# Inside



'Forbidden Christmas' Actors lampoon the typical celebrity holiday variety special with song, dance and lots of laughs.

INSERTED SECTION



**Heavenly collection** Angels light up residence all year long. **SECTION B** 

**Cops join force** 

The Canton Department of Public

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John Wallace,





Bialy

as a store detective. He has a bachelor of arts degree in social science from Michigan State University and is also a graduate of the Oakland Police Academy.

Joseph Bialy, 27, of Wyandotte previously worked for the Detroit Police Department. He has an associate's degree In criminal justice from Ferris State University.

Canton police officers are required to go through a vigorous testing process that includes a written test, physical agility test, oral board, extensive background check and psychological examination.

**Holiday closings** 

Canton Township offices will be closed Friday, Dec. 24, and Monday, Dec. 27, for the Christmas holidays. For New Year's, offices will be closed Thursday, Dec. 30, and Friday, Dec. 31, except for the treasurer's office, which will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 30, to accept property tax payments.

INDEX **Apartments** F7 At Home **B**1 **Automotive** Classified Index F5 F6 A3 **Crossword Puzzle** For The Record Jobs F8 Movie Guide **E**6 Obituaries C7 F1 Real Estate C1 B5 Sports



Your hometown newspaper serving Canton for 30 years

**THURSDAY** 

December 23, 2004

VOLUME 30 NUMBER 50

75 cents

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# A holiday performance at center court

STAFF WRITER

Anyone who plans to watch the heavily anticipated rematch between the Detroit Pistons and Indiana Pacers on Christmas Day may want to tune in a little early.

Local singer and performer Justine Blazer, a 2001 graduate of Canton High and former Chiefette, will take center court and sing the national anthem before the game, which starts at 12:30 p.m., and is being televised by ESPN for a national audi-

Blazer, 21, is looking forward to the experience, though she is a little worried about being associated with the Detroit area, because of the hostility some expect the Indiana fans to show the Pistons. Last month, the two teams were involved in one of the worst sports brawls ever. Several Pacers have been charged with crimes stemming from the incident.

"I'm really looking forward to this, but I've asked them not to introduce me as an artist from Detroit," Blazer said.

Blazer, who has been busy with her singing career, made her most recent performance on Dec. 14 at Fifth Avenue in Detroit, where she helped the U.S. Marine Corps. collect toy donations and raise money for the Toys for Tots program. She played the gig with her band, the Justine Blazer Band, which consists of bassist Matt Coen, guitarist Charlie Coen, and drummer Jay Mingis.

Blazer had so much fun



Performer Justine Biazer of Canton sings at 5th Avenue in Detroit last week in a charity concert benefiting PLEASE SEE SINGER, A3 Toys for Tots. She will sing the national anthem before the Pistons game on Christmas Day.

# Tragic fire still a reminder of danger posed by Christmas tree

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASS! CORRESPONDENT

The horrifically tragic Christmas tree fire that killed seven Canton family members 14 years ago remains, for many, a constant reminder to follow fire safety precautions, especially with live Christmas trees.

"Until you see these fires close-up and see how terribly hot it is, it's hard to understand," explained Canton Fire Chief Mike Rorabacher. "I don't think people realize how fast these Christmas trees burn."

On Dec. 22, 1990 Martin and Debbie Dell'Orco were at home with seven of their nine children when they called the Canton Fire Department at 11:10 a.m.

"Six of the seven children were in bed and whether they were awake or not is unknown," according to a report prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which reviews

serious fires around the country in an effort to prevent similar incidents.

It was determined that "defective or overheated" Christmas tree lights ignited the "unusually" dry tree, according to the FEMA report.

While Martin attempted to remove the burning tree from the home, Debbie frantically called the fire department from the deck of the home. She pulled her 6-vear-old son outside.

Debbie tried to re-enter from the front door, but it had been locked for the night. She then desperately tried to get in through the kitchen door, but the smoke was too heavy. In a frantic attempt to free her children, she grabbed a carpenter's clamp from the garage and began to break out the bedroom windows from outside the house, but was unable to reach any of her children.

Meanwhile, Martin Dell'Orco, 38, made futile attempts to remove the

burning tree from the family room.

Martin abandoned the tree and tried to rescue six of his children still in the single-story ranch house. He died along with six of his children - Bonnie, 12; Sara, 9; Katie, 8; Megan, 5; Michael, 5; and Robert, 4. Two of the Dell'Orcos' other children were spending the night elsewhere.

After the fire, Debbie Dell'Orco filed a lawsuit, and has since set up a fund to provide housing for Canton residents who are displaced after fires. Dell'Orco, who still resides in Canton, couldn't be reached for comment.

"Fortunately we don't have to use that fund very often," Rorabacher said. "This certainly accented, once again, the danger relative to Christmas trees. We always preach the point that Christmas trees can be safe if you do this, this and this. If a tree is allowed to dryout you have a tremendous

fire load."

A Christmas tree fire can develop and spread throughout an entire home almost instantaneously, FEMA reported.

"In this fire, the tree was dry, and overheated or defective lights provided the ignition source," the FEMA report says. "This fire reached overwhelming proportions at lightning speed and left the family helpless to survive."

Immediate evacuation of a structure is of cardinal importance during a fire, FEMA officials say.

"Critical evacuation time is lost when occupants attempt to extinguish a fire," the report says. "The larger the number of occupants the longer it takes to evacuate. The less the occupants know about self-evacuation the longer it takes to evacuate. Evacuation should be the primary concern of the occupants during a fire."

PLEASE SEE FIRE, A3



The fight to keep Big Boy a part of the Ford Road landscape made news around the country.

# Sign, art or icon?

Whatever the answer, Big Boy was top newsmaker

**8Y JACK GLADDEN** 

It isn't often that a fat little boy from Canton makes headlines around the country, but this one did.

And that's why the *Observer* has chosen the Ford Road "Big Boy" as its "newsmaker of the year."

Big Boy's ascent into the headlines started in March when restaurant owners Tony and Rana Matar were ticketed by the township, for the second time, over the statue. Canton officials said it was in violation of the sign ordinance because the restaurant already had one street sign and that was all that was allowed.

"We just want to take a deep breath," Rana Matar said at the time. "It's a big joke. It's absurd. It's the craziest thing I ever

She maintained that the statue was not a sign but an "icon" that had been around since the 1930s.

Township Supervisor Tom Yack said it was simply an ordinance enforcement issue.

'This is really something pretty insignificant that's happening within the communi-But he acknowledged - even at the time

before any court hearings had taken place that he had received lots of telephone calls and e-mails about the issue, Matar called it "an uprising," "My customers are furious," she said.

"They are hurt and mad. I've had people calling from Bloomfield Hills, Farmington, even Canada saying you have to fight this." And so they did.

At the first court hearing in April, the Matars' attorney, David Lawrence, requested a three-week adjournment to conduct discovery. Judge Ron Lowe, of the 35th District Court, granted the request but not before raising several questions himself.

PLEASE SEE NEWSMAKER, A4

# Purse snatchers targeting women in store parking lots

BY JACK GLADDEN STAFF WRITER

Canton Police are warning shoppers: Keep your eye, and preferably your hand, on your purse while you're out buying groceries or Christmas gifts.

According to Canton Police Detective Sgt. Rick Pomorski, between Dec. 15 and 20, six purses have been stolen from area businesses while women customers were shopping. The same thing is happening in other communities, he said.

He said one of the thefts

occurred between noon and 1 p.m. The others were after 3 Stores hit so far are Kroger,

Holiday Market, Farmer Jack, Wal-Mart, Target and Meijer. "We suspect it may be a man

and a woman working together," Pomorski said. "One woman said she was approached by a young woman asking her to help her look for a certain item. When she looked back at her cart, the purse was gone."

He said a video tape from the Meijer incident shows a woman leaving the store with a shop-

ping cart with the purse in view. She goes out of view on the tape for a second or two and when the tape comes back the purse is gone.

In two instances, Pomorski

said the victims had a conversa-

tion with a woman while inside the store. "They were described as female of medium height and build, brown shoulder-length hair, early to mid-30s, Mexican or Italian looking, wearing

brown or tan coats," he said. He said the purses are usually found in the parking lots or by

dumpsters, although some have not been recovered. While some credit cards have been taken, he said a lot of cash was missing.

"It's so easy to get distracted," Pomorski said.

"Just the stress of shopping itself during this season. Your mind might not be focused 100 percent on the security of your purse."

He had some advice for shop-

"Always keep your purse with you," he said. "If you can't do that, lock your purse in your trunk and put your wallet or

money in your pocket." If shoppers who've had their

purse taken have a suspect, they should get a license plate number, if possible, a description and any other identifying features, and let a store clerk know of the incident.

"We have extra police on bicycles outside the businesses and in cars patrolling the areas," he

"But we don't have anyone inside the store."

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

#### **AGENCY ADDS EXECUTIVES**

Modern Insurance Agency of Canton, an independent insurance agency representing several companies, recently announced the addition of two new senior account executives to its staff.

Amy Lauer, who holds a property and casualty license, will sell and service both personal and business insurance. She has eight years experience.

Lana Steciak has sold and serviced insurance for over twenty years. She also holds a property and casualty license and will sell and service all lines of insurance. Both women reside in Westland.

#### **GIFTED PROGRAM**

Van Buren Public Schools is accepting referrals for possible placement in its Gifted Program for the 2005-06 school year. Eligible students must be in grades K-7. The program, which services students in grades 1-8, is designed for academically gifted and highly motivated students. The program stresses a combination of acceleration and enrichment. There is a high level of academic work, a rapid instructional pace, and many opportunities to delve more deeply into subject matter.

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FRI 11:30, 12:20, 1:50, 2:40, 4:20, 5:00
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13)

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ALEXANDER (R) TH 6:15, 9:30

THE INCREDIBLES (PG)2 PRINTS / 2 SCREENS

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Forms are available in all Van Buren elementary and middle schools, and the administration building. All forms must be completed and returned by Jan. 188, 2005 to your school principal, or sent directly to:

Barbara Woody, G/T Coordinator, North Middle School, 47097 McBride, Belleville, MI 48111. For more information call Barbara Woody at (734) 697-6370.

#### SWIM, GYM AND FILM

Bring out the entire family and celebrate the New Year from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31, at Summit on the Park. The aquatic center will be open from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. for all kinds of swimming and water activities. Following the swimming, a movie will be shown, and popcorn and pop will be on sale. Feel free to bring blankets, cushions and pillows to sit on — no chairs or outside food and beverages please.

#### WINTER HELP

Plato's Coney Island (42405 Ford) is accepting donations of "gently used" blankets, coats and other winter clothing for needy families this holiday season. It will distribute whatever is collected to families in Detroit, in conjunction with the Detroit Police Department.

For those interested in helping, drop off donations in the box at the back of the restaurant through Christmas day. Both children and adult sizes will be accepted. There is also

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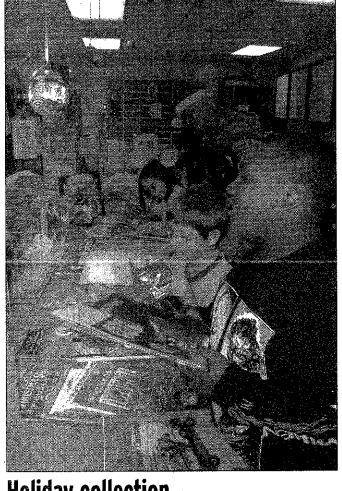
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#### **Holiday collection**

Miller Elementary School teacher Jon Childs and some of his secondgrade students view his extensive collection of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas books and related articles. Childs, who has been collecting the books since he started teaching 30 years ago, displays his collection in the teachers' workroom at Miller each year for Miller students and staff to enjoy.

a drop-off box at Plato's Farmington location (35227 Grand River). For more information, call (734) 981-7301.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

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The Lee and Noel Bittinger Team at RE/MAX is offering three scholarships, each in the amount of \$1,000, for local

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high school seniors that are planning to attend a college or university in the fall of 2005.

To apply for the scholarship, entrants must submit a short essay (not to exceed three pages, double-spaced with a 12 pt. font) that address the following question: Describe how someone in your life has influenced you in a positive way and changed your life?

All submissions must include name, address and phone number of entrant, high school they attend, and college or university they plan to attend in the fall. All submissions must be received by Dec. 31, 2004. They should be sent to The Bittinger Team, 43435 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187. 'The Plymouth/Canton

Team Scholarship is just one of the ways that we can say thank you by giving back to our community," Noel Bittinger said. For more information, contact the team at (734) 459-

community has supported us

for over 20 years. The Bittinger

1010, or email Bittinger at noelbittinger@remax.net.

#### **PLYMOUTH-CANTON CIVITAN**

The Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club is looking for energetic new members to participate in community service projects. This club meets the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Plymouth Salvation Army Building on Main Street. Call (734) 981-7259 for further info.

#### **MOTHERS & MORE**

The Wayne County chapter of Mothers & More meets twice a month in Plymouth. Call (866) 841-9140, Ext. 4329, or visit Web site mothersandmore63@onebox.com.

#### **CRAFTERS, ARTISTS WANTED**

Officials of the Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters are looking for crafters and artists for "Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble." The event is scheduled for 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, March 19 at Canton High School. It's a juried show. For more information, e-mail Diane Van Dyke at djvandyke@peoplepc.com or call (734) 416-3354.

#### SYMPHONY FUND-RAISER

The Plymouth Symphony is selling the 2005 Entertainment Book, offering 50-percent discount coupons at hundreds of restaurants and discounts for many other services and events. The 2005 Entertainment Book can be picked up at the Plymouth Symphony Office, next to the Cozy Cafe in downtown Plymouth, or by calling Mary Thomas, (734) 453-3016. Cost of the book is \$20, with proceeds benefitting symphony programs. For more information, call the symphony office, (734) 451-2112

#### **@ THE LIBRARY**

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Canton Public Library holiday schedule:

Christmas -closed Friday, Dec. 24, through Sunday, Dec. 26. Will reopen Monday, Dec. 27, at 9 a.m.

New Year's -closed Friday, Dec. 31, and Saturday, Jan. 1. Will reopen Sunday, Jan. 2 at

Bring the kids to the Children's Library for our winter crafts event on Tuesday, December 28 from 10-11 a.m. \* or 1-2 p.m. Ages 4-7, registration not required.

#### **WEB WATCH**

- www.firstamend~ mentschools.org – "a national initiative designed to transform how schools model and teach the rights and responsibilities of citizenship"
- www.wapms.org/plants descriptions of problem plants in western U.S. wetlands
- www.charitynavigator.org click on the Holiday Giving Guide

#### **NEW MATERIALS LIST**

Search a complete list of new materials added to the library's catalog this week, visit http://catalog.cantonpl.org/ftli

**Adult Fiction** ■ The Da Vinci Code - Dan

- Brown ■ Damned if I Do: Stories -
- Pervical Everett
- Getting Used To Dying -Zhang Xianliang
- Adult Non-Fiction ■ And I Don't Want To Live This Life - Deborah Spungen
- American Problem Thomas Wiloch ■ Frommer's Spain 2005 -

■ Crime: A Serious

- Darwin Porter & Danforth Prince Photoshop 7 Bible - Deke
- Mcclelland **Adult Sound Recordings**
- **■** *Best 1991-2004* Seal ■ It Always Will Be - Willie
- Nelson ■ Peachtree Road - Elton
- She's So Unusual Cyndi



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# Landmark motel FIRE to be replaced

A Canton landmark of sorts, the De Swan Motel on the southwest corner of Michigan Avenue and Belleville Road, is being replaced by a sign of the times - a combination Tim Horton's/Flagstar Bank.

The project was recommended for approval by the township planning commission at its regular Monday night meeting. Each building will have separate drive-through win-

Planners were generally happy with the project. The only major reservations were that access would be from the east-bound lanes of Michigan Avenue and from an entrance on Belleville Road, which would allow only right turns in and out of the site.

The project sponsor and planning department staff said the right-turn-only mandate came from Wayne County,

which is responsible for Belleville road.

In other business the commission approved a request for an expansion of the Canton Center Animal Hospital east of Canton Center and north of Ford.

The expansion would more than double the size of the existing building. Expanded surgery and recovery as well as treatment areas are proposed.

The commission was also told that a Jan. 24 date has been set for a joint meeting of the township board, the planning commission and the downtown development authority to get an overall view of IKEA's plans for its Canton location.

"It will be placed on the regular agenda for later on." Senior Planner Judy Bocklage told the commission. "This joint meeting will give us a look at the general concept."

jgladden@oe.homecomm.net ] (734) 459-2700

Statistics show nearly 500 deadly home fires occur each December as a result of Christmas trees catching fire, according to the American Red

After the Dell'Orco fire, other reports of defective light sets had been received by the Canton Police and Fire Departments.

Rorabacher, the American Red Cross and FEMA make these fire safety recommenda-

The first priority is to get people out of a structure - even if a fire doesn't appear to be spreading.

■ Keep live trees watered as much as you can.

Use additives that make sure the tree can draw up as much water as possible.

■ Check the water in the tree stand twice a day.

■ Keep the tree away from the fireplace, exits, hallways and doorways to allow easy access into and out of rooms.

■ Make a home fire escape plan that is regularly practiced by all family members.

The plan should include sleeping with bedroom doors closed; a planned response to smoke detectors; checking the primary exit, escaping through a secondary exit; making certain windows open easily and reporting a fire.

■ Avoid using candles while entertaining during the holi-

■ Use good, quality Christmas tree lights that have a "UL" approval on the wire. Underwriters Laboratory tests

■ Install smoke detectors



Neighbors placed a memorial on the front lawn of the Dell'Orco home, after a Christmas tree caught fire, killing Martin Dell'Orco and six of his children in

and make sure the batteries work.

"Smoke detectors will do their jobs, but these trees will go off so fast that a smoke detector doesn't have time to do their job," Rorabacher said.

there that will pay for themselves after a couple of years. Live trees are hard to keep up on and you hate to find out the "I'll probably get a piece of hard way."

coal under my tree this year for saying this, but there's some beautiful artificial trees out

FROM PAGE AT

during the show, and has such a belief in the cause, that she hopes to make it an annual

event. "It was an awesome show. We performed all the holiday classics," she said. "I didn't get a count on how much we raised, but I know the Marines had a huge wad of money at the end of the night.

The national audience that she will be playing for on Christmas Day is not exactly a first for Blazer, who has sang the anthem at numerous major sporting events, and has been on major television networks including ABC, ESPN and FOX. But still, she said it will be special singing such a meaningful song on Christmas. And the fact that the country is at war only adds more meaning, she said.

"I'm always excited about singing the anthem, but now that we are in wartime it really means something," Blazer said.

"When I'm singing, I look around at all the people and wonder how many of them have a friend or a loved one in the war. It's very sentimental for me now."

Blazer also just released a Christmas CD, called Just a Justine Christmas. Containing 12 holiday classics, the CD can be purchased at either Dearborn Music store, including the one in Canton, or on Blazer's Web site at www.justineblazer.com.

"It's very warm, very romantic," Blazer says of the work.

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

#### FOR THE RECORD

#### **DEATHS**

Benito J. Barreto, of Livonia, died Dec. 17.

Amelia M. Bresler, 87, of Lansing, died Dec. 15.

Becky Furca, of Redford, died Dec.

John A. Grzebik, of Westland, died

Barbara J. McCune, 68, of Farmington Hills, died Dec. 11. Loran Jean Marshall-Holden, of

Dec. 18.

Westland, died Dec. 15. Robert C. Mitchell, 68, of Detroit, died Dec. 15. Lawrence F. Peter, 88, of Eustis,

Fla., died Dec. 20. Vincent Charles Secontine, Jr., 83,



For the Record appears in every edition of the Observer & Eccentric

Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's Sports section in Passages on page C7.

of Birmingham, died Dec. 19.

John E. Webb, of Redford, died Dec.

Robert E. Willette, 76, of Plymouth, died Dec. 16.

Rev. John B. Zwers, of Redford, died Dec. 20.

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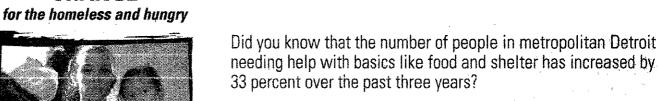
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needing help with basics like food and shelter has increased by

But our ability to protect and support our vulnerable men, women and children is at risk this holiday season. With fewer public locations available for our Red Kettles, we need your help to **Make Change Happen** for people who need us most . . .

Your gift will help The Salvation Army bring real and lasting changes to the lives of thousands of people in need this holiday season and throughout the year. By sharing with The Salvation Army, you help Make Change Happen . . . and bring hope where once there was despair.

Don't wait to hear the bell ringing! Call or click and Make Change Happen today! 1-877-SAL-MICH or RedKettleCampaign.org

1-877-SAL-MICH or RedKettleCampaign.org



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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 23, 2004

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"Notice is hereby given that the following units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of open auction on 01/07/05 at approximately 9:00 a.m. at the following locations:

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

Unit 4287 household Unit 4294 household Unit 5251 household Unit 6015 household Unit 6220 household Unit 6268 household

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

Unit 2017 household Unit 3091 household

Unit 4140 household

Shurgard of Walled Lake 1901 East West Maple Rd. Walled Lake, MI 48390 248-669-4020

Unit 4004 household Unit 4044 household Unit 8042 household/ 95 Mustang

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

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Unit 4010 household

Shurgard of Canton South 45229 Michigan Ave. Canton, MI 48188

734-398-5416 Unit 4010 household Unit 4055 household Unit 4103 household Unit 4109 household Unit 4121 household Unit 4126 household Unit 4147 household Unit 4218 household Unit 4271, household

lish: December 23 and December 30, 2004

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Unit 2188 household Unit 3294 household Unit 3420 household

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Shurgard Taylor 9300 Pelham Rd. Taylor, MI 48180 313-292-2950

Unit 3133 household

Unit 3091 household Unit 4003 household Unit 4027 household Unit 4063 household Unit 4071 household Unit 5014 household Unit 5020 household Unit 5042 household Unit 5045 household Unit 5093 household Unit 5097 household Unit 5100 household Unit 5104 household Unit 6001 household Unit 6005 household Unit 6025 household Unit 6129 household Unit 6189 household Unit 9046 household Unit 9092 household

# Armed robbers hit two stores on Michigan Ave.

Canton Police responded to two armed robberies on Sunday, Dec. 19. The first incident occurred at about 12:20 a.m. at the Cottage Inn pizza take-out at 43647 Michigan

Two subjects described as white males wearing ski masks

and armed with handguns entered the store and ordered an employee to a back room at gunpoint. The subjects returned to the front of the store where they escaped with an undisclosed amount of cash. A Van Buren Police canine unit assisted by attempting a track

which was unsuccessful. The second incident

occurred about 9:50 p.m. at the Wendy's restaurant at 40450 Michigan Ave. Two black males armed with handguns entered the store and ordered employees to produce money from the store safe and cash registers. The escaped with an undisclosed amount of

A Canton Police canine track

was unsuccessful. It appears that in both cases the suspects fled in vehicles. Both cases remain under investigation.

#### **NEWSMAKER**

FROM PAGE A1

He noted that Canton had formed a public art committee that had been working to get art on the road. Then he went into a dissertation on Campbell's soup cans and other items that became "art" in

"I don't know whether there's a way that this (the Big Boy statue) can be justified as pop art," he said.

And that raised the questions: Is it a sign? Is it an icon? Is it art?

At that point the story was picked up by the local dailies and TV stations, even the Associated Press. And it began to make headlines around the country.

When the parties appeared in court again after the three weeks, Lawrence requested and received another threeweek adjournment to continue discovery. By then Matar said she had received at

least 40 letters from people who wanted to save the Big Boy. And a petition at the restaurant had been signed by more than 6,000 people. At the next hearing, Lawrence request-

ed, and received, another delay because he was not satisfied with the documents the township had produced. Attorney Ron Witthoff, representing Canton Township, said he had already supplied Lawrence with more than 70 pages of documents



Attorney David Lawrence helps Big Boy owner Tony Matar paint over the lettering after a compromise with township officials.

and thought the request for additional material was overboard.

By then it was June and Lawrence was still pressing for more documents. The story was published in newspapers from New England to California and became fodder for columnists from Mount Clemens to Chicago. Political newcomer Todd Caccamo even used the issue during his successful run for township trustee, saying it was a private property issue that township officials should let go.

In July. Yack told board members at a study session that the township had put together a possible compromise.

We're not going to reach closure here," he said of the legal proceedings. At a court hearing on July 27, almost

five months after the case began, both sides agreed to the compromise: The statue could stay, but the two words "Big Boy" on the bib had to be removed or covered up. That was done a month later at a public ceremony that was caught on film by newspaper photographers and television camera crews.

At the final court hearing, where the compromise was agreed upon, Lowe ended the case with another bizarre twist.

"We've had a lot of dialogue in here, but we never got the chance to ask what my opinion might be about the Big Boy," he said. "I don't know what my opinion might be about the Big Boy."

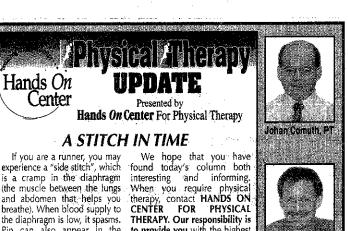
Then he handed both attorneys a thick document. It was an article from the Georgia Law Review, written by a professor from the New England School of Law.

He said the professor made a "very compelling argument" about the issue of dealing with "signs and art and things that can cross over as to how you should address

He didn't just happen on the article, however.

"You generated so much press about the Big Boy," Lowe said, "that apparently up in New England they were reading about it and that's why this professor sent this article along saying, You might want to read it, judge. It might be helpful."

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

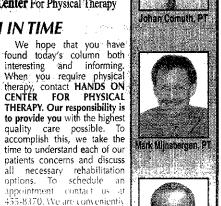


experience a "side stitch", which is a cramp in the diaphragm (the muscle between the lungs and abdomen that helps you breathe). When blood supply to the diaphragm is low, it spasms. to provide you with the highest quality care possible. To accomplish this, we take the time to understand each of our patients concerns and discuss

Pin can also appear in the shoulder. In the event that you get a side stitch, try slowing down for 30 seconds. If the pain is on the right side, exhale forcefully each time your left foot hits the ground. On the other hand, if the stitch is onyour left side, exhale when your right foot hits. It may also help located at 650 South Main to practice deep "belly breath- Street in downtown Plymouth ing", which is characterized by and we offer easy access and the abdomen going in and out. parking.

Shoulder pain that persists after a run may signal a heart attack, in which case medical attention should be sought immediately.

Bob Schoemaker, P.



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TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

important for a pet, said

Gorbea, a 1990 graduate of MSU's veterinary school.

Access to food and water is also essential, she said, and

for a purchased animal vac-

within a week.

**SOUND ADVICE** 

cines should be made current

The Humane Society offers

the following tips to keep ani-

mals safe during the holidays:

Holiday plants that can

be harmful or toxic include

mistletoe, holly, poinsettias, Japanese yew and Jerusalem cherry, as well as the bulb of

the amaryllis plant. Contact

your veterinarian if your pet

■ Keep animals away from

holiday decorations and never leave them unsupervised

can cause intestinal blockages

if swallowed. Glass balls may

Also, ingested pine needles

Preservatives, aspirin or

"A lot of people use that for

sugar commonly used to prolong a Christmas tree's life

may prove harmful if the water is ingested. Aspirin is especially deadly for cats.

preservative for their

still on the market.

topple over.

hazard.

tract.

around.

Christmas tree," Gunnigle

said of aspirin. Davis said many dangerous products are

■ Make sure lights and

reach. Besides the risk of elec-

trocution, the whole tree may

trees and other seasonal items

■ Keep animals away from ribbons and bows. Cats find

Make sure pets are secure

them fascinating; however,

they are a serious choking

while you are entertaining.

chances for the cat, dog or

other animal to slip out unno-

ticed; as always, be sure he is wearing a collar and ID tag in

case of escape. Provide pets

tivities get too stressful.

and other rich foods can

cause severe gastrointestinal

upset. Likewise, do not give animals poultry or steak

bones, which can lodge in the

■ Chocolate is poisonous to

throat, stomach or intestinal

dogs and can prove fatal

depending on the dog's size and the amount and type of

rule is to keep all chocolate

out of your dog's reach.

never be left unattended,

especially with animals

chocolate ingested. The safest

■ Lighted candles should

Clinics and the MHS can

help answer questions about

said. "They do a lot of information over the phone," she

nutrition, medication and

other pet topics, Gorbea

said of the MHS.

with a quiet retreat when fes-

■ Resist giving fatty foods as treats. Gravy, poultry skin

More guests mean more

Obviously, there are a lot of

electrical cords are out of

things in the household,"

Gorbea said of Christmas

that can harm pets.

be "fetched" off the tree and

can puncture the intestines,

so vacuum around the tree

break.

frequently.

around the Christmas tree. Tinsel, ribbons and angel hair

is vomiting, lethargic or

foaming at the mouth.

Kimberly Harris (left) of Wayne and Carol Secco of Westland adopted German shepherd/Lab mix 8-week-old-puppies at the Michigan Humane Society Tuesday. The puppies were foster pups being cared for by Barbara Rogulski of

# Make pet feel welcome in new home

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Experts agree pets as Christmas gifts aren't the greatest. But once the holidays are over, you might want to consider adding a pet to your home.

"If you're going to give an animal at Christmas, make it stuffed," recommended Dr. Brad Davis, a veterinarian with VCA Animal Hospital of Garden City. He suggested a book on animals or a gift certificate as alternatives for the

"In January and February, there are going to be tons of animals needing homes," said Davis, a 1972 graduate of Michigan State University's veterinary school. "It should never be an impulse decision."

The Michigan Humane Society recommends carefully considering animal adoption in advance.

The Humane Society's shelters in Westland, Detroit and Rochester Hills have animals available for adoption. Information is available online at www.michiganhumane.org or by calling (866) MHUMANE

#### (648-6263). THINK FIRST

"It's the busiest time of year for many people," said Nancy Gunnigle, MHS spokeswoman.

"We recommend not surprising someone with a companion animal they may not be ready to commit to."

Waiting until the new year is best, Gunnigle said. That can help people make a match to last a lifetime.

"I would definitely agree with that," said Dr. Vyvian Gorbea, a veterinarian and owner of Plymouth Veterinary Hospital. "There should be a lot of thought that you put

into it." Ideally, the family should go to the shelter together, Gunnigle said. Older children can help with pet care, but parents must realize the ultimate responsibility is theirs. Expecting too much of kids "can reduce the enjoyment of the animal."

Adoption counselors at the Humane Society work with people to make the right match, noting some animals are higher mainte-

"That's one of our greatest enjoyments," Gunnigle said of sending an animal to a loving permanent home.

The society provided more than 13,000 animals for adoption last year, mostly cats and dogs.

"We hope people will think of the Michigan Humane Society when they're looking to add a companion animal, she said.

Animals coming home for the first time benefit from a crate or playpen which will give them a place for quiet, Davis said. It's important to set a routine for meals and other things as soon as possi-

"If things are constantly changing, it makes it hard for

them," he said. A comfortable bed's

# Rakolta: Dialogue can bridge racial divisions

BY GREG KOWALSKI STAFF WRITER

"The legacy of the past is rooted in today." And that is especially evident in the state of race relations in the metro Detroit

That message was delivered Monday morning by John Rakolta Jr., chairman of New Detroit, Inc., who spoke to a full house at the Race Relations and, Diversity Task Force at The Community House.

Detroit is the most segregated major city in the nation, Rakolta said, and there are deep divisions between the black and white communities that still echo with the pains of slavery.

Today, fundamental misunderstandings remain between the two communities that requires a "true and honest dialogue with respect," Rakolta said.

An example of successful dialogue was



New Detroit chairman John Rakolta Jr. brought a message of understanding to The Community House Monday.

related by Rakolta, who has hosted a series of dinners for New Detroit board members at his home in Bloomfield Hills.

New Detroit was established in 1967 to

deal specifically with the city's racial problems. The board of about 75 members with a variety of business and social organization backgrounds seeks to improve relations. But Rakolta said he saw a lack of communications and understanding on the board.

Each dinner brings a handful of board members together in a casual setting to

discuss racial issues in an open manner. The encounters have been eye-opening, Rakolta said. Tough topics like reparations and a national apology for slavery have been discussed.

And that's the key to finding common ground, Rakolta said. The answer is in dialogue, not debate. Debating implies a winner.

There is no one solution to the problem, Rakolta said, and time alone won't solve it. There has to be full equality for all and "we have to keep the conversations going," he

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# **Observer**

#### **OUR VIEWS**

# Christmas magic survives frenzy

'it went 'zip' when it moved and 'bop' when it stopped And 'whirr' when it stood still I never knew just what it was and I guess I never will"

 Tom Paxton The Marvelous Toy

Some people say Christmas isn't what it used to be. Devout Christians are concerned that Christ has been pushed aside by commercialism, secularism and an oversensitivity to the feelings of non-Christians. They say nobody says "Merry Christmas" anymore, just "Happy holidays."

Parents are concerned that the simple joys of the season are being undermined by loud, violent and socially isolating video games that have replaced the wonderful toys of

their youth. Everyone complains about the traffic jams, the buying frenzy, the incessant commercialization, the forced conviviality, the bad holiday music and worse movies and all the dancing Santas and reindeer.

But still, there is a magic to this season amidst all its mixed messages and conflicting themes. Like Tom Paxton's marvelous toy, it moves and fascinates us still.

On every street corner and in front of department stores and supermarkets, volunteers ring bells so the Salvation Army can provide food, clothes and toys to needy families. Goodfellows sell newspapers to assure that no child will go without a Christmas. While shelters, soup kitchens and serious need exist all year long, it is at Christmas that we are stopped and reminded of that need and open our hearts and our wallets to help.

Families and friends separated by miles or just by busy lives pause for a night and day to gather again and celebrate the Christmases past they've shared and the love that sometimes goes unexpressed for too long a time.

Little tots, eyes all aglow, find joy in the simplest things -colored lights, a twirling toy, a chilly sled ride and a jolly man in a red suit.

We do live in a diverse community, where people of many cultures and religions have come together to live. For many, Christmas is not part of their religious tradition. For others, Christmas is not a particularly religious holiday.

But to those concerned that Christ has been pushed aside, it might be comforting to think that the magic of this season begins with the simple humility of the Nativity story. We bestow gifts on children because wise men brought gifts to a baby in Bethlehem. We remember the sick and needy because we have been taught for hundreds of years that Jesus preached and practiced such charity. We gather as a family on this night above all others because we celebrate a family finding shelter in a stable.

Christmas has many meanings — may you find joy and peace in your special celebration of the season.

## Holiday drunken driving is costly in many ways

Although it's been said many times, many ways, it's worth repeating — if you drink, don't drive this holiday season. And be sure to spread the word.

Efforts to make it a safe holiday in the metro area are getting help from the Michigan State Police and the statewide You Drink & Drive, You Lose campaign which began Dec. 20 and continues through Jan. 2.

Law enforcement officials in Wayne, Oakland and 20 other counties throughout the state will be on on the lookout for those who drink and drive. So if you're thinking about one more cocktail before hitting the road, think again. It could cost you big!

Remember that Michigan's drunken driving definition is. 08 blood-alcohol and the costs associated with a drunken driving arrest have increased. In addition to court costs and fines, convicted drunken drivers will also pay a new \$1,000 penalty included in the driver responsibility program. The \$1,000 penalty will be imposed for two consecutive years. Anyone who refuses a breath test to determine blood-alcohol levels will receive an automatic one-year suspension of driving privileges.

During last year's Christmas and New Year holiday weekends, there were 13 traffic deaths statewide, according to the Michigan State Police.

Nationwide, more than 2,700 individuals were arrested for alcohol-related offenses during this same holiday enforcement period. And according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, more than 2,100 people nationwide were killed during the 2003 holiday season in alcohol-related traffic ¢rashes and/or crashes where safety belts were not used.

Don't drink and drive this holiday season and don't allow someone else who has been drinking to drive. Drive safe, drive sober and drive buckled up this holiday season.

# Observer

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



#### **LETTERS**

#### Take a hint

You would think that the Hollywood Left would have taken this past presidential election as a lesson to stay out of American politics. Well, in fact, it seems to have had the exact opposite effect.

According to Reuters, in a recent interview Michael Moore stated, "For the last month, we've had to listen to a lot of conservative pundits talk about how the Democrats need to run away from Hollywood, it's actually the opposite." Moore said, "Democrats need to embrace Hollywood because this is where they need to come to learn how to tell a story. President Bush had a more compelling story to tell and the Democrats didn't, and that has to change.

Interestingly, Moore insists that Democrats go to Hollywood to learn how to "tell a story." That right there is a mistake. America doesn't want to hear a story. America wants to hear the truth. Obviously, Hollywood has a general misconception of how real America lives, and what real America believes. Most mainstream Americans are good, God-fearing people that embrace traditional values, and could care less about what their sources of entertainment (mainly Hollywood) say about politics and other such issues.

Honestly, people don't go to concerts to hear celebrities rant on about who they would vote for, and who could possibly enjoy a movie about someone's twisted political views. Hollywood simply does not have the same values as mainstream America, and if they are embraced by the Democrats, I can guarantee they won't be celebrating a major victory anytime soon.

Michael Moore and his cronies may never get it, but one thing is for sure, it is extremely fortunate for this country that a few hare-brained celebrities and their warped ways of thinking did not influence America's major decisions.

Christina Garmon Canton

#### Ford Road too dangerous

The Canton Downtown Development Authority, after reviewing a review of the plans provided by the nationally famous Corradino Group of Kentucky to make Ford Road safe for drivers, now plans to turn Ford Road into a walkable business

Reportedly that was one of the issues on the table for the Downtown Development Authority when they met Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2004.

They are saying now that they developed these ideas about a downtown business district more than a year ago when the township presented its master plan. The focus changed when the township board approved hiring Hamilton Anderson Associates to analyze Ford

The Downtown Development Authority has been skimming tax income from the local business community for nearly 20 years. Will they be putting in a walking circle? The distance from the

front to the back in most of our local box stores should require a mass transit plan as it is.

Who is going to walk a mile from home, gather up 100 pounds of groceries and then window shop on the way back? Most of the stores and their signs are set so far back on Ford Road that you need binoculars just to see what they have for

As each day goes by Ford Road becomes more dangerous.

Mr. Yack will now add pedestrians.

Alfred Brock

#### Less hype, more disclosure

The subject of the state deficit interrelates with other problems within our political and tax system. I will try to devote most of my comments to the schools in particular.

I would disagree with the school groups that met and developed a program "We're not taking it anymore." The approach to talk to elected officials to acquire increased funding beyond the allotments is folly. Many taxpayers may object to the imminent "forced taxation" such an approach may bring. Politicians should understand that the taxpayer has had enough (I'm one of them) with generalities and special interest groups.

With the obvious numerous union and/or association groups that abound in public service or the school system, their approaches via an "organized" means can be viewed as an approach to collectivism of sorts. As some examples:

1. Wayne County is providing "sweet" deals for early retirement, and has 17 unions. Some unions enjoy a \$5 match for every \$1 contributed for retirement.

2. Canton Township has about five unions, and has similar programs allowing a \$3 match for every \$1 contributed.

It is clear the employees love these programs. The reality is I've never heard of such sweet deals in the private sector some employees have none. The professed "low pay" is irrelevant - many people work for low pay. All one has to do is take a full door-to-door poll. The above programs are grossly excessive.

I agree with Jim Ryan, superintendent of Plymouth Canton Schools - the system needs to educate the taxpaying public. We need facts, and a lot less hype. More detail from others (such as Mike Maloney) would be nice. The Observer pie charts recently published are a good general beginning. Less "government" by unions and associations needs to be implemented, and placed back into the taxpayer's control.

It seems prudent to conclude that the average taxpayer has to develop their own organized group to counteract or challenge the obviously excessive abundance of others. It would be nice to know how many levels of bureaucracy and their purpose exists today, along with all the num-

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Letters to the editor

Canton Observer

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#### **QUOTABLE**

"I think there will be some type of adjustment period to get used to it, and we'll need to do some aligning of our curriculum to teach what is expected on the Michigan Merit Exam. According to the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals, the new test lines up favorably with state standards and benchmarks."

- Mike Bender, secondary education director for Plymouth-Canton Schools, on decision to scrap the MEAP test for the Michigan Merit Exam

#### Teach sexual abstinence

During the 1950s some of us responsible for curriculum development considered adding a class in sex education to better prepare the young for living. The conservative among us thought it imperative for the man or woman selected to do the teaching insist that abstinence was the goal of instruction. Most of the school staff laughed or showed considerable scorn and discomfort.

The consensus opined that sex education would result in less experimentation and early experience with sex in daily living, and fewer unwanted pregnancies. And we all know how far from the target their bullets fell.

With an increase in the teaching of abstinence, there still remains, it seems, the absence of any reference to morality, that the two hugging and kissing, reaching first base, stop right there. Earlier than the 50s I can remember that the young lass found to be with child was hustled from the burrow, the village, the city, maybe the state, till the fruit of sexual experience was realized. Shame was the order of the day.

Bring back shame in conjunction with the teaching that abstinence is moral and good, that the very young have no privilege, no priority, no permission to seek sexual pleasure, committing the acts reserved for the adults in our world.

Thirteen-year-olds may not drive. Fourteen-year-olds may not purchase Jim Beam and drink it.

Back to the better days when morality was meaningful and real. Join abstinence with morality and shame, and experience lower numbers of pregnant young girls, and thus fewer social and economic problems for the rest of us to bear.

**SHARE YOUR OPINIONS** 

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please

include your name, address and phone number

for verification. We ask that your letters be 400

words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and ;

Neil Goodbred Livonia-

# Not everybody on this list deserves visit from Santa

hristmas is almost here, and it's time to sneak a peak into the stocking to see what Santa has brought some of our best-known folks. Make that, what Santa should be bringing them. First of all, it is ...

■ Mud for Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, who is refusing to sell a city-owned 80-foot by three-quarter-mile strip of land in southwest Detroit that is needed to build a truck tunnel to Canada that would create thousands of jobs and reduce cross-border congestion.

A group called Detroit River Partnership is trying to put together a deal to build the tunnel, and

they need the land to finish it off. But a new tunnel would mean competition for Manuel (Matty) Moroun, who makes a ton of money from the 10 million vehicles that use his Ambassador Bridge.

The shadowy Moroun, whose mysterious business practices were the subject of a major recent piece in Forbes, is a big financial backer of Hizzonor. Power Word on the street (and in the Detroit papers) is that Moroun is leaning on his pal to put the

kibosh on the deal. Funny thing, however -Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano, Detroit Chief Development Officer Walt Watkins and Director of Development Activities Henry Haygood are all for it.

This, of course, reeks of corruption. Worse, if anything, it's a perfect instance of how things that could really make a difference to jobstarved Michigan get killed by wealthy and influential special interests and compliant

■ Brain candy for us all from the University of Michigan library, which at 7 million volumes is one of the largest research libraries in the world. The university announced last week that Google, one of whose co-founders is U-M grad Larry Page, will make virtually everything in its library holdings available to the public online.

Although it's not well-known, U-M's research

library is on a par with Harvard's, Stanford's and Oxford's - the other major school libraries included in Google's plan.

The implications are remarkable. It signifies the coming of age of online access to information. Within a few years, ordinary people will have direct access to the scholarly resources of the world's greatest libraries without having to paw through dusty volumes in the stacks.

And that U-M's library is included in this deal is further indication of the extraordinary worldclass resource that the university represents to the entire state. That's a resource our lawmakers owe it to us to protect.

■ A lump of coal for Wal-Mart and a Blue Cross-Blue Shield Card for the company's many "associates" in Michigan. Despite its popularity, Wal-Mart has come in recent months under increasing criticism for crushing Main Street merchants and ruining small downtowns.

Its attempt to build a new store in the Petoskey area was derailed by a local citizens group earlier this year, and a similar group is now hard at work in Pittsfield Township near Ann Arbor to do the

A new issue has arisen: Whether Wal-Mart's employment practices are driving its employees into state-financed medical programs like Medicare and the charity lines at hospitals. If so, it's a case in which a big company is offloading some costs onto the taxpayers, as Medicare is a large and rapidly increasing cost in Michigan's budgetary mess. Wal-Mart, by the way, pays an average employee \$10 an hour and charges monthly health care premiums as high as \$264 a month, according to The New York Times. What's more, it makes the eligibility requirements considerably steep.

Wal-Mart says it has no idea how many of its employees or their families are insured under state programs. The folks in Lansing I asked about it didn't know, either. But if Michigan wants to cut the costs of state-paid health care, it might have a look to see how many folks employed by Wal-Mart are winding up getting their health care paid by Michigan taxpayers.

■ Crystal balls for state school chief Tom Watkins and members of the State Board of Education. Recent research shows a crisis is brewing in funding state schools: Public school employee pension costs will rise from 15 percent of payroll in 2005 to more than 20 percent in 2008 and more than 30 percent by 2018. Moreover, health care and retirement benefit costs by 2008 will average \$1,200 per pupil, whereas the state's foundation education grant is only \$6,700 per pupil.

Watkins and the state board are calling for a fundamental restructuring of the K-12 system and its financial underpinnings. That's the right approach, rather than tinkering around the edges. But it will take a better crystal ball than mine to figure out whether anything will come of

And as for the rest of us ... happy holidays to all! May your Christmas stockings be filled with wonderful things and, most of all, may you and your family have a serene and happy holiday.

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

# Here's wishing all a merry, inclusive Christmas season

few days ago, my family made its annual pilgrimage to the mall for photos with

In line ahead of us was a grandma dressed in a traditional sari and sandals.

Maybe Christmas is for everyone, after all. In our divided country, the 25th day of December has increasingly become an all too divisive holiday. But it shouldn't be.

There have been plenty of calls for reconciliation - culturally, if not politically - in the wake of this past year's divisive presidential election.

Christmastime is as good a time as any to start.

Not that there haven't been some battles, even locally. School districts and communities throughout our region have struggled, sometimes angrily, over aspects of the holiday.

Birmingham banned Christmas music from its streets a few years ago after some people complained it promoted religion.

But if Irving Berlin can continue to wish us a White

Christmas, Barbra Streisand can invoke a Silent Night and John Lennon and Yoko Ono can ask us to imagine there's no heaven yet bid us a Happy Xmas all the same, exactly whose religion is being promoted?

Troy this year struggled with the idea of allowing groups to place nativity scenes and other exhibits on the grounds of its civic center. There, council members ultimately adopted a lottery system for civic groups and civic displays.

Only one person applied. City halls and civic centers aren't the place for religious symbolism.

Our elected leaders, even down to our local city councils, aren't defenders of the faith, but representatives of us all.

Christmas should be a time of inclusion, not exclusion.

Does that take the Christ out of Christmas? Not necessarily.

There's a big nativity scene on the front steps of the church where my son attends a secular preschool.

There's also a big, lighted one on the front lawn of a place I pass every day to and from More power to them.

Christmas can still belong to us all.

A few weeks back, an elementary school in Southfield, our region's most culturally diverse city, held a program simultaneously celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, Las

It can be a universal holiday. There are some things about the Christmas spirit that everyone, regardless of culture or creed, can plug into.

Posadas and Kwanzaa. There's much worth on a learning about each holiday. But Christmas isn't the province of any one religion, cultural or ethnic group.

It can be a universal holiday. There are some things about the Christmas spirit that everyone, regardless of culture or creed. can

plug into. There's much not to like about the holiday. of course, especially in the way we've come to

Rushing from store to store, sweeping up the house for descending relatives and working short-handed while co-workers take their

vacations can produce far more stress than ""

Yet, cut through even all that unpleasantness and there's still something of value

That's because it's about generosity, of time as well as spirit.

Given and received in that spirit, even the least expensive gift can become a thoughtful remembrance. Even if it goes back the next

Conducted in that spirit, even the most dreaded family get-together can remind us.... we don't have to be so alone. (And shouldn't those shelves have been dusted long ago, any-

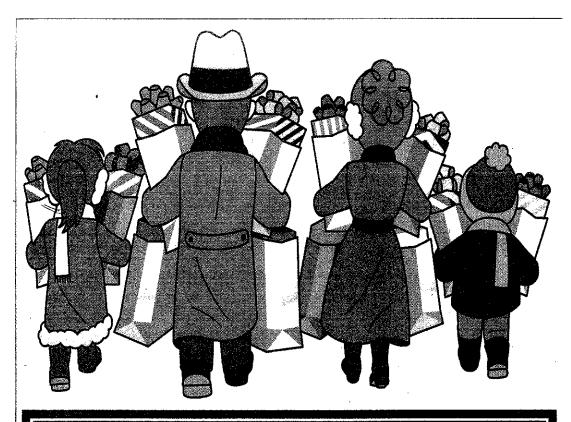
As for work ... maybe there's the possibility that you'll get some time off, too, and soon. At least you can count on one day.

It's not just about those we know, however. It's a time to remember those in need and those without families.

Christmas is the time most of us celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. But not all Christians even celebrate it on the same day.

Yet, if the spirit of Christmas moves people? of any or no faith to drop a few coins in the kettle, put a turkey in a food basket or give a' coat to someone who has none, I can't imagine Jesus would mind.

Wayne Peal is editor of the Southfield Eccentric. You west can write him at 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, 48009, sendhim an e-mail at wpeal@oe.homecomm.net or send him a fax at (248) 644-1314.



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# Say or do something funny when snapping kids' photos

STAFF WRITER

Take a tip from Livonia photographer Kim Jamieson and say or do something funny when snapping photographs of your kids this holiday season.

Jamieson recently shared secrets like this in a hands-on workshop at the Longacre House in Farmington. In the past she's taught classes for professional photographers but this was her first time working with moms and dads.

"These are tips that are useable and practical," said Jamieson who's been a professional photographer for more than 20 years. "The number one mistake parents make is they just take children and stand them there and say smile. It's almost like a jail house picture. You want to acapture a kid's personality and their vivaciousness. If people would just elicit expressions from their children.

"All children will cooperate. Sometimes they don't because of the stress parents are putting on them. When kids are going to be photographed, the parents stress out and children feel that stress. I recommend making it fun."

Choosing the right location is just as important to creating vibrant holiday photos as always photographing children at their eye level. Jamieson says, venture outside and experiment. Don't let the clouds keep you inside. Overcast days are often the best times to take photographs.

"They miss out on their front porch. They go to great lengths to decorate their lawns and porch. This is a perfect setting," said Jamieson. "Put a heavy \*sweater on them and go outside and take a couple of cute pictures instead of lining them up on the couch with presents. And don't just pose them in front of the tree. The cutest ones of my daughter are when

### Project manager named for redevelopment

The Wayne County Airport Authority has hired Mr. Sam Vaskov as manager of the \$400 million North Terminal Redevelopment project at **Detroit Wayne County Metro** Airport, working directly for Lester W. Robinson, Chief Executive Officer.

Vaskov will head up an array of professional consultant teams that will be retained to plan, design and construct a passenger terminal to replace the now vacant Davey Terminal previously occupied by Northwest Airlines before its move to the new McNamara Terminal in February 2002. The new terminal is projected for completion in late 2008 with initial site demolition work to commence in late 2005.

Vaskov has more than 40 years of experience in airport development, program management, and aviation facilities planning, design, and construction on large and complex airport and airline projects. On a recent mega project, he served as the senior American leader on a team of 30 Canadian and American project management experts at Toronto's Lester B. Pearson International Airport, the busiest airport in Canada.

"I feel we are very fortunate to have obtained the services of Sam Vaskov," said WCAA CEO Lester Robinson.

"He brings world-wide experience to an already great team here in Detroit."

The new terminal will serve carriers currently operating out of the aging Smith Terminal including Air Canada, American, America West, Delta, Independence Air, Spirit, Southwest, U.S. Airways,

United and perhaps others.
On Sept. 7 the WCAA Board approved a contract with Gensler Architecture, Design & Planning to provide designs for a new terminal of up to 29 gates, featuring convenient opportunities for new shops and restaurants, shorter walking distances, and improved baggage screening and luggage claim operations.

she's ripping open the gift." Jamieson used to shoot wedding photographs until the birth of her her daughter 19 years ago. Since then she's specialized in capturing children

naturally, and families.

"I realized kids give it a magical look," said Jamieson who has been honored with the Kodak Gallery Award for photographic excellence. "Up until then I didn't photograph children. My daughter taught me a

"Sometimes parents stand too far away from their children. If you're at Cinderella's full castle with your children looking like ants. Other times the photo's distorted because they're standing too close."

Jamieson offers one last tip. Take more than one photo.

"Film is cheap," said Jamieson. "Missing those precious memories and expressions of your children is expensive. I recommend shooting a lot of pictures. I just took photos of my daughter on the beach in Harbor Springs with a Chihuahua puppy and took 36 to 48 shots.



Livonia photographer Kim Jamieson (right) shows Laura Packer of Birmingham (left) how to work with children to shoot the perfect photograph. Packer's







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Thursday, December 23, 2004

Section B

Ken Abramczyk, editor (734) 953-2107 Fax (734) 591-7279 kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net

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Some mustards contain very strong dyes that are difficult to remove. It may be necessary to remove the stained area and reinsert an undamaged section of carpet.

# Don't let spills stain your holidays

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER

It's the holidays and here come Uncle John with a plate full of chicken wings, Aunt Betty with a glass of wine and little Bobby with that soft

Ooops! Suddenly you've got a spill and, if you don't clean it quickly, it could turn into a carpet stain.

You would think that wine is the most common stain on carpeting at this time of year. Think again.

"It's candle wax," said Barbra Wilson, technical information manager for the Carpet and Rug Industries, based in Dalton, Ga. "That's a year-round item, too, not just during the holidays." No. 2 is wine, followed by tree sap.

CRI receives many phone calls for information on stain removal, especially at this time of year. The Web site (http://www.carpet-rug.org) includes tips and pointers on how to remove these stains.

Holiday celebrants tend to move the candles around, and sometimes the larger ones burn for a long time, Wilson said. "The wax just puddles inside the candle, and they just blow the liquid when they put them out, Wilson said. "Sometimes the wax ends up on a table, but it also ends up on the carpet."

Tree sap ends up on the carpet because homeowners forget to put a cover down at the bottom of the tree. As with any stain, Wilson

PLEASE SEE STAINS, B4

#### **DON'T WHINE ABOUT WINE STAINS**

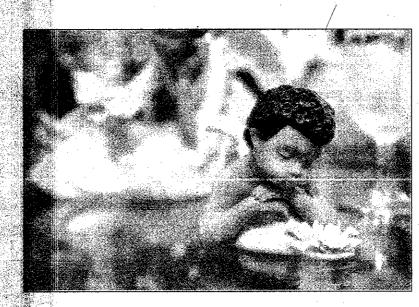
Got a wine stain? Follow these tips from the Carpet and Rug Institute: Absorb as much of the

spill as possible with a white paper towel.

Mix together 1/4 of a teaspoon of a dishwashing liquid (non-bleach, nonlanolin) to a cup of water. Dip a white cloth into the solution and dab this onto the stain. Let the solution sit on stain for about 15 minutes, giving the solution time to break up the stain.

After 15 minutes, use a white absorbent cloth and blot and press on this area pulling up excess liquid and most of the stain. Rinse this area with a mixture of 1/2 white vinegar and water, blotting on area, then lay 1/2 inch thick stack white paper towels on this area, sitting a glass baking dish on paper towels.

Let stand for about 15 minutes, as this method helps pull the rest of the stain up and away from the carpet fibers.

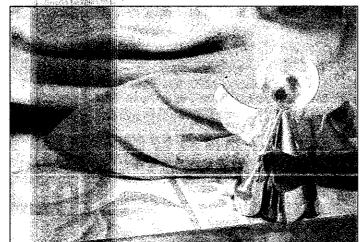




PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Southfield resident Lillian Clinton began collecting angels for her Christmas tree. Now she keeps the angels out all year in her home. Top, the angels are made of a wide variety of materials, such as porcelain, ceramic, crystal and wood. They are of almost every race and age.

# Heavenly collection



Clinton's collection includes angel napkin rings.

# Angels light up residence all year

"All night, all day, angels watching

Angels can be found in writings. movies, TV shows and songs, such as the tune above that Lillian Clinton sang as a child. And myriad angels can be found every day in Clinton's Southfield home.

Every room in the house has at least one figurine, painting or other image of an angel, part of Clinton's collection that has been spreading for almost 10 years. They are displayed all year.

"I got started when I first put an angel on the (Christmas) tree," Clinton said. "Every year I'd get more angels and wouldn't want to put them away,

PLEASE SEE ANGELS, B4

STORY BY MARY KLEMIC | STAFF WRITER

#### MARKET PLACE

#### Submissions

Do you have a special item you'd like to showcase in Marketplace on the front of At Home? We'd like to feature it! Send a photo or slide of the piece, along with information, to: Ken Abramczyk, At Home editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

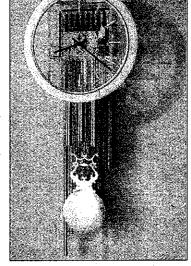
#### Prime time

Clock designs by Howard Miller® have been center stage on some reality TV shows, including NBC's The Apprentice and FOX's *Renovate My Family.*The Apprentice features an array of Howard Miller clocks in the contestants' living quarters and the elevator lobby outside the board room. The distinctive Howard Miller clock named the Focal Point (shown here) dresses the wall in the living room next to the famous phone that only receives the most important calls from Donald Trump himself. This 65-inch long wall clock has a clear acrylic dial that spans 27-1/2 inches, a visible movement made from highly polished solid brass, and polished brass weights and pendulum that are complemented by chromeplated tubes. Other clocks in The Apprentice

> are the Grand Cayman floor clock in the living room, a selection of bedside alarm clocks in the living quarters, and the Magnifique gallery clock in the lobby. Renovate My Family debuted on FOX this fall, featuring the Biggins family from Dallas and Howard Miller clocks on the premiere episode.

> Among the wall and table clocks that were part and parcel of the transformation of the family's house were the striking Bergen wall clock (shown here) that combines wood and metal for a clean, contemporary look.

For a free copy of Howard Miller's guide to the Finer Points of clocks and collectors cabinets, or to find a store near you, call (800) 873-0506 or visit www.howardmiller.com.



#### **Wanted: home gyms**

Soon every would-be dieter will be struggling with food choices and looking to knock off holiday pounds by signing up with a health club.

But you don't do that. You already own exercise equipment and use it at least five days a week. (OK, maybe it's three days a week, or worse yet, the equipment is used for hanging clothes.)

We'd like to feature home gyms created in lower levels or basements at the homes of Observer & Eccentric readers. If you have a combination of a



treadmill, stationery or recumbent bike, elliptical or free weights set up in that special room, we'd like to hear from you and include your room and you in our story.

Please contact Ken Abramczyk, At Home editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150, call (734) 953-2107 or e-mail him at kabramczyk@oe.homeco mm.net

#### Help Maybury

if you want to give a gift that gives forever, purchase a board to help

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To order a board you may contact the Northville Community Foundation at (248)374-0200, Visa and Mastercard are accepted and donations are taxdeductible or you may send a check for \$250 per board to the Northville **Community Foundation** 18600 Northville Road, Suite 275, Northville, MI 48167.

#### **Software aids** parents

SoftwareTime announces the launch of ComputerTime 1.0, software that lets parents decide when, where and how children use the family computer. Software Time, available for purchase through www.softwaretime.com, enables parents to get a handle on excessive computer use, so kids can spend time on other

Inappropriate Internet content continues to be a big problem for parents. While there is filtering software on the market no product is foolproof. The best filter is a parent's watchful eye, and ComputerTime allows parents to assist in that function, according to officials at SoftwareTime.

SoftwareTime, a privately held company, was founded in 2003 to address the needs of parents regarding their chil dren's computer use.
Visit SoftwareTime at

www.softwaretime.com.

# Make the most Nature's survivors: Common houseplants of your handme-down PC

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 23, 2004

It's the holidays, and that could mean a new PC under the tree, menorah, or whatever non-denominational gift shrine you employ in your house.

Ah, but what's to become of the old PC? It cost a pretty penny back in its day, so you're loathe to leave it at the curb. And anyway, it still runs OK it's just slow and "gunked up" (sorry for the technical jargon).

Give it to the kids. Chances are they won't care if it has a mere Pentium III processor (gasp!) or a measly 20GB hard drive (horrors!). As long as they can play Putt-Putt Saves the Zoo, they're happy.

Indeed, younger kids - by which I mean 10 and under can easily make do with an outdated system. That's because most educational software and kids' games have very modest requirements, meaning they run just fine on older machines.

How old? It's tough to say exactly, but as long as the PC can run Windows 95 (preferably Windows 98), it should be fine.

After you've transferred all your files, e-mail, Web links, and other vital data to the new machine (I recommend IntelliMover (www.detto.com), which makes the process painless), your best bet is to wipe the old machine's hard drive.

If the computer came with a system-restore CD, dig it out. Running it will reformat the hard drive, wipe out all the gunk, and effectively return the machine to factory-new condi-

If you don't have a systemrestore CD, do a Google search for "reformat hard drive." Space doesn't permit me to walk you through the process here, but there are plenty of how-to guides available online.

Before you hand the machine over to the kids. there's one program I recommend you install first:



stone.com).

VirtualDrive 9.0 (www.far-

You see, kids can be rough on CDs; my daughter has rendered several of her favorite games unplayable, as the discs are now too scratched for the computer to read.

VirtualDrive enables games and other software to run without their CDs.

Basically, the program copies the entire contents of each CD to the computer's hard drive, thus fooling Windows into thinking the disc is present.

Presto: no disc-swapping required, and no concerns about scratches because the kids don't have to handle the CDs anymore.

Now, all my daughter has to do is the click the icon for the game she wants, and it runs almost instantly.

Obviously VirtualDrive isn't just for hand-me-down PCs, either. Awesome, awesome utility.

Starting this January, I will devote occasional columns to answering your computer questions. So start sending them in (my

e-mail address is below), making sure to include your full name and home citv. In the meantime, have a

happy, healthy, and safe holi-

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including *How to* Do Everything with Musicmatch and 101 Killer Apps for Your Palm Handheld. He welcomes questions

BY LEE REICH FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

It's no wonder your houseplants are looking ill these days, after having basked outdoors in summer sun and breezes, their leaves washed in

Think what a change they've had to endure, brought indoors to dim light, dry air and perhaps chlorinated municipal

They will survive. Many houseplants come from dark, tropical jungles, so they are accustomed to shade. As for dry air, well, it isn't enjoyed, but is tolerated, by dracaena, weeping fig, rubber tree, philodendron, devils ivy and other common houseplants.

Just because these plants can survive winter indoors doesn't mean that they can be neglected. Without help, they would die a slow death. And the dimmer the light and the drier the air indoors, the more care these plants need.

No need to be overly concerned about leaves dropping from your houseplants, or for some leaves developing a few brown margins.

A periodic shedding of leaves is natural for all evergreens, such as weeping figs, although some are dropping because of the change in environment. The plant will be fine as long as it can hold onto a good portion of its leaves.

As for the marginal browning that can develop on a

houseplant such as dracaena, the leaves aren't diseased, just a little shocked from the move indoors.

Damaged leaves will never look healthy, but the plant as a whole will be fine.

Mostly, what these plants now need is water when they are thirsty.

The way to tell if a plant needs water is to lift the pot to feel its weight, or to probe into the soil with your finger or an electronic moisture probe. Even tropical plants take a little rest in winter, so they need little water and no fertilizer for the next few months.

Even though the plants don't absolutely need it, they would enjoy more humidity in the air as well as moisture on their

leaves. Misting with a sprayer does little good (although it might make you feel good), but a periodic shower in the bathroom would be greatly appreci-

The kindest thing you can do for your houseplants is to give them a vacation outdoors each summer. Expose them gradually to sun and wind by putting them for a couple of weeks in a spot sheltered from bright sun and wind. As growth begins, increase feeding and watering.

Eventually, the plants could be moved to a brighter, more exposed location outdoors.

No need to make growing conditions too good, though. After all, we seek survival, not rampant growth, from our houseplants.

# Choose company that fits your style

BY JOHN ELWELL

Because glossy magazines often feature bells and whistles of a dream kitchen, it is easy to lose sight of your budget and

priorities when remodeling it. List on paper the things you need in your dream kitchen, as well as the things you can live without.

Ask yourself what aspects of a kitchen are most important to you and your family. Do you sit down for a family dinner each night, or do you more frequently "eat-on-the-run" standing over a countertop? Do you cook or is your idea of a homemade meal heating up

Candlelight tours

Dec. 26 and 27.

Newburgh.

(248) 477-7375.

Greenmead

Christmas candlelight tours of

until 8 p.m. Greenmead is at

Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia

The first group tour will start at 6 p.m.

Tours will then start every 15 minutes

Newburgh and Eight Mile; enter from

Advance tickets are \$5 per adult, \$3

Along the route of the tour of historic

per student. For reservations, call

Proceeds will benefit historic

will take place Sunday and Monday,

take-out containers? How much counter space do you require? Do you need a home entertainment area?

Speak to neighbors, friends and relatives about their kitchen remodeling experiences. Talk to a few different companies and ask whether they provide a guarantee on materials and labor and the length of installation.

If the local company is part of a franchise system, call the corporate office for a reference and ask about the level of training provided.

Ask the salesperson or remodeler for a list of previous customers. You can hear first

hand if clients were pleased with the quality of the materials, workmanship and customer service.

Check with the Better Business Bureau to see if any complaints have been filed about the company.

Ask to see before and after photos of kitchens remodeled in your set price range. Ask for samples of materials including cabinet doors, flooring and hardware.

Keep in mind there are a number of remodeling options to consider such as new cabinetry, customer cabinet refacing, laminate and solid surface countertop replacement,

kitchen accessories, and decorative handles. Having a variety of options gives you an opportunity to purchase the services that best suit your individual needs, budget, taste and lifestyle.

Farmington Hills resident John Elwell is owner of Kitchen Solvers of Rochester Hills. Kitchen Solvers is a kitchen and bath remodeling franchise specializing in cabinet refacing, new cabinets, solid surface countertops, glueless laminate flooring, bath liners and wall surrounds, and closet organizers. Kitchen Solvers has 140 franchise locations in 32 U.S. states and Canada. For more information, visit http://www.kitchensolvers.com or cali 1-800-845-6779.

#### **HOME CALENDAR**

village buildings at Greenmead, visitors will meet costumed re-enactors and a variety of musical performers. The tour will end with refreshments and carols at the Meeting House.

#### **Blood drive**

Blood supplies fall to dangerously low levels during the holidays. A blood drive will take place 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 27, at Art Van Furniture, 6500 14 Mile in Warren. To make an appointment, call the American Red Cross at (800) GIVE-

STARTING AT

King & I discount Discount coupons for The King & I are

available at all metro Detroit Art Van Furniture stores now through Monday, Dec. 27, while supplies last. Save up to \$10 the first week (Jan. 11-16). Some restrictions apply. Coupons are redeemable at the box office.

#### Home decor

Haberman Fabrics, 905 S. Main in Royal Oak, presents a variety of home decor classes for different skill levels. The schedule includes Lampshades, Sundays, Jan. 2-23 (fee is \$80); Beginner Pillow, Mondays, Jan. 3-17

(\$60); and Roman Shade, four sessions beginning Thursday, Jan. 6, or Friday, Jan. 7 (\$80), Call (248) 541-0010, e-mail ContactUs@HabermanFabrics.com or visit www.HabermanFabrics.com for registration and other information.

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





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# Esther Shapiro still helps consumers Volunteering can

ohn from West Bloomfield wrote and inquired about Esther Shapiro, the former director of consumer affairs for the city of Detroit.

Shapiro was appointed Detroit's director of consumer affairs way back in the 1970s, helping many thousands of Detroit consumers. During her reign in office she helped to recover millions of dollars for homeowners who had been ripped off by unethical business practices. She had a regular radio show for years and we've all seen her many times on television taking on a scam artist.

One of the most recognized names across the country, she continues to work in the world of consumer affairs. Shapiro still lives in her beloved city of Detroit, is in good health and takes regular classes to strengthen her walk and agility. At a recent awards lunch of The Society of Consumer



**Appliance** Doctor

Gagnon

Affairs Professionals awards, she gave a 10- minute talk on this country's reduction of helpful consumer bureaus.

Shapiro is as sharp as a tack and still carries that Victorian image of proper language. She flies to Washington D.C. quite frequently as she sits on the board of several national consumer bureaus. She remains a popular expert in her field of consumer advocacy, was a terrific person to work for and taught so much to individuals who were interested in helping others. The award given out at the SOCAP luncheon was named in her honor, a tremendous tribute to a great woman.

**DRAIN HOT WATER?** 

Mike writes: Should I drain my hot water heater? It's probably 15-17 years old, and I've not done anything to it. It works just fine.

My old friend, Lefty Wilson of the Detroit Red Wings would say, "Lord! Love a Duck" every time we would get in a boat to go fishing. He told me that he couldn't swim a stroke and hadn't drowned yet.

I suggest, Mike, that you use his cliche from now on to keep that hot water tank alive. I wouldn't touch the tank and at the first sign of trouble I might think of a replacement.

The time to drain a hot water tank is from the very beginning of purchasing a new one. Every three or four months open the valve at the bottom and allow a few gallons to drain into a bucket. This will help prevent a deposit of minerals from building up inside

at the bottom of the tank. In your current tank there could be several inches of mineral deposit that greatly reduce the efficiency factor, especially if it is a gas-fired heater.

You should also be aware of a leak possibility in your current tank. Although it usually starts with a drip, it could be a problem if it lets go all at once. Keep the area clean of personal items and make sure the floor drain is accessible.

A recent caller on the radio show told me his hot water heater was 27 years old and isn't it a shame that the life expectancy of tanks today is only seven years.

They don't make them they used to. "Lord Love a Duck." Stay tuned.

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

on your water heater can

reduce your water heating

ly cost \$10 to \$20 and are

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insulation will prevent the

water temperature within

energy needed to raise the

water temperature and

improving comfort.

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cally, reducing the amount of

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hours per day on average are

good candidates for replace-

ment with compact fluores-

more than pay for the extra

cost of the lamps over their

lifetime, and you will have to

replace fewer lamps because

sensors or timers on outdoor

tricity bill for these high-use

lights can belo reduce the elec-

longer than ordinary light

In addition, motion

fluorescent lamps last 10 times

Water heater blankets usual-

# take on many roles

How do I juggle my work and home schedule to help out at my child's school? How much time should I

spend volunteering?

teer at school.

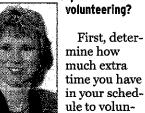
to spend time

improving the

conditions of

the entire

You may decide



**Domestic Planner** 

Diana Koenig

school, such as holding the office of president of a parentteacher organization. You may also choose activities that directly involve your child, such as volunteering as a room parent for parties.

Activities need to be chosen according to your home responsibilities. If you do not work full-time or care for younger children, you have a golden opportunity to spend time at your child's school.

If you need extra money for the household budget, consider applying for a paid position at the school. Many schools have careers in the following areas; secretarial, cafeteria cook or monitor, librarian's assistant, custodian or classroom teacher. This gives you the opportunity to be at the same location as your child and contribute to the needs of his environment.

If, on the other hand, you have the financial resources, consider a donation to purchase an item. Ask the principal about the needs of the school. It could be an inexpensive item, such as a plant that would improve the landscaping. You could donate money for a more costly item, such as a new computer.

#### **RUNNING FOR BOARD**

Many parent-teacher organizations elect a board of parents that helps make decisions about different aspects of the

Running for office on this board will put you in a position of influence. Many such boards sponsor fund raisers, classroom parties, field trips and school social events and have influence in the area of curriculum. As a member of this board, you will have the ear of the school staff.

If you decide you do not have the time or talent to run for the board then consider chairing a committee.

The school probably will need a chairperson for some committee that would touch vour area of expertise. Our school has needed a

chairperson for some of the following areas; cupcake day, phone directory, carnival, candy sales, plant sales, fifth grade recognition, school dance, teacher appreciation, was graduation, field day, landscape improvement, school store, and restaurant day. Some committees require your involvement for the entire school year while others exist for only a short period of time. While the fifth grade recognition was more work for me than serving as the cupcake chairperson, it was easier because the time was consolidated into a few weeks instead of a nine-month commitment. Make sure you know. what is involved before you vol--4/4 unteer.

#### **JUST VOLUNTEER**

An alternative to being the chairperson is to volunteer as a helper on a committee. You can contribute ideas to the workload without the responsibility are of contacting people or overseeing the project to the finishers If you would prefer to serve

with

in a lower profile position of equal importance, consider working in the library, compute the er room, cafeteria or recess assistant. In many schools the teachers fill these positions because of need. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

For direct involvement with your child choose to volunteer V for classroom parties, field trips, and helping out in the classroom with activities. You can be in charge of all the المذور classroom parties or be a S.J. helper.

The most valuable time I have spent at school has been and in the classroom or on field trips because I can interact with my child.

Although many parents tendon. to get more involved at the elech mentary level, middle schools and high schools also need volutiunteers. Don't hesitate to volunteer because you think you ? lack creativity or knowledge in and a specific area. Get ideas from 😅 people who have served before "... you, and talk to friends who have volunteered at their school.

Everyone has something to offer: You will be a valuable contributor to your school.

#### **TODAY'S REFRIGERATOR BULLETIN:**

"Time invested at your

child's school is time spent

Send your questions and success sto ries to: Diana Koenig. E-mail dianakoenig@hotmail.com or www.domesticplanner.com.

#### Keep energy bills - and your blood pressure - in check Putting an insulating wrap ■ Check controls of the sys-

BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY

(AP) - According to the U.S. Department of Energy, the typical American household spends \$1,400 a year on ener-

With that rising cost of energy and an altruistic spirit to save the Earth, many people are using one or more of the following energy saving upgrades that can, collectively, yield a 30-percent savings or more than \$400 per year.

#### **HEATING, COOLING**

Tune up your furnace or air conditioner.

Heating and cooling costs the average homeowner about \$600 a year - nearly half the home's total energy bill.

Maintain your equipment to prevent future problems and unwanted costs. Keep your cooling and heating system at peak performance by having a contractor do annual pre-season check-ups.

A typical maintenance check-up should include the following

**™** Check thermostat settings to ensure the cooling and heating system keeps you comfortable when you are home and saves energy while vou are away.

■ Tighten all electrical connections and measure voltage and current on motors. Faulty electrical connections can cause unsafe operation of your system and reduce the life of major components.

Lubricate all moving parts. Parts that lack lubrication cause friction in motors and increase the amount of electricity vou use.

■ Check and inspect the condensate drain in your central air conditioner, furnace or heat pump (when in cooling mode). A plugged drain can cause water damage in the house and affect indoor humidity levels.

#### **DUCTS**

Seal and insulate ducts. Better than half of American households are heated or cooled with ducted forced-air systems.

tem to ensure proper and safe

operation. Check the starting

make sure the system starts,

operates and shuts off proper-

cycle of the equipment to

Unfortunately, the average forced-air duct system loses about 30 percent of the energy produced by the furnace or air conditioner in the course of distributing air to the rooms.

Fortunately, this energy loss can be reduced by sealing duct joints with mastic or a highquality metal-faced duct tape.

Insulating ducts in unconditioned spaces such as attics, basements and crawl spaces will further improve energy

#### **THERMOSTAT**

Install a programmable thermostat.

According to the Department of Energy, a programmable thermostat can save 5 percent to 30 percent of your heating and cooling bill by automatically adjusting the thermostat setting at night or at times when your home is unoccupied, saving you about

\$100 per year. For the most versatility and energy savings potential, look for a programmable thermostat that has up to four programming day parts and programming options for weekdays and weekends.

#### **AIR LEAKS**

Seal air leaks.

One of the most do-it-yourself-friendly energy upgrades is sealing air leaks - big energy wasters and comfort busters.

Sealing air leaks is simply plugging holes, cracks and gaps where air can pass into or out of your home using caulk, expandable foam or other weather-stripping.

On hot and cold days, you pay money to run an air conditioner or a furnace to maintain your home at a comfortable temperature. A house that leaks air costs more to heat or cool because your system must work longer to "condition" the

If you happen to sit next to one of those leaks, you are uncomfortable because the room feels hotter or colder. Sealing those air leaks will help you maintain your home at a comfortable temperature all year long and help lower utility bills.

The biggest holes are most often found in the attic and the basement.

#### INSULATION

Add insulation. Insulation is designed to resist heat flow.

Thus, if it is hot outside, insulation greatly reduces the amount of heat you can feel inside a house. By the same token, if it is cold outside, insulation helps keep the heat inside the house.

Without insulation, the walls of your house would be hot to the touch during the summer and your air conditioner would have to work harder to keep you cool. In the winter, a lack of insulation makes walls very cold to the touch and the furnace must work harder to keep you

The Department of Energy suggests that exterior walls be insulated to at least R-11 and ceilings to at least R-38.

#### **WRAP**

Wrap your water heater and

www.plymouthnursery.net

STORE CLOSED

Dec. 28-Jan. 31

#### **WINDOWS**

bulbs.

Replace windows.

To save energy and make your home more comfortable, when replacing windows use windows with wood or vinyl frames, low-E glass, and argon gas between the panes of glass, which can save a significant amount of money on your energy bill.

For more home improvement tips and information, visit our Web site at www.onthehouse.com or call us at (800) 737-2474 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. EST every Saturday.

#### Scents-ible solution BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES Earl asks, "How can I remove a perfume stain out of my wood table? Also, do you have something to remove water stains off my black coffee table?"

This formula is for water-stained wood furniture, but it should work for perfume. But you might want to test a hidden area to see if the black finish is negatively affected. First, cover the affected area with mayonnaise or petroleum jelly and let it sit for eight hours. Next, sand with a dry Scotch-brite pad. Finally, rub lemon oil onto the cleaned area to bring back the finished luster.



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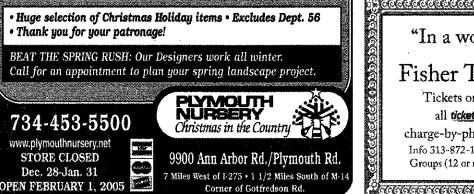
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#### **ANGELS**

FROM PAGE B1

and I decided ... Why put them away?'

Clinton doesn't know how many angels are in her collection. One year she counted just the angels that were on the Christmas tree; the total was almost 100 there alone.

#### **HEAVENLY COLLECTION**

The angels are of almost every race and age, male and female. They are neatly arranged in cabinets, on tables and on walls.

They are made of a variety of materials, including ceramic, crystal, porcelain and wood. One angel has a straw body and mesh wings; another has wings made of feathers.

Two angels are Teddy bears, one of which plays the song Jesus Loves Me, This I Know. A wall hanging is a metallic arrangement of angels and musical elements.

The angels' gowns may be white; others are a variety of colors. Some angels wear ethnic ensembles rather than gowns. Some may hold a musical instrument, a book or another object.

There is a "teacher" angel (Clinton taught elementary school and teaches in a mentor program) and a "daughter" angel (she has a daughter). There are napkin rings bearing angel figures.

With the touch of a switch, a few become animated or emit a fiberoptic glow.

The angels come from different shops and craft fairs, locally and from around the country (Connecticut, Texas, Missouri). Some are gifts.

"Everywhere I would go, for vacation or wherever, I started bringing them back rather than souvenirs," said Clinton, who also works with a hospice and is involved in planning Southfield's Martin Luther King Day events.

Wherever I am I look for angels."

One of Clinton's favorite angels is more than 18 inches tall, has long, flowing, black hair, and wears a white and gold gown.

Clinton saw the angel in Ebony magazine. After she couldn't find it, she asked her relatives across the country to help with the search. A cousin found the angel in St. Louis and gave it to her.

Clinton's Christmas tree is adorned with ornaments in shades of purple; white, feathery doves; white money plants and, ves, assorted angels, including one at the top. An angel is in the Nativity scene on a coffee table.

#### WIDESPREAD

"People really seem to connect with angels," said Linda Sabatini, who with her husband, John, owns Angel Treasures in Rochester.

angels. Everybody believes in angels. It goes way, way, way back, thousands of years."

The Sabatinis' eight-room store carries a number of angel-related items - including statues, art works, books, cards and jewelry - with spiritual, natural, New Age and religious themes. It offers speakers and seminars.

Angel Treasures' customers come from all over the state and country - and from outside the United States as well, Linda said.

They may be looking for an angel for a sad occasion, such as the loss of a loved one, or a happy event, such as a wedding or a new baby.

"We have coins that say 'I watch over you," Linda said. "A lot of people in service take them with them."

A U.S. soldier in Iraq who was being interviewed on TV pulled one of the coins out of his pocket, she said.

Scott and Rebecca Takacs of Livonia have an "angel room" in their house. They acquired an angel collection over time, starting with an angel from Scott's grandmother. "We like having them," he said.

#### **CELEBRATIONS**

Clinton celebrates Boxing Day and Kwanzaa as well as Christmas. A Kwanzaa display is on one table. A tabletop tree features Kwanzaa cloth around its base and as ornaments.

As a child, Clinton loved a book about George Washington



One of Clinton's favorite angels in her collection stands more than 18 inches

Carver. The book said that Carver learned to read at a time when it was against the law to teach slaves to read.

"I was so fascinated," Clinton said. "Somebody going to all

the trouble to learn to read. "We're the descendants of survivors. I was always so proud of my black heritage."

mkiemic@oe.homecomm.net | (248) 901-2569

#### **GARDEN CALENDAR**

Beverly Hills Garden Club

Della Haydon of Garden City will present a program on indoor bonsai to the Beverly Hills Garden Club 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 4, at the Beverly Hills Village Office, 18500 W. 13 Mile. Guests are welcome.

ivonia Garden Club

Composting will be the topic of the next meeting of the Livonia Garden Club, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 4, at the Livonia Senior Center, Five Mile at Farmington Road. Master composters Jane and Allan

Geisler, instructors at Henry Ford Community College, will present a program outlining indoor and outdoor composting as a component of organic gardening.

increase your knowledge of the ecological and gardening benefits of the use of "black gold" - compost. Visitors are welcome.

School of Gardening

The Michigan School of Gardening offers a variety of classes for different

Register early. Seating is limited. Some classes have pre-requisites. For more information, call (248) 4-GARDEN or visit www.michigangardening.com. The schedule includes Effective Handdrawn Design, Tuesdays, Jan. 4-25, in Pontiac or Thursdays, Jan. 6-27, in Livonia (fee is \$168); and Growing Vegetables, Mondays, Jan. 10-24, in

Livonia (\$102). The School of Gardening also offers specialty classes and classes for the certificate of landscape and garden design at The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham, west of Woodward and south of Maple (15 Mile). For information or to register, call The Community House at (248) 644-5832.

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#### **STAINS**

FROM PAGE B1

said it is important to tackle it immediately.

#### **REMOVING WAX**

Wilson recommends scraping the wax gently with a butter knife, then placing ice cubes in a metal pot or container (the cubes don't melt as quickly in a metal pot vs. a plastic bag, Wilson says), and place the container on the top of the wax until it freezes.

Hit it with a blunt object, which will shatter the surface wax. Vacuum it up. For the candle wax that has flowed into the fiber, put clear rubbing alcohol onto a white cloth or white cotton ball, blot and

#### ZAP THE SAP

For sap from a Christmas tree, use a solvent, Wilson said. "When using a solvent use caution, put the solvent onto a white cloth or white cotton ball (never pouring onto the carpet) and blot and press, Wilson said. "After the stain is removed, rinse with water and blot dry with a white cloth."

Sometimes stains can be difficult to get out (such as mustard) and it may take more than one try to get the stain out, Wilson said. "As long as the stain is getting lighter, with each removal process it's working," Wilson said. "If there is no change in the stain, it would be best to have a professional to come in.

"To successfully clean up any stain, it's very important to get to the stain immediately. The longer any stain stavs on the carpet the harder it is to get

# Blot spills, but don't scrub

No one likes it when there is a spill on the floor, but with the help of the Carpet and Rug Institute, it can be cleaned before becoming a permanent part of the carpet.

deal with spills and keep your carpet clean:

#### **SPOT REMOVAL STEPS**

Most carpet available today has been treated with a stainresist treatment, so many spills can be removed if immediate action is taken. The longer the delay, the higher the probability of a spill becoming a permanent stain. Remember, staining is influenced by many factors, and no carpet is completely stain proof.

Blot liquids with a dry, white, absorbent cloth or white (no printing) paper

Scrubbing can cause pile distortion in the affected area. Continue to use a dry cloth or paper towels until the area is completely dry. For semisolids, gently scrape up with a rounded spoon.

Solids should be broken up

agent in an inconspicuous area to make certain the solution will not damage the fiber or the dye. After applying several drops to the testing area, hold a white cloth on the wet area for 10 seconds. Examine the carpet and cloth for color transfer, color change, or damage to the carpet. If a change occurs, another cleaning solution should be selected.

Apply a small amount of

the selected cleaning solution to a white cloth, allow to sit

Here is how to properly

Act quickly.

towels. Do not scrub the area.

and vacuumed until completely removed.

Pretest any spot removal

for about 10 minutes and work in gently. Rubbing alcohol (90 per-

cent isopropyl) can be used as a dry cleaning solvent by applying with a cloth or towel. Do not pour rubbing alcohol directly onto the carpet.

Work from the edges of the spill to the center to prevent the spill from spreading. Do not scrub. Blot, absorbing as much as possible, and repeat if necessary.

Continue using the first cleaning solution as long as there is a transfer of the spill to the cloth. It is not necessary to use all of the cleaning solutions if the first solution removes the spill.

Be patient. Complete removal of the spill may require repeating the same step several times.

After the spill has been completely removed, rinse the affected area thoroughly with cold water, and blot with a dry cloth until all of the solution has been removed. (Some cleaning solutions will cause rapid soiling if the solution is not completely removed.) Apply a one-half inch layer of white paper towels to the affected area, and weigh down with a flat, heavy object. Continue to change paper towels as needed.

A dry, absorbent, cleaning compound may be used as a substitute to accelerate drying time.

Many fiber manufacturers provide toll-free cleaning assistance and advice (consult your warranty), or phone CRI for assistance at (800) 882-8846. Information is also available at http://www.carpet-rug.org.

CI PURE ENTERTAINMENT! Svery Thursday!

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# **Observer**



Focus on

Ray & Eleanor Heald

# Keeping immigrants' roots alive

t's common for U.S. wineries to have foreign roots but it's not generally mentioned that in South America, it was the Italians who following their agricultural homeland heritage, planted vines in the fertile soils of Argentina's Mendoza region.

In 1910, Valentin Bianchi was one such Italian transplant.

Robert Pepi, winemaker at Andretti Winery in California's Napa Valley, who consults at Valentin Bianchi winery, says, "Mendoza soils are typically well-drained and not overly fertile. This fact, in combination with minimal rainfall, creates wines with intense fruit character."

He also noted that low humidity leads to a low incidence of pests and vineyards can be farmed virtually pesticide-free. Additionally, a new generation of viticulturists, has brought state-of-the-art

PLEASE SEE WINE, B8

#### **WINE PICKS**

Many readers have asked for CABERNET SAUVIGNON recommendations in a broad range of prices for giftgiving and drinking during the upcoming holiday season. From over 100 wines tasted, here are the picks. **Outstanding splurges** 2001 Kuleto Estate (\$50)

2001 St. Clement Oroppas (\$50) 2000 Stags' Leap Estate Reserve (\$65) 2001 Chateau St. Jean Cing Cepages (\$75) 2000 Beringer Private Reserve (\$100) 2001 Silverado Limited Reserve (\$100)

From Napa Valley between \$25 and \$50

2001 Joseph Phelps Insignia

2001 Quintessa (\$100)

(\$125)

2000 Folie a Deux Cabernet Sauvignon (\$26) 2001 Mason (\$28) 2001 Beringer (\$35) 2000 Chateau Potelle VGS (\$40) 2001 Silverado (\$40) 2001 Stags' Leap (\$42) 2000 Folie a Deux Private Reserve Estate (\$46) (more than 2 years in French oak) 2002 Stag's Leap Wine

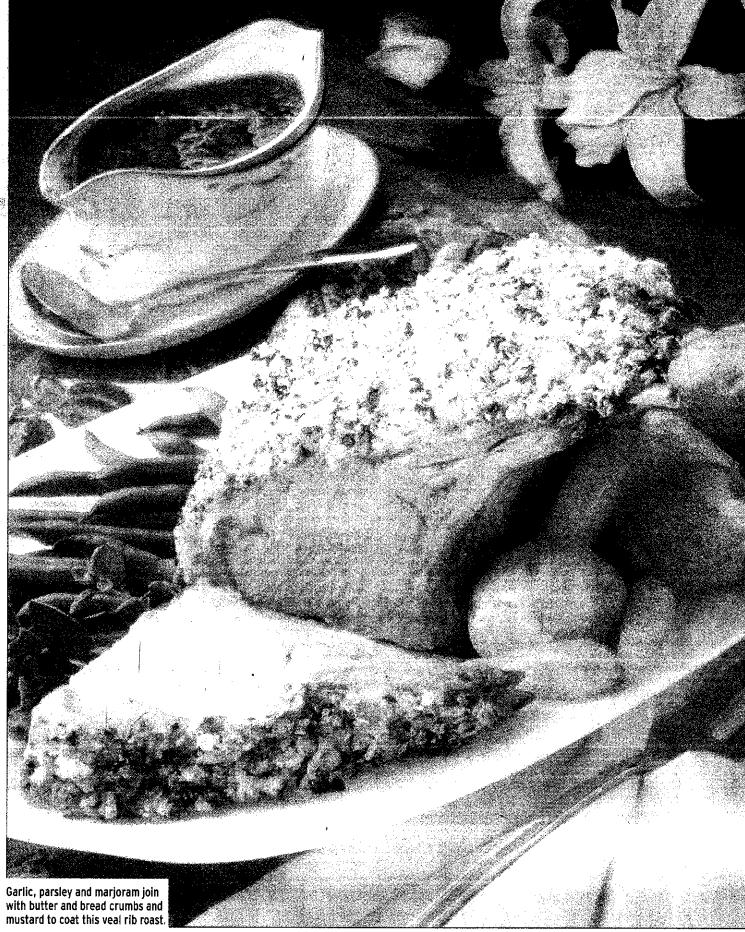
Cellars Artemis (\$48) \$20 and under values

2002 Annie's Lane (Clare Valley Australia) (\$13) 2002 Gallo of Sonoma (\$13) 2002 Chateau St. Jean (\$15) 2002 Goundrey Offspring (Australia) (\$15) 2001 Genesis (\$17) 2001 Rodney Strong (\$18) 2002 Alexander Valley Vineyards (\$20)

2001 Hess Estate (\$20) Piggy bank nearly empty 2002 Hogue Cabernet-Merlot

2001 Chateau Souverain (\$20)

(\$10) 2002 Black Opal (Australia)



CATTLEMEN'S BEEF BOARD

# Koasts

## Veal rib cut can impress holiday guests

Make this holiday meal one to remember.

Many more recipes can be found inside Page B6.

Impress your guests with a veal rib roast, enrobed in a crusty herbed bread crumb and mustard coating, and finished with a cranberry-port

wine sauce. Not only does it taste delicious, but it makes a stunning presentation on the holiday table. It's always a good idea during the

holiday season to order roasts in advance. That way you're sure of getting the size and type of roast you need.

The roast is easy to prepare. Just pop it into the oven in a roasting pan. The ribs form a natural rack, so place it rib-ends-down in the roasting pan. That's it until it's time to add the crumb coating about 30 minutes before the end of roasting. Veal is most juicy and flavorful when cooked to medium doneness, so for best results use a thermometer to

check the temperature. While the roast is standing after cooking, the pan drippings are combined with cranberry sauce and port wine to make the sauce that so deliciously complements the mild flavor of veal. The standing time is very important, so don't skip this step. During standing time the roast firms up, making it easier to carve and helps prevent the loss of those flavorful juices.

Eat smart and eat well this holiday season with veal on your table. Serve steamed green beans and wild rice to complement the veal and sauce. Chocolate truffles and peppermint ice cream with a drizzle of fudge sauce make an easy yet special finale to this festive menu.

For additional recipes, or to order veal delivered right to your door, log on to www.vealstore.com.

# Slow cook roast with chipotle, poblano

Winter has its own food classics. One favorite is slow-cooked beef. It provides warm comfort while winter's winds whirl outside. By mixing hearty chuck roast with other rich flavors, Chef Dianna Stoffer with the Certified Angus Beef brand, has created a new winter classic - braised chuck roast, chipotle and poblano

peppers, heavy cream and aged cheese.

The chuck roast, a budget savvy cut, has been transformed into a soon-to-be family favorite that is also fit for entertaining.

The poblano and chipotle (smoked

PLEASE SEE ROASTS. B6

#### VEAL RIB ROAST WITH CRANBERRY-PORT SAUCE

4 to 5 pound year rib roast 2 tablespoons Dijon-style mustard 1 can (16 ounces) whole berry cranberry sauce ⅓ cup ruby port wine Coating:

1-1/4 cups soft bread crumbs 3 tablespoons minced fresh parsley

2 tablespoons butter, melted

2 medium cloves garlic, crushed 1-1/4 teaspoons dried marjoram leaves

Heat oven to 325º F. Place veal roast, rib ends down, in shallow roasting pan. Insert ovenproof meat thermometer so tip is centered in thickest part of veal, not touching bone or resting in fat. Do not add water or cover. Roast in 325º F oven to desired doneness; about 22 to 27 minutes per pound for medium. (Do not overcook.)

Meanwhile in medium bowl, combine coating ingredients. Set aside.

About 30 minutes before end of roasting time, remove roast from oven. Spread mustard evenly over top surface of roast. Coat with crumb mixture, patting firmly into mustard. Return roast to oven and continue roasting. Remove roast when meat thermometer registers 155º F for medium. Let stand 15 minutes. (Temperature will continue to rise about 5º to reach 160º F for medium.)

Meanwhile skim fat from drippings, if necessary. Add wine to drippings, stirring until browned bits attached to pan are dissolved. Transfer drippings to medium saucepan; add cranberry sauce and cook over medium-high heat 10 minutes or until sauce is thickened, stirring frequently. Trim excess fat and remove back bone from roast. Carve roast between bones into thick slices. Serve with sauce. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

Cook's Tip: Ask meat retailer to loosen the chine bone (back bone). After roasting, the back bone can be removed easily by running a knife along edge of roast.

Note: A veal rib roast will yield two 3-ounce cooked, trimmed servings per pound.

Nutrition information per serving (1/8 of recipe): 289 calories; 9 g fat (4 g saturated fat; 3 g monounsaturated fat); 105 mg cholesterol; 234 mg sodium; 26 g carbohydrate; 1.1 g fiber; 23 g protein; 6.7 mg niacin; 0.2 mg vitamin B6; 1.4 mcg vitamin B12; 1.3 mg iron; 10.8 mcg selenium; 3.9 mg zinc.

Recipe courtesy of the Cattlemen's Beef Board and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

#### Free recipe calendar

To have help at hand next year for days when 5 you get a longing for a  $\sqrt{s}$ potato fix, take note of anew calendar that offers a prize-winning spud recipes for each month of 2005.

The Idaho Potato Commission has published a healthy recipe 🧽 calendar featuring tasty. nutritious potato recipes that were winners in a 2004 national recipe contest. Besides as their nutrition values, winning recipes also qualified as quick and -3 easy to prepare, and they all include Idaho potatoes as an ingredi-

The calendar may be ordered by sending five 37-cent stamps to cover postage, and a 3-by-5inch card or piece of paper with your name and full mailing address 🖫 clearly printed on it (to be used as an address label for the return mailing) to: Idaho Potato Commission, Attn: 2005 Healthy Recipé Calendar Offer, P.O. Box 1670, Eagle ID 83616.

Those wishing to receive additional Idaho Potato offers, news and information in 2005 may print an e-mail address on the back of the 3-by-5-inch card. The commission says the offer is good while supplies last. There is a 🔮 limit of one calendar per person, and the calendar should arrive in two to three weeks.

## Entertaining tips On the bright side,

decorate your festive meal with the rich color and taste of beets. Boil beets for 35 minutes until barely tender. Drain under cold water, peel and slice into 1/4inch pieces.

Melt 3 tablespoons unsalted butter and cook 1/4 cup shallots. Stir in 1 tablespoon flour, add ½ cup chicken stock, 3 tablespoons Dijon mustard and 1/4 cup cream. Cook until thick; add beets and combine well. Add salt and pepper to taste and sprinkle parsley on top.

Brunch drink: Overnight guests are common during the holiday months. Wake them up with a spicy drink mixture. Combine 8 ounces tomato juice, 1 ounce vegetable cocktail mix, 3 dashes hot sauce, 2 tablespoons horseradish Dijon mustard, 1/4 teaspoon salt, pinch of black pepper and 2 celery sticks.

Lovely leftovers: The party often continues 📑 past the day of the celes bration. To savor the surplus food, slice a piece of remaining moist turkey, or other cooked 🖔 poultry, add a slice of poultry, add a slice of sweet ham, soft herb cheese, extra-crispy let tuce and cherry tomatoes (from leftover salad) and sandwich between 2 pieces of whole-wheat pita bread Spread with extra-hot Dijon mustard to add a zesty taste to the dayafter lunch.

Recipe from Maille Fine French Condiments.

# Sauce it up at the holiday table ROASTS FROM PAGE 85

Planning that all-important, once-a-year holiday meal with a beef roast as the centerpiece - but don't know what to serve with it?

Sauce it up this year. The Beef & Veal Culinary Center of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association has created three different sauces that pair perfectly with your showstopping beef roast - plus a savory rub to season

So, whether it's a regal rib roast, tempting tenderloin or other holiday favorite, coat the roast with the Savory Rub and serve it with a special

If time is a consideration, choose Easy Shallot-Thyme Sauce. It's delicious and easy.

Start with prepared beef gravy as the base, adding sauteed shallots and fresh thyme. The sauce is on the table in just 15 minutes.

For those who love the classic combination of beef and mustard, Mustard Cream Sauce will please. It, too, is easy. Just simmer cream and sauteed garlic until slightly thickened, stir in coarse ground Dijon-style mustard and chives - 20 minutes is all you need to create this beeffriendly accompaniment. And if you have just a few

more minutes, Balsamic Reduction with Wild Mushroom Duxelles can complement your roast. It contains balsamic vinegar, wild mushrooms, garlic and red wine - all flavors that bring out the best in beef.

Choose your roast, season it; and say "happy holidays." Roasted vegetables and redskinned potatoes, with chocolate cake for dessert make it a perfect meal indeed.

#### SAVORY RUB FOR BEEF ROASTS

- 14 teaspoons garlic powder 1 tablespoon sweet paprika
- 1 teaspoon pepper ³¼ teaspoon salt

Combine all ingredients in small bowl; mix well. Store in airtight container until ready to use. Makes about 3 table-

Nutrition information per

serving (1/6 of recipe): 7 calories; 0 g fat (0 g saturated fat; 0 g monounsaturated fat); 0 mg cholesterol; 291 mg sodium; 2 g carbohydrate; 0.3 fiber; 0 g protein; 0.0 mg niacin; 0.1 mg vitamin B6; 0.0 mcg vitaminB12; 0.2 mg iron; 0.7 mcg selenium; 0.1 mg zinc.

#### EASY SHALLOT-THYME SAUCE

2 tablespoons butter ¼ cup minced shallots 1 jar (12 ounces) prepared beef

¼ cup prepared steak sauce 1 teaspoon coarse ground Dijonstyle mustard 1½ teaspoons ground thyme

Heat butter in medium saucepan over medium heat until melted. Add shallots; cook and stir 2 minutes or until softened. Add gravy, steak sauce, mustard and thyme. Cook and stir 3 minutes or until heated through. Makes about 1% cups.

Nutrition information per serving (1/6 of recipe): 74 calories; 5 g fat (2 g saturated fat; 1 g monounsaturated fat); 10 mg cholesterol; 570 mg sodium; 7 g carbohydrate; 0.3 g fiber; 1.5 g protein; 0.2 mg niacin; 0.0 mg vitamin B6; 0.0 mcg vitamin B12; 0.3 mg iron; 0.1 mcg selenium; 0.1 mg zinc.

#### MUSTARD CREAM SAUCE

- 1 tablespoon, vegetable oil 6 cloves garlic, minced 1 cup whipping cream
- ¾ teaspoon salt ¼ teaspoon ground white pep-
- 3 to 4 tablespoons coarse ground Dijon-style mustard 1 tablespoon snipped fresh chives

Heat oil in medium saucepan over medium-low heat until hot. Add garlic; cook and stir about 1 minute or until tender. Stir in cream, salt and pepper; simmer 7 to 8 minutes or until slightly thickened, stirring occasionally.

Remove pan from heat; stir in mustard and chives. Makes about 11/4 cups.

Nutrition information per serving (1/6 of recipe): 170 calories; 17 g fat (9 g saturated fat; 5 g monounsaturated

fat); 54 mg cholesterol; 482 mg sodium; 4 g carbohydrate; 0.1 g fiber; 3 g protein; 0.0 mg niacin; 0.0 mg vitamin B6; 0.1 mcg vitamin B12; 0.1 mg iron; 0.6 mcg selenium; 0.1 mg zinc.

#### BALSAMIC REDUCTION WITH WILD MUSHROOM DUXELLES

- 1/2 cup balsamic vinegar 2 tablespoons olive oil 1 package (4 ounces) assorted wild mushrooms, (such as baby portabella, shiitake and oyster), minced
- 4 large cloves garlic, minced ½ cup dry red wine
- 1 can (14 to 14-1/2 ounces) readyto-serve beef broth 1 tablespoon cornstarch Salt and pepper 1 tablespoon butter

Bring vinegar to a boil in medium saucepan. Reduce heat; simmer 8 to 9 minutes or until reduced to about 2 tablespoons (consistency will be syrupy). Remove from heat. Set aside to cool.

Heat oil in large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Add mushrooms; cook and stir 5 to 8 minutes or until mushrooms are lightly browned. Add garlic; cook and stir an additional 2 minutes. Add wine; cook 3 to 5 minutes or until liquid has completely evaporated.

Meanwhile combine broth and cornstarch in small bowl, stirring until cornstarch is dissolved. Add balsamic reduction, broth mixture, salt and pepper, as desired, to skillet; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer 15 to 20 minutes or until mixture is reduced by one half. Remove skillet from heat; add butter and stir until melted. Makes about 11/4 cups

Nutrition information per serving: 94 calories; 7 g fat (2 g saturated fat; 4 g monounsaturated fat); 5 mg cholesterol; 238 mg sodium; 6 g carbohydrate; 0.3 g fiber; 1 g protein; 0.8 mg niacin; 0.0 mg vitamin B6; 0.0 mcg vitamin B12; 0.5 mg iron; 2.0 mcg selenium; 0.1 mg zinc.

Recipes courtesy of the Cattlemen's Beef Board and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

jalapeño) peppers' medium heat is offset by the mellow flavors of heavy cream and cheese. The CAB chuck roast supplies an abundance of savory beef flavor. Garlic, cilantro and other seasoning add the finishing touches to this full-bodied dish.

#### SIERRA CHUCK ROAST

3 pounds Certified Angus Beef chuck roast kosher salt, as needed freshly ground pepper, as need-

olive oil, as needed water, as needed 2 tablespoons olive oil 2-1/2 cups finely diced sweet onion

skinned, seeded and diced 2 chipotle peppers in adobo sauce, minced\* 8 garlic cloves, roasted and

4 poblano peppers, roasted,

minced 1/2 cup beef broth 4 cups heavy cream

2 teaspoons kosher salt

I teaspoon white sugar 4 teaspoons finely chopped fresh cilantro 1 cup grated aged Manchego cheese or aged Romano

Preheat oven to 350° F. Season beef with salt and pepper; gently rub into meat. Brown beef on all sides in small amount of oil in heavy, preheated pan. Pour off drippings. Add about one to two inches of water into pan; do not cover heef with water. Cover tightly with lid or foil and roast for 2-1/2 to 3 hours. Do not uncover during braising. Allow roast to rest 15 minutes before separating into chunks.

While the roast cooks, place two tablespoons oil in medium frying pan over medium-high heat. Caramelize onion; add peppers and garlic. Deglaze pan with broth and reduce by half. Add cream and reduce by half again. Season with salt and sugar.

Spoon/4 cup sauce on each plate. Top with three ounces of sliced beef. Garnish with cilantro and cheese. Serves six.

Nutritional information: 750 calories; 50.7 g fat; 24.1 g saturated fat; 54.4 g protein; 6.7 g carb; 273 mg chol; 1367 sodium; 6.7 mg iron.

Chef's Note: The chipotle peppers in adobo sauce are available 🖁 in a seven-ounce can. The leftover chilies and sauce can be canc frozen for future use.

me' Here's a stunning meal with leftovers from the Sierra Chuck Roast and colored peppers. 17,803 2 cups leftover roast, cut into seine

Eqs

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Wolf.

strips 8 ounces cooked long grain and wild rice

1 can (14.5 ounces) diced toma-

4 ounces chopped green chilles 1/4 teaspoon adobo seasoning 4 seeded and cored red peppers

Combine beef, rice, tomatoes, Jon green chilies and adobo season-bas ing. Heat mixture thoroughly week and stuff into peppers. Place in and 400º F. oven for 20 minutes to OC? soften peppers. Serve with remaining sauce or a favorite

For other recipes, cooking tips and or grocer and restaurant loca- system tions, visit www.certifiedangus-180%

# Roast goose is a Christmas classic

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Goose has a long history as traditional Christmas fare, especially in Europe - where, of course, they didn't have turkeys until such New World novelties began to catch on.

Think back to Dickens' unforgettable version of the goose dinner, in A Christmas Carol, served with apple sauce and mashed potato. And then as the bird was carved, "the long expected gush of stuffing issued forth" - steamy, fragrant sage-and-onion stuffing.

In the United States, back in the 1870s, according to the cookbook Good Housekeeping Great American Classics (Hearst Books, 2004, \$24.95), there were popular recipes for roasted goose for special occasions, including one that began: "On the day before Christmas, kill a fat goose and dress it." Not the way we do it now, generally.

Good Housekeeping's cookbook revisits many kinds of food traditions, reminds us of their historical context, and suggests ways to keep them happily and tastily in the family's present.

HOLIDAY GOOSE A L'ORANGE

1 fresh or frozen (thawed) goose

(about 12 pounds) 5 medium oranges, each cut in half

1 bunch fresh thyme

4 bay leaves ½ teaspoon dried thyme 1/4 teaspoons salt

½ teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper

3 tablespoons orange-flavored liqueur

2 tablespoons cornstarch ½ cup orange marmalade

Preheat oven to 400° F. Remove giblets and neck from goose; reserve for another use. Trim and discard fat from body cavity and any excess skin. Rinse goose inside and out with cold running water and drain well; pat dry with paper towels. With goose breast-side up, lift wings up toward neck, then fold wing tips under back of goose so wings stay in place. Place 6 orange halves, thyme sprigs and bay leaves in body cavity. Tie legs and tail together with kitchen string. Fold neck skin over back. With two-tine fork, prick goose in several places to drain fat during roasting.

Place goose, breast-side up, on rack in large roasting pan (17 by 11½ inches). In cup, combine dried thyme, 1 teaspoon salt, and pepper; rub mixture over goose. Cover goose and roasting pan

with foil. Roast 1 hour 30 min- 78:33 utes. Turn oven control to 3259 jbro F; roast 2 hours longer.

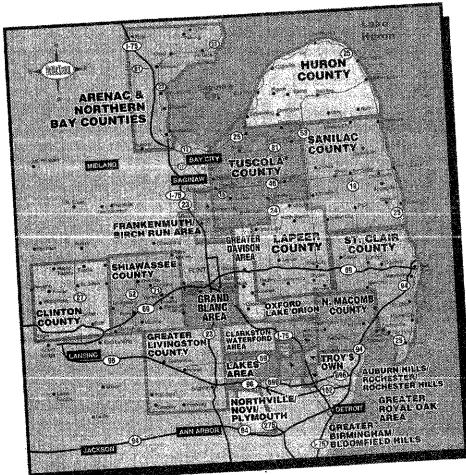
Meanwhile, in small bowl. DUB from remaining 4 orange halves 199 squeeze<sup>8</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup juice. Stir in 1 tablespoon liqueur, cornstarch (ed) and remaining 4 teaspoon salt; set aside. In cup, mix orange marmalade with remaining 2 mi imi  $table spoons\ liqueur.$ 

Remove foil and roast goose and 45 minutes. Remove goose from DEG oven and turn oven control to 450º F. Brush marmalade mixture over goose. Roast goose until skin is golden brown and crisp, about 10 minutes longer. Transfer goose to warm platter; let stand 15 minutes to set juices for easier carving.

To prepare sauce: Remové rack from roasting pan. Strain pan drippings through sieve into 8-cup measuring cup or large bowl. Let stand until fat separates from meat juice; skim and [11]? reserve fat for another use (there should be about 5 cups fat). Measure meat juice: if necessary. add enough water to meat juice a sec to equal I cup. Return meat juice to boiling over medium heat, stirring: boil 1 minute. Serve sauce with goose. Remove skin before eating if desired.

Makes 10 main-dish servings Recipe from Good Housekeeping Books, 2004, \$24.95

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Our Shop Local contest has ended and the winners? We have two.

"Support my community and its economy" came from more than a few of you.

To others "shop local" meant friendly merchants and saving time—nothing wrong with that!

In fact your responses were all so much alike, we nearly put them all in a hat.

Rut then we found two entries that we judged to be the best.

Thanks to these two ladies for the words that they expressed;

Sterling Russell of Oakland County and Susan Klarr of Wayne claimed the prize this year

To everyone who entered, THANK YOU, Happy Holidays

and Good Cheer!

Uisit the local merchants in today's newspaper.

# Create "stress free" zones Make your marzipan merrily

is the season for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner parties, fat, sugar, cookies, candy, and desserts, (which spelled backwards is stressed").

The holiday season brings an abundance of food, lots of social obligations, writing and sending cards, whirlwind shopping, endless trips to the post office, decorations and everything else.

Take it easy, slow down, and enjoy the season. Here are a few food pointers for the holi-

■ Limit the amount of food you make and serve. You do not want the cookies, candy, and desserts left over for January meals. Everyone else has lots of food at their house, too, and will not want to take food home from your house.

■ When sending cold or frozen food in the mail, use an insulated cooler or heavy corrugated box packed with a frozen gel-pack or dry ice. Label the outside of the package "Perishable - Keep Refrigerated." Ship the package by overnight delivery and alert the recipient to arrange for a mutually agreeable delivery day and time. Perishable mail order food should arrive still frozen or cold-to-the-touch, and if it is not, don't taste or eat the food.

Always check the label on the item for storage instructions. If the food is to be kept cold, refrigerate or freeze it immediately. It is easier to order the foods shipped from a company, as they have the right packing materials and the know-how to do it safely.

Don't send a food package to someone's office. People get the packages and put them in the car and forget until it's not safe to eat.

■ If you baked cookies to mail, package them so they do not arrive in pieces. Package them in layers, or wrap individually in plastic and pack tight into a sturdy container, with a tight lid. Make sure they do not move around in the container. Use air-popped popcorn as a cushion for inside or outside the container.



**Economist** 

Lois Thieleke 1

To transport cold food, wrap it and then place in an ice chest that contains ice cubes or freezer packs. If you are transporting hot food, keep it hot by wrapping first in clean kitchen towels and then in newspapers and pack in a corrugated box or insulated cooler. Serve or reheat within two hours.

If you have food that needs to go in the oven, make sure to ask the hostess if there is room there. Take along an attractive serving dish and the correct serving utensils.

■ Do not double dip! Remind yourself and children not to dip chips or crackers into the bowl, take a bite and dip again. When you double dip, the saliva from your mouth is being put into the

Break the chip in half, dip each half and eat the whole thing or put a spoonful of the dip on your plate for dipping.

■ Traditional holiday food is not known for its healthful qualities. However, you can trim some of the fat, sugar, and salt. If you have a favorite recipe, making a lot of substitutions will change the product. Make only small changes and try it first before serving it to someone else.

Perhaps making it just as the recipe reads and then limiting the serving or portion sizes would be a good alternative. You may want to try some of these substitutes.

For one cup of butter in baking, use one-cup applesauce. For eight ounces of cream cheese, use eight ounces of

yogurt. For one egg, use two egg

For one cup of oil or fat for basting, use one cup fruit juice or low-fat stock.

When cooking, use mixtures of herbs and spices instead of

Save the Date!

Walsh Gala

A Unique Evening for the Arts

Saturday, March 12, 2005

**Hotel Baronette** 

27790 Novi Road, Novi, MI 48377

The evening will include the art of local photographer

Monte Nagler and wine art by Thomas Stiltz.

A strolling dinner will be catered by Unique Restaurant

Corporation. The highlight of the evening will be

a VIP Reception where master sommelier

Madeline Triffon and sommelier Rick Rubel

of Unique Restaurant Corporation will

lead a presentation on rare wines.

■ Plan ahead and choose a restaurant that offers some healthy choices if you're dining out. Low carb does not automatically mean low calorie. Don't be shy - ask how the food has been prepared and then ask about substitutes. Look for foods that have been steamed, baked, poached or broiled instead of fried.

Never go to a party when you are hungry. Don't skip breakfast and lunch to save calories, actually this will make you eat more, because the body is more efficient burning calories when you eat during the day. Eat a little something before you go to the party. Watch out for alcohol calories.

If heartburn becomes a problem during these eating frenzies, stand up and let gravity drain away the painful stomach acids. Loosen your waistband, it may be too tight. Try clewing gum to increase

Avoid foods such as chocolate, coffee, alcohol, mints, tomatoes, citrus juices or other foods that can cause heartburn. See your health care provider if it persists.

■ Mind your manners. Always start with the fork from the outside and work your way toward the plate. Any utensil placed horizontally above the plate is for dessert. The glass on the right is yours and your bread plate is on the left. During this busy time of

year, don't forget to make time to exercise. Schedule at least a 30-minute walk or bike ride. Getting away for a little time will do wonders for your outlook and besides moderate exercise can reduce your

The beginning of the holidays does not mean the end of good healthy habits. Don't fall off the "wagon" and overindulge no matter how tempting.

These days are about celebration, joy and happiness. Take time to enjoy them and try not to be stressed!

Lois M. Thieleke is a Home Economist at the Oakland County office of Michigan State University Extension.

BY THE CULINARY INSTITUTE OF **AMERICA** FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

HYDE PARK, N.Y. (AP) -You don't have to be a pastry chef to create marzipan garnishes. With a touch of food coloring and a little imagination, you can make deliciously sweet one-of-a-kind creations just like the professionals, for the holidays or any season.

to playful characters, marzipan's configurations are endless. Made from almonds and sugar, marzipan is an ultra-fine paste used to shape and embellish a variety of sweets. Realistic-looking marzipan confections that resemble fruit, vegetables and figurines can be found in pastry shops and candy stores throughout the world.

From delicate, lifelike shapes

This highly versatile ingredient is also used as a filling for sweets, as an elegant covering for cakes and as a component in classic preparations such as petits fours and stollen.

Producing marzipan shapes doesn't require special tools. Most shapes and designs can be achieved with your hands, a rolling pin and a knife or toothpick. When working with marzipan, the key is to knead it properly, notes chef Kate Cavotti, professor in baking and pastry arts at The Culinary Institute of America.

#### MARZIPAN

One 7-ounce tube or box of marzipan Confectioners' sugar, as needed Liquid or paste food coloring, as needed

Vegetable oil, as needed Lightly beaten egg white, as needed

While still in its packaging, gently knead or roll the marzipan on the counter a few times. Dust the work surface lightly with the confectioners' sugar and remove the marzipan from the package. If you want to make more than one color, divide the marzipan into smaller pieces.

Squeeze a few drops of food coloring onto the marzipan. Knead it by hand just until the color is evenly distributed and the marzipan is soft enough to roll out or mold into shapes. Keep any portion of the marzipan that you aren't working with well covered to prevent drying.

To make cutout shapes, dust your work surface and rolling pin with confectioners' sugar. Roll the marzipan into a very thin layer, about 1/2-inch thick. Use cutters of various shapes. Transfer the marzipan shapes to a plate and cover to keep them pliable.

To make flowers, use a flowershaped cutter, or a knife to create the petals. Roll a small ball of marzipan. With the handle of a wooden spoon, make a small depression in the center of the flower petals, and press the ball into the depression.

To make fruit and vegetable shapes, roll the marzipan into a ball of about the size you'd like for the finished shape, then mold or sculpt as you would clay. To make coffee beans, color the marzipan a deep brownish black. Break off small pieces and roll them into bean shapes. Press the

blade of a small knife lengthwise down the center of each bean.

For a more natural look, dip a Ak toothpick into vegetable oil and use it to press any seams or depressions into the shape.

To attach smaller pieces, such as stems, centers or leaves, use a toothpick to make a small depression at the point where you want to attach something, such as in the top of an apple shape. Lightly moisten the attachment with your fingertip (a small ball for the center of a flower, cutout leaves, and longer cylinders for stems, for example) at the place where it should join the marzipan shape and press it gently in place. Use egg white to act as glue, if necessary.

To cover a cake, work on a surface lightly dusted with confectioners' sugar and roll the marzipan into an even, thin sheet about//e-inch thick. Turn the marzipan as you work to keep it 🐤 from sticking and tearing. Cut to 88 cover small cakes, or transfer the entire marzipan sheet to the cake. Allow the sheet to drape over the sides and press gently onto the sides of the cake. Pinch off any excess marzipan and rub the seams to seal and smooth

Makes enough to cover an 8inch cake or form a variety of

Nutrition information per 1ounce shape: 90 cal., 2 g pro., 12 g carbo., 4 g fat, 5 mg sodium, 20 mg chol., less than 1 g fiber.

This recipe, along with many other desserts, is explained and illustrated 1972 in The Culinary Institute of America's Baking and Pastry, Mastering the Art and Craft cookbook (Wiley, 2004, \$65).

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# Make festive Rudolph cake

Nothing says holidays like the delicious flavor of a sweet treat.

This Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer Cake from the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board incorporates real dairy products to create a festive. flavorful dessert that is sure to impress the guests at your next holiday gathering.

#### CAKE

- 1/2 cup dairy sour cream
- 2 eggs
- T teaspoon almond extract 2½ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 4 ounces unsweetened baking chocolate, coarsely
- chopped
- 1/4 cup butter 1½ cups boiling water

#### FILLING

- 1/2 cup whipping cream 8-ounces cream cheese, softened
- i cup powdered sugar
- ½ cup sugar
- ¼ teaspoon almond extract
- 1/4 cup chopped nuts (optional)

#### ICING

- 6-ounces package semi-sweet chocolate pieces
- ¼ cup butter 1/2 cup dairy sour cream
- 2½ cups powdered sugar, sifted
- Suggested Decorations: 16 M&M's milk chocolate candies (for the eyes) 16 Rolo milk chocolate covered antlers
- 4 Pepperidge Farm Double Chocolate Chunk Soft Baked cookies, cut in half (ears)
- 8 maraschino cherries (noses) Preheat oven to 350° F. Butter and flour two

9-inch round cake pans. In a small bowl, stir together sour cream, eggs and extract; mix well and set aside.

Combine flour, sugar, baking powder and salt;

In a large electric mixer bowl, combine chocolate, butter and water; stir with a spoon until



Sour cream, chocolate and whipping cream help make this festive Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer cake a holiday treat.

mixture is melted and smooth. Add half of flour mixture to chocolate mixture and beat on low speed of electric mixer until combined. Add sour cream mixture and beat until combined. Add remaining flour mixture and beat until smooth. Pour batter into prepared pans.

Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool layers in pans on wire racks 10 minutes, remove from pans and cool completely on wire racks. While cakes cool, prepare filling and icing.

For filling, beat whipping cream at high speed with an electric mixer until soft peaks form; set aside. Beat cream cheese, powdered sugar, sugar and extract at medium speed until creamy. Fold cream cheese mixture into whipped cream. Stir in nuts, if desired. Chill.

For icing, melt chocolate and butter in a small saucepan over low heat, stirring frequently. Cool about 5 min. Stir in sour cream.

Gradually add powdered sugar, beating till smooth and easy to spread.

To assemble, pipe chocolate icing around outer edge of bottom layer. Spread all but 1 cup filling inside the piped circle. Place second layer on top. Frost top and sides of cake with icing. Just before serving, cut cake into 8 slices and decorate as desired using reserved filling, candies, cookies and cherries for eyes, antlers, ears and nose.

Recipe courtesy of the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board. This company's web site http://www.wmmb.org.

## Holiday cooks can find help online, on hot lines

#### ✓ BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toll-free telephone services and Web sites offer a variety of specialist answers to cooking and food-safety questions during holiday preparation times. Here are some of them:

■ U.S. Department of riculture Meat and Poultry Hotline: (888) 674-6854. Food safety specialists answer calls about meat and poultry preparation and cooking questions, year-round Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. EST. Recorded information is available 24 hours a day at the same number. Also available in Spanish. On the Net:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov ■ Butterball Turkey Talk-Line: (800) 288-8372. Home economists and nutritionists answer holiday cooks' questions, in both English and

Spanish, for callers in the United States and Canada. Callers can request a free pamphlet with safety and cooking

tips and recipes. Through Dec. 23, weekdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST.

Dec. 24 to Dec. 25, Christmas Eve-Christmas Day,

6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 26, day after Christmas,

8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Automated assistance available outside the above hours and all year long. On the Net: http://www.but-

terball.com

**B** Foster Farms Turkey Helpline: (800) 255-7227. Turkey-cooking questions are answered and information given 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. PST, Monday through Friday.

On the Net: http://www.fosterfarms.com ■ Perdue consumer help

line: (800) 473-7383. Consumer-relations representatives answer cooking, storage and other questions about poultry products weekdays vear-round (except Christmas Day) 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST. Free booklet offer with tips on safe handling of poultry.

On the Net: http://www.perdue.com

■ Shady Brook Farms: (888) 723-4468.

■ Honeysuckle White: (800) 810-6325.

Automated holiday-meal information lines offer 24-hour service every day throughout the holidays, including meal planning, buying and cooking turkevs.

On the Net: http://www.shadybrookfarms.c om, and http://www.honeysucklewhite.com

■ Empire Kosher poultry

customer hotline: (800) 367-4734, or (717) 436-5921. Help is offered by consumer-affairs representatives year-round Monday through Thursda a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST: Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. EST. Prog offers recipes, newsletter, tips on defrosting and cooking ular holidays. On the Net:

http://www.empirekosher.com. Ocean Spray consumer help line (800) 662-3263.

Year-round, weekdays (except Christmas Day, New Year's Day and other major holidays) 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. EST. Consumer department staff field questions on cranberries, offer recipes, cooking tips, nutritional information, menu-planning work-

sheets, product information. On the Net:

http://www.oceanspray.com.■ Reynolds Turkey Tips Line (800) 745-4000. A year-round 24-hour automated hot line; through Dec. 31 offers advice on turkey defrosting, preparation and cooking options, free brochure and recipes. On the Net:

http://www.reynoldskitchens.com

Also on the Net: http://www.mccormick.com.

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■ 2001 Enzo Bianchi Grand on the steak."

The Healds are contributing editors for the internationally respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

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FROM PAGE B5

techniques for grape growing to the country. Malbec, an historic red Bordeaux grape variety, is at home in Argentina. Fifty-year-old or older plantings yield concentrated, wellstructured wines with plum, blackberry, black pepper and spice qualities.

Currently, Bodegas Valentin Bianchi farms over 700 vineyard acres in the cool elevation of San Rafael, south of Mendoza. This climate offers red grapes a longer growing season, which benefits their flavor and complexity.

#### THREE LABELS

Valentin Bianchi wines are released under three labels: Elsa, at under \$10; Famiglia Bianchi, under \$20, and Enzo Bianchi Grand Cru, a cabernet sauvignon blended with small amounts of merlot and/or malbec (depending on the vintage), priced under \$30.

For many years, Enzo Bianchi has been the flagship label with grapes coming from only the best plots within the three Valentin Bianchi vineyards, all located in San Rafael. the area with the best soil in Mendoza.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

From the Valentin Bianchi wines available in the Michigan market, we recommend:

■ 2003 Elsa Syrah (\$9) with standout cherry and spicy aromas and a mellow finish. Serve it with lamb or pasta with a hearty mushroom sauce.

■ 2003 Famiglia Bianchi Sauvignon Blanc (\$16) has sufficient semillon in the blend to add complexity. It is hallmarked by grapefruit, tropical fruit notes and a crisp, clean finish. It's a perfect complement to oysters, shrimp and broiled white fish.

■ 2002 Famiglia Bianchi Malbec (\$18) showcases dark fruit, berry aromas and mirrored flavors.

malbecs around. Hard cheeses and fruits in place of dessert are delightful with this lush wine.

Cabernet Sauvignon (\$18) is stellar at this price. Blended with merlot and malbec, it's mas and flavors leading to

Cru (\$27) is a step above the Famiglia Bianchi cabernet, showing exceptional concentration and layering of fruit and spice with the chocolate element lasting long into the finish. It too screams, "bring

Fax (734) 591-7279 ewright@oe.homecomm.net

**SECOND PLACE** – Whalers hit .500 mark.

JERRY POLYNSKY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A 2- Davey was a key contributor in Plymouth's victory over Bloomfield Hills Andover Monday night. The junior netted 10

# Wildcat cagers win with hustle

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's boys basketball team may not bombard opponents with rim-rattling dunks or flashy 3-point shots, but the Wildcats' hustling, gritty methods have proven to be successful in the season's first quarter.

The substance-over-style Wildcats improved to 4-1 Monday night in the Plymouth High School gymnasium with a scrappy 63-51 victory over Bloomfield Hills Andover, whose record dropped to 1-4.

All five of Plymouth's games this season have been played on its home court. The Wildcats will hit the road for the first time Tuesday, Jan. 4, when they travel to Dearborn Heights Robichaud.

"Once again it wasn't pretty, but the boys keep finding different ways to win," Plymouth coach Tom VanWagoner said, referring to his team's come-from-behind, 12-point triumph over the Barons. "I told the kids after the game that they should be proud of what they've accomplished so far, but they said they're disappointed they're not 5-

"We'll really see where we stand when we play Robichaud when we come back from the break. They're very tall and very athletic, so that will be a good test for this team."

Led by its full-court, turnover-producing defense, Andover surged to a 13-3 lead in the game's first five minutes. Once the Wildcats figured out how to beat the press, they scored easily and forged a 15-15 tie at the end of the first quarter with a 12-2 run.

Plymouth grabbed its first lead, 17-16, one minute into the second quarter when D.J. Coleman converted a drive. The Wildcats improved their lead to 35-29 at the half.

Andover trailed just 41-40 after three quarters thanks to the inside play of senior forward Brian Zematis, who scored four points and grabbed four rebounds in the eight-minute span.

Plymouth led 44-43 with five minutes to play before building its comfortable winning cushion with free throws and fast-break baskets, which were sparked by point guard Brent Jones.

"I thought we played well the first three quarters, but Plymouth did a good job handling our pressure in the fourth quarter and it got away from us," said Andover junior varsity coach Lloyd Praedel, who was filling in for coach Howard Golding, who missed the game due to a death in the family.

Plymouth's Jim Wilbur led all scorers with 14 points. The junior forward also contributed six rebounds and three steals. D.J. Coleman scored 12, A.J. Davey had 10 and Kulraj Sandhu chipped in with nine. The Wildcats outrebounded the Barons, 37-23, thanks largely to Josh LeDuc, who grabbed 14 boards. Davey snared eight caroms. Mike Wint led the Barons with 12 points, including two threes.

Zematis scored eight and Tino Fernandez tallied seven. Plymouth hit 21-of-46 field goals (45.6 percent) and 20-of-35 free throws (57.1 percent). The Barons struggled from the field (35.2 percent) and the line (50 percent).

After committing seven turnovers in the game's opening three minutes, the Wildcats had just 11 the rest of the game. ewright@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2108

# Plymouth icers take Ypsi crown

points and eight rebounds in the 63-51 win.

STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's hockey team rolled through last weekend's Yosilanti Lincoln Christmas Tournament like a Zamboni cruising through a

china shop. The Wildcats took home the first-place hardware after thumping their semifinal opponent Willow Run and finals foe Lincoln by identical

The pair of one-sided victories improved the Wildcats' record to 3-4 heading into Wednesday's game against Taylor Truman at the Taylor Sports Plex. The dominant wins also gave Plymouth a much-needed dose of momentum after a rough 1-4 start.

"It was a nice weekend for us," Plymouth coach Mike Kaput said. "Ypsilanti Lincoln did a nice job of hosting the tournament, and the boys all had a good time."

Brett Kavulich really enjoyed the first game, recording a hat trick. Charles Webb added a goal and three assists and Christian Blick earned the shutout, stopping eight Flyer shots.

John Knoerl, Ryan Stamm, Josh Dillon, Mark Olivier, Jason O'Guinn and Justin Michalek also scored goals for the winners, who led 4-0 after one period and 6-0 after the opening 30 minutes.

The title game between Plymouth and Lincoln was limited to just two periods due to an MHSAA mercy rule that stops games once a team compiles a 10-0 advantage. O'Guinn scored four goals, Knoerl had two, while Billy Gauthier, Stamm, Kavulich and Dillon knocked in one apiece. Olivier notched three assists.

Justin Desilets made 11 saves to secure the shutout for the Wildcats.

Lincoln advanced to the final game by throttling Taylor Kennedy, 11-1, in a Saturday semifinal match-up.

"After watching Lincoln play on Saturday, I really thought we were going to be in for a tough game," Kaput said. "But we scored on five of our first six shots."

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# P-C coaching fixtures share honor

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Over the past 30 years, Bob Blohm and Fred Thomann have coached with and against each other in more girls basketball games than they can probably remember.

The two have become fixtures on the coaching landscape at the Plymouth-Canton Education Park, leading their respective teams to a long run of successful seasons.

So it's only fitting that Blohm, Canton's girls basketball coach for the past 16 years, and Thomann, the girls coach at Salem since 1984, share this year's Observerland Coach of the Year honors.

Blohm's and Thomann's teams enjoyed abundantly successful campaigns in 2004. The Chiefs captured the Western Lakes Activities Association title on the way to a 17-6 overall record, while the highlight of Salem's 16-7 year was a Class A district





Thomann

championship, which it secured with a final-game win over Canton.

"I think the mark of this year's team is that it was competitive in just about every game we played this year," said Thomann, whose coaching career at Salem commenced in 1972 when he took the reins of the boys hoop program. With the exception of maybe one game, we were never blown out. We pushed every team we played to the

Thomann said this year's squad was all about balance.

"It was a fun team to coach because

For the complete Observerland All-Area Giris Basketball Team. Please see page C2.

you never knew which player's light was going to go off each game," he said. "If one of the top players had an offgame, someone else would pick it up."

Blohm's Chiefs overcame a rough 2-4 start to win 15 of 16 games at one point. They peaked in the WLAA championship game when they ousted regularseason title-holder Walled Lake

Northern, 46-30. "This team exceeded my expectations this season," Blohm said.

'We started slowly, but once we got over the hump and the girls figured out how hard they had to play, they played great. Winning the (WLAA Western) division and the league tournament made this a very nice year for this group."

# Salem's Gui finds success on mat, in class

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

To succeed in the rugged, survival-of-thefittest world of high school wrestling, a complete, around-the-calendar commitment to the sport is not a luxury — it's a requirement.

No one understands this better than Salem junior Val Gui, who, just over two years after

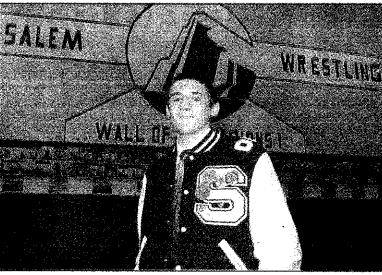


stepping onto a wrestling mat for the first time, is excelling for the Rocks.

Gui's commitment to excellence was evident this past summer, when he spent 30 days at a demanding camp hosted by a

number of renowned wrestlers and coaches at : the University of Minnesota. While his friends back home were swimming, working on their

PLEASE SEE SALEM, C3



HEATHER ROUSSEAU | STAFF PHÖTOGRAPHER

Salem's Val Gui is an accomplished student in the classroom and in the wrestling room. The junior carries a 3.97 grade-point average and a 7-4 record for the Rocks' wrestling team.

#### **Wolfpack tryouts**

Tryouts for the Western Wayne Wolfpack AAU basketball teams for girls between the ages of 10 and 13 will be held on three separate nights in January.

On Jan. 4, tryouts for the 12-and-under team will be held 6-7:30 p.m. at East Middle School. Tryouts for the 13-andunder team will be held 7:30-9 p.m. Jan. 4 at

Tryouts for the 10-andunder Wolfpack squad will be held6-8 p.m. Jan. 12 at isbister Elementary School, The final tryout - for the 11-and-under unit - will be held 6-8 p.m. Jan. 13 at West Middle School.

For more information, call Fred Thomann at (734) 484-7746; or Bob Blohm at (734) 495-3160 or (734) 414-8156.

# 'Cat spikers shine Plymouth finished 3-2

at the competitive Madonna University High School Volleyball Tournament held Saturday in the Plymouth High School gymnasium.

The Wildcats ousted Cass Tech (26-24 and 25-15), Flat Rock (25-14 and 25-9) and Wayne Memorial (25-9 and 25-9), but were upended by Dearborn Divine Child (25-16 and 25-18) in pool Tecumseh, 25-21 and 25-19, in the qualifier.

Plymouth was led by Jeanine Moise (27 kills, 11 digs, 18 solo blocks), Sarah Haskins (41 set assists), Janet Hanchette (26 digs, three services aces) and Lindsey Vogelsberg (10

The Wildcats return to action Monday when they compete in the University of Michigan-Dearborn Invitational.

#### SC cagers win

Schoolcraft's men's basketball team dominated a deplete Genesee (N.Y.) team on Saturday night, coming away with a 90-62 victory.

Martin Samarco (Belleville) torched the Cougars for 29 points to lead the Ocelots in the win. Courtney Williams, a 6-9 transfer from Oakland University, chipped in 18 and Jamaal Lock (Detroit Redford) finished with 14.

Genesee (5-10), which finished 24-7 last season, was playing shorthanded as three regular starters were out with various injuries against the Ocelots.

Schoolcraft (12-1) took advantage early, building up a 41-21 lead, notching another blowout victory. Eight of the Ocelots' 12 victories have come by 20 points or more so far this season, including three drubbings of 50 points or more.

Ty Scott had 13 to round out the Schoolcraft players that finished in double digits.

A.J. White led the Cougars with 16 points and Genesee received 15 points from Phil Santiago, 14 from Bart Tooms and 10 from Jim

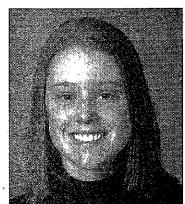


**Ariel McKissick** Thurston



Marissa Martin Clarenceville

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 23, 2004



Aiyssa Guerin



Jeanine Moise **Plymouth** 



Ellen Canale Salem



Ladywood



**Katie Cezat** Canton



Lisa Ealy



Lindsay Fletemier **Garden City** 



Alisha June **Garden City** 

#### **2004 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM**

FIRST TEAM Katie Cezat, 5-11 Sr. F. Canton Ellen Canale, 5-9 Sr. G. Salem Lindsay Fleternier, 6-4 Sr. C, Garden City Erica Yost, 5-6 Jr. G, Liv. Ladywood

Jeanine Moise, 5-10 Jr. F, Plymouth SECOND TEAM Ariel McKissick, 6-2 Sr. C, Red. Thurston Aiyssa Guerin, 5-9 Sr. G, Salem Alisha June, 6-0 Sr. F, Garden City Marissa Martin, 6-0 Sr. C, Clarenceville Lisa Ealy, 5-9 Jr. F, Canton

THIRD TEAM Becci Houdek, 5-9 So. G, Canton Teresa Coppiellie, 5-10 So. F, Salem Katie Tuomi, 5-7 Sr. G, Clarenceville Kathryn Wheatley, 5-8 Sr. G, Salem Kim Olech, 5-10 Jr. F, Plymouth

FOURTH TEAM Colleen Flaherty, 5-9 Jr. G, Plymouth Lauren Trosell, 5-5 Sr. G, Liv. Stevenson Joi Jennings, 5-9 So. G, Ply. Christian A.J. Creps, 5-10 Sr. C. Agape Christian Megan Szczypka, 5-10 Sr. G. Liv. Ladywood CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR

Bob Blohm, Canton HONORABLE MENTION Churchill: Stephanie Bradshaw, Franklin: Trisha Morrill, Robyn Whalen; Stevenson: Rachel Desentz, Lauren Brodie: Wayne Memorial: LaDwan Jones. Jennifer Anderson; Westland John Glenn: Jennifer Swartz, Heather Lindon; Lutheran Westland: Elyse Gieschen, Sam Wiemer, Kelsev Ramthun; Huron Valley Lutheran: Becky Schultz, Brittany Hickman; Garden City: Lauren Watts, Jessica Rayburn; Redford Union: Stefanie Stephens, Kelly Kesteloot, Sade' Poole: Redford Thurston: Chice Booker, Teresa Clarke. Salem:

Carly Sommers, Lauren Kurtz; Canton: Molly Conlon, Leslie Olech: Plymouth Christian: Lauren Soblesky.

Kelsie Tietjen; Agape Christian: Danielle Henry.

Belleville: Taylor Manley. Plymouth: Chelsea Quinlan.

# All-Area basketball team is stocked with talent

FIRST TEAM

Katie Cezat, 5-11 Sr. F, Canton: Cezat finished her career at Canton as the school's all-time leader in points, rebounds and blocked shots. As a senior, she averaged close to 20 points a game and over 10 rebounds per contest. She was effective around the basket, but the four-year varsity player could also help break a press with her slick ball-handling

"Katie's strength is her versatility." Canton coach Bob Blohm said, "She is a strong post player and she moves well away from the basket as well. She scored a lot this year off of offensive rebounds. Even though she was doubleteamed a lot this season, she put up great numbers.

Ellen Canale, 5-9 Sr. G, Salem: Canale did it all for the Class A district champion Rocks, leading them in scoring 11.5) and assists (5.5). She was second on the team in rebounding from her guard position. A three-year varsity starter, the senior earned a scholarship at Division 1 Eastern Illinois University.

"Ellen is a very, very good player, and she was our vocal leader as well," said Salem coach Fred Thomann, "She either led our team or was close to leading our team in every statistical category. She was recognized by several Division 1 schools, so obviously she is a very tal-

ented player." Lindsay Fletemier, 6-4 Jr. C, Garden City: Fletemier earned co-MVP honors for the Cougars after averaging 15 points and 12 rebounds per game, along with a season's total of 96 blocks.

"Certainly, I think she, along with (Katie) Cezat of Canton, was one of the premiere post players in the area and certainly one of the best post players I've ever had at Garden City," said Cougars' head coach Barry Patterson, who calls the junior center the team's

He added there is no telling how good the junior center can be in 2005-06.

"I think she has a tremendous upside to her game, she's very athletic, runs the floor well and has good hands," Patterson said. "I don't believe she

knows yet how good she is and how good she can be."

Selected to the All-Mega White first team, Fletemier scored 32 points in a game to establish a Garden City record.

Erica Yost, 5-6 Sr. G, Liv. Ladywood: The transfer from Dearborn Divine Child made Ali-Catholic as she averaged 12 points, five assists, three rebounds and two steals per game for the Class B district champions.

Yost shot 42 percent from the floor, including 36 percent from three-point range. She averaged 62 percent at the

More importantly, the point-guard averaged just two turnovers per game.

"Erica got better as the season went along because coming into a new system took time." Ladywood coach Andrea Gorski said. "She handled the ball primarily for us. Her stats in the Catholic League as a guard were pretty solid all the way around."

Jeanine Moise, 5-10 Jr. F, Plymouth: A junior. Moise was a force in the paint for the Wildcats in their inaugural full season at the varsity level. She led the team in scoring (15.5), rebounding (15.0) and blocked shots (2.7) despite getting extra attention from opposing teams' defens-

"There were times this season when Jeanine would dominate games, both offensively and defensively," said Plymouth coach Richelle Reilly. "She was an important part of the success we had this season.'

SECOND TEAM Ariel McKissick, 6-2 Sr. C, Red.

Thurston: McKissick's solid season earned her a spot on the All-Mega Blue team. She averaged 16 points, seven rebounds, two blocks and two steals per contest.

Head coach Bob Ostrowski said McKissick did an excellent job at both ends of the floor. On offense, she blended height and athleticism, taking the ball to the basket and scoring on putbacks and drives from the wing. Her season's high was 28 points, virtually all scored in the low post.

Defensively, McKissick "was aggres-

sive for boards and blocked shots, and that's what kept us in a lot of games," Ostrowski said.

Aiyssa Guerin, 5-9 Sr. G, Salem: A three-year varsity starter, Guerin was the Rocks' second-leading scorer behind Canale, averaging around nine points a

"Alyssa is a great competitor and was very versatile for us the past three years," Thomann said. "She is an outstanding rebounder and defender, and she's been a key member of our team for the past three years."

Alisha June, 6-0 Sr. F, Garden City: Her coach, Barry Patterson, called June the "heart and soul" of the Cougars this season.

June, who earned All-Mega White honorable mention, tallied 12 points and 8.5 boards per game and made about 40 percent of her field-goal attempts. She played almost every minute of every

"We were really blessed this year to have two post players who can run the floor," Patterson said, "... She was really the heart and soul of our team. She's a tremendous athlete with a great work ethic and is just a joy to coach."

Marissa Martin, 6-0 Sr. C. Clarenceville: The All-Metro Conference pick earned second-team All-Observer honors for the second straight year.

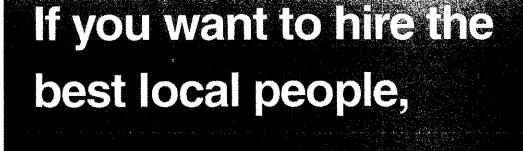
The Clarenceville co-MVP averaged 12.9 points and 9.2 rebounds per game for the 15-7 Trojans. She shot an impressive 74 percent from foul line.

"Marissa did really well this year tak-

ing on a leadership role," Clarenceville coach Julie Patterson said. "She was the player team's feared most that played against us because she can post-up or take it outside. She has the ability to play inside-out.".

Lisa Ealy, 5-9 Jr. F, Canton: Only a junior, Ealy did it all for the Chiefs, finishing as one of the team's most consistent scorers, rebounders and defensive play-

"Lisa was a big part of our success this season," said Blohm, "She can score. rebound and defend. Lisa should be one of our leaders next season."





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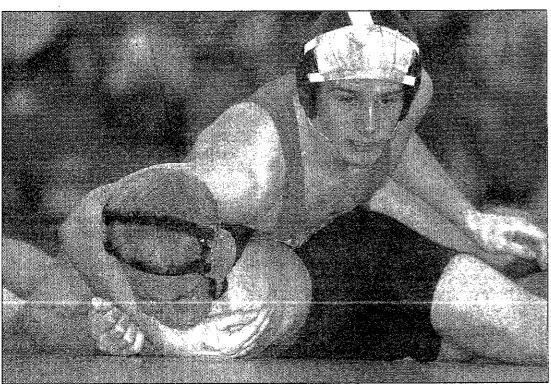
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Canton's Konrad Konsitzke went 5-0 in the 140-pound weight class in Saturday's Canton Team Tournament. The Chiefs finished first in the event, downing New Boston Huron in the finals.

# Chief wrestlers capture first in Canton Team Tourney

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Canton's wrestling team was the host with the most Saturday in the annual Canton Team Tournament held in the school's Phase III gymnasium.

The Chiefs breezed through the round-robin part of the 10-team invitational with a 4-0 record. They then tripped up Division 3 powerhouse New Boston Huron, 45-24, in the finals.

The five wins boosted Canton's overall record to 10-3 as it heads into Wednesday's meet at Birmingham Brother

"It was a pretty exciting day for the team," said Canton coach Casey Randolph. "The kids were ecstatic to beat a really good team like New Boston Huron in the finals. We're turning into a very competitive team, which is nice to

Canton knocked off Livonia Stevenson (72-3), Monroe

Jefferson (44-27), Ann Arbor Pioneer (56-13) and Allen Park (45-33) to finish first in Pool A. Huron pinned its competition in Pool B to set up the final match-up.

Seven Canton wrestlers earned gold medals after compiling unbeaten records: Ryan Schnettler (5-0 with four pins at 103 pounds); Jay Fleischmann (5-0 with four pins at 119); Corey Phillips (5-0 with five pins at 130); Ryan Webb (5-0 with four pins at 135); Konrad Konsitzke (5-0 at 140); Keil Price (2-0 at 171); and Tom Bonnell (1-0 at 215).

Canton 125-pound senior Pete Bonneau, who finished 4-1, gave up the opportunity to finish undefeated and a gold medal when he made an incredible, selfless sacrifice that made the day special for a disabled Ann Arbor Pioneer opponent.

Pioneer had a disabled wrestler who had never won a match," explained Randolph. "I'm not sure what was wrong with him, but he used hand crutches and he didn't have use of his legs. I talked to Pete before the match, and I asked him how he would feel about letting the Pioneer wrestler win. He said he had no problem with it.

"When the Pioneer wrestler - his name was Zach Damon - won (8-5), his hand was raised and he got a standing ovation. It was a pretty emotional scene and a great gesture by Pete."

Canton's P.J. Caram also compiled a 4-1 record at 189 pounds.

"Before I was named coach, this tournament was an individual meet," Randolph said. "But I revamped it into a team tournament because more kids get to wrestle in more matches. At the individual tournaments, if you lose your first two matches, you're done. At the team tournaments, most of the wrestlers get five matches in no matter what."

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#### **SALEM**

FROM PAGE C1

tans and spending time relaxing, Gui was sweating through days that included four practices and little time for recre-

And he loved it. "It was all wrestling, all the time," Gui said. "We'd get up at 6 a.m. and our first practice would start at 6:15. We'd wrestle all day. There were high school wrestlers from all over the country, including California and New York.

"It was very intense, but it was a great experience for me. A guy told us at the camp that only 70 percent of the wrestlers who go through it end up graduating from it."

Among the graduation requirements was a 15-mile run on the final day. It turned out to be a final Gui passed with flying colors.

"My wrestling skills improved exponentially at the camp," said Gui, who had to raise close to \$2,000 to attend. "I have a lot more confidence in my ability this season because of what I learned

there.

Gui, who has worked his way to a 7-4 record so far this season, said the most taxing part of the sport is the time it takes to become competitive.

"I usually stay after practice for an hour or so to work on things, so most nights I don't get home until 5:30," he said. "By the time I eat, I'm usually pretty tired, but I still have homework to do. It's tiring, but it's worth it.

"One of the things I like best about wrestling is that it's an individual sport. You're only going to get out of it what you put into it."

Unlike many of his wrestling peers, Gui said he doesn't have to worry about watching his

"I'm a big sweater, so I lose a lot of weight naturally," he said. "I'm actually small for my weight class. I wrestle at 152, but I usually weigh around 147. I could move down to 145, but the guy we have at 145 is very good, so it's best for the team if I stay at 152.

Salem wrestling coach Greg Woochuk said while Gui is an accomplished grappler, he's an even better person.

"Val works very hard at

wrestling, but he puts just as much time and effort into his family and his academics as he does wrestling," Woochuk said. "He has an incredible work ethic and attitude that the younger wrestlers on the team really look up to. He's definitely a well-rounded young man."

Gui's hunger to excel on the wrestling mat is matched by his academic ambitions. He currently holds a 3.9 gradepoint average even though he takes several advanced placement classes.

"The most challenging class I have right now is probably my advanced placement U.S history class," Gui said. "But that's also my favorite class. I love history.

Gui, who competes for the Salem cross country team in the fall, is a regular volunteer at the Romanian Orthodox Church in Detroit. On

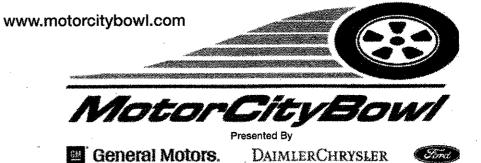
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# Whalers reach .500 mark with 2 wins

The Plymouth Whalers hit the Christmas break at the .500 mark - 14-14-4-2 - after winning two out of three games on the road Dec. 17-19. The Whalers are now in second place in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division, just two points behind the pace-setting Sault Greyhounds.

On Sunday, the Whalers scored twice in the first 55 seconds of the game to take an early 2-0 lead and never look back on the way to a 6-3 victory. The six-goal output was the team's largest this season.

Plymouth led 3-2 at the end of the opening period and 5-2 after 40 minutes in a game played before 2,943 fans at the Oshawa Civic Auditorium.

John Vigilante led the Whalers' attack with two goals and an assist. He now has 11 goals this season. John Armstrong and John Mitchell both tallied a goal and two assists each. Mike Knight (three assists) Andrew Fournier (one goal) and James Neal (one goal) all played well offensively for the winners.

Rookie net-minder Justin Garay earned the win in goal for the Whalers, stopping 32 of 35 shots. Mike Kavanaugh, Brett Trudell and Matt Piva scored for

Mitchell's three-point night

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On Saturday, The Whalers edged Belleville, 2-1, before 2,751 at the Yardmen Arena in Belleville. Dan Collins and Mike Knight scored goals for the Whalers, who were bolstered by the strong goal-keeping of Ryan

Nie stopped 30 of 31 Belleville shots to earn his 13th victory of the season. Nie's bid for his first shutout of the season was ruined at 1:03 of the third period on a goal by Belleville's Matt Belesky.

In the final minute of play and Belleville with an extra attacker on the ice after pulling goalie Kevin Lalande, Nie made a point-blank stop on Bulls' veteran Evan Brophey to preserve the victory.

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# Christmas Eve 2000 changed everything for Detroit Lions

"was the night before Christmas, back in the year double zero ... Not a creature was stirring, red no Lion was a hero.

🧀 es, it's another lame attempt to replace the words to Clement C. Moore's traditional poem just Diget a point across on our pro tootball team. Everyone shreds ment timeless ditty by creating t' vir own rhymes.

That ode to St. Nick should only be replicated with tidings of joy and good cheer. The last thur years have been far from and for the Detroit Lions.

Hard to believe it's been four A tars to the week that on a



Wilson

tunes of an entire sports franchise changed on one field goal. Paul Edinger, a Michigan State alum no less, booted a

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Christmas

Eve, the for-

52-yarder, giving the Chicago Bears a 23-20 victory at the Pontiac Silverdome.

It pushed the Lions out of the playoffs, finished the head coaching career of Gary Moeller and began possibly the

worst era in Lions football. Talk about settling in for a long winter's nap!

"Gary Moeller is our head coach; he has carte blanche with what he wants to do with our football team," Lions owner William Clay Ford said when he tabbed the former Michigan Wolverine coach to replace Bobby Ross in November 2000.

Carte blanche lasted exactly seven games. Moeller went 4-3, but losing to the Bears on that Edinger field goal changed everything. The stockings weren't the only thing hung that Christmas Eve. Matt Millen was brought in as

the new team president and Mo was shown the door.

Four years and 47 losses later, the Chicago Bears are back in town this week. The Silverdome is now the world's largest Monster Truck venue and Garv Moeller was three coaches ago. The Lions have only been able to squeak out 15 wins in 62 tries.

Makes you long for the days of "carte blanche."

"It's been a tough road, no doubt," said Lions coach Steve Mariucci, who can only be blamed for 20 of those losses. Marty Mornhinweg gets the other 27.

"We still believe we are tak-

ing positive steps here to make this team a contender again," Mariucci added.

He's not laughing over his first two years as Lions head coach. Mariucci's belly isn't exactly jiggling like a bowl full of jelly. He certainly did not expect just one win since a 4-2 start this season with only two

games remaining. "There's no question it's mind-boggling that we have not been able to take advantage of some big opportunities," injured star kick returner Eddie Drummond said.

Opportunity lost. Story of the Detroit Lions. All those memories come flying in like a ride on Santa's sleigh with the Bears coming Sunday to Detroit. Paul Edinger is still their field-goal kicker and their record is identical to the Lions' 5-9.

It would seem that the Lions are a little better off. Kevin Jones is now just 62 yards away from 1,000 and Joey Harrington is better than any quarterback the Bears can trot

out there. Both teams are just playing now to finish the season. Come Jan. 3, the focus will be on the NFL draft. For the 47th straight year, there will be no champi-

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#### WILSON

FROM PAGE C4

onship in Detroit. The Bears are not much better. They have only one title in the past 41 years. It may have been 19 years ago, but at least Chicago has been to a Super Bowl.

We know the fans here are tired of waiting. Shoot, we're all tired of waiting," said Kelvin Pritchett. He is the longesttenured Lion, having played here since 1991.

"It's very frustrating, but what can you do except to keep working hard trying to improve?" added kicker Jason Hanson, who came to town a year after Pritchett.

If only Hanson had kicked that field goal instead of Edinger on Christmas Eve 2000, how different things may have been. Alas, only

visions of sugarplums will keep dancing in their heads.

Mariucci will try to finish this season strong. Losing last week to the Vikings on a botched extra-point snap didn't exactly make for a holly jolly Christmas. He has the Bears and Titans and that's it. Year No. 2 of his regime will be in the books. Winning both would avoid the fourth straight

season of double-digit losses. "That's one thing about the NFL, there is always something to play for," Mariucci said with a wink.

But I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight, Merry Christmas to all ... And to all, a good night.

Mark Wilson is host of the Steve Mariucci Show Mondays on WKRK-FM (97.1). He's a former Associated Press and Michigan Association of Broadcasters Michigan Sportscaster of the Year. He lives in West Bloomfield.



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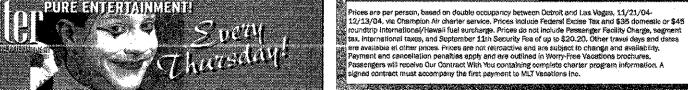
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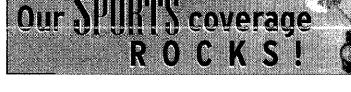
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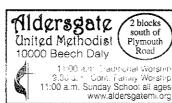
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**MISSOURI SYNOD** 25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 13-532-2266 REDFORD TWP. Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Sunday School

9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery Provided

The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pasto

#### Risen Christ Lutheran

46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 Mile West of Sheldon (734) 453-5252

8:15 & 10:45 a,m, Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Christmas Eve Worship 4:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. All are Welcome Come as you are!

Sunday Worship

#### SALEM **LUTHERAN CHURCH** 32430 Ann Arbor Trail . Westland, MI

734 422-5550 Sunday Bible Study ..... Rev. David W, Zeuschner, Pastor

#### **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN** CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290

Jill Hegdal, Pastor 9:00 a.m. Sunday School (ali ages) 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Avail.) http://www.timothylivonia.com

Evangelical Lutheran Church

(734) 427-1414 • 30650 6 Mile Rd., Liv

#### **LUTHERAN CHURCH** FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

st. paul's ev. Lutheran church & school 17810 Farmington Road Livonia • (734) 261-1360

Sunday Worship Services 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Pastor James Hoff Pastor Eric Steinbrenner



#### Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m. Christian School Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade For more information call 313-937-2233

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School

Bik. N. of Ford Rd., Westland Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M. Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M. Monday Evening Service 7:00 P.M. Kurt E. Lambart, Pastor

lichard Schumacher, Principal/Youth Director

#### Grace Lutheran Church Rev. Kirk D. Miller 16001 Warren Road-lust west of Canton Cent Sunday Worship at 9:30 am Sunday School at 10:45 am

734-414-7422 Our mission at Grace Lutheran is to make, teach and send out disciples who share Christ with all people.

**EVANGELICAL** 

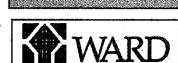
## FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

COVENANT

(248) 661-9191

Sunday Worship and Children's Church 9:15 a.m. Contemporary 11:00 a.m. Traditional Child Care provided for all services Youth Groups . Adult Small Groups

**EVANGELICAL** PRESBYTERIAN



40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor Traditional Worship and

Sunday School 8:00, 10:15, 11:30 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:05 A.M. Nursery Provided During All

Evening Service • 7:00 P.M. Services Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WMUZ 560 AM

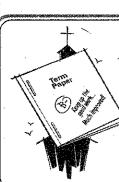
Morning Worship Services



In addition to our weekly Worship Directory, the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers publishes a traditional holiday directory before Christmas. If you are interested, please

call 734-953-2153 for more information.

Offering constructive criticism to others can be beneficial, but only if the other person is receptive to our



#### It's Easy To Criticize...

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

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

OE08283218

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150\ The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

#### DECEMBER

#### **Christmas Eve services**

5 p.m. Family Service, 8 p.m. Service of Holy Communion, 10:30 p.m. Choral and Instrumental Christmas Music. 11 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service of Lessons and carols, Friday, Dec. 24, and 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 26, no education hour at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 474-

#### All Generations celebration

Christmas Vigil Mass 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 24, Midnight Mass begins at 11:30 p.m. with musical prelude, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. All are welcome. For more information, call (734) 425-5950. Christmas services

#### 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, and 10 a.m. on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 1343 Penniman, Plymouth. For

more information, call (734) 453-3393. Family friendly service 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 24, at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 620 Romeo Road, Rochester. The candlelight

servé features glow sticks for chil-

dren, candles for adults. Call (248)

#### 651-9361 for more information. Christmas Eve services

For families 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 24, followed by Candlelight Service at 11 p.m. at First Congregational Church, Wayne Road, between east and westbound Michigan Avenue, Wayne. Call

#### (734) 729-7550. Holy Eucharist services

Festive Christmas Eve service with guest organist Joan Haggard 6 p.m. Dec. 24, and Christmas Day Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. Dec. 25, at The Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083

#### Newburgh, Livonia. Christmas Eve services

Candlelight services 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 24, at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt. Call (734) 421-7620.

#### Festival Services

5 p.m. Family Service, and 10 p.m. Choir Concert and Candlelight Festival Eucharist Friday, Dec. 24; 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist and 10 a.m. Lessons and Carols Sunday, Dec. 26, and 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist and 10 a.m. Chalking the Door Service Epiphany Feast, Saturday, Jan. 1, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Rd, Belleville, Call (734) 699-3361

#### Christmas dinner

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with caroling 2-3 p.m. followed by a meeting of recovery groups 3-5 p.m. at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster. For more information, call (734) 421-1760.

#### Saint Dunstan dinner

There is no reason to spend Christmas alone no matter which community you live in. Saint Dunstan Catholic Church in Garden City is fixing all of the trimmings for a dinner for anyone who is alone or without somewhere to go 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 25 (dinner served at 1:30 p.m.) There is no charge but reservations are required.

For more information or to make reservations, call Mary or John at (734) 425-3282. Saint Dunstan Catholic Church is located at 1616 Belton, Garden City.

#### UPCOMING

#### Blood Drive

8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 West 11 Mile. Farmington Hills. No appointment necessary. For more information, call (248) 476-8860.

#### Catholic Church update

Were you once Catholic? Beginning Monday evening Jan. 11 for six weeks St. Mary's of the Hills Parish will host sessions entitled While You Were Away, Join the discussion of what's happened in the Catholic Church as it relates to Mass, Sacraments and beliefs/practices. For more information or to register, call Jan Hall at

#### (248) 853-5390, Ext. 123. **Birmingham First Concert Series**

Presents Everyone Dance, a varied program of music based on dance with concert organist Tom Trenney and Friends 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14, in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, 1669 West Maple, between Cranbrook and Southfield roads. A meet the artists reception follows the program. No charge but a freewill offering will be collected to benefit future events in the concert series. For more information, call Trenney at (248) 644-2040, Ext. 136.

#### ONGOING

#### Aerobic class

Trinity Church of the Brethren, 27350 W. Chicago at Inkster, is offering a Women's Low Impact Aerobic Class to the community every Monday and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. To participate in this costfree, 30-minute class, wear comfortable exercise attire (floor mats optional). Join us as we exercise for JOY, For more information, call the

#### church office (313) 937-1199. **Worship services**

All are welcome to attend worship services at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. every Sunday. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

#### Community Bible study

Studying the Book of Proverbs, breakfast 7 a.m. or Bible study 8-9 a.m. at the American Table, Eight Mile, Farmington, Come when you can. leave when you must. For more information, call (248) 924-2779.

#### Contemporary service

New informal service in a casual environment 6 p.m. Sunday, at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford. Fellowship hour after services including 10 a.m. traditional. Call (734) 421-7620.

#### **Bible Study for Parents**

For Parents with Young Children 6 p.m. Sundays at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Road, four miles south of Michigan Avenue, Belleville, Child care available, Call

#### (734) 699-3361. Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday worship 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., Bible studies Sundays at 8:50 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., at the church 11575 Belleville Road, 4 miles south of Michigan Ave.; Belleviile, Call (734) 699-3361

#### Orthodoxy 101

Explore issues of faith and morals in a course entitled "Orthodoxy 101," It meets weekly 7 p.m. Wednesdays at Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church. 36075 W. Seven Mile Road, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. The course is open to the public, and there is no cost involved. The Rev. Michael Matsko will be the instructor and will lead the discussion. Please invite your friends and as Philip told Nathaniel, "Come and see." If you have any additional questions, call Beth at (248) 348-8631.

#### Support group

Provides spiritual, social and educational support for divorced and separated Catholic men and women 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month, at St. Andrew's Parish Center, 1400 Englewood, Rochester, For information, call (248) 652-9173 or (248) 652-3860

#### Grief support programs At Hope Lutheran Church, 3640

Madison at Carlysle, Dearborn. Families are encouraged to attend together as age-specific groups are offered within one convenient location. All are welcome. Six week series for ages 13-17 began 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21. Adult six week series began 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21. To register, call Howe-Peterson Funeral Home (313) 561-6163.

#### Grief workshop

Began Sept. 22 and continues 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, between Merriman and Middlebelt, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038.

**Bible studies** Birmingham Bible Institute began its fall semester Sept. 21 with classes on 12 Tuesday evenings through Dec. 7. 22-courses will be taught, at Grace Baptist Church, 280 East Lincoln, Birmingham. Students receive certificates for courses successfully completed. For information, call (248) 646-2000.

#### New contemporary service

Began 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, new contemporary service will be held the last Sunday of the month, at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia. A group of church members present a short drama on a theme relevant to the season, a church event, or current newsworthy situation. Sept. 26 drama is a look into the problem of being overloaded with requests for our time and abilities. For more information, call (734) 422-0494.

#### Prayer group

Join us 7 p.m. Thursdays for music, singing, prayer, and friendship, at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Come to the back of the church, enter entrance No. 2. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley (734) 464-3656, or Geri (734) 464-8906.

#### Stronger Women

Walking group, jogging, aerobic exercise, crafts, speakers, coffee social, fun and fellowship continues 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursdays through Nov. 18, at Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile, Farmington Hills. Registration fee \$25, walk-ins \$5. Baby-sitting \$2 per child, \$4 per family per session. For more information, call (248) 661-

#### Women of the Word

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study, Women of the Word, studies the Book of Luke, entitled Grace Under Pressure 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Childcare available for children through age 5. For more information, call (248) 348-

#### Worship schedule

Resumed regular Sunday worship schedule beginning Sept. 12, at Antioch Evangelical Lutheran Church, 33360 W. 13 Mile at Farmington Road. Farmington Hills. Services will be held at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. with Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. A contemporary service called Praise Forth is held on the fourth Sunday of each month, For information, call (248) 626-

#### New modern-style worship

Come be part of something big! Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church (14175) Farmington Rd., Livonia, Just north of I-96) began a new MODERN-style worship service on Sunday, Sept. 12. This multi-media service will be informal, using modern and praise music, led by vocalists and various instruments. Dramas, led by the members, will often be part of this service. This service will be held at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday, between the traditional services at 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday School, youth, and adult Bible classes will also be offered at 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. each Sunday. For information, call Linda Hollman, Outreach director, at (734) 522-6830.

#### New service times

9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. began Sept. 12 for the fall and winter months, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860.

#### **New Sunday School**

Beginning at Heart of the Hills Church, 5085 Orion Road, Rochester, for members of the community who want to increase their biblical knowledge using materials from Scripture Press. The non-denominational program is open to all ages. No charge for the

classes taking place 9:30-10:15 a.m. every Sunday. Service follows at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call (248)

#### **Adat Shalom**

Synagogue Services are 6 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekdays, and 8:30 a.m. Sunday, at Adat Shalom Synagogue. 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100.

#### Welcome to the church Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church? Are you already baptized Catholic and have been away from the church? Now is the time to inquire about coming into the church or returning to the community of believers. Call Our Lady of Sorrows at (248) 615-5574 for more information.

Self help groups Local church provides space for self help groups. Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step program for eating disorders, meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Alcoholics Anonymous, a 12-step program for alcohol related problems, meets 8 p.m. Wednesdays and 7 p.m. Saturdays. Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step program for co-dependency and destructive relationship problems, meets 7:30 p.m. Mondays, at First Baptist Church, 300 Willits, one block north of Maple, one block west of Old Woodward. Parking adjacent to church's north

#### Addiction No More

entrance.

Do you have any addictive behavior problems - drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling, etc.? Come to the meeting 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday in Room 202 at Detroit World Outreach, 23800 West Chicago, Redford. For more information, call (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244. **Detroit World Outreach** 

Non-denominational church with cutting edge drama productions, contemporary-energized music, hi-tech video and lighting, relevant life-changing messages, ministries for all ages; services times are 8 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday (Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m., junior high serves for grades 6 to 8 at 10:45 a.m.), Wednesday services 8:45 a.m. and 7

p.m. (Family Night), and service for ages 18 to 28 Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., at 23800 West Chicago, Redford. Call (313) 255-2222 or visit www.wayofvictory.com.

#### **Wednesday Evening Prayer**

7 p.m. Wednesday. This is not a structured service but an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 West 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860.

#### Single Point Lighthouse Cafe

Single and feeling alone? Come join us. Single Point Ministries invites you to join more than 550 single adults 11:30 a.m. Sundays in Knox Hall for fellowship and encouragement. The Rev. Paul Clough delivers messages to help equip you to maximize your singleness and relationship with God. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation and Christ are always present. Single Point Ministries has a program and activity for every age group and life situation. For more information or to receive a newsletter, call (248) 374-5920.

#### Single Point Walking Club

Meets 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday in the Single Point office at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. All fitness levels welcome. Single Point Ministries (ages 30 and up) offers 45 ministries for singles including Men's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship, and PACS People Active in Christian Study) Bible study group. Call (248) 374-5920.

Every Wednesday night Faith Bible Church offers an AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade at Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Drop your children off or stay for a Bible study offered to parents 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call (248) 426-0096.

#### Scrapbook and cropping

If you're interested in learning about scrapbook and cropping, Faith Bible Church is offering a place to put it all together 3-10 p.m. the second Friday of the month, at 23414 Orchard Lake

Road, Farmington Hills. A Creative Moment consultant will be available: to everyone from diehard scrapbookers to novices wanting to learn more about it. For more information, call (248) 426-0096.

#### Sunday Worship service

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church Congregational Praise Team leads the 11 a.m. Sunday Worship Service featuring contemporary style liturgy and music, 1150 Walton, Rochester Hills. No. charge. For more information, call (248) 651-6550.

#### Worship service

Plymouth Baptist Church has added a second Sunday worship celebration. The new service times are 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Both services feature contemporary and traditional worship music and in-depth Bible teaching. Full nursery and preschool programs are also provided for both services. The church is at 42021 Ann Arbor Trail; west of Haggerty. For more information, call (734) 453-5534.

#### Contemporary worship service

A contemporary worship service is scheduled at 11:30 a.m. the fourth Sunday of the month at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia, For more information, call (734) 422-6038.

#### Worship services

8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. For infor-

#### mation, call (734) 422-1470. Ablaze Young Adult Ministries

Presented by Detroit World Outreach 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday. Using cutting edge music, high-tech video and lighting, drama, multi-media, and a relevant message that can change lives. Ablaze is giving young adults ages 18 to 28 the opportunity to meet friends and hang out with people their age. Evening includes a live band, pool tables, ping pong, basketball, and the Motown Cafe in the Freedom Center on the Detroit World Outreach cam-pus, 23800 W. Chicago near Telegraph. Redford. For more information, call (313) 794-0684 or visit the Web site at www.motownministries.org.



# Hassages Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355  **fax:** 734-953-2232 e-mail: OEObits@oe.homecomm.net



Of Lansing, MI, age 87, passed away in the early hours of Wednesday, December 15, in Lansing, with her son and daughter at her side. She was born on November 26, 1917 to John and Sophie Maziarsky, in Wallington, NJ. She trained as a Registered Nurse, working as an operating room super-visor, until she met the love of her life, the late William F. Bresler, in 1953. She retired to raise a family, then went back to nursing in 1970. She retired again, and stopped dying her hair when her first grandchild was born in 1982. Lil was an avid gardener, growing, canning, and freezing almost all of the vegetables for her family's table. She baked her family's bread weekly. Though a friend to birds, Lil carried on a continual war against the chipmunks in her back-yard, earning the nickname of "The Lilinator". Surviving are her son William J. (Susan) Bresler, of Livonia, daughter Beth (Ernest) Fife, of Grand Ledge; and grandchildren Anne and Robert Bresler, and Jonathan and Amy Fife. A memorial service was held Saturday, December 18 at the Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, in East Lansing. The family suggests memorial contributions to Sparrow

## ROBERT E.

December 16, 2004. Age 76. Born in Flint, MI, longtime resident of Plymouth. Beloved husband of M.J. Beloved father of Robert, Tom, (Bonnie) and Robin De Yonker; beloved grandfather of Alicia and Rocky, Brother of Keith (Toni), and the late Mickey. Preceded in death by his parents James and Esther (Kuntz) Willette. Mr. Willette served in the U.S. Marines during 1946-1947. Private cremation services arranged by Vermuelen Funeral Home-Plymouth. www.Vermeulenfuneralhome.com

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Observer & Eccentric Call 1-800-579-7355

OBITUARY POLICY The first five lines of an obituary are published at no irional lines wi be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems máy be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

#### Deadlines: Friday 5 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday Objuacies received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available fissue.

e-mail your obit to ceobits@ce.hemecomm.net Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 For more information call: Charolette Wilson

734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

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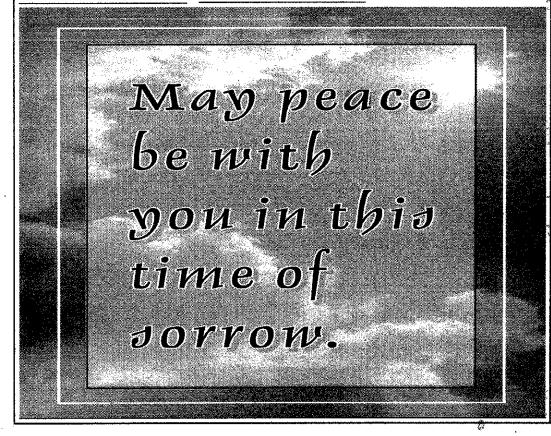


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## **Sports Roundup**

#### **LEARN TO SKATE**

The winter session of the Novi Ice Arena's Learn to Skate program will run from Jan. 4 through Feb. 19, 2005. Classes are offered in a variety of times on Tuesdays through Saturdays. Skate rental is avail-

In addition, Learn to Skate students who are registered will receive free admission to open skating at the Novi Ice Arena throughout the sevenweek session.

The following classes will be offered: beginning tots; Snowplow Sam 1-3; basic 1-8; freestyle 1-2; adult 1-4; and home school.

Open registration for Learn to Skate begins Dec. 5. For more information, call the Novi Ice Arena at (248) 347-1010 or visit its Web site at www.noviicearena.com.

#### **SOCCER SIGN-UP**

The Canton Soccer Club is accepting registrations for spring soccer for players 5 through 19 years of age (as of March 1). Registration forms are available online at www.cantonsoccerclub.com or at the club office, which is located at: High Velocity Sports, 46245 Michigan Ave., Canton.

For more information, call (734) 480-7046.

#### **ULTIMATE FISHING**

The four-day Ultimate Fishing Show, which will feature hundreds of exhibits for outdoor-sports enthusiasts, will be held Jan. 13-16 at the Novi Expo Center.

The show will include several direct-factory exhibits that will be staffed with designers, technicians and other manufacturers' experts as well as specialty bait venders from across the

"It's a pure fishing show," said Adam Starr, of ShowSpan Inc. "Detroit sportsmen have long yearned for such a show. For us and for them, this is an all-new event at a new venue. That's why we're calling it the Ulamate Fishue, She

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#### JUNIOR GOLF TOUR

scholarships.

Scholarship opportunities are available for local students between the ages of 12 and 18 who participate in the third season of the Top 50 Jr. Tour, which is presented by the Professional Golfers Association Michigan Section. The program is a regional golf tour offering players tournament experience plus the opportunity to earn college

Boys and girls are eligible for tour membership. Players do not have to be members of their school teams to partici-

The tour consists of 10 qualifying rounds and 10 tournament rounds, and is held on local private and public cours-

"The top 40 qualifiers at each qualifying round play in the tournament round for free," said tour director Dan Thomas. "The qualifying field for each tournament is limited to 150 players. Additionally, the top 10 finishers in each week's tournament are exempt into the following week's tournament and will play for free. So a total of 50 players per week

are playing free golf." Scholarship awards are offered based on rules of golf exams, topical essays, sportsmanship and community service. Scholarship awards can be increased as a student's gradepoint average increases.

Play begins on June 11 and runs through the season-ending championship tournament on Aug. 8. The full schedule is posted on the tour's Web site at www.Top50jrTour.com. Interested parents and players should contact the tour at (248) 321-000 or visit the tour Web site for a membership application.

The tour is presented by the PGA Michigan Section and the National Golf Scholarship Association (NGSA).

#### **ACADEMY OPENS**

Former Detroit Lion Frank Gallagher and major league pitching coach Jeff Jones recently opened the Bullpen Baseball/Softball Academy in Farmington. The 12,000square-foot facility is equipped with six batting cages and three pitching tunnels.

Included on the Bullpen's staff are Tigers hitting coach Bruce Fields, current Detroit pitcher Nate Robertson and several local collegiate players.

For more information, see the Bullpen's Web site at www.bullpenbseball.com.

#### CARBO BASEBALL SCHOOL

The Bernie Carbo Pro Premier Baseball School will stage individual, small group and team skill session specific to conditioning, velocity improvement, power hitting and fielding.

Mark Rutherford, former avonia Churchill High, istern Michigan University d former Minor League ayer, will be the featured

For more information, call director Gordie Rutherford at +734) 421-4928.

#### SOFTBALL/BASEBALL LESSONS

Total Baseball, 30990 Wixom Road, will offer pitching, hitting, and fielding lessons for ages 6-18.

Lessons are by appointment only.

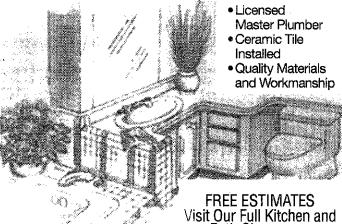
The cost is \$35 per half-hour or \$165 for five private lessons. Call 248-668-0166 or e-mail totalbballwixom@aol.com or visit www.total-baseball.com for more information.

Items for the Sports Roundup may be faxed to (734) 591-7279 or mailed to The Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI, 48150.









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45111 Park Ave. (M-59 & M-53, Utica Park Plaza) 586-997-6500 Lakeside Mall (Lower Ct. play area) TAYLOR 23495 Eureka Rd.

(Across from Southland Mail) 734-287-1770 1913 E. Big Beaver Rd.

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NOVI

Keely Schramm, editor (734) 953-2105 Fax: (734) 591-7279 kschramm@oe.homecomm.net

**Real Estate** Inquires

## Have a dispute? Get help resolving it

I have heard the terms "facilitator" and "mediator" being kicked around by our association attorney. Can you describe what that means?

A facilitator or mediator is someone who is trained to attempt to resolve disputes between parties without rendering a decision or otherwise taking sides. A facilitator is trained to attempt to reach an accommodation between the parties whether or not the case is in litigation. Oakland County has trained facilitators to assist in dispute resolution and the Oakland County Circuit Court encourages the parties to litigation to pick from a list of certified facilitators who have gone through special training in the facilitation/mediation process.

I am upset with the way the association has been cutting our grass and won't fix my unit. I am planning on withholding my assessments to protest. Do you think that is a good idea?

Absolutely not. The Condominium Statute and, no doubt, your condominium documents provide that your disenchantment with the association's providing of services or management is not a basis to withhold assessments. While you may have a claim against the association for mismanagement, that should not result in you withholding your assessments which will only give the association the right to lien your unit and foreclose including the recoupment of attorney fees Make your protest to the board of directors and seek legal redress but continue to pay your assessments.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be con-

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# Women get things done with CREW-Detroit

BY KEELY SCHRAMM STAFF WRITER

Kim Lewandowski stomps her work boots as she walks in the building, apologizing for the mud. She's an environmental scientist for G2 Consulting Group of Troy and supervising the demolition process at the former Jacobson's Men's Store on the corner of Old Woodward and Willits in

downtown Birmingham. Working in a male-dominated field can be tough. Who do you talk to?

'Typically, commercial real estate is male-dominated," said Gail von Staden, an architect with Rossetti in Southfield.

That's the reason she and Lewandowski belong to the Detroit Chapter of Commercial Real Estate Women — CREW-Detroit.

Von Staden likes having a forum to meet women within the profession to seek out for information, resources and suggestions on how to handle a specific problem. "The caliber of the membership is exceptionally strong," she said. "You are for the most part dealing with decision-makers."

"The networking is great for me," Lewandowski said. "I like everyone so much, they're very helpful."

Founded in 1986, CREW-Detroit is one of the largest chapters of the CREW network, a professional organization of more than 5,700 commercial real estate women in the U.S. and Canada. CREW-Detroit has more than 125 members, women involved i every aspect of commercial real estate from accounting, architecture, law, sales/brokerage, appraisal, property/asset management, leasing and finance. Its goal is to advance the success of its members in commercial real estate. Men aren't excluded. The Detroit chapter doesn't have any male members, but men do attend

programs. Catherine Malicki, director of marketing for the DeMattia Group in Plymouth, is CREW-Detroit's newly elected secretary and communication's liai-

"We're promoting each other; you do what you can," she said. "You meet other women trying to make it in this field."

Newly elected president Joan Cleland is a longtime CREW-Detroit member and executive vice president for Acquest Realty Advisors, Inc. in Bloomfield Hills. She, like other members, enjoys seeing something come out of the ground - a project from start to development.

"One of the amazing things about our profession is things get built," von Staden said. "It's a collaborative effort of many people."

Bren Buckley, vice president for development of Bingham Farms-based developer Burton-Katzman Development Co., is the project manager for 325 N. Old Woodward - site



men's store is being replaced with a multi-use building that includes offices, retail and condos. Buckley is managing the project for Burton-Katzman Development Co.

of the former Jacobson's Men's Store, which is being redeveloped into a multi-use building with retail on the first floor, two office floors and 16 condos.

A lawyer with an MBA, Buckley joined CREW because she relocated to the area, didn't know many people and wanted to build some contacts in the industry.

As she looks forward to the new year, Cleland said CREW will continue to work to create and enhance networking opportunities for its members and offer quality programs. Empowering members in their prospective industries to effect change, and enhance leadership training, are also among Cleland's goals for the group.

Its Real Estate Excellence Awards banquet in September at Oakland Hills Country Club has become a sell-out event, and coveted award. The competition is open to new con-

struction and redevelopment projects. Each project must involve at least one firm with a CREW-Detroit member. This year, CREW-Detroit created an Excellence in Real Estate scholarship to support a woman entering the commercial real estate field.

CREW-Detroit also hosts an annual golf outing in June to benefit Alternatives for Girls, an organization that has helped thousands of homeless and at-risk girls and young women in Detroit.

Looking forward to 2005, **CREW-Detroit** members talked about the commercial real estate market in metro Detroit.

Malicki said things are picking up and this has been the best year ever for the DeMattia Group. "We have a backlog of projects," she said. "You hear about the down economy, but we're not feeling it."

Corporate downsizing has had an impact on leases. "There's a lot of strategic planning, but not implementation,"

von Staden said. "Corporations are looking at different ways to use their real estate more efficiently to improve the bottom line. Vacancy rates are high and companies are not likely to commit to long-term leases. They're extending leases."

One of the most exciting things to happen in the commercial real estate world is the redevelopment of downtowns to include more residential.

"Our goal is to drive pedestrians downtown to revitalize the areas," Cleland said. "Retail will follow. Birmingham and Royal Oak have become models for other cities. It's a great market for new as well as redevelopments. It's been steady to super busy."

To learn more about CREW-Detroit, visit www.crewdeMortgage



### Weighted averages can help with refinance decision

t's not always easy to determine whether using your home equity to pay off consumer debt is a smart call. You can determine if a debt consolidation refinance is right for you by calculating your effective interest rate for your entire debt load using a "weighted average."

Let's presume you have three categories of debt: a \$150,000 home mortgage at 6 percent interest, a \$30,000 personal loan at 9 percent interest, and \$20,000 of credit card debt at 18 percent interest. In this scenario, your mortgage represents 75 percent of your total debt, the personal loan is 15 percent of your load, and your credit cards are 10 percent of your total debt. These are the relative "weights" of your debts.

Simply multiply these "weights" by the respective interest rates, then add those numbers together. Hence, 75 percent of your mortgage's interest rate equals 4.5 percent; 15 percent of your personal loan's interest rate is 1.35 percent, and 10 percent of your credit card interest rate is 1.8 percent. Add these results to get a weighted interest rate of 7.65 percent.

Here, you are paying 7.65 percent to maintain your debt. If you can get a new "cash out" mortgage cheaper than that, a refinance probably makes sense for you, presuming you have enough home equity with which to

Your home equity is your home's value less what you owe against it. Determine your home's value either by noting the sales price (not asking price) of similar homes in your neighborhood, or by using this inflation factor technique.

Presuming a 6 percent annual rate of inflation, multiply your home's purchase price by a factor of 1.06 for as many years as you have owned it. If you bought five years ago for \$150,000, your home should be worth about \$200,000. (That is, 1.06 times itself five times, multiplied by your purchase price.)

This should give you an idea as to whether you can make a debt-consolidation refinance work for you. If you still need help, contact either me or another mortgage loan officer.

Timothy Phillips is a mortgage banker and newspaper columnist. You may access his Wealth Academy archives at www.PhillipsHQ.com or phone him toll-free at (866) 369-4516. Homebuyers should always consult a professional for guidance specific to their situation.

# CREW-Detroit elects new officers, board of directors members

CREW-Detroit recently elected its 2005 board of directors and officers: President/National Delegate: Joan

Cleland of Acquest Realty Advisors Inc. in Bloomfield Hills, for a one-year term President-Elect/National Delegate: Debra Osuch of Soils and Materials Engineers Inc. in Shelby Township, for

a one-year term Secretary and Communications Liaison: Catherine Malicki of DeMattia Group in Plymouth, for a two-year term

Treasurer and Sponsorship Liaison: Angie Kakos of Diversified Property Services in Southfield, a two-year term

Director and Real Estate Excellence Award Liaison: Gail von Staden of Rossetti in Southfield, a one-year term Director and Programs Liaison:

Joanne Sisson of Palmer Commercial Services in Warren, for a two-year term Director and Membership & Member Services Liaison: Catherine DeDecker

Trenton, for a two-year term Director and Community Outreach Liaison: Gloria Koster of Lake Shore Builders in Fenton, for a one-year term Director and Golf Outing Liaison:

Carol Ann Arvan of FX Architecture,

of Spalding DeDecker Associates Inc. in

Inc. LLC in Royal Oak, one-year term.

Annual dues are \$250 for regular members and \$1,500-plus for "affiliate members" - not eligible to join as regular members because their companies sell a product, rather than a service.

New members need an existing member to sponsor them, and can request one from the membership coordinator.

CREW-Detroit's next meeting, 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, at the Renaissance Center, Marriott in Detroit, offers an opportunity to learn about the impact of today's global econ-

omy on the major drivers of the U.S. economy. Mustafa Mohatarem, chief economist with General Motors Corp., is the keynote speaker. CREW-Detroit is one of the sponsors

with Corenet, Society for Marketing Professional Services. Registration and networking at 11 a.m. lunch served at noon, program begins at 12:20 p.m.

The cost is \$40 members, \$55 guests. Register by Friday, Dec. 31, contact Sandy Alford at Spalding DeDecker and Associates at salford@spaldingdedecker.com or call (248) 844-

#### **HOMES SOLD IN WAYNE COUNTY**

		`	44999 N Spring		\$233,000	18978 Glengarry		\$337,000	1143U GOIO AFDOF		2593,000	7539 BISON		288,000
	These are the Observer & Eccenti	ric-area resi-	45481 N Stonewood		\$208,000	15002 Golfview		\$268,000	46069 Green Valley	• •	\$335,000	29132 Brody	•	\$180,000
	dential real-estate closings recor	rded the	237 N Willard		\$215,000	10054 Hartel	~	\$150,000	9217 Hackberry		\$199,000	39190 Brookfield		\$157,000
	weeks of Aug. 9-13, at the Wayne (	County	6288 New England		\$220,000	18430 Heatheriea		\$485,000	42531 Lakeland		\$198,000	6827 Caribou		\$145,000
	Register of Deeds office.	2	3495 Niagara		\$320,000	29628 Hoy	*	\$179,000	41662 Lindsay	. •	\$235,000	31749 Conway		\$153,000
	Listed below are cities, addresses	s, and sales	43669 Oakbrook		\$238,000	19995 inkster		\$106,000	8911 Martowe	4	\$129,000	749 Denice		\$150,000
	prices.		7486 Oakmont		\$480,000	38010 Jamison		\$180,000	628 N Harvey		\$175,000	7165 Fox Chase		\$236,000
	0		1896 Preserve		\$220,000	36353 Joanne		\$168,000	40856 Newport	•	\$135,000	34254 Frances		\$160,000
	Canton		435 Robyn		\$223,000	18147 Levan		\$251,000	968 Penniman		\$565,000	1948 Golfview		\$239,000
	46688 Aarons	\$267,000	42254 Saratoga		\$190,000	15428 Loveland		\$150,000	42767 Phoenix		\$173,000	8131 Huntington		\$33,000
	47716 Adriana	\$100,000	43954 Southampton		\$214,000	14731 Lyons		\$255,000	51175 Plymouth Lake		\$565,000	7421 Manor		\$90,000
	43183 Barchester	\$219,000	1414 Tradition		\$513,000	14957 Melrose	_	\$155,000	11419 Russell		\$194,000	1932 N Walton		\$140,000
	48221 Central Park	\$448,000	1591 Tradition		\$468,000	31492 Merriwood	•	\$170,000	41063 Russett		\$204,000	30779 Nelson		\$266,000
	399 Cornell	\$239,000	48561 Warwick		\$458,000	31600 Myrna St		\$529,000	11054 Sandalwood	•	\$569,000	35745 Oakwood		\$85,000
	2205 Cranbrook	\$210,000	44224 Wiclif		\$235,000	28546 N Clements		\$146,000	432 Sunset	•	\$238,000	1530 Regene		\$145,000
	1368 Crowndale	\$440,000	980 Wildwood		\$235,000	34713 Northland		\$292,000	•	Redford		8470 Rickie		\$128,000
	1450 Delancy	\$430,000	6714 Woodmere		\$273,000	29823 Oakley		\$185,000	18666 Centralia		\$119,000	1144 S Carlson		\$118,000
	1611 E Lakeview	\$180,000		Garden City	•	29538 Oakview		\$197,000	20539 Centralia		\$100,000	1511 S Hubbard		\$124,000
	1584 Fairfax	\$220,000	28461 Donnelly		\$103,000	9000 Oxbow		\$153,000	18418 Delaware		\$145,000	32650 Sandra	•	\$161,000
	49706 Flushing	\$535,000	32544 Leona		\$153,000	19420 Parkville		\$202,000	26252 Ivanhoe		\$247,000	1596 Shoemaker		\$109,000
	7150 Fox Woods	\$290,000	30429 Marquette		\$į31,000	35223 Pembroke		\$390,000	26710 Joy		\$53,000	8183 St Johns		\$310,000
	44559 Heather	\$267,000	33241 Rossiyn		\$147,000.	32149 Pembroke	-	\$172,000	9991 Kinloch		\$138,000	2494 Stieber		\$70,000
e	44680 Heather	\$283,000	6745 Whitby		\$154,000	15569 Penn		\$290,000	15655 Kinloch		\$137,000	329 Surrey		\$168,000
	44690 Heather	\$291,000	,	Livonia		14653 Ronnie		\$208,000	15841 Lennane		\$123,000	38284 Timberland		\$268,000
	39938 Hillery	\$172,000	31001 Six Mile		\$296,000	16184 Southampton		\$248,000	15489 Leona		\$89,000	38285 Timberland		\$275,000
	4681 Hunters	\$152,000	35996 Ann Arbor		\$105,000	18855 Wayne		\$439,000	18405 Norborne		\$140,000	1754 Tulip		\$168,000
	47823 Jake	\$398,000	9828 Brookfield		\$164,000	15594 Westbrook		\$280,000	24263 Orangelawn		\$125,000	753 Van Lawn		\$142,000
	42489 Lilley Pointe	\$123,000	9091 Cavell		\$271,000	20100 Whitby		\$345,000	12811 Sioux		\$158,000	8565 Vista		\$315,000
	42551 Lilley Pointe	\$115,000	34037 Coventry		\$173,000	16722 Woodside		\$235,000	20511 Sumner		\$140,000	8585 Vista		\$264,000
	42753 Lilley Pointe	\$130,000	29537 Curtis		\$186,000		Plymouth		15884 Wakenden		\$113,000	37130 Vista		\$263,000
	1737 Manton	\$214,000	37375 Curtis		\$376,000	44567 Anne	•	\$223,000	12083 Woodbine		\$80,000	2310 W Miller		\$181,000
	2215 Marlowe	\$115,000	15050 Ellen		\$225,000	48441 Beaver Creek	1.5	\$406,000		Westland	•	7532 Woodview		\$87,000
	41838 Metaline	\$259,000	11756 Farmington		\$176,000	44562 Erik Pass		\$210,000		•		•		
	7855 N Sheidon	\$247,000			**									

#### There's more to adjustable rate mortgages than just lower rates.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 23, 2004

4.50% A.P.R. 6-Month Interest-Only LIBOR ARM

As interest rates begin to climb, our 6-Month Interest-Only LIBOR ARM offers several advantages. An adjustable rate mortgage typically starts with a lower rate, which combined with interest-only payments means lower monthly outlays during a set, interest-only period. It's just one of the many lending strategies and financing alternatives available through your Financial Consultant and the Smith Barney Homeloan Program at Citibank.

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APR was current as of 1/129/04. Rates are subject to change. An Interest-Only LIBOR loan is not for everyone. Your interest rate can increase and monthly payments can increase are when the Interest-Only LIBOR loan is not for everyone. Your interest rate can increase and monthly payments tan increase every one or six months, depending on the index you choose. Additionally, your monthly payments will generally increase when the Interest-only period ends because you will be repaying principal and interest over the remaining loan term. On a six-month LIBOR, if you prepay principal during the first ten years, your required monthly payment may include some principal until your next six month adjustment. The mortgage and home equity programs are not available in all states. All loans are made by Citibank FSB, Citibank, N.A., Citibank (West), FSB, or CitiMortgage, inc., equal housing lenders, and are subject to Citibank's Or Citibank's GA, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is a registered mortgage broker, INS Banking Department. In AZ, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Citibank FSB, Citibank, N.A., Citibank (West), FSB, and CitiMortgage, inc. are subsidiaries of Citigroup inc. Smith Barney is a division and registered service mark of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. in some subsidiaries of Citigroup inc. Smith Barney are not FSIC-insured, not bank-guaranteed and may fluctuate in value, including the loss of principal. A Smith Barney relationship does not have to be established or

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# Prized Upper Peninsula land shielded from development

BY JOHN FLESHER ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Towering boulders. Lake Superior waves crashing on beaches heaped with colorful agates. Shady paths winding past fragrant evergreen stands.

These are among the sensory delights of Hunter's Point, a narrow strip of land jutting into the lake at the northern tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula.

It has long been a prized hiking spot for local residents and tourists alike - and apparently will stay that way, courtesy of a spirited fund-raising campaign in tiny Copper Harbor and a state grant.

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund endorsed a \$560,000 appropriation to buy the 9.4-acre property, including 4,800 feet of shoreline. Meanwhile, local

leaders are about \$10,000 short of the \$195,000 in matching funds needed to com-

plete the deal. "It's a big relief," said Richard Powers, supervisor of Grant Township, which includes the village of Copper Harbor, home to 80 hardy yearround residents.

With \$1.9 million in government and private funds, a partnership will buy and preserve 1,103 acres along Bete Grise Bay, including 1.5 miles of Superior shoreline.

The undeveloped tract has a variety of grasses and coastal plain marshes that provide habitat for rare and declining bird species.

"With land increasingcost of shoreline continues to dramatically rise, we have little time left to save these last great places like Bete Gris," said Helen Taylor, direc-

tor of The Nature

Conservancy in Michigan.

Footpaths lead from mainland Copper Harbor to Hunter's Point, which forms the western end of a natural harbor shielding the village from the brunt of Lake Superior's

fierce gales. Development of a subdivision has jeopardized public access to the point, which was never in question during the many years it was owned by a subsidiary of International Paper Co.

Reaching the point is easy and quick, unlike many of the peninsula's other scenic spots.

Local folks developed a Web site and began seeking donations from near and far. They held garage and sporting events; they opened a lemonade

Jenn Stigers, 15, took in more than \$7,000 in donations while sitting

for 120 hours in an oversized chair outside her parents' restaurant.

Many people who regularly visit the area during tourist season sent donations and shared memories of rock hunting, bird watching and other activities on the point.

The Natural Resources Trust Fund board rejected the township's initial grant application a year

"It looked like this was a mountain we couldn't climb," Powers said. "But we stuck with it. Our presentation was much stronger this time."

The grant still needs legislative approval, which is expected next the purchase is expected to take place in mid-

For more information, visit www.hunterspoint.org.

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Clean and readyl Great start and price on this clean three bedroom, two bath home. Panially finished basement and two-car, oversized garage. Spacious patio area

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logs in family room fireplace. Close to shopping and

Gorgeous, Vaulted ceilings, First floor master, Palladium

windows overlooking golf course. Neutral décor, many upgrades. Hardwood floors, foyer, hall, kitchen, &

breakfast nook. Full basement & attached 2 car garage.

# Company helps people sell timeshares (not an easy task)

PRNewswire - Tens of thousands of owners of timeshare vacation resorts around the world have discovered something that the timeshare industry already knows – selling a timeshare is not easy. In cooperation with Empower Search, LLC, http://empowersearch.com/, Timeshares Quick Sale of Clearwater, Fla., is making

When a timeshare owner enlists Timeshares Quick Sale to get their timeshare in front of buyers through any of their 21 web sites, the timeshare owner will get a free Gift Certificate for the amount of their original purchase price of their timeshare.

If a timeshare owner paid \$10,000 for their timeshare, he or she will get a \$10,000 Gift



it easier for timeshare sellers.

including; refinished hardwood floors, 6 panel oak doors, remodeled kitchen & bath, sharp finished basement, 12x22 sun room w/ skylights, newer windows, furnace, C/A, roof, siding, +tons morel Walk to schools & park!

WALLED LAKE READY & WAITING! Updated 2 bedroom upper condo w/upper condo w/ private entry facing park-like setting. Large living room., master bedroom w/walk-in closet, kitchen w/ plenty of cabinets, attached garage & huge 20x12 porch. Updates include: windows & carpet. Close to walking paths around Walled Laket \$125,500 (L73Lak)

WIXOM. LET THE SUN SHINE in this great 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo w/loft/study that pedroom, 2 ball colide wild state of the color of the col occupancy! \$206,900 (L34Pin)

LIVONIA BETTER THAN CONDO LIVING! You have no maintenance fee to pay in this half-duplex plus a nicely finished basement & 2 1/2 car garage! This 2 bedroom home is located in a nice area on closed end street. Updates include: roof, kitchen floor, carpet & celling fan in hall. All for low price of \$129,900 (L19Sha)



REDFORD. Stop throwing your money away on rent! See this very nice & well maintained 3 on rent! See this very nice & well maintained 3 bedroom bungalow! Features an updated kitchen, newer roof, fenced corner lot, all in a nice neighborhood! Plus seller is offering \$3000 for a window allowance! This is truly a

NORTHVILLE ABSOLUTELY SPOTLESS & recently decorated 3 bedroom condol Fireplace in family room which overlooks a patio. Partially finished basement. Updates include: newer dishwasher, newer faucets, newly painted & carpet freshly cleaned. Located in a nice & quiet cui-de-sac, includes l year home warranty! \$157,000 (L28Win)

REDFORD ROOM TO ROAM! Over 2000 sq. ft. home in South Redford. Beautiful 4 or bedroom home w/hardwood floors, kitchen w. herilat cabinets, newer windows, kicrier w/ Merilat cabinets, newer windows, carpet, all new doors & updated baths w/granite countersl Close to schools & shopping! A Must Seef \$175,000 (L76Luc)

CANTON. ELEGANT & CHARMING new 3500 sq. ft. 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath colonial boasting expansive master suite w/walk-in closets, 2 story family room w/see-thru fireplace to large kitchen w/granite isle & dual access stairs, pristine hardwood floors, library, mud room, alarm system, 3 car attached garage, all on 1/2 acre site! \$532,900 (L27Oxf)



Certificate. The holder of the Gift Certificate simply goes on the Internet to a selected consumer catalog online company, orders up to \$10,000 worth of merchandise, and pays nothing but the shipping & handling cost.

One may order household items, jewelry, watches, toys, games, or hundreds of other items and pay nothing but the cost to get the merchandise to their homes, just in time for Christmas and the Holiday gift-giving season.

Timeshares Quick Sale is a family-owned business famous for getting timeshares resold. Pat Curtis, president of the company reminds sellers, "timeshare vacations require aggressive marketing. Timeshares are not conventional real estate. Our mission is to make the purchase of a timeshare in the resale market a very user-friendly experience for buyers and to help owners of timeshare vacations get their timeshare sold."

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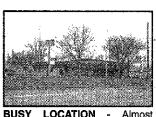




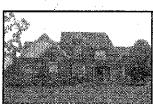
PULTE ST. JAMES MODEL Immaculate Canton Colonial with a welcoming 2-story foyer, neutral décor throughout and updated carpet. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths and a large deck to a private back



**POSSIBILITIES** Attention investors, don't miss out on the opportunity to own this one! 3 bedroom, one bath two story in a great area of Wayne. Home is being sold as is. Call for details. \$110,000 (832AS)



BUSY LOCATION - Almost 11,000 sq. ft. this property has very diverse possibilities. Split into addresses all w/separated aduresses all wisconding tribles so you can use it all or rent out a portion. Paved parking. Land contract terms available. \$725,000 (073MI)



EXCLUSIVE WOODS OF EDENDERRY - This splendid 800 sq ft Cape Cod has a luxurious 1st floor master, 3 more bedrooms upstairs, an uncompromising floor plan & design features you'll love. A must see! \$678,500 (199ST)



NATURE'S CALLING! Option to purchase this country colonial on 10 or 4.25 acres in a growing area w/excellent property appreciation.

A TRUE BEAUTY - Simply PEACEFUL SETTING - Situated purchase this country colonial on 2 or 4.25 acres in a growing area w/excellent property appreciation.

BEAUTY - Simply PEACEFUL SETTING - Situated custom built model Novi colonial with wooded views - Custom model home with over 10 or 4.25 acres in a growing area w/excellent property appreciation.

BEAUTY - Simply PEACEFUL SETTING - Situated Construction - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIGIOUS NORTH POINTE CHARMING CAPE COD - UNPARALLELED APPEAL - PRESTIG NATURE'S CALLING! Option to A TRUE BEAUTY - Simply PEACEFUL SETTING - Situated NEW Horse barn, pastures, and plenty basement w/rec room and study, Hardwood of room for horses or hobbies. fenced yard and 2.5 car garage. remodeled many updat \$449,500-659,000 (464DI)



backyard. Lovingly and meticulously cared for. List of updates available. Priced with you in mind. \$234,900 (414PR)



Over 1/2 acre wooded lot on a quiet cul-de-sac lies this 4 original hardwood floors, wet plaster walls & coved ceilings. Oversized garage \$165,900 (920BE)



FIRST TIME BUYERS! Great opportunity for home ownership in this brick ranch on a quiet street in Redford. Situated on a large lot with 3 bdrms, new windows, furnace, AC, electrical, doors & more \$104,900 (422OR)

BUILT IN 2003! Lovely 3 bedroom Cape Cod Condo with an right here in this brick ranch with 3 bedroom condo with 1.5 baths, bedroom, 1.5 bath condo w/living bedroom, 1.5 bath condo w/living onewer carpet, kitchen floor and main floor, 2 additional bdrms, on with oak cabinets, refinished one a partially whirlpool tub. Private patio, and deck overlooking the fountain. \$224,900 (250CA)

BUILT IN 2003! Lovely 3 bedroom Cape Cod Condo with an right here in this brick ranch with 3 bedroom condo with 1.5 baths, bedroom, 1.5 bath condo w/living newer carpet, kitchen floor and with oak cabinets, refinished paint. Master with balcony and finished lower level. All appliances whirlyool tub. Private patio, and the beach. Large bedrooms. \$140,000 (290NO)











yard. A great family home. \$289,500 (291PO)

COMPLETE PACKAGE - This

Livonia beauty has everything you need for peace of mind. New

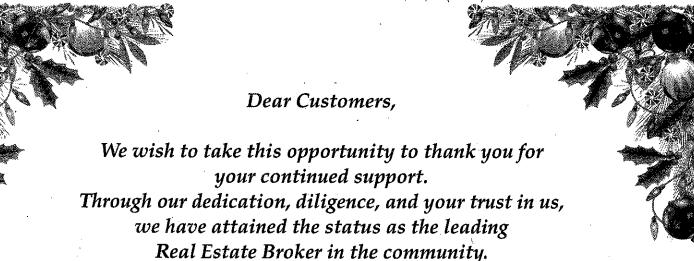
maple kitchen, new roof, carpet,

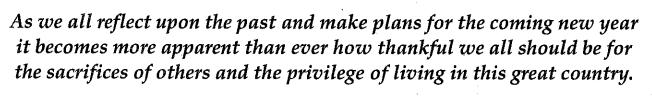
cement work, doors, fixtures and updated baths. 3 bedrooms, 1.5

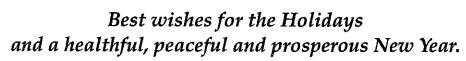
baths. Come take a look. \$212,900 (905HA)

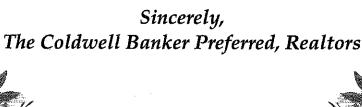
PRIVATE RETREAT - Custom

PRIVATE RETREAT - Custom built on a 2.82 acre lot with a beautiful view. Beautiful custom workmanship throughout, finished walkout w/ full bath, bar, and breezeway leading to the 1500 sq. ft. glass enclosed pool room. A rare beauty. \$1,199,000 (141SA)







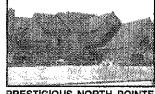






GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP - 3450 CANTON COLONIAL - Really

Hardwood floors, beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck & paver patio, formal living many beautifully lights, wide country porch, egress deck



ouilt ins and throughout.
basement & built custom Study, master. \$439,000 (140NO)



4000 sq.ft. 2 story great room w/floor to ceiling fireplace & arch

sunburst 3 tier double windows

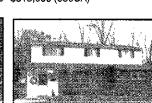
overlooking awesome backyard with deck & sunken hot tub.

CONTEMPORARY

window, finished basement, s – they don't come sprinklers much nicer than this! \$294,900 (141CO)



Beautiful 2-story with 4BR/2.5BA 2.5BA Exclusive Hillsborough sub. Pleasant brick colonial on a large old! Superb 2-story w/ formal areas, private lot. Formal dining, vac, volume ceilings, fireplace & hardwood floors & Berber carpet. and less than a year old! marble fireplace, sprinkler system, custom window treatments. Bright kitchen and great location cathedrailed master, addt'l. Luxury master w/glamour bath & with Northville schools make this electrical outlets and more. Over island kit. w/bay window. 2000 square feet. \$269,900 \$315,000 (059CA) (174EM)





- NATURE IS YOUR NEIGHBOR -

sub. Pleasant brick colonial on a large areas. private lot. Formal dining,

NEED A LOT OF ROOM? This NOVI'S OLDE ORCHARD gorgeous colonial offers 5 beds, 3 Desirable condo with 3 bedrooms full baths and over 2100 square and 1.5 baths. New laminate feet of living space. Lots of hardwood floors, carpeting, updates, cozy stone fireplace, appliances, white kitchen basement, garage and close to cabinetry, large patio, clubhouse, 2 baths, fireplace, common pool the elementary school. \$192,900 pool and more. Close to freeways and tennis. \$179,000 (960PL) and malls. \$141,500 (604OL)



POTTERY BARN PERFECT



GROUND FLOOR CONDO - FABULOUS FERNDALE - Close DEARBORN HEIGHTS RANCH - Ranch condo with an open floor to downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clean brick ranch that



fenced yard and many updates. nice, call for details. \$142,000 Awesome opportunity. \$189,900 (283FE)



WHY BUILD NEW? 3 bedroom

HORSE BARN & 4 ACRES - Are 1-3 bedrooms Hanch condo with all open how a plan how an updated kitchen wappliances. has been tastefully updated with pain home in losco. This carpeting, Plymouth now available for Formal living areas, 1st floor an oak kitchen, remodeled bath, basement w/rec. room, heated to kitchen immediate occupancy. 2 beds and bedrm. w/doorwall to deck and new windows, finished basement garage, appliances stay, barn to be the final sea common nool but tub. Finished basement, with a full kitchen and bath. Really equipped with water and electric. offered with this 3 bedroom. 3 Call for details. \$239,900 (651Rf)



Cute updated ranch with 3 beds, ranch with 2 beds and a 3rd in the 1.5 baths. Newer big ticket items lower level. Featuring a new HWH, allower level. Featuring a new HWH, allower level. Featuring a new HWH, allower level. Featuring and resh paint inside & out basement. This home needs a freplace. White kitchen which basement too! Pack your little TLC to make it special! appliances, finished basement, bags and get ready to move in on this great value. \$139,900 great area. \$87,500 (625AR)

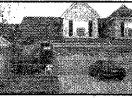
SUPER SHARP & UNIQUE - Multi level condo in Novi. Master w/ WIC Amenities galore in this colonial, wonderfully updated colonial, wall overlooking the living room w/mirrored wall overlooking the living room w/more fireplace w/marble surround, master w/jetted updated windows, plumbing, attached garage and a partially finished basement, tub – features you would normally electrical, carpet, furnace and accomplete to the vice it's price. \$164,900 (937CA)

(479CO)

SUBJECT BEILS & WHISTLES - Amenities galore in this colonial, wonderfully updated colonial, wall wonderfully updated windows, plumbing, attached garage and a partially finished basement, tub – features you would normally electrical, carpet, furnace and accomplete to the vice it's price. \$164,900 (937CA)

(479CO)

SUBJECT BEILS & WHISTLES - Amenities galore in this basement, the one with basement, mechanic's garage & sub. Boasting 3BR/2.5Ba, central wonderfully updated windows, plumbing, attached garage and a partially finished basement, tub – features you would normally electrical, carpet, furnace and accomplete to the vice it's price. \$164,900 (937CA) w/workshop.













central air, Waliside windows, with a maintainence-free brick neutral vinyl siding, seamless exterior, two full baths, fireplace in gutters & downspouts, new the great room, attached garage, dimensional roof shingles, fresh a library and an extra large lot. paint & home warranty. \$154,750 \$215,000 (478KI)

NORTHVILLE/NOVI

CANTON FARMINGTON (734) 392-6000 (248) 478-6022

**WESTLAND/GARDEN CITY** (734) 392-6000

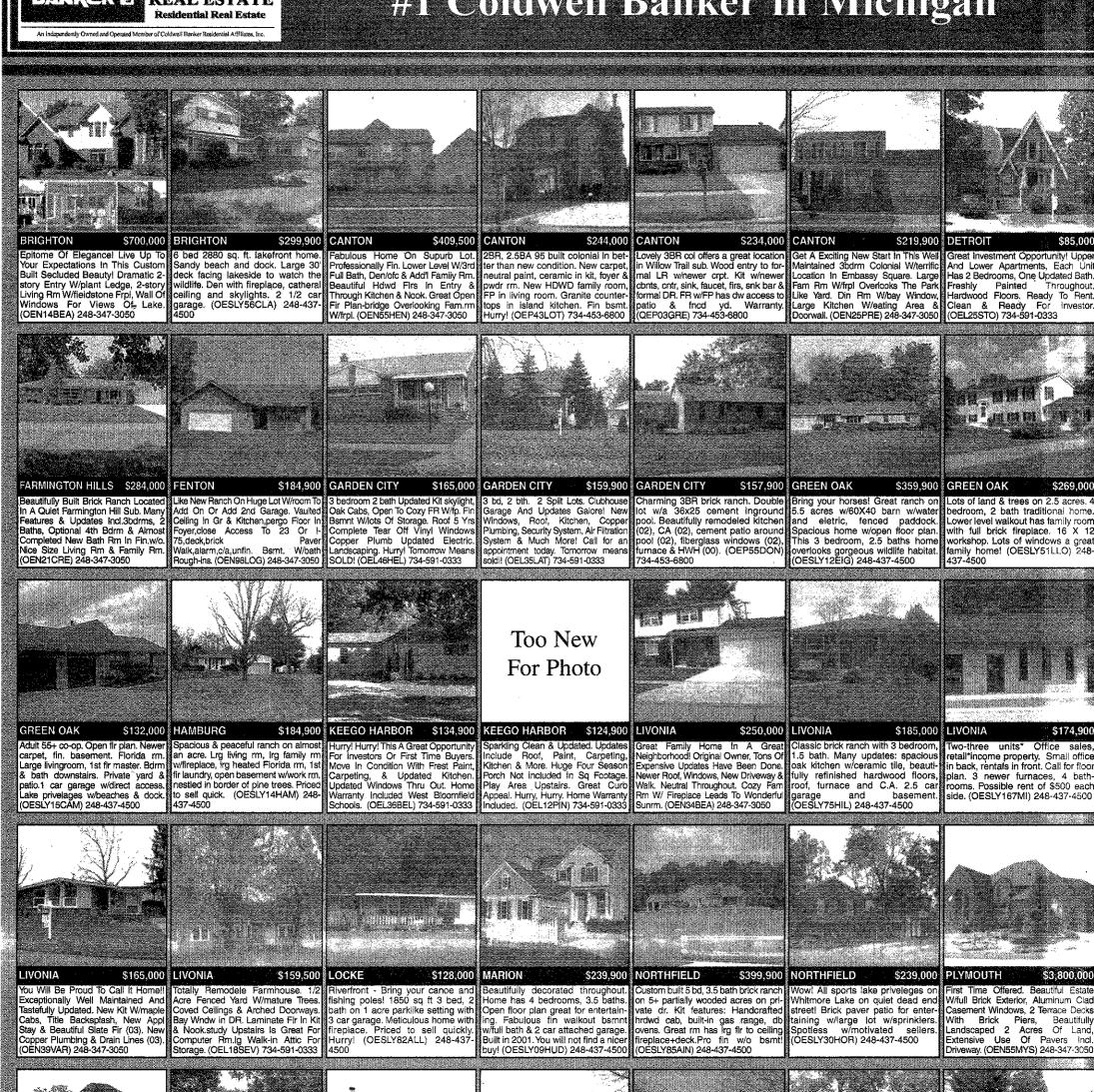
PLYMOUTH LIVONIA (734) 459-6000 (734) 425-6060



Painted

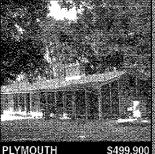


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**PLYMOUTH** colonial w/prof finished basement Gorgeous new kitchen w/Brockhaver custom maple cabinets, wine rack work station & built in appliances. 2 story foyer & great room. Must see! (OEP20BER) 734-453-6800



built & architecurally designed. This hidden treasure is located within 2 miles of Plymouth situated on 2 rolling & treed acres. Completely redone by its present owners with attention to detail! (OEP24TER) 734-453-6800



\$239,900

25 vrs! 2 unit duplex w/each unit hav ing 2 bedrooms, formal dining room & hardwood flooring. Newer furnaces roof, hot water heaters. Separately metered! Surprisingly spacious (OEP63ANN) 734-453-6800 metered

**PLYMOUTH** 



Desirable Hidden Heights Sub. Walking Distance To Miller Park. Natura Fireplace In Living Rm. Updated 1/2 Bath, Newer Windows, Beautiful Family Room W/gorgeous New Pergo Floor. (OEN16CHE) 248-347-3050



baths, neutral decor & open fir plan Datins, heutral decor & open in plan.
Refinished kit conts, Ig 1st fir Indry,
lots of storage & Ig BR cedar closets. GR w/FP overlooks great yard.
Oversized 2 car att gar. Corp exec.
(OEP20JOY) 734-453-6800



w/mature trees. Cute updated kitchen. Oversized family room Large master BR w/master bath. 1st dryer. Newer windows. Must seel (OEP49LAK) 734-453-6800



brick ranch, Newer win, roof, furnace CA & fabulous kit w/cherry cbnts. LL is fin w/main fir quality(34x20)w/bar area, full BA & glass block windows. HDWD flooring. Private bk yard (OEP35FIV) 734-453-6800

**PLYMOUTH** 



mpeccable condition w/neutral deco w/vaulted ceiling & updated ma ble FP surround feels spacious yet mstr BR. Newer roof, garbage disp & water heater. Lg fin bsmt w/full BA. (OEP25ANN) 734-453-6800



PLYMOUTH \$194,900 So Much Living Space And A Double Lot! Updates Galore. Mstr Bed + Bath C/A-front wndws -furπ-Sprinklers Bernnt Needs A Ceiling To Complete Rec. Rm. Nice 2 Tiered Deck. Ali Appliances Stay. This Is A Gem!!! (OEL20GIL) 734-591-0333



**PLYMOUTH** Spacious 3BR Old Village bungalow Updates inc: plumbing, roof & furnace (all 6-7 yrs old). New carpet to be installed t/o. Some newer windows Bsmt plumbed for lav, Lg rooms t/o Motivated seller! Walk to downtown (OEP27FAR) 734-453-6800



Historical Indian Village Inviting Enclosed Entryway Leading To A Beautiful Arched Wood Door With



Lovely Brick Bungalow- Lrg LR W Nat FP W/marble Hearth And Oak Mantel. HW- LR- DR- Mstr Bed- Carpet 2, 1st Bevel Glass. HW Firs, Brick FP With FI Br- Updated Baths- Mstr Br W 1/2
Pewabic Tile Coved Archways And Bath- Lrg DR- Newer Furn- Full
Windows Galorel Upper Level Is A Bsmnt- Most Applncs- Extra Large
Must See! (OEL88OSC) 734-591-0333 Lot. (OEL90LYN) 734-591-0333



3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, Remodeled Great Opportunity To Live In The Kit w/Oak Cabinters, appliances stay,Garage, Newer roof /complete Country! 2 Bdrm Colonial W/new Windows (99), Roof (00), Plumbing (01). New Carpet T/o, New + 90 Furnace, New C/a, All In "04. Newer Screen Drs. Blown-in Insulation Call Today, Tomorrow means SOLDI (OEN39SUM) 248-347-3050 (OEL13ROC) 734-591-0333



Gorgeous Inside!! Beautifully Updated 4 Bdrm, 2 Ba Colonial, Livonia Schools. Updates; Furn, C/A, Wndws, Cellings In 2 Story Foyer Wiskylight. Carpet, Entry Doors, Lrg. Bdrms Neutral Decor T/o. Finished Basement W/walk In Closets. Oak Kit W Hdwd W/french Door Backs To Woods. Firs Private Backyard Seller Offering Seller Is Motivated. (OEN70WIL) 248-Firs Private Backyard\*Seller Offering \$5,000 (OEL13JOY) 734-591-0333



Contemporary Bi-level In Millpointe Of Westland Is Priced To Sell. Vaulted 347-3050



Great Tri-level Near John Glenn High School, HW Thru Out . Updated Lrge Oak Kit, Huge FR W/ Oak Fi.Plumbed For 1/2 Bath. Furn & A/C 2 Yrs. Att 2 Car Gar, Private Yard W Deck, Newe Windows, All Appliances (OEL48CAN) 734-591-0333



Don't miss your chance! Clean, bright & neutral! Stunning 2BR condo w/gas fireplace & finished lower level for extra space! All this in the perfect location thats close to everything! (OEP19HUN) 734-453-



Modern Woodland Condo Located At Rear Of Beautiful & Well Maintained



Popular Deerwood Model In Trails Of Loon Lake On Private Cul-de-sac!



Excellent buy in the Courts of Highgate Gorgeous yard with many Development. Quiet Wooded Upper Hardwood In Foyer, Kitchen & Haff perennials backs to the commons Unit Wvaulted Ceilings & 2 Skylights Bath, 2-story Foyer, Deck, c/a,sprin- area with nature park and bike path Has A Perfect View Of Natures klers, sidewalks In Sub,light Oak in one of Wixom's nicest subs Wonders! Quality T/o, Anderson Cabinets In Kitchen, cofferred Ceiling priced to sell! (OESLY42BIS) 248-Windows. (OEN96SHO) 248-347-3050 In Nook (OEN89PIN) 248-347-3050 437-4500

If it's on the market, it's on our website...www.cbschweitzer.com

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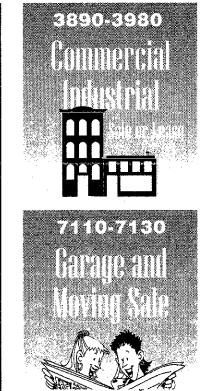




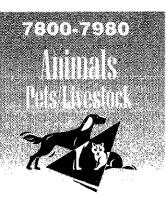
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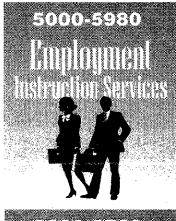


**/40/01029/6/2**:10











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brick ranch. Hardwood floors in living & dining

rooms. Updated kitchen. Bsmt. w/office & play room.

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ranch. Dining room, updat

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Newer windows. ( \$149,900. (AR890)

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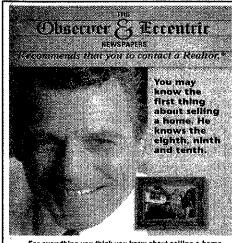
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Homes

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or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice. CASH We buy houses! We will pay cash! Any condition! (734) 354-8405 Remerica Hometown 44523 Ann Arbor Rd Plymouth

LOSING YOUR HOME? Can't Afford To Sell? I CAN HELP! Save Your Credit! CALL NOW!! Matt Briggs (734) 635-6943 HĚĽP-U-SELL

Open Houses 3030 PLYMOUTH OPEN SUN. 1-5 Gorgeous 2 bdrm 1.5 bath upper ranch condo. Open floor plan, skylights, fireplace. \$138,900. 248-767-2773

7120 N. Haggerty Rd. Canton

3047

#### Birmingham . **JUST LISTED!**

A HOME FOR YOU! Classic 50's brick ranch offers 3 bdrm & full bsmt. Remodeled kitchen w/oak cabinets & hardwood floors. Replacement win-dows. New roof. 2 car garage. \$224,900 (LI185)

CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 647-8888 www.century21today.com

BIRMINGHAM Executive moving, 3200 sq.ft.. new in 2000. 4 full baths, 4 bdrm. finished lower level. S. of Maple. N of Lincoln. \$850,000. Call (828) 200-9054 BRICK UPDATED COLONIAL 3 bed. \$445,000 www. salebyownerrealty.com/8381 248 988-8388

JUST LISTED!

3060

A HOME FOR YOU! Beautiful 5 bdrm, 3.5 bath colonial on nearly an acre Open floor plan. Updated kitchen opens to family room w/fireplace. Finished walk-out lower level opens to paver patio. Immediate occugarage. pancy. \$304,900 (BU116)



Century 21 Today 734-462-9800 www.century21today.com

BRIGHTON/HOWELL Builders close-out. Only 3 lots remain. Your plans or ours. Great location w/sewers, sidewalks - 1/2 acre lots, 1800 sq. ft. for only \$180,000 complete. LIBERTY HOMES

HOLIDAY SPECIAL 2500 Sq.ft. builders model. Below cost and in a very private lake development Brighton schools. Too many options to list.

Realtors welcome. \$375,000 J Edwards-Broker (734) 663-4886 NEW CONSTRUCTION - in exclusive sub. Great location on 1 acre. 4 bdrm, many upgrades. Reduced to

upgrades. \$399,500. 810-499-1713 (3080) Canton

ALMOST FLAWLESS Gorgeous 4 vear old luxurv condo. Over 2100 sq. ft. First floor master bedroom rooms & loft up. Finished rec room 800 sq ft with view out windows in basement Pond view from

love this one. \$319,900. Call Hai Romain Century 21 Hartford N. 734-525-9600

deck plus much more. Pool

& clubhouse. You're gonna

**JUST LISTED!** 3 BEDROOM COLONIAL 2227 sq.ft., Large family roor 18x17, A/C. Needs some TLC \$215,900



Showers of Great Deals in your Classifieds!



A HOME FOR YOU! bdrm contemporary v/open floor plan & vaulted cellinas. Family room n/fireplace. Finished bsmt. Wrap-around deck. 2 car attached garage. Newer windows. \$210,000



SEE TO BELIEVE! Clean & neutral 2 bdrm. path condo w finished bsmit Home faces courtvard, large Many updates & al appliances stay. FHA/VA terms. \$128,000 terms. \$128,000 CENTURY 21 PREMIER

(734) 453-4300 3120 Detroit

NOW'S YOUR CHANCE To woo this gorgeous 3 bedroom, 2 bath bungalow. Features include: windows throughout, formal dining room and newer carpet. Full finished basement with full bath, glass block windows and hot water heater. 1.5 car garage with new door, privacy

**Century 21 Hartford North** 734-525-9600

Farmington Hills 3145

JUST LISTED!

A HOME FOR YOU! Lovelv 1999 built, 3 bdrm 1400 sq. ft. colonial w/open floor plan & neutral decor. Great room & dining area adjoin kitchen. Beautiful deck & landscaping. 2 car attached garage. \$199,800 (PU227)

Century,

Century 21 Today 734-462-9800 www.century21today.com

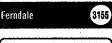
JUST LISTED! A HOME FOR YOU!

Stunning brick ranch. 3-4 bdrms, 3.5 bath, 2,322 sq. Family room w/firplace inished lower level w/we par, movie theatre & sauna car garage. \$380,000 Wooded lot. (HI301)



www.century21today.com START THE NEW YEAR Off with a 3 bedroom, 2 bath over 1,000 sq. ft. ranch with 6 appliances, 2 car garage, and

Seller motivated. Bring a offers! \$114,900. **Century 21 Hartford North** 734-525-9600



JUST LISTED!

A HOME FOR YOU! Move-in condition. 3 bdrm ranch w/finished bsmt. Hardwood floors. All appli-ances stay, Heated Florida room w/large attached wood deck. Nicely land-



3170 Garden City OVER 1990 SQ.FT.

\$165,000. Built in 1999. Full bsmt, large lot. Get in this home with no money out-of-pocket. Call: 313-475-3165 Livonia

JUST LISTED! A HOME FOR YOU! Spacious 3 bdrm, brick

ranch. Updated kitchen. Hardwood floors throughout. Bsmt. w/rec room. C/A. Newer vinyl windows. 2 car garage. \$158,900 (SU902)

Century 21 Today 313-538-2000

www.century21today.com JUST LISTED!

**AWESOME CUSTOM** 2350 Sq.ft, ranch in Bicentennial Sub. 3 Bdrms, dining room, family room 4 full baths! KAREN CAMILLERI

(734) 502-8289 CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464-7111

JUST LISTED!

**BETTER THAN NEW 3** BEDROOM BRICK RANCH Family room w/ fireplace oak kitchen, garage, bsmt Newer windows, furnace & more! \$194,900 (09FAI)

CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464-7111

DOLL HOUSE RANCH! - Natural fireplace in Family Room. Beautiful kitchen with oak colored cabinets! Updates include windows, roof, furnace, hot water heater, electrical, garage door and more! Non-traffic court street. Home Warranty. \$139,500. (18ME).

GREAT LOCATION! - 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2 car attached garage ranch. Close to schools, freeway and recreation center. All appliances stay! Needs a little TLC. One Year Home Warranty included. \$174,500 (15SU).

Century 21 Hartford South 734-464-6400

JUST LISTED!

DOUBLE WING location. 1st floor laundry basement, 2 car attached garage. Immediate occu pancy! \$274,900 (24ELL) CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464-7111

3250 Livonia JUST LISTED!

CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464-7111

NORTHWEST LIVONIA! Bdrm, 2.5 bath colonial w/dining room, family room dry, full bsmt. Lots of major updates! (60G0L/84DAR) CENTURY 21 ROW

For the best auto classifications check out the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper. "it's all about 🚁 RESULTS!"

WESTERN LIVONIA RANCH 3 Berm ranch, 1.5 bath, 2 car attached garage on cul-de-sac Remodeled kitchen & bath Newer windows. Move-in condition. Clean! \$194,900. 734-751-1319

JUST LISTED!

rooms, 2.5 baths. Lots of updates including island kitchen and counters, Pergo floor in foyer and sunroom

Call Carol Copping 248-444-8105 or

(3340) Pinckney. PINCKNEY Business- Building

-Lot for sale in high traffic area. Located in Pinckney, 8600,000. Jon Niedermeier 734-747-7777; 734-669-5829 (eves) #2406619 Charles Reinhart Co. Realtors 3347 Plymouth

PLYMOUTH - MUST SEE! Custom built Georgian colo-nial on 2+ acres. 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath w/loft easily convert-

#2406355

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Walk-out basement Clubhouse **Activities** Walking distance to town

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Redford

JUST LISTED! 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH BUNGALOW in great part of Redford. Home has finished bsmt, detached garage. \$129,900 CALL JOHN HOSKO

hometownlife.com

(734) 718-7648 REMERICA HOMETOWN (734) 459-6222

JUST LISTED! A HOME FOR YOU! 3 Bdrm brick ranch w/neu-

rai decor & hardwood

room. Bsmt. 2 car garage. Private fenced wooded

yard. Newer roof, driveway, patio, furnace & C/A. \$144,900 (LE174) Century 21 CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800

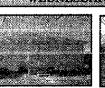
**CENTURY 21 TODAY** (313) 538-2000 www.century21today.com







REAL ESTATE CAREER INTERVIEWS WEDNESDAYS 6:30 P.M.



Chalet

TAYLOR Everything is done. Fresh paint, newer carpet & 6 panel int. doors. Well cared for 2 BB, 1 bath ranch w/1st floor laundry, C/A and short walk to park and pool. Well kept ranch with oak cabinets in a large eat in kitchen. Updated bath, new drywalled and equipped with a dry bar. All appliances stay including playscape \$91,900



landscaping, 1.5 car garage and finished basement that has been

in back yard.



DETROIT Everything you'll need in this 3 bedroom home. Never roof, furnace, windows, Nice starter 3 bedroom home. Newer roof, furnace, windows,



siding & more. Large master

bedroom with walk in closet. Ali appliances & home warranty

included. See it today.

\$134,900



siding & more. Large master with walk in closef. All appliances & home warranty included. See it today.

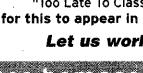
\$74,900

LIVONIA Close to an acre, 3 bedroom, 1, 5 bath ranch with coved ceiling, hardwood floors under carpet, large living room

> spacious kitchen with nook attached garage and 4.12 acres YOU CAN SEE IT TODAY \$199,900 \$374,900

(734) 432-7600





**GREAT 3 BEDROOM** 2.5 Bath brick ranch. Dining area, full bsmt, 2 car garage. Newer roof, A/C, windows, more, Inground Gunite pool. \$189,898 (59RUS)

JUST LISTED!

(734) 464-7111

600

www.century21today.com

3290



SUPER SHARP Open floorplan with 4 bedmost windows, furnace deck, gutters, carpet and haths! \$349.900.

248-348-6430, ext. 205 💂 Rool Estate Beu...



ed to 4th bedroom. Upgrades galore. 2 story foyer, great room. \$697,900. Stephen Wickland. 734-747-7777, eves. 734-216-2498 Charles Reinhart Co. Realtors.







Ask About Exclusive Buyer Representation Century Plaza Corner Five Mile & Newburgh 37290 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 (\*)

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    - 44 Molten rock 45 Cousteau's middle name 46 Cosmonaut
    - space lab 47 ill temper 48 Put the collar on

**AFFORDABLY YOURS!** 

REDFORD MERRY CHRISTMAS! This 3bdrm brick ranch,1.5 baths, completely remodeled w/Oak Merrilat Cabinets in Kitchen. Newer stove and refrigerator. Immediate Occupancy. Available w/zero down and/or No Closing cost. If Offer is Accepted by Dec. 31 2004 a BIG SCREEN TV up to 52" will be included for more into:

n 3 lots near Western Golf ourse. Old world characte & charm, and updated throughout Hurry this one of-a-kind treasure won Only \$265,000

3370

A HOME FOR YOU! Sharp 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath Cape Cod in "Shrine" area Cape God in Grillian Living room w/fireplace. Formal dining room, den. Hune newer kitchen w/granite counters. 7 peninsula opens to family room. Partially finished

Century 21 TODAY (248) 647-8888 www.century21today.com

A HOME FOR YOU! DOWNTOWN ROYAL OAK! pdated 3 bdrm, 2 batl Livino brick bungalow. w/fireplace., dining room, family room, kitchei v/granite & appliances inished bsmt. w/wet-bar

Century CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000 /w.century21today w.century21today.com

**VICTORIAN GREAT STARTER HOME!** 2BR, 1BA, all appliances, fire place,

**SKYLINE - MODEL** 3BR, 2BA, comes with stove, refrigerator, garbage disposal & more Lot rent specials. \$39,800

**SKYLINE** 3BR, 2BA, all appliances, including fireplace, CA, skylights

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Novi Schools **QUALITY HOMES** HIGHLAND HILLS

N. of Grand River bet. Meadowbrook & Haggerty Rds Call Joanne or Sue (248) 474-0320 or (248) 474-0333



Southfield/Lathrup

JUST LISTED! AWESOME BRICK RANCH place. 1st floor laundry Fenced yard. Patio & porch. Many updates including roof, windows, kitchen, electrical, flooring. Updated roof, bath, plumb-

ig, windows & more 27,500 (96FAI) CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464-7111

**CLASSIFIEDS** 

JUST LISTED!

SOUTHFIELD SUPER STARTER HOME!

Super lott Super clean! Super size rooms! 2 bdrm

kitchen. Appliances & some

furnishings stay. C/A. Patio, porch, 2 car garage, fenced yard. Newer roof & furnace, \$109,900. (SH271)

Century 2

**CENTURY 21 TODAY** 

(248) 855-2000

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JUST LISTED!

A HOME FOR YOU!

Elegant colonial. 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath, 2,242 sq. ft.

Living room, dining room, family room w/fireplace &

cathedral ceiling. Many updates. Appliances stay

Finished bsmt. 2 car garage w/opener. Deck. Sprinkler system. \$299,900 (GL591)

Century 21

Century 21 Today

248-855-2000 www.century21today.com

JUST LISTED!

A HOME FOR YOU!

rofessionally decorated 4

bdrm, 2.5 bath 3,347 sq.

ft. Family room w/fireplace. Island kitchen w/appli-

ances. 1st floor laundry. 2 car garage. Darb Lake

car garage. Darb Lake Access. \$439,900 (LA600)

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JUST LISTED!

A HOME FOR YOU!

Spacious 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath

colonial. Circular staircase

Family room w/fireplace

Kitchen w/breakfast room that overlooks lovely yard.

beczonia

Nicely finished lower level

colonial

Gorgeous

West Bloomfield

3440

Century 21 WORK! 1-800-579-7355 Century 21 Today 734-462-9800

**JUST LISTED!** A HOME FOR YOU!

www.century21today.com

JUST LISTED!

A HOME FOR YOU!

Great 4 bdrm, 2 bath colo

Generous room sizes

glass block windows & more. \$114,900. (CE186)

w/finished bsmt.

bath ranch has updated roof, furnace, C/A., Hot water heater & concrete Living room w/fire Florida room over place. looks fenced yard. Bsmt Porch. 2 car garage Forch. 2 car garage. \$140,000. (TE914)

Century 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000

www.century21today.com **JUST LISTED!** 

A HOME FOR YOU! Jpdated ranch w/3 bdrm. & 1.5 baths. Newer kitchen, bath, windows, furnace, C/A., roof & more! Finished bsmt. Deck. 2.5 car garage. \$153,900 (NA127)

CENTURY 21 TODAY (313) 538-2000 www.century21today.com

> Better than new 3 bdrm, 1 bath bungalow w/ bsmt. Updates include kitchen, bath, floor carpet, windows & appliances FHA & VA terms. \$137,900 FHA & VA terms. \$137,90 CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300

be included. For more info: Call Bill at McHenry Realty 734-266-1955

**JUST LISTED!** 

BOB KENNEDY CENTURY 21 ROW

w/private office. 2 car garage. \$309,900 (AP554) Century,

Maste:

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immediate occupancy. On private lot w/mature trees, well maintained 2,668 Sq. Ft., 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath brick rt., 4 oorm, 2.5 oath brick colonial. Living room, for-mal dining room, family room w/fireplace, library. Kitchen w/breakfast room & 1st floor laundry. Breeze-way. Deck. 2 car garage. \$399,000 or \$2500/mo. (AP432)

Century, CENTURY 21 TODAY

(248) 855-2000 www.century21today.com Westland

JUST LISTED!

LIVONIA SCHOOLS! Bdrm brick ranch in esirable sub. Finished desirable sub. basement, oversized 2.5 car garage. Updated windows, kitchen, furnace & more. PAT PUNINSKE

(734) 267-5000 CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464-7111

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JUST LISTED!

LOTS TO OFFER! 3 bdrm brick ranch w/partly finished bsmt., 2 car garage. Newer windows & roof. Home protection plan. \$139,900. (05dar)

> **CENTURY 21 ROW** (734) 464-7111

No bank qualitying, Owner financing Nice, 1500sq. ft., 3 bdrm/2baths. 2 car. garage. \$139,900. 1-800-551-9606

3480 Wixom-Commerce

JUST LISTED! Extreme makeover home 3056 SF, 4 Bedrooms, 3.1 Baths with 1.9 acres on lake rontage! Finished walk out basement. Granite/Hickory Island Kitchen. ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS!

Gail Turner 248-873-0087 or 248-349-2929 x265 Affinist Gatalis Sinc.

Washtenaw County

WILLIS - 9771 BUNTON RD Completely renovated brick farmhouse on 4.88 acres. Built in 1848, 3200 sq.ft. Asking \$574,900

FRED BAWDEN 313-610-7087 REMERICA ACTION REALTY 3829 Monroe St., Dearborn 3570 Wayne County

INKSTER - 3 bedroom, for sale by owner. Land contract. \$4,000 down. Weak credit okay. (734) 578-3579. Inkster ENJOY THE UPDATES!

FHA/VA terms. 3 Bdrm, 2.5 bath bungalow w/ finished bsmt. 2004 updates include roof, gutters, entry doors, bathrooms & more, FHA/VA **CENTURY 21 PREMIER** (734) 453-4300

FIRST TIME OWNERS! FHA/VA terms! Renovated 3 bdrm. 1 bath ranch w/ fenced yard & 2.5 car garage. Tons of updates. Must see. \$114,900 CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300

STARTING UP OR SLOWING DOWN! FHA/VA terms!! 3 Bdrm, 2 bath brick ranch w/ part finished bsmt. Large fenced yard & 2.5 detached garage. \$119,900 CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300

BIRMINGHAM 1 bdrm on first

floor. Includes refrigerator/ stove, heat & water! \$725/mo.

BIRMINGHAM 2 bedroom Townhouse style, freshly paint-ed, air, private bsmt. \$795/mo. ShareNet (248) 642-1620

JUST LISTED!

CANTON Immaculate, almost new private entry 2 bdrm upper end unit condo w/attached garage. White kitchen w/oak cabinets & appliances. Storage +++. Deck. Pool in complex. \$152,000 (BE405JF)

JASÓN FOUNTAIN (248) 819-0180 CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000

**JUST LISTED!** FARMINGTON HILLS A CONDO FOR YOU! End unit ranch cond w/1,879 sq. ft., 3 bdrm,

baths. Living room with cathedral ceiling & fire place. Dining room. Kitchen w/2 pantries & doorwall to deck. Finished bsmt. 2 car attached garage. \$228,888 (SI296)

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 • GE Appliances Skylights & More QUALITY HOMES

at Novi Meadows and 1 mile S. of Grand River (248) 344-1988

at Commerce Meadows (248) 684-6796 at Stratford Villa

LIVONIA Spacious 1 bdrm, 1 bath condo w/neutral decor Living & dining rooms.

Oak kitchen w/appliances. In-unit laundry. Private bal-cony. Carport. Pool, tennis & clubhouse in complex. \$88,900 (EI338)

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**PLYMOUTH** 

master bdrm w/donrwall to patio. 2.5 updated baths Fabulous finished bsmt lardwood floors. New wir dow treatments and freshly painted. Pool & clubhouse mmediate occupancy İmmediate occupancy. \$199,900. (WO124FS) FELICIA SCAPPATICII

JUST LISTED! SOUTHFIELD Bdrm, 3.5 bath end unit townhouse. Living room, dining room. Finished dining room. Finished bsmt. w/full bath. Private

CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 647-8888

JUST LISTED!

SOUTHFIELD A CONDO FOR YOU! Spacious end unit ranch condo. Living room. Kitchen with dining area. Huge master suite & Ig. 2nd bdrm. 3.5 baths. Finished bsmt. 2 car attached garage

clubhouse in complex.

75,000 (SH250) CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 647-8888

JUST LISTED! SOUTHFIELD

SOUTHFIELD
Evergreen Woods Complex
2 bdrm, 2 bath upper end
und ranch condo. Living
room w/fireplace. Diping area w/balcony. Updated kitchen. In-unit laundry

> KEVIN EKUS (248) 882-3587

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Boole Lake Rd.

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Up north living at it's finest! This 8000 sq ft home has custom features throughout and is located in the exclu sive Seven Mile Point Ridges development in Harbor Springs. This ridge-top com-munity nestled high above the shores of Lake Michigan is the perfect development for those seeking natural splendor and seclusion. Home is offered at \$2,699,000. Other lots available to build on.

JUST LISTED!

urnished quartershare 3 weeks per year) 2 bdrm bath condo on 18th greet of Legend's Golf Course Fireplace, 3 decks, all appli-ances. \$30,000. (SH583EB) Ed Barter (248) 763-0120 Century 21 Today (248) 855-2000

Lots & Acreage/Vacant 3820 **FARMINGTON HILLS** 

131x126 lot, on paved street, all utilities, \$129,900. Other lot available. 313-460-7835 3870 Real Estate Wanted

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Spectacular Brick Home

(734) 464-7111 JUST LISTED!

smt. \$419,000 (R0181)

JUST LISTED!

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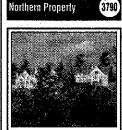
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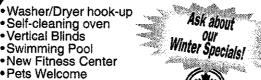
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248-585-0580

HARLO APTS. From \$570 Warren, MI West side of Mound Rd., jusnorth of 13 Mile. Opposite **GM Tech Center** 586-939-2340

wood floors, walk to down-town. \$1300/month. (248) 684-7868 Spice it up at . . . CINNAMON

APARTMENTS & TOWNHOMES FROM \$999\* Choose Your Lease Term From 3 Months to 24 Months 734-844-1100 www.cinnamonpointe.com

Open Daily M-F 10-6; Sat. 10-5; Sun. 12-4

N.W. Corner of Cherry Hill at Lotz

\*Certain restrictions apply

POINTE

OF CANTON

**BRAND NEW 2 & 3 BEDROOM** 

THE BUCK STOPS HERE You're in Luck-

Move in for a Buck!

FOR A LIMITED TIME \$699" On Select Units **HURRY!** Call Today! Cedar Lake Apartments

Located on 6 Mile between Haggerty and Northville Roads, 2 miles west of 1-275 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments 2 Bedroom Townhomes!

in Northville

· Small Pets Welcome Full Size Washer & Dryer Private Entry

Call today for details and pricing info! 248-348-1830

...Help Wanted-General

Computer/Info Systems

....Help Wanted-

...Help Wanted-

Office Clerical

...Help Wanted-

Engineering

...Help Wanted-

Food/Beverage

Health & Fitness

....Help Wanted-Professional

...Help Wanted-

5120 ..... Help Wanted-Sales

5200.....Help Wanted-Part-Time

5240......Help Wanted-Comestic

5260 ...... Help Wanted-Couples

5000-5980

Help Wanted-General 5000

**POLICY** 

All advertising published in the

Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the

conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the

advertising department Observer and Eccentric News-

papers, 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591

0900.) The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an

advertiser's order, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers

sales representatives have no

paper and only publication of

an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When

more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given

unless notice of typographica

or other errors is given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this

newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is

discrimination. This news-paper will not knowingly

accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the raw. Our readers are

hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this

newspaper are available on an

equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be

deadlines. Advertisers are

responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears

and reporting any errors Immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not

issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing

Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit

of U.S. policy for the achievement of equa housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative ad-

vertising and marketing pro-oram in which there are no barriers to obtain housing

parriers to obtain nousing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

ACCOUNTING/TAX

Tax season accountant with genenral ledger exp. Fax resume to 734-266-8129 or

**ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR** 

Fax resumes to 248-203-2929

**APPLIANCE** 

COMPANY

Seeking 29 team member

for an entry level position.

\$400 weekly, no experience

necessary. Must have

**AUTO BODY REPAIR** 

Must be experience and license, good benefits, apply in person. J & J Collision., 6528 N. Telegraph, Dearborn Heights, Ml. 313-278-0613

transportation for work.

email dan@liscpa.com

erikaah@comcast.net

illegal to advertise preference limitation,

... Helo Wanted-Cental

....Help Wanted-Medical

#### HOMES FOR RENT 3 bdrm, 2 bath, \$595/mo. All appliances and a/c included. Close & convenient to shopping & entertainment. Call Today! 734-495-00 Digated - College Park Estat ated - College Park Estates 51074 Mott Rd. Capton MI 48188 (BefWeen Geddes & Mich Ave. off Ridge Road).

Mobile Home Rentals (4070)

#### Southern Rentals

PALM COAST, FL Beautiful, new, luxury 3 bdrm oceanfront condo. Heated pool, many agrenities. (248) 689-1069

盦

4898

4110

4120

4140

SARASOTA - LIDO KEY Condo, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, Gulf front: Available weeks of 3/26 and 4/2. \$1550 per week. 248-737-9461 248-330-7715

#### Resort/Rentals HUTCHINSON ISLAND,

nsty coninson island, from STUART FL

1 or 2 bedroom, ocean front condo, available for monthly rentals. Newly furnished rentals. Newly (248):324-0744

LEWISTON - Beautiful 3 bdrm, Iqg home, on East Twin Lake. Weekend \$225. Weekly \$550. Credit Card OK. 313-460-7835

#### Living Quarters To

Beverly Hills - Beautiful home., full house privileges, furfrished. storage. \$475/mo+ furfrished. storage. \$475/mo-1½, utilities. 248-352-5769

BLOOMFIELD HOME Reom(s) for rent. \$250-\$450. Call Tim at 248-338-2358

For the best auto Classifications check out the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper. RESULTS!

LIVONIA person to share 734-464-2383

#### ooms For Rent

DAYS INN

Low Daily - Weekly Monthly Rates •5 Sunburst Rating Free Local Calls
 Facing
 (734) 721-5200 I-275& Michigan Ave.

#### Office/Retail Space For ent/Lease

Birmingham Executive Suite Starting at \$550. Call Victoria. (248) 203-2626 Livonia - 5 Mile / Farmington

& 2 room windowed offices Jtilities included 734-422-2321

PLYMOUTH office space, presently law offices \$950/mo. 734-453-5020

#### ommercial/Industrial Rent/Lease

SALEM -Industrial Space for Lease. 1000-5600 sg.ft. avail-able starting at \$4.50 sq.ft., 3 phase power. 248-348-2592

4230

Space for Lease 3 MOS FREE! LIGHT INDUSTRIAL. Belleville • Canton Novi • Wixom • OFFICE • Canton • Farmington Hills Wixom

• RETAIL • Auburn Hills • Livonia Pontiac • Westland

(248) 344-8970

1000 to 3000 square ft.

#### Office/Warehouse space. Excellent cond. 734-728-7200 Lease/Option To Buy 4580

BRIGHTON DOWNTOWN 2400 sq. ft. 4 bedroom com pletely renovated home. Rent to own terms available. Call John at 248-752-7120

Canton, Garden City, Howell Northville, Wayne Owner will finance or rent to own. Bad credit OK. 3 nice homes to choose. \$89,000 to \$229,000. Free recorded info 24 hrs. 888-356-6102

FOR LEASE I-275 exposure. Offices from 168-2,700 sq.ft. mo, to mo. eases available.

A Bloch & Co/Gach Realty (248) 559-7430

Garden City and Westland. Rent 2 own. No banks needed. Call 734-422-0419 or see www.cjgpropertlesinc.com

#### Help Wanted-General 5000 **AUTOMOTIVE BODY**

5000's

Johs and

Careers

5340.

5360.

5620.

1-800-579-SELL

5320 Students

5300......Help Wanted-Entertainment

...lohs Wanted-

Female/Male

Licensed

Services

5500 ..... Summer Camps

5600 ..... Education/Instruction

Services

5700..... Attorneys/Legal Counseling

5720 Help Wanted-Tax Services

5740.....Business Opportunities

5870......Childcare/Babysitting

....Childcare Needed

6420 ...... Nursing Care & Homes

....Elderly Care & Assistance

...Business & Professional

..Childcare Services-

TECHNICIAN Immediate opening for a Body Technician in one of the fastest growing collision shops in SE Michigan. Must have a minimum of five years experience with proven quality work skills. Extremely busy shop with all new latest technology equipment. Excellent pay plan and benefits package. Contact Ror Richards to arrange an interview. Equal opportunity

Dick Scott Collision Plymouth, Mi (734) 451-2555

CAREGIVERS: in-home care agency needs dependable peo ple to care for the elderly in Plymouth, Canton, Belleville & Westland. 248-477-5680

#### COMMUNITY MANAGER

Seeking experienced, qualicandidates Community Manager in the Detroit metropolitan area.
The Community Manager administers and maintains all phases of apartment community operations under the direction of the Director of Property Management and Acquisitions. Areas of responsibility include human resources maintenance, monitoring market conditions and advertising, budget devel opment and control, leasing resident relations High school diploma or equivalent required, college degree or related course work preferred. A minimum of three years residential or commercial property man

agement experience required. Section 8 helpful. must also be able to us-computerized property management/accounting software Successful candi dates must possess excel lent communication, leader-ship, be computer literate and understand marketing lf interested, please fax resume with cover letter to: Community Manager at Berger Realty Group, Inc. (248) 905-5511 or e-mail to humresnew2@hotmail.com

Equal Opportunity Employer

#### It's all here!



1-800-579-SELL www.hometownlife.con

#### **CREW LEADERS** & LABORERS

for growing preservation co. in Walled Lake. Must be ener-getic, willing to work hard in all weather conditions & have driver's license. Starting at 248-669-2888 DESK CLERK/ HOUSEKEEPER

Experienced, Full & Part time, Farmington Hills. Fax resume: (248) 477-2370 DIRECT CARE WORKER

Canton Group-Home. Staff for day and afternoon shifts. Highly independent residents. Competitive wages/benefits. 734-397-6955

#### **Retail Sales** Manager The national award-winning Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is seeking an

independent, creative, and driven leader with a proven track record to be our retail sales manager, located in our Birmingham office. The successful candidate must have working knowledge of newspaper retail/classified operations with a minimum of five years sales experience. Minimum 2 years management experience preferred. Excellent communication, leadership, and organizational skills are essential. Bachelor's degree or equivalent in marketing, advertising or related business field required. You must also be able to:

 Maximize financial performance/efficiency of sales department. · Play a key role in market research & analysis to ensure marketing & sales plan is on target. · Make sales presentations, recruit, train, & motivate sales staff to be

highly successful.

Salary is commensurate with experience and contains an attractive full benefits package. Please email your resume, cover letter, and salary requirements in confidence to: (preferred) E-mail: employment@oe.homecomm.net

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Road Livonia, MI 48150 Fax: (734) 953-2057

Must include ich ende: RSM

#### 5000 Help Wanted-General

**DIRECT CAREGIVERS.** For group home and apartment programs serving

1. Garden City: Full and sleep midnights.

2. Dearborn: Full time afternoons and midnight 3. Westland: afternoons and midnight sleep shift

4. Plymouth: afternoon shift

5. Livonia: day and

5. Livonia: day and afternoon shift. Need patient, well-groomed, loving people with good attitudes, who don't mind cooking, cleaning, and teaching others the joys of cookina.

living. \$7.30-\$7.80 per hour, sleep shifts \$5.25 per hour. Good driving record required Call Patty - (248) 980-3307 for #3, 4, 5 Call Garin (248) 980-3309 for #1, 2, 3

#### Driver

Independent Contractors vanted for auto parts deliver In Metro Detroit area, Late model full size pick-up or cargo van a must. Licensed insurance, MVR required. Call DSI (734) 466-9720

## Driver

Needed for 5-state area of Michigan. CDL-A and X endorsement a must. Tanker exp. required. Pay negotiable. Excellent benefits, medical prescription. 401(k) and vacaion. Please email ljoppich@generaloilco.com or fax resume to Lynn at (734) 266-6400

DRIVER - TOW TRUCK Experienced only. Must have chauffeur's license & health card. 25826 Southfield Rd. at 10½ Mile. (248) 557-4044

DRIVERS needed for dental lab deliv eries. Retirees welcome Fax resume: 248-799-7575.

DRIVERS WANTED CDL Class A. Home daily,

Call (517) 546-8755 DRIVERS/SALES

For delivery to party stores, markets & drug stores.Call 248-380-6566.

#### FIREPLACE

**INSTALLERS** Needed for installation of prefab fireplaces in new home construction. HVAC & construction exp. helpful but will train the right candidate. Valid

drivers license required. Apply at: FiberClass 47220 Cartier Drive

Wixom, MI 48393

Front End Loader Operator For supply yard. Must also us-cash register. Full time, nights

Jan 1st-April 1st Exc. pay See Don at Angelo's Supplies 29820 West 8 Mile, btwn Middlebelt & Orchard Lake. Gatehouse Attendant

Full-time, including weekends, for Dearborn Heights area apt. community. Great opportunity for right person. Please call (313) 562-3988 **GEAR HOB & SHAPE** Tifco Gage & Gear Co., now in Livonia, is looking for an experienced operator

for new equipment. ocation, new opportunities! Days, overtime and benefits Experienced only need apply at: 33067 Industrial Rd.,

Phone 734-525-8000, Fax 734-525-8400.

#### **GENERAL LABOR** Seeking an organized aggressive and self-motivated

individual for a clerical position in a Distribution and Logistics company. Position entalis answering telephones, data entry, and some customer service. Starting pay \$8/hr. with health benefits after 90 days. Person needs to be flexible with scheduling. Please apply in person at nterprise Dr., Livonia Mi 48151 (off Plymouth between Farmington and Merriman).

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER** Creative firm in Farmington Hills seeks print/web designer with excellent organizational and IT skills. Minimum one year working exp in PC In Design, PageMaker, Photo Shop, CorelDraw, GoLive and Flash required. Email resume including salary requirement Imt2@thewordbaroninc.com

GROUND WORKERS EMK Tree Service. Must be experienced in roping, using chain saws, chipper, chipping brush, driving truck & trailer. Must have valid driver's cense & work year round. Call Mike (248) 379-9609

HAIR STYLIST NEEDED Apply at Fantastic Sam's, Canton Center at Cherry Hill. (734) 812-0587

#### Help Wanted-General 5000

Jobs and Careers

Help Wanted-General 5000

OPERATION MGR.

PRINTING

Presses and Heat-Set Web

REPAIR TECH

Call: 248-304-1081

SECRET SHOPPERS

Also

excellent wages 8

Presses,

matching 401K.

Detroit area

expanding commercial

HAIR STYLIST/NAIL TECH Great clientele, beautifu atmosphere, located in Novi. (248)349-9925

HARDWOOD FLOOR REFINISHER must be exp., must be able to

install, repair and refinish. Selfstarter, must have drivers license. Call (313) 387-4320 or fax resume with work history to: 313-541-1502 HVAC SERVICE

HVAC SERVICE
Are you a top-notch technician? Join our group of professionals, commercial & residential experience required.
competitive wages, BC/BS &
more. Dan Wood Plumbing &
Heating 248-348-4242

Installation Multi-media company is seek ing highly motivated individuals for set-up, delivery, installation & customer service of custom home theater equipment. Individual must possess valid driver's license, 18 vears +, rock star attitude. Paid training, company vehicle & bonuses. Call JT (734) 207-0317.

#### Wixom area. Part time Evening hours, \$8/hr. Cail (248)960-1718 **Janitorial Crew**

JANITORIAL - Office Cleaning

Leader Needed 3:30-11pm Mon.-Fri. in the Wayne area. Must have janitorial experience. Cali (734) 479-0550 ext. 910

MAINTENANCE

F/T for Westland Apts. Exp.

preferred. Must be reliable &

have own tools. 734-425-0052

**MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN** 

Full-time, experienced, for Canton apt. community. Great opportunity for right person. Please call 734-397-1080.

MAINTENANCE

**TECHNICIAN IV** 

The Charter Township of Canton is accepting applications to establish an eligibility list for the position of full-time Maintenance Technician IV. Position involves various custodial, janitorial, manual, labor and library

manual labor and light maintenance tasks of Town-

ship owned buildings. Must possess a current, valid Michigan Drivers License with

convictions of reckless driving

convictions of reckless driving, careless driving, sespended license, or convictions involving drinking and impaired driving. Rate of Pay: \$10.93 per hr. Applications may be picked up at Carton.

Township Human Resources

Division, 1150 S. Cantor Center Road, Canton, M

48188 or send a self-

addressed stamped businesssize envelone to address above

for application (please specify Maintenance Technician IV

application). An application

form is also available on the

www.canton-mi.org.

Job description will be posted

at the Township Administration Building. A completed written

Canton Township application form must be received by the

Human Resources Division in

its entirety by 4 p.m., January 4, 2005. The Charter

Township of Canton does not discriminate on the basis of

race, color, national origin

sex, religion, age or disabilit

in employment or the provision of services. An

Equal Opportunity Employer.

**AFTERNOON HELP** 

Steel Industries Inc. is currently looking for hard working individuals to join our

Press Crews, heat treat operations and saw crews.

Candidates should have manufacturing experience and be willing to work on the afternoon shift. Must have good math skills and the

ability to read a tape measure. We offer a competitive salary and benefits, if interested

Thursday, 9am-4pm @ 12600

MECHANIC/EXPERIENCED

All phases auto & truck. Certification helpful.

MEDICAL BILLER

Exp. a must, orthotic pros-

thetic exp. preferred, full time, benefits. Pete 734-513-8210

MORTGAGE Processor/Assistant

Must have experience. Fax resume: 775-383-8973 or

email: pirnausa@yahoo.com

**Carriers** 

Needed

West Bloomfield Area

Independent Contractors

Deliver newspapers two days per week.

Thursday and Sunday .

(734) 805-3623 Ask for Renisha

Adult

or fax: 734-513-8219

313-532-5210

Beech Daly Road, Redford.
No Telephone Calls

Manufacturing

Canton Township website at

listory that does not builty bodowns in e

White and Middle Easters Secret Shoppers needed fo Civil Rights Research Temporary positions up to \$60 LANDSCAPE **COMPANY NEEDS:** per assignment. No experience necessary, training provided. Please call 1-888-589-4366 Construction Manager, Estimator, Designer, Sales ext. 201 or e-mail secretshop Foreman. Due to recent expansion Crimboli Nursery per@dbconsultinggroup.com and Landscape is seeking qualified individuals for long SERVICE TECHNICIAN State

Hydraulics, pneumatics, an computer integration. Fa term employment. Sta desired salary. Call or Fax: 50145 Ford Rd. resume to: (248) 735-6884. Canton, MI 48187 (734) 495-1700 Fax: (734) 495-1131

Farmington Salon & spa. Come join our friendly staff & wonderful work environment. Flexible hours & great pay 248-478-7870 TAX PREPARER

STYLIST

Busy tax office looking for experienced Tax Preparer Must have 3-5 years experi ence interviewing clients to prepare both individual & cor-porate income tax returns Experience with Lacerte Tax software or similar tax pro gram. Full time/part time. Ask for Brad 248-855-1656

## TAX PREPARERS NEEDED

**TEACHER** 

For pre-school in Farmington

Matine & responsible

Mornings only EXPERIENCE

A MUST Call 248-477-8020

TEACHERS PART-TIME

English as a Second Language Monday and Wednesday 6:00

Math teacher Monday through

Tuesday and Thursday evening

resume and copy of certifica

Rochester Adult Education

480 E. Auburn Rochester Hills, Mi 48307 Fax (248) 726-5955

Help Wanted-Office

Convenient Times & Locations. Training provided, starts 1-3-05 Garden City: 248-756-2246 Livonia: 248-921-9959 Novi: 248-756-2246 5040 Westland:734-421-2775

triendly & professional

10:00pm. State of Michigan when looking for a Thursday 2:45-4:45 p.m. and great deal check the 6:00-10:00p.m. State of Michigan math certified. To begin 1/18/05, Mail or fax Observer & Eccentric DENTAL ASSISTANT Exp. full-

# **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

PT, 9-2, M-F, Quickbooks Redford. Fax 313-535-4682 sctoolmfo1@aol.com BOOKKEEPER/CLERICAL

West Bloomfield CPA firm seeking part-time employee. Word & Excel reg. Besume to Word & Excel req. Resume to Diana 7071 Orchard Lake Rd. #315, W. Bioomfield, 48322 **CLERICAL PART TIME Flexible** hrs. Must possess exc phone skills. Excel & computer exp

is required. Send resumes to: Box 1026 Observer & Eccentric 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 CUSTOMER

#### SERVICE ing rep for data entry/cus tomer service position. Heavy

data entry. Fast paced call central environment. Strong attention to detail & basic computer skills required. 800-468-4640 ext 2401 DATA ENTRY Could earn 515/hour and up! Medical billing. Training provided. PC required! Call 7 days. 1-800-935-1311 ext 308.

#### **GENERAL OFFICE** ASSISTANT Part time, for Livonia-based medical equipment compa

Duties include filing ny. Duties include filing labeling new patient fold-ers, bill mailing & various other general office tasks. Fax resume to Attn: Karon (734) 522-9380.

#### 5020

**INSURANCE AGENCY** seeks \$30,000/yr. "Hand On Operato full time consultant/customer service rep. Wage + benefits to supervise all aspects of Send resumes w/wage recruit-ments to: Box 1034, C/O The

running a service business Email: glsbcjc@hotmail.com Livingston County Daily Press & Argus, 323 E. Grand River, Howell, MI 48843. PICTURE FRAMER with sales and computer experience. Part-time/full-time. Fax to 248-661-1221 **LEGAL SECRETARY** 

PRINTING -BINDERY Experienced secretary for family law firm for women commercial printer has only. Great salary, benefit openings on all shifts for package, Fax resume to 248experienced individuals who have set up & ran Saddlestitch 723-4175 or email smicallef@victorialawfirm.com & Trim machines, Cutters & Folders. We offer excellent LEGAL SECRETARY Small law firm seeking Legal Secretary who can multi-task wages & benefits including Company matching 401K Fax resume to: 734-942-0920

at answering phones, typing dictation, noticing deposi-tions, scheduling appts, etc., etc., to work for 2 attorneys printer has openings for experience 1st & 2nd on a split schedule. Must be computer literate & type 60 wpm. Needles exp. a plus. Send resumes to: Gittleman & Pascal, P.C., 24472 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, MI 48075, attn Sherry Pressmen for both Sheet-Fed experienced hindery help. We benefits including Company LEGAL SECRETARY

Part time, 24 to 30 hr./week. Salary negotiable. Retirement benefits incl. 248-474-0015 Fax resume to 734-942-0920 OFFICE HELP NEEDED For roofing/siding/gutters. Entry level position. Phone data entry. Apply at; 31625 8 Experienced w/own tools & reliable transportation fo Mile, Livonia. (248) 477-6402

> RECEPTIONIST Part-time, for Canton clinic Flexible hours. Excellent communication skills and accurate typing essential. Please send resumes to: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Box 1024 Livenia, MI 48150

RECEPTIONIST Part-time for busy doctor's office. Will train. Apply at: 28100 Grand River, Ste. 314, Farmington Hills. Receptionist/Clerical Assistant
Established Farmington Hills

software consulting firm has an immediate opening for a motivated, people oriented person with a min. of 2-3 years in the administrative or clerical fleid, expertise with MS office products, excellent customer service, communications & organizational skills. PT & FT responses considered. Send resume & salary requirements to The TM Group, 34705 W. 12 Mile Road, Suite 371. Mile Road, Suite 3: Farmington Hills, MI 48331

RECEPTIONIST/VET ASSISTANT for fast paced progressive Westland vet hospital. fax resume 734-261-6254

SECRETARY With top typing, spelling & people skills for Southfield law firm. No previous legal Fax resume 248-355-2079

#### Help Wanted-Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT Needed for a state-of-the-art dental practice. Must be Experience an asset. Benefits provided. Send resumes to eeresumes@oe.homecomm Reference Box 1033

time, friendly Livonia office. Must be self motivated: Are you the one? 734-674-7728 DENTAL FRONT DESK Great place to work. Dental

exp. & computer knowledge necessary. Full-time. Livonia. 734-425-4206.

ORTHODONTIC Seeking skilled, pleasant and enthusiastic Assistant. Self motivation and an eye for quality and detail is most desired. Send resumes to Box 1023, Observer & Eccentric

Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. RECEPTIONIST/BILLING CLERK - state of the art peri-odontic/implant specialty office in Bloomfield Hills seeking an exp. receptionist/billing clerk. Candidate must have exceptional communication & organizational skills. Please fax resume at 248-901-0003.

#### Help Wanted-Medical 5060

Angela Hospice IT Technician-24 hours, 3 consecutive days, M-F. Start date planned for January 10th. See job description. www.angelahospice.org Send resume to:. Fax: 734-779-4601, or

Mail: 14100 Newburgh Rd. Livonia, MI 48154 hrahhc2003@yahoo.com

#### **BILLING CLERK FULL-TIME** with exp. in medical field Must be ethical, and possess

great communication skills. Fax resume to 248-324-1450



## Adult **Carriers** Needed

#### Canton Area Independent Contractors

Deliver newspapers two days per week. Thursday and Sunday .

734) 805-3622 **Ask for Troy** 

#### Help Wanted-Medical

CERTIFIED HOME HEALTH AIDES Exp. CHHA'S Aides needed for Western Wayne & downriver areas. Please fax resume to attn Clinical Mgr. 734-324-2405 or apply in person to US Home Care, 13665 Northline Rd. Southgate. Please pr vide clinical documentation. Please pro-

DIRECT CARE STAFF Part time. Afternoons only available. WCLS trained only, \$7.46/start. Livonia area. Contact Debbie at 734-524-1361

MEDICAL ASSISTANT mouth office. Flexible hrs Exp. necessary. Fax resume attn Christy: 734-451-1583

#### **Medical Assistant** - Oncology

Experienced, Full-time days. Rochester Hills/ Troy area Must have laboratory expe rience. Send resume to Practice Administrator, 3950 S Rochester Rd. Suite 1300. Rochester Hills, MI 48307

#### Medical Asst../Optician/Optometric Tech

For traveling nursing home care, strong leadership and communication a must. Great salary, w/ benefits, full time. Fax resume 248-324-1450 PΤ

For rehab facility, flex time.

Fax resume: 248-827-1119 RECEPTIONIST Experienced for Garden City Physician's office. Please fax resume to: 734-522-0835 or Email to: sbo0404@aol.com RN - Oncology Chemo Clinic.

Full time. Fax resume: Attn Maryanne 313-277-1140 X-RAY TECH

Busy Orthopedic practice in Livonia has part time & full time positions available. Digital exp. preferred. Please far resume to: (734) 464-0404. XRAY TECHNICIAN Registered. Full time for busy Livonia Dr's office. Please call

734-261-3650

5080

#### Food/Beverage BAKER

Some experience preferred. Food service background helpful. Apply in person at 42865 Five Mile Rd., Plymouth. (734) 420-0317 FOOD SERVICE SUPERVISOR

#### Full time, kitchen manage-ment skills, computer skills, budgeting skills, food ordering skills, staff superplanning vision. meal ensure agency regulatory adherence. Call for appt., (313) 846-6942

Stage Demis now hiring full time evening manager. Excellent compensation and responsibility. Apply in person: 6873 Orchard Lake Rd. 248-855-6622 O'TOOLES - NOW HIRING SERVERS & COOKS

Apply in person: 24555 Novi Rd., Novi

MANAGER

United Paint & Chemical Corporation is a supplier of coatings to automotive manufacturers and the plastic injection-molding industry. We have an immediate opening for a Chemist in our Research & Development Laboratory at our Southfield, Michigan facility. This position requires a Bachelors Degree in a scientific field and laboratory experience in the coatings or similar industry. Applicants should be skilled in DOE methods and report writing. The Chemist will be part of one of our strategic business units focused on a specific customer and/or product group. Regular activities will include interaction and

United Paint & Chemical Corporation 24671 Telegraph Road, Southfield MI 48034, ATTN: HR-CHEMIST or ikeller@unit-

Please send resume and

salary requirements, to:



hometownlife.com REAL ESTATE

**PURCHASING MANAGER** Manufacturer and Supplier of Coatings to the automotive industry is seeking Purchasing Manager. organized and capable of providing significant return for this position based on business acumen and supply chain strategy. Needs to work closely with R&D and coordinate inventory levels with production scheduling. Applicants should have 2-3 years background in chemical purchasing, automotive preferred. Must be capable in Word and Excel. Qualified Individuals should send resume with cover letter to: HR PO BOX 1 Southfield, MI 48037 EOE

#### Help Wanted-Sales

Booming real estate offices in Northville &

5120

REAL ESTATE IS BOOMING Excellent Commissions. Great Training. TIM COURTNEY Oakland/ Livingston area (248) 437-2600

A NEW CAREER?

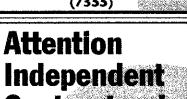


HOMETOWN



Needed Saturday night and Thursday during the day to deliver the Observer Newspapers to carriers in Wayne County. Must have van, truck or SUV.

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west Livonia location. Serious

inquiries only. Call Tim Reilly: (734) 591-0333 **OUTSIDE SALES REP** Needed for roofing/siding supply warehouse East Side/Detroit/Downriver area. Knowledgeable in commercial & residential roofing along with sales exp. Many extras Please apply at Wayne Oakland Building Supply, 25018 Plymouth Rd., Redford

5120 Help Wanted-Sales

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If you desire to work western Wayne number 1, see our other ad for details. Call Denise Setser 734-392-6000

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5120 Help Wanted-Sales

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Professional with experience needed to assist top-produc-ing manager at Livonia mortgage firm. Excellent pay & onus plan for the right didate. Contact Gary Cronk for interview at: 734-564-0649 TELEMARKETING

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Limited number of positions available for immediate full time employment. Casual, comfortable, Troy location. Salary plus daily cash bonus. Call 24 hours: 248-244-7965

DETAILING, Painting, power wash. Livonia area. \$12+/hr. Fax work exp. 888-281-9274 or call for info 248-345-9274.

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8-4pm. 810-229-7246

Job Opportunities

AAA ATTENTION READERS: side the local area, please know what you are buying before sending money.

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(5310)

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Postal \$16.51 to \$58.00 per hour. Full benefits. Paid training. Call for application and exam information. No experi-ence necessary. Toll Free 1-888-269-6090 ext. 200. HELP WANTED Earn up to

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Job Opportunities

WEEKLY POSSIBLE \$990-\$2,320. Mailing our letters from home. Easy. FREE INFO Genuine opportunity.

1-800-679-6857 24 hrs.

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MEDICAL BILLER looking for work, full or part time, in Canton area. Call Cami. (724) 459-7265 or email: fbuges cu@hotmail.com

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BABYSITTER - School aged children (2), seeks self moti-vated & responsible care giver. Plymouth, 20-25 hrs. per wk. Afternoons. Non smoker. Light housework/meals. 313-621-2986

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FREE CASH GRANTS! As seen on T.V.! Never repay! Gov't grants for personal bills, school, business, etc. \$47 bil-lion left unclaimed. Love operators!

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Business Opportunities 5740

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Huge profits! Earn a potential; \$3,000-\$5,000 per week part-time at home. Free info training. Change your life...call now 24/7! 1-800-289-5562

Hundreds earning ever \$25K/month! Top checks are over \$100K/month! Work al-home.Not MLM. Ask to hear our 9-minute audio. 888-230; 7559 ext. 2712

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Fact: We have 15 hometown newspapers in suburban Oakland and Wayne Counties. Fact: We reach 477,000 readers each week, right where they live.

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Observer Eccentric

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HANNAH ROSE 1st Christmas Born: June 12, 2004 Proud Parents: Chad & Lindsev

Dearborn Hts, Mi

KYLE CARMICKLE Baby's 1st Christmas Born 1-21-04 /ing parents:



MYA DENISE JOHNSON Born - Jan 5, 2004 Proud Daughter of Cortney Southfield, MI



TIMOTHY PIETRYKA 1st Christmas Born: 1-6-04 Proud Parents: Steven & Joann Westland, Mil



1st Christmas Born: 11-04-2004 Proud Parents: Pete & Mel Livonia. Mi



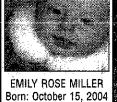
SHAYLA V. HILL Born July 13, 2004. Proud parents of Corey & Tracey



ADAM J RAPP Born March 20, 2004. Proud parents Dave & Melissa



Samantha Brandman 1st Christmas Born 1/9/2004 Proud Parents Kevin and Lisa Clarkston, Michigan



Height: 21 inches

Weight: 7lbs, 15ozs

Proud parents

John and Laura Miller



NYLA GRIFFIN 1ST CHRISTMAS BORN 9-22-04 PROUD PARENTS JOHN & DIANE



Proud parents: Mike & Gail Esker Commerce, Mi.



RYAN JACOB ESKER Parents: Rich & Julie Esker LIVONIA Birthday: 1-19-04



JESSICA MARIE LONGRIDGE Born October 14, 2004 to proud parents Bob & Lynn, Canton, M.



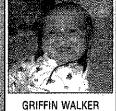
DANIEL FRANCIS ZEMKE November 11, 2004 roud parents Bob and Chris Zemke of Birminghan



1st Christmas Born Sept. 24, 2004 Proud Parents Tim & Nikki Westland, MI.



MADISON NIHRANZ First Christmas Born 7-22-04 **Proud Grandparents** Karen & Ron Oxford, MI



GRAVA 1st Christmas Born 8/12/2004 Proud Parents Stacey & Brad Clarkston, MI 48346



VINCENT THOMAS CIECIEK 1st Christmas Born: 11-05-2004 Proud Parents: Jen & Chris (Belleville) Grandmother: Char & Len Cieciek (Saline)



KADEN JOSEPH **RZEPKA** Born 11-20-04 Proud Parents: Darryl & Becky Rzepka Taylors, SC Grandparents: Ralph & Sue Rzepka Livonia, MI



WASILENSKI



SEAN DAVID DEWITT 1st Christmas Born Nov. 20, 2004 Proud Parents: David & Colleen Dewitt of Plymouth. Proud Grandparents: Robert & Mary Dewitt: Gred &

Sharon Knoph



DYLAN WIZA "1st. Christmas" Born 12/31/03 Proud parents Chris & Karen Plymouth, Mi



David & Gloria

Horace Jáidyn Holt III Born 6-04-04 to proud parents Tiffany & Horace, and proud grandparents Mary & Horace



BROOKE VICTORIA 1st Christmas Born: 3-24-2004 Proud Parents: Lee & Mulissa Livonia, MI



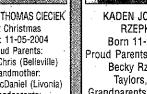
HOWARD 1st Christmas Born: April 26, 2004 Proud Parents: Dan & Tina



LAUREN LESLIE



OLIVIA ANN July 21, 2004 Love Grandma Barb & Proud parents Mike & Jackie Hochstein













Household Goods

WHITE BEDROOM

Dining room, chairs, plush cream sofa w/ 2 arm chairs, coffee tables, lamps, pictures,

tapestry. Washer & dryer Canton- (734) 981-1025

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WOOD BEDROOM HUTCH 9.5

wide by 77" high. \$400. Cal after 5pm. 734-522-2226

**APPLIANCE PACKAGE** 

\$550 incl glass top range like

new, over range micro, side by

Appliances

#### Observer & Eccentric

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Sale! All mattresses must gol Open to public. Dealers wel-come. 734-231-6622

Boys Bedroom set- Stanley

Wood, Exc. cond. Twin head-board, desk, chair & student hutch, chest, night stand. \$950. Couch, plaid cranberry & navy. \$75. (248) 553-2522

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COUCH \$750. Coffee table

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#### 6000's Announcements

6260 .... Political Notices

6300 ..... Cards Of Thanks

6320 ..... In Memoriam

6340 .... Death Notices

6360 .... Lost & Found

6400 .... Transportation/Travel

6420 ..... Health, Nutrition, Weight Loss

7340 .... Electronics/Audio/Video

...Farm Equipment

7400 ..... Farm Produce-Flowers.

7440 Firewood-Merchandise

7450......Hobbies-Coins, Stamps

7480. Lawn, Garden & Snow

7500.....Miscellaneous For Sale

7510 Musical Instruments

7520.....Sporting Goods

Equipment

...Hospital/Medical Equipmen

...Lawn, Garden Material

7410 ..... U-Picks

7470....Jewelry

7420 .... Christmas Trees

7360 ..... Video Games, Tapes, Movies

8380 ..... Tickets

6440 .... insurance

6280 ..... Car Pools

6020 ..... Happy Ads 6060 .... Mother's Day

6080 .... Father's Day 6100 ..... Holiday Potpourri

6120 .... Sweetest Day

6140 ..... Valentine's day 6200 ..... Announcements & Notices 6220 ..... Legal & Accepting **6230** .... Adoption

6240 .... Meetings & Seminars 1-800-579-SELL



7020 .... Antiques/Collectibles

7040 ..... Arts & Crafts 7060 .... Auction Sales 7080 ..... Rummage Sale/Flea Market

7100 ..... Estate Sales 7110 ..... Garage Sales 7130 .... Moving Sales 7140 ..... Clothing 7160 .... Household Goods

7180....,Appliances 7190 .... Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs 7200 .... Bargain Buys 7210....Bicycles

7215 ..... Exercise/Fitness Equipment 7220 .... Building Materials 7240 ..... Business & Office Equipment 7260....Office Supplies 7280 ..... Cameras & Supplies

Restaurant Equipment

7525.....Tools 7350 ..... Commercial/Industria 7530.....Trade Or Sell 7540 ..... Wanted To Buy 7310 ..... Commercial/Industria Machinery For Sale



7800 ..... Animal Services 7810 ..... Breeder Directory

7820.....Birds & Fish

7830.....Cats 7840 ..... Dogs

7850..... Farm Animals/Livestock 7860...... Horses & Equipment

7870 ..... Horse Boarding-Commercia 7889.....Household Pets-Others

7890.....Pet Grooming & Boarding 7900 ..... Pet Services 7910 ..... Pet Supplies

7920 ..... Pets Wanted 7938 .... Lost & Found-Pets

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households in North America's
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a 25 world at One hope call a 25 word ad. One phone call. one invoice, one payment. Ad copy is subject to publisher approval. Call the Suburban Classified Advertising Network

See Classification 7930



Absolutely Free

Piano Packard upright, you pick up. (313) 433-2374

7000

7020

Antiques/Collectibles

ANNUAL ANTIQUE HOLIDAY SALE
15%-30% OFF
Nov. 18 th-Dec. 31st.
\$100 Gift Cerficate Drawing

Town & Country Antique , 31630 Plymouth, Livonia. (behind East Side Mario's) 734-425-4344 CHRYSTAL- Stuben Cerise

Ruby, 24 µюсс... Leave message. 248-443-2953 Ruby, 24 pieces. \$3,600 firm.

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7130

7140

FUR COAT Genuine full length rabbit. \$1700. (248) 478-2965

Baby & Children Hems (7150)

BABY FURNITURE SET matching crib, 2 dressers, 2 mirrors. Changing table, bassinett. walnut/med brown color. \$300 248-656-8330



ECCENTRIC **CLASSIFIED** 1-800-579-SELL www.hometownlife.com

Household Goods Household Goods 50% OFF STORE WIDE SALE **BEDS** -Going Out for Business

Beautiful Mahogany Traditional Chippendale Table, A Leaves, 8 carved chairs and China Cabinet. 4 Pc Carved Mahogany King Sleigh Bdrm Set. 4 Pc Carved Cherry King and Queen Four Poster Bdrm Sets. 53 in Round Cherry Inlaid Table And 6 Chairs Rabulous Oak Carved Armoire
Country French Painted
Rooster Table and 6 chairs.
Complete Marble Top Sinks In
Carved Cabinets.
Console Bombay Executive Desk, Large Mission Bookcase, Hand Painted Fine Furniture And Lots More, AR Interiors, Open 7 Days, Downtown Royal Oak

607 S. Washington Ave. 248-582-9646

\$110 NEW QUEEN size mattress set. In plastic. Can deliver. 248-941-4206

**NEW FULL SIZE** mattress set. In plastic. \$95. 248-941-4206

BRAND NEW KING size mattress set. W/warranty. \$210, 248-941-4206 8 PC. CHERRY bedroom

set. New in boxes. Must sell. \$750. 248-941-4206 BEDROOM SET -Henredon includes bed, 2 night stands armoire, lingerie chest, dark oak, \$1200. (248) 601-0446

BEDROOM SET Youth, Bellini White finish, desk & chair twin bed & armoire. \$900 (248) 642-2916 Bedroom Set, solid oak, 6

pc., Early American. Full or queen. Mint cond. \$1500. 248-231-9198 Bedroom set, art deco-headboard, footboard, dresser

with mirror, sold as set. \$1200. 248-745-6080

Household Goods

FIREPLACE natural wood

Living room furniture etc. MATTRESS & BOXSPRING

nursing & snuggling. BRAND NEW w/sage green washable ultra suede upholstery, voted best gilder in PARENTING \$150. Dinette set, \$150. Corner curio cabinet with light, \$300. 248-615-7501 Temper Pedic, full size, 2 mos. old. New \$1,400, asking \$1,000. (248) 642-3958.

ing for \$700. (248) 642-3958

\$450 like new (original \$850). (517) 223-4277 DINING ROOM SET - Vintage Winchendon maple. Table w/2 leaves, 6 chairs, corner cabi-

DINING TABLE Baker w/4

EXECUTIVE DESK Large, 5drawer, cherry veneer, leather top, \$150. Bedside chest, exc. cond. \$50. (248) 474-6527.





eight-month-old black Labrador/German Shepherd mix. She is a very sweet puppy and loves to play. She has plenty of energy and is very active Paws will need to be

adopted by a family that will give her plenty of play time and exercise. She listens very well and will be eager to please her new family.

To make Paws your new family companion VISIT THE Michigan Humane Society Westland Shelter 734-721-7300

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burning "Brick Stove" insert with blower motor. Heats great. Doors have glass inserts. Also have screen to burn without door on. (Just converted to gas) \$250.

COUCH Exc. cond. Neutral, wood trim, very nice, almost brand new. Bought new \$1500 now self-

DINING ROOM SET, statues of lion & fountain, fridge, computer, entertainment center, Queen bed, baby clothes, foosball, 734-953-0922.

chairs, 3 leaves & pads \$650. Antique oak table, w/4 Cane bottom chairs, \$550. White platform twin bed \$35. Light oak hutch \$75.00

Household Goods

RELOCATING Everything Must Go! tables, chairs, china cabinet, armore, glass

coffee & end tables, file cabinet, & more! House for sale in Troy. 248-321-1990

SOFA - NEW - Light beige in color, was \$950. Now \$400. KIM'S UPHOLSTERY

27760 Joy Road, Livonia, Mi 48150. 734-427-5140

SOFA, LOVESEAT & CHAIR Traditional, floral pattern

Call after 6pm: 248-553-0822

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excellent condition

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**COUCH & LOVESEAT** Great cond., no pets/no smoke. Denim blue & cream striped w/8 throw pillows, \$400 or best. (248) 698-9564 DESK large cherry roll top,

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WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD

You could be the lucky winner of an Authentic Detroit Red Wings jersey. We will draw a winner each week from the postcards with the correct answers to the trivia questions.

> **Red Wings Jersey** c/o THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

The winners will be published every Thursday & Sunday in your Observer & Eccentric Classifieds Section. Winners will be contacted by a Detroit Red Wings representative. The Hockeytown Holiday Grand Prize Winner will be

**RED WINGS TRIVIA QUESTIONS** 

What three players have been selected #1 overall by the Detroit Red Wings in the NHL entry draft since its inception in 1963?

goaltender while playing for the Detroit Red Wings?

Only three players have worn the # 13 for the Detroit Red Wings. Name those thress players.

> This Week's Winner! Wendy Weingarden - Westland

Employees of The Observer & Eccentric and the Detroit Red Wings are not eligible to win



FRODO 3 years old. Owner Jeremy L. Hill, Canton.



Dear Big Daddy Doug Merry Christmas! All our love Sullivan & Finnegan



"TOONCES" Would like to remind everyone to Drive Safe and have a wonderful Holiday Season!



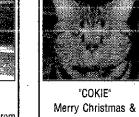
wishes everyone a Merry Christmas & a

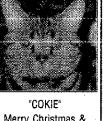
Happy New Year





BITSY! (Maine coon cat)





Happy New Year to all. The Clarks, Canton, Mi.



friends.

From Beamer



May your Holiday be

happier than mine

appears to be!

Love, Mr. Bigglesworth

**VELCRO** 

wishes you and yours

every happiness for the

holidays and the

coming new year.



Dear Santa: I Try To Be Good....but my masters eep leaving good smelling things on the kitchen counter. Actually some don't smell so good, but like those things anyway! How about a bone! Marley



furry friends

a warm & Happy New Year!



I've been a loyal, trust-

ed mount for my mas-

ter. Please bring apples

& carrots. Lady White

May all my furry

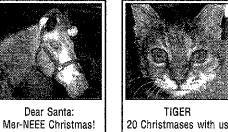
little friends

(& their owners)

have a Wonderful &

Safe Holiday Season!

Love, Mrs. Butterworth





Our darling senior cat

with love.

The Fodors

Farmington Hills

"BRIGITTE

For all the love you give

us and joy you bring to

so many, you are our

precious angel and we

love you.



MINNIE

A real "California Kitty"

wishes you a holiday

filled with

love and peace.



LULU

Minnie's best friend

from San Carlos,

wishes you a warm and

giving holiday season.

She's a dandy and a wonderful addition to our family. The Bull's Rochester Hills, MI



LOUIE

& his best friend RILEY

wish everyone a

wonderful holiday

season & a happy and

SNUGGLE BUNNY **Our Precious Princess** Brings love and joy To everyone she meets The Mulka's Livonia, MI







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Appliances

7215 Equipment-

Cardio glide plus exerciser \$55 (original \$200). (517) 223-4277

An Authentic Detroit Red Wings Jersey! Answer the TRIVIA



One lucky grand prize winner will receive the "Hockeytown Holiday Grand Prize". This will include a Red Wings Merchandise Package and the opportunity to have your photo taken on the ice at photo taken on the ice at Joe Louis Arena!

Here's how to enter: Send a postcard with the answers. Make sure that your name, a day time phone number, and your complete address is on the postcard. Send to: 32651 SCHOOLCRAFT • LIVONIA, MI 48150

drawn on Dec. 17th from all of the correct entries.

What three goalies won the Vezina trophy as the NHL's best





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Three bedroom, 2 bath broadfront brick Ranci across from golf course offers attached garage, finished basement with oossible fourth bedroom, formal dining room + newer Pergo floor in kitchen, vinyl windows & root. (E41KEN) 734-455-5600

FARMINGTON HILLS A Dream House Look no further, great home at a great price. Two bedroom Ranch with a lot of updates. Newer roof, furnace, carpet and (E27TUL) 734-455-5600 \$122,900



DETROIT Updated Home
What a charming home with garage and finished basement
with home theater room. Updated marble bath and updated kitchen. Florida room overlooking nice yard. Once you see i you will fall in love. (E22ROS) 734-455-5600



LINCOLN PARK Great Location Four bedrooms, 2½ baths with eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors under newer carpet, ceramic baths, newer roof & furnace. Bedrooms upstairs equipped with sink and stove hookup. Finished basement and 2 car garage. (E69GRE) 734-455-5600



GARDEN CITY Clean & Cozy Ranch
Three bedrooms, 2 full baths, master suite with private bath,
walk-in closet & sitting area, spacious kinchen with ample
storage throughout, breezeway, 2's car attached garage, newer (E13KAT) 734-455-5600 \$119,900



Wilford Better Quality Home
Updated brick Ranch offers 3 bedrooms, 3's baths, 2 car
attached garage, finished basement, family room with brick
fireplace, newer glass block windows, siding, gutters and (E83MIL) 734-455-5600 \$239,900



GARDEN CITY Cape Cod On Large Lot Mature trees surrounding this updated home. Ceramic kitchen and bath, fireplace in living room, hardwood floors and 3 car dream praces. (E38JOH) 734-455-5600 \$164,999



LODI TOWNSHIP Country Club Living
Spacious 4 bedroom, 4½ bath Cape Cod sitting on the lifth
green, offers full basement, 3 car attached garage, large suite
with cathedral ceiling & elegant bath + first floor master suite
with Jacuzzi and double shower. (E66HEA) 734-455-5600 \$749,900



distance of schools, churches and rec center, charming eat-in (E33MCK) 7324-455-5600



A pleasure to show! Great room with crown molding, neutral carpet & gas fireplace. Kitchen with white Merillat cabinets & appliances included. Dining area bay window, Franch doors to library, basement plumbed and daylight windows. (E61EDG) 724-455-5600





TAYLOR Don't Miss This One!

Newer construction Condo opens to a 2 story foyer. Beautiful gas fireplace, master bedroom with walk-in closet and vaulted ceiling. Features central air, 2 car attached garage and carpeted basement. (E78COA) 734-455-5600



(E80SUN) 734-455-5600

PLYMOUTH Nestled In The Woods Private setting, 2 bedroom, 2 bath Condo. Large living & dining room with corner fiseplace. First floor laundry, 2 private store rooms in basement. Oak cabinets with all applicances to stay, Neutral decor. Deck overlooking beautiful setting.



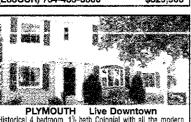
DETROIT Don't Miss This
Beautiful 3 bedroom, 1% bath brick Colonial with 2 car garage,
full basement, living room with fireplace, formal diring room,
breakfast nook overlooking the family room + central air.
Many annilances and newer doors. (E55BLA) 734-455-5600 \$99,000



NOVI Picturesque Colonial
Landscaping from Better Homes & Gardens with brick paver
pattle with built-in lights, hot tub, gazebo & perennial gardens.
Four bedrooms, 2'k baths, finished basement, 2 car attached
garage, maple kitchen and more. (E65BRO) 734-455-5600 \$279,900



SALEM TOWNSHIP Escape To A Country Life Spacious 3 bedroom, 2½ bath Ranch sitting on approximately 2 acres with fish pond and 2 garages. Updated kitchen, Andersen windows, furnace, central air, electric and roof shingles. First floor laundry and much more. (E63CUR) 734-455-5600 \$329,900



PLYMOUTH Live Downtown
Historical 4 bedroom, 1% bath Colonial with all the modern
updates. Hardwood floors throughout, large family room with
brick fireplace, part finished basement, open kitchen with appliances and large fenced yard with newer deck. (E16HOL) 734-455-5600 \$204,900



(E02ROL) 734-455-5600

DEARBORN Super Sharp Ranch
Two bedroom, 1 bath Ranch, roomy living room, separate
dining room with Pergo floors, updated bath, newer kitchen
floor, 2½ car garage with newer roof. Vinyl windows. (E62DAR) 734-455-5600 \$110,000



(E22RAY) 734-455-5600

EASTPOINTE Pack Your Bags
Unique refurbished Ranch offers open floor plan with sunken
great room with cathedral ceiling, doorwall leads to 3-tier
deck dream kitchen with oak cabinets. large finished
basement & garage. Newer roof, central air & home warranty.



DEARBORN HEIGHTS Out Of A Magazine
Updated & maintained brick Ranch with great curb appeal.
Neutral decor throughout. Hardwood floor under carpet.
Updated roof, vinyl windows, kitchen floor + large finished
basement with gas fireplace, patio and 21 car garage. (E78MCK) 734-455-5600



Open floor plan, 2 story foyer with hardwood floors, formal living room & dining room, family room with gas fireplace, pro-finished basement, spectacular master has glamour bath, 3 car attached garage all in this 4 bedroom, 3% bath home. (E61RED) 734-455-5600



REDFORD Spectacular Home
Great location across the street for Korvette Park. Newer
windows, entry doors, roof & carpet. Appliances included. Ail
in this 3 bedroom brick Bungalow with finished basement and \$139,900

(E67FEN) 734-455-5600



SOUTH LYON Beautiful Brick Colonial Like new, spacious open floor plan in this 4 bedroom brick Carriage Club home. Serene view of natural pond. Gourmet kitchen, jolack appliances, maple cabinets. Basement plumbed for bath. Many custom upgrades. Neutral colors. Very nice. (E59CAR) 248-349-5600



SALEM Beautiful Cape Cod
Convenient country living for the buyer who seeks peace &
quiet yet needs quick drive to Ann Arbor or metro. Nestled high
on a hill with approximately 2.74 acres. Four bedrooms, 4/
baths, kitchen with cherry cabinets, hardwood floors & more (E26FOX) 248-349-5600 \$659,900



NEW HUDSON Zoned Commercial
What an investment, business opportunity or home. Much
sought-after Grand River Avenue in the exploding new
shopping area. Basement, 4 car garage and approximately .36 (E55GRA) 248-349-5600 \$199,900

SOUTH LYON Ground Level

Move-in ready. Well maintained Condo that is less than a mile to lovely downtown. Two bedrooms with 2 full baths, (E08GRE) 248-349-5600

NORTHVILLE Discover A Perfect Oasis
Amazing woodland lot with creek shelters. Newly crafted home that gracefully blends historic with contemporary in soothing comfort and style designed for the way you live. Beautiful stone, wood & granite. In the heart of town. Perfect. (E35HIG) 248-349-5600 \$949,900



FARMINGTON HILLS Opportunity in Olde Town Three bedroom Bungalow on a corner lot with den and 2 car attached garage. Extra lot also available. Walk to park & school. Convenient to shopping, freeway and hospital. This home needs TLC and is being sold "as is". (E04IND) 248-349-5600



Three bedroom, 1% bath Co-op. Living, dining, basement, eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors & carpet. Monthly fee includes gas, water, taxes, inside/outside maintenance, garbage pick up, stove, refrigerator, furnace, hot water heater replacement (E25JAM) 248-349-5600



ORCHARD LAKE House On 2 Sports Lakes Enjoy Orchard & Upper Straits lakes. Awesome 2+ acre property with huge deck gazebo, paths & nature. Six badrooms. 3% baths, 2 fireplaces, cathedral cellings, huge dining room & office. It's a one-of-a-kind. (E47OLD) 248-349-5600



Sprawling Ranch bullt into a hill to facilitate a wonderful walk-out. Custom amenities include natural stone fireplace, targe gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors. Wrap-around deck with patio. Sun room and much, much more. (E45POT) 248-349-5600



WESTLAND Great Location
Three bedroom, 1 , bath Ranch Partially finished basement
with 2 bath. Eat-in kitchen & dining area. Fully fenced rear yard with patio. Low maintenance exterior. House roof in (E90STI) 248-349-5600 \$131,900



BROWNSTOWN Ranch-Style Condo
Lovely 2 bedroom unit with neutral decor. Vaulted ceiling,
plant ledges and large kitchen with many cabinets. Super
clean & across from commons area. One car attached garage.
All appliances newer and stay. Unit only 3 years old.



CANTON Canton Colonial

Newer hardwood in living, dining, kitchen, entry & lavatory on first floor. Four bedrooms, 2½ baths, tilled basement, 2 car attached garage, deck with 2 levels, fenced, 8ig yard in great sub with easy access to freeway, shopping & medical facility.



REDFORD Stop Dreaming!
Start living the reality of home ownership in this Ranch. Three bedrooms, 2 baths & family room, Living room with hardwood floors, finished basement with fireplace, Extra bedroom possible & full bath. 2 car garage, fenced yard, appliances & more. (E70DIX) 248-349-5600 \$159,900



with full finished basement. Open floor plan & huge deck to enjoy private backyard. Brand new roof in 2004. Freshly painted throughout. Most appliances included. (E33LYN) 248-349-5600 \$177,500



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Come experience this hidden paradise yourself. Immaculate
builders model. 3 BR. 3.5 BA with Wit0 basement on canal
front. Five sites also available for your custom built home.

(E89MAG) 248-349-5600 \$724,900



NOVI You Want It, We've Got It
All the most wanted features: open floor plan, 1st floor master,
fireplace, finished lower level, 4 BR, 4 BA, 1st floor laundry.
Large deck and wooded lot & sidewalks. Fresh paint.
Northville schools. \$434,900

NORTHVILLE Mind-Boggling Condo to perfection & upgraded flooring T/O. KIT w/breakfast nock, formal DR, LR w/fireplace, large MBR w/walk-in closet, FFL, wood deck, C/A, fin. rec room, heated 2 car garage. Loaded! \$184,900 (E66NEW) 248-349-5600



HARTLAND Breathtaking Setting Updated 5 BR, 2 BA home w/a W/O LL. Master suite w/sitting area & Franch doors leading to a deck. Updated kitchen & bath. Newer molding & trim, solid wood doors & freshly painted. A must see (E29PIN) 248-349-5600



Condo with Lake Access Great value. Ground level unit with handicap access. Clean & bright. Extra large bathroom, neutral decor. View of woods. Lake privileges to Walled Lake. South Pointe Condo's an adult community-55 years+.

(E55SOU) 248-349-5600



LIVONIA One Look Will Do
Beauty, warmth and an open floor plan. LR wydorwall to deck
& brick paver patio. 3 BR, 2 BA, finished LL with BR or office,
hardwood floors, updated bath, 2 car garage, large lot, tenced ard. It doesn't get any better.



REDFORD Ready, Get Set, Movel
Spacious well-maintained 3 BR 2 BA bungalow Wifinished
basement & 2 car garage. In-ground pool, large deck, formal
dining room, family room, breakfast room w/snack bar,
kitchen with large Island.

(E59DAL) 248-349-5600 \$158,900



TAYLOR Meticulously Maintained
Perfect townhouse condo w/2 BR, 1.5 BA. Newer furnace,
A/C, carpet, windows, appliances, Updated kitchen with
ceramic floors in foyer and bath, Gas and H20 included in
association fees, clubhouse, pool and tennis courts. (E98DUP) 248-349-5600 \$74,900



Beautiful 4 BR. 2.5 BA colonial w/professionally finished basement, hardwood floors, newer roof, dramatic library, 2 fireplaces. Open floor plan, All this setting on approx, 1 acre plus lot w/circular driveway & beautiful park setting. (E25EMB) 248-349-5600







CANTON Look No Further
Canton's "Glengarry Village" stunning ranch with custom
decor T/O. Cathedral ceillings and fireplace in the FR. Open
floor plan. Master suite whyrivate bath. Beautiful treed lot with
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# Attention Classified Advertisers

**Check Out These Early Holiday Deadlines** Your advertising is important to us and we don't want to leave anyone's ad out of the paper.

#### Thursday, December 23 Publication

(Delivered Wednesday) Real Estate Display.....Friday, December 17, 3 pm Auto Display......Monday, December 20, Noon Recruitment Display......Monday December 20, 3 pm Liner.....Monday December 20, 6 pm

#### Sunday, December 26 Publication

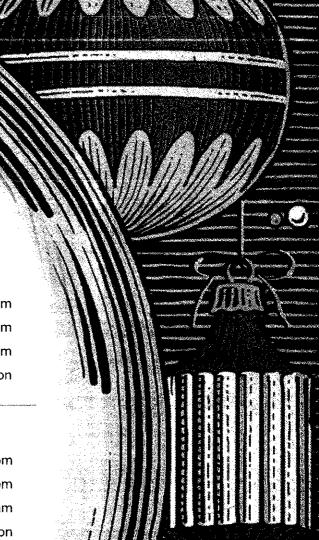
Real Estate Display.....Tuesday, December 21, 5 pm Auto Display......Wednesday, December 22, 5 pm Recruitment Display.....Thursday December 23, 10 am Liner.....Thursday December 23, Noon

#### Thursday, December 30 Publication

(Delivered Wednesday) Real Estate Display.....Thursday, December 23, 3 pm Auto Display......Monday, December 27, Noon Recruitment Display......Monday December 27, 3 pm Liner.....Monday December 27, 6 pm

Sunday, January 2 Publication

Real Estate Display.....Tuesday, December 28, 5 pm Auto Display......Wednesday, December 29, 5 pm Recruitment Display.....Thursday December 30, 10 am Liner.....Thursday December 30, Noon



(\*)



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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers GOOD MAN WANTED

#### women seeking men

**FULL-FIGURED BEAUTY** Light-complected SBF, 25, 5'5", 265lbs, brown eyes, dimples, enjoys movies, parks, playing pool. Seeking SM, 18-32, who is sweet, treats a woman with respect. 22112932

IN IT FOR THE LONG-TERM SBF, 30, 5'6", loves to get away for the weekend, would like to get to know SBM; 23-41, w/passion for travel and life.

BIG, BOLD, BEAUTIFUL Attractive, voluptuous SBF, 33, N/S, beautiful smile, seeks single man, 21-60, who is adventurous, spontaneous, interested in dating. \$\frac{1}{25}\$511305

SINGLE MOM BF, 31, sweet and sincere, looking for respectful, Intelligent, fun-loving SM, 35-40, who is honest and trustworthy. Must like children. 2532394

PRECIOUS ONE SWF, very pretty, a young 39, medium dark/green, works in medical field, seeks attractive SWM, outgoing, honest, caring, sensitive and creative, for best friend, more. 22230588

ATTN: WORKAHOLICS SWF, 39, 5'7", 125lbs, ISO professional male, for friendship possible relationship. Not just arm candy, have opinions, feelings, don't want perfection just right person. 22410965 MUST HAVE SIMILAR VALUES

SWCF, 51, 4'11", 115lbs, blonde hair, two grown children, loves animals, church, children, sports. Seeking a good Christian man, 50-62, for friendship first, possible LTR. 22530353

LOVES TO DANCE Tail brunette, very attractive, 5'9", long black/green, looking for an available WM, 53-70, 5'10+, who loves to dance also. 22531151

**CUTE AND CLASSY** SBF, 50+, physically fit, enjoys jogging, concerts, theater, quiet evenings. Seeking attractive gentleman, over 50, with similar interests. \$\pi\$130522

SEEKING KINDRED SPIRIT SM, 45, blonde, attractive, friendly, kind, considerate, polite, seeking a SW/DM, 42 friendship, possibly more.

HOPE WE CAN TALK SOON! I am a 5'2", brunette, dark eyes, early 60s, searching for a tall, financially secure gentleman who knows how to treat a lady. **25**466121 LOYAL

SWF, 43, Leo, N/S, bionde/blue, professional chef, green thumb, petite, enjoys cooking, boating, seeks compatible SWM, 43-50, N/S, for dating and possible rela-ARE YOU ROMANTIC?

ARE YOU ROMANTIC?
SBF, 43, N/S, N/D, likes travel, sports, running, dancing, swimming, cooking, Looking for outgoing, goal-oriented BM, 38-50. 25546448 **GET IT TOGETHER** 

SBF, 28, 5'5". N/S, plus-sized, brown/ brown, would love to spend some time with a nice SBM, 30-40, N/S, who has his lite together. \$2543576 SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT

SBCF, grandmother, N/S, likes dining pool, parks, traveling, cooking, Seeking gentleman, 45+, sense of humor, values, knows how to treat a lady. No game play-BRIGHT EYES

SWF, 28, 5'5", average build, N/S, seeks easygoing SBM, 27-44, who wants to talk, go out, see where things go from there. 2541942 LOVABLE AND SWEET

SBF, 30, 52°, brown/brown, 170lbs, mother, working student, Libra, N/S, seeks independent, smart BM, 35-75, for friendship, possible relationship, LTR. 82437579 WHERE ARE YOU? Attractive, outgoing, honest, sexy SBF, 32, ISO SM, any race, 31-37, for relationship, I

enjoy movies, rollerblading, comedy clubs, bowling, etc. Serious replies only. \$\frac{\pi}{2455371}\$ LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS

SF, 29, likes laughing, hanging out, having fun. Looking for similar SM, 38-41, N/S, for friendship or more. \$\overline{1}\ove HAPPY, HEALTHY,

adventurous, athletic SWF, 39, 5'2", smoker, mother of 2, seeks adventurous, energetic WM, 35-46, with a good sense of humor. \$2542710 MERRY CHRISTMAS BABY

Very attractive, petite BF, 5'3", 119lbs, youthful, open-mined, outgoing, loves to have fun, seeking a SWM, 36-39, who is very open-minded and outgoing. 2544337 SEEKS PROFESSIONAL MALE

itics, reading and going to movies. LOOKING FOR AN ANGEL

n a SBM, 38-50, 6'+, 190+. Must be honest and laid-back. I enjoys movies, going cut, walks, nice conversation, dining, more. \$\overline{\pi}\$531635 SEXY REDHEAD/GREAT LEGS

DWF, 54, 142lbs, 5'6", enjoys blues, animals, gardening, homeowner, no kids. Seeking SM, 5"10"+, N/S, social drinker for LTR. 2548938 LOVE AND MARRIAGE Very romantic and shy Russian lady, 38, 5'10', slim, Sagittarius, would like to meet an intelligent, romantic man, with a strict

morality, who is looking for love, possible marriage. 25:529118 MAYBE US? WiWF, 42, devoted mom, 5'7", 145lbs, seeks handsome child-friendly SWM, 37-47, who enjoys bowling, movies, dining out, festivals, for friendship, possible relationship. Prefer N/S, N/D, D/D-free.

23\*510109 TWO HEARTS ONE LIFE SBF, tall, medium build, N/S, who enjoys music, traveling, comedy shows, seeks man, 45-55, N/kids, N/S, outgoing, affec-tionate, stable, for LTR. 28444748

STILL LOOKING
Attractive tall SBF, 48, N/S, business woman. Enjoys fishing, boating, movies, tong walks. Seeking 35+ w/same inter-

est, N/S. 22525043 ATTRACTIVE PRINCESS... seeks knight SBF, 26, 5', desires SBM, 26-35, for possible LTR, must be ambi-

tious, enjoy pets, long walks, sports, be employed and full of possibility. \$2530839 PETITE AND SEXY

SBF, 50, Scorpio, N/S, petite, 5'1", 105lbs, energetic, enjoys fitness, movies, theater, craft shows, seeks similar SBM, 50-61, N/S, who is fit, energetic, similar interests. **25**544500 LIFE IN THE COUNTRY

SF, 30, 5'7", medium build, college-educated, real estate agent, dog breeder, seeks SF, 27-55, with passions, goals, and motivation in life, 12 (2094) LIFE IS TOO SHORT

Mature and outgoing SBF, 50 years young, 5', 175lbs, thick not fat, great figure, interested in meeting mature black male who loves to live spontaneously. 22276032

SELF-EMPLOYED. intelligent, funny SBF, 35, full-figured, Aries, marriage-minded, N/S, likes jazz music, comedy and action movies. Seeking man, 29-45. 25525351 **WOMAN OF SUBSTANCE** 

SBF, 27, Capricorn, smoker, 5', stable, financially secure, seeking a SM, 25-45, who is stable and knows what he wants in tife. 2531401

A LOT TO OFFER

Make me laugh.WF, 52, N/S, tired of going through life alone, enjoys rock music (especially Eric Clapton) and the blues. ISO male, 45-59, 2547623 ARE WE A MATCH?

SWF, 26, enjoys the outdoors, rollerblad-ing, biking, long walks and romantic din-ners. Looking for SWM, 25-30, for LTR. ARE WE A MATCH?

SBF, 45, tall, pretty, enjoys working out, theater, cooking, comedy clubs. Seeking tall SWM, 42-60, attractive, financially secure, similar interests. \$2483448 THICK AND HEALTHY SBF, 30, 5'5", 240lbs, N/S, N/D, no kids.

employed. Seeking nice-looking SM, 20-35, w/no kids, N/S, for friendship, possibly more. \$3534802 CIRCLE THIS AD

Thick, cute BF, 32, single parent, enjoys kids, likes movies, music, bowling, humor, conversation, looking for BM, 29-37, with a romantic side. \$\oldsymbol{2}553542 YOU NEED ME

Very attractive, young, full-figured, mixed 8F, 30, 5°6", searching for down-to-earth, tall, responsible, mentally/physically/finan-cially secure male. I need you as much as you need met ₱519124 HONESTY REQUIRED Beautiful, full-figured SBF, 35, Is looking for tall, dark, handsome SBPM who is honest

and down-to-earth, to spend time with **224**01088 GIVE IT MY ALL SBF, 37, down-to-earth, 5'10", big and

beautiful, N/Drugs, seeking clean-cut SM, 38-55, N/Drugs, for fun and dating. CALL ME

Fun-loving, affectionate, real SBF, 32, enjoys playing cards, the cutdoors, candlelight dinners, having fun, seeking SWM, 30-60, for dating, 12474843

FINANCIALLY SECURE SF, 34, N/S, health conscious, active, with diverse interests, looking for a woman, 25-40, who has integrity, honesty, security, and femininity. Race open. 2537865

YOU GOT A FRIEND SPF, 5'4", N/S, N/D, HPTW, enjoys going out and having a good time, not into bars, seeking the right SBF, 36-43, for friendship

VERY ATTRACTIVE REDHEAD Beautiful, fun temale, 50, 5'6", fit body, short hair, looking for a laid-back SM, 49-61, who likes dining, dancing, having fun! WANTED: TALL, CLASSY MALE l am in my early 60s, 5'2", brown/brown I enjoy dancing, outdoors, and travel

ng a companion and maybe a relationship. Please call. 2982305 TRY ME! SF, 37, blonde/blue, 5'6", mother, enjoys

bowling, pool, concerts, long park walks, cycling musicr especially Rod Steward more. Seeking Macomb man to share happiness with \$254,04691 SF, 28. 51. 135lbs, CNA. enjoys movies, travel, hanging out, seeking compatible SM, 25-45, who shares simi-

SEARCH NO MORE Genuine, attractive, feminine, independent SBF, 5'6", 140lbs, who enjoys jazz, romantic dinners, quiet evenings, plays, nights In, seeking honest, independent, sincere, feminine SF, 30-42. 22473831

lar interests. 2 475292

TAKING IT IN

SWF, 52, 5'2", 190lbs, youthful-looking, shoulder-length hair, brown/brown, love motorcycles, James Taylor, dining, seeking SWM, 48-59. 2530084 LOOKING FOR YOU

SWF, 61, looking for a man who likes good books, good conversation and appreciates the many differences between men and women. 59-70. \$\mathbf{c}\$532307

LOVE IS HARD 2 FIND SBF, 28, libra N/S, N/D, no children, sweet, tun and affectionate, seeks SBM, 25-35, friendship and possible LTR. 2935890 ADAM LOOKING FOR YOUR RIB

Financially secure, independent SBCF, 31, 5'7", 160lbs, enjoys concerts, movies, dining, quiet times and more. Seeking SCM, 30-45, with similar interests, for possible LTR. 2217475

**CHRISTIAN BACKGROUND** SBCF, 30, no children, seeks goal-oriented SBCM, 25-37, no children, who is respectfut, intelligent, intellectual, and respects women! 2819950 OPEN AND HONEST

SF, 35, looking for a woman, 25-45, for affection and attention. Call, let's add some excitement to life! \$\pi\2424565\$ PARADISE SBF, 36, 5'2", brown/brown, ISO honest SM, 35-40, who knows what he wants in

life and who's looking for paradise, share my love. 25849600 ALL MY LOVE 4 YOU

Down-to-earth woman, 25, RN, enjoys beaches, dirring, theater, romantic times. Seeking a special man to share life, love and TLC. 22850979 STARTING OVER Employed, widowed grandmother, 56, loves old-school music, playing cards, con-

certs, and park walks. Searching for a similar man, 48-62. \$\overline{\Omega}\$648146 OLD-FASHIONED, LAID-BACK

SBF, 59, Virgo, smoker, loves watching basketball and cooking. Seeking an understanding BM, 55-65, smoker, who loves fishing, volleyball, and picnics. JUST LET ME KNOW

Intelligent, caring, affectionate DWF, 28, 5'4", brown/blown, full-figured, enjoys helping people, the outdoors and more. Seeking outgoing, trustworthy, affection-Seeking outgoing, trustworthy, affectionate SWM, 24-35, for friendship, maybe more. 2215849 SWF, 27, full-figured, N/S, enjoys movies, dinner, dancing. Seeking man, 24-35, N/S, race unimportant, for friendship, possible romance. #250724

BEAUTIFUL EYES AND SMILE Sports-oriented BF, 39, two teenage daughters, physically challenged, loves jazz, sports, gospel, picnics, amusement parks. Seeking SF, 29-45. \$\frac{\pi}{223080}\$

LOOKING FOR GOOD FRIENDS SBF, 38, is looking for SW/H/AM who is educated, fun, outgoing, adventurous, spontaneous. Laughter and conversation are good things. Must be a gentleman. \$\frac{\pi\_2}{2589}\$

Petite WF, 50s, with herpes, willing to give it another chance, seeks one-on-one rela-tionship with SM. Race, age unimportant. **23**405796 QUIET, QUALIFIED

**NOT INTO GAMES** 

SBF, 47, N/S, attractive, shy, w/great sense of humor, enjoys nature, skiing, plays, movies, music, tries to savor the joyous moment. Seeking BM, 42-55. 23460494 BEAUTIFUL MIND WANTED

Beautiful, tull-figured SBF, 35, enjoys com-edy and romance, bowling, walks in the park. Seeking tall, dark, handsome SBM, 33-50. 27481293

HELLO, HOW ARE YOU? Loving, down-to-earth SBCF, 33, 4'11", 180lbs, mother, N/S, N/D, enjoys bowling, shopping, movies, live entertainment. Seeking SBCM, 32-35, N/S, for friendship, possible romance. 2829735 GET TO KNOW ME!

SF, 38, N/S, mother of two, looking for working man, 28-55, N/S, for friendship first. 23431382

ATTRACTIVE SWEET BF
49, H/W proportionate, medium build, enjoys cruises, concerts, dining out, movies, traveling. Seeking honest, passionate SM, 45-60, with similar interests. for dating, possibly more. 27134441 LET'S COMMUNICATE

Active, affectionate SBF enjoys dining out, movies, plays, concerts, traveling. Seeking honest, good-humored SBM, 55-70, wisimilar interests, for companionship, SWEET SINGLE FEMALE..

looking for sweet SM, SF, 21, dark brown/brown, 5'2", 150lbs, tattoos/piercings, ISO commitment-minded, loving, kind guy interested in friendship, happi-ness and a loving, long-term relationship. **☎**452322 IT'S ALL GOOD Cool SBF, 31, 5'8", N/S, likes to bowl, fish, skate and travel, seeks SBM, 19-35, N/S, to share honest friendship, romance, qual-

time together. \$2476802 ARE YOU STRONG OF MIND? But gentle of heart? Good-looking, trim SM, 42-55, N/S? Very cute SBF, 53, emotionally and physically in shape, with eclectic interests, currently accepting

HAVE FUN AND CHILL SF, 6'4", 250lbs, works in medical field, seeking a SM, who wants to have fun and chill with her. 25517112

SEARCHING FOR A REAL LOVE Full-figured African-American woman, attractive, 44, no children, ISO African-American male, 32-38, to spend quiet evenings. I'm carefree, love laughter, good trees, concerts, plays, sporting events, traveling, and quality time. 2290167 SENSE OF HUMOR A MUST

SF, 43, smoker, student, looking for SM, 25-35, N/S, who is trustworthy, a good listener, and will make me happy. 2484338 BEAUTY AND BRAINS Hard-working SWF, 50, smoker, enjoys laughter, movies, music, conversation, and

more. Seeking healthy, trustworthy, intelli-gent SWM, 45-60, for friendship, maybe more. 73 928511 FEELING LIKE A LADY SWCF, honest, pleasant, long hair, 42, no children. Likes nature walks, travel, cooking, children, feeling like a lady. Seeking

honest, genuine, marriage-minded S/DWCM. 2578655 LET'S BE HAPPY TOGETHER Pretty, slender Ukrainian lady, 54, Catholic, 10 years in the U.S. Seeking caring relationship with warm-hearted, independent man who enjoys family, theater travel. \$512135

ARE YOU THE ONE? SBF, 41, 4'5". wishes to meet a king-sized SBM, 41+, for friendship and companion-LET'S ENJOY - IFE

No diama, no gime, like 55PP interests, concerts, plays, moves, diving and more. Enjoys having sun, seeking S/DM, for LTR **EPITOME OF BEAUTY** 

Iterature, writing, reading, movies. Looking for SM, 19-34, for possible relationship. TALKTO ME!

SF, 43, likes movies dining, shopping, the zoo, time with my kids. Seeking honest, good-looking, sincere man, 38-46. STRIKING... blue-eyed blonde! Slim, sensuous, roman-

tic, fun, caring, seeking attractive, fit, fun-loving male, 47-57. Friendship, LTR. I enjoy movies, walks, music, hugs, laughter, quiet times. Let's get to know each other VERY OUTGOING Catholic DWF, 59, looks much younger, N/S, very tall, looking for gentleman, 56-63, w/upbeat personality, to enjoy family

camping, travel, much more. LOOKING FOR MY TEDDY BEAR Attractive WiWF, 64, red/olue, 5', 150lbs,

looking for easygoing, well-groomed gen-tleman, 65-70, who enjoys meeting new people. 22476645

WARRIOR PRINCESS! WPF, 49, seeks SBPM, 38-52. Let's snug-gle and make this winter a total meltdown! I love laughter, humor, reading, and life! ☎480978 ROMANTIC LADY Beautiful, voluptuous DBF, 42, 5'6", likes

traveling, outdoors. Seeking man, 45+, race unimportant, to enjoy life together, for friendship maybe more. ☎464984 LISTEN WITH MY HEART Attractive DWF, late 40s, Cancer, N/S, seeks special, no games WM, 45+, N/S,

for caring, quality committed relationship. Let's create sparks and watch them fly SOMEONE SPECIAL Classy, attractive SBF, 50, 5'3". 120lbs, ISO SWPM, 50+, for special friendship, love boating, music, quiet times, movies

at home, romance, outdoors, travel. CAN U MAKE ME LAUGH? Spontaneous SWF, 61, 5'4", average build, happy, independent, humorous, enjoys boating, cards, music, dining, walks, travel, goff. Seeking good-humored SM, w/similar interests, for companion-

TEACHER BY DAY... likes to let-loose at night. SBF, 47, N/S, N/D, teacher, loves dancing, dining, movies, having fun. music, good friends, seeking SBM, 33-55, with similar inter-

ests. 25894112 R U OUT THERE? Attractive, thrilling SBF, 39, never been married, no kids, enjoys music, sports. Seeking same in tail SBM, 30-45, preferably with facial hair. 2914171

RESCUE MEI HESCUE WIE!
SBF, 41, 5'5", average build, enjoys church, family, shopping, much more. Looking for SBM, 43-47, professionally employed, N/S, who knows how to treat a woman. 22408635

A PRECIOUS JEWEL Very attractive BPF, Christian, 47, 5'5', 145lbs, honey brown, N/S enjoys out-doors, movies, travelling, cooking, Seeking ormantic BPM, 40-55, financially secure, similar interests, for LTR, 25/432793 FUN-LOVING LADY

SBF, 43, Virgo, smoker, loves chocolate, seeks fun-loving, sincere BM, 34-56, enjoys conversations, companionship. WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

I could be it! Attractive SWF, 50, 51, 105lbs, willing to try just about anything the state of 
105lbs, willing to try just about anything with the right person! Seeking SBM, 32-50, for special relationship. 27418068 AM I LOOKING FOR YOU? Attractive, kind-hearted SBF, 44, 5'8", full-figured, enjoys dining out, movies, playing cards, family and more. Seeking family-oriented, intelligent, humorous SB/HM, 40-60, for friendship and com-

panionship. 2238281 NEW TO WAYNE CO. AREA SBPF, 40ish, 5'6", nurse, with children, marriage-minded, smoker, loves drama movies, dancing, and crossword puzzles. Seeking WM, 45-60, smoker, who enjoys music and sports. \$2245.45 WHERE IS MR. RIGHT?

SF, 46, likes dancing, bowling, romantic evenings, swimming. Seeking SM, 40-55, with good sense of humor. \$\pi 257065\$ YOUR WILDEST DREAMS

SEEKING THE RAINBOW Open-minded, energetic, spontaneous SBF, 48, 5'3", seeks the star at the end of rainbow. My star: someone communicative. kind-hearted, who enjoys romance, exploring life. 2998477

teminina 8F, 35-50, under 50°, nonesty a

ARE YOU THE ONE
DBF, 53, H/W proportionate, outgoing, loves the arts. plays, dancing, movies, outdoors, scenic drives. ISO SM D/Dfree, Wsimilar interests, smoker, social drinker ok. No games! \$\overline{\pi}\$417236 LOVING AND CARING

independent, active, loving, caring, down-to-earth SF, 46, N/S, vegetarian, enjoys movies, fine dining, travel. Looking for handsome SW/AM, 45-49, H/W proportionate, N/S, professional job. 27421896 THE LITTLE THINGS MATTER THE LITTLE HINGS MATEH SBF, 41, 54", very outgoing, loving, hon-est, trustworthy, hard-working, enjoys reading, writing, walks in the park, movies, concerts, seeking hard-working, trustwor-thy, God-fearing SM, 38-55. 2

LIFE BEGINS AT 60
61-year-old WF, 51/2", 135lbs, N/S, N/D, brown/blue, nurse, enjoys cooking, Civil War-Revolutionary War history, travel, seeking gentleman, 56-70, loyal, honest, N/S, affectionate, enjoys being pampered. **2**409879

Attractive SBF, marriage-minded, 5' 6", average build, 40, Capricorn, N/S, seeks BM, 40-51, N/S, to enjoy life and more. **25**692032

petite, attractive SBF, 57, N/S, enjoys music, concerts, dining. Looking for SBM, 57 to 63, for friendship, possible LTP, 20,0295 PLEASINGLY PLUMP FEMALE

42-year-old African-American female seeks tail, handsome man who is mature, N/S, and enjoys being in the company of a beautiful woman. 27/98192 TAKE A CHANCE

BBW, blonde/hazel. 56, attractive, enjoys many things, likes BBM. If you are 55-65, over 6', 250lbs-plus, let's talkt. 27424144

EBONY SEEKS IVORY DBF, 42. 5'3", 140lbs, full-figured, seeks to date: SWM, 40-50, in the Mount Clemens area. 25'455323

VERY SPICY!
BBW, passionate, SBF, 46, honey-complexion, dimples, seeks outgoing, fun-loving gentleman, 35-55, N/S, N/Drugs, any race, for movies, pool, dancing, music, and romance. Dating, possible LTR. \$752243 SHARING MY HOME AND HEART 75-year-old, romantic WF, 5'9', full-figured, N/S, N/D, disease-free, likes tall men, swimming, TV and home life. Seeking swimming, TV and hor SWM, 50-80. 12:552079

LIBRA DBF, 50, looks much younger, enjoys music, long walks, quiet times. Seeking W/A/HM, 35-50, for friendship, possible long-term relationship. \$253857 CALL ME..

if you are a business man, 60-70, SWM, N/S, N/D, horneowner. Interests in homelife, nature, pets, alternative medicine, sports. I'm a SWF, 73, w/the above. SEMI-RETIRED

SF. 62, 5'9", silm, fit, likes jazz, concerts, symphonies, theater, travel and outdoors activities. Seeking intelligent, honest, caring, humorous gentleman, 55-70, with similar interests. \$2467917 MR. RIGHT

Are you a tall, big, handsome man, that could be my Mr. Right, for a SWF, 5'8", attractive, loving and fun, let's share life together. 2443339

LIFE IS BEATIFUL Attractive SWF, 50s, loves all life, animals, arts, family, nature. Masters helping professional. Seeking big-hearted, secure, intelligent SPM, 48-64, for fun, friendship. depth, etc. 27892242

#### men seeking women ROMANTIC

SWM. 28. brown/hazel, medium build, likes Nascar, playing pool, camping and more. Looking for honest, caring WF, 21-40, to build a real relationship. \$2548889 ROCHESTER GENTLEMAN
DWM, 59, handsome, fun-loving and active, but heavyset with cane, retired

engineer, financially secure, enjoys the aller thing in life: local theater, cooking i roadtrips. Seeking S/DWF, 50-60, for SEEKS VERY PRETTY SEMALE ers executive seeks hary pretty, faithful fornate 32.30 who would like a good car-ng thoughtful man a her life. Weight must

be accortionate to herant, \$2540913 A QUALITY GUY DWM, 56, 510° handsome and secure. Seeks honest S/DWF, sense of humor, enjoys travel, candlelight dinners, plays, dancing, concerts boating, movies, for friendship, possible LTR. 12263646

MELP! SWM, 42, reformed multi-tasker, slowing down for walks, talks, green tea, sunsets, plus..., Rescue me from possible relapse! Do you have room in your life for a new friend? \$2540288 ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME? SBM, 52, enjoys dining out, movies, music, romance, laughter, the outdoors,

traveling, honesty, spontaneity and more. Seeking sensitive, fun-loving, understand-ing SF, 47-55, for possible LTR, \$203124 HERE YOU'LL FIND., an easygoing, agreeable, cute SWM, 40, eager to please and willing to try new things, seeks a fairly attractive, friendly SWF, for dating or more. \$\mathbf{T}\$210772

WHY NOT CALL? SWM. 23, blond/blue, 193lbs, medium build, seeks fun-loving SF who enjoys movies, dining out, cuddling, laughter and romance, to share friendship and

SEEKS OUTGOING SISTER SBM, 34, works in sales, loves bowl going to shows seeking a nice SBF 26-34, no dependents, who is established, outgoing. \$\overline{\sigma} 533322 KEEPING IT REAL

SM, 31, smoker, enjoys basketball. Looking for a SF, 18-35, to get to know. No gamesi \$2538247 GET TO KNOW ME! SBM, 33, 5'8", 160lbs, light brown eyes, light complexion, looking for a female. 22-43, for friendship, possibly more.

**25**542879 CHECKMATE
SBM, 37, 5'9', 180lbs, attractive, employed

as researcher, independent, attractive, enjoys reading, movies, dining, romance, chess. seeking a SF, 25-40. with similar qualities. \$\overline{x}\$7543182 FAMILY FIRST
DWM, 35, N/S, father of 1, looking for SWF, 33-42, who is done with partying,

feels ready to settle down. \$\overline{100}\$544048 HANDSOME, HUMBLE Caring, sharing, honest, trustworthy SBM, 35. Gernini. N/S, seeks a Goddess, age and race open. \$\overline{x}\$545943

WORTH A SHOT Outgoing, honest SM, 26, 6', 230lbs, looking for an outgoing, happy, light-hearted SF, full-figured A+, to share casual dates, talks and then who knows? \$\infty\$543013

LETS HANG
Easygoing SWM, 39, 5'8", 170lbs, brown-brown, N/S, into movies, dining out, relaxing at home, seeks SWF, 28-40, N/S, with cond-home, seeks SWF, 28-40, N/S, with cond-home, seeks SWF, 28-40, N/S, with cond-home with good personality, morals, and values \$540750 SEARCHING FOR YOU SEARCHING FOR YOU SBM. 5'11", 200lbs, medium build, great sense of humor, likes movies and going out. Would like to meet a fit female, 3045-, with similar interests. \$553157

TAKE ME OUT TONIGHT Lonely SBM, 51, 6'2", 195lbs, Capricorn, smoker, enjoys family activities, seeks SWF, 35-47, who loves children and dancing. 2547574

**OPENTO ALMOST ANYTHING** Optimistic, outgoing SWM, 46, enjoys most activities, yet open to new ideas and adventures, seeks spirited, spontaneous SWF, age open. 2547524 NEW, SINGLE AND SEARCHING SBM, 42, varied interests, wants to meet a woman who likes to go out and enjoy

MAYBE IT'S YOU SWM, 52, Aries, N/S, seeks friendship first with SWF, 35-48. Call now. I would like to hear from you. \$\overline{\pi}\$546509

themselves: parks, pionics and more.

**☎**546383

MAN OF QUALITY
SM, 35. adventurous, open-minded, courageous, outgoing and funny, seeking similar qualities in a woman 25-45, who is open-minded, straight-forward. \$\frac{1}{2}528018\$
TALL, DARK, HANDSOME
SWM 54. 6 eyerage hulfd Aries N/S SWM, 54, 6', average build, Aries, N/S, enjoys crossword puzzles and camping. Seeking WF, 45-55, N/S, for friendship, Seeking WF, 45-55, N/S, to possible romance. \$\omega\$737262

VARIED INTERESTS
Employed SBM, 27, 6', dark brown eyes, N/S, looking for nice-looking SF, 25-33, medium/average build, who's got something going on for herself! \$2537546 STRAIGHT UP, LOW-KEY Easygoing, citte SWM 40s, not into loud to a discrete dis

VARIED INTERESTS

nasnić, maybe ніста, 🛂 548455 LOOKING FORWARD TO ... meeting you, SWM, 32, 5,81,210fbs, medium build, seeks SWF, 28-40, medium build or voluptuous, for dining out, sporting events, occasional road trips, \$\oldsymbol{\pi}\$542328

EVENINGS AT HOME
Respectful SM, 39, 5'11", slim build, N/S.

delivery man, likes to watch movies, eat

dinner, go dancing, seeks SBF, 23-35. N/S, for LTR. \$2527179 I REALLY BELIEVE.. Do you believe in love at first sight? Interesting SWM, easy to talk to, active, adventurous, seeks pleasant, playful SWF, 35-50. \$\mathbf{7}\$686509

SM, 27, 6'1", caramel complexion, medium build, seeks down-to-earth SF, 23-35. with sense of humor and personality. SEEKING MISS RIGHT

SOMEONE TO TALK TO

SBM, 42, seeks special SF, 29-36, 120-155lbs, great sense of humor, N/S, N/D, who is outgoing, professional, Christian. No children, \$\pi 539869\$ SEEKING A NEW FRIEND
SM, 27, 611, 170lbs, athletic build, cook, enjoys reading, movies, theater. Looking for SF, 18 to 33, who loves outdoors.

MARRIAGE-MATERIAL? Marriage-minded SBM, 24, college student, loves music, writing poetry. Looking for SF, 22-28, for possible LTR. 2543101 SEEKING COMPANION SBPM, 45, looking for adventurous SF, 35-45, to get to know and see where things lead. \$2540310

SEEKING PM SM, 41, HIV+ but very healthy, active and busy, wants to meet a SM, 25-52, who is fun to be around. No drama or baggage. EYES FOR YOU

SM, 22, 6'4", light brown complexion, pret-ty brown eyes, father, good personality, good sense of humor, seeking SB/WF, 18-45, for dating, '65'432'13 WEST SIDE MAN...

WEST SIDE MAN...
seeks a local woman. Very sexy and attractive, down-to-earth, very funny, outgoing SBM, 23, brown eyes, Gernini, N/S, seeks woman, 18-30. 2545154 LIKE IN THE MOVIES SWM, 48, blonde/blue, muscular build, works as projectionist, enjoy sports and electrics, seeking a SW/BF, 28-57, with a pleasant personality, similar interests.

**☎** 529751

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU SM, 38, 5'11", 170lbs, new in town, enjoys movies, and simple times. ISO SF w/kind heart and healthy sense of humor, for sharing smiles, casual dates, talks, much more. 2532489 **GREAT GUY** 

Male, 50, 61", 220lbs, athletic build, hand-some, with sense of humor and own busi-ness, intelligent, N/S, enjoys good commi-lication and honesty. Seeking WF, 35-47, slim or athletic build. \$\frac{\pi}{226489}\$E. CHILDREN OK DM, 38, one son, professional, getting back into the dating scene. Looking for a woman, 28-40, to be a good friend first,

SPECIAL ONE SPECIAL ONE
Handsome SBM, 39, enjoys walking,
movies, dinners, quiet evenings at home.
Seeking attractive SBF, 28-44, for possi-ble LTR. 2184231 ENJOY GOOD COMPANY Ambitious SHM, 43, 5'8", smoker, works

maybe more. 2532786

in the steel industry, seeks woman, 35-41, who loves to hold hands and walk on the beach, for LTR. \$544929 PICK A WINNER
SWM. 50, attractive, healthy-looking, youthful, light-hearted, enjoys doing fun things and going to interesting places. Seeking lady to spend time with. \$\pi\cap30508\$

SEEKING SURVIVOR PARTNER
SWM, 44, black/brown, fit, romantic, honest, communicative, spiritual, attractive, immunity Challenge survivor. Seeking SF. 32-44, passionate, confident, enlightened, who enjoys travel, fine dining, sports, and theater. To enjoy life, \$683189 A-Asian B-African American/Black C-Christian D-Divorced F-Female H-Hispanic J-Jewish M-Male NS-Non-smoker ND-Non Drinker N/D- No Drugs P-Professional S-Single W-White LTR-Long Term Relationship

WAITING Nice-looking BM, 34, one chid, looking for

female, 26-35. Give me a call. 2533025 GIVE ME A CALL! SM, 25, 6', 195/bs, looking for an employed lady, 19+, to spend some employed lady, 19-time with. \$\pi 542492 RAPTURE

BM, 43, looking for SF, 27-63, for friend-ship and companionship. Enjoys quiet times by the fireplace and more. \$\overline{x}\$531934 BACK IN TOWN
Athletic SHM, 38, 5'11", 195lbs, Aries, N/S, black/brown, wears wire rim glasses, has a mustache, wishes to find a SF, 18-34, for

friendship. \$2533600 SEEKING... sweet and caring man, 49, looking for a female, 35-55, to spend some time with and get to know. \$\mathbf{T}\$541879 A ROMANTIC ODYSSEY

Grab your dreams and let's go! Youthful, easygoing SWM, 46, seeking attractive SWF with a lively spirit, good sense of humor. But will consider others. 25955782 BE THERE FOR ME Sexy SM, 20, 6'1", 165ibs, clean-cut, N/S, looking for a SF, 21-45, to chill with.

2543790 NEW DATE UPDATE NEW DATE UPDATE
Stable, sentimental, self-assured SWM,
43, enjoys family and friends. Can laugh
and cry, cook and clean! Seeking fun, smiling, happy SWF, 2121597

UP FOR A COLD ONE? SWM, 34, N/S, satesman in the beer busi-ness, likes to watch sports with friends, see shows, seeks SWF, 23-38, N/S, who is up for trying anything. \$2531186 MYSTICAL MAN SWM, 39, trusting, warm-hearted, enjoys life's adventures, exploring and taking new chances. Seeking mysterious, mag-nificent SWF companion. 22:234512

MUST LIKE CHILDREN
WM, 5'6", 150lbs, very outgoing, enjoys
spend a lot of time with my daughter.
Looking for very attractive female, 18-24. who loves camping, the outdoors and

SBM, 31, 5'9", mustache and beard, slim build, Pisces, marriage-minded, security guard, smoker, seeks woman, early 30s. 25538147 GORGEOUS BOWLER? SM, 55, seeking a pleasant, gorgeous, fit SW/AF, 30-40. who enjoys bowling, dining, movies, long walks, swimming. \$\overline{x}\$530208

MIND WIDE OPEN
SWM, 42, Pisces, N/S, 5'6', 175lbs, homeowner, good job, seeks woman, 18-25, no children, any ethnicity, religion. 2531710 GOOD CLEAN FUN 41-year-oid SM, D/D-free, N/D, enjoys movies, dining, seeking a SF, 30-50, N/Drugs, who enjoys run and spontaneity, for dating and possible relationship. \$\mathbf{25}\$533746

FRIENDSHIP FIRST FRIENDSHIP FIRST
SWM, 56, 5'10", 180lbs, salt n pepa/blue, enjoys dancing, dilning out, movies, music. ISO SWF, 48-60, with similar interests for friendship first, possible LTR, 2525983 HOPE YOU'RE THE ONE DM, 41, 5'10", brown/blue, 190lbs, enjoys bowling, shooting pool, darts, the arcade, sporting events, rollerblacing, cycling, sled-ding, bonfire, movies, much more. Seeking

Property of Appendicate Page 180 (1997) Seeking fun. easygoing honest SF to snare happiness and a friendship first relationship. \$2542455

HII LOOK ME OVER...

rit. attractive, fun, considerate, easygoing, down-to-earth, all-American SWM, enjoys music reading enjoys music, reading, sports, and fishing. Seeking SWF, 35-55. \$262919 A SEXY SHORT SOF WANTED, age 32-55, 4'5'-5'9' tall enjoy music, movies, dining, talks, and more with SBM, 6'1", cute face, lips, and hair. Own home and car. \$2496852

ROMANTIC ITALIAN
WM. 5'10", 188lbs, loves life and cooking Italian food. Would love to meet my Miss Right. I hope she is romantic also and loves animals. 25'532478 CHRISTIAN MAN SM, 31, loves movie and more. Looking for a female, 18-30, for friendship first, possibly leading to more in the future. Must have good morals. 25532507

CALL ME BM, 45, looking for a B/HF, 35-45, who likes movies, bowling, playing cards, quiet evenings at home and more. 2532877 Male, 32, 6'3", fit, college graduate, Virgo, N/5, jogger. Seeking woman, 20-47, fit, shapely, nicely built, who loves movies and bowling. 25:598002

FUN FRIENDSHIP... maybe more depending chemistry. Good-looking, degreed DWPM, Troy area, trim, fit, 150bs, 57", youthful, 40+, playful, creative, respectful, appreciative, humor, integrity, seeks right woman, 52"-5'6", good shape, age open. 25'962360
SEEK SWEET JEWISH WOMAN SJM, 49, would like to meet a nice Jewish woman who is kind, caring and

MAN WITH PIZZAZ... All that jazz. Sincere, affectionate SWM, 35-55, fit mind and body, enjoys art, cultural events, seeking witty, pretty SWF, 35-55, for friendship and possible relationship.

loving, for possible lasting relationship.

"RECOMMENDED READING" Share fun and laughter, enjoy simple pleasures, good conversations, or just hang out. SWM seeks SWF, 36-56. 2742760 GREAT FRIEND

Attractive, romantic engineer, Asian American male, light complexion, 54, 5'8",

160lbs, fit, financially secure, caring, fun-loving. Seeks W/H/A/F, 40-55, for friend-

ship maybe more. 2514300 ONE AT A TIME SWM, 46, 5'8", 205ibs, soft brown hair, blue eyes, loves old cars, and a girl that melts in my arms. No drugs, booze, kids. 2114917 WANTED: SEXY BLACK FEMALE
Sexy, Italian SM, 5'6", 170lbs, filt, athletic,
runs daily, has herpes, sensitive, understanding, good SOH, likes comedy
clubs, theater, dining/more. Seeking
attractive BF, 21-40. LTR. \$\frac{11}{27}\$130446

DO YOU BELIEVE...
in thoughtfulness, understanding, sincerity, everyday warmth, coupled with romantic play being paramount to a long-term, monogamous, romantic relationship?
SWM, 42, 6\*11, 1900bs, seeks slim, trim, romantic woman for LTR, 2538958 DO YOU BELIEVE.. SEEKING SOMETHING REAL

DJM 58, N/S, professional, easygoing, low-key, enjoys long walks, sporting events and more. Seeking commitment-minded, loving, affectionate, understanding lady who wants to create something special. **2**510956 TAKE A CHANCE

Fit, communicative, humorous, persevering, Catholic SWPM, 45, 5'8", no dependents, enjoys in/outdoors. Seeking fit, educated, emotionally available SWF. ROMANTICTRUCK DRIVER

HUMANTICTRUCK DRIVER
Nice-looking BM, 6'2", 205lbs, 50s, no
dependents, seeks slender or medium SF,
38-48, for concerts, weekend trips,
romance, dining out, playing chess, etc.
LTR an option. \$599083

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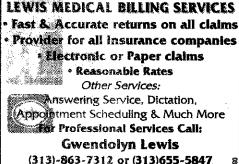


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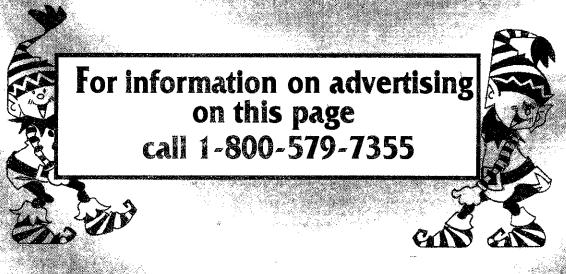












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# THE MERCEDES BENZ CLK 320

Advertising Feature

#### Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE | Thursday, December 23, 2004

So much of evaluating vehicles is psychological, and in that realm, a lot of how you end up feeling about a car has to do with expectations. Cars with sticker prices that you could afford only in another life, and bearing regal brand names of long repute, set up one kind of expectation. Vehicles that are budgetfriendly, and therefore are understood to be more Spartan, set up the driver for a different set of expectations.

Obviously, it's easier to satisfy and even to exceed low expectations than high ones. But give a car maker an extra \$20,000 or \$25,000 to work with in sticker price, and it's not unreasonable to expect that manufacturer to present a vehicle for \$45,000 that's every bit of twice as good as one you could drive off the lot for a mere \$22,500.

All that is by way of preamble to explain why driving a Mercedes Benz CLK 320 didn't thrill me more. Make no mistake about it: The car comes through big-time, in a way truly worthy of the brand, in some respects.

Chief among them is the quality of the drive. This coupe-style spitfire is indeed a mean machine in most situations, starting with a 3.2-liter, 215-horsepower, six-cylinder engine as standard, and presumably all the way through the vehicle's other two powertrain options, a five-liter, 302-horsepower V8 and a 5.4-liter, 362-horsepower V8. CLK 320 was reliably first off the mark in stoplight situations and very impressive in highway cruising. At posted speeds and above on Detroit's freeways,

CLK 320 motored along effortlessly, with just the satisfying little hint of a hum in the engine to remind you of what fun you both were having. The six-cylinder engine is rated at 20 miles a gallon in the city and 26 on the highway, which is very acceptable for the kind of performance you get,

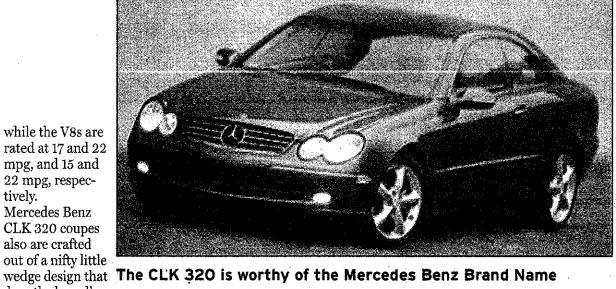
while the V8s are rated at 17 and 22 mpg, and 15 and 22 mpg, respectively.

Mercedes Benz CLK 320 coupes also are crafted out of a nifty little does the brand's

tradition proud. And the coupe has true hardtop styling, with no middle-roof posts, while the vehicle also is available in a convertible. With the proud Mercedes Benz symbol on the front grille, CLK 320 indeed cuts a worthy figure screeching down the highway. It's once you get inside the vehicle where my concerns surfaced about expectations and how they were fulfilled. I have yet to drive any vehicle, even those produced by some of the finest luxury makes, that doesn't disappoint just a little bit once you move away from exterior styling, engine performance and vehicle handling and into the interior amenities that are supposed to create a feeling of elegance that is worthy of the pricetag.

But few others have disappointed me more on this score than the CLK 320. For prices ranging from around \$45,000 to into the \$70,000s, you'd have a right to expect a near flawless interior that functioned according to your instincts, with a reasonable design and optimal execution. Yet CLK 320 often left me, and my passengers, feeling more frustrated than anything else when it came to functioning inside the vehicle.

me, I was not able to figure out how to set the



defrost control to some reasonable level at which it could function in winter driving for the first 10 or 15 minutes to clear the windshield. There is a windshield-defrost button that is separate from the rest of the "mode" controls for climate, and it represents the only apparent way to control the defroster. And yet there seems to be no way to regulate the fan speed of the defroster manually. On its own, in an automatic mode, it dispenses a continuous, powerful and almost deafening blast that in no way is redolent of the kind of ease and comfort you'd expect in a machine like this.

Ditto for the front seat belts. When you sit in either of the front seats of the car, a nifty mechanical device shoves the seat belts forward so that you can easily grab them over your shoulder. Yet if you don't do so within several seconds, the presenting mechanism recedes, taking the seat belt with it.

Annoyingly, the only way at that point to retrieve the belt apparently is to reach way behind you to grab it, something that is nearly impossible for a

These are the kinds of things that tend to dash expectations, for CLK 320 or for any other vehicle worthy of being called "luxury."

## Observer Eccentric

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DODGE 2002 Durango SLT plus, leather, full power, \$11.998. Northwestern Dodge

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(734) 453-2500 \$31,500. 248-561-3500.

**\$**5500. (734) 453-7012. Grandma's car, 11(k) miles, loaded, \$14,000/or best offer. (248)853-8466

\$19,550. RÖĞIN BUICK-LIVONIA 734-525-0900

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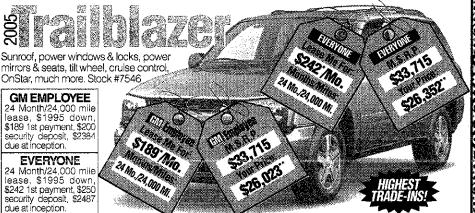
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