible. If you want something, you can find a way to make it your own. What you dream of today will be your reality tomorrow- so dream. You're on top of the world this week!

LEO (July 24-Aug 23)

Time for objective second-opinions, kid! The higher your expectations of those important in your life, the greater their feelings of obligationand the less prepared they will be to compromise or cooperate. A realistic view of the relationship will take you further than any amount of wishful thinking.

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23)

You have been a bit too reticent recently, a bit too eager to stay out of the limelight. However, the Sun's entry in your element now signals the start of a more adventurous phase, one in which you want to be noticed. Just make sure it's for the right reasons. (I know yours will be.)

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23)

It's great that the weather is nice again. But something is missing in your life; whether it's material, spiritual or intellectual, you will feel much better once it is found. First, however, dispense with the distractions. While some things can be pushed to the limit, remember that you cannot.

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

You're cool, kiddo- don't forget it! But you might be inclined to buy into intimidation if you don't stay alert. Don't waste your breath and time arguing about who said or did what. The coming eclipse says that there is no point in going over any more old ground or trying to ascertain who messed up with the kid-and-bath water thing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

Others may try to take advantage of your generosity and, as much as you would like to help them, you must consider your needs as well. That is not to say you should turn them down-just make sure you don't endanger your own security.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 21)

Believe it or not, changes are good for you now, so put your doubts on hold and be ready to move forward at a moment's notice. You can go a long way this week toward dispelling the myth that Capricorn the Seagoat is unadventurous, but don't take risks for the sake of it.

AQUARIUS (Jan 22-Feb 19)

Taking your responsibilities seriously does not mean sacrificing an opportunity that could change your life for the better. Mercury going direct in a few days might cause ripples, but it doesn't have to be

BOOK

FROM PAGE C1

to reach him on his mobile phone. ... I began to feel like an old abandoned putter, tossed in a corner of the basement, replaced by a newer model."

BURTON WRITES

In the chapter "Burton's Words," he said: "I could say it was my wife's fault because she wasn't spending enough time with me. But that's bull----. It was my fault. I did it because I was weak and felt rejected. I was looking to build up my ego."

At Onsite, a couples therapy program in Tennessee, he began the process of confessing to three affairs. "I'm ready to tell you what's going on if you're ready to hear it," he said. "I warn you — up to now you haven't been."

The phone call turned out to be from "Jody Sommers" (not her real name), "a beautiful woman whom we had both known casually for several years." She had moved out to South Lyon, where horses abound, and Burton was spending a lot of time in the saddle. "I lied about my relationship with Jody," Burton told her. "We have been sexually involved although that never was a big part of our relationship."

Before that, he confessed, "there was a woman I did business with. That lasted a few months. No emotional involvement."

And 15 years ago, he acknowledged, he had been involved with "Sally Preston," (not her real name) "a curvy young lawyer" whom Burton "dismissed from our account when so-called rumors about their affair spread around the office.

Although she told him to go on, she didn't mean it. "I thought I had come here to learn the truth. Now I realized I didn't want the truth at all. ... All I wanted was a simple fix -to put my marriage back on track like a little toy train, to count on my husband again."

To their credit, they didn't settle for a simple fix - or for divorce. For more than a year, they pursued a variety of individual and couples therapies. She made a return visit to Onsite and also spent time at the Deepak Chopra Institute. Burton went to The Meadows, an Arizona facility for behavioral disorders, where he learned to cope with attention deficit disorder that he never knew he had. Reading aloud together, they studied A Course in Miracles and accepted a

REBUILDING

As they took the painstaking steps to rebuild trust and create an honest relationship, Suzy, ever the journalist, decided it was a story worth telling. She had looked for such a book during her months of despair. And although there were selfhelp books on surviving infidelity, she found none that chronicled the daily ups and downs she was experiencing. The book took five years to

complete. In an epilogue, written this past November, she wrote: "When Burton strayed, I used to think if I could only look pretty enough, he'd be mine again. Now I realize looks weren't the issue. Neither was sexy lingerie. The issue was companionship."

As she contemplates the book's release, local bookstore signings and an early May appearance on Oprah, she acknowledged that some will call her courageous for telling their story, while others will feel she's insane.

"My life was really very conventional, very concerned about looking good and my image. But when our marriage was foundering, it so completely ripped me apart that I didn't have any more defenses.

"I think in the back of my mind that it can have some

Higher Power.

estival of the

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(PC)

sort of lasting value," she said. And she also hopes "it's a good read."

Burton, too, looks forward to publication of the book, the Oprah taping and beyond. He contemplates doing some lecturing and opening their Charlevoix farm to couples therapy sessions, led by a professional and to which they could add their experience.

For their son, David, copresident with Andrew of The Farbman Group, what his parents have achieved, as chronicled in his mom's book, "probably makes me more proud of my mother, father and family than anything."

FAMILY REACTS

Those who may treat it as gossip, he said, "is a non-issue" for him. "If this story which is so true can help others grasp the situation they're in and receive clarity, then it's the greatest gift anyone can receive."

Amy Farbman, who is married to Andrew and is expecting their baby in July, first met her in-laws when they were healing. She said she read the book in one sitting. "I was worried I was going to have negative feelings about Burt," she said. "But if you give it a chance and read the whole thing, anyone would only have admiration for this couple.

"They took the hard road. I know how strong the family is now. I'm a true beneficiary of their courage."

In the book, Burton credits wzy with the strength "to rise

above how much I'd hurt her' and the wisdom to know "we had something worth saving, something to build on."

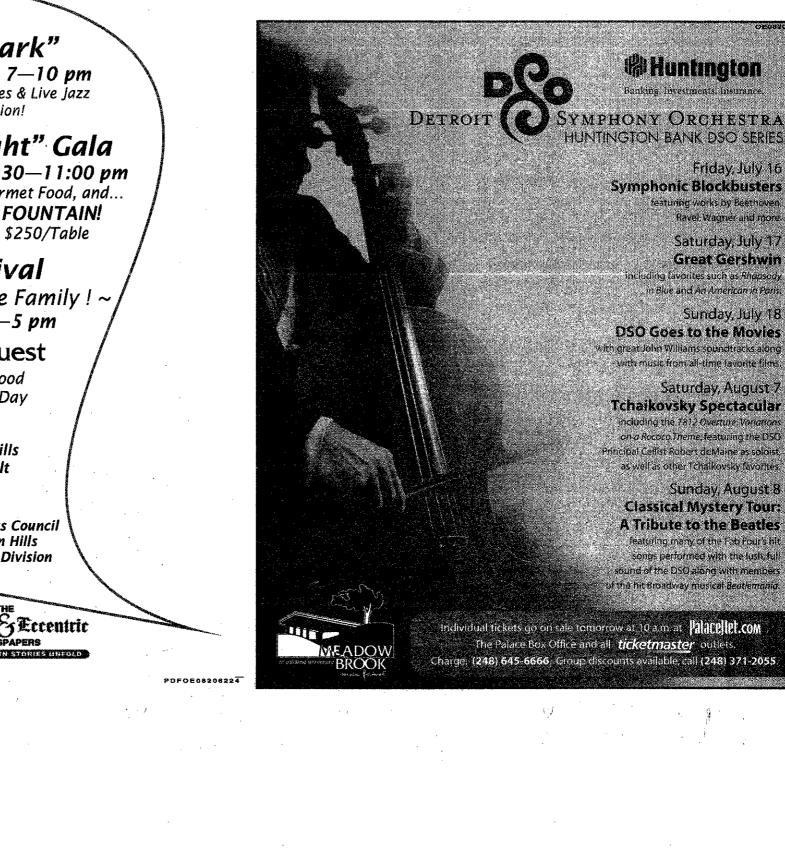
"We did what we did to get healthy individually, to find out who we were and find internal love for ourselves," Burton said earlier this week, seated next to her on a sofa. "That opened us up to be loved by each other. It continues to be an interesting journey."

tidal wave, WaterBearer. Stick up for your personal ideals.

PISCES (Feb 20-March 20)

Some people and family you just get along with and some people just rub you the wrong way. If you want to maximize your happiness, you must avoid the latter at all costs. Don't let others bully you with talk of duty and respect. It's merely hot-air.

Dennis Fairchild is a Birmingham-based astrologer and author of several books on divination. Call 1 (248) 646-3555 or e-mail DenFairchild@aol.com.



April 28 — May 2

4*rt* After Dark" Friday, April 30, 7—10 pm Art, Wine, Hors d'oeuvres & Live Jazz Free admission!

"Starry Night" Gala Saturday, May 1, 6:30-11:00 pm Art, Entertainment, Gourmet Food, and... THE CHOCOLATE FOUNTAIN! \$35/Person, \$60/Couple, \$250/Table

Main Festival ~ Fun for the Whole Family ! ~

Sunday, May 2, noon-5 pm

HealthQuest Sponsored by

> Art, Hands-on Activities, Food and Live Entertainment All Day Free admission!

Costick Center ~ Farmington Hills Eleven Mile, East of Middlebelt (248) 473-1857

Presented by: The Farmington Community Arts Council City of Farmington Hills **Cultural Arts Division**

ING OUR COMMUNITY LIFE Observer www.hometownlife.com

COMMUNITY LIFE

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2004

FUN

FROM PAGE C1

gifted children and are sure to engage curious young minds.

ART/THEATER

Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon. Call (734) 416-4278. Camps for all ages. For kids: Performing arts camps (ages 5-15) July 21-25 or Aug. 18-22; show choir (ages 10-18) June 23-27; visual arts workshop (ages 8-15) July 14-18 and Aug. 11-15; and Youngest Artists Camp (ages 5-8) July 28-31. Adult offerings include a teen and adult theater workshop with Gillian Eaton and classes in photography, pottery and art.

D & M Studios, 8691 N. Lilley at Joy, Canton. Call (734) 453-3710. Annual Summer Art Program presented in cooperation with Canton Leisure Services. This year's theme is Animals in Art. Classes held at the studio, Cherry Hill School House in Canton and Miller's Art Supply in Farmington Hills. The 38 camps run from June 14 to Aug. 16, for ages preschool (3-6), student (6-10) and teen (11-16).

Farmington Hills Youth Theater Cultural Arts Division at Farmington Players Barn, Call

actors June 14 to Jug. 13 in twoweek sessions. Hours are 12:30-6 p.m.

MotorCity Yout Theatre at St. Valentine School in Redford. Call (313) 535-8962. Prforming arts and musical theatr camps (ages 6-18) emphasizing voice control, character development and stage presence with a full production on the evening of the last day (\$250, \$450 for both camps). July 6-16 Alice in Wonderland; July 19-30 Babes in Toyland Early audition for campers who wish to have a leading role.

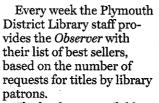
Interlochen Ars Camp southwest of Traverse Gty in northern Michigan. Call (21) 276-7472 or visit the Web site it www.interlochen.org. Application deadline was Feb. 15, but linited class and cabin space still available for ages 8-18 at the 1,200-icre camp surrounded by glacia lakes and pines. Camps runJune 20 to Aug. 16, June 20 to Jul 17, and July 19 to Aug. 16 for students interested in music, dance, uting, creative writing and the vsual arts.

Blue Lake FineArts Camp on 1,300-acres in Ministee National Forest. Call (800) 221-3796 or visit the Web site at www.bluelake.org. The summer camp is for gifted elementary junior high and high school students seeking Camp featuring group activion concert tours in Europe Members for the three-week tour are selected from the previous year's campers.

HISTORY/ADVENTURE

Henry Ford

Museum/Greenfield Village, Dearborn. Call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.TheHenryFord.org. SmartFun Camps for second to seventh grades. Weeklong Discovery Camps begin week of June 28 and run through Aug. 2-6, and include special tours, rides, games, crafts and hands-on fun. Topics range from transportation and farm history and the care of draft horses, to the American Industrial Revolution. Tech Trekkers Project Adventure Camps (seventh to ninth grade) build skills in problem solving, teamwork, trust and communication by pushing the limits July 5-16 and Aug. 2-13. Two-week sessions culminate with opportunities for campers to challenge themselves on a high-ropes course. Roughing It (grades sevennine) teaches skills to survive, enjoy and appreciate the outdoors June 21 to July 2 and July 19-30 (cost \$225 to \$435).



The books are available by placing a request with the library on the Web at plymouthlibrary.org or by calling (734) 453-0750.

FICTION

1. "Glorious Appearing," Tim LaHaye 2. "The DaVinci Code," Dan Brown 3. "Nighttime is My Time," Mary Higgins Clark

4. "The Five People You Meet in Heaven," Mitch Albom 5. "3rd Degree," James Patterson

NONFICTION

1. "Against All Enemies," Richard A. Clarke 2. "Ten Minutes from Normal," Karen Hughes 3. "Deliver Us From Evil," Sean Hannity 4. "The Passion: A Collection of Still Photographs Taken on Location during the Mel Gibson movie, "The Passion of the Christ." 5. "The Price of Loyalty,"

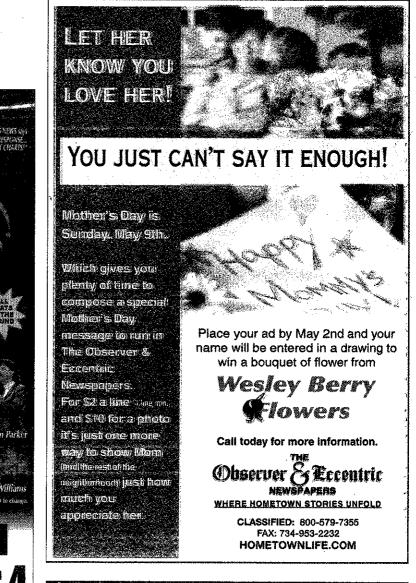
Ron Suskind **PARENTS' CHOICE**

NEW CHILDREN'S PICTURE

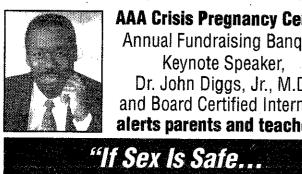
BOOKS

1. "Charlie Bone and the Time Twister," Jenny Nimmo 2. "A Crazy Mixed-Up Spanglish Day," Marisa Montes 3. "Edgar & Ellen: Rare Beasts," Charles Ogden 4. "Chig and the Second Spread," Gwenyth Swain 5. "Brainboy and the Deathmaster," Tor Seidler

Read Observer Sports







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CALENDAR

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2004

To submit an item for the Plymouth-Canton community calendar, mail it to 794 S. Main, Plymouth, MI 48170; email it to bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net or fax it to (734) 459-4224.

AROUND TOWN

Northville flower sale

The 17th annual Flower Sale comes to downtown Northville May 28-29. The sale takes place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 28 and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 29, with more than 15 greenhouses, all members of the Metropolitan Detroit Flower Growers Association, taking part. Main Street between Hutton and Center, will be closed to cars. For more information, call (248) 348-0488.

Grant-writing seminar

The National Education Foundation, National Grant Writers Association, American Cancer Society, American Red Cross, Salvation Army and more than 30 other public and private nonprofit agencies sponsor a grant-writing seminar for the general public from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 10-13 at the Sheraton Novi, 21111 Haggerty. Cost is \$659 and includes refreshments, lunch, a 300-page curriculum and a certificate. For more information, call (803) 750-9759.

Eastern Winds concert

The Eastern Winds faculty wind quintet at Eastern Michigan University introduces a new work by EMU resident composer Anthony lannaccone entitled "Woodwind Quintet No. 2: Scenes After Hart Crane" as part of an all-lannaccone program of chamber music at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 9, in Ann Arbor's Kerrytown Concert House, Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, with premium seating available at \$25 or \$15. For reservations or more information, call (734) 769-2999.

Annual Marian concert

St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Ann Arbor offers the Annual Marian Concert at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 8, at IHM Motherhouse, 610 W. Elm in Monroe, and at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 8, at the church, 517 Elizabeth in Ann Arbor. The concert offers beautiful music for voice, organ and violin in honor of the Blessed Mother. A free-will offering will be taken. For more information, call (734) 761-8606, Ext. 220.

Menopause lecture

The Mia Mahalo Workshop Series continues with "Taking Charge of Menopause," a lecture that discusses what happens to the body during menopause, presented by nutrition and wellness educator Erik Muzzy, owner of Peak Performance Nutrition, at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 13. Admission is complimentary. Mia Mahalo is located at 407 S. Washington in Royal Oak. For more information, call (248) 546-1900.

Bowtech lecture

Mia Mahalo presents "Bowtech: The Original Bowen Technique" lecture from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 20. The lecture discusses Bowtech, the holistic technique originated by Tom Bowen that implements a series of gentle movements to allow the body to heal and reset itself. Presented by Règgie Townsend, a Bowtech practitioner at Functional Fitness and Inspired Wellness Holistic Wellness Center in Birmingham. Admission is complimentary. Mia Mahalo is located at 407 S. Washington in Royal Oak. For more information call (248) 546-1900.

Meningitis vaccinations

Meningitis vaccinations are being offered through Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan (VNA) by appointment only during April, May and June 2004 for graduating high school students beginning college in the fall. Appointments are available 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Cost is \$85. Call (800) 882-5720, Ext. 8755, for more information or visit www.vna.org.

Movie marathon

Movie lovers will walk into a dream world when Emagine Theatre in Novi hosts the "Hollywood Nights" 24-hour movie marathon starting at 10 a.m. Friday, April 30, Participants must raise a minimum of \$94.70 in pledges and bring it to the theater the morning of April 30, then watch as many movies as they want for 24 hours. Proceeds benefit Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan. Registration forms are available on-line at leukemiamichigan.org or by calling CLF at (800) 825-2536.

Ceramics workshop

The Ann Arbor Art Center and the Michigan Ceramic Art Association will be co-hosting a weekend ceramics workshop presented by renowned ceramic artist Malcolm Davis. Davis will demonstrate various construction and glazing techniques, including his famous carbon-trap shinos. The artist will host a slide show along with a potluck dinner from 6-8 p.m. May 14 at The Ann Arbor Art Center's 117 W. Liberty Street location. On May 15 and 16 from 10 a.m. to 4p.m., he will demonstrate various ceramic techniques. Davis works exclusively in porcelain and says of his work. For more information or to register, e-mail Jim Spevak at jspevak842@aol.com or call (734) 677-0206. For information on the Art Center, visit www.annarborartcenter.org or call (734) 994-8004, Ext. 101.

Motherloss workshop

Arbor Hospice and Home Care presents the "Memory in the Mirror: Daughters Reflecting on Motherloss" workshop in Ann Arbor and Northville. The workshop, offered for any woman who has lost her mother, takes place at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 2, at the Arbor Hospice Residence Church, 2366 Oak Valley Drive in Ann Arbor; and at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 5 at Our Lady of Victory, 770 Thayer Blvd., in Northville, All workshops are provided at no charge and open to the community. For more information, call (734) 662-5999, Ext. 107. Fibromyalgia Workshop

A local authority appears at the Carl Sandburg Library for a free workshop at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 26, that talks about what can be causing Fibromyalgia. To register for the free workshop, call (248) 426-0201.

Ski travel show

The Metro Detroit Ski Council hosts the 2004-05 Ski Travel Show from 1-4:30 p.m. Sunday, May 16, followed by a spring ski dance with live entertainment from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Admission is free, the public is invited. Golden anniversary

The River Park Chapter of International Association of Administrative Professionals (formerly PSI) will be celebrating their 50th anniversary June 17. The group is looking for past/present members and quests to join in a celebration at the Holiday Inn Heritage Center on Northline in Southgate. The event starts at 6:15 p.m.; cost is \$20 for dinner. For additional information please contact Karol Polaczyk at kpolaczyk@hayes-lemmerz.com or by calling (734) 737-5283, or Angela Devoy at adevoy@sme.org or by phone at (313) 425-3131.

Junior gardeners

Washtenaw-County MSU Extension hosts a Junior Master Gardener Class for children ages 9-11 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Thursdays from May 6-June 10 at Matthaei Botanical Gardens in Ann Arbor. In this hands-on program, participants and their parents will explore various gardening topics in a casual atmosphere. Cost for the class is \$35. For application and deadline information, or for additional details, call (734) 997-1678.

Hospice training

Heartland Hospice, 3840 Packard in Ann Arbor, is looking for caring, dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, Livingston and Monroe counties. Volunteers provide services such as friendly visiting, patient transport/patient outings, errand running and clerical services. Call Ann Christensen, volunteer coordinator, (734) 973-1145, for more information.

Plymouth Optimists

Entertainment 2004 Books on sale with all proceeds to help children throughout southeast Michigan. Price is \$30 and is home delivered. Call Bill at (734) 453-8253.

Fish Fry

The Plymouth VFW is again featuring Friday Night Fish Fry for only \$7 from 5-7 p.m. Also, Sunday brunch is available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the third Sunday of the month. The post is at 1426 S, Mill St.

Foster Care

Zoo, Humane Society team up

If you're planning to add a pet to your family, don't miss the opportunity to "Meet Your Best Friend at the Zoo" brought to you by the Michigan Humane Society and the Detroit Zoo, along with presenting sponsor VCA Animal Hospitals. The 12th annual event will

take place on Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak. Last year, the spring event

placed a record of 881 homeless animals. Since the event inception in 1993, "Meet Your Best Friend

at the Zoo" has placed more than 8,600 pets. "The Michigan Humane Society is deeply gratified that our collaborative efforts with

the Detroit Zoo and our sponsors including VCA Animal Hospitals are saving so many animal lives each year," said Cal Morgan, executive director of the Michigan Humane Society.

Hundreds of adoptable dogs, cats and rabbits will be available for immediate adoption from the Michigan Humane Society and 26 additional organizations from metro Detroit and beyond:

Animal Shelter of Crawford County, Animal Welfare Society, Companion Pet Rescue, Dearborn Animal Shelter, Detroit Animal Control, Feline Friends,



A variety ofanimals will be featured at the zoo.

Ferndale nimal Control, Great Lales Rabbit Sanctuary, Greater Hillsdale Humane Society, Hands for Paws, Home Fur Ever, Humane Society of LivingstonCounty, Humane Society of Monroe County, K-9 Stray Rescie, Kitties for Keeps, Kitty Haven, Last Chance for Animals, Little Traverse Bay Humane Sciety, Metro Area Animal Acoption Association, Michigan Cat Rescue, Oakland County Arimal Care Center, Precious Fets Adoption League, Roscommon County Animal Slelter, Silver Lake Animal Rescue League, The Animal Slelter Society and VCA Aninal Hospitals.

The event is held outdoors under texts in the Detroit Zoo

front parking lot at 10 Mile Road and Woodward Avenue. Adoption fees and policies are set by each participating group. Adopters'must present a driver's license or state ID card. All dogs and cats will have received a medical checkup and age-appropriate vaccinations. Please leave current pets at home.

For more information, call the Humane Society at (866) MHUMANE, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays or visit www.michiganhumane.org.

The event is sponsored by VCA Animal Hospitals, The Cat Practice, Lite Rock 93.9 FM, Mirror Newspapers and Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.



Lutheran Social Services of Michigan is a foster care agency in the community that places children in loving foster homes. The agency is in need of loving and stable homes committed to parenting children ages 10 to 17 years old. Call (734) 971-5776 to find out how you can help.

assanes



BETTY J. RIGGINS (MULL)

Age 76 of Westland. Loving mother of Jane (Lonnie) Byrd, Grandmother of Shauna (Mike) Scarpella. Sister of Mary Smith, Dear Aunt of Susie (Frank) Smith, Doug (Annie) Csatari, Michelle, Paul & Alicia Wilder. Friend of many. Memorial to be held 5:00 p.m. May 1st at Tri-City Christian Church, 3855 Sheldon Rd, Canton, MI 48187.

PATRICIA J. GREENE

Of Farmington Hills, age 67. Beloved wife of the late Marshall Greene. Loving partner for over 20 years of George Ross. Dear mother of Julie Greene and her husband Bill Guynup. Grandmother of Taylor Guynup. Sister of Larry (Lynn) Nunn. Also survived by the Ross family, Michelle and Jeff. Funeral services Tuesday, April 20th from McCabe Funeral Home, 31950 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the International Myeloma Foundation. For information please visit www.lifestorynet.com

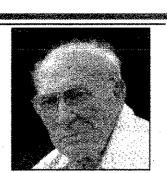
May You

Comfort in

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Find



ROBERT HAROLD PEOPLES

In memoriam of Robert Harold Peoples, born July 7, 1915 to Preston H. Peoples and Ellen Maud (Penhall) Peoples of Detroit, Michigan, died Monday, April 19, 2004 in Venice, Florida. Robert Peoples lived most of his life in Detroit and Redford nis file in Detroit and Redford Township, Michigan. He graduated from Lawrence Institute of Technology in 1950. Mr. Peoples was employed by Burroughs Corporation for 19 years and Detroit Edison for 30 years, retiring in 1985 as a Licensed Professional Engineer. He was an active member of the International active member of the International Justrict Heating Association for many years. In 1938, he married Dorothy L. Taylor. Mr. & Mrs. Peoples moved to Venice, Florida 7 years ago. He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years. Dorothy: their two daughters, Sue Moran of Michigan and Cindy Czarnomski of Minnesota; three grandchildren; two son-in-laws and a sister, Eleanor Sumbur of Michigan Mr. Robert Peoples will be buried at Roseland Park Cemetery in Berkeley, Michigan

THE

Observer & Eccentric

NEWSPAPERS

Let others know...

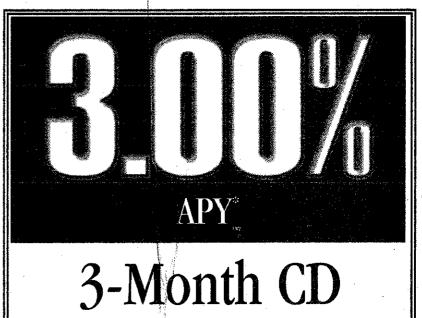
When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages" ... a

directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

Observer & Eccentric Call 1-800-579-7355

You're Gonna Love **Our New TCF Bank!**

Get A Great CD Rate!



Visit our new Livonia branch located near the corner of Plymouth and Farmington Roads across from Alfred Noble Public Library.

See Julie Degenfelder, Branch Manager

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		Lobb	y Hours	Drive-Up I	lours
Monday-	Friday 9:0	0 am. to	3:00 p.m. 🗸	. 7:30 a.m.	to 8:00 p.m.
Saturday	9;0	0 µm. to .	3:00 p.m.	7:30 a.m.	to 3:00 p.m.
Sunday	11:0	0 p.m. to .	3:00 p.m.	11:00 a.m.	to 3:00 p.m.

MEMBER FDIC

www.tcfexpress.com

*The Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is effective as of April 22, 2004. Offer may be terminated or subject to change at any time. CD rate is available for personal accounts only and cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer available only at our new Livonia branch. New funds only transfers from or renewals of existing TCF accounts excluded from this offer. \$500 minimum opening deposit required. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. ** May be closed major holidays. Contact branch for details. © 2004 TCF National Bank



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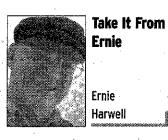
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Accidents happen, be ready

e hear a lot about how we should eat better and exercise to stay healthy. And there's no doubt about it, we need to do those things.

But there are other very practical things we should do to maintain our health and take responsibility for our own safety. For example, it's terribly important to buckle your seat belt every time you ride in a car. There are still far too many people getting

They need to wear heimets.

hurt or dying in car accidents because they don't buckle up. If people you care about still don't wear seat belts, help them develop the habit.

We also need to teach our kids how they can protect their health and safety. One way to do this is to make sure they're properly protected when they're riding their bikes or inline skating. They need to wear helmets and not take unnecessary risks that can lead to broken bones or worse.

By taking these simple precautions, we can dramatically reduce our chances of being injured when accidents happen.

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 55 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 titled *Life After Baseball*, is



www.hometownlife.com

Page C6

(*) Sunday, April 25, 2004

Hugh Gallagher, editor (734) 953-2149 Fax: (734) 591-7279 hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

Motivation key to success with exercise

BY SANDRA DALKA-PRYSBY CORRESPONDENT

Suzanne Reinhart of Birmingham said it's because of a friend. Wendy Ayres of Livonia said it's due, in part, to a trainer. And Greg Shuraleff of Beverly Hills said it all has to do with variety. The "it" is motivation, which is what all three have when it comes to exercise. All work out a minimum of five days a week, week in and week out.

Reinhart, 48 and a wife and mother of three, has worked out with her friend, Val Andrews, also of Birmingham, for the past three years.

"Having an exercise buddy provides the incentive we need to get to the health club. We feel a responsibility to each other," she said. "And, because we don't want to disappoint ourselves or each other, we both show up each morning after we get the kids off to school."

Ayres, 29, a single career woman, turned to a trainer for motivation and for a fitness plan. Two days a week she works with a trainer for weight and circuit (a set program) training. Four other days she goes solo and does cardio exercises, such as walking/running on the treadmill or the elliptical machine.

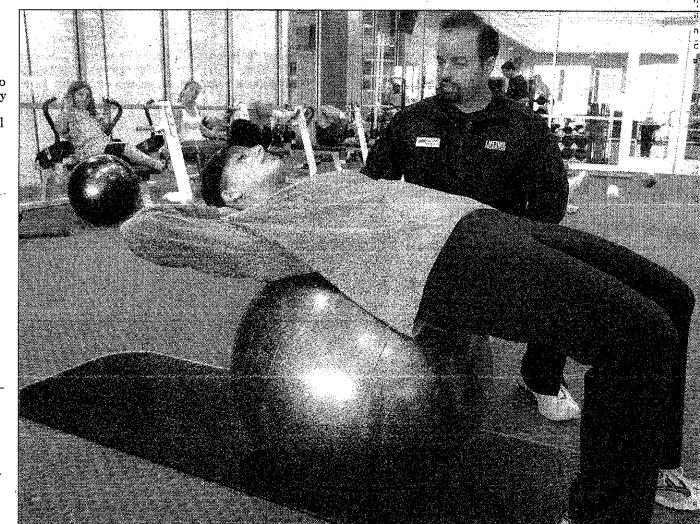
"I take Sundays off to give my body a rest," she said.

Sundays are also a day off for Shuraleff, 23, a recent University of Michigan graduate. He first got motivated to participate in regular exercise when he was in Rome to study his senior year in college.

"My roommate, who believed in the importance of regular exercise for fitness, got me into running," he said. Now, in addition to running, he has discovered a multitude of other exercises. "I continually add new exercises to my one- to one-and-a-half-hour routine so I don't get into a rut," he said. "This variety keeps me motivated."

Trying new exercises and classes have also kept Reinhart on track. Spinning classes three days a week have been the foundation of her workouts since the beginning of the year. Riding a special stationary bike and following programs that simulate outdoor conditions provides Reinhart with an intense calorie-burning exercise.

"Participating in classes makes me work harder without slacking off," she said. "Classes make me want to keep up with the other participants. This is a great motivator." Ayres' motivation to become involved in regular exercise came in 1998, when



Wendy Ayres works with personal trainer Shaz Sheikh.



Forever Fit

she was diagnosed with Crohn's, a gastro-intestinal disease. "I wanted to control this condition without medication," she said. Her doctor recommended exercise and a healthy diet. This twopart fitness approach has not only kept her disease in remission, but it has enabled her to feel and look better. "It has also helped me perform better in exercise and a healthy diet ("I haven't had fast food in two years") have provided numerous benefits. The former high school athlete, who once only exercised during sports seasons, has been able to add 20 pound — mainly muscle — to his slight frame.

"I could never gain weight in the past," he said. "Now with regular exercise and five small meals a day, I've been able to accomplish this goal."

For Shuraleff, it was weight gain and fitness that were important to him. For Reinhart and Ayres, it was weight loss, which both have achieved through exercise and diet.

"Losing weight and feeling good have added to my self-confidence," Ayres said. "And this has been the best motivator for continuing this healthy lifestyle."

For Reinhart, it's doing good things

"I like having the ability to do things_{if} with my kids, and I want to continue to be active in family activities, such as skiing, when they get older," she said. "This, in itself, keeps me motivated."

Another way to stay motivated in a regular exercise program is by keeping in mind its benefits. These include:

Reducing the risk of dying prematurely.

■ Reducing the risk of heart disease. ■ Reducing the risk of developing diabetes.

■ Reducing the risk of developing high blood pressure, and helping

reduce high blood pressure.

Reducing the risks of certain cancers.

Helping in weight loss and/or maintaining a healthy weight.

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available at local bookstores or by calling (800) 245-5082.

golf and scuba diving, two of my favorite activities." Shuraleff has also found that regular for herself and developing a stronger body that also keeps her on her fiveday-a-week exercise schedule. Increasing mental sharpness.
 Increasing energy, stamina and vigor.

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860

NEW DRUGS IN ARTHRITIS

You may have heard of these medications, they are called the "biologicals." They received this designation because these drugs which include Enbrel, Remicade, Humira, and Kineret are based on an entirely different principle then other drugs used to treat rheumatoid and similar arthritic conditions.

Drugs that came before the biologicals, worked on the idea of preventing the formation of one of the building blocks of inflammation. The biologicals take a different approach. They find the chemical that is already in the blocdstream and bind it, which is how Enbrel works. Or, in the case of Remicade, Humira, and Kineret, the biological acts as an antibody that binds a receptor on the joint lining cell, and so prevent the inflating chemical from acting on the receptor. The cascade of inflammation breaks down if the chemical cannot link with the cell receptor.

One of the benefits of the biologicals is that they work well with traditional drugs. Thus, in rheumatoid arthritis, you will find a biological combined with methotrexate. Investigations found that in other types of arthritis the biologicals alone work well. Thus, in the condition ankylosing spondylitis, a biological itself is rapidly becoming the drug of choice.

The biologicals carry potentially serious side effects particularly to the lungs. In addition, the biologicals are very expensive. Therefore, your doctor will not undertake a trial of these drugs lightly.

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Livonia Community Recreation Center

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This event has been reviewed for the physical activity content and has been endorsed by the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health and Sports. This does not reflect endorsement of the sponsoring organization or the products used.

APRIL

Biblical Perspectives on Health A seminar uncovering the many health practices hidden in the ancient scriptures that are now only being confirmed by modern science 2:30-6 p.m. Sunday, April 25, at the Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist School and Church Complex, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile, Plymouth. This afternoon of discovery is capped by a vegetarian meal. By donation. To register, call (248) 349-5683 or (313) 531-2179.

Breast Cancer & Hormonal Therapy Free lecture and supper with Patricia LoRusso, D.O., 6 p.m. Monday, April 26, at the Weisberg Cancer Center, 31995 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. To RSVP, call (248) 538-6507. Why Women Crave Chocolate And Men Love Steak Monday, April 26 to May 10. Are you tired of losing control over chocolate, ice cream, or potato chips? Then come to this class with biochemist Sandy Baumann to find new tools for subduing cravings. You will learn to use vitamins, minerals, pleasurable activities, and other easy-to-implement strategies to lessen cravings and reduce weight. Cost is \$59. \$10 material fee due to instructor in class. Nursing contact hours available at extra cost. Pre-registration required. Call (313) 317-1500. **Give Yourself a Natural Facelift** 6:30-9 p.m. Monday, April 26, at Center for Lifelong Learning, Henry Ford Community College, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail at Warren, Dearborn Heights. Soften facial lines. Use your fingertips to perform acupressure techniques that ease frown lines and crow's feet.

From an acupressure consultant. learn hands-on techniques for the brow, cheek, lip line, jaw line, eyes, and neck. Practice exercises that tone the facial muscles, and discover prod-Ficts that temporarily lift and tone the face. Bring a portable standing face mirror. Cost is \$24. Pre-registration required. Call (313) 317-1500.

Divorce support

^Ofhe Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College offers a free Divorce Support Group 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, April 27, in Room 225 of the McDowell Center on campus, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile, Livonia. The group provides a forum for discussion, receiving and sharing of information for those contemplating, in the process of or having difficulty adjusting to divorce. For more information, call the WRC at (734) 462-4443.

Natural Hormone Replacement A lecture by Dr. Pamela W. Smith of

the Center for Healthy Living and University Compounding Pharmacy 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, at the MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake, Troy. No charge. Discussion includes hormone replacement therapy, alternative treatments, osteoporosis, nutrition, and other topics related to menopause. Smith is a nationally known specialist on natural hormone replacement and author of "HRT: The Answers." To reserve a seat or for more information, call (248) 267-5002.

Volunteers needed

The Alzheimer's Association is seeking individuals who are interested in providing information and support to callers dealing with issues about Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. Alzheimer's is a progressive brain disorder that gradually destroys mental capabilities. There are an estimated 4.5 million Americans affected by the disease, more than 75,000 in metro Detroit. Help for individuals affected by Alzheimer's can be found at the association's helpline and through other services provided by the offices in Southfield. To volunteer, call Rebecca Reiten at (800) 337-3827, Ext. 240.

Patient care lecture

Claude Lenfant, M.D., former director of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health gives a lecture noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, in the Education Center at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, 5301 East Huron River Drive, Superior Township. The lecture is free, open to the public and no registration is needed. For more information, call (734) 712-2442.

Research funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), which is supported by public funds, has led to the development of new and improved medical treatments for many diseases. While there is no doubt that research findings have helped to extend life expectancy, Dr. Lenfant is concerned that the public is not reaping the full public health benefits of the investment in research,

Medicare community forum

Saint Joseph Mercy Senjor Health Services, Catholic Social Services and the Area Agency on Aging sponsor a free community forum 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, at the Senior Health Building on the campus of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, 5301 East Huron River Drive, Superior Township.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

The forum will address the changes to Medicare regarding prescription drug coverage, which is effective May 1. Barb Zaret, MSW from Catholic Social Services MMAP Program and Luann Bakk, MSW from the Area Agency on Aging will explain the new coverage and answer questions from attendees. Registration is not required. For more information, call (734) 712-2989. Ask the Doctor About Lymphoma

- Free lecture and supper with Charles A. Schiffer, M.D. 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, at the Weisberg Cancer Center, 31995 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. To RSVP, call (248) 538-6507.
- Spine Symposium

St. Mary Mercy Hospital sponsors a free Spine Symposium 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, at the Livonia **Community Recreation Center, 15100** Hubbard at Five Mile, Livonia. Learn about medical interventions related to the back and spine; treatment of spine and back injuries; common problems associated with the back and spine; pre and post surgical interventions as well as proper braces and appliances for the spine and back. Speakers are Philip Mayer, MD, PC, My Spine Center; Hilda Sun, Physical Therapist, St. Mary Mercy Hospital; and Peter Seilo, Michigan Orthopedics. Seating is limited and pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, call Kevin Moore, St. Mary Mercy Hospital Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department, at (734) 655-2419.

Livonia CFS/Fibromyalgia Support Group

Deadline registration for May 12 meeting is April 28. The group meets at the Livonia Civic Center's auditorium. Guest speakers are from the University of Michigan's Chronic Pain & Fatigue Research Center. For information or a registration form for May 12, call (248) 346-3164 or visit the Web site at

www.geocities.com/LivoniaCFSFMS. GolFitness Training

5-8 p.m. Thursday, April 29, at Henry Ford Medical Center - West Bloomfield's Center for Athletic Medicine, 6777 W. Maple, between Haggerty and Drake. Participants will have their golf swing analyzed by PGA professionals Nancy McCann or Don Harrison, Henry Ford certified athletic trainers will provide one-on-one exercise instruction to improve flexibility and strength of core muscles including hips, shoulders, mid-back and abdomen. Common golf injuries, their causes and prevention, will be dis-

cussed along with equipment modifications aimed at preventing injury. Cost for the three-hour session is \$100. To register, call (248) 651-6484. Prenatal Yoga

St. Mary Mercy Hospital is offering an ongoing Prenatal Yoga class 5-6 p.m. Thursdays, in Classroom 1 at the Marian Women's Center at the hospital 36475 Five Mile Road, at Levan Road, Livonia. For more information or to register, call (734) 655-1145. Through traditional yoga poses and postures, the mom-to-be will strengthen mind and body to help adjust peacefully to the daily changes of pregnancy. This class also includes guided meditation and relaxation techniques that will increase expectant moms' awareness, confidence and focus. The expectant mom can experience a deeper connection with her baby while creating a safe and healthy environment to begin life. This program is safe for all trimesters.

Research volunteer opportunities Beaumont Hospital needs volunteers for research in a variety of areas including blood pressure, breast cancer, bronchitis, diabetes, Parkinson's, prostate cancer, urinary incontinence in women, and dialysis grafts. For more information, call Beaumont's **Outpatient Clinical Research Center at** (888) 80-STUDY. Healthy cooking classes

Classes continue with Valerie Wilson, a whole foods chef who's been teaching cooking classes since 1997 and is the author of "Perceptions in Healthy Cooking." Call (734) 261-2856 or visit www.macroval.com

Volunteer opportunities St. Joseph Mercy Hospital has multiple opportunities. Volunteers are needed to install Lifeline units in

clients' homes. No experience need, training provided. There is also a need for volunteers to escort patients to departments within the hospital and to visit with newly admitted patients. For more information about these and other opportunities, call Volunteer Services at (734) 712-4159. Meningitis Vaccinations

Meningitis vaccinations for collegebound high school students are being offered through Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan by appointment only during April, May and June, in its office at 25900 Greenfield, Suite 600, Oak Park, The cost is \$85. Call (800) 882-5720, ext. 8755 for more information or visit www.vna.org.

While early symptoms are easily mistaken for the flu, bacterial meningitis can result in death in as little as two hours. College freshmen living in dorms are six times more likely to get the disease than those living off campus. Vaccination reduces the risks of contracting the disease.

Economic Issues in Health Care The workshop will cover the present health care system in the U.S. with reference to a market based system in order to obtain understanding of how it might be organized to provide the desired results for society 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, to Thursday, June 10, at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft at Levan, Livonia. An overview of several major economic constraints for health care will be covered. For more information, call (734) 432-5356 or (734) 432-5731.

Hospice volunteers needed Heartland Hospice of Southfield is looking for caring, compassionate and dedicated individuals that would like to be trained as a hospice volunteer.

Heartland Hospice serves patients with a limited life expectancy and their families in the tri-county area. Training classes are offered throughout the year at different times and in a variety of locations. For more information, call Mary Parmentier at (800) 770-9859.

UPCOMING

Wellness in the 21st century Dr. Stephen Chaney, Professor of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Nutrition at the University of North Carolina presents the seminar "Wellness for the 21st Century" 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 1, at the Holiday Inn Livonia, Among the topics Dr. Chaney will cover are Cancer, Heart Health and Diabetes, Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by calling Marti Gilchrist at (248) 348-4577.

Easy Wellness

New studies show that small changes in lifestyle can result in surprisingly big health benefits. An effective antiaging, healthy living program can be done simply, at home, in a few minutes and without a lot of fuss. What simple changes could you make that would magnify the enjoyment of your life? Dr. Christophe Dean brings 27 years of clinical experience to a fun, energetic, interactive class that will help you overcome your internal resistance to living a healthier life. Dean, current vice president of the Michigan Chiropractic Association, has practiced chiropractic medicine for 27 years. The class meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, at The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham. The fee for the session is \$5. To register, call (248) 644-5832.



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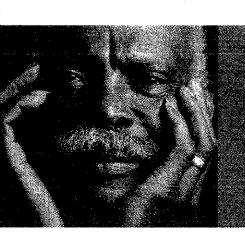
Join us for Mother's Day Brunch at Brighton Gardens of Northville Saturday, May 8, 2004 from 11:00am to 2:00pm or at Sunrise of Northville Sunday, May 9, 2004 from 10:30am to 12:30pm



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Sunday, April 25, 2004 **Keely Kaleski**, editor (734) 953-2105 Fax (734) 591-7279

Section **D**

kkaleski@oe.homecomm.net

Master suite sells couples on Northville Ridge

BY NORMAN PRADY CORRESPONDENT

Ever wish you could get away from the kids once in a while? How about every night?

Well, not so far away that you'd feel you're abandoning them, just far enough that you've finished your day with them and now you're going to have some time for yourself. And for youknow-who.

If that's your thinking as part of your search for a new home, you might want to look at the Mezzanine Master Suite in some of the houses David Steuer is building in Northville.

Steuer's houses are in two sections of Northville Ridge, an 850-home community at Six Mile Road west of Ridge Road in Northville. He's building in The Meadows and in The Reserves. His company is Winnick Homes & Steuer & Canvasser.

There are four models in The Meadows and five in The Reserves. In The Meadows it's the Hawthorne and in The Reserves it's the Mulberry that have Mezzanine Master Suites.

"It's not only dramatic, but exceptionally practical," Steuer said of the unusual bedroom arrangement.

He recalled the reaction of a young couple visiting the model. "They said,

couple visiting the model. "They

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found Inside this section

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www.honcton.ulife.com

BUYERS' GUIDE TO THE MEADOWS AND THE RESERVES

Models are open noon to 5 p.m. daily. Call (248) 348-0030 for more information.

The Meadows has four models ranging from 2,634 square feet at \$369,990 to 3,190 square feet at \$409,990.

The Reserves has five models ranging from 1,645 square feet at \$309,990 to 2,971 square feet at \$362,290 for the Ridgewood, including plan variations offering five bedrooms.

Northville Ridge is a site condominium with an association fee expected to be about \$350 annually, the builder said, for maintenance of 'Empty-nesters, and families with older kids have also been drawn to the midlevel suite.'

David Steuer building in Northville

'We're only a few steps from the kids but we're still a few steps from the kids.'

"They felt they'd have the best of both worlds." Close and not close. Emptynesters, and families with older kids have also been drawn to the midlevel suite.

"They want a first-floor master suite for privacy from the kids and they see this and say, "This is only a few steps up from the first floor and we're not sharing a party wall with the family room," said Steuer.

Pleased with the lifestyle features offered in all of their Northville Ridge homes, Steuer said, "We're not just in the lumber and drywall assembly business. We're in the quality-of-life business. If we can't offer someone a better living situation, then they can go buy anybody's brick and mortar."

Four other builders have homes in Northville Ridge, Steuer said.

common areas and for use of the

is served by Northville Schools. Depending on individual house

Brick on all four sides

plans, both areas offer:

sink

clubhouse and pool. The community

Vinyl siding and windows

Two- and three-car garage

Energy-saving house wrap

■ Concrete drive and sidewalk

■ Glass-block basement windows

Stainless-steel double kitchen

■ Nine-foot first-floor ceilings

■ Six-foot tub in master bath

Oak floor in kitchen, nook, foyer

Fully dry-walled garage

Island with snack barWalk-in pantry

■ Laundry center

Double vanities

The Mezzanine Master Suite is one of the features of the Hawthorne, one of four models in the 'Meadows section of Northville Ridge.



The Ridgewood is one of the model homes in the Reserves section of Northville Ridge. The site is served by the Northville school district, with a number of amenities offered.

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2004

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OVINGTON GREENS

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Private communities are undermined by cash shortages

BY JIM WASSERMAN ASSOCIATED PRESS

"Welcome to our neighborhood," says the sign in the development once known as Franklin Villa in California. "No gangs. No drugs. No guns.'

What started 35 years ago as a pleasant community run by a private homeowners association has become an object lesson in the worst that can happen when such a neighborhood starts to unravel.

Its original owners moved out, new owners failed to maintain the property, neglect accelerated into falling property values, then crime and eventual collapse. Now, state and local taxpayers are paying \$80 million to turn it into a nonprofit housing complex called Phoenix Park.

While extreme, it could be the fate of thousands of privately run communities throughout the nation, which are flirting with declines by failing to spend adequately on upkeep, even as owning a home in private communities has become the nation's fastest-growing lifestyle.

Amid more than 260,000 private communities nationally and 36,000 in California, at least one third have steadily put off raising necessary assessments for fear of political conflict, and now need repairs and facelifts for which they significantly lack money, say those who monitor homeowner association finances.

"If you give me a list of 30 names, 10 are on the list," said Robert M. Nordlund, owner of California's Association Reserves Inc., which ana-

lyzes private communities in 41 states, Canada and Mexico. For those 10, he said, "the deficit is so significant they'll need one or more special assessments to make it up."

FLORIDA

In Tampa, Fla., Len Colodny, president of the Lake Place Condominium Association, faces the challenge of asking the residents of his neighborhood to pay a one-time special assessment of up to \$4,000 per home to pave streets, rebuild a wall and make other repairs caused by years of deferred maintenance.

Colodny said he expects significant opposition from fellow residents of his 18-year-old, 90-home complex, but adds, "If you can't afford to take care of the place, you can't afford to live here."

One half to three fourths the state's older private communities have reserve funds too small to meet their physical needs, Colodny estimates, saying that newer developments "can get away with lower maintenance. But if they haven't been saving up they're going to run into that cycle, too."

The trend, particularly in older privately run neighborhoods represents a striking parallel to the financial deficits plaguing local and state governments. As the public sector has delayed maintenance, many private association boards are also watching streets, pools, balconies, siding and clubhouses slowly deteriorate while their reserve funds contain half or less of the money needed to eventually fix them. And just as city halls and statehouses fear raising taxes, voluntary, ofteninexperienced association boards fear the wrath of homeowners over possible higher assessments." said Tyler Berding, a California attorney who specializes in private communities.

Many states lack reserve fund requirements for privately run communities, while those with laws typically set few requirements.

RESERVE FUNDING

In Florida, which with California contains 40 percent of the nation's condominium communities, association boards must calculate appropriate reserve funding. But a majority vote among members can block the assessments needed to reach it.

There, Nordlund said, older residents of such neighborhoods tend to think, "Why do I care about the roof in five years?"

But underfunded reserves could threaten the 40-year-old culture of living in a privately run neighborhood, which is where 80 percent of all new homes are built nationally, according to the Community Associations Institute of Alexandria, Va. The group, which advises associationgoverned communities, estimates that 50 million Americans - nearly one in six - live inside such communities with half paying between \$100 to \$200 a month to maintain them.

ON THE NET

Community Associations Institute: http://www.caionline.org Executive Council of Homeowners:

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opens kiosk in area mall

Robert R. Jones Homes

People go to the mall to shop for everything: apparel, gifts, specialty items, jewelry and much more. Now they can also go the mall to shop for a new home.

Robert R. Jones Homes, a home building company specializing in the design, development and construction of luxury homes, has opened a kiosk in Great Lakes Crossing mall. The kiosk, which is located between Neiman Marcus Last Call and TJ Maxx, opened April 1.

The kiosk, which is manned by a Robert R. Jones staff member, gives potential homebuyers an opportunity to learn more about The Manors of Deerwood a few miles away in Clarkston.

"Our idea is to bring our product to the people and we believe that the people are at the mall," said Bob Jones, president of Robert R. Jones Homes. "With its close proximity to our latest community, Great Lakes Crossing was a logical choice."

Opening day brought many consumers to the kiosk and a large number showed considerable interest in the new home presentation. Typically, builders host visitors in their own developments, but this marketing approach allows Robert R. Jones Homes to showcase their designs to the residents of many surrounding communities through Great Lakes Crossing.

Founded in 1979 by Jones, the company has earned many local and national accolades, including being named the Best Small Builder in the United States by Builder Magazine as well as Builder of The Year and the Hall of Fame Award by the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan. Jones has served at all levels of the home building industry. He is a local, state and national director. In addition, he has been president of the BIA of Southeastern Michigan, the Michigan Association of Home Builders



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At only 39 feet wide and 61 feet deep, the Eddy 1 has great eye appeal with its covered porch, gabled porch roof and contemporary lines.

The front door opens into the long open living room. There is a large window overlooking the front yard and two windows down the right side. On the right corner is an opening to the dining room with sliding glass doors to the patio.

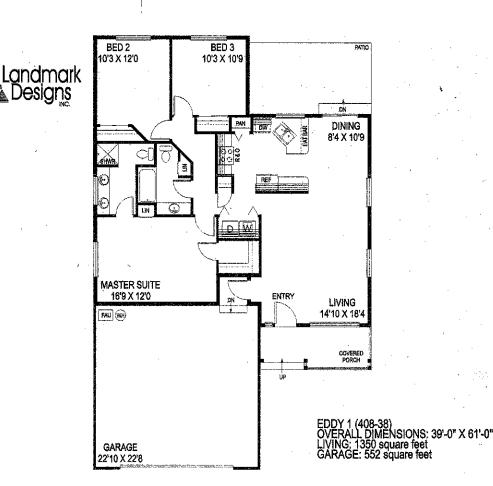
The spacious kitchen has a dividing wall with counter space and the refrigerator. An angular area with dual sinks, eating bar, and dishwasher is on the back wall. A corner pantry is tucked in the corner behind a bi-fold door. The range and oven is on the left wall as is another storage area. Adjacent to this area is the washer and dryer hidden by another set of bi-fold doors.

There are two bedrooms in the rear of this long home, each with wall closets and big windows overlooking the backyard. A full bath with a single sink, tub, and linen closet is in the hall just outside the bedrooms.

The master suite is behind the two-car garage. It has a large window on the side and one over dual sinks in the master bath, which has a large shower. A linen closet is adjacent to the master bath and large walk-in closet is on the right side of the main suite.

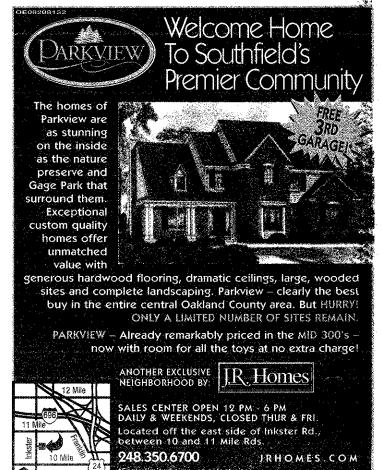


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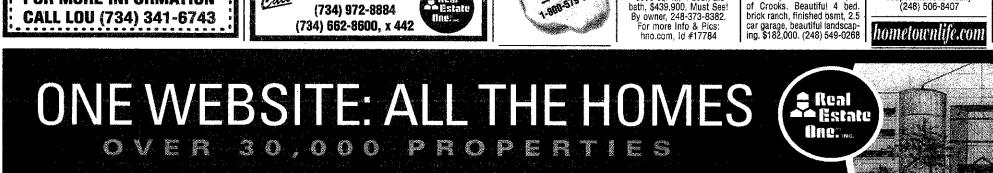
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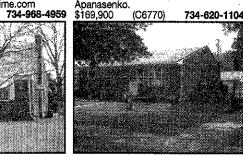
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NEW HOMES

Get what you want in your home without having to move

Space considerations. Outdated architecture. A need for more functionality. These are some of the reasons people make the financially and emotionally challenging decision to move to a new home. But as a professional remodeler for the past 14 years, and as chairperson of the Remodelors Council of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan, I know that remodeling can offer a viable alternative to moving for many people.

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One popular addition is the master bedroom suite. Once the bedroom suite is complete, a homeowner can easily convert the old bedroom into an office, media room or spare bedroom - whatever fits his or her lifestyle. In many cases, remodelers are adding these rooms to the upper levels of homes. This technique helps conserve land and space. Other homeowners hire

remodelers to finish their basements. By finishing the basement, these customers benefit from increased living space, without altering their home's exterior appearance.

KITCHEN AND BATH

Many remodeling contractors specialize in the kitchen and bath areas of the home. These two areas consistently garner the most return on investment in Remodeling magazine's "Cost vs. Value' report because they are two of the most used rooms in a home.

In their kitchens, customers frequently request naturalwood cabinetry and more counter space. Solid surface countertops such as DuPont, Corian and granite are common choices. The stainless steel, industrial look is also popular in today's remodeled kitchens. In addition, many

homeowners want bigger bathrooms with whirlpool tubs and spacious showers, incorporating an array of today's tile and stone products.

Remodelers are often asked to remove walls in order to open up areas in a home. For example, in keeping with a trend in new home construction, dividing walls between kitchens and great rooms are often removed, creating an open, airy feeling and increasing functionality. Using light paint colors and adding windows are two other popular ways to create a feeling of spaciousness.

A sizeable number of customers are requesting that their wall-to-wall carpet be replaced with alternative flooring materials. These materials include tile, stone and hardwoods (both pre-finished and regular). Laminated flooring, such as Pergo, is also a popular choice with today's consumers.

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John F.

Maloney



scious." Homeowners often replace old, drafty

windows with energy-saving, insulated glass windows and frequently increase insulation levels in walls and attics. In kitchen remodels, appliances are often replaced with models that use less energy than older models. High-efficiency heating and cooling systems are also commonly installed when remodeling. These items can lower homeowners' energy bills and

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Basements

Balconies or patios
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reduce pollution related to energy production, thereby saving precious resources.

Before you remodel, you should carefully consider any remodeling project that puts the end value of your home well beyond that of others in your neighborhood. It is not financially smart to have the most expensive home on the block. Generally, a remodeling project requires careful consideration if it raises the value of your house more than 10-15 percent above the median sales price of homes in your neighborhood.

Another important consideration before remodeling is choosing the right contractor. Members of the Remodelors Council of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan are professional, legitimate, quality-conscious remodeling contractors. You can access this information by calling the BIA at (248) 737-4477.

While there are many reasons that people choose to remodel, including increasing resale value, the bottom line is that remodeling makes your home a more enjoyable place to live. So if you're considering a change, but want to stay put, try remodeling. Working with a professional remodeling contractor, almost any change that you can envision can become a reality. You can feel like you have a brand-new house, without having to say good-bye to friends and all the conveniences of your old neighborhood.

John F. Maloney is owner of Boa Construction, Inc., in Troy. He is a certified graduate remodeler who has been renovating residential homes for the past 14 years. He is also chair of the Remodelors Council of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan in Farmington Hills, and was named by the association as Remodelor of the Year for 2002 and for 2003

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(NAPSI)- The easiest way to avoid a ladder-related accident is to follow the instructions that come with it. Also:

- One person on the ladder at one time.
- Set the ladder on a firm,

level surface. ■ Never exceed the ladder's weight limit, otherwise known

as the maximum load rating.

Avoid setting up ladders on soft or muddy ground. ■ If you have to place the

ladder in front of a door, make, sure that door is locked or at least being monitored by someone other than you.

Use the right height ladder and make sure it extends 3 feet over the roofline or working surface.



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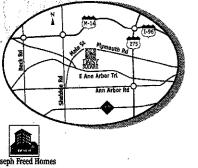


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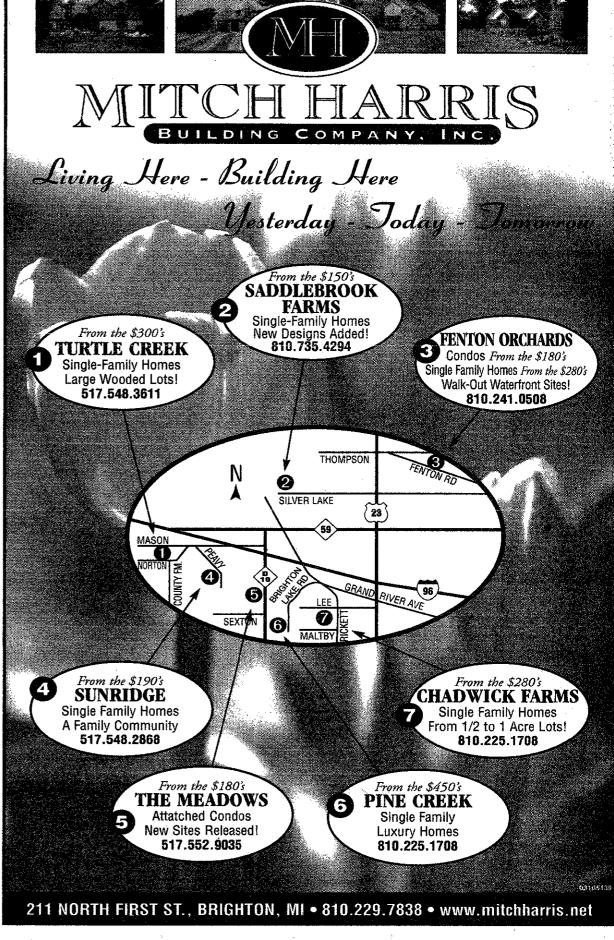
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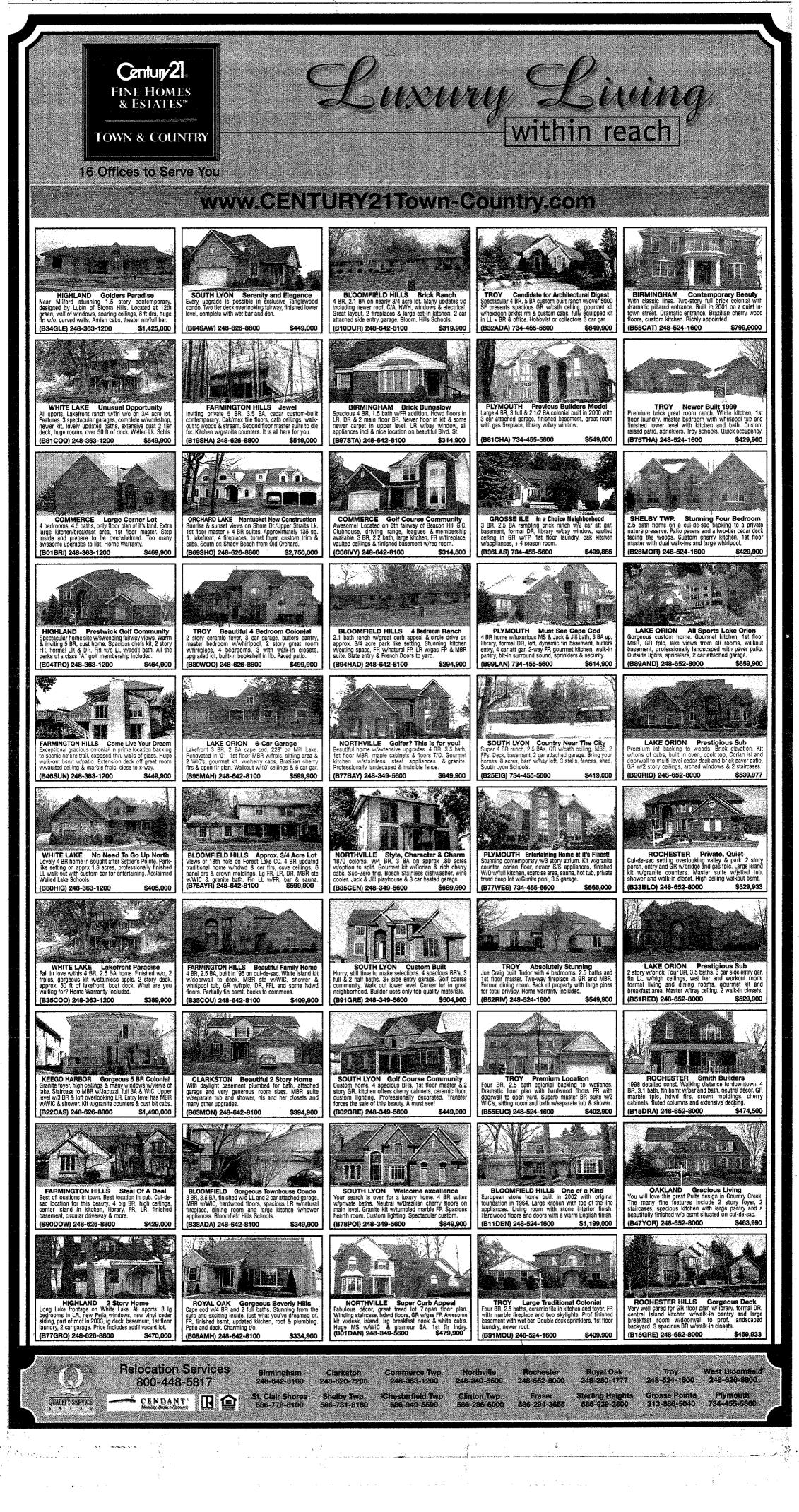
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Apartment Living offers you flexibility

ADVERTISING FEATURE --

By DIANE GALE ANDREASSI Special Writer

Apartment living is the perfect solution if you like the flexibility of going on vacation without worrying about the furnace or hot water tank blowing and returning to thousands of dollars in repairs.

In fact, apartment living takes almost all the worry out of home maintenance.

"The main reason people live in apartments is convenience," explains Peter J. Light, director of operations at Etkin & Company, a 45-year-old company based in Walled Lake offering high-rise and mid-rise apartments, as well as town homes.



"If someone wants to go on vacation or on extended leave, all they have to do is shut the door and we take care of the rest," he says. "You don't have as many responsibilities as you do with home ownership, like paying taxes and dealing with mortgage payments."

Apartment living also lets the renter move to another community quickly and without a lot of hassle, explains Pam Beach, leasing consultant with Eton Square, managed by Burton Katzman in Bingham Farms.

"And you're not stuck in a long-term lease, like you would be in a home," Beach says. "You also have the opportunity of having everything taken care of for you and all you do is make a call."

Beach stresses the importance of looking for apartments that provide good service and convenient locations.

"My number one concern would be service and then proximity to places that you work or you like to spend time," Beach says. "You also want to look at cleanliness."

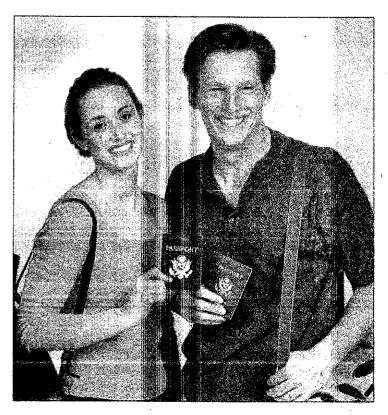
If the property is maintained it gives you clues on how quickly and efficiently your future concerns will be handled, she says adding that it's also a good sign when friends and family recommend a facility.

"A lot of people who rent from us are from referrals," Beach adds.

Don't forget to ask about amenities that are important to you. Most apartments, for instance, offer use of community rooms for parties. Most have car ports and many even offer garages.

Living in an apartment is traditionally appealing to recent college graduates and young professionals, Light says, adding, however, that more and more elderly adults are choosing the eaiser way of life apartment dwelling offers.

"I'm seeing a lot of retirees who don't want the responsibilities of home ownership anymore, but want to live in a high-end community," Light says adding that they no longer have to think about replacing roots and other maintenance chores. "They don't want to be responsible for repairs and that's what we strive for in our service. In our communities we keep very high standards."

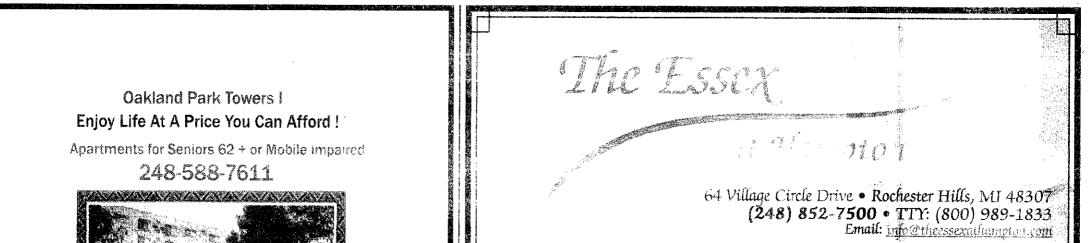


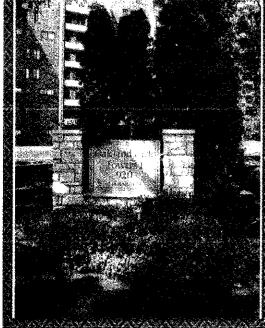
If you live in an apartment your "things to do" list just got shorter, because chores like painting, carpet replacement, snow plowing and yard care are all handled by the facility operator.

There's an extra measure of security provided in apartments, too.

"Neighbors know what's going on," he says. "They see people coming and going." Some facilities also have security companies and other safety measures available.

And if you're looking for convenience, there's nothing easier than having a workout facility, running paths and pool, as well as basketball and tennis courts around the corner from your front door.





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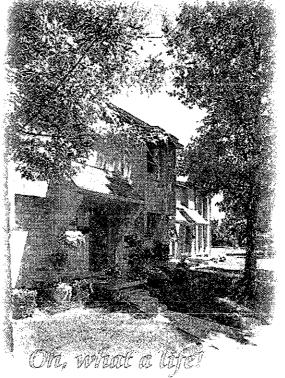
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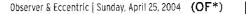
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Many Apartments welcome your pet

VERTISING FEATURE

Apartment Living

By DIANE GALE ANDREASSI **Special Writer**

Banish those fleeting thoughts of dressing your dog or cat in a baby bonnet to sneak them into your apartment.

Many apartment and retirement facilities welcome pets and even provide specific buildings where you can live with other lovers of furry friends.

"Cats are allowed in all of our properties and most also take dogs under 20 pounds--we're reaching out to those people who have pets," explains Melanie Hearsch, Village Green public relations director. Village Green has 35 properties in metro Detroit and 100 properties throughout the Midwest.

"Small, caged animals are allowed at the discretion of the property owner," Hearsch says adding that in most cases tiny, caged animals, like hamsters and gerbals, are also accepted.

Pets are also welcome at Westhaven Manor, providing retirement apartments for people who are at least 55 years old, in Westland and with other locations around the state.

Westhaven asks renters with pets to sign a pet policy that explains their responsibilities.

"We ask them to read and sign it to make sure they know their obligations," explains Cheryl Waddle, Westhaven Manor administrator.

"It's getting more and more popular to allow pets," she says. "It's company for the senior and if they have their pet with them they don't want to give that up."

Westhaven asks that pets are of a "quiet nature" so barking or whining doesn't disturb other residents.

Renters also must be able to care for their pets without assistance, Waddle says.

Dog owners are given first floor apartments to provide easy outdoor access through patio doors. Dogs must be accompanied outside with a leash.

"We have a nice wooded area in the back of the property where they can walk their dogs," Waddles says adding that the facility doesn't charge extra monthly rent for pets or require a pet related security deposit.

Westhaven does, however, maintain files for residents with pets, that includes health records and verification of vacinnation shots.

There are specific apartment websites that cater to people with pets, like peoplewithpets.com, where renters can save time in their earch.

"To be able to move somewhere with your pet is so important to a lot of people," Hearsch says. "A lot of our renters are first or second time renters and young professionals. And a lot are moving out from home and they're looking for companions. Others are seniors or divorced people who have pets."

Providing "dog buildings" that are designated for people with pets, Hearsch says, takes into consideration both the concerns of pet lovers and those who don't want to be bothered by someone else's dog or cat.

"So if you have someone who isn't a big dog person they don't have to walk down the hallway and run into a dog," Hearsch says. "We try to accomdoate people with pets, but make it work for all the people."

Your search for an apartment might be a little more difficult if you have a large dog. Many facilities have a weight limit that they accept.

"It's for everyone's safety and comfort that we don't accept certain breeds," Hearsch says.

At Village Green the pet policy describes the renter's responsibilities and requires a \$150 refundable pet deposit per cat and dog. There is also a \$20 a month fee for each pet.

Seeing eye dogs and "helper" animals aren't considered pets and they don't require extra deposit fees or monthly pet rent, Hearsch says

Being prepared with a lot of information about your pet before you start your apartment search helps, too. For instance, gather your pets' health records and make sure your dog or cat is up to date on required shots.

You can even go so far as asking your veterinarian and other acquaintances for referrals about your pet's good behavior and calm nature.

Many renters look for apartments close to their work so they can go home during the day and let their pet out, Hearsch says. Many Village Green Apartment facilities offer specific areas to exercise pets.

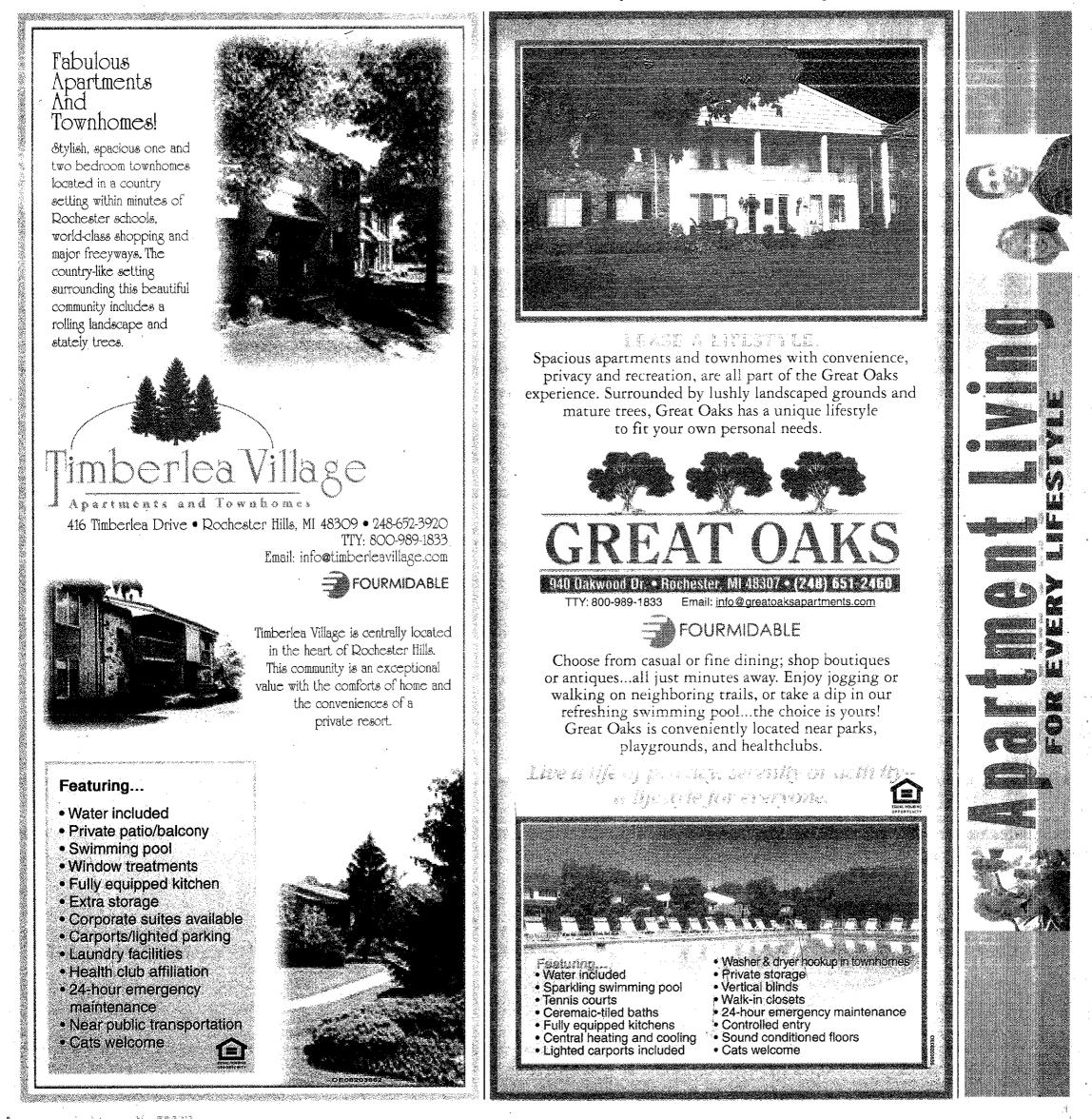
Some complexes even host dog day events to provide a venue for canine lovers to meet and socialize with other pet owners in the



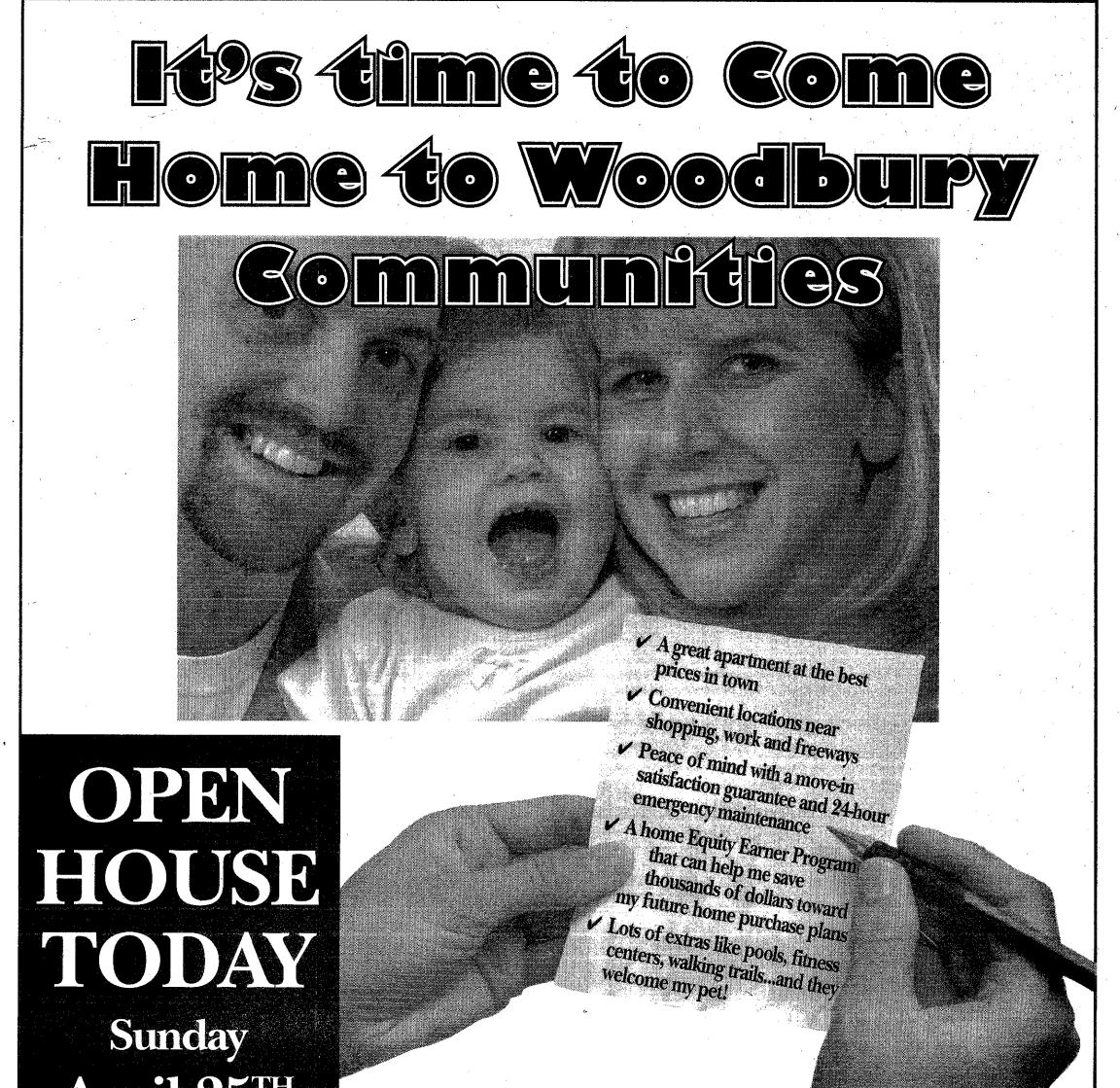
apartment complex.

"It's part of our commuty and we embrace that," Hearsch says. "As long as it's expressed to people about cleaning up after your pets, like they would anywhere, we want to make it a comfortable environment.

"I couldn't move into an apartment if they didn't take pets," she adds. "For most renters who have a pet the pet is part of their family. A person with a pet would be just as likely to not take an apartment that doesn't accept pets as someone who has children wouldn't take an apartment where children aren't allowed."



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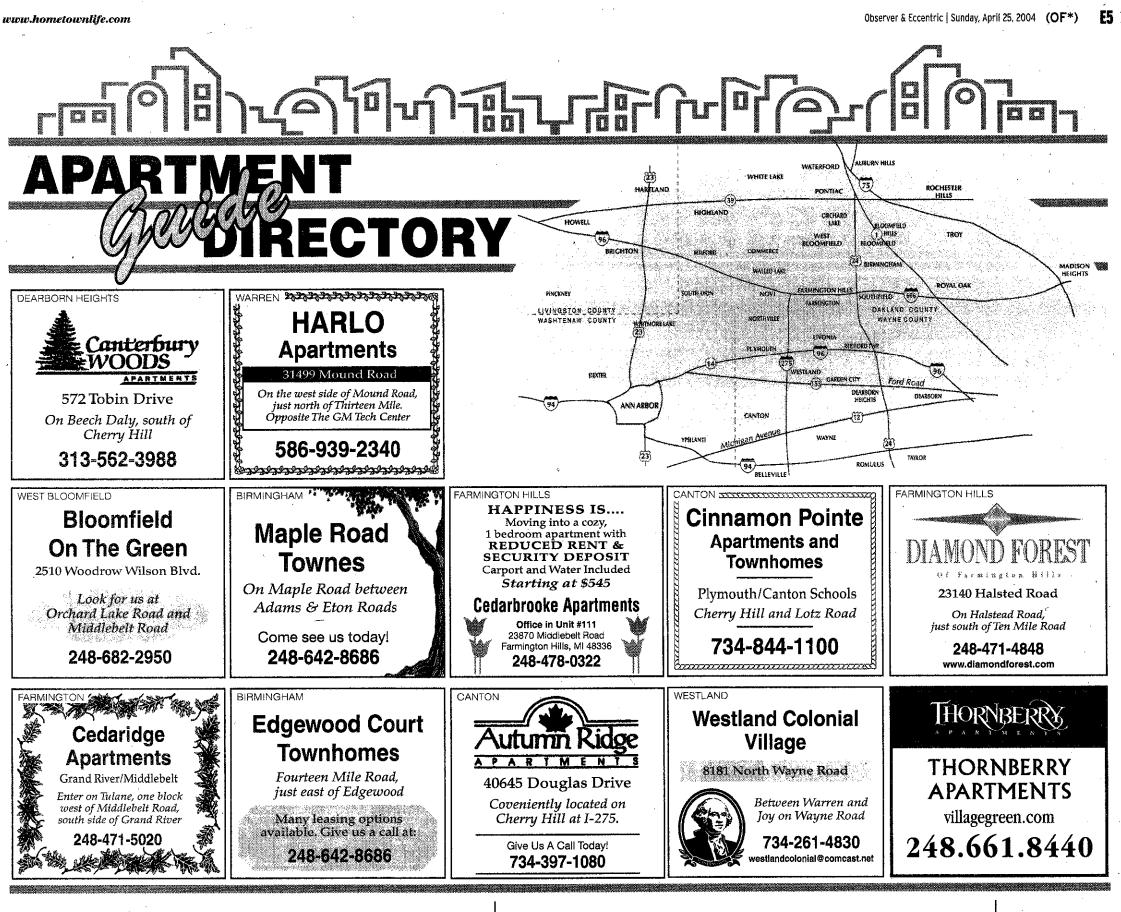
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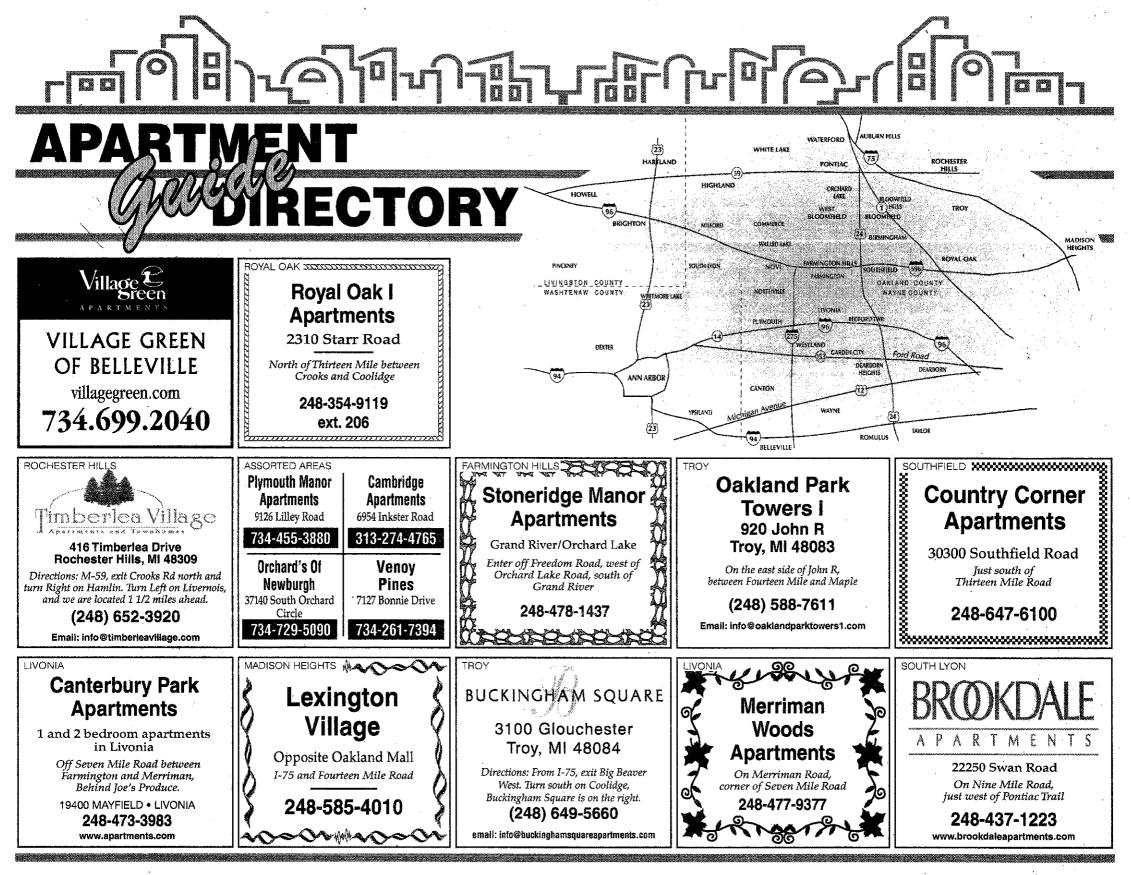
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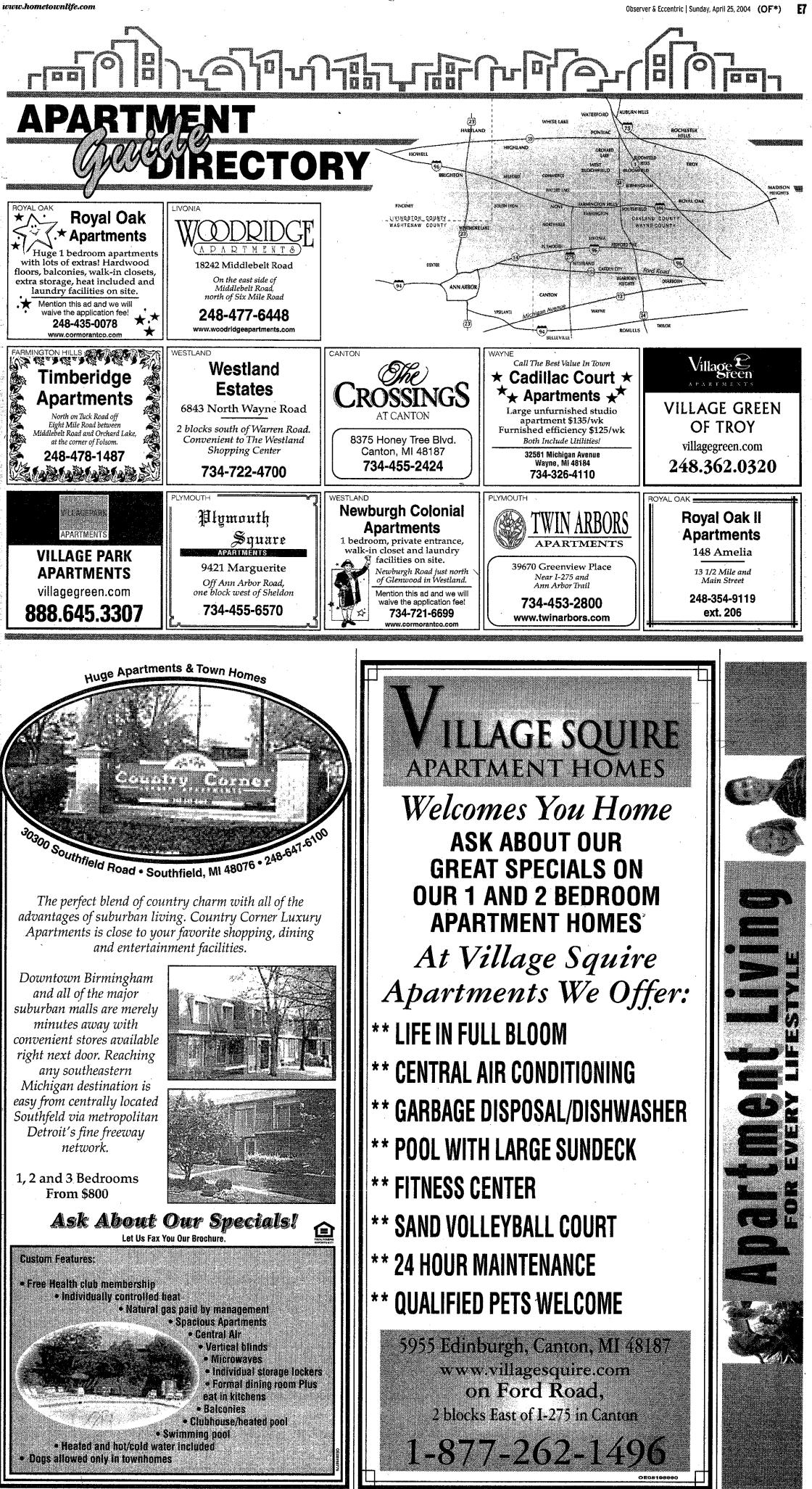
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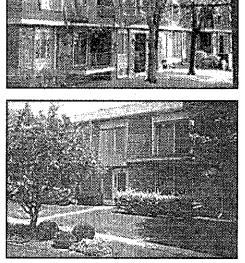
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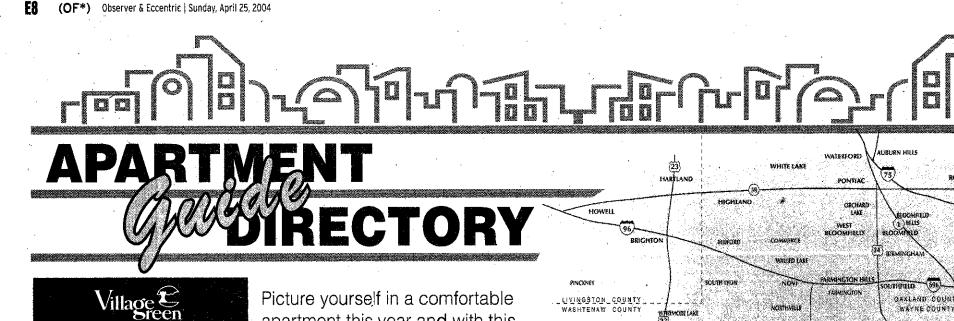
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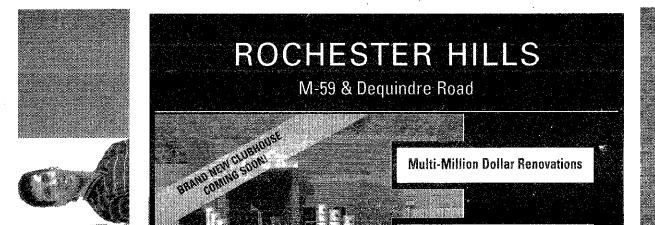
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E9

ADVERTISING FEATURE -Equity Earner Program May Be Right For You

By DIANE GALE ANDREASSI Special writer

Apartment living can be a wonderful investment when you get involved in an equity earning program.

More and more apartment properties are luring renters with the idea that they can save for their dream homes.

Each facility has a different program, but the end result is money in the renter's pocket.

Last summer Woodbury Communities began luring renters with their Equity Earner Program, which awards a rebate at the end of the renter's time at a Woodbury Community apartment. The longer you live in the

apartment, the larger the rebate.

The rebate is also based on whether you purchase a used home or build a new one.

"Even someone who has under a year, can begin earning this dream home rebate,' explains Dawn Drozd, director of marketing at Woodbury Management, a property management company based in Farmington Hills with 12 multi-family housing communities throughout Michigan, including Diamond Forest in Farmington Hills, Novi Ridge in Novi and Woodbury Gardens in Ann Arbor; two senior housing facilities in Michigan and other properties throughout the country.

"It's a winning combination, enabling you to save toward your dream home while enjoying Woodbury's legendary customer service, incredible value and warm sense of community," the Woodbury brochure says.

The program allows Woodbury to pass along the benefits by forming partnerships with real estate agents and builders. The company works with Real Estate One when renters buy used homes. In cases where new homes are bought, Woodbury develops a partnership with the builder.

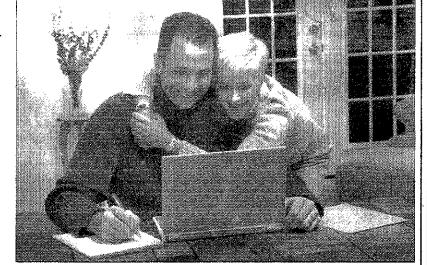
"Within 30 days of purchasing that home Real Estate One would send us a referral Continued on Page 11E





By DIANE GALE ANDREASSI Special Writer

Short term leases are ideal if you're not quite sure where life is going to take you in the next few months, or maybe you recently sold your home and need a



729 - 660

transitional place while your new house is being built.

The nice thing is that you have options, like seeking out an apartment complex that will allow you to sign a lease for less than 12 months. Or, you might choose something else, like a version of a hotel that is based on short term stays. Both offer benefits.

If you decide to stay in an apartment, there is usually a premium added to the monthly market rent for short term leases, explains Holli Menke, executive administrative assistant of Consolidated Management. owner and manager of apartment communities in Michigan, Ohio and Florida.

The premiums range from \$50 to \$100 or more.

However, some apartment communities are waiving that fee to counteract the current low occupancy rates plaguing a lot of apartment complexes. The offer is among a slew of lures owners are making, like providing a month or more of free rent to long term leases.

Apartment communities often offer three, six and nine month leases. Typically, the shorter the lease the higher the premium. On a more rare basis, some facilities are even bringing in dwellers with one month leases.

The apartment, some feel, is preferable to a hotel room, because there's a kitchen and more of a home type atmosphere. "In today's market many companies are looking for shortterm housing for employees on temporary work assignments," Menke explains.

Short term corporate rentals almost always include a full package of options and amenities. In these cases the apartment would be completely furnished with all the creature comforts imaginable from table and bed linens to dishes, silverware and small appliances. All utility costs. including phone and cable television, are included in the monthly rent.

"The rental rates for these apartments are significantly higher and negotiated on a case by basis depending on case availability and amenity level," Menke says.

While these options seem tempting, the majority of apartment leases, some 80 percent, are residents who sign 12-month traditional the agreement.

Maybe an apartment complex isn't what you want. If so, you might be interested in something like Lodging by the Month in downtown Plymouth. The extended stay form of hotel hospitality accommodations offer rooms that are equipped like a standard hotel.

There isn't the typical kitchen or extended space that an apartment offers, but there are amenities here that hotels don't have, explains Randy Lorenz, who co-owns Lodging by the Month with his wife, Mary.

Most clients, however, don't miss the kitchen, Lorenz says, because the downtown location provides so many culinary choices. The location also makes the rooms "easy walking distance to pub, park, theater," Lorenz adds.

The current cost is \$700 monthly, which includes all taxes; utilities; weekly maid services, that involves dusting, linen changes and other cleaning; 10 free local phone calls per day; cable television; a king size bed; dresser; desk; refrigerator; microwave and other typical furniture found in a standard hotel room.

The rental rate breaks down to

a \$23 daily cost compared to most budget hotels that often charge around \$50 daily.

"And we have a fridge and microwave that they don't," Lorenz says.

The name, Lodging by the Month, has taken on a whole new meaning for Lorenz who has clients who have lived in his facility for as long as a year.

Loding by the Month also provides a weekly rate of \$225 after the first month and arrangements can be made for stays on a daily basis.

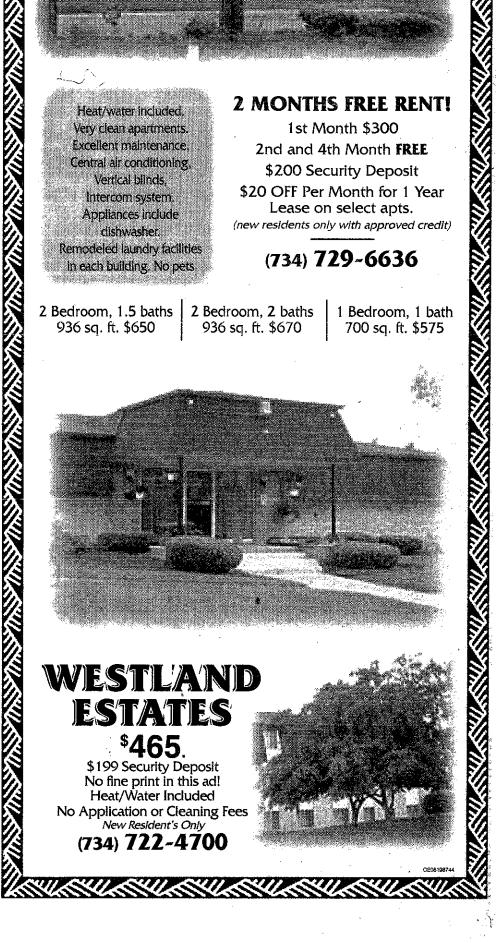
"They don't have to stay any extra time that they don't need," Lorenz adds.

The typical clients are people who are relocating and are house hunting while their family is back at their homestead in another far away city or state.

"It can take two or three months to find and close on a home," Lorenz says adding that Lodging by the Month is an option for people who are trying to avoid costly hotel taxes.

"The location is superior," he says, "It's a little Norman Rockwell community. A lot of people who are house hunting end up purchasing a home in Plymouth."

During summer months, many Lodging by the Month guests are "reverse snow bird" clients, Lorenz says. "People who used to live up here, but have moved to Texas and Florida, still have family here. In the summer, when it's too bloody hot in Texas and Florida, they come up here to be with their families."



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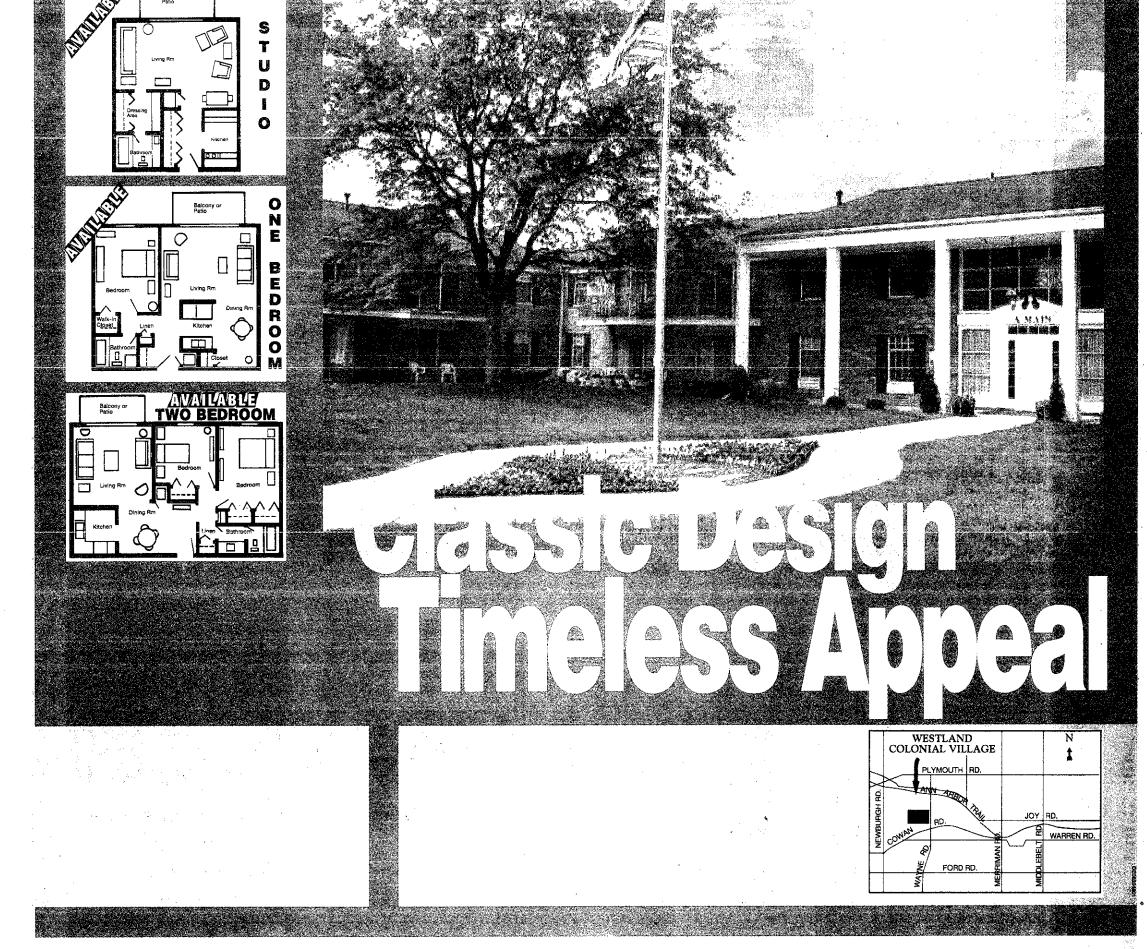


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Equity Earner Program May Be Right For You

Continued from Page 9E

commission and we turn around and rebate that back to our resident," Drozd says explaining that enters who build receive bigger rebates, because the money goes directly from the company to the builder and eliminates the middle person. For instance, someone who has lived in the partment for three to four years would receive 1,720 through the Equity Earner Program on a new home purchased for \$236,000. The equation is developed by multiplying 236 by \$20.

Someone who has rented three or four years and is buying an existing home for \$236,000 would receive \$1,180 from the Equity Earner Program. The award is determined by multiplying \$5 by every thousand dollars of the purchase price.

The rebate checks are delivered 30 days after the closing.

Renters are also given \$250 for a mortgage rate discount, because Woodbury also forms a partnership with the lender.

"It's a win, win situation for everybody," Drozd says stressing that the equity program hasn't increased rental rates.

Meanwhile, Village Green properties has been offering an equity program, LeasEquity, for five years.

Renters who use the new construction

program are given rebates based on their monthly rent. Village Green renters are given 10 percent of their monthly rent up to \$100 per month, with a maximum of \$2,000.

"For instance, if you live in a community for 10 months and the rent is \$1,000 a month you've already earned \$1,000," explains Brian Owen, director of VG Select, which oversees the lease equity program for Village Green.

Village Green has also formed partnerships with well known builders, like Pulte, Crosswinds, Hometown Builders and Bruce Homes, formerly known as Biltmore for renters who are interested in building a newly constructed home. A second Village Green equity program is awarded for people buying used homes. Renters receive \$5 for every \$1,000 spent. Therefore, renters who buy a used home costing \$200,000 would receive a \$1,000 rebate. Village Green also uses Real Estate One as their partner real estate broker.

"We know we're working with the leading realtor in each region and the best builders who are populating this area," explains Melanie Hearsch, public relations director for Village Green companies.

Additionally, a \$400 mortgage rebate is given to all Village Green renters who use Rock Financial.





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OE0820

ADVERTISING FEATURE Your first apartment: insurance advice for college students

By METRO CREATIVE GRAPHICS

Each school year, thousands of college and graduate students are gearing up to return to school, and many face the exciting prospect of renting their first apartment. Besides the basic essentials like textbooks, items that top the list of "must-haves" for students - including laptops, CD players and cell phones - unfortunately also rank high on the list of desirables for would-be thieves.

To make matters worse, some students will discover that they're out in the cold when it comes to protecting their valuables. This can come as a surprise after living in a dorm, where most students' belongings are typically covered under their parents' homeowners insurance policy. In fact, research shows that more than 80 percent of college renters fail to take the necessary precaution of purchasing renters insurance, though it's a relatively inexpensive investment that can guarantee peace of mind.

"For a few hundred dollars a year or less, you can

purchase a solid protection plan that covers your valuables up to \$75,000 and provides protection against personal liability," says Dan Liparini, Vice President of Underwriting for MetLife Auto & Home. "Imagine experiencing a fire or other disaster in your apartment and having to replace all your valuable clothing, CDs, DVDs, televisions and stereo equipment - not to mention all the furniture, pots, pans, dishes and other necessities - at your own expense. Hopefully, you won't be burglarized or experience a fire. But if you do, you'll know your valuables are protected."

For additional information on renters insurance, MetLife Auto & Home offers a brochure called "About ... Renting an Apartment." MetLife Auto & Home also offers free Personal Property Inventory brochures to help people keep track of their valuables. Both are available by calling (800) MET-LIFE or (800) 638-5433. For more information about MetLife Auto & Home, contact your local MetLife Auto & Home provider or authorized Independent Agent, or visit www.metlife.com.



COMPUTERS, CELL PHONES and other "must-haves" for first-time renters are also desirable to would-be thieves. Renters insurance is an investment that can guarantee peace of mind.



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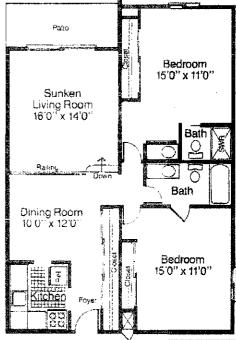
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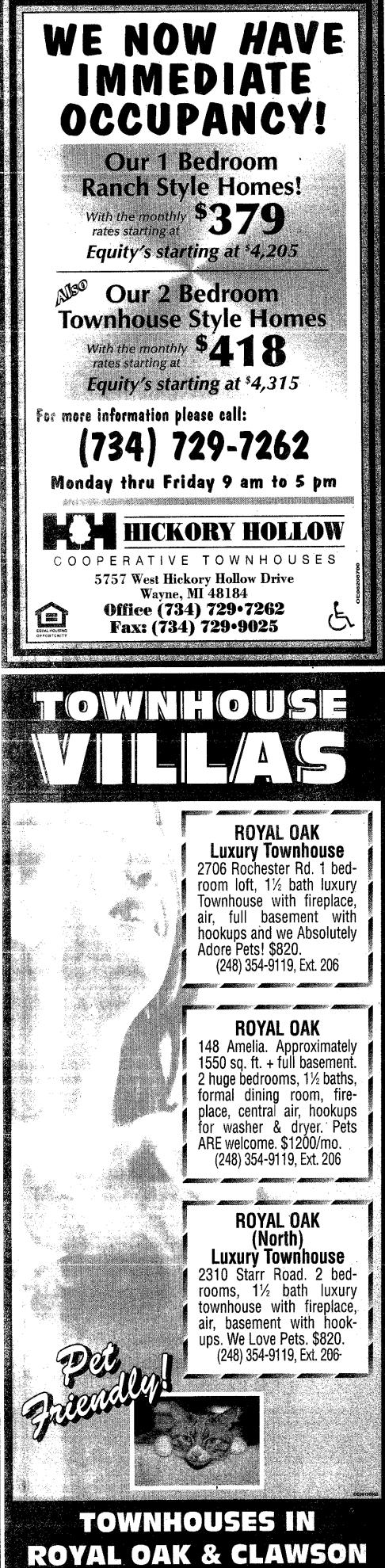
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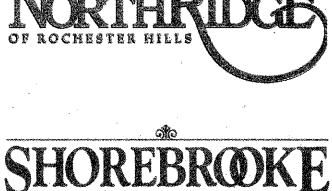


















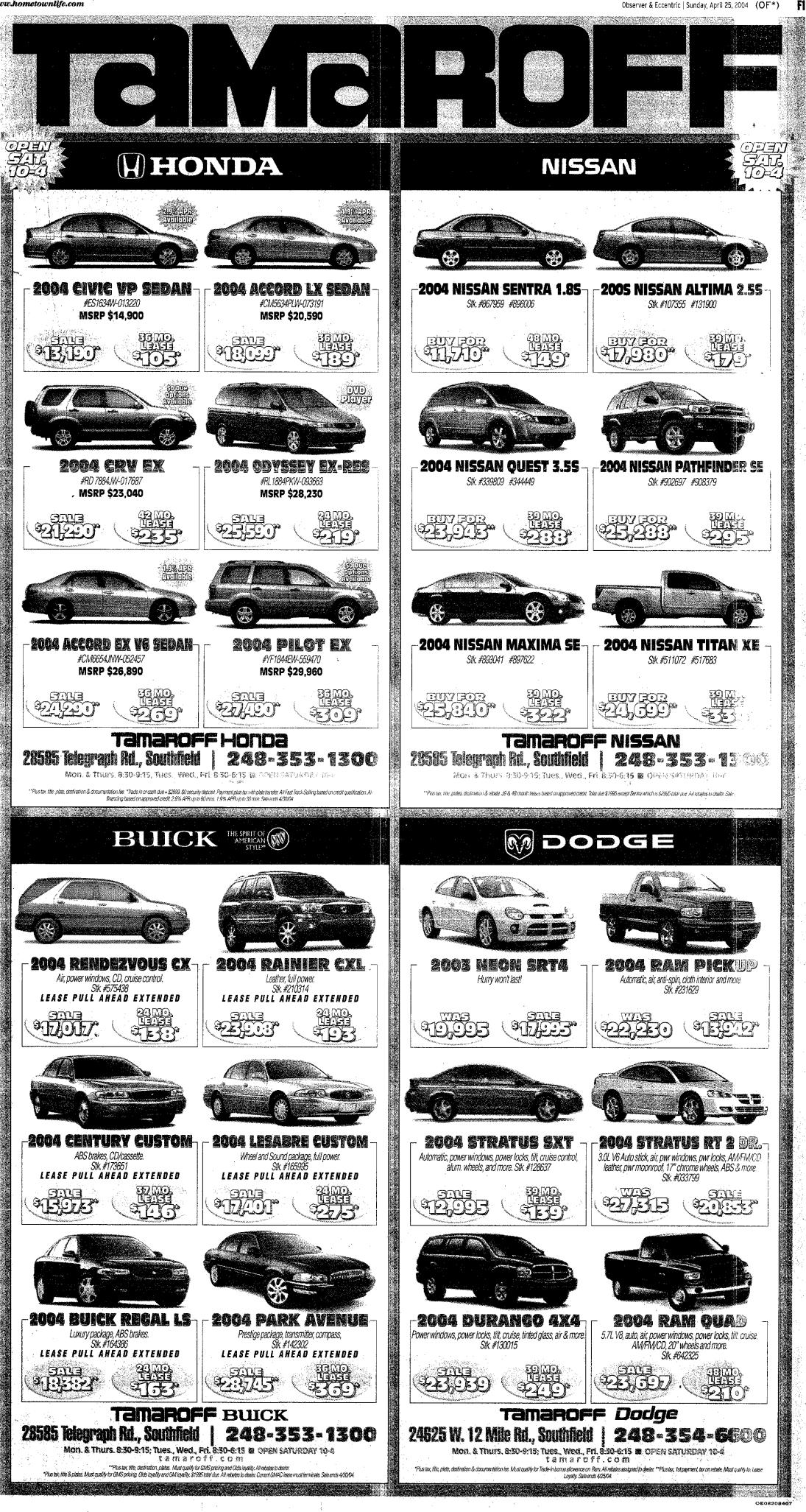
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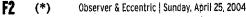
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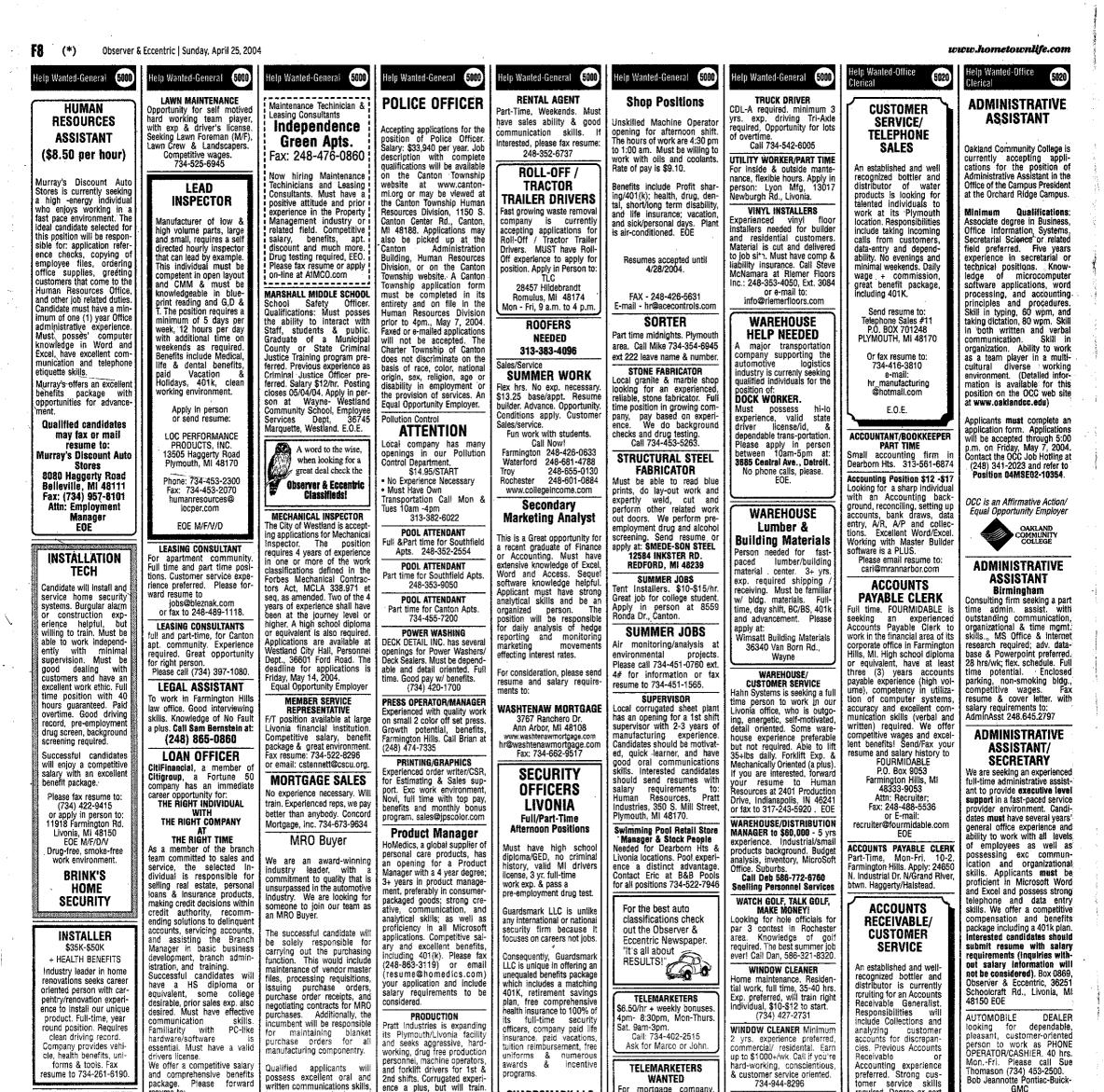
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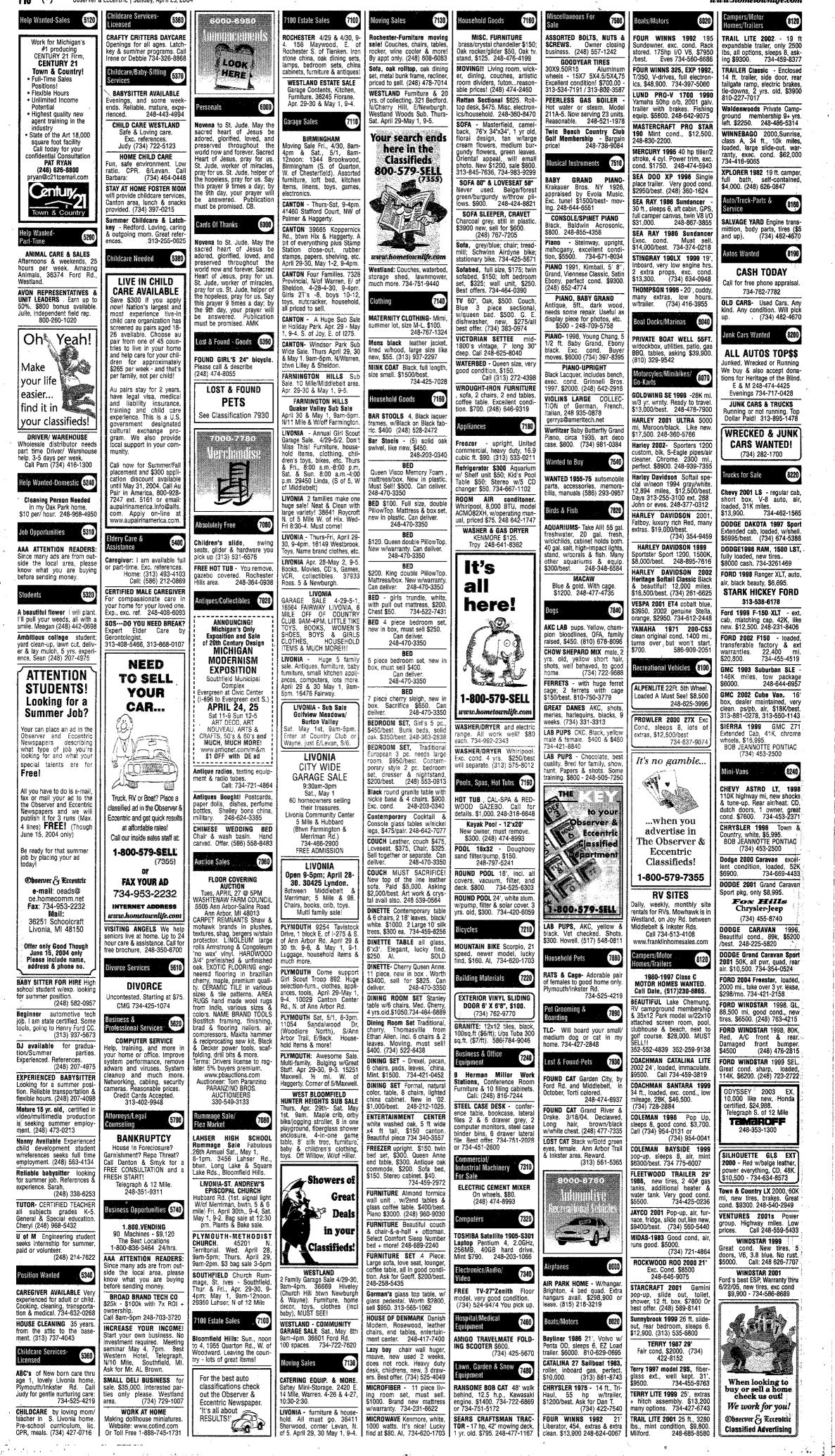
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Observer & Eccentric |Sunday, April 25, 2004

Ford Explorer Sport Trac is tough

Automotive

Advertising Feature





Anne Fracassa

By Anne Fracassa Avanti NewsFeatures

Thinking About A Used Vehicle?

The last time I drove the Ford Explorer Sport Trac was in sunny California several years ago. Ford took us from the airport directly to a beautiful park in San Francisco where you could see the Golden Gate Bridge.

All of a sudden, up pulls a backhoe filled to the top with boulders. The backhoe operator dumps the entire load into the back of the Sport Trac. Then someone starts picking them out of the flatbed, revealing to us that this Sheet Molded Composite cargo box can take anything you can throw at it without harming the interior of the truck's bed.

I was impressed. Especially since everyone wants to put a bedliner or some other protector in their truck's bed. By the way -- did you know that those new after-market

spray-on coatings you can get from various venders immediately voids your truck's paint warranty? That's because the truck bed's factor finish must be destroyed. GM actually considers the installation of a spray-on liner "excessive damage" that impacts the warranty coverage.

Get a 2002 Explorer Sport Trac and you won't have to worry about any of this stuff. The only thing I didn't like was the available lockable hard tonneau cover. It was hard to open and harder to put stuff in the rear bed.

Back there, you'll find a 51-inch (or 29.6 cubic feet of cargo space) pickup box that you can outfit with a swingover tubular bed extender that considerably extends the bed even farther. The tubular frame locks in place and is very lightweight. Even from outside the truck, it's easy to put in place.

OK. Enough about the pickup box. Let's get into some of the meat and potatoes of what makes the Explorer Sport Trac a very special truck. Inside, it's really not very different from the Explorer, which is still the best-selling SUV.

Interior appointments are very, very nice. Seating is comfortable. The Sport Trac I drove had leather seats that

were very soft and comfy. There are two buckets up front and room for three with a rear 60/40 split bench seat. In the back seat are head restraints on the outboard seating positions.

The leather seats up front also feature manual lumbar adjustments and 4-way head restraints for both positions. You can also choose from cloth bucket seats that have a 6way adjustable recline feature for the driver.

The interior is very nicely laid out for the driver. The only disturbing feature was the center stack that houses the heating/venting/cooling and AM/FM/CD/cassette stereo. You actually have to take your eyes fully off the road to operate the controls. I didn't like that at all. I guess after some time, you'll probably get used to it -- just like typing or something. But I didn't like the placement of both those components.

Everything else is smartly placed and geared totally to the driver's experience. Stalks are within fingertip reach and instrumentation is easy to understand.

The optional overhead console features map lights, a compass, outside temperature and a garage door storage bin. The center storage console is geared toward the rear passengers by allowing them rear heater/air conditioning controls, headphone jacks and audio controls.

The Sport Trac features four full-size doors that allow passengers in and out very effectively. The interior is very roomy. Large people can fit back there comfortably. Powered by a 4.0-liter single overhead cam V6, the standard Sport Trac comes with a 5-speed manual transmission that outputs 210 horses. Opt for the 5-speed automatic, overdrive transmission for ease of operation. You'll be able to tow a maximum of 5,300 pounds with Sport Trac.

Driving around town and traveling to the upper reaches of Michigan's lower peninsula was a joy. Handling was superb. Ride quality is really wonderful. Sport Trac also features shift-on-the-fly 4-wheel drive system that would be a joy to have off-roading or having fun in the snow. The 4wheel-drive system is available in both configurations of the Sport Trac, either with the 5-speed manual or 5-speed automatic.

Fuel capacity has been changed to add a little more than 2 more gallons this year, increasing it to 22.4 gallons. That gets you nearly to the top of the mitten from Detroit. Fuel economy ranges from 15 to 21 mpg, depending on transmission and whether you outfit it with 4-wheel-drive or not.

As for the looks of the Explorer Sport Trac, it's beautifully executed in every way. The Explorer series has always had handsome looks -- that's why it sells so well.

I would seriously take a look at Sport Trac as an alternative vehicle that's perfect for a family who needs the versatility of a pick-up truck.

Write Anne Fracassa at avanti1054@aol.com. If you'd like to be contacted when her new book, AUTO TRIVIA, comes out, write us and we'll let you know.

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