



**Cold is cool**  
Give yourself a lift, discover Michigan's ski resorts.  
INSERTED SECTION

**TASTE**



**Get started**  
Oats are more than just hot cereal.  
SECTION D

**Memo**

**Homeowners meet**

The Canton Homeowners Advisory Council will meet 7-9 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10, to discuss street lighting for subdivisions and condominiums. Council President Charles Mott said Thomas Balog, a lighting consultant, will be the guest speaker. The topic of the meeting is how to establish special assessment districts in order to acquire such lights. The meeting will be held at Fire Station No. 1 on Canton Center Road at Heritage Drive. All homeowners are welcome to attend.

**Nominate heroes**

If you've got someone in mind who deserves to be recognized for their efforts in making Canton a better community to live, the township is now accepting nominations for the Community Achiever and Supporter awards, which will be handed out at an April 17 reception. The annual awards honor individuals or groups that have made a contribution to the community. Community Achiever awards recognize those who made a specific contribution last year, while the Community Supporter award honors ongoing contributions to the community. Nomination forms are available at Supervisor Tom Yack's office, on Canton's Web site ([www.canton-mi.org](http://www.canton-mi.org)), and at the Canton Chamber of Commerce. Nominations must be submitted to the supervisor's office no later than March 11. For more information, call (734) 394-5188.

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**Observer**



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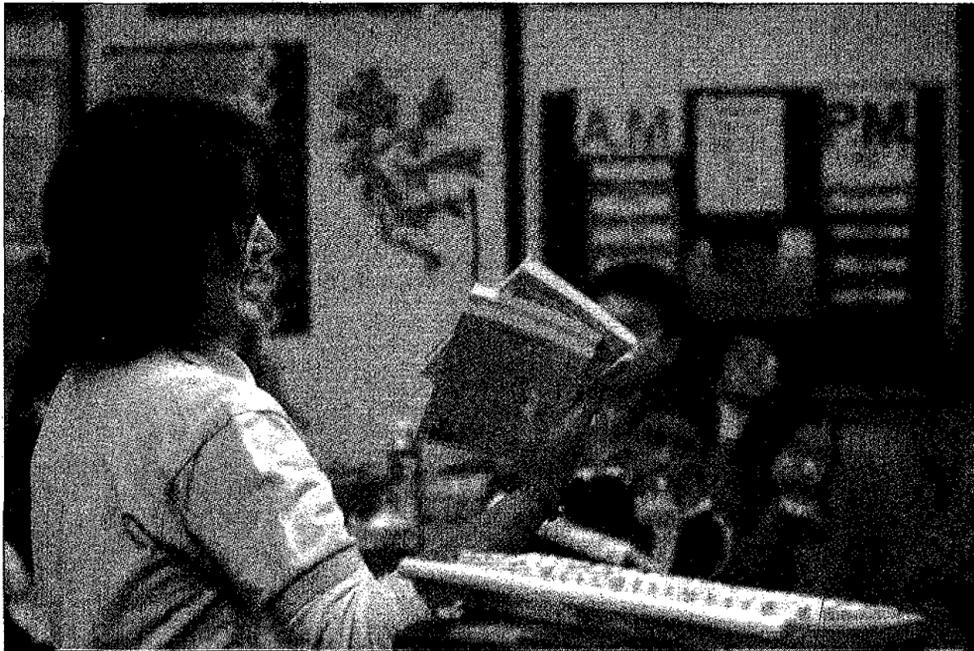
January 6, 2005

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Amy Jachym gave the class books on Korea as a thank-you for their \$655.97 donation, which will help buy food, clothes and toys for orphaned children in South Korea.

**TAG students rise to challenge**

4th-graders open hearts to help Korean orphans

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

The 27 students in Nancy Sullivan's fourth-grade Talented and Gifted class at Miller Elementary reached halfway across the world with their hearts Monday, meeting the challenge of a Canton High School graduate by collecting \$655.97 to help buy food, clothes, and toys for orphaned children in South Korea.

Students presented their hard-earned gift to Aimee Jachym, a former TAG student at Allen Elementary, whom Sullivan has known since the third grade. Jachym was adopted after being born in Daegu, South Korea. She moved to Detroit, and at 3-years-old moved with her family to Plymouth, where she resided until graduating in 2000. Jachym, who recently graduated with honors from Western Michigan University, is currently an English teacher at the Samsung Won orphanage in Gumi, Korea (about 3.5 hours south of Seoul) as part of a program established by the Fulbright Commission. She sent an e-mail throughout the Plymouth-Canton school district about her efforts to raise money for the orphanage, and Sullivan's class picked up the challenge, raising 15 percent of the \$4,200 Jachym col-



Grant McKinney and Andrea Ringer listen to Amy Jachym's presentation on the Samsung Won Orphanage.

lected in Michigan. Students did whatever they could to raise money. "I arranged my mom's pots and pans," said Monica Mackie of Plymouth. "She paid me \$15." "I donated a lot of my allowance," added Kimberly Davidge of Canton Township. Jachym showed students some of the toys she bought to ship back to Korea — including Lincoln Logs, Legos and blocks — which will replace shoe boxes they currently use for fun. "For some children, this shoe box

may be the only toy they had," she said. "Because of you, my 86 friends at the orphanage will be playing with real toys. We are fortunate to have friends like you."

In exchange for the students' generosity, Jachym donated several books about Korea to the Miller library.

"It makes me feel sad that there are countries and people that don't have as much as us," said Meg Ryan, 9, of Canton. "Since I didn't have much money to help out, I just gave what I had. I really wanted to help them out."

Chris Withers of Canton said he was eager to help raise money for Samsung Won.

"It felt good to do something for other people," he said. "I was hoping I would be able to accomplish the happiness of other people."

Sullivan was proud of her class "because they were able, during the holiday season, to get beyond their own needs and think about somebody else. That was their gift to them."

Jachym told students to remember what they've done, and urged them to get involved in future efforts to help change the world.

"I know you felt sorry for the people of Samsung Won, but it was your actions," she said. "Find your passion, and do something about it."

**Man killed following holiday celebration**

BY JACK GLADDEN  
STAFF WRITER

It's not the kind of "first" that a community wants to record. But Canton may have the dubious distinction of having the first traffic fatality of the new year.

Shortly after midnight on New Year's Eve, about 12:30 a.m. New Year's Day, a 25-year-old Taylor man was killed after he was struck by a car on Lilley Road between Cherry Hill and Palmer.

Police identified the man as Vane Iverson. "He had been at a party at a house," Canton Detective Sgt. Rick Pomorski said. "He walked out of the house and onto the roadway."

Iverson apparently walked into the path of a vehicle that was traveling north on Lilley. He was taken to Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne where he was pronounced dead.

Pomorski said the driver of the vehicle, a 46-year-old Plymouth resident, remained at the scene to assist in the investigation. "We believe the victim had been d

Pomorski said. "We're waiting on the results of toxicology tests:

He said there was no alcohol involved on the part of the driver and there was no evidence of speeding or reckless driving. There are no streetlights on that stretch of Lilley Road.

The case is still under investigation. Iverson's identification showed his birthdate as Jan. 1, 1980. The incident occurred on his 25th birthday.

It was just three years ago that Canton recorded another New Year's Day fatality. In that incident, Eric Ernest Dodsworth, 19, was killed shortly after 3 a.m. Jan. 1 when his 1993 Ford Escort collided head-on with a pickup truck on Warren Road just east of Lilley.

The driver of the pickup, Joseph Paul Bandy, 24, of Westland was subsequently convicted on one count of manslaughter, one count of driving under the influence causing death and two counts of DUI.

He was sentenced to five years in prison, but his case is under appeal.

"That was the first fatality in the state three years ago," Pomorski said.

"We're thinking this may be the first one this year."

jgladden@oe.hometown.net | (734) 459-2700

**Local aid floods in to help Asian tsunami victims**

BY KURT KUBAN  
STAFF WRITER

Last month's destructive tsunamis may have come ashore on the other side of the world, but the impact has certainly been felt by the Canton community.

Several local organizations and places of worship are collecting donations to help the tsunami victims in Southeast Asia, where more than 150,000 people perished and millions more have been left homeless. Canton has the state's second-

highest Indian population, with approximately 4,000 people of Indian descent, according to Anand Kumar, president of miindia.com, a Canton-based Web site providing information for the Indian community. Kumar said the organization is attempting to work with local service clubs to funnel tax-deductible donations to service clubs in India.

We already have contributions totaling \$15,000 during the last week and we have a partner with one organization, the Tamil Nadu Foundation,

which represents the state that got hit the hardest in India," said Kumar. "But, for the longer term, we want to work with the local service clubs to forward money to India."

In the meantime, Kumar said www.miindia.com has information on how people can help.

"The real issue is the orphaned children," said Kumar. "The kids have nowhere to go, and we're trying our best to make sure that every dollar we raise here is forwarded to the right people."

We don't see this as a short-

term disaster, but one with long-term impact," he said.

The Swaminarayan Temple, which is located at 3175 Canton Center, will be holding a one-hour open house on Sunday, Jan. 9, beginning at 1:30 p.m. According to Swaminarayan coordinator Mukesh Patel,

everyone is invited to attend the open house, which will include a prayer service for the tsunami victims. The temple will also be accepting donations, though people don't have to give anything to attend the service. We will be accepting money,

but other types of goods as well, like food and clothing.

A thing that can help the victims of this terrible tragedy," said Mina Jarau, a member of the temple, who is expected to speak at the open house. Jarau is also the chair of human relations commission.

The Swaminarayan Temple is also part of a national fund-raising effort, BAPS Care, which currently has 150 volunteers in southern India helping the relief effort there. For more

PLEASE SEE HELP, A 3

**Canton's Web site keeps residents connected**

BY RUSS HAMMOUD  
CORRESPONDENT

"Information in three clicks or less." That's the motto of Lori Rysdorp, Canton Township's Web designer. "People scan Web sites, they don't read them: she said. "They want information quickly, with as little distraction as possible." And with nearly 250 pages and 650 documents on the Canton Web site, information overload

could be a problem. But Rysdorp works hard to see that it isn't.

"I take into consideration the person viewing the site," Rysdorp said. "I don't let artwork get in the way of good information."

She updates the site daily to keep it current and relevant, and has "beefed up" the homepage ([www.canton-mi.org](http://www.canton-mi.org)) since taking over the job in August 2004.

Rysdorp, a Michigan

State graduate with a degree in business management, said that working on the Web site can be a "juggling act." Besides listing all of the necessary community information, she also has to be aware of time-sensitive items, such as board meetings, employment postings and leisure service activity hours.

"Eighty percent of the houses in Canton have

PLEASE SEE WEB SITE, A 3



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Canton Township Web site is coordinated by staffer Lori Rysdorp.

Coming Sunday in PINK

Face It!  
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facials from  
three local  
spas.



**INDEX**

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**CLARIFICATION**

A story in the Jan. 2 issue of the *Observer* should have identified Laura Toy as a state senator.

**WOMEN MEET CONGRESSMAN**

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, will be the guest speaker at Canton's Business & Professional Women's Association (BPW) meeting on Monday, Jan. 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Palermo's Restaurant on Ford Rd. McCotter, who will speak at 7:15 p.m., will update the group on what will be happening in Congress during its next session, and how the Canton area will be affected by any new legislation.

Canton BPW is a group of "Women Helping Women." For more information, or to make reservations, please call Clarice Killian at (734) 394-2572.

**SHIRELLES TO PERFORM**

One of the first female supergroups, The Shirelles, will perform at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill on Friday, Jan. 14, at 8 p.m. The group, which has been together for more than 40 years, is known for such hits as "Soldier Boy," "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow," "Dedicated to the One I Love," and "Mama Said." They are members of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.



The Shirelles

Tickets for the show are \$30, and can be purchased at the Summit on the Park (46000 Summit Parkway) and the Village Theater ticket office.

For more information about the theater and to view the complete schedule of upcoming events, visit [www.canton-mi.org/CPAEC/about.asp](http://www.canton-mi.org/CPAEC/about.asp)

**DAYCAREOPENHOUSE**

The Children's Hour day care center will be holding an international pot-luck dinner and open house on Jan. 14, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The event is part of the center's monthly family nights, which encourage parent involvement in their children's school life. Each month, they have a different theme, and the upcoming theme will focus on the importance of families and the differences among them.

Organizers encourage people to bring in a favorite family dish to pass around and share recipes. Those attending the event are also encouraged to come prepared to share a special story about their family or country of origin. Anyone is welcome to attend.

For more information, contact owner Jill Scott at (734) 459-9920.

**WEIGHT LOSS SEMINAR**

Need help keeping your new year's resolution about losing some weight? The Doctor's Speakers Bureau will be offering a permanent weight loss seminar Monday, Jan. 10 at 7

p.m. at the Canton Public Library. The seminar will be repeated Wednesday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. at the Plymouth Public Library.

Guest speaker, Dr. Michael Brackney, will discuss the five secrets to permanent weight loss.

Seating is limited. Call (734) 455-4444 to reserve a spot at the seminar. The event with a friend and receive a free pass to local gyms, plus every guest gets a special prize.

**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.

Some of the characteristics to look for are:

- A long attention span
- Heightened sensitivity
- Intense curiosity
- Resistance to routine and drill
- A strong sense of fairness
- Concern with issues "too old" for his/her age

Forms are available in all Van Buren elementary and middle schools, and the administration building. All forms must be completed

returned by Jan. 18, 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.

**PLYMOUTH-CANTON CIVITAN CLUB**

**CLUB**

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. The third Thursday is a dinner meeting with a speaker. 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 [mother-sandmore63@onebox.com](mailto:mother-sandmore63@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 Di Van Dyke at [djvandyke@peoplepc.com](mailto:djvandyke@peoplepc.com) or call (734) 416-3354.

**SUPER CAMP SET**

The 16th annual Super Summer for Kids: A Camp & Activities Fair offering one-stop shopping for interesting and stimulating camps is set for Sunday, Feb. 27 in the Birmingham Public Schools Corporate Training and Conference Center, 31301 Evergreen, Beverly Hills (behind Groves High School).

More than 70 U.S. and Canadian Camps, both day and overnight, will be showcased at the event from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Many new camps will attend this year, according to Elaine Sturnam, camp fair organizer. In addition, new programs for older children that include overnight travel programs, computer camps, sports camps, and programs that have a community service component will be represented. Admission is free.

In addition, high school and college students interested in summer employment will also have the opportunity to obtain valuable information.

The camp fair is presented by Elaine S. Events and co-sponsored by the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* and *Metro Parent Magazine*.

**HIGH SCHOOL REUNION**

Classmates from *Haston High School* in Dearborn Heights, class of 1965, will be holding a 40-year reunion in October, and are hoping to contact as many graduates as possible. For more information, contact Pat Beadle Kopczyk at (517) 552-1182, or e-mail her at [pkopczyk@earthlink.net](mailto:pkopczyk@earthlink.net).

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**WEB SITE**

FROM PAGE A1

Internet access," she said. "Many are relying on the Internet for information on Canton."

She said that Canton Township's Web site receives 45,000 visitors per month. This is up from 22,000 in the first quarter of 2004.

Rysdorp knows how important the Web site is to residents and the administration.

"I try to work with everyone within the administration and encourage them to use the Web site as a marketing tool," she said. "And I'd like them to get used to relying on the Web site for relaying community information."

According to Rysdorp, the target audience for the township Web site includes more than just current residents. It also includes businesses, builders, contractors, media and future residents.

Tom Yack, Canton Township supervisor, likes the fact that

future residents can and will view the Web site.

"The Web site is good for people who are moving into Canton because of a job transfer," Yack said. "People can find out about the area before they move here."

He added, "It says a lot about a city if they have an information-rich Web site instead of one that's bare-bones."

Rysdorp said that people search the Canton Web site for a variety of topics. Recently, the publication, *Michigan Historic Cemetery Preservation Guide*, was added to the site. It received about 4,000 downloads the first month. Lately, visits to the *Guide* have leveled off.

The most popular sections are employment, the property tax and assessment database and the media release section. Rysdorp said the garbage pick-up portion of the site also gets plenty of visitors.

The information on the Web site is far-ranging and, in some cases, unique. There are links to area churches, schools and hospitals. There are floor maps

to the new administration building, information on the Downtown Development Authority and application forms for volunteer opportunities within the community.

Residents also have the ability to read decisions made by the Planning Commission and the Board of Trustees. They can view their meeting agendas and minutes.

Numerous downloadable forms include dog licenses, block party permits and liquor licenses. The site also offers building permits and applications for electrical, plumbing, fences and pools, to name a few.

Rysdorp said that the Web site is linked to Publius Voter Information System, an online resource for voter information. Michigan residents can get directions to polling places, preview ballots and find information on their voter registration status.

Even though the current Web site has great depth, there are many additions to come.

In early 2005, the Public Safety Department will have information on construction

site theft prevention, crime prevention fact sheets and links to the Amber Code Alert System. There will also be information on the Tree Voucher program.

She said that the Leisure Programs will add Leisure Links as an e-newsletter.

"This is brand new for us," Rysdorp said. "It will start in early January 2005 and, so far, more than 2,000 people have signed up for it."

Despite all the information the Canton Township Web site offers, there are certain things that it doesn't offer. It doesn't post school closings, information about the public library or information on the Canton Township Chamber of Commerce, but it does include links to these sites.

Rysdorp works with fellow employees throughout the Canton Township administration to educate them on what they can and cannot put on the Web site. She explains technology issues and helps them with their marketing efforts to keep the Web site easy to use and useful.

**2nd-generation leader takes credit union's helm**

BY BRAD KADRICH  
STAFF WRITER

It seems unlikely that Bill Lawton was filing ledger cards as a middle-school student working for Community Federal Credit Union that he imagined himself running the whole operation some day.

But that's just what Lawton is doing at the now-renamed Community Financial, after being promoted to president and chief executive officer. Lawton, who had been vice president and COO, replaces Roger Ballard, who left to assume a leadership position with a credit union in California.

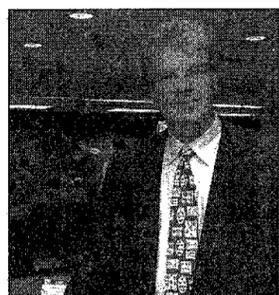
It's not the first time a Lawton has been elevated to that lofty position; Bill's father was the CEO back in the '70s, when Bill worked there as a middle-schooler. Now, after spending a few years running the credit union's IT department, Bill has ascended.

"Dad kind of dragged his son off to work at a ripe young age," Bill Lawton said with a laugh. "This job is very different. In IT I had my hands in all the different areas. This job is much less tactical than strategic."

And it's a job he never figured on having the first time he left. He was working part time while finishing up at Salem High School, from which he graduated in 1978. He moved on to the University of Michigan-Dearborn, where he got his bachelor's degree from the School of Management in 1982.

He left Community Financial - the first time - in 1980.

"My focus was on my last two years of college," he said. "I was



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Community Financial's new president/CEO Bill Lawton, who replaced Roger Ballard earlier this month, now holds the same post his father once held.

looking at doing something else when I got done with school."

One of those things he was looking at may have been teaching. But a funny thing happened on the way to a new career. The information technology position at the credit union opened up again. Faced with commuting to work, Lawton - who hates that much driving - made the easy choice.

"It was open, and I've never liked commuting," said Lawton, who grew up in the Plymouth-Canton area. "I had enjoyed working here, and the time away made me appreciate working here. I was happy to come back."

He takes over a financial institution with a long history, dating back to the 1950s, when it was originally the Daisy Employees' Federal Credit Union. The name was changed to Plymouth Community Federal Credit Union in 1958 and, three years later, its total assets reached \$1 million.

**HELP**

FROM PAGE A1

information about how to help that effort, visit the group's Web site at www.baps.org. Or call Mukesh at (734) 837-5304. The Hindu Temple, located at 44955 Cherry Hill, and the Muslim Community of Western Suburbs, at 40440 Palmer, are also collecting donations to help the tsunami victims. For more information, the Hindu Temple can be reached at (734) 981-8730, and the Muslim Community of Western Suburbs at (734) 467-7704.

St. Thomas a' Becket

Catholic church in Canton is planning a month-long fundraiser to help the victims. Parishioners Mary Albus, Mary Grady and Paula Barnes are serving as co-chairs of the effort, which will kick off this weekend beginning with the Saturday afternoon Mass.

There are various ways people can contribute to the campaign, which has been labeled "Be A Lifesaver."

"We've had special envelopes printed up with an angel on them," Albus said. "People can use them to make contributions. Checks should be made out to St. Thomas a' Becket."

Another way to contribute is the "Bucket Brigade."

"We'll have buckets available after Mass starting this weekend," she said. "People can pick up a bucket and take it to family functions. Or if you have a business you can set it out there."

The biggest event they have planned is a concert and dinner at the church on Friday, Jan. 28. The program, to which the public is invited, begins with music in the church at 7 p.m. followed by dinner and program in the Family Life Center. Tickets are \$20 per adult, \$10 for children 10 and under.

"One hundred percent of the profits will go to Thailand," Albus said.

The money will be sent to

the Rev. Charles Cotant, a priest originally from this area who's been in Thailand 55 years.

"His niece is a parishioner here at St. Thomas," Albus said. "Father Cotant is up toward the Bangkok area away from the hard hit areas. But he said the hospitals in Bangkok are where the survivors are being taken."

People wishing to contribute can stop by the church or mail it to St. Thomas a' Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton, MI 48188. For more information, call Albus at (734) 397-1254.

Staff writers Jack Gladden and Tony Bruscatto contributed to this story.

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Dan Stavale, President Equity Enhancement Specialist, L.L.C.

Most Americans who are concerned about preparing for retirement are lured into contributing pre-tax dollars into 401K plans or tax-deductible contributions into IRA's. Such "Qualified Plans" only give you tax-favored advantages during the contribution and accumulation phase of your retirement account. What about the most important phases - when you withdraw the money for retirement income or transfer any remaining funds to your heirs? Has anyone told you "The rest of the story?"

A Michigan couple filing a joint ax return with a taxable income in excess of \$56,800 will be in a 29% marginal tax bracket. If they were fortunate enough to both qualify for deductible contributions to their IRAs, they would save \$1160 a year in taxes on a total contribution of \$4000 a year. However, most retirees will pay back every dollar to Uncle Sam that they saved in taxes in the first 18-24 months of their retirement. In fact, the average retired couple will pay 8 - 12 times the taxes during their retirement years than the taxes they saved during their contribution/accumulation years.

One of the original IRA/401K tenets held that deferring tax until retirement was advantageous because funds would likely be taxed at a lower rate. That is no longer universal true. You may well spend retirement in the same or higher bracket if you accumulate a respectable retirement nest egg. In fact, tax rates will likely rise in the future. So why postpone the inevitable and compound the tax problems?

Is there a way to "Have your cake and eat it too?" Through proper planning, a homeowner may safely utilize an equity retirement plan that may provide tax advantages during the contribution and accumulation years, but more importantly, you may enjoy tax-free income during the retirement years and transfer any remaining funds to your heirs tax-free. This strategy can increase your net spendable retirement income by as much as 50%!

To understand how to determine if participation in a Roth IRA, traditional IRA or 401K plans is wise in your circumstances, Equity Enhancement Specialist, L.L.C. is conducting an educational seminar entitled, "Common Sense Strategies for Successful Equity Management." It will be held on Wednesday, January 12, 2005 from 7:00-10:00 p.m. at The Sheraton Detroit Novi, located at 2111 Haggerty Rd., Novi, MI 48375. There is easy access from I-275 8 Mile exit with plenty of parking.

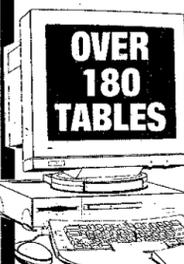
This education seminar is taught nationally at a normal tuition of \$100.00. However, Metropolitan Detroit homeowners are cordially invited to attend this presentation at no charge. For guaranteed seating, please RSVP at 248-357-0848.

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**FOR THE RECORD**

**DEATHS**

**A**  
Lester F. Allen, Sr., 81, died Jan. 2, 2005.

**B**  
Winifred (Winkie) Bassett, 84, of Birmingham, died Dec. 22.  
Margaret E. Belles, 76, of Redford, died Jan. 1.  
Mildred M. Bright, 80, of Rochester Hills, died Dec. 20.

**C**  
Charles F. "Chuck" Comeau, 65, of Bloomfield Hills, died Dec. 23.  
Vera Lee Cornell, 88, of Auburn Hills, died Dec. 25.

**D**  
Gunter G. Daehnert, 63, of Royal Oak, died Dec. 15.  
Charles Edward Dwyer, 78, died Dec. 17.

**E**  
Harry F. Evans, of Westland, died Dec. 21.  
Johnie W. "Jack" Eaves, 91, of Clarkston, died Dec. 28.

**F**  
John A. Fogliatti, 64, of Highland, died Dec. 28.  
Eleanor M. Fox, 81, died Dec. 29.  
Rev. Verle E. Fridley Sr., 83, of Anderson, Ind., died Dec. 29.

**G**  
Nancy A. Gaffney, 79, of Orion



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

Township, formerly of Waterford, died Dec. 17.  
Orpha "Bea" Gorsline, 84, of Goodison, died Dec. 15.  
Opal M. Grooms, 92, of Rochester Hills, formerly of Birmingham and Venice, Fla., died Dec. 22.

**H**  
William A. Hofsess, 77, of Farmington, died Jan. 1.  
Elizabeth M. Hooker, 84, of Rochester Hills, died Dec. 8.  
Helen Christine Hornback, 58, of Harrietta, died Jan. 1.  
V. Berneice Horner, 91, of Auburn Hills, died Dec. 18.

Virgil M. Howe, 87, of Rochester Hills, died Dec. 25.

**J**  
Greta Jensen, 95, of Redford, died Dec. 23.  
Helen I. Johanson, 80, of Imlay City, died Dec. 18.  
Keith A. Jones, 21, of Redford, died Dec. 2004.

**K**  
Michael A. Koszyk, of Westland, died Dec. 30.  
J. Richard Kropf, 94, of Oceanside, Calif., formerly of Plymouth, died Dec. 8.  
Victor A. Kurpinski, of Westland, died Dec. 31.

**L**  
Mark A. LaRue, 52, of Rochester Hills, died Dec. 10.  
Milton Laviolette, 73, formerly of Ann Arbor and Livonia, died Dec. 3.  
Josephine Leavenworth, 88, of Westland, died Dec. 24.  
Louise N. Lukomski, 87, of Plymouth, died Dec. 26.

**M**  
Audrey M. Miller, 78, of Warren, died Dec. 18.  
Mark Allen Miller, 34, of Peoria, Ariz., formerly of Livonia, died Dec. 22.  
Helen D. (nee Kern) Morris, of Beverly Hills, died Dec. 27.  
Bohdan Robert Moskalczyn, of Westland, died Dec. 28.

**P**  
Ivan L. Plunkett, 83, of West Branch, died Dec. 25.

**R**  
Stephen P. Rohner, 44, of Rochester Hills, died Dec. 15.

**S**  
Beatrice C. Strang, 88, of Lake Orion, died Dec. 8.

**T**  
David J. Trainor, 67, died Dec. 24.

**W**  
Dennis J. Wittkop, 53, of Westland, formerly of Dundee, died Jan. 2.  
Winnifred I. Wolfe, 85, of Plymouth, died Dec. 30.  
Mary Jane (nee Gerbig) Wolford-Hughes, 84, died Dec. 20.  
Elizabeth Ann Wyrick, 72, of Clarkston, died Jan. 2.

**Secretary of State office to close next week**

The Secretary of State Canton branch office on Ford Road will close for remodeling on Monday, Jan. 10. It will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 18, as one of Michigan's 22 new Secretary of State PLUS offices.

PLUS offices were created to offer customers greater convenience and enhanced service options. The West Wayne County PLUS office will include expanded hours on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., payment by Discover credit card at the counter, the ability of customers to buy their own driving records and the availability of an on-site customer service specialist. In the near future a self-

service station for vehicle registration renewal will also be available. While the Canton office is closed, customers needing services can visit other offices in Westland, 6090 N. Wayne Road; Wayne, 36131 Michigan Avenue East; or Southwest Wayne County PLUS office, 795 Sumpter in Belleville.

And police plan to question three juveniles arrested by Taylor Police. They are suspects in an armed robbery at Wendy's in Canton and possibly a series of other armed robberies in Western Wayne County in the past two weeks.

**Cops solve armed robbery, purse snatchings**

Canton Police have cleared up one armed robbery, a series of purse snatchings and have suspects in another armed robbery. A 25-year-old man has been charged in the armed robbery of Cottage Inn Pizza on Dec. 18. He was charged with one count of armed robbery, one felony firearm count, one count of a felon in possession of a

firearm and one count of fourth habitual offender. An arrest warrant for armed robbery and second habitual offender was issued for another person involved in that robbery. A 34-year-old woman has been arrested and charged with six counts of larceny in a building in connection with a series of purse snatchings in

Canton businesses over the holiday season. She was arraigned on Dec. 26.

**@ THE LIBRARY**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- The Children's Library offers the Reading Readiness Center every Friday at 10 a.m. Infants and children up to age five can explore various learning and sensory activities. Registration is not required.
- Registration for our popular Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration begins January 10. Mark your calendar and plan to call the library at (734) 397-0999 to reserve your spot. The festivities begin at 7 p.m. on January 17 with a toe-tapping performance by Sheryl Valentine and Vision, the men's glee club of the Detroit High School for Fine and

**WEB WATCH**

- www.asklistenlearnparents.com - A parent guide on how to talk with young people about drinking.
- www.historycooks.com - Try recipes from the expeditions of Lewis and Clark, the Oregon Trail, cowboys and other historic times.
- www.how-to-keep-your-new-years-resolution.com - Tips on sticking to your New Year's resolutions.

**PERFORMING ARTS**

To see a complete list of new

materials added to the library's catalog this week, visit <http://catalog.cantonpl.org/ftli.st>.

**Adult Fiction**

- By Order of the President - W.E.B. Griffin
- Life Studies: Stories - Susan Vreeland
- Payback - Fern Michaels

**Adult Non-Fiction**

- Access Los Angeles - Richard Saul Wurman
- Enterprise Javabeans - Richard Monson-Haefel
- On Apology - Aaron Lazare

**Adult Feature Films on VHS**

- Ben-Hur
- The Door in the Floor
- King Arthur

**STORAGE USA**

Notice is hereby given that on (January 17, 2005), Tate & Co. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Storage USA, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Storage USA reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Storage USA, 6729 CANTON CENTER RD., CANTON, MI 48187 AT 12:30 P.M.

C98 Cheryl Lawrence Computer Sewing Machine and Misc.  
E197 Amy Schneider Rugs and Household  
F209 Brian Waskiewicz Banquet Table & Chairs, Curio Cabinet  
J372 Claudia Volansky File Cabinets, Books

Publish: December 30, 2004 and January 6, 2005

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

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

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

Publish: December 19, 2004 & January 2 & 6, 2005

**CANTON POLICE DEPT. 1150 S. CANTON CENTER RD. CANTON, MI 48188**

THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES HAVE BEEN DEEMED ABANDONED AND WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION ON TUESDAY, JAN. 11, 2004. AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT WESTLAND CAR CARE TOWING, 6375 HIX RD.

1991 JEEP WRANGLER	JEEP	2J4FY29S2MJ146391
1986 CHEVY CAPRICE	4 DR	1G1BN69H9GY181125
1993 CHEVY BERETTA	2 DR	1G1LW13T8PY272386
1990 PONTIAC	2 DR	1G2WP14T8LF285441
1996 JEEP CHEROKEE	S/W	1J4FT68S8TL192744
1991 OLDS SILOUTTE	S/W	1GHCU06D2MT315599
1989 CHEVY CAMARO	2 DR	1G1FP21E3KL178409
1993 FORD ESCORT	2 DR	1FAFP1282PW168352
1999 FORD WINDSTAR	S/W	2FMZA514XWBC08117
1988 FORD TAURUS	4 DR	1FABP52U0JG263878

Publish: January 6 & 9, 2005

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**POSTAL PERIODICAL REQUIREMENTS**  
The Canton Observer - Publication NO. USPS 663-670 Published every Thursday and Sunday. Periodical postage is paid at Livonia, Michigan 48150.  
A HomeTown Communications Network publication  
36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150

**Physical Therapy UPDATE**  
Hands On Center  
Presented by Hands On Center For Physical Therapy

**GETTING IN SHAPE FOR WINTER**

If your winter plans include cold weather sports and activities, remember that winter sports demand that you be in shape. Just walking outside in freezing cold can intensify older joint problems if you do not take the proper precautions to bundle up. In cold weather, muscles and blood vessels contract to conserve body heat. This results in reduced blood supply to the extremities. The least physically fit will be the first to quickly realize that the functional capacity of many muscles is significantly lower. To help the body meet this challenge, try warming up and stretching before heading out into the cold. Focus on lower back muscles, hamstrings, and calf muscles. Don't forget cool down stretching when you are finished exercising. Well-conditioned muscles are less prone to injury, and stronger muscles offer greater stability to vulnerable joints. If you or your doctor thinks your season athletes could be enhanced by a regimen of conditioning exercises, ask for a referral to your physical therapist. For an appointment, contact HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY at 455-8370. We are conveniently located at 650 South Main Street in downtown Plymouth and we offer easy access and parking.

P.S. Remember that the winter cold makes muscles less flexible until they warm up.

Johan Cornuth, PT  
Mark Mijsbergen, PT  
Bob Schoemaker, PT

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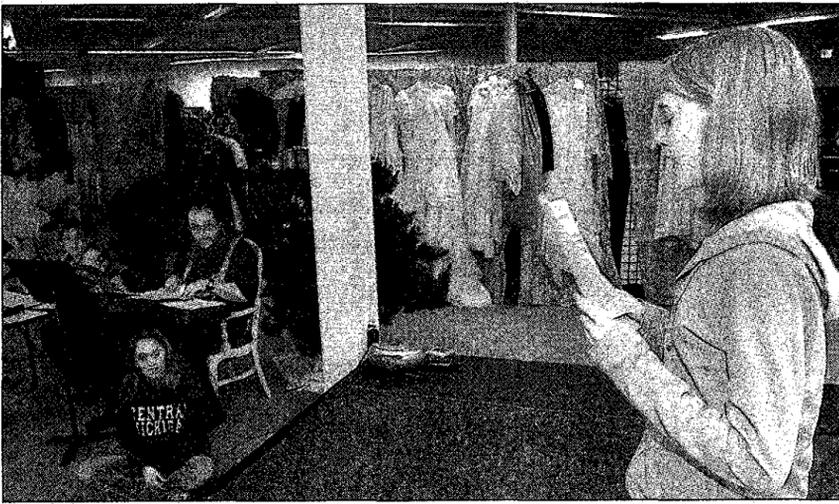
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PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Molly Mackler, 12, of Livonia auditions for a part in Paper Bag Productions' show 'Alice in Wonderland.' Director C.J. Nodus (left) listens as she reads her lines.

## Youngsters set sights on role of 'Alice in Wonderland'

BY STEPHANIE ANGELIN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

Boys and girls shuffled into Livonia Mall Tuesday in hopes of nabbing a lead role in the upcoming Livonia Youththeatre and Paperbag Production's version of *Alice in Wonderland*.

Auditions were held at the performance space based inside the mall at Seven Mile and Middlebelt roads. Competition was scarce at the start, around 4 p.m., but quickly began to pick up.

Several students from Tyler Elementary School showed up to sing and to read lines. Among them were Barbara Scupholm, who is 8, and her sister Elizabeth, age 5 1/2. Barbara was a newcomer to the tryouts and her preparation was simple. "Just do your best," she said.

Her sister Elizabeth said she "did do a little, play at my class, but we didn't say much." She's hoping for more lines and a place in the *Alice* cast this time though. Elizabeth is hardly shy on stage.

"I liked it because all the people were watching me and they were taking pictures," she said.

Meghan Knorp, 6, said she too loves that attention. Meghan was recently cast in the last production, *Babes in Toyland*, along with her sister 8-year-old Alex Knorp.

They agreed that auditions are "not very scary" and the shows are all about one thing - having fun.

"It's not serious," Meghan said. "You just want to have fun."

She admitted being cast in a play like those at Livonia Youththeatre does take some work.

"It takes a lot of rehearsals. You have to look at the script a few times and think you can do it."

For brother-and-sister team Andrew and



Eight-year-old Alex Knorp of Livonia gives a sincere look while auditioning for the upcoming 'Alice in Wonderland' show.

Madelyn Buckshaw, auditions have become quite comfortable.

Madelyn, 8, brings along her American Girl doll for luck.

And Andrew has been in so many shows at the theater he sounds likely to be cast again - after his ear-catching audition.

Parents of the would-be actors spoke highly of the theater, calling it a good opportunity for local youngsters.

"It's really good for their self-confidence," said Lois Scupholm of Livonia.

And Chris Knorp said this is the second performance for both of her girls.

"They absolutely love coming here," she said.

"They feel great about themselves. It's been a good experience."

For more information about Livonia Youththeatre or Paperbag Productions, call (586) 344-7774.

scasola@oehomecomm.net | (734) 953-2054

## Cycle shop had wild ride

BY KEVIN BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Motorcycle-builder extraordinaire Eric Gorges and his Voodoo Choppers crew are back and busy in Rochester after an autumn road trip filmed for the cable TV Discovery Channel series *Biker Build-Off*.

Because the episode doesn't air until February, Gorges, 33, can't say who won. The Discovery Channel also won't allow photos to be taken of the motorcycle and his crew built for the show.

But even if Gorges didn't win, he had a wild ride.

The shop owner, who's also featured in the December 2004 issue of *Midwest Motorcyclist*, ate barbecue in a back alley Memphis Tenn. bar, and judged a bikini contest in Hawaii. Gorges, a veteran chopper builder from Dublin, Calif.

At the end of the trip Oct. 5, he had a wild ride.

"We had 200,000 people," Gorges said.

"There were so many people that we had police escorts. We were treated like rock stars. I never signed so many autographs before."

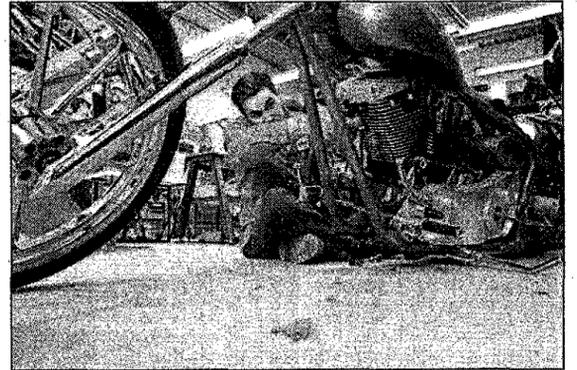
Gorges and Voodoo Choppers were discovered by series producer Hugh King at a motorcycle show in North Carolina. The Discovery Channel show is in its fourth season.

"He had seen some of the work we did for other builders," Gorges said. "He asked if I wanted to do a show. He thought it was really unique, the fact that we make everything ourselves."

"We hand-make probably 90 percent of everything in house; the front ends, frames, oil tanks, exhaust systems, controls - there isn't anything somebody asked me to make that I haven't been able to," Gorges said.

In keeping with the show's premise, Gorges and his crew had only 90 hours to build a chopper from scratch, before they were off on the road trip.

His core building team included Steve Broyles of Stevenson Cycle of Wayne, bringing his engine skills; Kevin Verkest, a Harrison



Eric Gorges works on a cycle at his Rochester business, Voodoo Choppers. He'll be featured on the Feb. 22 broadcast of the Discovery Channel show, 'Biker Build-Off.'

Township fabricator; and Drew Gilbey of Rochester Hills.

"Normally bikes take eight to 12 months to build. You're trying to do this with a crew around you all the time; we worked around the clock. I think the biggest thing I took out of the whole experience was the amount of work you can do if you really concentrate."

Gorges said he was eager for the mad trip. "When you own a small business you don't get a chance to do a lot of long-distance riding."

The trek began Sept. 29 in Huntsville, Ala. The riders traveled 220 miles west to Memphis.

"It's really cool but it's sort of difficult to concentrate on riding when they've got this camera floating around next to you, and cameras on wands in front of you. It's surreal," Gorges said.

"You can't really ride at their speed. Sometimes they want you to go slow so they can get different shots. Some helicopter shots are really cool."

The next leg took the riders 280 miles northwest through the Ozark Mountains to Branson, Mo. "It was great

weather, awesome roads, really nice people," Gorges said. "We had a great trip; absolutely no problems with the bikes."

The last leg of the trip took them 120 miles south to Fayetteville, Ark., where the public voted on the bikes at The 5th Annual Bikes, Blues and BBQ Motorcycle Rally & Music Festival Oct. 2.

"We spent the last day riding a lot of twisty roads and stopped at a place called Eureka Springs. Cory and I opened up a bar there."

The two were given swords to cut a ribbon for a grand opening ceremony. Gorges said he also enjoyed the fact that Arkansas has no helmet law.

The motorcycle builders from Michigan were not paid for the show, but some meals were complimentary. "It's just an honor to do the show," Gorges said. "Of his opponent, I have a lot of respect for Cory and his family," Gorges said.

For more information about Voodoo Choppers, visit [www.voodochoppers.com](http://www.voodochoppers.com). For more information about the show *Biker Build-Off* visit [www.discovery.com](http://www.discovery.com).

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Queen	<del>\$489</del> <b>\$349</b>	<del>\$599</del> <b>\$429</b>	<del>\$899</del> <b>\$599</b>
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# Observer OPINION

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## OUR VIEWS

### Tragedy felt close

It isn't very often that tragedies occurring on the other side of the world are felt so acutely here at home as the earthquake and tsunamis that devastated parts of Southeast Asia late last month.

We've all seen the graphic images of what was left in the wake of the deadly tidal waves that came crashing ashore in at least 11 countries. More than 155,000 are already reported dead, which is just a staggering number. And there are still thousands missing and unaccounted for.

Surely those images have been felt more deeply here in Canton, where the Indian/Asian community makes up nearly 10 percent of the population, with many of those folks having roots in southern India and Sri Lanka, which saw some coastal communities completely destroyed by the tsunamis.

While many Canton residents received news that loved ones survived the disaster, at least one, Dhammika Dewasurendra, learned her mother was killed in the Sri Lankan coastal town of Weligama.

If the hurricanes that battered Florida last year weren't reminder enough, these devastating tsunamis proved once and for all how fragile man is when the natural world decides to throw its weight around.

Several places of worship in the Canton community are accepting monetary donations as well as other goods to help the victims of Southeast Asia. In addition to collecting donations, the Swaminarayan Temple on Canton Center will be hosting a one-hour prayer service and fund-raiser 1:30-2:30 p.m. Sunday. Check out the Temple's Web site ([www.bapscare.org](http://www.bapscare.org)) for more ways you can help.

The Hindu Temple, on Cherry Hill, is also collecting donations, and is planning a similar prayer service in the near future. The Muslim Community of Western Suburbs is also conducting a fund-raiser.

With Christmas having just passed, many of us are probably a little strapped for cash these days. That shouldn't prevent us from giving some financial or other form of help to the tsunami victims. Any amount of money, even just a buck or two, can make a difference. Many of the communities impacted by the tsunamis face a bleak prospect in the coming weeks and months. Not only are they trying to pick up the pieces of their lives, there is also a very real threat of widespread disease hanging over their heads.

It is almost impossible to fathom what they've been through, especially living in a country where we have so much. They need our help.

### Auto show still critical to region

Later this month, the eyes of the world — or at least the auto world — will be firmly focused on Detroit as the Motor City plays host to the 2005 North American International Auto Show.

From the early days of Henry Ford through the 1970s, there was no disputing that Detroit was the auto capital of the world. Everyone who was anyone in the business was here, making the region an economic force.

The Detroit area, while it didn't have the Golden Gate Bridge or New York's Statue of Liberty, had something else. It was truly the place that put the world on wheels.

And while there is no denying Detroit's continuing importance to the automobile industry, much has changed since the 1980s to a point where the auto show itself is in danger of being marginalized.

A global economy has seen the emergence of automakers with headquarters in Korea, Japan and other burgeoning countries. There are reports that India is positioning itself to become the next motor capital. And last week, it was announced a new car company based in China is readying to crash our shores with new and innovative cars.

There has been a lot of talk about how Michigan's economy is too dependent on the auto sector, and we need to diversify our economic base. That may be true, but we also should not turn our backs on the industry that has supported our region for nearly 100 years.

So enjoy the auto show. Revel in the new makes and models. Support local charities by attending the black-tie preview gala.

And, if the time is right, take the plunge and order that new car or truck. It's what keeps Michigan's economic engine running.



## LETTERS

### No quick fixes

Despite what may be perceived as a township-owned problem, Ford Road is the child of many different caretakers. Yes, because approximately six miles of it run through Canton the blame for the congestion gets heaped on the township's government, when in fact all of our governmental entities have a share in its history and development, good and bad. Consequently, all must share in the problem resolution.

Ford Road was, at one time, considered no more than a path, the gateway, if you will, to get from Detroit to Ann Arbor through sparsely populated rural land. A community the size of today's Canton Township was not anticipated to develop along the route. Not the state, the county, the feds or even Canton itself could have seen this future back then and as such could not have made the changes necessary as the times changed.

Technically, Ford Road is under the jurisdiction of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and is fed in Canton by Wayne County roads, Canton streets and a federal highway (I-275). That's a lot of bureaucracy to coordinate, all dealing with their own set of priorities and budgets. So to speak, all of the "cooks" have to be in the same kitchen preparing their part of the meal or nobody eats.

It is not an easy task, but due much to the lobbying over many years by your public officials several of the cooks are at least looking at the menu for a better Ford Road. The study that was referred to was sponsored by MDOT, not Canton Township as the column stated, but you better believe that Canton was interested in the study's findings. The township's trustees past and present, the cant& Downtown Development Authority (DDA) board of directors and Canton's Planning Commissioners have had extreme interest in the improvement of conditions and access along Ford Road.

Changes will be made to Ford Road, but none of the changes are quick fixes. It is hoped that the Canton community and its many visitors will be patient and watch the progress and evolution of what, to some, is a nightmare into something we all can take pride in as residents.

Greg Greene  
Canton

### Columnist off mark

I like to read the opinions of passionate writers; I consider the opinions of wise ones. I thank Dan West for his passion against term limits in Michigan.

To imply, however, that youth and/or less than 10 years experience equates to inept Michigan Legislators does not follow from the points of Mr. West's article. Certainly it does not follow that our current budget issues are largely the result of an inept legislature. In fact, outside of pointing out that a few legislature members still live with their parents (is that innately bad?), Mr. West presents no facts about the experience of our legislature nor examples of what youthful mis-

takes they may have made. He merely implies.

At the company where I work employees are chosen based on their past experience. They are expected to have the ability to dig into their new jobs and quickly contribute to making good decisions. They are certainly expected to be experts after a year or so on the job. Why does Mr. West imply that much of the legislature is still learning after four years. If that were really true, the root problem is that of the voters who elected such inept people. What can Mr. West's paper do to better educate them? What can he do to make sure people see all sides of the candidates (the good and bad from any point of view, not just his personal one). Were I to hire such uniformly inept people, then I would be fired sooner than they. If Mr. West doesn't do a good job of showing readers the truth of each candidate's position and abilities so that qualified people would be elected, then ...?

Tom Salapatek  
Canton

### Call for help

I know Plymouth is a generous community and I am sending out a call for help. We, the American Legion Auxiliary, have a great need.

Let me tell you who we are. We are Post No. 112 of Plymouth Township. We are a somewhat young post, only about 12 years old. We are presently, and have been for several years, meeting in the I.O.O.F. Hall in the city of Plymouth.

The American Legion is an organization that works for the benefit of our veterans and their families. The American Legion is a very prominent and instrumental organization in communities all over the country.

We here in Plymouth Township are a small but growing organization. We do all we can to help our community, but we could do so much more if we were in a building that could let us grow even more.

In June we sponsored three Plymouth-Canton young ladies to Girl's State and two Plymouth-Canton young men to Boy's State. These two week-long programs are held in Lansing and are in-depth programs that teach our young people about the government. One of our young ladies was one of seven Michigan girls nominated to go to Girl's Nation in Washington, DC, also a weeklong program.

We, with the help of the community, collected more than \$3,500 during our Poppy Days. That money all goes to help the veterans at the Ann Arbor V.A. Hospital and other veteran facilities. We, in cooperation with the Plymouth-Canton elementary schools, every December collect a dollar's worth of personal care items, which also go to the Ann Arbor V.A. hospitalized veterans.

We would like to do much more and with our growing membership we could do it very easily if only we had the space and facilities to do it in.

We are good neighbors and would like

to be even better neighbors. We have many other programs that would be of great help to the youth of our community. Many communities in our state, buildings have been donated to American Legion posts. We are looking for some help to obtain a building that could be donated to us, or leased at a very minimal amount.

I am truly hoping someone has an answer for us.

Jeanette Burman, president  
Auxiliary Unit 112  
American Legion

### Saving our resources

Nearly 85 percent of Michigan's trash goes into our landfills. Michigan's recycling rate of 15.1 percent lags way behind the efforts of most of the nation. By depending on landfills to dispose of our trash, we are endangering the natural resources of the state.

We in Michigan have been blessed with a beautiful state with plenty of woods and water for our enjoyment. It is our responsibility to protect our environment for the generations to come.

Michigan has depended on its deposit law since 1979, and let recycling efforts lag behind most of the country. Michigan beverage wholesalers and retailers have accepted their responsibility, but it is not enough. Everyone must get involved in saving our resources.

The legislature has passed two bills that will require financial support to a new Recycling Advisory Council and to a statewide recycling coordinator. These bills can put some teeth into our recycling efforts and would be a big step to improve our efforts statewide.

In these times of tight budgets, we must make some difficult choices on how we spend tax dollars, but I feel the additional expenses to support these bills is well worth it. I urge you to support Senate Bill 790 and Senate Bill 854. These bills will do a lot to improve our recycling efforts.

William Ventola  
Plymouth

## SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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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.

## QUOTABLE

"The help will come, but by the time it gets to (the people), it will be too late - that is the tragedy of the whole thing."

-Mukesh Patel, coordinator of the Shri Swaminarayan Mandir temple  
On international efforts to save victims of the tsunamis

# Legislators must take an honest approach to budget

Happy New Year, everybody. Just in case you thought dishonesty in life is something new, consider that more than 2,000 years ago, the ancient Greek philosopher Diogenes was said to have spent much time wandering around Athens in broad daylight, carrying a lantern and searching in vain for an honest man.

Yet if Diogenes were alive and in Lansing with his lantern today, he would need lots of extra batteries. There don't seem to be many honest folks these days in our state capital. The politicians are not being honest about our finances — or maybe they're all just scared of blurring out the truth, which is that the emperor is getting more naked by the day.

Consider: Michigan has experienced \$1 billion or more budget shortfalls in each of the past three fiscal years. This year's budget already looks out of whack by something like \$400 million, and best estimates are that next year's spending plan (which begins Oct. 1) will be another \$1 billion-plus in the red.

How come? What to do? Diogenes, shine that lantern!

Most legislators proclaim in public that we have to cut state spending — without ever saying what exactly they would cut, since that would inevitably

get someone mad. Various special interest groups — teachers, prison guards, city managers, you name 'em — say we've got to cut spending, sure, but certainly not by slashing their own little patch of happiness.

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce says we've got to cut taxes even more than we have to improve the business climate. Naturally, business leaders never address the problem of how to make up for the lost revenue, or what will happen when the money that buys essential state services disappears.

On and on it goes. Fingers are being pointed left, right and center, in an endless circle. Diogenes would have despaired ... unless he was fortunate enough to come across Tom Clay, director of state affairs for the Citizens Research Council of Michigan.

CRC is a nonprofit research outfit that is widely recognized as both non-partisan and enormously expert. Clay is a quiet, unassuming type who worked on state budgets under both Republican and Democratic governors for decades and probably knows as much as anybody about how our state's finances work.

He was the keynote speaker at a forum put on by CRC in November. The bottom line: "Under current policies of taxation and spending, the Michigan general fund structural (i.e. chronic, built-in) deficit that became evident in fiscal year 2000-01 will continue to grow into the future, even given a reasonably optimistic economic outlook."

The cause has to do both with the structure of state spending and the nature of the state's tax system. Expenditures on Medicaid (the joint state-federal program to pay for health and long-term care for poor residents) and the state's prison system are

growing rapidly — and uncontrollably.

Even with zero increase in state spending on all the other programs, the built-in cost increases for Medicaid and corrections all by themselves will cause general fund spending to grow faster than tax revenue, even in good economic times. In other words, we are doomed to spend more than we take in. Hence the chronic "structural" deficit.

As to taxes, most that support the general fund are relatively inelastic, that is they do not grow at the same rate as the economy. "In the 1990s it became evident that tax revenues did not keep up with increases in personal income, and now that personal income is down as a result of the recession and loss of manufacturing jobs, tax revenue is down even further," Clay said.

"A structural deficit of this nature is not going away without policy changes," he added. "The state has been able to continue to support general fund programs over the last five fiscal years by using \$6.5 billion in non-recurring resources. The recurring revenues simply have not been there and will not be adequate in the future without significant changes in tax and expenditure policy."

What Clay is saying in plain English is that the state for five years has resorted to a bunch of one-time financial gimmicks to stave off Armageddon — using up rainy day funds, increasing fees, changing dates of tax collections and other accounting trickery. The \$6.5 billion stash that was in the piggy bank has now been all used up.

And folks — whether Lansing types or ordinary citizens — are going to have to confront an emerging budget crisis. We have no choice; we are facing billions in red ink. The only way to accomplish this is to get serious about cutting spending, by increasing taxes or by both.

That's what the light of Diogenes' lamp reveals, and the hope is that a few bright shining hard facts will help bring even less-than-honest men to the realization that things have to change big-time.

In one positive development, Clay presented this material to newly elected state representatives at a meeting in Lansing last month. "Frankly, I was encouraged at the reaction of the new legislators. They're understanding the facts and they're concerned — much more now than they were two years ago at a similar meeting," he told me.

Finally, I too have found that some people in Lansing are discussing this situation — in private, of course — with the seriousness it deserves. But we don't have much time to get our house in order. "We're already behind the eight-ball with respect to other states," Clay said, "and if we don't fix this problem pretty soon the future is going to be pretty gloomy."

As we ought to know by now, there is a terrible price to be paid for ignoring a coming tidal wave.

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.

# 'Spirit of Michigan State' is graduate's labor of love

This is bound to be a big year for Michigan State University, which last week inaugurated its first woman president, Lou Anna Simon, and which will spend all year celebrating its 150th anniversary.

University of Michigan fans will privately mutter, "so what?" After all, U-M has had a woman president for several years and was founded long before, Ann Arbor has more money, more prestige and, at least temporarily, a better football team. And like MSU, Ann Arbor has its own loyal corps of alumni.

But what they don't have is Bloomfield Hills' Bruce McCristal, who has just written and published the best comprehensive history of any of the state's universities. *The Spirit of Michigan State* is not only a useful reference book, it is an absolutely beautiful one: coffee-table sized, lavishly illustrated, organized in chronological order, with little capsule stories and biographies.

"This was my retirement project," laughed a trim McCristal, who looks considerably younger than a man graduated from the East Lansing campus half a century ago. Actually, he was essentially weaned on the campus. His father, King McCristal, arrived in East Lansing as a professor of health and physical education in 1937 before Bruce entered kindergarten. Michigan State College, as it was then called, was essentially still a small agricultural school.

But in the years after World War II, it rapidly expanded into a mega-university, largely due to the shrewd planning of President John Hannah, who realized hordes of returning World War II veterans would want to go to college, and that if he built an athletic program, a great university might follow.

Watching MSU expand before his eyes was a shaping experience for Bruce McCristal, who went on to serve as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force and then to have a distinguished career in public relations, much of it at General Motors, where he ended his career as director of worldwide employee communications. When he left the corporation in 1992, he immersed himself in the MSU archives.

There, he spent "hundreds and hundreds of hours." There was a previous history of MSU, published by the school for its centennial in 1955. It was illustrated mainly with small black-and-white photos of men in

suits, and was written in a suitably dry fashion by a history professor.

*The Spirit of Michigan State* is anything but that. Similarly illustrated books of its size tend to sell for about \$75; this one retails for \$49.95, but they'll reduce that by \$10 if you order it from the Web site, [www.spiritofmichiganstate.com](http://www.spiritofmichiganstate.com).

When I first saw it, I assumed it had been heavily subsidized by MSU and published by the campus press. It was neither. The MSU Press had other projects in motion, "so I learned how to become a publisher," McCristal laughed. So he paid to have the book typeset in Arizona and printed in, of all places, China, and then started selling them. He doesn't want to talk about what this set him back, but there isn't the slightest chance he will recoup his investment; he is donating every dollar to MSU.

U-M may have Arthur Miller among its alums, but when it comes to writerly devotion, it's hard to imagine that they can top MSU's Homer. What was his favorite Spartan anecdote? "Hard to say," but one great one is a little secret story of how the school got to be a football powerhouse.

During World War II, Hannah badly wanted to get into the Big Ten, but knew he'd have to prove State could play with the big boys. So he enlisted then-Michigan Gov. Harry Kelly in an effort to persuade Notre Dame's president to agree to play a regular series with the Spartans. "This was at the height of World War II, during rationing, and Mrs. Kelly pulled three priceless steaks out of the freezer." Meat matters. Notre Dame started coming to East Lansing, and State got into the Big Ten.

Blanchard for Democratic Party chairman? Some people scoffed at the news that former Gov. Jim Blanchard was interested in being the next Democratic national chairman. But the idea may not be so farfetched. Blanchard, now a well-connected Washington lawyer, is broadly acceptable to all factions. He is energetic, in a good position to be an honest broker and, perhaps most important, is not a candidate for president. Howard Dean, perhaps the front-runner for the chairmanship, clearly wants to run again. Insiders say Blanchard would love the job, which will be filled in February, but won't formally run unless he thinks he has a good chance of winning and has solid support from the nation's Democratic governors.

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



Phil Power



Jack Lessenberry

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Purpose #1: You Were Planned  
For God's Pleasure  
One Time Only Special Class  
Monday 12 Noon - 1 p.m. & 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
Rev. Argentina Glasgow, Speaker

JANUARY 16, 2005

Martin Luther King Sunday  
Purpose #2: You Were Formed  
For God's Family  
Rev. Alfreda Williams, Guest Speaker

JANUARY 23, 2005

Purpose #3: You Were Created  
to Become Like Christ  
Rev. Gregory Gulce, Guest Speaker

JANUARY 30, 2005

Purpose #4: You Were Shaped  
for Serving God  
Rev. Alfreda Williams, Guest Speaker

FEBRUARY 6, 2005

Twelve Powers Sunday: Love  
Purpose #5: You Were Made  
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Rev. Argentina Glasgow, Speaker

## "Is it Alzheimer's? What do I do now?"

Have you notice forgetfulness or confusion in a spouse or parent? Are you worried that it might be Alzheimer's Disease? What should you do? You fear losing everything to the nursing home. There is good reason to worry. Alzheimer's is a progressive irreversible disease. Nursing home costs are over \$65,000 a year and going up. You need to know what to do and you need it now.

Come to my FREE seminar and get the information you need from experts in the field. We cover:

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- the Ten Warning Signs of Alzheimer's
- the stages an individual will go through with this disease
- the community and agency services available
- the legal preparations that must be made before it's too late
- how to plan to maximize your independence, control and protect your assets and your family from nursing home costs.

Saturday, January 8th, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Livonia Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard, corner of Hubbard and 5 Mile  
Guest Speaker Kelley Fulkerson,  
Trainer for the Alzheimer's Association

Wednesday, January 19th, 7:00 PM - 9 PM  
Saturday, January 22nd, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Southfield Public Library, 26300 Evergreen Rd.  
Guest speaker Jean Barnas, Education and Training Coordinator,  
Alzheimer's Association

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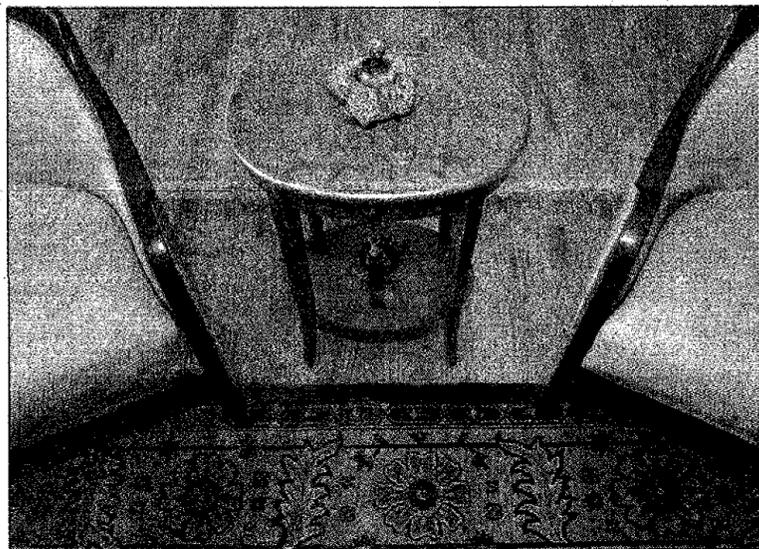
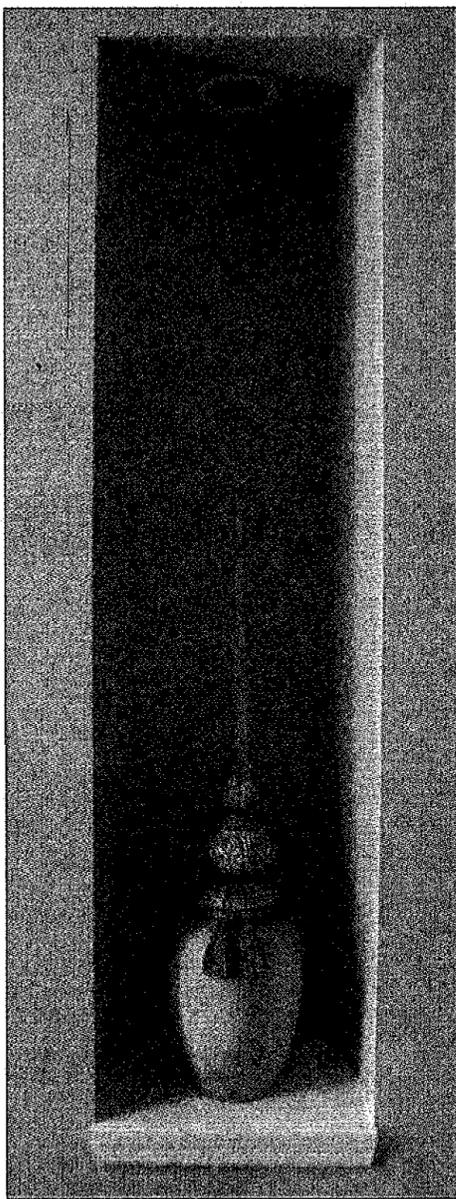
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# 2005

## COLORS COME ALIVE IN

STORY BY JOAN BORAM | CORRESPONDENT

The New Year is upon us, bringing with it forecasts of trends in fashion and home décor. Spring fashions will soon appear, but the skinny on colors for the 2005 home has already begun to circulate.

Here are some predictions from area interior designers:

"Our clients are showing a strong preference for warm and cozy, nurturing and soothing colors, whether their tastes are traditional or modern," said Barbara Krass, owner of Colorworks Studio in

West Bloomfield. "Focus is gravitating more toward the greens first and then the neutrals, with reds still a strong third. It's the tones and half-tones that differentiate 2005 colors from last year's trends.

"Greens are sophisticated, with lots of yellow overtones or a watery blue base, in colors like thyme, oregano or sage, or rainwater and sea-glass."

Taupe and browns are taking on a dramatic aspect in rusty tones, cordovans, bronzes and dark rich chocolates, Krass said.

"The trend for lighter beiges is warm and defined, with colors like

PLEASE SEE COLORS, B4

## Uplifting | embodies optimism

(NAPS) - Color has the power to change our moods for the better and even to help us see hope and promise in the future. Aware of color's ability to communicate the spirit of the times, one major paint brand recently announced Full Bloom as its 2005 "Color of the Year."

"It's a color that is uplifting, stimulating and enlivening," said Barbara Richardson, director of color marketing for ICI Paints, maker of the Glidden paint brand. "Full Bloom has the ability to

raise our spirits and to make us feel optimistic - a quality that is in high demand right now."

### 'HOPEFUL' PALETTE

Shades of orange have been growing in popularity throughout the past year, due to their inherent sense of hopefulness. Colors from the orange palette create a feeling of warmth, joy and energy when incorporated into home décor.

This color group is considered especially suited for "public" areas of the home,

such as kitchens or dining rooms, where family and friends gather to communicate, to eat and drink or to be entertained.

"Many shades of orange evoke the excitement of a fiesta with their vitality and fruitiness," said Richardson. "A room painted in colors reminiscent of spiced pumpkin, papaya or tangerine often becomes the scene of lively gatherings."

### EXCELLENT ACCENT COLOR

Due to the strength and richness of most orange

shades, it's often preferable to use them as effervescent accents throughout the home - especially on one or two walls in a large room.

"This color scheme easily can be blended with décors ranging from the natural and minimalist to the extremely modern and whimsical," said Richardson.

These vibrant oranges also mix perfectly with other warm colors that are not quite as intense, such as deep chocolates and saddle

PLEASE SEE ORANGE, B4



NAPS

The color orange creates a feeling of warmth and energy when incorporated into home décor.

## 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.



### In with the dark

Dark countertops connote luxury and high style, and are poised to become one of the next big trends in kitchen design, industry insiders and designers say.

Wilsonart has seen a dramatic rise in the popularity of its dark laminate patterns, according to Gwen Petter, manager of surface design with Wilsonart Laminate®.

"The darker tones are becoming as important as the neutrals," Petter said. "It's a color trend and today we're seeing a palette that is focusing on the dark, saturated hues."

Topping Wilsonart's list are Mesa Verde, Smoky Topaz and Brazilian Topaz. These dark, rich patterns in the green, gray and black families are part of the MesaGranite and Topaz laminate collections that

resemble granite and engineered stone, respectively.

Other dark Wilsonart patterns in the deep green, rich blue and chocolate brown color families that are catching consumers' eyes are Atzec Oasis (shown here on the countertop and island), Ebony Fusion, Nordic Fusion, Jade Fusion and Bronzed Fusion.

The Fusion collection showcases marble-like patterns, while the Oasis Collection features a random small-scale pattern that resembles stained glass. Wilsonart International's laminate was a nominee in the 2004 Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum's National Design Awards. For more information about any Wilsonart product, call the Customer Service Hotline at (800) 433-3222 or visit the Wilsonart Web site at www.countertop.com.

# ACCENTS

## Financial fitness

Getting control of finances help attain that New Year's goal of buying a new home, purchasing a new car, making home improvements or sending a child off to college. Your credit score (or FICO score) affects your ability to achieve these goals. Recent research from the Consumer Federation of America and Provident Financial found that only 13 percent of consumers know that a FICO score above the low 700s will most often get them a lower interest rate on a loan.

You can improve your credit score by doing the following:

■ Paying bills on time - If you have a credit score of 670, paying your bills on time for at least three months can raise your FICO score as much as 20 points.

■ Paying down balances - Paying \$750 toward a revolving credit balance of \$2,122 can raise your credit score from 670 to 710.

■ Transferring balances - If you have a FICO score of 670 and open a new credit card with a credit limit of \$3,000 and consolidate all existing credit card balances onto one card, your credit score can increase to between 675 and 715.

A FICO Score Simulator is available on Provident's Web site (www.provident-an.com) along with other information and tools about credit scores. For Provident credit cardholders, these tools are available in a personalized format through Provident's Real Information program, which gives cardholders free access to their FICO credit scores so they can see how good financial practices positively influence their credit scores over time.

## Watch driving

Many automobile owners dread winter for one reason - driving.

Transportation accidents are the leading cause of death during winter storms, according to the Federal Emergency Management Association.

Prevent accidents by driving safely and following these tips:

Clear snow and ice from windows, lights, windshield wipers, the hood and the roof of your vehicle. When you see plows, stay at least 200 feet behind them.

Stay abreast of road conditions by listening to the radio. Leave room for braking. Look ahead to see what other vehicles are doing. Watch your speed.

If you suddenly get stuck, the National Safety Council suggests turning your wheels from side to side a few times to push snow out of the way. Lightly touch the gas and ease forward. If that doesn't work, rock the vehicle, shifting from forward to reverse and back again, taking care not to do anything that will damage your transmission. (Check your owner's manual.) When you are in each gear, give a light touch on the gas pedal until the vehicle moves.

# Never dump kitchen grease in disposer

Frederick writes: "I heard a person on radio say that it was all right to pour grease down the kitchen sink. He also said that it was OK to pour it into the garbage disposer as long as you run water with it. Please give me your opinion. Thank you."

Frederick, the first thing I would like to tell you is that you didn't hear it on my radio show. Secondly, I don't think you can find a qualified plumber who would agree with that statement.

Do not put grease down any drain of your home, even if you run water with it. The end result can be a blocked drain line. Grease can only cause other materials to stick to it, especially hair. If you are hooked up to a septic system,



**Appliance Doctor**

Joe Gagnon

grease can also severely affect the drainage of that system. Grease also promotes bacteria growth inside of a garbage disposer, which is so close to an open sink.

I always thought that the disposer's instruction manual warned the user about putting grease inside of it.

The correct way to dispose of grease is to pour it into a can or disposable container, let it cool and then place the sealed can into the refrigerator. Once

it is solidified, you can place it into your regular trash.

You should clean your disposer every few weeks by filling it with ice cubes, letting them stand in there for an hour and then turning it on.

## KEEP AN EYE ON PAD

Eric writes: "I moved into a home this past summer and it has a flow-thru type humidifier on the furnace. Should I change the filter (evaporator) pad or simply wash it? It looks like it's in pretty good shape."

That's a great question, Eric, and leads me to tell you about a friend who called me for assistance just a few weeks ago. He asked me to check out his humidifier on the furnace because he didn't think it was

working. I checked the humidistat which was OK and the solenoid which allows water to flow freely through the pad.

To do this I had to take out the pad, which I found to be filled with mold.

It is the ugliest and most frightening thing to look at I kept it and still have it in a sealed bag.

I don't know what kind of serious bacteria there is in this thing but it didn't take long to purchase a new one and install it.

I used to think that you could wash them with vinegar and it would do the trick, but not anymore. I have had the very popular Aprilaire model and I buy a new filter pad for it every year.

The subject of mold keeps getting more serious each year and although there is much yet to be proven, I don't take any chances with it.

## NEW YEAR, NEW PRICE HIKES

The year 2005 brings some heavy duty price increases in the cost of major home appliances. The steel prices and oil prices mandate that manufacturers have no other choice but to raise your cost on the retail level. They are estimating that increases will be 5 to 10 percent on all shipments after Jan. 1.

If you're thinking about a new product for your home sometime this year, do it now. Most appliance dealers will still have last year's inventory

in their warehouses and that fact can save you dollars if you buy soon. I don't see any big changes in manufacturing that would make it worthwhile to wait for the newer models to come out. A washer is a washer and a dryer is a dryer, they still wash and dry clothes. The only big differences are that they keep adding more and more cycles to them which 75 percent of us don't use.

In closing let me wish everyone of you a prosperous New Year and a big thank you for reading this column. 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.

## GARDEN CALENDAR

**Seminars**  
English Gardens will present free gardening seminars Saturdays in January at its five metro-Detroit stores - in West Bloomfield (phone (248) 851-7506), Royal Oak/Troy (phone (248) 280-9500), Dearborn Heights (phone (313) 278-4433), Clinton Township (phone (586) 286-6100) and Farmington Hills (phone (586) 771-4200). Caring for Tropical Plants will be the topic 11 a.m. Jan. 8. Learn about houseplants that will thrive indoors. The seminar will provide information on how to select a plant, tips to encourage flowering and suggestions on using plants to enhance a home's decor. English Gardens floral designers will present Arranging Fresh Flowers 11 a.m. Jan. 15. This step-by-step demonstration will feature lots of inspiration and design basics, as well as an overview of seasonal products available to decorate your home. For the nearest English Gardens location, call (800) 335-GROW or visit www.englishgardens.com.

**Cactus and Succulent Society**  
The Michigan Cactus and Succulent Society will meet 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 814 N. Campbell in Royal Oak. A slide program on the Huntington Botanical Gardens will be presented. Admission is free. Guests are welcome.

For more information, call (248) 524-0227.

**Troy Garden Club**  
The Troy Garden Club will meet at noon Wednesday, Jan. 12, at Big Beaver United Methodist Church, 3753 John R, just south of Wattles in Troy. Guest speaker Kay Englehart will talk about the Associated Country Women of the World. Refreshments will be served at noon. Guest donation \$3. For more information, call Rita at (248) 540-4249.

**School of Gardening**  
The Michigan School of Gardening offers a variety of classes for different levels at 29429 Six Mile in Livonia, just west of Middlebelt, and at Goldenherb Nursery, 559 Orchard Lake Road, in Pontiac, north of Square Lake Road and east of Telegraph. Register early. Seating is limited. Some classes have pre-requisites. For more information, call (248) 4GARDEN or visit www.michigangardening.com. The schedule includes Effective Hand-drawn Design, Thursdays, Jan. 6-27, in Livonia (fee is \$168); Growing Vegetables, Mondays, Jan. 10-24, in Livonia (\$102); Ins and Outs of Plants, Mondays, Jan. 10-24, in Pontiac (\$102); and Shade Gardens, two Wednesdays beginning Jan. 12 in Pontiac (\$72). 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. This schedule includes Focus on Design, Saturdays, Jan. 8-29 (\$137).

**Master Gardener club**  
The Master Gardener Association of Wayne County (MGAWC.org) invites former and current master gardeners and master gardening students to attend membership meetings the second Thursday of the month, September through June. MGAWC volunteers meet in the Environmental Interpretive Center at the northwest corner of the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus, 4901 Evergreen. Celebrating 20 years of community service, MGAWC has refreshments at 7 p.m., activity announcements at 7:30 p.m. and a speaker at 8 p.m. Orchids will be the topic of the meeting Jan. 13. Cooking will be discussed at the meeting Feb. 10. MGAWC.org has links to a campus map. Call (734) 786 for a 24-hour recording.

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.

## Decorative plants can also feed wildlife

BY LEE REICH  
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

As bulldozers gobble up natural habitats for wildlife, backyard havens for these animals become increasingly important.

And the trees, shrubs and vines in our back yards can provide, besides shelter, winter food at a time when natural foods are apt to be scarce.

If those foods happen to be brightly colored fruits, not only can they offer sustenance, but they can also decorate the winter landscape with their colors and with the flitting about of feeding birds, squirrels and other wildlife.

A planting for wildlife doesn't have to look like a game preserve, because many plants that bear colorful berries are fine landscape plants as well.

You might already be growing garland holly, mountain ash or Washington hawthorn tree - all of which also provide good food for animals.

Washington hawthorn and

mountain ash are related to crabapple with pea-size, glossy red or orangish red fruits.

Many people plant crabapples mostly for their spring blossoms, but just imagine how pretty the bare branches can be in winter, each acting like a little shelf for snow and festooned by marble-size scarlet, golden or orange fruits.

Not all varieties of crabapple bear decorative or persistent fruits, though; one of the best for color and for feeding songbirds, pheasants and grouse through the winter is the Sargent crabapple.

Staghorn sumac, another plant that makes good winter feed for wildlife, grows as a medium-sized tree or as a large shrub.

It is invasive, spreading from seed and root suckers, so it isn't a plant for small back yards.

Even if you don't grow it yourself, you - along with pheasants, bobwhite quails and various other birds - can appreciate it growing along

such sites as old railroad beds and the edges of meadows.

Aber of shrub still decked out in berries are more civilized in their growth than sumac, so are better suited to smaller yards.

Most obvious for winter berries is, of course, winterberry, with orange or red berries pressed against black stems. G dogwood is another, with white berries.

Viburnums are a group of ornamental shrubs that include highbush cranberry, bearing drooping clusters of glossy red berries, and nannyberry and hobblebush, both of whose berries start out bright red and then turn blue-black. Two vines to provide winter berries for wildlife are, bittersweet and Virginia creeper.

Although abundant in the wild, bittersweet is worth planting for its bright red and yellow fruits, and Virginia creeper for its crimson fall foliage, rivaled in the wild only by that of poison ivy.

## HOME CALENDAR

**Home decor**  
Haberman Fabrics, 905 S. Main in Royal Oak, presents a variety of home decor fabrics for different skill levels. The schedule includes Roman Shade, four sessions beginning Thursday, Jan. 6, or Friday, Jan. 7 (fee is \$80). Call (248) 541-0100.

**Make a blanket**  
Learn to make a fleece blanket in a class 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10,

at The Community House, 380 S. Bates in downtown Birmingham. The fee is \$20. To register or for more information, call The Community House at (248) 644-5832, or visit www.communityhouse.com. All of the pieces will be assembled in the class. You will need two pieces of fleece in your favorite colors (each measuring 1-3/4 yards); sharp scissors; long, sharp pins; needle and thread to

match the fleece; and rotary cutter and board (optional for basic fleece blanket). 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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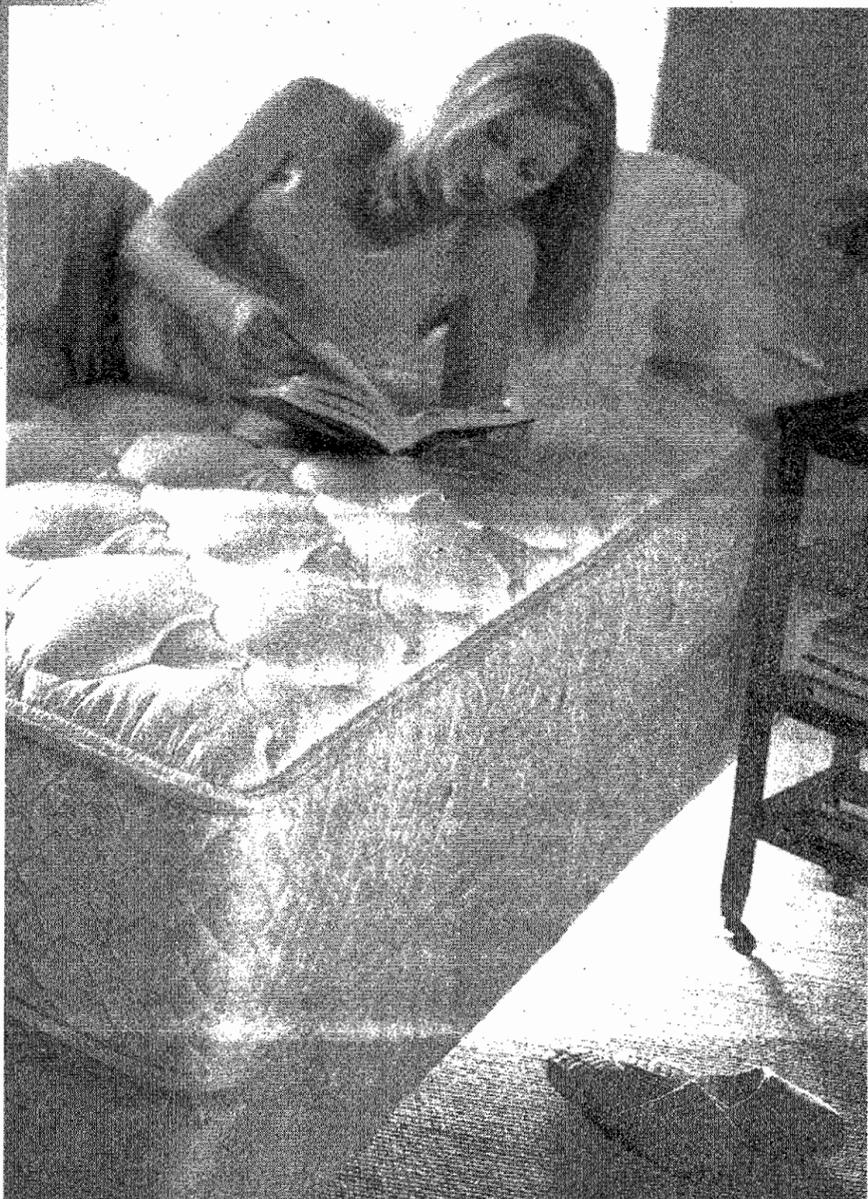
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**COLORS**

FROM PAGE B1

cappuccino, saddle-leather, and latte," Bass said. "Reds have a brown or blue base, like a good Merlot, or the juice of a great steak."

**CHALLENGING UPGRADES**

Recently, clients asked Krass to update a combined living/dining room in their West Bloomfield residence. Working ahead of the calendar, Krass used 2005 colors, and sometimes found it "a stretch" to locate fabrics in desired tones.

We painted the walls a bronzy green, and covered the sofa in a deeper version of the same color. Krass said. "The faux silk taffeta curtains are a color called 'mink.' The dining room table and chairs, family heirlooms, are wood with a natural gold tone, and the bar cabinet is creamy with a yellow base, so the wall and curtain color scheme was a natural progression, beginning with the family's antiques."

An area rug in the living room, gold with deep bronzy green, watery blues and chestnut brown accents is complemented by throw pillows on the sofa that pick up the rug's

colors. Together, they help tie the room's colors together into an organic whole.

Interior designers are fond of encouraging potential clients to clip and keep in a file pictures of rooms they find attractive. One of Ed Postif's clients went one step farther: She took a trip to Tuscany and commissioned Postif, president of Edward Postif Inc. in Plymouth, to give her a golden Tuscan living room: Not an easy task if you compare Michigan sunshine with Tuscan sunshine, but the client wanted a soft candlelight gold.

"Gold is the new yellow," said Postif. "Shades of old gold - marigold, goldenrod, the deeper gold shades will be very 'id' this year, so it was a pleasure to do this room. We painted the walls dark gold, the carpeting is a soft gold, and the sofa is camel chenille, very soft and comfortable."

The golden effect is complemented by a fiddlehead green ottoman trimmed in wine, a chocolate brown chair, another chair covered in wine and chocolate stripes, and a love seat in fiddlehead green and gold striped velvet. Add throw pillows in bordeaux and a red floral and you have a room that any Tuscan would love.

"I learned from an artist friend who always put a spot of red in a painting to always

include a red accent in a room," said Postif.

**BLUE WILL BE HOT**

Other shades Postif cites as upcoming stars are blue with green in it, such as robin's egg blue, the blue of a Tiffany box, or turquoise.

"Blue pairs well with coral, gold, yellow, and white," said Postif.

"Coral is the new pink, especially the spicy tones of tangerine, or cayenne, cumin or cinnamon. And orange is coming on strong."

When Brian Clav Collins, F.A.S.I.D., senior interior designer at Marshall Field's Interior Design Department, Northland, designed last November a vignette for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra fund-raiser, "Orchestrations for the Home," in the Brunswick & Fils showroom at the Michigan Design Center in Troy, he took a fresh approach.

Fresh oranges, to be exact. The two walls of the vignette were a pumpkin-colored grass-cloth, painted with a vine design.

Two sofas were covered with a nubby white fabric, side furniture was black lacquer with



Barbara Klass sits in a kitchen she designed.

PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE (STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

rattan, and the only wall feature was a large round mirror trimmed in gold, bordered in black.

All furniture and fabrics were from Brunswick & Fils.

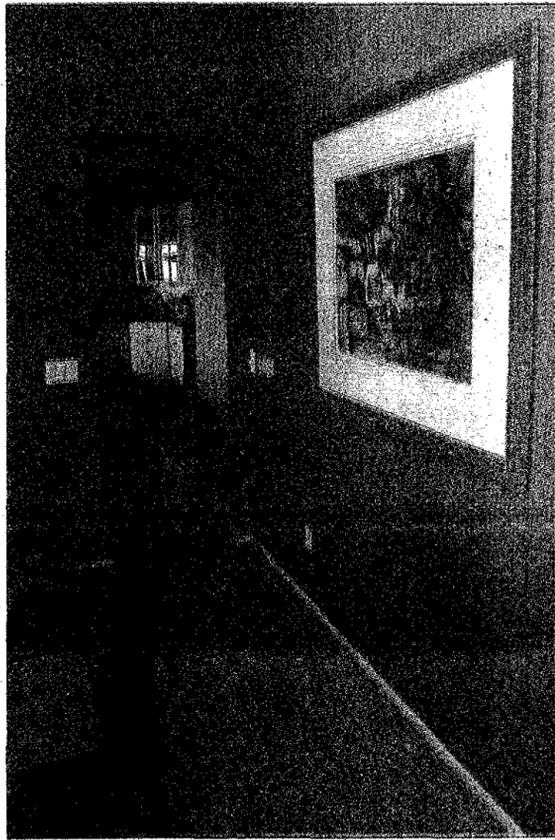
Tangerine and marigold throw pillows added color, as

did quantities of fresh oranges in blue-and-white Chinese porcelain bowls from Carlton James Galleries, also in the MDC.

"The oranges contributed a fresh touch of color that's impossible to duplicate," said Sharon Krumrei, manager of

the Brunswick & Fils showroom. "They added a wonderful aroma to the area, they lasted a long time, and we only had one fruit fly!"

Joan Boram is a freelance writer who writes about interior design for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.



Warm and cozy will be the style for 2005, designers say, like in this home in West Bloomfield. The dining room's table and chairs are wood with a natural gold tone, while the walls were painted bronzy green.

**ORANGE**

FROM PAGE B1

browns, according to Richardson.

As with most colors, the orange palette is made more beautiful when combined with neutral shades. For instance, in a room painted with Full Bloom, Glidden recommends use of a pink-toned neutral such as Sand Dollar Shell on the doorways and trim to create a sense of continuity and flow.

Full Bloom is based on a color originally identified by the Colour Futures team, an international group that researches design influences from fashion, architecture,

nature and cultures from around the globe. Each year, the team studies events and ideas to produce a contemporary color palette driven by society's moods and interests, similar to the way that fashion designers seek unique styles and incorporate current philosophies into their work.

"Full Bloom is really an uplifting color that can enhance our lives," said Richardson.

"In the home, it creates spaces that are dynamic and joyful - places that we can visit to gain motivation, find inspiration or simply improve our moods."

You can explore color options, as well as creative ideas for home paint projects, at www.glidden.com.

**It's easy to replace broken hammer handle**

BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Got a broken hammer handle? Don't toss it, fix it.

A replacement handle will cost about one-third of the price of a new hammer, and the replacement process is simple.

Use a hand saw to cut off what remains of the broken handle.

Lay the head on a small block of wood with the claws facing up, and use an electric drill to remove the remains

from the eye.

Next, insert the throat of the new handle into the head. The fit should be snug.

If it's too tight, try shaving it with a razor knife or belt sander.

With the handle in place, cut off the portion that projects beyond the top of the head.

Drive a wood shim into the groove at the top of the handle.

Finish the job by inserting a metal wedge at a right angle to the wood shim.

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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins goalie Kristie Kowalski smothers a Harper Woods Regina shot during the second period of Tuesday night's game at Canton's Arctic Edge Arena. FCS won, 3-2.

## Plymouth icers stun Salem

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

The new kid on the block skated away with a milestone victory in Tuesday night's cross-campus showdown between the Plymouth and Salem hockey teams.

The Wildcats recorded their first-ever Western Lakes Activities Association win when they surprised the Rocks, 4-3, before an enthusiastic crowd at the Compuware Sports Arena. Plymouth is now 4-5 overall and 1-3 in the WLAA; Salem slipped to 6-5-1 and 3-2.

"It was a huge win for this team, especially since it was our first league win and it was against our cross-campus rival," Plymouth coach Mike Kaput said. "The boys finally decided to play as a team and get rid of the individual play that had cost us in earlier games. They're sky-high right now."

"Salem has a good team and they're well-coached, so we knew we had to play together if we were going to win. I'm very proud of the team."

Salem coach Fred Feiler said he was disappointed with his squad's mental approach to Tuesday night's game.

"I don't want to take anything away from Plymouth because they played well, but this was our worst game of the year," Feiler said. "We didn't respond the way we should have coming out of the break. We were flat and Plymouth played with more emotion than we did."

Plymouth's Ryan Stamm opened the scoring with an unassisted goal six minutes into the game. Salem's Chris

PLEASE SEE PLYMOUTH, C3

## Slidelines

### Whalers first

The Plymouth Whalers moved into first place in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division Tuesday night with a 6-3 victory over the Saginaw Spirit in a game played before 3,364 people at the Saginaw County Event Center.

James Neal's power-play goal at 0:38 of the third period snapped a 3-3 tie and proved to be the game-winner. Neal was assisted by Mike Knight.

The victory improved the Whalers' record to 16-14-4-3. Their 39 points are one more than second-place Sault Ste. Marie.

Plymouth received goals from five other players: Jonas Fiedler, Dan Collins, John Mitchell, Mike Looby and Vaclav Meidl. Kevin Tuckey, Thomas Harrison and Patrick McNeil scored for the Spirit, who dropped to 9-25-1-4.

Plymouth outshot Saginaw, 14-5, in the decisive third period. Ryan Nie earned the victory in net for the winners.

The Whalers have now won five of their last six road games. Their next home game at the Compuware Sports Arena is Saturday, Jan. 15, against Guelph.

### Soccer signup

The city of Plymouth Recreation Department will be accepting spring youth soccer registration the entire month of January at the recreation office during business hours, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office is located in the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St. All first-time registrations require a birth certificate.

The fee for 6-and-under through 8-and-under divisions is \$60 for Plymouth residents and \$85 for non-residents.

For 9-and-under and older divisions, the fee is \$65 for Plymouth residents and \$95 for non-residents.

For more information, call (734) 455-6620 or see the department's Web site at [www.ci.plymouth.mi.us](http://www.ci.plymouth.mi.us).

### Madonna men win

The Madonna University men's basketball team improved its record to 4-11 Dec. 30 with a 93-85 victory over Grabe Bible in the consolation game of the Hope College tournament.

Noel Emehiser paced the Crusaders, scoring a tournament-record 38 points.

For his efforts, the senior from Monroeville, Ind., was named to the all-tournament team.

### YMCA hood

Registration for Plymouth YMCA boys and girls travel league teams begins Monday, Jan. 10. The boys teams are for players between the ages of 12 and 14 while the girls teams are for players ages 8 and 9.

Signups for the YMCA's youth co-ed basketball league (ages 6-12) and new 4- and 5-year-old league begins Tuesday, Jan. 18.

## Penguins outskate Regina, 3-2

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

With their one-comfortable three-goal lead evaporating faster than a hockey rink in the middle of the desert, the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins turned to goalie Kristie Kowalski to preserve a victory Tuesday night against Harper Woods Regina in a crucial Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League game.

Kowalski responded, knocking away five third-period Saddlelite shots to save the Penguins' thrilling 3-2 victory in a game played at Canton's Arctic Edge Arena. PCS improved its record to 8-2 overall and 7-1 in the

'Our entire defense played a good game.'

Lori Callahan  
Penguin coach

MMGHHL, while Regina slipped to 6-3. The two teams will only first-place Grosse Pointe South in the conference standings.

"Kristie played really well," Penguin coach Lori Callahan said. "She made a couple of great saves and she did a nice job of covering up rebound shots

as well. Our entire defense played a good game."

Following a scoreless first period, PCS scored twice in the second on goals from sophomore Adrienne Cercone and junior Kelli Bargowski. Cercone punched in a rebound following a shot by Amy Coleman, while Bargowski's goal was assisted by Tara Boliard.

"Tara made a great pass to Kelli, who scored top-shelf," Callahan said. "Kelli had a good, all-around game. She did a nice job of bringing the puck up the ice into our end."

During the second intermission, Callahan said she warned her team

PLEASE SEE PENGUINS, C3

## Beaming Salem gymnasts shrug off rust to win opening meet

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Salem's gymnastics team returned from the holiday break Monday rested, but rusty.

Even though they weren't necessarily at the top of their game, the Rocks still managed to outperform Wayne/Westland, 128.45-94.15, in the season opener for both teams.

"We weren't able to practice much during the break because of vacations, so it wasn't a great meet for us," Salem coach Dana Driscoll said.

"A few of the girls who were competing in their first meet did surprisingly well, though. We won, but we could have done better."

Salem earned the top three spots in the all-around competition and in each of the four individual events. Elena Gueorguiev was the top point-earner, netting 33.60. Meghan Negele was second overall with 31.65, followed closely by teammate Brittany Youne, who compiled 31.30

Young captured the vault with a score of 8.35. Gueorguiev was second (8.30) and Negele was third (8.25).

Gueorguiev took top honors in the bars, beam and floor events, while Negele finished third in the bars and the beam.

Sarah Bugosh, Katerina Kariotis and Shawdi Dafger also earned top-three finishes for the winners.

Salem will return to action Tuesday when it takes on cross-campus rival Canton at Plymouth High School. The meet is set to start at 7 p.m.

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## Miscues doom Canton cagers, 55-44

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Canton's boys basketball team needed more than antibiotics to cure the severe case of turnover—it is it suffered from Tuesday night in its final non-league game against Ann Arbor Pioneer.

The Chiefs, who were throwing up the ball for grabs on several occasions against Pioneer's pesky man-to-man defense, committed 20 turnovers in the 55-44 setback in the Phase III gymnasium.

Canton will take a 4-2 record into Friday night's Western Lakes Activities Association opener at home against Walled Lake Western. The game will tip off at 6 p.m., an hour earlier than the usual starting time.

Pioneer won for just the second time in six games.

'We committed way too many turnovers to win.'

Charlie Paye  
Canton coach

"The two things I talked to the team about before the game — keeping the intensity level up and keeping the turnovers down — we didn't do very well," Canton coach Charlie Paye said. "We committed way too many turnovers to win. We played with intensity in spurts, but we have to do it for four quarters."

Pioneer coach Greg Lockridge said his team's sub-par record is misleading considering the difficulty of its early schedule and the relative inexperience of his team.

"We're a very young team and our players are just starting to get used to playing with one another," Lockridge said.

Neither team could pull away from the other in the first half, which ended with Canton ahead, 21-17. The Chiefs secured the intermission advantage by scoring the final six points — four from senior point guard Andy Cortellini and two from senior shooting guard David Calille.

Junior guard Keenyn Joplin's fast-break layup with 1:30 left in the third quarter gave the Pioneers a 33-28 lead, however, Canton's Steve Paye and Calille scored the final four points of the quarter to bring the Chiefs to within 33-32 with eight minutes remaining.

Pioneer outscored Canton 9-1 over the first four min-

utes of the fourth to put a stranglehold on the victory.

The Chiefs connected on just 3-of-16 shots in the fourth quarter and 18-of-54 (33 percent) for the game. Pioneer hit half of its fourth-quarter attempts (6-of-12), but just 19-of-53 (36 percent) for the game.

Canton's Julian Smith was the game's top scorer with 13 points.

The senior forward also yanked down seven rebounds. Calille finished with 10 points and Cortellini had seven.

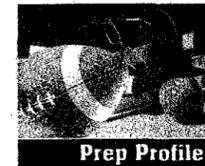
Ladel Harris came off the bench to lead Pioneer's balanced attack with 11 points. Joplin and Matt Fileccia both netted 10.

Led by Ryan Waidmann's 10 boards and Kevin Thornton's nine, Canton gut-rebounded the visitors, 38-31.

## Cortellini's court skills frustrate foes

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

High school basketball coaches spend hours upon hours of valuable practice time trying to design the unbreakable, momentum-seizing, full-court press that will force their opponents to commit one panic-stricken turnover after another.



Prep Profile

So when Canton senior point guard Andy Cortellini dribbles through and around these presses like a Porsche maneuvering through rush-hour traffic on I-275, it's enough to make opposing coaches bang their clipboards, burn timeouts and deliver eardrum-popping lectures to their deflated players.

Cortellini's court skills at times defy logic, said Canton coach Charlie Paye, the only side-



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton senior point guard Andy Cortellini's ability to handle a basketball is second to none in the Western Lakes Activities Association. His 3.9 grade-point average ranks among the league's best, too.

PLEASE SEE CORTELLINI, C2

# Agape Christian's Leathers wears down Tories, 63-50

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

You couldn't have faulted Britton-Macon's basketball team if it let out a collective sigh of relief when Canton Agape Christian's Derek Leathers exited its gymnasium Tuesday night.

Leathers wore out the Tories with 21 points and 21 rebounds to lead the Wolverines to a 63-50 triumph. Agape is now 2-4 heading into Tuesday night's home game against Summerfield. The game — scheduled for 7 p.m. — will be played at Canton's Discovery Middle School.

"The team is starting to jell,"

said Wolverine coach Keith Anleitner. "We've only won twice, but we've played a very difficult schedule which will only make us stronger down the road. We should be more than ready for the league schedule."

Agape led 17-14 after one quarter before pulling away by out-scoring its hosts, 22-7, in the second stanza. B-M never got to within single digits the rest of the contest.

Leathers wasn't the only Wolverine who enjoyed a productive night. Jack Anleitner twined 18 while Gabe Molnar chipped in with 10. Ryan Barber contributed seven and Bryan Horning had four. Phillip Bailey paced the Tories with 15.

Belleville 64, Allen Park 40: The Tigers outscored the Jaguars 15-4 in the decisive second quarter to improve their early-season record to 6-0. Allen Park fell to 4-2.

Belleville junior swing-man Leon Freeman was too much for the Jags to handle in the paint as he tallied 20 points and a team-high 12 rebounds. Tommie Clark netted 11 for the winners while Mike Donaldson and Carlos Clark each had eight.

The Tigers led 17-12 after one quarter and 32-16 at the half. They sealed the win by out-running their visitors, 21-0, in the third quarter.

"We missed a ton of lay-ups in early on, or we would have had 25 to 30 points in the first quarter," lamented Belleville coach Mike Krogel. "We got more assertive defensively in the second quarter and picked up our defense in the post. Their top scorer, Kevin Klein, had eight in the first quarter to keep them in it."

Klein finished with 25 points, but his teammates had a hard time matching his production.

"Leon played well for us," Krogel said. "He took the ball to the basket and he knocked

down some outside shots. We only shot six three's, which is key for us. We get into trouble when we settle for the outside shots too much."

Belleville returns to action Friday night when it hosts Monroe. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

**Dearborn Heights Robichaud 59, Plymouth 51:** The Wildcats hung tough, but eventually succumbed to a deep and talented Robichaud squad. The game was the first on the road this season for Plymouth, which fell to 4-2. The Bulldogs improved to 5-1.

"We were only down three with 1:30 left and we had the ball, so we took it down to the wire," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. "They weren't a real good free-throw shooting team coming into the game, but they seemed to hit everything down the stretch from the line."

The first quarter was reminiscent of a mid-80s NBA game as defense was nowhere to be found. Robichaud led 22-19 after eight minutes, forcing Van Wagoner to switch his defensive strategy.

"We were giving up too many easy baskets

in the first quarter, so we switched to a zone," he said. "We held them to just eight points in the second quarter, so it worked."

The Bulldogs held a slim 30-29 halftime lead before widening the gap to 47-40 after three quarters.

D.J. Coleman paced the Wildcats' offense with 22 points. Josh Le Duc tallied 11 points — all in the second half — and 11 rebounds.

"We started to pound the ball inside to Josh in the second half and he came through for us," Van Wagoner said.

The Wildcats were inconsistent from the charity stripe, sinking just 11-of-18 attempts.

Plymouth opens its Western Lakes Activities Association schedule Friday when it travels to Livonia Churchill. The opening tip is set for 7 p.m.

**Taylor Baptist Park 49, Plymouth Christian Academy 47:** The Eagles played in Taylor Tuesday night, but it must have felt like they were in Heartbreak City following a painful loss to the Wildcats.

PCA led 47-42 with 1:58 left in the game before getting outscored 7-0. The Eagles were

done in by costly turnovers down the stretch and the home team capitalized.

"Baptist Park had the ball on an out-of-bounds play with 15 seconds left and the score tied," PCA coach Doug Taylor recounted. "Stephen Sumner made a great steal for us. We called a time-out and set up a play, but we turned it over with 4.6 seconds left. They ran a double-screen play for Brian Ison, and he made a shot in the key with 1.9 left."

PCA's Matt Saagman's 21-footer at the buzzer just missed the mark.

The Eagles led 15-13 after one quarter, 26-24 at the half and 39-32 with eight minutes left.

Aaron Ciborowski turned in a strong performance in the losing cause, netting 20 points and 14 rebounds. Sumner finished with 12 points, seven assists and four steals while Chase VanTiem contributed seven points, five assists and six rebounds.

The Eagles host the International Academy of Flint Friday night at 7 p.m.

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1991	FORD	ESCORT	1FAPP14J4MW395814
1993	FORD	ESCORT	1FAFP128ZP1292894
1991	MERCURY	MARQUIS	2MECM74F9MX647592
1995	PONTIAC	SUNFIRE	1G2JB1242S7524043
1999	PONTIAC	SUNFIRE	1G2JB1247X7538592
1993	EAGLE	VISION	2E3ED66F8PH545324
1993	FORD	THUNDERBIRD	1FAPP62TPH202696
1994	CHRYSLER	LEBARON	3C3AA5636RT344372
1980	FORD	F150	F15GPGD0011
1985	OLDSMOBILE	DELTA 88	1G3BN69Y2F9124975
1992	FORD	CROWN VIC	2FACP72W9NX207472
1989	FORD	RANGER	1FTCR1498KPA25072
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Publish: January 6, 2005

OE0828571

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA

January 13, 2005

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals THURSDAY, January 13, 2005 AT 7:30 P.M. The meeting will be held at the Summit on the Park located at 46000 SUMMIT PARKWAY, CANTON, MI 48188. The following Agenda will be discussed:

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag

Roll Call: Randy Blaylock, Jim Cisek, Cathy Johnson, Vicki Welty and Steven Johnson.

Acceptance of Agenda

- Andy Kolacki of Sign-A-Rama Dearborn, 410 N. Telegraph, Dearborn, MI 48128 representing Teresa Lewis of Dinner Thyme for property located at 7253 Canton Center Road (Westbrook Plaza), appealing Sign Ordinance Chapter 102, Section 102.35, 1, a sign variance. Zone C-1. Parcel 016-99-0013-702 (Building)
- Lonny S. Zimmerman, AIA of Siegal/Tuomaala Associates Architects and Planners, Inc., 29200 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 160, Southfield, MI 48034 representing Gary Laundroche of Cappo Properties, LLC for property located at 46250 and 46454 Michigan Avenue, appealing Zoning Ordinance Article 5.00, Section 5.03, A, 2, relative to location of the landscape screen due to location of the Sines Drain and Article 6.00, Section 6.02, Q, 4, setbacks from residential property for an open air business (car dealership). Zone C-3. Parcels 129-99-0009-000 131-99-0010-000 (Planning)
- Richard Pesci of Stylecraft, 8472 Ronda Drive, Canton, MI 48187 representing Stylecraft for property located at 8560 Ronda Drive, appealing Article 26.00, Section 26.04, encroachment on side yard with construction of truckwell. Both lot 7 and lot 8 are owned by the same party. Zone LI-1. Parcel 005-01-0007-002 (Planning)
- Michael Boggio Assoc. of Boggio Assoc. Architects, 30100 Telegraph, #216, Bingham Farms, MI 48025 representing Griffin Properties for property located at Canton Crossings, Canton Center Road at New Canton Center Road, appealing Zoning Ordinance Article 4.00, Section 4.02, B and Zoning Ordinance Article 2.00, Section 2.14, A, regarding location of trash enclosure. Zone C-3. Parcel 129-99-0002-710 (Planning)

Approval of 11/18/04 and 12/9/04 minutes

Publish: January 6, 2005

OE08284671

## CORTELLINI

FROM PAGE C1

line strategist who doesn't have to worry about containing the Chiefs' 5-foot-11 ball-handling wizard.

"Some of the things Andy does on the basketball court cannot be taught or coached," Paye said, talking about his slender, curly-haired floor general. "He can dribble better left-handed than right-handed, even though he's right-handed. And it almost seems like he's faster with the ball than without it — and he's very fast without it."

"Andy is very unselfish, too. If he wanted to, he could score 25 points a game. But

he's great at distributing the ball because he has great court vision. We tell our other players that if they run the court, Andy will get them the ball."

## GOOD GENES

Basketball talent flows throughout the Cortellini family's DNA. His father, Doug, played high school ball in Indiana, a state where driveway backboards are as commonplace as mailboxes. And Joe Cortellini, the second-oldest of three Cortellini boys, was a prolific scorer at Canton in the late '90s before moving on to Albion College, where he played two years for the Britons.

Andy, the youngest Cortellini, said his passion for the sport evolved during his elementary school years, when you could tell where he was by the sound of his ball bouncing off the floor.

"When I was young, I took my basketball everywhere," Cortellini said. "Every year I would get a new ball because I would wear out the old one from dribbling. My parents got mad sometimes because I would dribble in the house, but it's something I always enjoyed doing."

## TWO-SPORT STAR

While in middle school, Cortellini played in the local rec league. He also served as the Chiefs' ball boy for two seasons when his brother, Joe, was starting for the team.

"I played soccer, too," said Cortellini, a three-year varsity player on the Canton soccer team. "But basketball has always been the sport I liked the best. The nice thing about playing soccer is that it gets me in great shape for basketball season. I usually have a little advantage the first couple of weeks of basketball while everyone else is getting into shape."

Cortellini said this year's team is the best of the three he's played on at Canton.

"We have a lot of depth and we have a complete team this season," he said. "When the seniors on this team were freshmen, we were 19-1, so we know what it takes to win."

## IN THE ZONE

The highlight of Cortellini's career came last year when he found the shooting zone against Salem in a crossover game.

"I hit four or five threes in the first half and had 15 points at halftime," he said. "I feel just as good though making a good

pass as I do making a three."

Strong academic skills are also a Cortellini trademark. Andy's oldest brother, Chris, was a stellar student at Canton and at the University of Michigan, and is currently employed in Seattle by Microsoft.

"Doing well in school was something my parents always stressed," said Cortellini, who carries a 3.9 grade-point average. "I've always liked math and physics. Of all the subjects, they're the ones that come the easiest to me. I've always had to work a little harder at history."

Cortellini said his goal is to attend the University of Michigan, even though it would mean bypassing a potential small-college basketball opportunity.

"I know I'd miss playing competitive basketball a lot," he said. "But I would get involved in intramurals if I went to Michigan. As of now, I want to go to Michigan and concentrate on my academics."

Unless Cortellini's higher-education plans change, there's going to be at least one U-M intramural basketball team next fall that's going to be nearly impossible to press.

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FRISAT LS 12:00

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(SAT/SUN 12:00, 12:30) 2:15, 2:45, 4:30, 5:00, 6:45, 7:20, 9:00, 9:30  
FRISAT LS 11:15, 11:45

**LADDER 49 (PG-13)** 6:10, 7:30

**MOTORCYCLE DIARIES (R)**  
(SAT/SUN 11:55) 2:35, 9:45

**FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13)**  
(SAT/SUN 12:00) 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20  
FRISAT LS 11:40

**THE INCREDIBLES (PG)**  
(SAT/SUN 11:40) 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:10  
FRISAT LS 11:20

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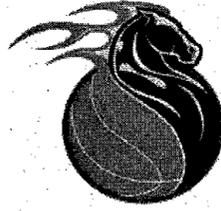
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12:00 to 12:30 p.m. - Warm-up time	2:00 to 2:30 p.m. - Warm-up time
12:30 to 1:45 p.m. - Basketball Clinic	2:30 to 3:45 p.m. - Basketball Clinic
1:45 to 2:00 p.m. - Coach's Corner	3:45 to 4:00 p.m. - Coach's Corner

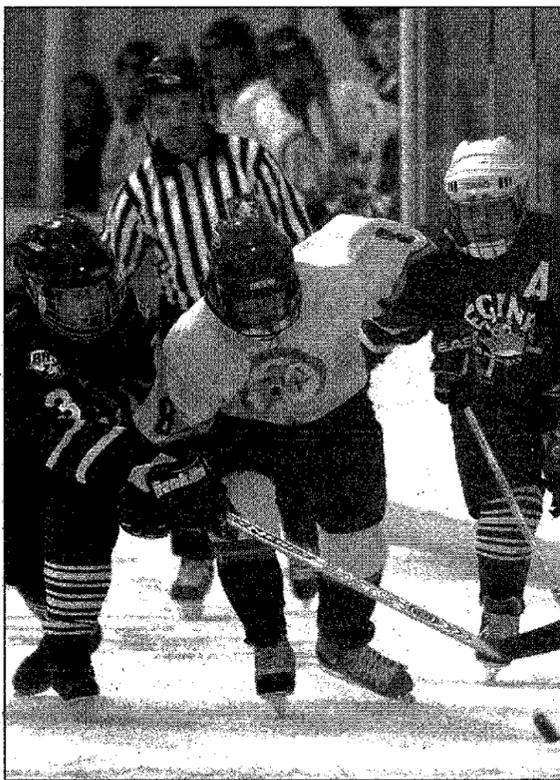
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Get on the ball. Read today's **SPORTS** coverage!



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PCS's Adrienne Carcone knives through two Regina defenders during Tuesday night's 3-2 victory.

**PENGUINS**

FROM PAGE C1  
against becoming complacent even though it had secured a 2-0 lead.  
"I stressed to them that we had to go out and keep playing hard because Regina wasn't going to give up," she said.  
"Two-goal leads can disappear quickly against good teams."  
Olivia Pennefather's unassisted goal on a breakaway 40 seconds into the third period put the home team up 3-0, however, Regina stormed

back with goals from Rachel Kare and Emily Blair to cut its deficit to 3-2.  
"They pulled their goalie with a minute to go, but we managed to hold on," Callahan said. "Things have been going well for us, but our schedule gets a lot tougher in the second half of the season."  
The Penguins return to action Saturday when they travel to the Suburban Ice Arena to take on Walled Lake Combined. The opening face-off is set for 5:30 p.m.  
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**PLYMOUTH**

FROM PAGE C1  
Wilson knotted the score at 1-1 two minutes later on a goal assisted by Adam Gillikin and John Maurer.  
Salem grabbed its only lead of the game with 8:50 left in the second period when Nathan Edelen scored off a pass from Nathan Werda. Joel Cheesman also picked up an assist on the tally.  
The lead was short-lived thanks to a goal from

Plymouth's Jason O'Guinn four minutes later. Stamm's second goal of the game with 3:17 left in the second period gave the Wildcats a lead they would never relinquish.  
Nick Rieckhoff's third-period goal turned out to be an insurance marker as Maurer scored with 40 seconds left to make it 4-3.  
Plymouth's Justin Desilets and Salem's Brandon DeMars both played well between the pipes for their respective teams.  
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**PREP BASKETBALL**

Friday, Jan. 7  
Salem at WL Central, 7 p.m.  
WL Western at Canton, 6 p.m.  
Plymouth at Livonia Churchill, 7 p.m.  
Monroe at Belleville, 7 p.m.  
International Academy of Flint at Plymouth Christian, 7:30 p.m.  
**PREP HOCKEY**  
Friday, Jan. 7  
Salem at Livonia Stevenson at Eddie Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.  
WL Western at Canton at Arctic Edge Arena, 8 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 8  
Chelsea at Plymouth at Compuware Sports Arena, 4 p.m.  
Taylor Truman at Belleville/Willow Run, 9 p.m.  
PCS Penguins at Walled Lake

**BOYS SWIMMING**

at suburban Arena, 5:30 p.m.  
Thursday, Jan. 6  
Woodhaven at Plymouth at Canton High School pool, 7 p.m.  
Belleville at Ypsilanti, 7 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 8  
Salem and Canton at Rock Kilgore Invitational, noon  
**WRESTLING**  
Thursday, Dec. 30  
Belleville at Goodrich Invitational, 9:30 a.m.  
Thursday, Jan. 6  
Salem at WL Northern, 6:30 p.m.  
Livonia Franklin at Canton, 6:30 p.m.  
Plymouth at Northville, 6:30 p.m.  
Allen Park at Belleville, 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 8  
Salem at Wyandotte Invitational, 10 a.m.  
Plymouth at Saginaw Heritage Tourney, TBA

**VOLLEYBALL**

Thursday, Jan. 6  
Bloomfield Hills Roper at Plymouth Christian, 7 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 8  
Canton at WL Central Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Plymouth Christian at Whitmore Lake Tournament, TBA  
**GYMNASTICS**  
Thursday, Jan. 6  
Canton at Northville, 7 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 8  
Canton at Rockford Invitational, 10 a.m.  
**MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
Saturday, Jan. 8  
Siena Heights at Madonna, 3 p.m.  
Schoolcraft at Delta CC, 3 p.m.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
Thursday, Dec. 30  
(Peninsula Hoops Classic, Menlo, Calif.)

**Madonna vs. Menlo College (Calif.), TBA**

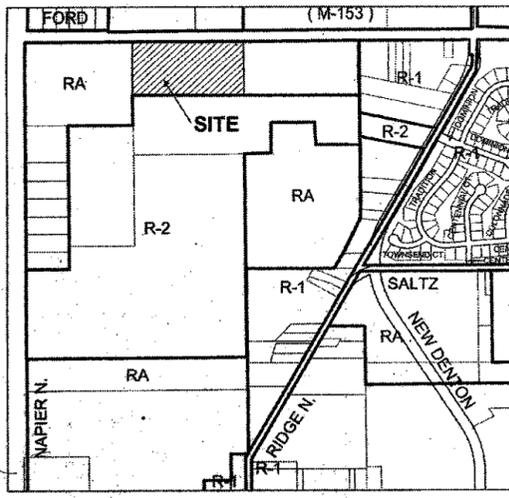
Wednesday, Jan. 5  
UM-Dearborn at Madonna, 5:30 p.m.  
Alpena CC at Schoolcraft, 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 8  
Madonna at Siena Heights, 1 p.m.  
Schoolcraft at Delta CC, 1 p.m.  
**ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
Thursday, Dec. 30  
Whalers at Samia Sting at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 4  
Whalers at Saginaw Spirit, 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 6  
Whalers at Barrie Colts, 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, Jan. 7  
Whalers at Sudbury Wolves, 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, Jan. 9  
Whalers at Sault Ste. Marie, 7 p.m.  
TBA - time to be announced.

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 10, 2005 in the Chestnut Room, at Summit On The Park, 46000 Summit Parkway at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

**RDK HOMES REZONING** - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 070 99 0001 000 FROM RA, RURAL AGRICULTURAL (1 DWELLING UNIT/140 ACRES) TO R-2, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (2 DWELLING UNITS/ACRE). Property is located south of Ford between Ridge and Napier Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, January 6, 2005, in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: December 19, 2004 and January 6, 2005

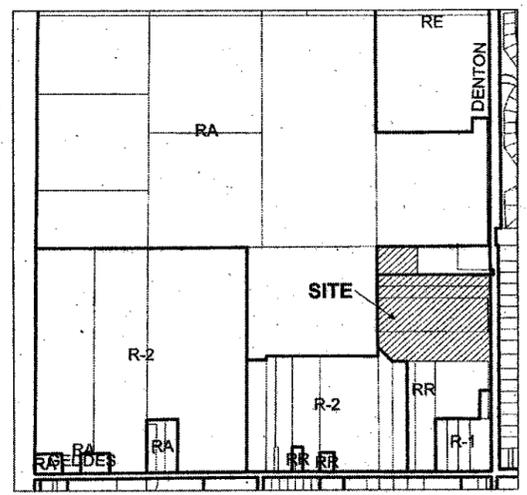
OE0828262

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 10, 2005 in the Chestnut Room, at Summit On The Park, 46000 Summit Parkway at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

**BENNETT/NAN BUREN HOMES REZONING** - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 120 99 0010 704, FROM R-1, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (1 DWELLING UNIT/ACRE) AND PARCEL NOS. 120 99 001 1 000, 120 99 0012 000, 120 99 0013 000, 120 99 0014 000 FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL (1 DWELLING UNIT/5 ACRES) TO R-2, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (2 DWELLING UNITS/ACRE) Property is located west of Denton between Geddes and Proctor Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, January 6, 2005, in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: December 19, 2004 and January 6, 2005

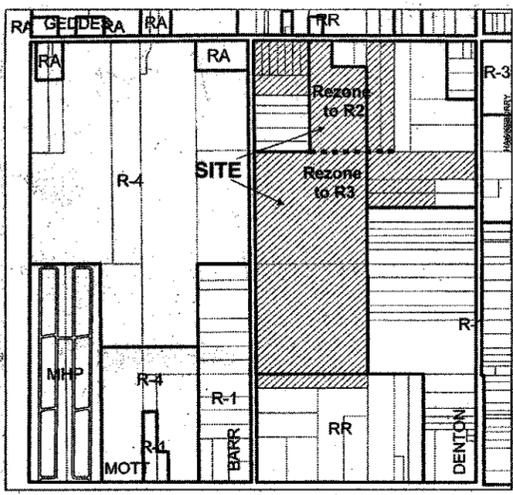
OE0828267

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

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**PULTE REZONING**: CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NOS. 121 99 0012 000, 121 99 001 3 000, 121 99 0024 002, 121 99 0025 000, 121 99 0026 000, 121 99 0027 000, 121 99 0028 000, 121 99 0029 000, 121 99 0030 000, 121 99 003 1000, AND 121 99 0032 000 FROM RA, RURAL AGRICULTURAL, RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL AND R-1 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO R-2, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND TO REZONE PARCEL NOS. 121 99 0014 000, 121 99 0015 001, 121 99 0015 002, 121 99 0038 000, 124 99 0001 000 AND 124 99 0002 000 FROM RA, RURAL AGRICULTURAL AND RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL TO R-3, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located south of Geddes between Denton and Barr Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, January 6, 2005, in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: December 19, 2004 and January 6, 2005

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# Lions' 2004: The good, the bad and the ugly

This football season had more than its share of moments for the Detroit Lions. One moment it didn't have was a playoff run and, for the 47th straight year, there will be no pro football championship in the Motor City. It's time once again to motor through the good, the bad and the ugly.

## THE GOOD

The Lions broke their NFL record 24-game road losing streak. They did it in the opener at Chicago and won two more on the road as well. Joey Harrington played his best football away from home.



Mark Wilson

in Lions history to eclipse 1,000 yards.

"I think it's a big-time positive for 2004," Jones said. "I agree with Kevin," coach Steve Mariucci added. The emergence of rookie linebacker

a definite highlight of the season," Harrington said. "We have to keep that midset into next year."

They also found a running game. Kevin Jones was better than advertised. He became only the third rookie running back

Teddy Lehman was also a huge positive. He is a keeper at any position he plays on the field.

Eddie Drummond showed he could be a tour de force on special teams. Fast Eddie returned four kicks for touchdowns before injury ended his season. He was one of three Lions to make the Pro Bowl.

Shaun Rogers was another. He was a standout at defensive tackle and is signed on long term. His \$15 million signing bonus is the largest in team annals. "Big Baby" is worth every penny.

"Roy Williams is another guy who proved that he can be a big-play guy in this league. When Charles Rogers gets back, we'll have terrific bookend receivers," Mariucci said.

## THE BAD

There just weren't enough big plays to turn a 4-2 start into a playoff season. Winning just two games in the last 10 was a hard thing for a team that showed so much promise. Dropped passes, penalties and missed opportunities littered the Lions' landscape.

The Lions lost six games by a touchdown or less, but that didn't impress team President Matt Millen or the head coach.

"Six wins just isn't acceptable. None of us around here should be happy with that, despite the one game improvement over 2003," Millen said.

Mariucci says it all the time. Most games in the NFL are decided by a touchdown or less, so that's really nothing to hang your hat on.

Besides Williams, there was never a good second option for Harrington in the passing game. Az Hakim and Tai Streets just didn't catch passes consistently enough in a league that thrives on home run receivers.

Fernando Bryant was signed for big money to shore up the cornerback spot opposite Pro Bowl player Dré Bly. He was injured too much to get a good read on whether he can be a star. The jury is still out on Chris Cash and Andre Goodman as well.

PLEASE SEE WILSON. NEXT PAGE

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**WILSON**

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE.

**THE UGLY**

Three games the Lions should have won prevented this team from playing this weekend. Blowing a 12-point lead against Minnesota in the fourth quarter and not closing off the Packers in Green Bay stung like a Lake Michigan winter wind. Losing that overtime contest at Jacksonville to a novice quarterback in David Garrard was a bitter pill, too. Win those three and its playoff time.

Harrington getting booed at home was a

reflection of his inconsistency. Having his manhood questioned by Fox analyst Tony Siragusa was a low point for the third-year QB out of Oregon. The Lions will now look for a veteran signal caller capable of winning the job in 2005.

We know we still have holes to fill and we begin the process immediately of getting them filled," Millen said. "What we saw this year wasn't nearly good enough."

Mariucci himself was questioned. He is going into Year 3 and even he knows the honeymoon is over. That's just the league. Some say the NFL stands for Not For Long.

"We all have to do a better job and we will work this off-season to make sure that happens when we come back for camp in

July," a confident Mariucci said.

Going 3-5 at Ford Field was a step backward at home. The two blowout losses to the Packers and Eagles show how far the Lions have to go to be among the elite in the conference.

The draft is in just over three months. There is always free agency. For now, it's just another winter of our discontent... made glorious summer by this sun of York. Shakespeare must have been a Lions fan.

Mark Wilson is host of the Steve Mariucci Show Mondays on WKRC-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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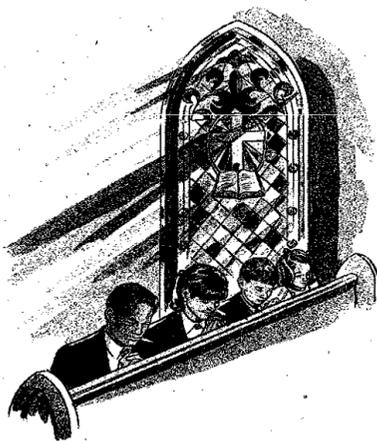
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14175 Farmington mad, Livonia Just north of I-96  
734-522-6830

Sunday Worship  
8:15 & 11:00 am - Traditional  
9:45 - Modern  
Staffed Nursery Available



Sunday School  
9:45-11 am  
Early Childhood Center  
Phone 734-513-8413

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ  
Rev. Luther A. Werth, Senior Pastor • Rev. Deborah Bayer, Assistant Pastor

### GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MISSOURI SYNOD  
25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY  
313-532-2265 REDFORD TWP.  
Worship Service  
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday School  
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Nursery Provided  
The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor  
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

### HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

9600 Levene • So. Redford • 313-937-2424  
Rev. Steve Eggers  
Sunday Morning Worship  
10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m.  
Christian School  
Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade  
For more information call  
313-937-2233

## MAKE TIME FOR God

## BAPTIST

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



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

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People are Loved and Christ is the Key"

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Pastor:  
Dr. Dean Klump

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

### NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Minds & Doors"  
36500 Ann Arbor Trail  
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds  
734-422-0149  
Worship Service  
and  
Sunday School  
9:15 & 11:00 a.m.  
Rev. Terry W. Allen  
Rev. Barbara E. Welbaum  
visit our website: www.newburgumc.org

### Risen Christ Lutheran

46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth  
(1 Mile West of Sheldon)  
(734) 453-6222  
Sunday Worship  
8:15 & 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 am

### ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School

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

### SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

32430 Ann Arbor Trail • Westland, MI  
734-422-5550  
Sunday Bible Study ..... 9am  
Sunday Worship Service ..... 10am  
Wednesday Evening Service ..... 7pm  
Rev. David W. Zeuschner, Pastor

### Grace Lutheran Church

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

## EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

## EVANGELICAL COVENANT

### Timothy Lutheran Church

8820 Wayne Rd.  
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)  
Livonia • 427-2290  
Jill Hegdal, Pastor  
9:00 a.m. 3 y Sch (all ages)  
10:00 a Family Worship (Nursery Avail.)  
http://www.timothyilivonia.com

### FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

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

### HOLY CROSS Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship  
9:30 & 11 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
(734) 427-1414 • 20650 6 Mile Rd., Livonia  
VISITORS WELCOME (1/2 Mile West of Middlebelt)

## LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

## EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

### St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & School

17810 FARMINGTON ROAD  
LIVONIA • (734) 261-1360  
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES  
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM  
PASTOR JAMES HOFF  
PASTOR ERIC STEINBRENER

### WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church

40000 Six Mile Road  
"just west of I-75"  
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  
Morning Worship Services  
Evening Service • 7:00 P.M.  
Services Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday  
WMUZ 560 AM

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www.stjosaphatchurch.org

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

### CHURCH OF CHRIST WEST

291 East Spring Street • Plymouth 48170  
Sunday Worship • 11am & 6pm  
Bible Class  
Sunday 10am & Wednesday 7pm  
734-451-1877 Michigan Bible School  
Minister Tuesday & Thursday 7pm  
John Nativo www.churchofchrist-west.org

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

### First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth

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

## CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

### PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525  
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.  
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.  
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 455-3196

## EPISCOPAL

### Trinity Episcopal Church

11575 Belleville Rd., Belleville  
4 miles south of Michigan Ave on Belleville Rd  
Belleville Rd & I-94  
734-699-3361  
Sundays-Worship at 8 & 10 am  
Youth programs-8:50 am ages 11-17  
Sunday School 10 am ages 3-11  
Nursery 8:45 - 12:15 pm

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

### NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago  
Livonia 48150 • 421-5406  
Rev. Larry Hoxey, Pastor  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
Service  
and Youth Classes  
Nursery Care Available  
-WELCOME-

## NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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

## CHURCH OF GOD

### Riverside Park Church of God

11771 Newburgh Road  
Livonia  
Corner of Plymouth  
and Newburgh  
734-464-0990

### Service Schedule:

Sunday School ..... 9:30am  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:45am  
Wednesday Evening ..... 6:00pm

### RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

### ST. GENEVIEVE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

29015 Jamison Ave. • Livonia  
East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Schoolcraft Rds.  
MASS: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 9:00 a.m.  
Tues. 7:00 p.m. • Sat. 5:00 p.m.  
Sun. 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon  
Confessions: Sat. 3:00-4:00 p.m.  
734-427-5220

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

**It's Easy To Criticize...** Offering constructive criticism to others can be beneficial, but only if the other person is receptive to our comments. In teaching situations or during on-the-job training, constructive criticism is usually necessary to instruct and help a person develop a trade or vocation. However, correcting someone, even in a kind or skillful manner, can be very challenging, since we are never sure how the individual may react. Many friendships and families have been destroyed because someone has been overly critical of another person's words or actions. Knowing when we should offer our comments can also be difficult, and we should be fairly certain that our comments are truthful and necessary. It often seems so easy to criticize others because we mistakenly believe that we are without fault or are such experts on most everything. The Bible tells us that we look at the speck in our brother's eye, but we pay no attention to the log in our own (Luke 6:41). Faultfinding and being overly critical of others, especially behind their backs, are wrong and can become habit-forming. However, kind words are good for the soul and help to build a person up.  
**The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.** R.S.V. Proverbs 12:15

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**Family Pack**  
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<b>\$1.99 lb.</b> Juicy Red or Green Seedless Grapes	<b>\$3.99 lb.</b> Sweet Bing Cherries
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**99¢**  
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**Black Pearl Natural Choice Salmon**  
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**MEET PETER NIELSEN**  
 Host and creator of Peter's Principles TV & Radio Shows  
**Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**  
 11:00 a.m.-noon in Farmington Hills  
 12:30-1:30 p.m. in Livonia  
 2:00-3:00 p.m. in Plymouth/Norhville

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**RELIGION CALENDAR**

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.

**JANUARY**

**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.

**New schedule**  
 Beginning Jan. 9 St. Matthew's United Methodist Church begins a new schedule for Sunday morning. Worship service begins at 9:30 a.m. followed by classes for all ages (nursery to adult) at 10:45 a.m.

**Fishin' for Friends & Faith** is the Wednesday program running from Jan. 19 to March 16. Optional buffet dinner is at 6 p.m. followed by program from 6:30-8 p.m. There is something for everyone. Kids travel to different stations as they learn through games, crafts, songs and mission projects the evening's Bible message. Adults study "Wrestling with Angels" through video and discussion. Fees

are dependent on attendance and costs cover food, curriculum and supplies. Pre-pay for a discount or pay as you go. Dinner and program is \$40, program only \$25. Drop-in dinner and program \$5 per night, drop-in program \$2.50 per night at St. Matthews, 30900 Six Mile, between Merriam and Middlebelt, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-6038.

**Catholic Church update**

Were you once Catholic? Beginning Monday evening Jan. 11 for six weeks, St. Mar 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.

**Pasties fundraiser**

Newburgh United Methodist Church is making and selling Cornish pasties as a fundraiser. The cost is \$3 each. Order early. Only 1,000 pasties will be made. To order, call the church office at (734) 422-0149. There will be someone to take your order 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Jan. 11-12. Call in orders only. Do not leave any orders on the answering machine. They will be ignored. Pick up times are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21, at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia.

**Divorce Recovery Workshop**

Bethany Rochester conducts a workshop beginning 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13 for 11 weeks, at St. Ignace Catholic Church, 7710 Old Perch Road, Rochester Hills. The workshop is open to the divorced and separated of all faiths. No charge. For more information, call Mike at (248) 652-3860.

**Birmingham First Concert Series**

Presents Everyone Dance, a varied program of music based on dance with concert 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.

**Concert**

Unity Acoustic Coffee House presents The Cats and The Fiddle, a group of 9-year old musicians, 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia. There is a \$5 donation. For more information, call (734) 421-1760.

**Bible studies**

Led by C. Jack Brinkman 8-9 p.m. Thursdays, at the Birmingham YMCA, 400 east Lincoln. Brinkman wrote the book The Word of God Jesus Christ. Part of the proceeds from book sales go to the YMCA.



**Passages**

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232  
 e-mail: OEObits@oe.homecomm.net

**DENNIS J. WITKOP**

Westland, formerly of Dundee, MI, Age 53, died unexpectedly January 2, 2005 at home. The family will receive friends at Ochalek-Stark Funeral Home in Milan on Wednesday from 6-9pm and Thursday from 2-5 and 7-9pm. Funeral services will be held 11:00am Friday at the funeral home with Rev. Richard Burstall of Azalia United Methodist officiating. Burial will be a later date in Azalia Cemetery. Dennis was born on April 16, 1951 in Tecumseh to John and Helen (Lanson) Witkop. He graduated from Dundee H.S. in 1969 then attended U of M. On October 25, 1974 he married Leslie Williams and she survives. He worked for Voltch Controls in Westland before joining Automotive Systems Inc. in Auburn Hills where he was part owner. Survivors besides his parents include a son, Eric, of Dearborn Hts., two brothers, David (Joan) of Milan, Dale (Lee) of Allegan, four nephews and a niece. He was preceded in death by his grandparents.

**ROBERT PLANTHOLT**

Age 83, of Brookings, OR, died December 27, 2004 at his home of natural causes. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII. Mr. Plantholt was a graduate of the Pratt Institute of Industrial Design in New York City and worked as an industrial designer, his entire career. Mr. Plantholt moved to Brookings 10 years ago to be near the ocean he loved. He is survived by his wife Elaine, of Brookings; three daughters, Barbara Thompson and husband Butch, Bonnie Shanks and husband Bob, and Carol Plantholt; a son, Steven Plantholt and wife Melody; a sister, Ethel Laughlin and husband Grant and seven grandchildren, Steven, Jennifer, Matthew, Tim, Kara, Cassidy and Kory. No services are planned. Arrangements by Redwood Memorial Chapel, Brookings, OR

**WILLIAM "BILLY" J. KIRBY**

Age 44, January 4, 2005 of Livonia. Dearest son of Marguerite. Dear brother of Michael (Tammy) and Mark (Linda), Brother-in-Law of Liz Gormley. Nephew of Reverend Kaye Corning, Gloria Lewis, Joan, and Quinto Serra, Diane and h m Wrobleksi. Caregiver Norma Rudloff. He was preceded in death by his Father James, Uncle Russ, Aunt Jane, and Caregiver Russell Dunning. Funeral Mass Friday at 11am. Instate at 10am, St. Maurice Catholic Church, 32765 Lyndon, Livonia. Visitation Thursday 1-9pm at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. The family suggests contribution to The Michigan Special Olympics and Wayne County Association of Retarded Citizens.

**WILLIAM A. HOFSESS**

Age 77. Beloved husband of Joan. Loving father of Richard (JoLynn), Nicholas, Debra Gaunt (Richard), Diane Hofsess (Joseph Giacomini) and Edward (Cathleen). Cherished grandfather of Jared, Jonathan, Nicole, Michelle, Alex, David, Rachel, William, Preston and Ryan. Dear brother of Helen Krist, Margaret Hauser, Virginia Krist, Donald, Annette French, Stephen, Charles, Ronald, the late Fred, Clay Jr. and Wayne. Visitation and Funeral Mass Arrangements entrusted to the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington. (248-474-5200)

**WINNIFRED I. WOLFE**

Age 85 of Plymouth, December 30, 2004. Beloved wife of the late Charles. Dear mother of John (Carol), William (Lana), Charles (Kristine); and the late Roger. Also survived by nine grandchildren and one great grandchild. Funeral service was held Monday, January 3, 2005 at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth (btwn Sheldon and Beck.) Visitation was Sunday 2-9pm. Internet at Riverside Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 Church Street, Plymouth, MI 48170. To leave a message of condolence, log on to www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

**ELEANOR M. FOX**

December 29, 2004, Age 81 Beloved wife of Kenneth A. Dear mother of Karen Sayles (Leslie) and Denise Lycos (Richard). Grandmother of Thomas Preston, Bridget Gribble, Mark Preston, Kevin Lycas and Megan Lycos. Great grandmother of Aidan Preston, Graham Preston, Erin Gribble and the late Shannon Gribble. Funeral Mass was held Monday January 3 at 11am at Our Lady of Martyrs, 32340 Pierce, Beverly Hills. Memorial tributes to St. John Health-Providence Health Foundation, 22255 Greenfield Rd., Suite 225, Southfield, MI 48075 or charity of donor's choice. Obituary at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

**GRETA JENSEN**

Age 95, passed away peacefully at home, December 23, 2004. She was a Redford Twp. resident since 1936. Beloved wife of the late Otto Jensen (5/31/90). Survived by many cousins in Sweden. No services planned. Memorials suggested to Salvation Army, Eastern Michigan Division or Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America. Arrangements by Fisher Funeral Home, Redford Twp.

**KEITH A. JONES**

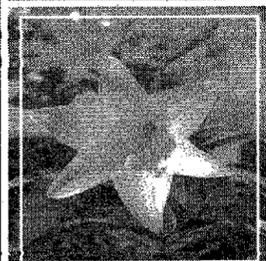
Age 21, California, originally from Redford, for 20 yrs. Oldest son of Lori Jones. Grandson of Lottie M. West. Brother of Ross & Skipper. Funeral Services at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25250 W. Six Mile, Redford on Jan. 8, 2005 at 2pm.

**MARGARET E. BELLES**

Of Redford. Age 76, Jan. 01, 2005. Beloved wife of the late Louis. Dear Mother of Linda Smith, Kenneth (Donna) Belles, Robert (Kimberly) Belles and Janet Weidman. Loving Grandmother of Michelle (Scott), Lauren, Nikki, Grant, Kelsey and the late Michael. Great Grandmother of Hunter and Kendyll. Dearest sister of Dorothy Hedges. Dear Friend of Sylvia and Dick Kasten. Funeral services were held Tuesday at St. Hilary Catholic Church, Redford. Interment Cadillac Memorial Gardens West. Arrangement by the Martenson Funeral Home, Allen Park.

**MILTON LAVIOLETTE**

Age 73, formerly of Ann Arbor & Livonia, died December 3, 2004, in California. He is survived by son, Douglas; daughter, Janice; grandsons, Charles and Douglas; siblings, Ronald, Allen, and Daniel, Bonnie Andree, Marlene Korne, Nancy Wamer, and Marianne Watson. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 15, 2005, at Ford Memorial United Methodist Church in Detroit



**May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends**

**OBITUARY POLICY**

The first five lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

**Deadlines:**  
 Friday 5 PM for Sunday  
 Wednesday Noon for Thursday  
 Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.  
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 oeobits@oe.homecomm.net  
 or fax to:  
 Attn: Obit 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

# Blue-line stabilizer

Recently acquired Looby fits right in on Whalers' defense

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

**LOO-BY! LOO-BY! LOO-BY!**

The chant echoed through the stands near the Compuware Sports Arena penalty box seconds after Plymouth Whalers defenseman Mike Looby (pronounced loo-bee) was directed there by the head linesman during the final minutes of the team's Dec. 28 game against Brampton.

**LOO-BY! LOO-BY! LOO-BY!**

It continued at an increasingly louder decibel level until the penalty-box door opened two minutes later and Looby bolted back out onto the ice to help the Whalers finish off a convincing 6-2 victory.

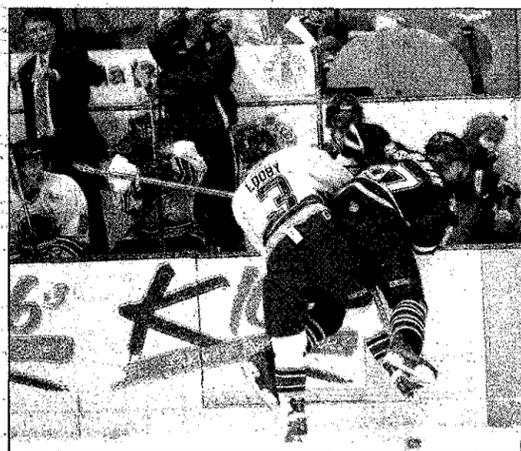
Complimentary chants aren't unusual at Whalers' games, but they're normally reserved for the organization's more familiar players who have spent at least a year toiling for the hometown team.

Looby has been a Whaler for just over three months, which shows how quickly Plymouth fans have grown to appreciate the 19-year-old's rugged and effective play on the blue-line and beyond.

## GRADE A TRADE

In a trade that looks more shrewd with each passing Plymouth game, the Whalers acquired Looby from Sault Ste. Marie on Sept. 21 for a conditional seventh-round draft choice in the 2005 Central Hockey League draft. While he'll never burn a hole in the opposition's net with his scoring, the hard-working Brampton, Ont. native has proven to be a key element in the Whalers' efficient defensive corps this season.

"Mike has done everything we've asked him to do so far this season," said Plymouth general manager/coach Mike Vellucci. "In fact, he's been outstanding. He's one of our leaders in plus/minus and the other players like playing with him. He is a very sound player who we were fortunate to be able to acquire."



Plymouth Whalers defenseman Mike Looby checks an opponent into the boards during a game earlier this season.



Plymouth Whalers defenseman Mike Looby has been a stabilizing force for the team's defensive corps since he was acquired in a trade with Sault Ste. Marie on Sept. 21. Known for his gritty work along the blue-line, Looby scored in his third consecutive game Tuesday night.

Whenever possible, Looby is paired with fellow defenseman Mike Knight against the opposing team's top offensive forwards. Through Dec. 30, Looby has accumulated three goals and seven assists, and has a team-leading plus-11 plus/minus rating.

"I was extremely happy when I got traded to Plymouth," said Looby, who spent one full season with Sault Ste. Marie following two years with the hometown Battalion. "They weren't giving me the chance to do what I'm best at. I'm glad to get to play for an organization like Plymouth that has a great winning tradition."



Plymouth Whalers defenseman Mike Looby checks an opponent into the boards during a game earlier this season.

## 'HEAVYHEART

Looby's life was dealt a tragic blow on Nov. 19 when his father, Mike Looby, Sr., passed away suddenly at the age of 43. Looby was notified of the tragedy after he was pulled out of the Whalers' home game that night against Erie.

"My dad was the one who got me into hockey when I was young," Looby said. "He played triple-A hockey, so he knew a lot about the game. He was a big part of my life."

Looby said his teammates and members of the Whalers' front office were instrumental in helping him get through the trying days that followed his father's untimely death.

"Everyone was great," he said. "Some of the players and other members of the organization went up to the funeral, which meant a lot to me."

## GRITTY GOAL

Looby's work ethic and dedication to the game were on display early in the post-Christmas game against Brampton.

"I went home over Christmas and caught something," he said. "I was sick as a dog the day before the game, but I wanted to play."

He not only played — he scored the game's first goal against the team he followed as a youngster.

His dad would have been proud.

ewright@oehomecomm.net

# New year brings renewed hope for struggling teams

Happy New Year, bowlers.

Along with the onset of 2005, many leagues use the split season system, which means each team starts out tied for first place again and has a chance to win the championship during the second half.



Ten Pin Alley

Al Harrison

My team, a member of the Mayflower Wednesday Senior Men's Classic, finished the first half in 21st place out of 24 teams. A highlight, however, came from teammate Charley Orbecky of Taylor, who shot his first ever 300 score last week. His previous high was 299 about eight years ago. He also won an American Bowling Congress watch for going 100 pins over average for one game.

There are plenty of high average women bowlers in our area who can compete in scratch competition, which starts at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5 at Cherry Hill Lanes, located at Inkster and Cherry Hill roads.

It is open any woman bowler who has shot a sanctioned 700 series.

It will begin with three games of qualifying, cut to half the field and finishing with four finalists in head-to-head competition for the championship.

Prizes will start at \$500 for first based on 40 entries with a \$50 entry fee.

For more information, call Marion Saunders at (313) 563-2643.

563-2643.

Over the past nine years, the Mayflower Wednesday Seniors in Redford have held the Senior-Youth Challenge tournament in which thousands of dollars in scholarship money had been awarded to the winning youth bowlers.

It turns out that this year there were no Saturday youth leagues at Mayflower Lanes. As a result, there could be no such competition in 2005.

The tournament committee met several times to decide what to do this year, and came up with an alternate plan, which is to schedule a tournament again on Saturday, Feb. 5 with members of all three senior men's leagues (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) to compete on that date, which normally would have been for the youth bowlers.

It is to be an ABC sanctioned event with eligibility limited to Mayflower Lanes senior league bowlers. If there are sufficient youth bowlers at Mayflower Lanes again next year, the event will be resumed as in the past years.

The Greater Detroit Bowling Association's semi-annual meeting is 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16 at Renaissance Bowl in Detroit.

This is where every GDBA league should send a representative to get immediate feedback on what is going on locally with bowling, as well as to participate in voting and have a voice in the process including approval of the 2003-2004 auditor's report and nomination of directors and officers of the GDBA Board of Directors.

Nominations at this meeting will be made for president, vice-presidents (four positions), etc. of the

(four), Macomb County (two), Oakland County (one) Wayne County (two).

At the election in May, the leagues will elect its own representative based on the county where their bowling establishment is located.

They will also vote for line officers and directors at-large.

To be on the ballot in May, a member must be nominated at the January meeting.

Delegates to the March 18 ABC convention in Baton Rouge, La. will be elected at this meeting.

The financial statement has been approved by the auditor and will be available at the meeting. If anyone cannot attend the meeting and wants a copy, please call the association office. This is for the 2003-04 season and has the previous one for comparison.

My son, Donald, of San Francisco, was home for the holidays and of course we went bowling soon after the Wednesday league had finished.

He had left a solid 10-nin in the first frame, then threw 10 strikes in a row and left another 10-pin on the last ball for a 289 score.

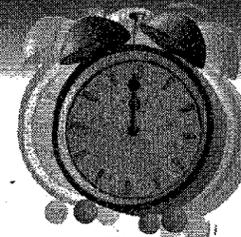
Not bad for someone who only bowls about twice a year.

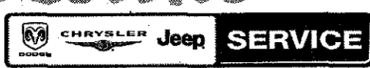
There is not a lot of howling going on the Bay Area. There are only three bowling centers in the City of San Francisco and not many in the outlying area, compared to over 100 centers in our own backyard.

Woodland Lanes in Livonia had some good bowling going on in the Wednesday Trio as Arnie Goldman fired a 300 game and Tim Gerbasi 298.

Al Harrison is a resident of Livonia and a director of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association. He can be contacted at (248)477-1839.

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there are a pile  
of them in  
today's **SPORTS** section



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Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

## Zaca Mesa: a Syrah pioneer

A good New Year's resolution: **Stick** with the guys who've done it the longest!

When it comes to Syrah from Santa Barbara County, Calif., that's Zaca Mesa winery. Although it may seem that domestic syrah is a new phenomenon, Zaca Mesa Winery, in Santa Barbara County's Santa Ynez Valley, first planted syrah in 1978.

Syrah is the great red grape variety of the northern Rhone Valley in France. It's responsible for wines known as Cote Rotie, St. Joseph, Cornas, Hermitage and Crozes-Hermitage.

Syrah also grows in the southern Rhone Valley, but is only a minor part of the wines known as Chateauneuf-du-Pape, Gigondas and Cote-du-Rhone Villages.

Southern Rhone wines are made principally of grenache, with small additions of a dozen other varieties, most important of which are mourvedre, cinsaut, counoise and syrah.

Shiraz, the Aussie name for syrah, is the principal red variety of Australia and can be found in wines made in western Australia, southern Australia, Victoria and New South Wales.

Syrah is approachable when young, yet ages up to 10 years. It grows in both cool and warm climates. Cool climate syrah provides fruit and good structure, while warm climate syrah gives jammy flavors and backbone.

The wine can exhibit flavors and aromas of cherries, spice, smoke, pepper, leather and roasted nuts.

The unique east-west orientation of Santa Ynez Valley allows for a marine influence from the Pacific Ocean. Daytime breezes moderate the warm summer temperatures, providing the perfect environment for slow, even ripening.

Like France's northern Rhone Valley, Zaca Mesa's syrah vineyards are planted on steep, rugged terrain. So rugged, in fact, that of the 750 acres on the Zaca Mesa Estate, only 242 are plantable.

For those readers who enjoy visiting wine country, Zaca Mesa is between Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo along California's central coast, in the town of Los

PLEASE SEE WINE, D2

### Wine picks

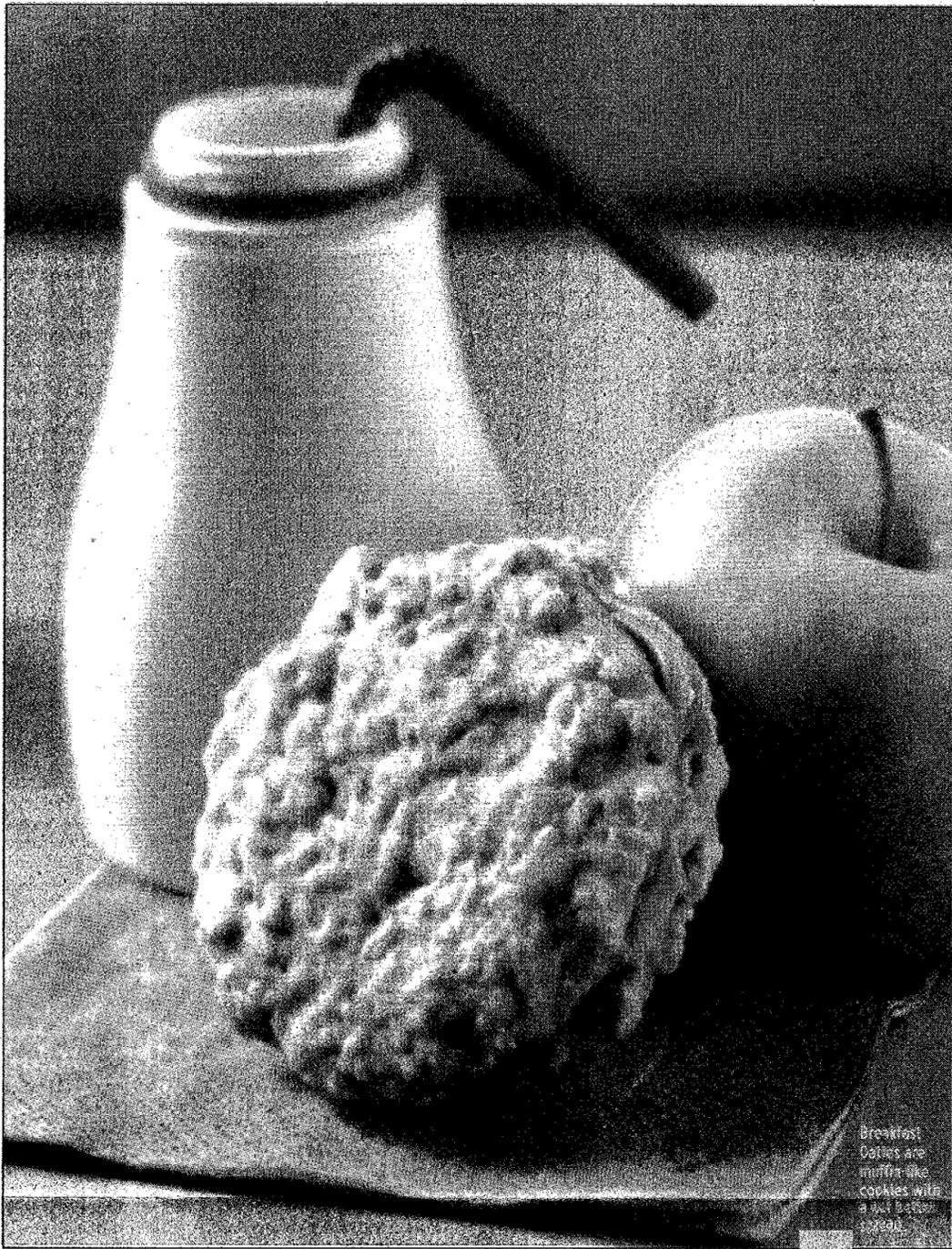
Some other syrahs we like:

Incredible and tied in this category with 2001 Black Bear Block from Zaca Mesa: 2001 Spring Mountain Syrah, \$50. Cellar it.

**Best at \$20 or under:** 2002 Alexander Valley Vineyards Wetzel Family Estate, \$20; 2002 Bodegas Salentein (Argentina), \$18; and 2002 Goundrey Offspring Shiraz, \$15.

**Wallet friendly:** 2002 Lindemans Reserve Shiraz, \$10.

All wines mentioned are available in metro Detroit. If a retailer doesn't stock a specific wine, ask that it be ordered from the distributor.



Breakfast Oatmeal Muffins are made with Quaker Oats.

QUAKER OATS

# Get started!

Oats are more than just hot cereal.

**The percentage of overweight children has doubled in the past two decades, according to the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.**

As a result, parents, educators, health professionals and food companies are brainstorming for solutions to help reverse this trend.

Parents can take the lead by establishing family-based, healthy eating habits. These include talking about healthy food choices, teaching portion control, explaining the benefits of whole grains, and being

a good role model.

Eating an oatmeal breakfast is key to establishing healthy eating habits as well.

Studies show that the percentage of 2- to 18-year-olds who are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight is almost 50 percent lower in oatmeal eaters than in children who don't eat oatmeal.

Considering whole-grain choices, it's helpful to think outside of the hot oatmeal box. There are many ways to get the delicious, wholesome goodness of oatmeal that don't require a bowl.

PLEASE SEE BREAKFAST, D3

## Oats are great whole-grain food

Like any single food, oatmeal in and of itself isn't the magic bullet for weight maintenance. However, science continues to prove that oatmeal does play a key role in helping to keep weight in check.

Two recent studies found that adults who consume oatmeal are significantly less likely to be overweight or obese.

"We learn more about the health benefits of whole grains, like oats, every day," says Mark Andon, a nutrition science research fellow for

Quaker Oatmeal.

"The results from these new studies, which are consistent with earlier studies, offer additional proof that eating high-fiber, whole-grain food, like oatmeal, is related to lower body weight and body mass index."

Using recommendations from the U.S. Dietary Guidelines advisory committee are expected to affirm these findings, calling for three servings of whole grains each day.

As one of the most versatile whole grains around, oats can

be incorporated into a healthy diet in many ways - from fiber-rich baked goods to the traditional bowl of hot cereal.

Delicious banana oat muffins provide a great example of how easy adding whole grains when baking can be.

In this recipe, a quick-and-easy packaged bread and muffin mix gets a nutritional "boost" with the addition of wholesome whole-grain oats and fiber-rich dried plums. Before baking, the muffins are sprinkled with a crunchy



QUAKER OATS

PLEASE SEE OATS, D2

Banana oat muffins are easy to make.

# Side dish

## Entertaining tips

The holidays may be over, but you still may decide to have winter gatherings to break out of the cold weather with a little fun.

Here are a few tips. **Courtesy of Maille Fine French Condiments**

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 1/4-inch pieces. Melt 3 tablespoons unsalted butter and cook 1/4 cup shallots. Stir in 1 tablespoon flour, add 1/2 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.

Wake up overnight quests with a spicy drink mixture. Combine 8 ounces tomato juice, 1 ounce vegetable cocktail mix, 3 dashes hot sauce, 2 tablespoons horseradish Dijon mustard, 1/2 teaspoon salt, pinch of black pepper and 2 celery sticks.

Parties often continue past the day of the celebration. To savor the surplus food, slice a piece of remaining moist turkey, or other cooked poultry, a slice of soft herb cheese, extra-crispy lettuce and cherry tomatoes (from leftover salad) and sandwich between 2 slices of whole-wheat pita bread. Spread an extra-hot Dijon mustard to add a zesty taste to the day-after lunch.

To feed a large party, prepare a beef roast (about 6 pounds). In a small bowl, mix 1/2 tablespoons paprika, 1 tablespoon crushed black peppercorns, 1 tablespoon coarse salt, 1 tablespoon dried oregano, 1 tablespoon dried thyme, 2 teaspoons celery salt and 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper. In a separate bowl, mix 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard, 2 tablespoons grated onion and 2 pressed garlic cloves. Rub mustard mixture into roast, and sprinkle the spice mixture over roast surface. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Bake roast for 2 hours at medium heat. Serve with horseradish mustard.

Watch when shopping. Brenda Varnado, a certified personal fitness and nutrition instructor with Oala Fitness Training in Rochester Hills, offers simple but effective tips to make grocery shopping more conducive to fitness and better nutrition.

Varnado offers tips for health shopping including: Start your shopping with the fruits and vegetables and other good foods. This will help you stay away from impulse buying of items you don't need such as junk or snack foods.

Watch the quality of foods you are buying. Watch for bruised or damaged vegetables and fruits. Look for the sugar contents in foods like butter and regular milk, then compare those with margarine and skim and low fat milk. Watch for higher fat content.

Learn healthy carbs vs. bad carbs.

For additional information, persons should go to www.yogropt.com.

TASTE CALENDAR

Please submit items at least two weeks in advance of the date it should be published. Send to Ken Abramczyk, Taste editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, 48009 or e-mail kabramczyk@oe.hometownlife.com

**Cooking at Schoolcraft**

Enjoy continuing education classes taught by culinary arts instructors at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. For more information on these and other culinary arts continuing education classes visit [www.schoolcraft.edu](http://www.schoolcraft.edu) under Continuing Education Schedule or call (734) 462-4448.

**Indian Cooking**

Cooking techniques are covered in detail, and students will also learn to prepare fresh yogurt, cheese and ghee easily at home. A traditional Indian meal of daal, rice, vegetables, salad and raita will be prepared in class scheduled 6:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 at Berkshire Middle School, 21707 West Fourteen Mile Road, Beverly Hills. Cost is \$39 class fee, \$44 for non-residents, and a \$12

supply fee payable to instructor at class; bring a dishcloth. To register call (248) 203-3800 or online at [www.communityed.net](http://www.communityed.net).

**Italy - al Dente**

Come on a gastronomic trip to Italy at Rochester Community House, 816 Ludlow in Rochester. Learn some of the traditions and background of Italian cooking. Learn how the regions of Italy differ and how the cooking reflects the region. Each week one or two components to the traditional meal will be created. A notebook and information will be provided, but bring a small chopping board, knife, a medium bowl and containers to take home food. Classes are \$20 each and are scheduled at 7-9 p.m. as follows: Antipasti and Soups, Thursday, Jan. 13; Pasta, Thursday, Jan. 20; Main Course, Dessert/Cheese Course and Coffee, Thursday, Feb. 10; and Celebration Class, Thursday, Feb. 17. Pre-registration is required for all classes, by mail or in person at RCH (no credit cards). Visit [www.rochestercommunityhouse.org](http://www.rochestercommunityhouse.org) or phone (248) 651-0622.

**Low-Carb Luxury**

Cutting back on carbs does not necessitate cutting back on flavor and variety. For those of you new to the low-carb lifestyle, or needing some fresh recipes, easy preparation and gourmet eating are within your grasp. Recipes demonstrated in this class include: Thai Coconut Soup, Pecan Crusted Salmon in Tarragon Cream Sauce, Seafood Au Gratin, Stuffed Zucchini, and Lemon Curd "Martinis." A \$5 material fee is payable to the instructor in class. Instructor Kate Renton is accredited in the culinary arts and received her formal training from Johnson and Wales University. She is the owner of Chef Girl Productions, a company specializing in in-home culinary education for parties, showers and personal instruction. The class is scheduled 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13. The session costs \$29. To register for classes, contact The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham at (248) 644-5832, or online at [www.communityhouse.com](http://www.communityhouse.com).

**The Basics of Sauces**

Sauces really enhance the flavors of a meal. Learn three sauces - veggie roasted pepper sauce, Alfredo sauce and a chicken sauce. Learn the basics of sauce preparation and different variations. Bring a small cutting board, knife, and two small food containers for samples. A \$5 material fee is payable to the instructor in class. Freeman E. Gunnell's culinary education has been under the direction of Jimmy Schmidt, Wolfgang Puck and Madeleine Kamman. Freeman's well-rounded career includes working as chef de cuisine and as a pastry chef in gourmet restaurants. Freeman was recently awarded the prestigious International Association of Culinary Professionals pastry award to study at Ecole Lenotre in Paris. Class is scheduled 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18. The session costs \$29. To register for classes, contact The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham at (248) 644-5832, or online at [www.communityhouse.com](http://www.communityhouse.com).

**An Introduction to Wine**

Enjoy a casual and uncomplicated introduction to the world of wine suited for the novice as well as the slightly experienced. This is a great foundation course that you can build on by taking further wine classes. The topics of discussion will include: wine grapes varieties, wine-making techniques, types of wines and wine labels. Learn to evaluate and rate wines while tasting six wines representing different regions from around the world. Learn to identify and read wine labels and order from a restaurant wine list. The class will end with a discussion on proper wine storage climate. Nidal Daher and Marc Jonna are the instructors for the class scheduled 7:30-10 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19. The session costs \$29. To register for classes, contact The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham at (248) 644-5832, or online at [www.communityhouse.com](http://www.communityhouse.com).

ing them at home and/or by using healthier ingredients without the added sugars or anti-nutrients found in many packaged food at this class scheduled 7-8 p.m. Jan. 18 at Berkshire Middle School, 21707 West Fourteen Mile Road, Beverly Hills. Class fee is \$20 for residents, \$25 for non-residents. To register call (248) 203-3800 or online at [www.communityed.net](http://www.communityed.net).

**Chicken curries**

Prepare delicious tandoori chicken that is great for barbecues, chicken tikka masala, chicken dhansak and chicken doh-piaza, all perfect for entertaining. Students will make Basmati rice pilaf. Class is scheduled 6:30-9:30 p.m. Jan. 25 at Berkshire Middle School, 21707 West Fourteen Mile Road, Beverly Hills. Class fee is \$39 for residents, \$44 for non-residents. Cost is \$15 supply fee payable to instructor at class; bring a dishcloth. To register call 248-203-3800 or online at [www.communityed.net](http://www.communityed.net).

**Children's favorites**

Learn how to make many "children's favorites" recipes healthier by prepar-

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**OATS**

FROM PAGE D1

walnut-oat topping. Together, these healthful ingredients result in a delicious whole-grain muffin that can be enjoyed at home or away from home for breakfast.

A steaming bowl of hot oatmeal may sound like a traditional way to start the day, but think beyond the breakfast hour when considering Maple Walnut Oatmeal.

More folks are finding comfort in breakfast foods at dinner, especially during midweek when time is at a premium. Just add fruit and a glass of low-fat milk for a complete meal.

Make a small change this month that translates into a big difference in your daily health. Add oats - morning, noon or night.

And remember: Old-fashioned oats, quick oats, instant oatmeal and steel-cut oats are all whole-grain oat products because all three parts of the grain remain after milling. Each of them provides the

same nutrients in the same amounts. The only difference is how the grain is cut, steamed and rolled - and this only affects cooking time and the texture of the cooked oatmeal.

**BANANA OAT MUFFINS**

- Topping:**  
1/2 cup oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)  
1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar  
2 tablespoons chopped walnuts  
2 tablespoons whole-wheat flour  
2-1/2 teaspoons vegetable oil  
1 teaspoon vanilla
- Muffins:**  
1 cup fat-free milk  
1/2 cup oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)  
1/2 cup vegetable oil  
2 eggs  
1 package (14 ounces) banana quick bread and muffin mix  
1/2 cup snipped pitted dried plums or dried figs

Heat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit. Spray bottoms of 18 medium muffin cups with non-stick cooking spray or line with paper baking cups.

For topping, combine all topping ingredients in medium

bowl; mix well. Set aside.

For muffins, mix together milk and oats in large bowl. Let stand 10 minutes. Stir in oil and eggs until well blended. Add banana quick bread mix and dried plums. Stir by hand 50 to 75 strokes, as directed on package, or until blended.

Divide batter evenly among muffin cups, filling each about 3/4 full. Sprinkle with topping, dividing evenly.

Bake 15 to 20 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out with a few moist crumbs clinging to it and topping is golden brown.

Remove muffins from pan to wire rack. Serve warm or at room temperature.

To freeze, wrap cooled muffins in foil, or place in freezer bag.

Seal, label and freeze up to six months. Makes 18 muffins.

Nutrition information (one muffin): Calories 170, Calories from fat 50, Total fat 6g, Saturated fat 1g, Cholesterol 20mg, Sodium 135mg, Total carbohydrates 26g, Dietary fiber 1g, Sugars 14g, Protein 3g.

Recipe courtesy of Quaker Oats.

**MAPLE WALNUT OATMEAL**

- 2 cups fat-free milk
- Maple-flavored syrup, regular or light
- 1/2 teaspoon salt (optional)
- 1/2 teaspoon maple extract (optional)
- 1 cup oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)
- 1-1/2 tablespoons chopped walnuts, toasted

In medium saucepan, bring milk, 2 tablespoons maple syrup and, if desired, salt and maple extract to a boil; stir in oats.

Return to a boil; reduce heat to medium. Cook 1 minute for quick oats or 5 minutes for old-fashioned oats, or until most of liquid is absorbed, stirring occasionally. Let stand until desired consistency.

Spoon oatmeal into two cereal bowls. Top with walnuts and additional maple syrup, as desired. Makes two servings.

Nutrition information (1/2 of recipe): Calories 320, Calories from fat 60, Total fat 7g, Saturated fat 1g, Cholesterol 5mg, Sodium 140mg, Total carbohydrates 53g, Dietary fiber 4g, Sugars 21g, Protein 15g.

Recipe courtesy of Quaker Oats.

**WINE**

FROM PAGE D1

Olivos at 6905 Foxen Canyon Road.

Los Olivos contains many other winery tasting rooms as well as restaurants that serve rare wines from the area. If you've seen the film *Sideways*, you've had a virtual tour of Los Olivos!

**TASTING ZACA MESA SYRAH**

■ 2001 Syrah Estate Bottled, Santa Ynez Valley (\$20), is a great value with aromas of red fruits and vanilla opening to blackberries, cassis and smoked bacon.

■ 2001 Mesa O & N (old and new Mesa blocks) Syrah, Santa Ynez Valley (\$40), shows

power and heft with good grip in the finish. It combines fresh vitality of fruit from young vines with intense, concentrated flavors of old vines.

"The Mesa is in the northwest portion of our estate vineyard," winemaker Clay Brock said. "It sits at more than 1,500 feet elevation and has well-drained soil."

■ 2001 Black Bear Block Syrah, Santa Ynez Valley (\$50), is superb! Aged in 35 percent new French oak for 22 months, this wine was made from the oldest syrah vineyard on California's Central Coast.

Small, concentrated grapes yield intense flavors that appeal now with roasted meats and aged cheese and will continue to age gracefully for

another eight to 10 years.

"I'm a big fan of the Rhone reds," Brock said. "Particularly syrah, mourvedre and grenache."

"In my opinion, of all the grapes we grow on the central coast, syrah holds the most potential to become a genuinely outstanding varietal in the coming years."

"The more experience we have working with it, the more we can make truly remarkable and memorable wines."

The Healds are contributing editors for the internationally respected *Quarterly Review of Wines*, and Troy residents who write about wine, spir- its and restaurants for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Contact them by e-mail at [focusonwine@aol.com](mailto:focusonwine@aol.com).

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# Raise your spoons in a salute to oatmeal

When your mother told you to "eat your oatmeal, it's good for you," she was right.

Oats are so healthy that foods containing a certain amount may carry a health claim approved by the Food and Drug Administration, such as: "Diets low in saturated fat and cholesterol that include soluble fiber from oatmeal may reduce the risk of heart disease." The part about diet low in saturated fat and cholesterol is a reminder that a bowl of oats won't make up for a diet of ice cream and brownies.

January is National Oatmeal Month and a good time to consciously put oatmeal back in your diet.

Oats are a whole-grain food containing insoluble and soluble fiber. Insoluble fiber moves food easily through the digestive system. The most health benefits come from the beta-glucans, a type of soluble fiber shown to reduce blood cholesterol levels, particularly the LDL "bad" cholesterol.

High LDL levels are consid-

ered a risk factor for heart disease, the leading cause of death in the United States. Scientists have compared oats to tiny sponges that pick up cholesterol and carry it out of the body.

Studies have shown that people who start the day with a breakfast high in complex carbohydrates (with fiber), like oatmeal, report less hunger and fatigue and greater alertness in the morning. "Instant" oatmeal, especially when processed with added sugar, may not have the same effect.

Either because of time constraints or the desire to lose weight, at least 17 percent of Americans regularly skip the morning meal. But studies show that people who skip breakfast take in more calories later in the day than people who eat three evenly spaced meals. Other studies show that breakfast skippers tend to have higher blood cholesterol levels as well.

Fresh fruit is a perfect topping for oatmeal. For an extra twist, mix berries with a tiny sprinkling of grated lemon or

orange zest, plus two drops of vanilla extract. Dried fruit also works well, adding sweet chewiness for a satisfying contrast in texture. Most dried fruits are sweet enough that you won't need sugar. For a change of pace, have your oatmeal in these tasty pancakes.

### OATMEAL PANCAKES

- 1 cup quick-cooking (not instant) rolled oats
- 2 1/2 cups fat-free milk
- 1/2 cup whole wheat flour
- 1/2 cup unbleached all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup toasted wheat germ
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Ateaspoon cinnamon, nutmeg or cloves, as desired
- 3 egg whites, lightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla or almond extract, as desired
- Cooking spray

In a medium-sized bowl blend together the oats and milk and let stand for 10 minutes.

In a large bowl, combine whole wheat flour, unbleached



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

January is National Oatmeal Month and a good time to consciously put oatmeal in your diet, like in these pancakes.

1/2 cup wheat germ, sugar, baking powder, salt and spice. Mix well.

Add egg white and extract to oat mixture and stir together. Add to the flour mixture and stir until moistened but with small lumps remaining. Don't over-mix. Let stand in the refrigerator for 30 minutes.

Preheat a nonstick fryingpan or griddle coated with cooking spray over medium heat. Working in batches, pour 1/4 cup batter for each pancake onto hot pan.

Cook 3 to 4 minutes or until top starts to bubble and bottom is browned. Turn and cook 1 to 2 minutes longer, or until golden brown. Makes 18 pancakes.

Per pancake: 65 calories, less than 1 g. total fat (less than 1 g. saturated fat), 11 g. carbohydrate, 4 g. protein, 1 g. dietary fiber, 174 mg. sodium.

Recipe courtesy of the American Institute for Cancer Research.

## Brochure on oats available

Awesome Oats: Easy and Delicious Recipes With Oats will help everyone enjoy new ways to include the whole-grain goodness of oats every day.

A completely updated, full-color version of this free brochure contains seven contemporary recipes, including around-the-clock ideas for main dishes like Cajun Chicken Blue and MuShoo Meatball Wraps, in addition to breakfast classics like Banana Bread Oatmeal and updated favorites like Honey Pot Oatmeal Cookies. Delicious oatmeal topping suggestions are included as well.

To order, e-mail oatoffer@aol.com or send your name and complete mailing address to: Awesome Oats, P.O. Box 487, Chicago, IL 60690-0487.

Allow three to five weeks for delivery. Offer good while quantities last.

## BREAKFAST

FROM PAGE D1

Soft and chewy Breakfast Oatmeal is a great breakfast treat that can be enjoyed at home or on the go. Developed in the Quaker Oatmeal Kitchens, these muffin-like "cookies" make an excellent breakfast choice for several important reasons.

First, they're made with high-fiber whole-grain oats, whole-wheat flour and less sugar than traditional cookies. Second, they're doubled up, literally, with a nut butter spread that adds protein and a flavor children love. One serving provides 2 grams of fiber, a complex carbohydrate that helps youngsters satisfy their hunger.

Another non-traditional oatmeal breakfast that can also serve as an afternoon energy-boosting snack is Winter Trail Mix.

With 3 grams of fiber per serving, this versatile combination of toasted old-fashioned oats, Quaker Squares ready-to-eat oatmeal cereal, dried apricot and apple chunks, dried cranberries, and roasted peanuts or almonds can be served any number of ways, such as:

- Stirred into vanilla or fruit-flavored, lowfat yogurt;
- Enjoyed with milk as a crunchy, ready-to-eat breakfast cereal;
- Packed up in individual resealable plastic bags for an on-the-go breakfast or snack.

For more information and tips on eating oatmeal and helping children maintain a healthy weight, visit

quakeroatmeal.com and the Quaker Oatmeal Strive for Five program, designed to help families have fun learning together.

This online program is an easy-to-use, five-step family nutrition program organized in weekly calendars that offer simple daily tips, activities and interactive tools recommended by the American Dietetic Association member experts.

### BREAKFAST OATIES

- 1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup 60 percent vegetable oil spread with no trans fat
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1-1/2 cups mashed ripe bananas (about 3 medium)
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup whole-wheat flour
- 2 to 2 1/2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)
- 1/2 cup broken fried banana chips (optional)
- 1 cup peanut butter, cashew butter or almond butter
- \*If using old-fashioned oats, add 3 tablespoons additional whole-wheat flour.

Heat oven to 3500 F. In large bowl, beat brown sugar and spread with electric mixer until creamy. Add egg and vanilla; beat well. Add bananas; beat well. Add combined flours, pumpkin pie spice, baking soda and salt; mix until blended. Add oats and, if desired, banana chips; mix until blended.

Drop dough by heaping measuring tablespoonfuls 2 inches apart onto ungreased wokie

sheets. With narrow metal spatula, spread into 2-1/2-inch circles.

Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until edges are lightly browned. Remove to wire rack. Cool completely. Store tightly covered.

To assemble, spread 2 teaspoons peanut butter on flat side of one cookie. Press second wokie over peanut butter. Makes two dozen sandwiches.

Nutrition information (one sandwich): calories, 180; calories from fat, 80; total fat, 9g; saturated fat, 1.5g; cholesterol, 10mg; sodium, 150mg; total carbohydrates, 22g; dietary fiber, 2g; sugars, 9g, protein 5g.

Recipe courtesy of Quaker Oats

### WINTER TRAIL MIX

- 2 cups old-fashioned oats, uncooked
- 1-1/2 cups Quaker Squares cereal
- 1/2 cup maple-flavored syrup, regular or light
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 cup snipped dried apple chunks
- 1/2 cup snipped dried apricots
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1/2 cup dry roasted peanuts or lightly salted almonds

Heat oven to 325° E. In large bowl, combine oats and cereal. In small bowl, combine maple syrup, oil and vanilla; pour over cereal mixture. Mix until well coated.

Transfer to 15-by-10-by-1-inch baking pan.

Bake 20 to 25 minutes until oats are golden brown, stirring every 10 minutes.

Remove from oven. Immediately stir in remaining ingredients. Cool completely in pan on wire rack. Store loosely covered up to one week. Makes 6 cups.

Nutrition information for 1/2 cup with almonds (1/12 of recipe): calories, 170; calories from fat, 50; total fat, 6g; saturated fat, 0.5g; cholesterol 0mg; sodium, 75mg; total carbohydrates, 27g; dietary fiber, 3g; sugars, 12g; protein 4g.

### COOK'S TIPS:

Put individual servings of trail mix in resealable plastic bags to eat away from home.

■ Stir into low-fat vanilla yogurt or low-fat cottage cheese for breakfast or a snack.

■ Make a crunchy breakfast parfait by layering trail mix with fresh fruit (sliced bananas, chopped apples, grape halves, pineapple chunks) and lowfat yogurt.

Serve cold with milk.

Spread whole-grain bagel half with peanut butter; sprinkle with trail mix, pressing lightly into peanut butter.

□ Mix trail mix with light cream cheese; spread on whole-grain bagels or whole-wheat toast.

■ Stir trail mix into pancake batter before cooking.

Recipe courtesy of Quaker Oats

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Section F

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Keely Schramm, editor  
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## Legal rates often based on experience

Out law firm is billing our association for all its attorneys at the same hourly rate. One of our board members thinks that is not reasonable. What are your views?

Generally, hourly rates are based upon the experience and expertise of the attorney. If all the attorneys in the firm have the same degree of experience and expertise, than the same hourly rate is reasonable. However, if the senior partner is billing the junior associate at the same hourly rate, that may not be reasonable and you should consider retaining another law firm or recognizing that you may not be getting your money's worth.

Several of the co-owners in a condominium have made modifications to their windows at the top of the board. One of our members says we should just wait until they sell the unit to get them to correct the problem. What do you think?

The associations should enforce the condominium documents and rules and regulations uniformly, aggressively and consistently. A co-owner who has violated those restrictions should be pursued immediately so that the Board is not considered a do-nothing board and other co-owners are tempted to take liberties with the Association. The co-owner who has not obtained approval should be pursued through the Bylaw enforcement policy of the Association including, if necessary, the commencement of legal proceedings seeking injunctive relief, attorney fees and costs.

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 [rmeisner@meisner-associater.com](mailto:rmeisner@meisner-associater.com).



Owners of this transitional farmhouse-style home selected Board and Batten vinyl siding from LPVinyl to add architectural interest to the facade. Their use of vinyl, in combination with stone, provides an easy-care exterior year round.

## Appearance is everything, make your house look good to boost sales appeal

BY KEELY SCHRAMM  
STAFF WRITER

If "sell my house" is on your list of New Year resolutions you'd better get busy. Buyers are picky, and selling your home could take longer than you think.

Picking a Realtor and listing your house is the easy part. Making your house appealing to potential buyers is the hard part.

Would you buy your house if you were looking at it for the first time? Do the walls need painting? How old is your carpeting? Are the closets disorganized and full of junk?

"I tell my sellers to have their front door looking good," said Barbara Quinn, a Realtor with Century 21 Today in Farmington Hills. "First impressions are very important to buyers. If sellers have a dirty, nasty looking front door it's a turn off. Some people don't even want to walk in. Keep the sidewalks and driveways clean. Don't just shovel a path to the front door. Have your home look like a model. Pretend you're the buyer and look at the front door."

Then go inside and get rid of clutter and all the junk you've got lying around. Get a couple of bright throw pillows for your couch.

Renee Reyer, a Realtor with

Remerica Country in Canton has helped sellers decorate.

"There was a condo that had the blahs," she said. "The seller didn't know how to decorate. So I bought some pictures and rearranged the furniture when I was doing the open house."

Ask someone to walk through your house before you put it on the market. Would they buy your house? What do they like? Dislike?

"Staging is important," said Shiela Dietz, a Realtor with Snyder, Kinney, Bennett & Keating in Birmingham.

"Create an allusion for buyers so they can see themselves living there. Clean out your closets, throw things away, put out some fresh flowers. Have everything in its place so a potential buyer will say, 'look how organized I would be if I owned this home.'"

Invest in things people can see like windows and carpeting. "An updated kitchen is a huge thing," said Alissa Nead of Coldwell Banker Preferred in Plymouth. "Furnaces and roofs are important, but you can't see them?"

A house could be structurally sound, but if it's not pretty, people aren't going to be interested.

You want your house to have neutral colors because people need to envision themselves living there," said Nead.

You can always add your own toppings to vanilla."

Get rid of overgrown, tired looking bushes and trees. Look at your house from the street. Does it have curb appeal?

"A lot of people & drive-bys and won't even go inside if they don't like the outside," said Nead.

Here are some more tips from Janet Wickell, author of *Your Guide to Home Buying/Selling*.

The next time you come home, stop across the street or far enough down the driveway to get a good view of the house and its surroundings. View the property from the same position as a home buyer who is doing a drive-by.

What is your first impression of the house and yard area?

What are the best exterior features of the house or lot? How can you enhance them?

Start making a list of your positive and negative feelings about the property's appearance.

String low voltage lighting along your driveway, sidewalks and around landscaping elements.

Add a decorative street lamp or an attractive light fixture to a front porch.

Lighting that's visible through front windows should enhance the home's appearance.

ance.

Clean the windows and gutters.

Pressure wash dirty siding and dingy decks.

Trim tree limbs that are near or touching the roof.

"Most buyers cannot visualize changes, and often won't take a second look at a house if the first isn't appealing to them," said Wickell. "Those who can visualize changes, and are prepared to make them, expect you to reduce the price of the house to compensate for the work."

If you can budget it, a fresh paint job does wonders for a dingy house. Drive around your town to find color schemes that are appealing.

How about a more attractive front door, maybe something with leaded glass inserts? If you can't justify the cost of a new door, consider replacing plain doorknob hardware with something more attractive.

If new hardware is beyond your budget, how about repainting or staining the door and polishing the hardware?

"If you brainstorm," said Wickell, "you'll find that there's a solution to most problems - one that is within your budget."

For more real estate tips from Wickell, and her free newsletter, visit [www.homebuying.about.com](http://www.homebuying.about.com).

Mortgage  
Bits



Timothy  
Phillips

## First-time buyers have options

Find it easier to work with motivated borrowers who are eager to learn about the mortgage process. As such, I provide these young buyers plenty of online and print resources to better facilitate their learning. I also make sure I'm available to them via phone for those times when nerves and confusion flare up.

Mortgage choices for "Spring" borrowers are plentiful. A favorite choice of mine for these first-timers is the FHA's 203(b) mortgage because I can get approvals with very limited borrower work experience. In fact, 90 days on the first job out of college is usually sufficient for FHA underwriting.

I find FHA underwriters to be very flexible. I've received loan approvals for college students with part-time incomes who have fully-employed co-borrowers, and for recent divorcees who have re-entered the work force after being out for years.

As for down payment requirements, mortgage underwriters of all sorts want to see that borrowers have some "skin" in the deal. The bigger the down payment, the more forgiving they may be on other issues. The FHA asks for a 3 percent from the buyer, but at the same time allows that money to be gifted by an eligible donor.

For those with little or no established credit, some lenders accept alternative credit sources as proof of borrowers' credit worthiness. Cell phone companies, utility companies, landlords, and insurance companies rarely report credit history to the credit scoring agencies, but skilled mortgage professionals can use these positive credit histories to successfully "build" a first-timer's credit profile to more easily qualify them for a home purchase.

Borrowers with both established credit profiles and solid work histories may enjoy 100 percent mortgage approvals for their purchases which require "nothing down" and feature quite competitive interest rates. The very strong buyers may be able to avoid PMI, private mortgage insurance, for their 100 percent purchase, thus bettering their cash flow that much more.

This is the second part of a five-part series. After the fifth weekly column publishes, readers may download the entire merged series online at [www.PhillipsHQ.com](http://www.PhillipsHQ.com).

Timothy Phillips is a mortgage banker and newspaper columnist. You may access his Wealth Academy archives at [www.PhillipsHQ.com](http://www.PhillipsHQ.com) or phone him toll-free at (866) 369-4516.

## Board and batten: A cottage look updated in vinyl siding

(MS) - The booming popularity of all things country, from homestyle cooking to gardening to grandmother's furniture, has sparked a renewed interest in the cottage-, cabin- and hungalow-style homes associated with this less-harried lifestyle.

This, in turn, has rekindled the use of board and batten

construction, a vertically-installed siding where the seams or joints of wide boards are then covered by a narrower board or strip called a batten.

Historically used to give height to multi-storied houses in the Greek and Gothic Revival styles, this distinctive look is no longer limited to these 19th century styles, nor is

it relegated to the

Today, it's showing up in newer neighborhoods in both traditional and transitional home designs. It's also being used to update older homes, in both the city and the suburbs. Sometimes it's the only cladding used. At other times, it's a distinctive architectural element on a front porch, on

gable ends or on additions. It's often found in combination with other siding styles - clapboard or Dutchlap, for example - or with other materials like stone and brick.

For more information on LP Maxim Board and Batten, contact your local contractor, call toll-free (888) 820-0325, or visit [www.lpvinyl.lpcorp.com](http://www.lpvinyl.lpcorp.com).

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# Manufactured home fees won't increase in the near future

BY AMY F. BAILEY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Manufactured home owners across the state won't see the fee they pay in place of property taxes go up anytime soon.

The Michigan House ended the 2003-2004 legislative session Dec. 9 without a final vote on legislation that would have gradually increased the fee from \$36 per year to at least \$144.

The hike would have been the first for that fee since 1959.

House members passed the original version of the bill in August on an 80-28 vote, but on Wednesday defeated the Senate-passed version, 73-32.

Rep. Randy Richardville, a Monroe Republican who has been working on the legislation since he took office in 1999, attributed the

failure to strong lobbying against the increase by groups representing local governments, school districts and school administrators who felt the bill didn't go far enough.

Those groups have been pushing to require manufactured home owners to pay property taxes based on the value of their homes, as other property owners do, to cover their use of local services and schools.

Instead, manufactured home owners pay a \$3 monthly fee, along with rent on their lot, which covers property taxes paid by development owners. The bill would have raised the monthly fee to \$14 on a doublewide home by 2013 and to \$12 on a singlewide home by 2014.

Time ran out Thursday on bringing the bill back up for reconsideration.

Time ran out Thursday on bringing the bill back up for reconsideration.

The lobbyists won. Go ahead and put the gravestone on it.

Rep. Randy Richardville  
R-Monroe

"The lobbyists won," Richardville said. "Go ahead and put the gravestone on it."

Richardville said there were a number of factors that contributed to the failure of his legislation besides the lobbying against it, including the fragile economy. He also pointed to an unwillingness among lawmakers to approve another fee increase after signing

off on several over the past year, including a higher tax on tobacco and Detroit's three casinos.

Richardville is leaving office at the end of the year because he has served the maximum six years allowed under term limits. He doesn't think another lawmaker will pick up the legislation and reintroduce it when the new session starts in January.

"It's always been a no-win situation," he said.

The legislation struggled to make it out of the Senate after the House approved it in August. But the Senate approved it last week with a number of changes, including adding the higher fee for larger manufactured homes.

The House took up the main bill Dec. 8, but it fell woefully short of the 56 votes needed for approval in the 110-member chamber.

On Dec. 9, with the last day of session winding down, Richardville tried one last time to win approval for the measure but again came up short.

Tom Hickson of the Michigan Association of Counties said that, although the legislation would have generated some additional revenue for local governments, his members want to see manufactured housing taxed the same as residential homes. His group opposed the bill.

"It's not about the money, it's about equity for taxpayers," he said.

The mobile home fee bill is House Bill 4880.

## ON THE NET

Michigan Legislature - <http://www.michigan-legislature.org>  
Michigan Manufactured Housing Association - <http://www.michhome.org>

# Conservancy buys 110 acres of land

(AP) - A state board has committed more than \$14 million in grants to help buy and preserve two large tracts - 161 acres in Saugatuck and 500 acres near Ferrysburg - of environmentally sensitive Lake Michigan dunes.

The Ferrysburg-area tract includes no beach but the Saugatuck property features about three-quarters of a mile of lake frontage. Both lands have been under threat of development in recent years.

"These are two key regional park projects that have statewide significance," said Julie Stoneman, director of the Land Conservancy of West Michigan.

The money will come from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, which each year funnels more than \$30 million in oil and gas royalties to buy and develop parks.

The fund's five-member board offered \$3.6 million to help Saugatuck buy long-sought land next to the Kalamazoo River. The board agreed to a three-year grant that gives the same amount in 2005 and 2006 for a total of \$10.7 million, in a purchase to cost about \$15 million.

The Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Department received \$3.9 million to buy 500 acres between North Beach County Park in Ferrysburg and Hoffmaster State Park near Norton Shores.

For more than a decade, Saugatuck-area leaders have been trying to preserve 412 acres once owned by Frank and Gertrude Denison, then controlled by their separate estates. Together, their lands north and south of the river in northwestern Allegan County has been valued at more than \$30 million.

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# Survey shows home buyer trends

PRNewswire - Homesellers' concerns about rising interest rates helped drive the residential real estate market to new heights in California in 2004, with the Boomer Generation dominating the market, accounting for 74 percent of all home sales, according to the California Association of REALTORS' "Survey of California Sellers."

"Because of its size and current life-cycle, the Boomer Generation is likely to play a significant role in the housing market over the next several years," said C.A.R. President Jim Hamilton. "Trading up and the purchase of second homes will continue to put pressure on the housing market."

"While most homesellers indicated that they sold because they wanted a larger home or different location, pricing and financing clearly entered the picture," he said.

According to the report, a typical California homeseller was

married, 47 years old, earned nearly \$135,000 annually, and had sold a home at least once before. Just over half of all sellers in 2004 fell between the ages of 45 and 54 years, while another one-third fell between 35 and 44 years of age.

Most sellers remained within their original county of residence after selling their home, with 94 percent of sellers in Southern California remaining within the original county, compared with 99 percent in the San Francisco Bay Area and 88 percent in the rest of the state. Five percent of all homesellers moved out of state in 2004.

Following the general trend in the population toward greater utilization of the Internet, sellers also increased their use of the Web as a part of the homeselling process. The percentage of sellers who used the Internet as a significant part of the homeselling process

nearly quadrupled from 12 percent in 2003 to 47 percent in 2004. This development was much more dramatic than with buyers, whose reported use of the Internet rose from 45 percent in 2003 to 56 percent in 2004.

"While use of the Internet was up, 59 percent of homesellers said that the information they received from the Internet was less useful than the information they received from their REALTOR, compared with just 7 percent who said that the Internet provided information that was just as useful as that provided by their REALTOR," Hamilton said.

There was a shift in the mix of homes sold from 2003 to 2004, with those selling a detached single-family home declining from 90 percent a year ago to 76 percent in 2004; those selling a condo or townhouse increased from 10 percent in 2003 to 24 percent this year.

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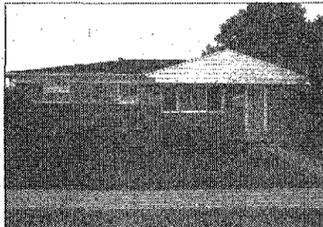
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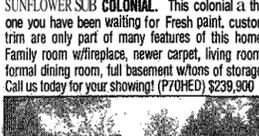
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These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the weeks of Aug. 23-27 at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices

7764 Alton 4651 Artley 42269 Ashbury 1383 Aziz 40754 Bluesprings 6835 Bostonhill 2785 Calloway 4695 Clover 1556 Commodore 1584 Commodore 131 Concord 41778 Canner Creek 328 Country Club 41750 Creston 291 Dartmouth 40195 Deer Pines 39887 Edmuntion 1598 Emerald Pines 7324 Emerson 47205 Fairlawn 47291 Fairlawn 8341 Forrest 45722 Fountain View 7074 Foxridge 7080 Foxridge 43824 Fredericksburg 45701 Graystone 41474 Hanford 41524 Hanford 1359 Hendrie 3975 Hopefield 706 Huntsville 39822 John 46502 Killarney 7397 Kingsbridge 43624 Lancelot 45727 Larchmont 44119 Leean 42541 Lilley Pointe 4 m Lilley Pointe 45168 Lothrop 43617 Lotus 48317 Manhattan 1351 Manton	\$179,000 994,000 \$180,000 \$320,000 \$284,000 \$235,000 \$363,000 \$310,000 \$219,000 \$212,000 \$231,000 \$337,000 \$359,000 \$192,000 \$255,000 \$85,000 \$196,000 \$85,000 \$260,000 \$270,000 \$250,000 \$189,000 \$355,000 \$280,000 \$288,000 \$195,000 \$185,000 \$230,000 \$214,000 \$405,000 \$270,000 \$404,000 \$198,000 \$254,000 \$255,000 \$243,000 \$342,000 \$209,000 \$115,000 \$119,000 \$369,000 \$244,000 \$450,000 \$248,000	41520 Metaline 45447 Michael 1735 Morrison 45429 N. Stonewood 44505 N Umberland 7855 Oxford 3404 Parklawn 47838 Pavilion 48100 Picadilly 45051 Quaker Hill 1399 Rand 3864 Ravensfield 47705 River Woods 7783 Rutherford 751 Sandalwood 42486 Saratoga 709 Scottsdale 502 Springfield 530 Springfield 41563 Strawberry 1723 Tradition 42154 Trent 42297 Trent 42334 Trent 911 Tyndal 43509 W. 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## COLDWELL BANKER

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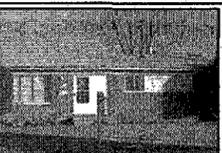
On our website @ [www.cbpreferred.com](http://www.cbpreferred.com)



**GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD.** 3 bedroom colonial with 2.5 baths. Most rooms are freshly painted, new carpet, family rm. w/soaring ceiling & fireplace. Eat in kit & formal dining, garage, sprinklers and nice land scaping. \$254,900 (085CH)



**OLD WORLD CHARM.** Enjoy the ambiance of yesteryear with the modern conveniences of today in this 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Private veranda overlooks the park & gazebo. Be a part of this quaint community. \$219,900 (437MO)



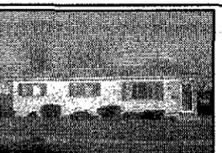
**UNBEATABLE VALUE.** Over 1000 square feet and under 100K for this neat brick ranch, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, a fenced yard, basement, garage, and located on a dead end street! Perfect for kids. \$99,900 (154NE)



**COUNTRY ESTATE.** Welcome to country living in this custom built home situated on a hill overlooking 10 acres & a small lake. Great room and luxury master w/fireplaces, chef's kitchen, walkout basement & 3 car garage. \$1,450,000 (131BA)



**THINK WARM.** Enjoy the comforts of a family room with a cozy fireplace and wet bar, or the awesome deck with a hot tub. Updated roof, carpeting, kitchen and windows. Built to entertain. \$254,900 (012SP)



**OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!** Affordable Westland ranch with a lovely open floor plan and many updates. Freshly painted interior, updated kitchen & bath, 6 panel interior doors & a finished basement with a possible 4th bedroom. \$149,900 (431SY)



**TRADITIONAL BEAUTY.** The perfect Plymouth family home with 4 beds, 3.5 baths and exquisite touches like extensive landscaping, a flagstone walk, Pella windows, red oak hwd. floors, superb maple kitchen and a study. A must see. \$375,000 (048WO)



**PEACEFUL WOODED SETTING.** Novi ranch with 3BR/2BA and many updates. Formal living/dining, eat in oak kitchen w/skylights, family rm. w/fireplace, huge mud rm. w/pantry, neutral decor and an attached garage. Excellent Novi Schools. \$224,900 (672LE)



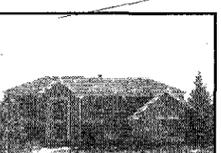
**THIS ONE WONT LAST.** Canton Colonial in a great sub. Loaded with updates including windows, doorwall, flooring, copper plumbing, roof and electrical. Skylights and gorgeous landscaping. \$229,900 (250RI)



**UNIQUE CUSTOM DESIGN.** Cedar log home located on 3.5 acres surrounded by a wooded setting. Custom woodwork t/o, top of the line everything, 20 ft. high stone fireplace, 3 sided porch, custom baths, 1st floor master and French doors. \$449,900 (654SH)



**ONE OF A KIND.** Custom sprawling ranch on a private wooded lot. Hardwood floors, custom kitchen w/built ins, superbly finished walkout w/in-law quarters. Nice view from the large windows and a dual sided fireplace. \$499,900 (360CO)



**WOODLANDS OF NORTHVILLE.** Beautifully maintained, landscaped and appointed with 5 bedrooms, 4 full baths, and 2 half baths. Fabulous finished walkout, great room floor plan w/fireplace, huge island kitchen with hearth & nook. \$664,900 (600WH)



**CANTON FOREST CONDO!** Move right into this 3 bedroom 2-story with a hardwood foyer, spacious kitchen w/appliances, dining rm. w/doorwall to deck, great room w/fireplace, finished basement w/wet bar, attached garage & 1st floor laundry. \$199,900 (176SA)



**BETTER THAN NEW!** Cathedral ceilings, fireplace, formal living rm., oak kitchen w/appliances & doorwall to deck, prof. fin. basement, sprinkler system, rich hardwood floors and a 2 car garage. Great price too! \$239,900 (841ST)



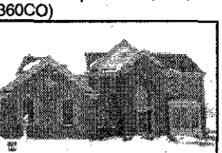
**RELISH THE PRIVACY.** Spacious 2 bedroom condo boasts master bedroom with sitting area and extra lg. walk in closet. Fireplace, snack bar and a white kitchen with newer counters and flooring. Backs to the woods. \$149,900 (721SY)



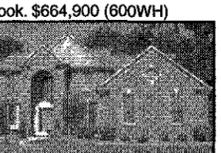
**LOCATION? WE HAVE IT!** Northville end unit with 2 beds, 2.5 baths built in '01. Soaring ceilings, spacious living w/dual sided fireplace, neutral decor, maple kitchen, attached garage, upgraded carpet & light fixtures. Appliances remain. \$229,900 (424SP)



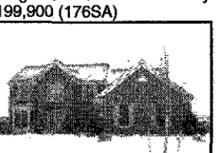
**ROOM FOR EVERYONE!** In this magnificent home situated on 2.2 acres. Amenities inc: hardwood floors, 1st fl. laundry & basement. 5 beds, 2 baths & large floor plan. Many recent updates. \$349,900 (780HA)



**IMPRESSIVE CHARACTER.** Pulte Stratford in sought after Central Park Estates. 2-story foyer & family room, dual staircase with bridge overlook, recessed lights & fireplace. Handsome master and guest suite. \$439,900 (668LI)



**EXPERIENCE THE TRANQUILITY.** Calm yourself in the peaceful setting of this beautiful 2-story home in desirable Central Park Estates. Views of the woods from huge windows in the family room, kitchen, library & master. A "don't miss" opportunity. \$459,900 (750MA)



**ULTIMATE IN COMFORT.** This Fairways West colonial offers amenities like a den w/ fireplace, formal living & dining, 4 large bedrooms, a handsome master w/sitting area & bath. Peaceful setting w/hot tub & lily pond. \$434,900 (561GL)



**EASY LIVING.** Desirable lower level end unit condo with 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, doorwall to patio, 1st floor laundry, carpet and neutral decor. Pets welcome. Great location and a great price. \$135,900 (731LI)



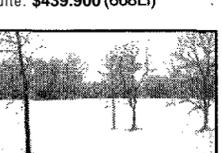
**ATTENTION TO DETAIL.** Livonia brick ranch with a finished basement, bar, jacuzzi tub, lighted crown moldings, attached 2 car garage, huge fenced yard with a deck, shed for storage and much more. \$204,900 (272RA)



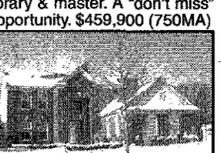
**WOLVERINE LAKE.** Wonderful 3 bedroom, 2 bath tri-level with a 1st floor laundry. Lots of updates. 2 car garage, lake privileges, and a complete appliance package. Close to the freeways for an easy commute. \$189,900 (245ME)



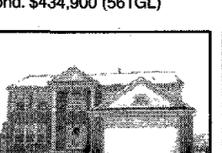
**POPULAR MAYFAIR VILLAGE.** 4 beds, 2.5 baths, formal living & dining rooms, kitchen w/nook & ample cabinet space, family rm. w/fireplace and wet bar. 1st floor laundry, nicely updated and beautifully maintained. \$254,900 (629MA)



**PRIME RESIDENTIAL LOTS.** Fabulous building sites in Washtenaw County - Wooded walkouts with ravines and streams. Builders plans available or bring your own. Call today. Starting at 160,000 (000VA)



**2 YEARS NEW.** Spectacular home backing to the woods & siding to wet lands. Professionally decorated, 3 car garage, stainless appliances, and a large floor plan. 4BR/2.5BA. \$379,900 (342EM)



**TERRIFIC CHOICE.** Canton colonial in a family friendly sub. Elegant 2-story foyer, formal living & dining, spacious family room w/fireplace, handsome master w/fashion bath, fantastic landscaping & paver patio. \$299,900 (667SH)



**30 ACRES OF VAC. LAND.** Here is your opportunity to buy 30 acres off M-37. From the middle of M-37 back 500 ft. is considered commercial, the rest is rural residential. \$109,000 (000M37)

**NORTHVILLE/NOVI**  
(248) 305-6090

**CANTON**  
(734) 392-6000

**FARMINGTON**  
(248) 478-6022

**WESTLAND/GARDEN CITY**  
(734) 392-6000

**PLYMOUTH**  
(734) 459-6000

**LIVONIA**  
(734) 425-6060

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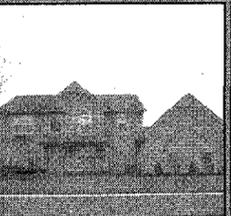
**ANN ARBOR** \$309,900  
Best lot in sub! Tudor w/woods on side & back on cul-de-sac. Spacious kit overlooks FR w/vaulted cngs & sky lts. 6 panel drs t/o. Spac kit & FR open to private yd. New dbl front drs w/leaded glass. 1st floor Indry. (OEP49POT) 734-453-6800



**BRIGHTON** \$299,900  
6 bed 2880 sq. ft. lakefront home. Sandy beach and dock. Large 30' deck facing lakeside to watch the wildlife. Den with fireplace, cathedral ceiling and skylights. 2 1/2 car garage. (OESLY56CLA) 248-437-4500



**CANTON** \$418,900  
Beautiful Home On A Lot Backing To Trees And Stream. Sunny Gourmet Kitchen. Study W/french Doors. Includes A 2-way FP to FR. H/W Firs In Foyer, Kit & Nook. Luxurious Vaulted Master Suite/Finished Basement. (OEL38SAN) 734-591-0333



**CANTON** \$409,500  
Fabulous Home On Supurb Lot. Professionally Fin. Lower Level W/3rd Full Bath, Den/oc & Add'l Family Rm. Beautiful Hdwd Firs In Entry & Through Kitchen & Nook. Great Open Fir Plan-bridge Overlooking Fam.rm W/irpl. (OEN55HEN) 248-347-3050



**CANTON** \$320,000  
This Is The One You've Been Waiting For! Transferring Owners Are Sad To Leave This Beautiful & Spacious 4br. 2.5 Bth Colonial Situated on a Premium Cul-de-sac Lot. 2 Story Foyer W/hdwd Flr, Formal Living & Dining Rm (OEN26WOO) 248-347-3050



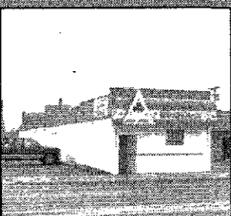
**CANTON** \$234,900  
Colonial 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bath w/eye catching staircase. Newly updated kitchen. Natural fireplace, hearth and doorwall to large fenced yard off family room. Home warranty included. (OESLY34DER) 248-437-4500



**CANTON** \$217,500  
Great Value In The Desirable "sun-flower Village" Sub. Transferee Perfect! Updates include New Roof, Furnace, Air Cond, Paint, Landscape, All Newer Carpet, Turn Key & Move Right In. Large Eat In Kitchen. (OEN29BRU) 248-347-3050



**COMMERCE** \$269,900  
Don't Miss! Close to Village of Milford. Immaculate 4BR colonial on lg prof landsc corner lot. Tastefully decorated thru out. Floor-to-ceiling brick nat FP in FR. Country living but close to amenities. Warranty inc. (OEP50CHE) 734-453-6800



**DEARBORN** \$530,000  
Great Bar. Newer Items: Roof, Gutters, Parking Lot, Kit, Elec Serv, Furn, A/C, Plumb, Sprinkler Sys In Office Bsmnt. Bar Owns 2 Dart Machines, Juke Box, 2 Poker Mach. Near Ford Roug. Terms Avail. Incl Liquor Lcns (OEL14SCH) 734-591-0333



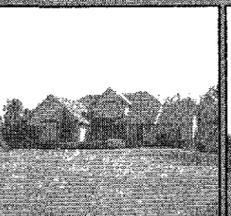
**DETROIT** \$95,000  
Beautifully Updated Bungalow In Warrendale \* Updated Kit \* Spacious Mstr Bed W/lots Of Storage \* Nwr Wndws & Doors \* Nwr Furn & C/A \* Part Fin Bsmnt W/ Full Bath \* Nwr Drive \* New Roof \* Nwr Appincs \* Not A Drive By! (OEL11GRE) 734-591-0333



**FARMINGTON HILLS** \$310,000  
Excellent Condition, 4 Bdrm, Brick Colonial With Inground Pool! Ceramic Entry Kitchen & More. Large Family Room W/fireplace & Doorwall To Large Deck. Formal Dining Room & Living Room. (OEN58WOP) 248-347-3050



**GARDEN CITY** \$174,900  
Beautiful Garden City Ranch! Everything Has Been Done. Vinyl Siding, Roof, Windows, Hardwood Firs, Electrical, Plumbing, Master Bdrm Has Cathedral Ceilings, Jacuzzi, Walk-in Closet, Hdwd Firs In Living & Dining Rm (OEN45DON) 248-347-3050



**GENOA** \$599,900  
Custom Cape Cod on almost 12 acres w a pond and 24X36 pole barn! 3 fireplaces, oak kitchen w/ceramic tile, walk-out basement w/Florida room and hot tub. 3.5 car garage, central air and intercom. (OESLY67HAC) 248-437-4500



**GENOA** \$309,900  
Premium location on golf course. 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath in prestigious neighborhood. Marble foyer, circular stairway. Professionally finished basement. (OESLY68PIN) 248-437-4500



**GENOA** \$249,900  
This is the perfect family home. Fin walkout basement. A full bath on every flr. A patio off the basement rec room & another patio off the family rm, both open to a very lg backyard. On a cul-de-sac w/.66 acres. (OESLY36FOR) 248-437-4500



**GREEN OAK** \$269,900  
Attractive colonial with all the extras! 16X32 deck, sprinkler system, formal dining room, 1st floor laundry, family room with natural fireplace, finished basement and much more! (OESLY49AYL) 248-437-4500



**HOWELL** \$239,900  
Spectacular, spacious colonial with open floor plan, neutral colors, great room with fireplace and extra large master suite with bath and walk-in. Oversized garage, full basement and professionally landscaped. (OESLY84ASH) 248-437-4500



**HOWELL** \$174,900  
Wow! Great family home great lot and curb appeal galore! Newer roof furnace air H2O heater and gutter helms. Excellent location! Partially finished basement with possible 4th bedroom. (OESLY61GLE) 248-437-4500



**INKSTER** \$95,000  
Absolutely Stunning! New Barber Carpet, new Vinyl Windows W/marble Sills, ceramic Tile In The Bath, all Oak Kit, Furnace, hwh, & Roof All Under 5 Yrs Old! Wonderfully Fin. Bsmnt W/bar & Built In Seating, Huge Mast Suite. (OEL32WES) 734-591-0333



**LIVONIA** \$289,900  
Totally Updtd, Maint Free Home- Mast Bdrm 12x25, FR 18x27- 2 Skylights Each- Updtd Wdws- Kitch W/oak Cab, 2nd Flr Lndry- Wd Drs- Jetted Tub Met- 90% Eff Furn- & Fr- 365 Sq Ft Rec Rm L/L- Privacy Fence- Nwr Gar dr. (OEL21PER) 734-591-0333



**LIVONIA** \$269,900  
Newer Built Brick And Cedar Ranch With A Very Open Floor Plan With Cathedral Ceilings, A Fabulous Stone Fireplace, A Professionally Finished Basement, And A Quiet Location On A Secluded Cul-de-sac. (OEN65GRI) 248-347-3050



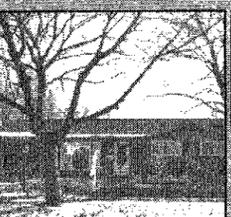
**LIVONIA** \$232,900  
Bright & Airy Livonia Condo. Pvt Entrance Courtyard, Large Liv/din Area W/brick Gas Fp & Doorwall To Deck Backing To Commons. Eat-in Kitchen, 1st Flr Laundry, 2 Full Bedroom Stes W/pvt Baths, Walkin Closets. (OEN20LAU) 248-347-3050



**LIVONIA** \$209,900  
Move right in! 1st floor master, 3 BR detached condo close to everything. Fin bsmnt, neutral colors thru out. Assoc fee includes water, sewer, sprinkler system, snow removal, grass cutting, ins & maintenance. Imm occ (OEP24MEL) 734-453-6800



**LIVONIA** \$179,900  
Beautiful Brick Ranch W/ Livonia Schools. Lrg LR w/FP & HW Fls. Huge Kit Area W/ Pergo Flrs. New Bath. Fin Bsmnt W/ 3rd Bed. New Furn 2000. Financing At 1/4% Below Market Offered On This Home Ask For Details (OEL46DEE) 734-591-0333



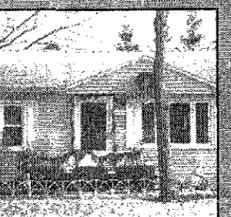
**LIVONIA** \$172,500  
Completely Updated Ranch, Turn Key & Move Right In. Bright & Airy, neutral Tones T/o. Updates Include: newer Roof (tear off), high Efficiency Furn & C/a, remodeled Kit W/new Cabinets, flr & Appls. New Bath & Half Bath. (OEN47GRA) 248-347-3050



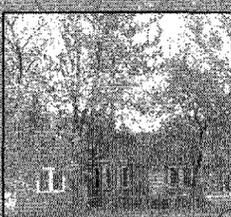
**LIVONIA** \$170,000  
Price Reduced!! 1212 Sq.ft. brick Ranch In Steveson District. Aggressively Priced For A Quick Sale. Updates Incl: oak Kitchen W/appl., Remodeled Bath, New Siding & Gutters, Hwh, Elec. Service, & Vinyl Windows. (OEN09FLA) 248-347-3050



**LIVONIA** \$169,900  
Large All Brick Ranch In Great Buckingham Village Location. Maint. free Alum Trim. Updated Windows & Roof. Hardwood Floors, Ceramic Bath, Freshly Painted Throughout. All Appliances Stay. Large Basement Rec. rm. (OEN16CAR) 248-347-3050



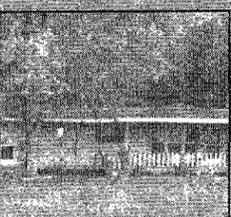
**LIVONIA** \$164,900  
Wow! Hurry over to this 3 BR, 2 full BA ranch w/Livonia schools! Updated & beautifully maintained. Has living room & family room w/cathedral ceiling, sky light & doorwall to spacious newer deck. This one won't last! (OEP94FL) 734-453-6800



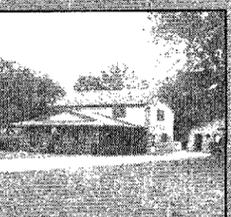
**LIVONIA** \$159,500  
Totally Remodeled Farmhouse. 1/2 Acre Fenced Yard W/mature Trees. Covered Ceilings & Arched Doorways. Bay Wndw In DR. Laminate Flr In Kit & Nook. Study Upstairs Is Great For Computer Rm. Lg Walk-in Attic For Storage. (OEL18SEV) 734-591-0333



**LIVONIA** \$150,000  
Beautiful 3 Bedroom Home In North Livonia. Updates Galore, Furnace, Central Air, Vinyl Windows (1993) And Newer Kitchen Cabinets. Beautiful Hardwood Floors, Glass Block Windows And Copper Plumbing, 2 Car Garage. (OEL64ANT) 734-591-0333



**LOCKE** \$128,000  
Riverfront - Bring your canoe and fishing poles! 1850 sq ft 3 bed, 2 bath on 1 acre parklike setting with 3 car garage. Meticulous home with fireplace. Priced to sell quickly. Hurry! (OESLY82ALL) 248-437-4500



**LYONS** \$229,000  
Pella windows, 96% Furn. Recessed & indirect lighting in great rm. Ceramic tile in kit & DH. Merrilat cabinets. Separate shower & tub in master. 6 panel doors, wood blinds. 2 car gar. w/2 car sized workshop attached 8'2nd fl. (OESLY57CAS) 248-437-4500



**NORTHVILLE** \$485,000  
Northville Historic District! Meticulous restoration of this circa 1860 gothic farmhouse. 4 bedroom, 2 baths, 1st floor laundry & family room. Period sensitive upgrades. Only 1 block to town! (OEP06DUN) 734-453-6800



**NORTHVILLE** \$289,900  
Special lot! Nice clean home w/an easy stroll to the lake! 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, Florida room, newer carpet, windows & two newer doorwalls. Big deck. Call now! (OEP55SCE) 734-453-6800



**PLYMOUTH** \$239,900  
Priced to sell! 2100 sq. ft. quad w/4 bdrm, 2 full baths. Refinished hardwood floors. Spacious living room, dining & family room w/lp, 2 car attached garage. Newer roof. Walk to town! (OEP13NAN) 734-453-6800



**PLYMOUTH** \$189,000  
2 bks to downtown Plymouth on quiet street! Seller will assist w/land contract, newer drywall, electricity, baths, kit, furn & air. Needs new roof! Zoned for office use w/value in land. See MLS#24063732. Fenced yard! (OEP80DEE) 734-453-6800



**PLYMOUTH** \$184,900  
Cherry Pergo & fresh paint t/o. Updates: elect, furn & C/A, windows, ext paint, gutters, driveway & patio, int & ext doors...all new 03-04! Stairs to full attic offer abundance of expansion possibilities! App stay! (OEP74EVE) 734-453-6800



**REDFORD** \$127,000  
Well Cared For Brick Bungalow. Bay Window In Dining Room Over Looks Golf Course. Newer Windows, Newer Kitchen Floor. Partially Finished Basement. Appliances Stay. This Is A Great Value. Florida Room 13x13. (OEL21GLE) 734-591-0333



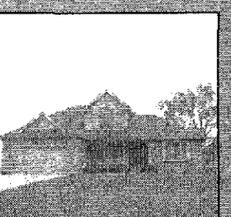
**REDFORD** \$119,900  
Brick ranch w/3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, partially finished basement, oversized 2 car garage. Hardwood floors, wet plaster, all appliances remain. (OEP48BEE) 734-453-6800



**ROMULUS** \$227,000  
Prem site backs to fairway. \$51,000 in extras! Upgrades: addit 2ft. across home, crpt, appl, cbnts, lighting, elev, deep bsmnt, ext alum, sky lts, clng fans, elec arc cinr, hum, arch shngls, crn mldng snack bar & more! (OEP11SAN) 734-453-6800



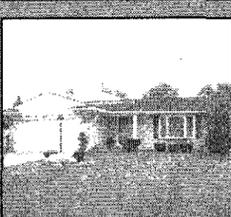
**SOUTH LYON** \$394,900  
Custom built newer construction Colonial. Custom craftsmanship. Innovative architecture. Two fireplaces. Hardwood floors. Morning room, master with jacuzzi tub and glass shower. Beautifully landscaped. (OESLY39GLE) 248-437-4500



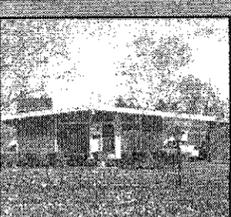
**SOUTH LYON** \$309,900  
Premium cut-de-sac location! Spectacular newer brick colonial! 4 bedroom, 3.5 car garage. Daylight windows in basement, 2 way fireplace, granite island in kitchen. (OESLY87EAG) 248-437-4500



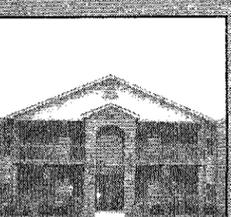
**SOUTH LYON** \$209,900  
This Spacious Colonial Has Been Freshly Painted And Newly Carpeted. A Great Family Home. Ceramic Floors, Neutral Decor. Walking Distance To Schools And Backing To Commons. (OEL67DEA) 734-591-0333



**SOUTHFIELD** \$239,900  
Beautiful Updated Quad. Spacious FR W/gas Fp, formal DR & Liv Rm W/new Bay Wndw. Lg Mstr Bdrm W/ Bath, WIC. Refin. Hrdwd Firs In All Bdrms. Freshly Painted. Glass Blk Wndws, updated Elec. - 1 Yr Home Warranty. (OEL35KEN) 734-591-0333



**SOUTHFIELD** \$155,000  
Well Maintained 3 BR Brick Ranch In Cranbrook Village Sub. Newer Furn & C/a. New Glass block Day Lite Wndws In Bsmnt. Hrdwd Firs T/O Adds Warmth To The Lr W/ Fireplace & Cathedral Ceiling. Lrg Wndws. (OEL32CHE) 734-591-0333



**VAN BUREN** \$118,500  
2002 ground level unit is clean & neutral. Mstr ste w/private BA & WIC. BR2 w/lg closet. 2 full BA's, oak kit w/lots of cbnts, Indry rm w/extra storage. DW off LR to lg deck. Upgraded crpt, pad & flr t/o. All appl. (OEP96SAW) 734-453-6800



**WAYNE** \$112,900  
1st Time Homebuyer Special. This Brick Front Bungalow Incl. All Appl's, Has A Part. Fin. Bsmnt, A Screened In Porch, & a 2 Car Gar. Extra Lg Kit, W/leating Space, Newer Roof, & C/a. 2nd Bdrm Currently Used As A Den. (OEN37WIN) 248-347-3050



**WESTLAND** \$175,000  
Great Floor Plan W/family Room W/soaring Ceiling, Freshly Painted & Ready To Move Into, This 3br, 2 Bath Home Awaits. Private Yard W/trees & Brick Paver Patio, 2 Car Attached Garage W/loads Of Built-in Storage. (OEN21STO) 248-347-3050



**WOODHAVEN** \$119,900  
Cute 3 Bedroom Brick Ranch With Beautiful Perinal Backyard. Hardwood Floors In Large Living Rm W/bay Windows. Eat-in Kitchen, Ceramic Floor In Bathroom, Newer Windows, Central Air (OEN74MAY) 248-347-3050

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Thursday, January 6, 2005

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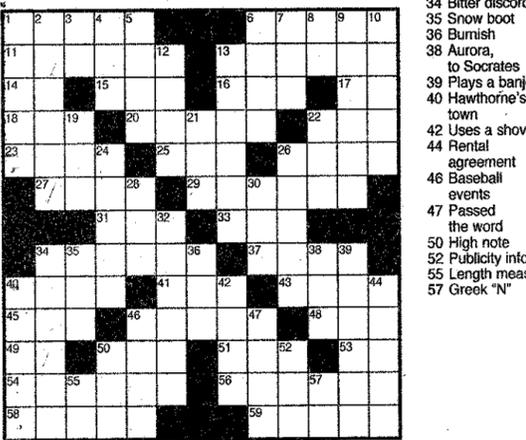
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**THIS HOME HAS BEEN** Freshly painted with many updates. Newer windows, doors, roof, garage door and opener. Almost 1200 sq. ft. with 3 bedrooms and 1 1/2 baths. Nice size rooms, has family room and fenced yard. \$164,950.  
**Century 21 Hartford North**  
734-525-9600

**Millford 3260**

**LOOKING FOR SPACE & PRIVACY?** FHA/VA terms! Brick, 3 bdrm, 2 bath home w/1st floor laundry & 4 car garage. Large fenced yard. Tone of updates! Appliances stay. \$154,999.  
**CENTURY 21 PREMIER**  
(734) 453-4300

**Northville 3280**

**4 BEDROOM, 2 BATH** Bi-Level w/ hardwood floors thru-out, plus new windows. Family room has impressive stone fireplace, 2 car attached side entry garage. \$234,900 (AJTWEO)

**REMERICA HOMETOWN (734) 459-6222**

**SPACIOUS OPEN FLOOR PLAN** 50 k below market value, 3200 sq. ft. \$469,000. Must Sell! 248-722-4928

**Plymouth 3347**

**PLYMOUTH** Spectacular custom home on 2+ acres in desirable country area. High-end finishes you would expect plus 1st floor master, 3.5 baths, vaulted ceilings. \$679,900. Stephen Wickland. 734-747-7777. eves. 734-216-2498  
Charles Reinhart Co. Realtors #2410430

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**WELL MAINTAINED** 4 bedroom, 2 bath ranch w/finished bsmt. Great room w/gas fireplace. Beautifully updated bath, new trim, new carpet & freshly painted thru-out. \$219,900. (TE114)

**Century 21**

CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800 www.century21today.com

**Redford 3350**

**JUST LISTED!**

**AFFORDABLE & UPDATED RANCH** has newer kitchen, bath, roof, windows, carpet, electrical, C/A & plumbing. First floor laundry. Attached garage. \$92,500 (LE199)

**Century 21**

CENTURY 21 TODAY (313) 538-2000 www.century21today.com

**JUST LISTED!**

**BRICK RANCH** 3 Bdrm, 2-bath. Dining room. Bsmt. All appliances stay. C/A. 2 car garage. Freshly painted. Updated electrical. Home warranty. \$175,000 (D1129)

**Century 21**

CENTURY 21 TODAY (313) 538-2000 www.century21today.com

**TO LOOK IS TO BUY!**

FHA/VA terms. Spacious 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath bungalow w/ partially finished bsmt. Many updates, fenced yard w/deck & home warranty! \$132,500  
**CENTURY 21 PREMIER**  
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**Southfield/Lathrup 3390**

**COZY 3-BDRM RANCH** Brick & aluminum exterior. Updates include roof, carpet & paint throughout. Good for 1st time home owner. \$122,500  
Century 21-MJL Corporate Transfers Service. 248-851-6700

**JUST LISTED!**

**SOUTHFIELD** Well maintained 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath Colonial. Formal living room, family room with fireplace, kitchen w/breakfast area & 1st floor laundry. Updates include windows, furnace, central air, garage door w/opener & more. \$194,900. (A282)

**Century 21**

CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 647-8888 www.century21today.com

**SOUTHFIELD** 3 bedroom ranch. Buy or lease. Sect. 8 ok. \$165,000. 313-659-2995

**South Lyon 3400**

**SUNNY SPACIOUS** 3200 sq. ft. home for sale by owner. \$399,999. 4 bdrm., 2.5 baths. Agents welcome. (248) 974-9665 For more info: HNO.com Id# MI19087

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**Waterford 3423**

**JUST LISTED!** ONLY \$159,900! Open & Airy 3 bedroom contemporary. Living room w/hardwood floors. Nice sized laundry room & plenty of storage space. Updated kitchen & bath. Newer windows & ceramic flooring. (LA104)

**Century 21**

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**Wayne 3424**

**STANDS ALONE** This 3 bedroom brick ranch is perfect and beautiful! Offers family room w/fireplace, finished basement w/bath is dry walled and carpeted. Dining room. Big 2.5 garage, and all updates including gorgeous new kitchen. Just \$14,900. Call Today!

**CLASSIC**

This 1924 cape cod has been completely renovated. 3 bedroom, formal dining room, 2 full baths, bsmt and garage. Plus deck with hot tub and long list of extras including new kitchen. Packs to river. Now just \$154,900!

**Call The Anderson's Century 21 Dynamic (734) 728-7800**

**West Bloomfield 3440**

**JUST LISTED!**

**AFFORDABLE!** Only \$174,900! "Move-in" condition! 3 bdrm. ranch w/finished bsmt. & oversized 2 car garage. Updated kitchen, 1st floor laundry, C/A, fireplace, all appliances stay. (M170701) DEBI ISAAC (248) 505-6911  
**CENTURY 21 TODAY**  
(248) 360-9100

**DESIRABLE COLONIAL**

3 bdrm, 3.5 baths. New furnace, humidifier, windows & doorwall. All appliances stay. Great neighborhood. \$299,900

**LOVELY HOME IN GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD**

Immediate occupancy. Updated, freshly painted. Granite top, new carpet, new kitchen, 1st floor laundry. Home warranty. \$259,900  
Century 21-MJL Corporate Transfers Service. 248-851-6700

**JUST LISTED!**

**IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY** 2,270 sq. ft. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath brick home w/many updates, hardwood floors & central air. Living room, formal dining room, family room w/fireplace & kitchen with breakfast room. Walk-out lower level. Patio. 2 car garage. \$244,000. (TA688)

**Century 21**

CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000 www.century21today.com

**JUST LISTED!**

**UPPER STRATS LAKE PRIVILEGES** come with 2.544 sq. ft. 4 bdrm, 3 bath Colonial. Great room w/fireplace, formal dining room & library. Hardwood floors. Finished basement. Deck w/hot tub & more. \$404,900. (RO440)

**Century 21**

CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000 www.century21today.com

**JUST LISTED!**

**LOVELY COLONIAL** Shenandoah Lake In The Woods Sub. 4 bdrms, 3.5 baths, living & dining rooms, family room w/fireplace, kitchen w/breakfast room, 1st floor laundry, finished bsmt. Deck, 2 car side entry garage. Many updates. Huge lot. \$299,900. (G1591)

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CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000 www.century21today.com

**JUST LISTED!**

**ONLY \$158,500** All brick 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath ranch. Living room & family room. Newer kitchen w/all appliances, adjoins deck. Loads of storage space. Ceramic floors thru-out. Central air, many updates. 2 car garage. Beautiful yard w/gardens. (PE261)

**Century 21**

CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000 www.century21today.com

**JUST LISTED!**

**MOVE RIGHT IN!** 3 bdrm 1.5 brick colonial on 1/3 acre lot. Spotless & neutral. Basement & fenced yard. \$158,900. (33MAR)  
**CENTURY 21 ROW**  
(734) 464-7111

**\$100 MOVE IN!**

**BRAND NEW** 3 bdrm Tri-level, 1100 sq. ft. Carpeted, landscaped. DEMPSTER A. ROSS REALTY 734-328-8300

**Westland 3445**

**JUST LISTED!** COURT SETTING FOR outstanding newer 2 story home. Family room w/fireplace, dining room, gourmet kitchen, C/A, 2.5 bath & full bsmt. 2 car attached garage. Home Warranty. \$184,900 (W1254)

**Century 21**

CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800 www.century21today.com

**QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD**

Very nice 2 bedroom home. Many updates. garage. \$93,000

**SOLID HOME**

3 bedroom full brick home. Basement & 2.5 car garage. \$139,900  
**Century 21 Towne Pride**  
(734) 326-2600  
www.century21townepride.com

**Westland - Livonia Schools**

3 bedroom brick & vinyl ranch, full basement, 2 car garage. \$140,000. L.C. 734-678-5400

**White Lake 3450**

**JUST LISTED!**

**BEAUTIFUL COLONIAL** 1998 Built 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath home w/three car attached garage and full bsmt. on ONE ACRE beautifully landscaped lot. Master suite w/soaking tub & separate shower, 2nd floor laundry, alarm system, brick pavers & sprinklers. Call for details. \$289,900.  
KAREN BROWN, 248-348-3000, ext. 212. RE/MAX 100

**Beautiful new built 1 1/2 story**

2600 sq. ft. 4 bdrm, 3 1/2 baths, walk out to prime 1.92 acre lot. Hardwood floor, soaring ceilings, fireplace. 2nd story bdrm suite. Close to x-ways, schools & lakes. \$354,900. Ask for Shelly. (248) 539-8700  
Thompson-Brown Realtors

**Wixom-Commerce 3480**

**COMMERCIAL**

4 bedroom, 2 bath quad-level. Great Area, needs work. 2053 Pauls Way. \$234,000 (248) 668-0109

**Ypsilanti 3490**

**JUST LISTED!**

**BUILT 2001** Spacious 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 1858 sq. ft. colonial. Huge master bdrm w/bath. Great room w/soaring ceiling. Partially finished bsmt. 2 car attached garage. \$232,900 (GR724)

**Century 21**

CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800 www.century21today.com

**Wayne County 3570**

**INKSTER - 3 bedroom,**

for sale by owner. Land contract. \$4,000 down. Weak credit okay. (734) 578-3579

**ROMULUS**

Starting up or slowing down! FHA/VA terms!! 3 bdrm, 1 bath brick ranch w/partially finished bsmt. Large fenced yard & 2.5 detached garage. \$119,900  
**CENTURY 21 PREMIER**  
(734) 453-4300

**JUST LISTED!**

**SPOTLESS!** 3 bedroom ranch on oversized lot. New windows, remodeled kitchen, bath & more! Home Warranty included. \$87,900. (O2MAG)  
Century 21 Row 734-464-7111

**WYANDOTTE**

Ready to move? Clean 3 bdrm., 1.5 bath, ranch w/partially finished bsmt, hardwood floors, natural fireplace, enclosed 3 season sunroom. Appliances stay! \$164,900  
**CENTURY 21 PREMIER**  
(734) 453-4300

**Country Homes 3610**

**BELLEVILLE RANCH HOME**

4+ acres. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 tiered deck w/built-in hot tub, 2.5 car attached garage, 40x42 pole barn w/kitchen & bath. \$349,900. (734) 697-8894

**Condos 3720**

**JUST LISTED!**

**FARMINGTON HILLS** Sharp 2 bdrm ranch condo. Neutral decor, great room with cathedral ceiling, fireplace, spacious kitchen w/wood cabinets & plenty of counter workspace. 1st floor laundry, 2 baths, bsmt., 2 car attached garage. \$234,900. View this home on michellemichael.com  
Michelle Michael, ReMax Classic 248-737-6800

**JUST LISTED!**

A word to the wise, when looking for a great deal check the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

**Condos 3720**

**LIVONIA** Beautiful remodeled 1 bdrm Livonia condo. New kitchen cabinets & counters, floor, freshly painted, new doors, updated bath, in-unit laundry, carpet & bsmt. storage. \$99,900. View this home on michellemichael.com  
Michelle Michael, ReMax Classic 248-737-6800

**NOVI**

Detached Novi ranch condo - 3 bdrms & baths, den, formal dining room, spacious kitchen & breakfast nook, 1st floor laundry, premium location, 2 car attached garage, finished bsmt. \$267,900. View this home on michellemichael.com  
Michelle Michael, ReMax Classic 248-737-6800

**NOVI**

Seller will assist with closing costs on this sharp Novi 2 bdrm. condo. Finished walk-out bsmt. Great room w/fireplace, 1st floor master bdrm, 3 baths, overlooks pond, garage, golf course community, immediate occupancy. \$204,900. View this home on michellemichael.com  
Michelle Michael, ReMax Classic 248-737-6800

**BELLEVILLE**

Beautiful 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath condo. Completely remodeled. Immaculate. \$96,900. 734-699-9694

**BROOK**

**BIRMINGHAM - IN TOWN**

Top floor condo with treep and ravine views. Vaulted ceilings in main living area. Built in entertainment center with fireplace and doorwall to private patio. A granite kitchen. For lease furnished \$2400/mo. For lease unfurnished \$2100/mo. \$369,000. ECG 0050U  
Call (248) 646-1400

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS - ADAMS WOODS**

By owner, 3 Bdrm, 2.5 baths, end unit, immediate occupancy. \$289,000. (248) 539-2247

**CANTON 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath**

Townhouse in Bedford Vill. Attached garage. Full bsmt, new furnace 97, new windows & carpet. GE appliances. Available now. \$150,000. After 5. 734-454-4707

**CANTON - PRIVATE END UNIT**

Outstanding! Absolutely must see! Upper end Condo unit features 2 bdrm., 2 baths, Pergo flooring throughout. Tile floors in bathroom, Open kitchen snack bar overlooks vaulted great room/dining room combo. Lg. master suite w/private full bath. All appliances stay. Furnished (optional). Daytime call 313-531-5867 ext. 186, evenings or weekends call: 734-981-6674

**CANTON - PRIVATE END UNIT**

2 Bdrm 1 bath condo overlooking secluded wooded area. Oak kitchen, hardwood floors, great room w/doorwall leading to balcony, 1st floor laundry. Appliances stay! \$159,000.  
**CENTURY 21 PREMIER**  
(734) 453-4300

**JUST REDUCED!**

Attractive 3-4 bdrm, 2 bath ranch, great to raise a family in! Finished basement & attached garage. Large tree lot. Immediate occupancy. RE/MAX 100 (248) 348-3000  
THE FIRESTONE TEAM

**Linden Schools OPEN SUN. JAN 9, 1-4pm**

HERE IT IS! - Home. Spotless and tastefully decorated 2 bedroom condo with cul-de-sac setting has beautiful white kitchen with snack bar opening to comfortable great room with doorwall to deck. Family room with gas fireplace. 1 1/2 bath and private office in custom finished walk-out lower level. 1st floor laundry and 2 car attached garage! \$214,000. Take US-23 to Owen Road exit to West to Linden Road, take Linden Road North of Creekwood Condominiums following open signs to 207 Inglewood.  
**ENGLAND REAL ESTATE**  
888-211-9500, 810-682-7427

**NOVI - GOLF COMMUNITY**

Immaculate Detached. Scenic wetland view, 2300 sq. ft. 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, fireplace, Merillat cabinets, crown moldings, tile & marble in kitchen + foyer, 2 decks - lower screened + much more! \$315,000. By Owner: (248) 926-6658  
Open House Sunday 1-5

**SKYLINE - MODEL**

3BR, 2BA, comes with stove, refrigerator, garbage disposal & more! Lot rent specials. \$39,800

**SKYLINE**

3BR, 2BA, This home has it all! All Appliances, CA, deck, shed, landscaped lot, & more! \$29,900

**BENDIX GREAT STARTER HOME!**

2BR, 2BA, all appliances, window air, shed, on a nice lot! \$12,500  
**Others Priced From \$14,000 to \$60,000**

**Novi Schools QUALITY HOMES**

at **HIGHLAND HILLS ESTATES** on Seelye Rd. N. of Grand River bet. Meadbrook & Haggerty Rds. Call Joanne or Sue (248) 474-0320 or (248) 474-0333

**Condos 3720**

**NOVI-NEGOTIABLE** Mint 2 bed, 1 1/2 bath remodeled brick 2-story condo w/family room & full finished bsmt! 1100 sq.ft. Gorgeous kitchen. Immediate occupancy. RE/MAX 100 (248) 348-3000  
THE FIRESTONE TEAM

**PLYMOUTH**

**2 BEDROOM GROUND LEVEL** Ranch condo unit. Great room has gas fireplace. Appliances included. Underground-enclosed garage w/ elevator. \$227,900 (ACCEDEO)

**REMERICA HOMETOWN (734) 459-6222**

**JUST LISTED!**

**ROYAL OAK** Only \$144,900 With Association Fee of \$320/yr! Well maintained 2 bed room, 1 bath townhouse duplex. Hardwood floors, large deck, newer roof, windows, furnace, electrical. Nicely landscaped yard. Home warranty. (01251)

**Century 21**

CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800 www.century21today.com

**JUST LISTED!**

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A Value Of Up To \$87.00  
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4120...Living Quarters To Share  
4130...Rooms For Rent

4200...Halls/Buildings  
4210...Residence To Exchange  
4220...Commercial/Industrial  
4230...Garage/Mini Storage  
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### Real Estate For Lease

4000-4980

### Canton Winter Special

1 bdrm Apartment \$520  
2 bdrm Townhouse \$620  
3 bdrm Townhouse \$800  
Security Deposit \$350  
**CANTON GARDENS**  
(734) 455-7440  
Limited Time. EHO

### Westland HALF OFF 1ST MONTHS RENT

1 bed, private entrance, walk in closet, laundry on site. Near Ford plant. Newburgh/Glenwood Roads. \$485/mo. with approved credit. EHO  
(734) 721-6699 or www.comorantco.com

### BIRMINGHAM 2 Bedroom, 2 bath with den.

Independent apt. All utilities except telephone & cable. \$1400/mo. (248) 645-0420.

### BIRMINGHAM 1 BEDROOM

2nd floor. Heat included \$850. (248) 547-7128

### BIRMINGHAM - In town

Newly renovated, 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath lower flat. 1400 sqft. c/a. \$1275. 248-379-2998

### BIRMINGHAM 1 MONTH FREE

To Qualified Applicants. Studios and 1 & 2 bedrooms available in town Birmingham at the 555 Building. Call Mari. 248-645-1191

### BIRMINGHAM 2 Bdrm from \$850

ROYAL OAK 1 & 2 Bdrm from \$605  
KEEGO HARBOR/W. BLOOMFIELD 2 Bdrm TOWNHOUSE from \$890  
(248) 334-5011 For Appointment

### Dearborn Club 1 Bdrm Apartments

2 Bdrm Townhomes  
Reduced Security Deposit  
**(866) 534-3358**  
www.cmpproperties.net

### Dearborn Heights CAMBRIDGE APARTMENTS

FREE RENT UNTIL 2-1-05  
\$99 Moves You In  
(313) 274-4765  
www.yorkcommunities.com  
Equal Housing Opportunity

### FARMINGTON Great deal 2 bdrm, 2 bath.

\$725. 1 bdrm. \$590. Includes heat/water & carport. No Pets. (248) 477-5650

### FARMINGTON HILLS 1 bedroom, over 900 sq. ft.

located on spacious country-like setting. Includes walk-in closets, carport & water. Starting at \$620/mo. 1 year lease only. (248) 763-4729.

### FARMINGTON HILLS Spacious 1 & 2 bdrm.

Laundry in unit. Water & carport incl. \$575-\$685. 586-254-9511

### WILLOW PARK APARTMENTS

Spacious Living Southfield, MI  
248-356-7878

### Leslie Tower Apts.

Heat included Southfield, MI  
248-356-2700

\*Available new move ins only, restrictions apply.  
www.etkinandco.com

## CANTON SPACIOUS 1 & 2 BEDROOM

- Washer/Dryer hook-up
- Self-cleaning oven
- Vertical Blinds
- Swimming Pool
- New Fitness Center
- Pets Welcome
- Furnished Apts. Available

Ask about our Winter Specials!

### Autumn Ridge APARTMENTS

Cherry Hill at I-275  
**734-397-1080**  
Open 7 Days  
Mon-Fri 9:00am-5pm Sat 10am-5pm Sun 12-5pm

### Farmington Hills EHO Chatham Hills

From **\$545**  
Just Reduced!  
(866) 266-9238  
www.cmpproperties.net

### Farmington Hills FREE RENT\*

- 1 & 2 Bedrooms
- Locked Foyer Entry
- Spacious Walkin Closets
- Dishwasher
- Air Conditioning
- Close to 1967 Grand River (M5)
- Minutes to St. Marys & Boisford Hospitals
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### VILLAGE OAKS APARTMENTS

(248) 474-1305  
Orchard Lake Rd.  
\*Conditions Apply

### Farmington Hills Best Apartment Value

## TIMBERIDGE APARTMENTS.

(N on Tuck Rd. off 8 Mile between Middlebelt & Orchard Lake Rd. corner of Folsom)  
DELUXE ONE AND TWO BEDROOM UNITS FROM \$615  
LIMITED SPECIAL. Includes appliances, vertical blinds, carpeting, pool, optional carports  
Model Open Daily 9-5  
Rental Office: 248-478-1487  
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### FARMINGTON HILLS Live FREE - Ask Us How!

24-hr fitness center. In-home washer/dryer, covered parking, close to work & entertainment. Pets live FREE. 1 bedroom specials starting at \$750. 2 bedroom specials starting at \$850.  
Call Diamond Forest today 877-262-7949 or visit www.diamondforest.com

### FARMINGTON HILLS MAPLE RIDGE APTS.

CALL FOR SPECIALS!  
23078 Middlebelt. Spacious 1 bed. Central air, carport available. \$560. 248-473-5180

### Farmington Hills SUPER LOCATION

Grand River/Orchard Lake  
**STONERIDGE MANOR APARTMENTS**  
Enter off Freedom Road, W of Orchard Lake Road. South of Grand River  
Deluxe 1 Bedroom sub-level  
From \$550/Mo.  
3rd. month FREE  
Includes: Carpeting, vertical blinds, deluxe appliances  
Mon. - Fri. 9-4, Sat./Sun. by appointment  
Rental Office: 248/478-1437  
Home Office: 586/775-8206

### Farmington Hills HAPPINESS IS...

Moving into a cozy, 1 bedroom apt. with REDUCED RENT & SECURITY DEPOSIT.  
Carport & water included. Starting at \$545  
**CEARBROOKE APTS.**  
248-478-0322

### Farmington Hills WALNUT CREEK SPECIAL

(On Site Manager)  
700 + sq. ft. 1 bdrm only  
Low Security Deposit  
STARTING AT \$915/Mo.  
Call: (248) 961-2753

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### Madison Heights QUIET

Almost soundproof 1 & 2 bedroom apts. Across from Oakland Mall at 1-75 and 14 Mile  
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32600 Concord Dr. (next to the Micro-Center Store)  
1 bedroom from \$655  
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Carpets • Dishwasher  
Disposal • Central air  
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townhouse style apts. 2 & 3 bedroom, newly renovated. Starting at \$635 per mo. 241-767-4207

### NORTHVILLE Studio apartment.

\$500/mo. Includes utilities. 248-921-7161

### Madison Heights GREAT APARTMENTS

Great Locations

Rent Includes Heat and Vertical Blinds  
6 month or 1 year lease  
Well maintained  
Newly decorated

Features:  
\* Air conditioning  
\* Refrigerator and range  
\* Smoke detectors  
\* Laundry facilities  
\* Extra storage  
\* Swimming pool  
\* Cable available

1 & 2 Bedroom Apts.  
**LEXINGTON VILLAGE**  
Small/Pet Section  
From \$660  
1-75 and 14 Mile, opposite Oakland Mall  
**248-585-4010**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**PRESIDENT MADISON APTS.**  
From \$605  
1 block east of John R, just south of Oakland Mall  
**248-585-0580**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**HARLO APTS.**  
From \$570  
Warren, MI  
West side of Mound Rd., just north of 13 Mile.  
Opposite GM Tech Center  
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### When seeking the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

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### FARMINGTON MANOR APTS.

\$1000 SAVINGS  
2 Deluxe studio & 1 bedroom, carport. Sr. Citizens move in as low as \$500 with approved credit. 248-888-0863

### FARMINGTON PLAZA APTS.

Deluxe 1 and 2 bedrooms, starting at \$550-50. Heat, included, water, pool. Sr. Citizens move in as low as \$600. (248) 478-8722

### FIVE, Five, Five. ONE MONTH FREE

To Qualified Applicants. Studios, 1 & 2 bedrooms available in town Birmingham. 555 S. Old Woodward. Call Mari (248) 645-1191

### KEEGO HARBOR WEST BLOOMFIELD

Large studio, 1 & 2 bedroom apts. in small, quiet complex, next to park. West Bloomfield schools. Rents from \$550 includes heat & water. Furnished apts. also available. 248-681-8309

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Deluxe 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, laundry room with washer/dryer, private entry, starting \$625/mo  
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### Novi Waterview Farms

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### Novi Live FREE Ask Us How!

1 & 2 bedroom apts. from \$695\*  
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www.noviridge.com  
\*For a limited time. New residents only. Call for details.

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HUGE APARTMENTS!!  
1 BEDROOMS FROM \$71  
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Farmington-1 bdrm \$645/mo. Heat incl. No credit check 734-722-0808/734-787-0899

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MANAGER'S SPECIAL  
Spacious 1 & 2 bedroom, central air Carport. Walk to shopping. \$555 - \$655.  
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### PLYMOUTH - Old Village, 1 bdrm.

upper, 750 sq. ft., all appliances, air. \$675/mo. 734-462-4057

### PLYMOUTH - A very nice 1 bedroom upper, \$835/mo.

includes heat & water No pets. Call Michael: 734-416-1396

### PLYMOUTH - DOWNTOWN

1 bedroom apartment, laundry facility, \$550/month plus security. 734-453-6222

### OAK PARK NORTH LINCOLNBRIAR APARTMENTS

2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath 1016 sq ft  
3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath 1380 sq ft + full basement  
FROM \$803  
Heat Included  
(248) 968-4792  
Come See Our Renovated Kitchens  
Ask about our move-in Specials

### PLYMOUTH BROOKHURST MANOR

1 & 2 Bedroom Apts  
From \$580. (734) 455-1215  
Ask About Our Special

### PLYMOUTH - 2 bedroom

lower, a/c, garage, all appliances. \$865 including water. Call Michael at (734) 416-1395

### PLYMOUTH - Lg. clean 1 bdrm.

includes heat & water, utilities on-site, security, deposit w/gvd. \$575. 248-446-2021

### PLYMOUTH Old Village, 1 bedroom, hardwood floors,

ceiling fan, breakfast bar, ceramic bath, cable ready, storage & laundry. Very clean & cute. \$155 weekly incl. utilities, 1 yr lease. 248-363-1199

### Novi Hillcrest Club

\*One Month FREE!  
1 Bedroom from \$665  
FREE RENT UNTIL 2-1-05  
Rent Starting At \$595  
FREE HEAT & WATER Newly Upgraded 1 & 2 Bedrooms  
Plymouth Manor Plymouth House Close to downtown Plymouth!  
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www.yorkcommunities.com  
Equal Housing Opportunity

### PLYMOUTHURGE Downtown

1 bdrm, c/a, residential side street, \$595/mo. small pets ok. Call (734) 429-9815

### PLYMOUTH SQUARE APTS.

50% OFF  
FIRST 3 MONTHS RENT  
1 & 2 bedroom, central air, pool. From \$580.  
734-455-6570

### PLYMOUTH-1 bed, \$550/mo.

+ sec. dep; plus \$25/mo for pets. Water/gas/heat incl. Near downtown. 734-453-2990

### PLYMOUTH Spacious 1 bdrm

Villa Apts. 13 x 18 living room. Quiet courtyard. Heat & water incl., all appliances. \$630/mo 1 yr lease. Non-smoking. Cable ready. 734-453-0885

### REDFORD - 24715 5 MILE

1 bdrm \$535; 2 bdrm \$650, + Deposit. Quiet, clean, appliances, heat, water No pets. Also 2 bdrm, 1 bath \$655/110. incl. water CIA, secured entrances, park-like setting. Near Joy/Inkster. (313) 937-3319. EHO. www.comorantco.com

### REDFORD - COZY COMPLEX

1/2 OFF 1ST MONTH'S RENT  
2 bed, 1.5 bath, \$685/mo. Also 2 bdrm, 1 bath \$655/110. incl. water CIA, secured entrances, park-like setting. Near Joy/Inkster. (313) 937-3319. EHO. www.comorantco.com

### ROYAL OAK - Between 12 & 13 Mile, off Coolidge.

1 bedroom apt., newly redecorated, carpet. \$540/mo. Heat & water included. (248) 488-2251.

### Southfield COUNTRYCORNER

Huge Apartments & Town Homes  
1, 2, & 3 Bedroom  
From \$800  
Ask About our Specials  
• Heat, water, carport included  
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• hose to Birmingham, Shopping, and Freeways  
248-647-6100  
Let us fax you our brochure  
EHO

### Troy Apts.

Reg. Starting at \$740  
**NOW \$569**  
Call for details

### SUNNYMEDE APTS.

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(248) 362-0290

### WALLED LAKE 1 bdrm apt. Lg.

900 sqft. All kitchen appliances. Lake privileges. Arnie parking. \$600. (734) 737-9962

### WAYNE 1 & 2 bedroom apt.

\$500 & \$550/mo. FIRST MONTH FREE. (734) 728-7865

### WAYNE - ATTRACTIVE BEDROOM APT.

\$395/mo. Best area of Wayne. All utilities 248-879-6540

### WAYNE 1 bed apt. 1st floor,

quiet area, appliances, available now \$365/month Call after 6pm, 248-437-7213

### WESTLAND EHO GREAT HOLIDAY SPECIALS

Call For Details  
FOUNTAIN PARK  
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• Private Entrance  
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### Westland Hawthorne Club

"Winter Wonderland"  
1 Bedroom  
**\$540**  
And 1 Month Free  
INCLUDES FREE HEAT  
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www.cmpproperties.net

### Westland Huntingdon on the Hill

from **\$605**  
Plus  
\*1 MONTH FREE!  
(866) 395-0746  
www.cmpproperties.net  
\*2 Bedrooms Only

### Westland "WOW" \$199 total move-in!

No fine print in this ad!  
• Heat/Water included.  
• \$25.00 Application Fee  
New Resident's Only  
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### Westland Park Apts.

FREE RENT 1st Month Free  
2nd Month \$350.  
2 Bedroom, 1.5 bath (936 sq. ft.)  
1 Bedroom (700 sq. ft.)  
Rents from \$575  
Security Deposit \$200  
(New residents only with approved credit & 1 year lease)  
Neely & Bhatnagar Architects  
Central air, intercom, Appliances included  
No pets.  
(734) 729-6636

### WESTLAND PLAZA

Spacious 1 & 2 Bed Apts  
Mon-Fri 9-5 & Sat 1-5  
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### WESTERN HILLS APTS

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Mon-Fri 8-6pm, Sat. 12-4  
\*CONDITIONS APPLY

### WESTLAND CAPRI WINTER SPECIAL

FIRST MONTH RENT FREE  
California Style Apts.  
• 1 bedroom from \$565  
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• Fully carpeted  
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Larger Apartments  
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### Westland Park Apts.

FREE RENT 1st Month Free  
2nd Month \$350.  
2 Bedroom, 1.5 bath (936 sq. ft.)  
1 Bedroom (700 sq. ft.)  
Rents from \$575  
Security Deposit \$200  
(New residents only with approved credit & 1 year lease)  
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### WESTLAND PLAZA

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\*CONDITIONS APPLY

### FARMINGTON HILLS - Park Motel.

Furnished rooms, efficiency & apts from \$150/week. No deposit. 248-474-1324

### Plymouth City: 1 bdrm furnished apt.

includes all utilities, 6 mo. lease or longer. \$525/mo. plus deposit. 734-434-6686

### BIRMINGHAM 1 Townhome FOR LEASE

2500 sq. ft. 2 bed + large loft  
2.5 bath. Stainless kitchen, 2 car \$2100. (248) 705-1888

### BIRMINGHAM 1 Bdrm near town.

\$675/mo. Carport, heat, water, air, appliances included. Immediate occupancy! 248-855-9655 ShareNet Realty 248-642-1620

### BIRMINGHAM - DOWNTOWN

2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, hardwood floors, full bsmt, washer/dryer, a/c, covered parking, no pets. \$1000. (313) 277-2597

### BIRMINGHAM CONDO

On N. Adams, near shopping, 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, appliances, \$875/mo. (313) 277-2597

This Classification continues in Section G

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### Westland

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Take advantage of one of these great specials today!

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### Cedar Lake Apartments in Northville

Located on 6 Mile between Haggerty and Northville Roads, 2 miles west of I-275

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- Pet Friendly
- Full Size Wash Entry
- Private and pricing info!

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Canton Twp. 586-286-6000  
Fraser 586-294-3665  
Sterling Heights 586-939-2800  
West Bloomfield 248-626-8800

**PLYMOUTH Spacious Colonial**  
\$348,900  
Four bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with hardwood floors, high ceilings on main floor, crown molding in great room, high ceilings on main floor, crown molding in great room, high ceilings on main floor, crown molding in great room. Updated bath, fireplace in great room, door to patio.



**TAIYOR Updated Taylor Ranch**  
\$177,900  
You'll love coming home to this beauty. 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath with first floor master bedroom & first floor laundry. Fireplace in living room, two car garage & hill basement. Finished rear porch. Large yard with pro landscaping.



**COMMERCHE Lovely Home**  
\$300,000  
Three bedroom colonial with all the updates including: roof, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding. Large yard with deck and garden pond.



**WEST BLOOMFIELD Morris Lake Value**  
\$469,900  
West Bloomfield schools. Minutes from the convenience of Orchard Lake road & finished basement. Brick paver driveway & attached garage & finished basement. Brick paver driveway & attached garage & finished basement. Brick paver driveway & attached garage & finished basement.



**LIVONIA A Rare Find - Hidden Pines**  
\$319,900  
Absolutely fabulous! Need we say more about this 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with hardwood floors, high ceilings on main floor, crown molding in great room, high ceilings on main floor, crown molding in great room. Updated bath, fireplace in great room, door to patio.



**WESTLAND Stretch Your \$\$\$**  
\$139,900  
Charming 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath brick ranch with 2 car garage. Updated bath, hardwood floors in most rooms and home warranty.



**LYONS Location Location!**  
\$244,900  
Lovely 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial looking to large & acre picture perfect Colonial with all the updates including: roof, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding.



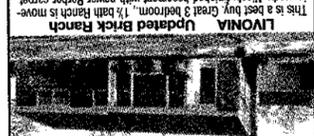
**CANTON A True Gem**  
\$249,900  
Gorgeous fenced yard with deck and garden pond. Picture perfect Colonial with all the updates including: roof, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding.



**NORTHVILLE Northville Condo**  
\$499,900  
Equipped masterpiece best describes this Tuscan-inspired condo. History kitchen offers Sub-Zero refrigerator, Viking cook top, custom marble floor & back splash, custom lighting & finished lower level, awesome.



**LIVONIA Updated Brick Ranch**  
\$194,900  
This is a best buy Great 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath ranch is move-in ready. Nicely finished basement with newer better carpet, overhead yard & pool. Three car garage & finished rear deck. Home warranty included.



**WATERFORD Cute Appeal & Updates**  
\$159,900  
Last price in this beautiful 3 bedroom ranch home. Custom entry doors, newer roof, windows, doorways, kitchen, laundry room with granite counter top, extensive crown molding top to bottom & cathedral ceilings. Open kitchen overlooking great room, master suite with bath & french doors to patio, formal living room with grand staircase. All in one price!



**DEARBORN Own & Rent**  
\$185,000  
Spacious upper/lower apartment. Exterior has vinyl siding, finished basement, a lot of storage, 2 car garage and 2 private balconies. Great Dearborn location. Total of 3 bedrooms, nicely finished, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding.



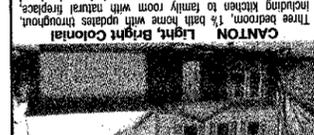
**NOVI Immaculate Colonial**  
\$329,900  
Four bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with updated kitchen & brick fireplace, granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding. Large yard with deck and garden pond.



**NORTHVILLE Links of Northville Condo**  
\$398,500  
Beautifully maintained 2 bedroom, 2 car garage, full basement with granite, clean & neutral. Ready for quick occupancy. Upgrade & extra throughout. Pool & club house.



**CANTON Light Bright Colonial**  
\$209,900  
Three bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home with updates throughout, including kitchen with natural fireplace, windows, garage, 2 car garage, rec room in lower level and patio & deck for entertaining.



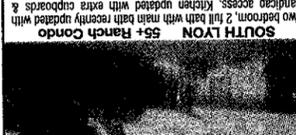
**MILFORD Nothing To Do But Move In**  
\$329,900  
This 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with 2 car attached garage, overlooking great room, master suite with bath & french doors to patio, formal living room with grand staircase. All in one price!



**SOUTH LYON Awesome Find!**  
\$339,900  
Formous 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath ranch built in 2001 offers 3 car garage, central air conditioning, granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding. Large yard with deck and garden pond.



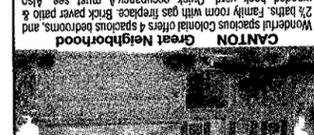
**SOUTH LYON 55+ Ranch Condo**  
\$155,000  
Two bedroom, full bath with main bath recently updated with granite, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding. Large yard with deck and garden pond.



**NORTHVILLE Not Too Many Left!**  
\$265,000  
Historical district opportunity. Neighborhood offers 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, family room with gas fireplace, brick paver patio & deck. Home warranty included.



**CANTON Great Neighborhood**  
\$299,900  
Wonderful spacious colonial offers 4 spacious bedrooms, and 2 1/2 baths. Family room with gas fireplace, brick paver patio & deck. Home warranty included.



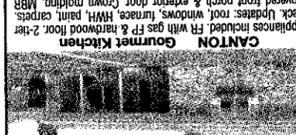
**CANTON Custom Built Home in 2005**  
\$955,000  
New construction on approx. 1/2 acre lot, 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, formal dining room & library, open kitchen overlooking great room, master suite with bath & french doors to patio, formal living room with grand staircase. All in one price!



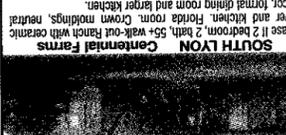
**CANTON Exceptional Colonial**  
\$316,900  
Charming 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial with 2 1/2 car attached garage, full basement, family room with fireplace & walled garden, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding.



**CANTON Gourmet Kitchen**  
\$220,000  
Appliances included: FR with gas FT & hardwood floor, 2-tier island, granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding. Large yard with deck and garden pond.



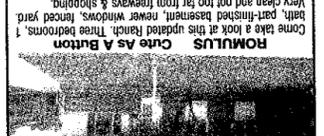
**SOUTH LYON Colonial Charm**  
\$160,000  
Phase 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 55+ walk-out ranch with granite, full kitchen, formal dining room and larger kitchen, deck, porch, formal dining room, crown molding, neutral paint, new carpet & windows throughout. Two new windows, garage, 2 car garage, rec room in lower level and patio & deck for entertaining.



**NORTHVILLE Salsbox Colonial**  
\$299,900  
Four bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with 2 1/2 car garage, formal DR, LR, dining room & library, open kitchen overlooking great room, master suite with bath & french doors to patio, formal living room with grand staircase. All in one price!



**ROMULUS Cute as a Button**  
\$137,900  
Come take a look at this updated ranch. Three bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath, part-finished basement, newer windows, fenced yard, very clean and not too far from freeways & shopping.



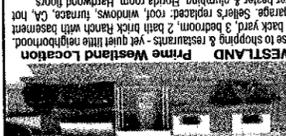
**CANTON Charming Updated Ranch**  
\$194,900  
Three bedroom, 1 1/2 bath offering 2 car garage, partially finished basement, newer kitchen cabinets & flooring, windows, furnace & central air. Family room with cathedral ceilings & neutral paint.



**GARREN CITY New Detached Condo**  
\$187,400  
Detachable garage, daylight window in basement, brick/plywood exterior, large windows, granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding. Large yard with deck and garden pond.



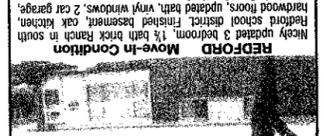
**WESTLAND Prime Westland Location**  
\$159,900  
Close to shopping & restaurants - 1/4 mile from shopping & restaurants, close to shopping & restaurants. Large lot, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, full basement, granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding.



**NORTHVILLE Northville Colonial**  
\$289,000  
Updated 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home on beautiful tree lot. Fresh paint, new carpet & windows throughout. Two new windows, garage, 2 car garage, rec room in lower level and patio & deck for entertaining. Home warranty included.



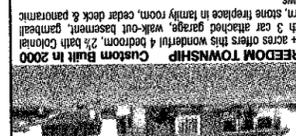
**REDFORD Move-in Condition**  
\$136,500  
Nicely updated 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath brick ranch in southfield school district. Finished basement, oak kitchen, hardwood floors, updated bath, vinyl windows, 2 car garage, nice deck, great location!



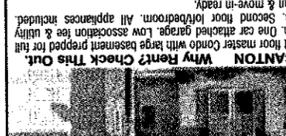
**CANTON You Can Have It All!**  
\$215,000  
Charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch offers family room with full brick fireplace, 2 car attached garage, finished basement, hardwood floors, updated bath & newer roof. Windows & updated patio door, hot water heater.



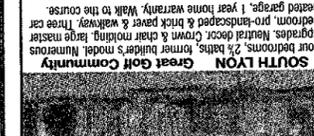
**FREEDOM TOWNSHIP Custom Built in 2000**  
\$439,900  
2 1/2 acres offers this wonderful 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial with 3 car attached garage, walk-out basement, granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding. Large yard with deck and garden pond.



**CANTON Why Rent? Check This Out!**  
\$144,800  
First floor master bedroom with large bathroom, prepared for all your needs. One car attached garage. Low association fee & utility. Big back yard, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath brick ranch with basement, deck, porch, formal dining room, crown molding, neutral paint, new carpet & windows throughout. Two new windows, garage, 2 car garage, rec room in lower level and patio & deck for entertaining.



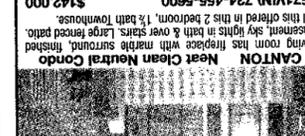
**SOUTH LYON Great Golf Community**  
\$499,000  
Bedroom, pro-designed & brick paver & walkway. Three car garage, 2 car garage, rec room in lower level and patio & deck for entertaining. Home warranty included.



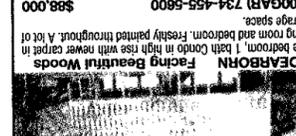
**PLYMOUTH Perfection Plus**  
\$489,000  
Premium lot with perfect plan, four bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, finished basement, granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding. Large yard with deck and garden pond.



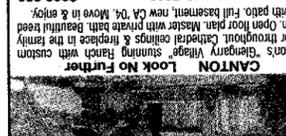
**CANTON Neat Clean Neutral Condo**  
\$142,000  
Living room has fireplace with marble surround, finished basement, vinyl floors in bath & stairs. Large fenced yard. All finished in this 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath townhouse.



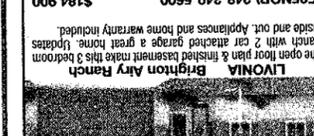
**DEARBORN Fencing Backyard Woods**  
\$88,000  
One bedroom, 1 bath condo in high rise with newer carpet, vinyl, stone fireplace in family room, cedar deck & panoramic view. Some fireplace in family room, cedar deck & panoramic view. Some fireplace in family room, cedar deck & panoramic view.



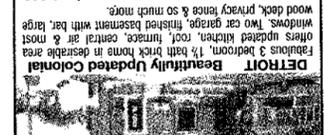
**CANTON Look No Further**  
\$329,900  
Canton's "Glenway Village" stunning ranch with custom decor throughout. Cathedral ceilings & fireplace in the heady room. Open floor plan. Master with private bath. Beautifully landscaped yard, full basement, new CA, Move in & enjoy.



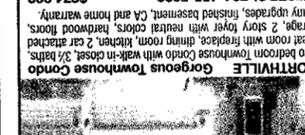
**LIVONIA Brighton Airy Ranch**  
\$184,900  
The open floor plan & finished basement make this 3 bedroom ranch with 2 car attached garage a great home. Updates include: new carpet, windows, crown molding, granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding. Large yard with deck and garden pond.



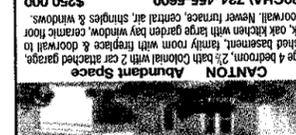
**DETROIT Beautifully Updated Colonial**  
\$179,900  
Finished 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath brick home in desirable area. Others updated kitchen, roof, furnace, central air & most windows. Two car garage, finished basement with bar, large wood deck, privacy fence & so much more.



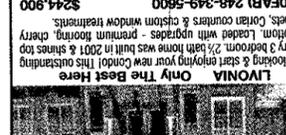
**NORTHVILLE Gorgeous Townhouse Condo**  
\$274,900  
Two bedroom townhouse condo with walk-in closet, 3 1/2 baths, with full brick fireplace, 2 car attached garage, finished basement, hardwood floors, updated bath & newer roof. Windows & updated patio door, hot water heater.



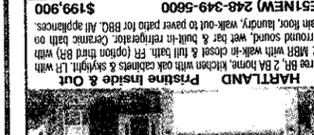
**CANTON Abundant Space**  
\$250,000  
Large 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial with 2 car attached garage, finished basement, granite counter top, extensive crown molding, kitchen with granite counter top, extensive crown molding. Large yard with deck and garden pond.



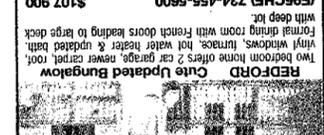
**LIVONIA Only The Best Here**  
\$244,900  
Stop looking & start enjoying your new condo! This outstanding 2 story 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home was built in 2001 & shows top to bottom. Labeled with upgrades - premium flooring, cherry cabinets, custom counters & custom window treatments.



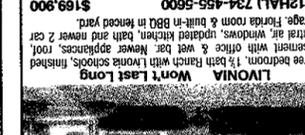
**HARTLAND Pristine Inside & Out**  
\$199,900  
EP 1885 with walk-in closet & full bath. FR (open third BR) with fireplace, finished basement with FF & barns sold by its original owner. Come experience the new recreation center & approx. 1.342 acres of park land including 46 developed parks.



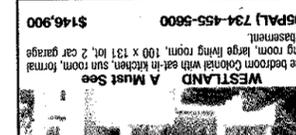
**REDFORD Cute Updated Bungalow**  
\$107,900  
Two bedroom home offers 2 car garage, newer carpet, roof, vinyl windows, furnace, hot water heater & updated bath. Formal dining room with french doors leading to large deck with deep lot.



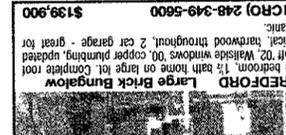
**LIVONIA Won't Last Long**  
\$189,900  
Three bedroom, 1 1/2 bath ranch with 1.5 acre lot, finished basement with office & wet bar. Newer appliances, roof, vinyl windows, furnace, hot water heater & updated bath. Formal dining room with french doors leading to large deck with deep lot.



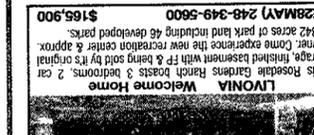
**WESTLAND A Must See**  
\$146,900  
Three bedroom colonial with sea-in kitchen, sun room, formal dining room, large living room, 100 x 131 lot, 2 car garage & finished rear porch. Large yard with deck and garden pond.



**REDFORD Large Brick Bungalow**  
\$139,900  
Three bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home on large lot. Complete roof re-roof, 2 1/2 car garage, updated kitchen, bath and newer 2 car garage, 2 car garage, rec room in lower level and patio & deck for entertaining. Home warranty included.



**LIVONIA Welcome Home**  
\$166,900  
This 2 1/2 bath home, kitchen with oak cabinets & skylight. LR with fireplace, finished basement with FF & barns sold by its original owner. Come experience the new recreation center & approx. 1.342 acres of park land including 46 developed parks.



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#### NORTHVILLE

**NORTHVILLE GOLF COMM.** Sophisticated 4 BR, 3.5 bath home w/ an elegant floor plan & many custom upgrades thru-out. A kitchen perfect for entertaining and so much more. 349-6200. 24102783 **\$800,000**

248-348-6430

#### NORTHVILLE

**QUALITY WORKMANSHIP\*NEW CONSTRUCTION** Beautiful Stonewater colonial w/4 BRs, 3.5 bath & 3550 SF of custom details! Brazilian cherry flrs in granite kitchen. Circular staircase. W/O bsmt & more! 349-6200 24128568 **\$699,900**

248-348-6430

#### NOVI

**A "HOUSE BEAUTIFUL" DESIGN** Magnificent home, elegant LR, DR, gorgeous kitchen & brkfst area w/great views of the woods, library, spacious FR, 4 lrg BRs, charming mstr suite. A remarkable palace!! 349-6200 57HIL2 **\$599,900**

248-348-6430

#### CANTON

**TANTALIZING TOTTENHAM!** 4 BRs, 2.5 BAs, 2983 SF. Hampton model. Lndscp, sprinkler, paver patio. Huge mstr ste & BA. Quick close. 23G2588 **\$394,999**

734-455-7000

#### NORTHVILLE

**STEP INTO THE GARDEN** Charming ranch has moved the garden indoors. 3 BRs, 3 baths w/recently renovated kitchen & hardwood floors. Skylights to enlighten the spirit. 349-6200 24091943 **\$365,000**

248-348-6430

#### PLYMOUTH

**RICH W/ HISTORY & LOADED W/CHARM!** A rare & unique blend of early century character & "new construction" amenities. Ext remodeled. Custom trim work, cherry hwd flrs. 2 full baths, 1st flr office/den. 23P40810 **\$339,900**

734-455-7000

#### LIVONIA

**NEW CONSTRUCTION** w/Livonia schools. This 4 BR, 2.5 BA colonial has 2144 SF, bsmt & 2 car/gar. Ceramic tile in BAs, oak cabs & flr in kitchen, nook, 1/2 BA & foyer. Curtis Creek, an 11 hm development. 24004538 **\$324,900**

734-591-9200

#### LIVONIA

**LOCATION, QUALITY VALUE & CHARM** 3 BR brk ranch, built 1988, 2.5 BA, FR w/fplc, full bsmt, 2 car att gar, a secluded setting w/mature trees (approx 3/4 acre). 24112385 **\$314,900**

734-591-9200

#### WHITMORE LAKE

**BEAUTIFUL BUILDER'S MODEL** Backs to golf course. Quiet country living. Many upgrades in this open flr plan. Cstm wall coverings & wndw trtmnts. Fully lndscpd, inclds irrigation system. 23T7995 **\$298,500**

734-455-7000

#### LIVONIA

**POPULAR BURTON HOLLOW SUB.** 4 BRs, 2 BAs, 2133 SF. Open flr plan w/vaulted cigs in LR, DR & kitchen. New roof (04), wndw & DR. Fla rm overlooking lndscp & fenced yrd. 24142312 **\$269,000**

734-591-9200

#### FARMINGTON HILLS

**LIVE IN THE CITY W/A COUNTRY FEEL** Totally rebuilt in '98. Extra wide oak staircase, 1st flr MBR and bath, 10x10 ceramic & oak kitchen. Deep 70 x 292 lot backs to woods & Gill schools. 348-6200 24124594 **\$254,000**

248-349-6200

#### CANTON

**WELL MAINTAINED CANTON HOME** 4 BR, 3 full bath home. Beautiful kitchen redone in '99. Fam rm w/fireplace. Freshly painted, neutral. Lots of landscaping updates. Roof replaced in '01. 349-6200 24151331 **\$244,900**

248-348-6430

#### CANTON

**OUTSTANDING SPACIOUS COLONIAL!** 3 BR, 1.5 bath colonial w/numerous updates. Basement 90% finished w/new ceramic shower. Beautiful exterior & interior. One show will sell! 24125659 **\$234,900**

734-455-7000

#### ALLEN PARK

**SPACIOUS COLONIAL!** Lovely hm totally renovated & expanded in '92! Over 2900 SF! LR area & FRI Multiple BR suites perfect for guests or extended family! 349-6200 24079621 **\$239,000**

248-348-6430

#### CANTON

**PICTURE PERFECT COLONIAL!** Three BR colonial built in 1998. Clean, neutral decor. Family room, fireplace, mstr BA. A great home and fantastic value. 24123327 **\$235,000**

734-455-7000

#### CANTON

**ORIGINAL OWNERS!** 2081 SF, 4 BR cstm quad w/gourmet oak kit w/eat-on island, roof 00, wndws 03, crpt 02, mstr suite w/FP & jacuzzi. Skylgt, pool, patio & deck. 24115974 **\$229,900**

734-591-9200

#### LIVONIA

**4 BR, 2.5 BA IN LIVONIA!** 2 car att gar. Newer roof, furnace, HWH, wndws & more. Just hit the market! Fin bsmt, fam rm w/natural FP & wet bar. Quick occupancy too. 24113515 **\$229,900**

734-591-9200

#### CANTON

**GREAT STARTER HOME!** 3 BR, 1.5 bath. Upgrades in the last six years incld roof, furnace, A/C, kitchen, carpet, wndws, doorwall, BA, etc, etc. Bonus - oversized garage. 23L41617 **\$219,000**

734-455-7000

#### CANTON

**3 BR CONDO** Better-than-new 3 BR, 2.5 bath w/2-car gar & full bsmt. Open design w/fplc & deck that backs to commons. Clean & ready to move in! Great price. Quick occup. 349-6200 24156050 **\$217,000**

248-348-6430

#### DEARBORN HEIGHTS

**NORTH DEARBORN HTS CONDO** w/2 lrg BRs plus a 13x10 loft, 2.5 BAs, vaulted ceiling in GR, fin bsmt, 2 car att gar, and very low association fee. Very striking decor. 24056714 **\$214,900**

734-591-9200

#### WESTLAND

**SHOWS LIKE A MODEL** Absolutely exquisite! 2,000 SF, 2 1/2 baths, living room, deck, 2 car attached garage. C704 **\$214,900**

734-326-2000

#### FARMINGTON HILLS

**CONDO LIVING AT ITS BEST** Beautiful 2 story unit backing woods. Freshly painted neutral, Pergo flrs, maple kitchen cabs. Fireplace & soaring ceiling in great room. Full bsmt. 349-6200 24141317 **\$210,000**

248-348-6430

#### WHITMORE LAKE

**EAGLE GARDENS - GREAT OPPORTUNITY** Take advantage of this mint condition home. 3 BR, 1.5 baths, doorwall leads to lrg deck w/hot tub. Nicely fin bsmt adds add'l living space. Stove and refrigerator stay. 349-6200 24127401 **\$209,900**

248-348-6430

#### NORTHVILLE

**WALK TO DOWNTOWN** Updates in 1994, FR addition. Kit w/white cab, all appliances, hardwood floors, roof in 94 plus furnace/ca, siding, 2 sheds, a great buy. 349-6200 24130106 **\$199,900**

248-348-6430

#### CANTON

**GREAT CANTON RANCH IN FELLOWS CREEK SUB!** Cul-de-sac location! 3 BRs, 1.5 baths! Kit updated w/oak cabinets, solid surface counters. Full unfin bsmt. Great deck off FR. Brick/vinyl exterior! 349-6200 24139909 **\$194,900**

248-348-6430

#### DEARBORN

**DUPLEX IN DEARBORN** Live in one side, rent the other. Offering a 2 car gar for both sides, bsmt, 2 BRs up & lots of character. One side offers C/A. Well cared for brick bldg w/updates. 23F4571 **\$192,000**

734-455-7000

#### LIVONIA

**WELL MAINTAINED BRICK RANCH** 3 BRs. Great location. New roof and garage door. Doorwall to patio off of family room with fireplace. All appliances stay. Nice landscaping with fenced yrd. 24094217 **\$185,900**

734-591-9200

#### LIVONIA

**A MUST SEE!** 3 BR, 1.5 BA brick ranch in Rosedale Gardens. Updates: A/C 04, re-fin hwd flrs, lndscp in frnt & back, prvcy fence, copper plmb. Fin bsmt w/glass block windows. 24151396 **\$184,900**

734-591-9200

#### LIVONIA

**WELL MAINTAINED, NEWER RANCH** Extra lrg country setting backs to woods. 3 BRs, 2 BAs. Lrg deck w/hot tub, great for entertaining. Kit remodeled in 2004. Hurry!! This gem won't last long. 349-6200. 24142314 **\$179,900**

248-348-6430

#### DEARBORN

**VINTAGE 1,421 SF BRK BUNGALOW** with 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths near Oakwood Hospital. Nicely appointed upgrades include finished basement. 24137797 **\$179,900**

734-591-9200

#### SOUTH LYON

**COUNTRY LIVING IN THE CITY** For Sale or lease. Nicely updated 3 BR, 2 BA ranch. Lrg kit, mstr w/jet tub. LR w/hwd flrs, lrg 2 car gar. Walking distance to S.Lyon. Lease \$1150/month 349-6200 24085323 **\$177,900**

248-348-6430

#### LIVONIA

**LIVONIA / STEPHENSON DISTRICT** Updated 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath ranch w/beautiful bay window. In desirable Spring Valley Sub. Newer roof, windows, A/C, vinyl and furnace. Partially finished Bsmt. 349-6200 24076943 **\$172,000**

248-348-6430

#### DEARBORN HEIGHTS

**NEW CONSTRUCTION** Here is a great opportunity to make this brand new house your home. Quality built new construction w/3 BR, 1.5 BA, 1350 SF, bsmt, 2 car att gar. Visit Samsellshouses.com 24124861 **\$169,900**

734-591-9200

#### EASTPOINTE

**EASTPOINTE 3 BR, 3 BA, 2.5 car detached garage, brick home.** New bay wndws, new HWH, CA, fin bsmt, Florida rm. 23L16144 **\$160,000**

734-455-7000

#### GARDEN CITY

**COMPLETELY UPDATED HOME** A beautiful kitchen & priv elegant mstr ste are just two of the updates in this mint condition 3 BR, 3 BA bungalow. Come see all the others! Walk to elem & high school. 348-6430 24131460 **\$159,900**

248-349-6200

#### DEARBORN HEIGHTS

**STOP YOUR SEARCH!** This home is a sparkling gem you must see. 3 BRs, 1.5 BAs, w/walk-out bsmt, new furn, C/A, newer crpt, flr, drwry, wndws, eat-in kitchen & DR. 24115068 **\$154,900**

734-591-9200

#### DEARBORN HEIGHTS

**GREAT CURB APPEAL** On this broadfront brick ranch. Newer roof, windows, 2 1/2 car mechanic's size garage and secluded street complete the picture. 24139439 **\$154,900**

734-591-9200

#### DEARBORN HEIGHTS

**CHARACTER GALORE** WITH 4 BR, 2.5 BA What a great value. New windows, copper plumbing, vinyl siding & gutters, finished bsmt, hwd flrs, 2 car garage and great neighborhood. 349-6200 24143101 **\$149,900**

248-348-6430

#### GARDEN CITY

**LOTS OF UPDATES** This 3 BR ranch has just what you're looking for. Updated kitchen with ceramic floor, newer carpet, newer furnace and new windows. A270 **\$145,000**

734-326-2000

#### REDFORD

**ATTRACTIVE 1 1/2 STRY BUNGALOW** 1100 SF, 3 BRs, 1.5 BAs, bsmt & gar. Updates incld: roof, furn, kit cabs & counters, electrical. Heated garage is a handyman's woodwork dream. Lndscp & fenced yrd. 24150285 **\$145,000**

734-591-9200

#### DEARBORN HEIGHTS

**3 BR/2 BA UPDATED RANCH. MOVE RIGHT IN!** Newer bathroom, \$6,000 in new windows, perfect hwd flrs. Kitchen & bath in basement, investment potential! All appliances stay. 349-6200. 24133637 **\$144,900**

248-348-6430

#### DEARBORN HEIGHTS

**HAWTHORNE HILLS SUB** 3 BRs, 1.5 BAs, finished bsmt, 10x14 Florida rm, 2 car side entry garage. All new items: roof, wndws, furnace w/AC, hwh, kit, all appliances stay. 23113275 PC070182 **\$142,900**

734-591-9200

#### LIVONIA

**READY FOR YOU TO MOVE IN** 1,152 SF, 3 bedroom, brick ranch located in South Livonia (schools), newer tile bath and 2 car garage. 24138583 **\$140,000**

734-591-9200

#### WESTLAND

**AFFORDABLE CONDO** 2 lrg BRs, bsmt, attached gar, 1.5 BA. Very large living room, extra space for that computer. A lot of new amenities & a great location. 23C7502 **\$135,502**

734-455-7000

#### REDFORD

**THE BEST IN THE SUB!** 1470 SF, 3 BR/1 bath. Totally remodeled kit, bath, newer roof (house & garage). Fin'd bsmt. Newer windows, hwd flrs. 4-seasons sunroom w/heater & a/c. 349-6200 24146334 **\$134,990**

248-348-6430

#### ROMULUS

**COUNTRY LIVING IN THE CITY** 3 BR, 2 BA ranch with lots of features: master bedroom with jetted tub, dining room, 1st floor laundry, 108x120 lot, 2 car garage. Must see. F160 PC220532 **\$129,900**

734-326-2000

#### NOVI

**OPPORTUNITY KNOCKING!** 2 BR condo w/bsmt, 1.5 BA, Novi schools. Seller offering concessions to buyer. Immediate occupancy. Small family room leads to private patio. 23O24643 **\$129,643**

734-455-7000

#### DEARBORN HEIGHTS

**UPDATED RANCH** Well cared for 3 BR, 1.5 bath home w/natural fplc. Newer roof, gutters, bath, oak kit cab. Refin hwd flrs, fin bsmt w/lav. 2.5 car gar & fncd yd. 349-6200 24155688 **\$124,900**

248-348-6430

#### TAYLOR

**EASY LIVING RANCH CONDO** Quiet, private setting for this well maintained 2 BR ranch unit. Spacious lower level family room. Exceptionally clean, neutral decor. Lovely patio. 23K22231 **\$124,000**

734-455-7000

#### BELLEVILLE

**END UNIT FRESHLY PAINTED,** window treatment incld & all appliances. Kitchen w/oak cabinets, lrg master suite w/WIC, covered patio & near Belleville Lake. Quick xway access. 24132779 **\$123,900**

734-591-9200

#### DEARBORN HEIGHTS

**3 BR, 1.5 BA colonial.** Lrg LR, remodeled kit, newer furn-Air & H2O, updated wndws, updated elec. Nice loft-FR upstairs. 24148835 **\$119,900**

734-591-9200

#### WESTLAND

**TOTALLY UPDATED 3 BR** w/new vinyl siding & Livonia schools. Updates include: carpet, elec closet & BR doors, BA, new floor in kitchen & new roof. Great buy. C760 **\$117,900**

734-326-2000

#### LINCOLN PARK

**3 BR BUNGALOW** Full brk w/lrg MBR. All apps incld: 2 stoves, fridg, wshr, dryer, freezer & microwave. Furniture is negot. M177 **\$116,900**

734-326-2000

#### REDFORD

**GREAT 3 BR HOME** w/fin bsmt & nice open floor plan. Updates incld: furn & Air, wndws, updt kit, extra insulation & built-in china cab off kit. 24137145 **\$116,000**

734-591-9200

#### REDFORD

**TOTALLY REMODELED** Looks like brand new. This bungalow has an all new interior: firing, kit, BA & paint. Newer roof, furn & wndws too. 24122259 **\$114,900**

734-591-9200

#### INKSTER

**UPDATES GALORE!** This 3 BR brick home w/fin bsmt & 1 1/2 car garage features newer roof, windows, furn & C/A, plumbing, circuit breakers & more. Clean & bright! A620 **\$112,000**

734-326-2000

#### REDFORD

**UPDATES! UPDATES! SO MUCH FOR SO LITTLE!** Newer kitchen, bath, c/a, furnace, roof, windows, HWH, copper plumbing & fresh paint. Computer rml/den on first floor. The perfect turn-key starter home! 349-6200. 24139198 **\$109,900**

# Observer & Eccentric

# Apartment

# Jobs and Careers

### Condos/Townhouses 4020

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS** 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Renovated, lake front, heat, carpet, 995/mo. 248-891-1919/248-891-4203

**Canton** - Clean with updates. 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, condo. Sheldon & Warren. \$850/mo. Credit check. 734-459-7289

### CLAWSON Luxury Townhouse

447 N. Rochester Road, 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath luxury townhouse with fireplace, air, full basement with hookups and we Absolutely Adore Pets! \$820. (248) 354-9119, Ext. 206

### CLAWSON Luxury Townhouse

526 Fourteen Mile Road, 2 bedroom townhouse with fireplace, central air, hook-ups for washer & dryer, and we Absolutely Adore Pets! \$790. (248) 354-9119, Ext. 206

### CLAWSON-841 Broadacre

North of 14 Mile, East off Crooks. Spacious 2 bed., 1.5 bath townhome features pretty updated kitchen with hardwood floor, full basement, private entrance, cute yard, carpet. Minutes to Somerset, downtown Birmingham. \$865 with any days in December rent free! One cat OK with fee. EHO. Call weekdays for appointment. The Benicheck Group (248)642-8686

### COMMERCIAL Brand new 2 bdr.

both master suites, 2.5 bath, 2 car attached, fireplace, private patio & entrance, appliances. \$1,200/mo. (248) 212-4555

### FARMINGTON 1 bdrm condo,

heat & water included. Close to downtown. \$650. No pets or smoking. (248) 474-4565.

### FARMINGTON HILLS

1600 sq. ft. 2 bedroom, 3 bath, finished bsmt. no pets. \$2000/mo. \$3000 security. 248-477-0189, 248-489-3938

### Farmington Hills FREE RENT

2 & 3 BEDROOM TOWNHOUSES

- +1400-1600 sq. ft.
- Central Air
- Full Size Washer/Dryer
- Sparkling Pool
- Covered Parking
- Short Term Leases
- From \$1,225
- Halsted between 11 & 12 Mile

### Foxpointe Townhouses

(248) 473-1127  
\*Conditions apply

### FARMINGTON HILLS DELUXE

1850 sqft, 2 bdr, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, c/a, 2 car garage. \$1395/mo. 248-544-2240

### Livonia: 2 bdrm, 2nd floor.

No pets, non-smoker preferred. \$650 includes heat/water. Available now. 734-634-5458

### NOVI Furnished Condo, 3 bdrm.

3 bdrm, 2 car garage, bsmt. Short term leases. For more information contact, 248-866-5963

### NOVI 2 BEDROOM attached

garage, rec room, all new, no pets 9 mile & Haggerty, Lake & pool privileges. \$1250/mo. (248) 932-3311

### Condos/Townhouses 4020

**NOVI/WALLED LAKE** Shore line condo's. 1 Bedroom. \$675. Immediate occupancy. Garage. Meadow Management Inc. 248-348-5400

### REDFORD - Plymouth Road

& Inkster Road area. Large 2 bedroom townhome, newly remodeled. Includes heat & water with appliances. \$750/mo. + security. Immed. occupancy. 248-388-2904

### ROYAL OAK - 2 bdrm updated

townhouse. New appliances. Bsmt. Woodward & 13 Mile. \$930+security. 248-540-3641

### ROYAL OAK

123 Amelia. Approximately 1550 sq. ft. + full basement. 2 huge bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, formal dining room, fireplace, central air, hookups for washer & dryer. Pets ARE welcome. \$1200/mo. (248) 354-9119, Ext. 206

### ROYAL OAK (North)

**Luxury Townhouse**  
2115 Starr Road. 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath luxury townhouse with fireplace, air, basement with hookups, we Love Pets. \$820. (248) 354-9119, Ext. 206

### ROYAL OAK

**Luxury Townhomes**  
2708 Rochester Road 3501 Kent Court 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath luxury townhouse with fireplace, air, full basement with hookups and we Absolutely Adore Pets! \$820. (248) 354-9119, ext 206

### SOUTH LYON Condo. Lovely

colonial townhouse, 2 br, new carpeting, newly decorated. Neutral colors. Full bsmt. Garage, deck. Non-smoking & ref. Avail. now. \$945/mo. + utilities. (248)652-0213

### West Bloomfield Huge new

townhome, 2 bdrm., 2.5 bath, fin. walkout bsmt, garage, fireplace \$1695. 248 661-6009

### WESTLAND - 3 bdrm condo.

Non smoking. Incl. appliances, carpeting, garage, pool. \$860/mo. 734-612-2792.

### WHITE LAKE 1600 sq. ft.

Townhouse, 2 bedrooms, 1.5 bath, \$800/mo. 248-790-3733 or 248-464-1921

### Wayne Large 2 bdrm, all

appliances. Great neighborhood, garage, air & full bsmt. w/storage. \$685. (734) 276-5363

### WAYNE: 1 bed, newly decorated.

c/a. New appliances & carpet. Deck, large yard, laundry room. \$575. 734-722-8590

### Westland - 2 bedroom. Full

basement. Clean & neat. Quiet neighborhood. Immediate occupancy. From \$645/mo. Call Jamie: 734-721-8111

### Flats 4040

**CLAWSON** - 1 bedroom, large kitchen, large backyard, front & rear entrance. Dogs ok. \$650/mo. 248-815-4791

### DEARBORN 3 bedroom, 900

sq. ft., family room, living room, private basement, new paint. \$750/mo. 734-462-4057

### FERNDALE Beautiful large 1

bdrm upper w/den in great area. Wood floors, C/A, laundry, garage, walk to downtown. A MUST SEE! \$695 & utilities. (248) 548-5946

### FERNDALE 3 bedroom + den

floor, updated, hardwood floors. Pets neg. \$895/mo. Great location! 248-854-3232

### Homes For Rent 4050

**BIRMINGHAM** 3 bdrm, C/A, fireplace, all appliances, bsmt & garage, \$1095. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 248-373-RENT

### BIRMINGHAM Residential Rentals

HOMES & APTS. For more info call: (248) 866-5963

### BIRMINGHAM - 3 Bdrm, new

designer kitchen & bath, finished bsmt, 2 car garage. \$1195/mo. ShareNet (248)642-1620

### BLOOMFIELD 4 bdrm brick, 2

car garage, Bloomfield schools \$1150. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 248-373-RENT

### CANTON 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath,

1800 sq. ft., finished bsmt, great neighborhood, \$1800. 734 981-5382 248-249-0698

### Canton IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY

4 Bdrm brick colonial, 1.5 baths, large kitchen w/ dining area, family w/ natural fireplace, newly decorated, new carpet, new roof, bsmt, C/A, 2000 sq.ft., attached garage, \$1,500/mo. + sec. Century 21 John Cole Realty (313) 937-0804

### CANTON: Several Homes

available starting at \$850 & up. Rent to Own or could be 0 down. 734-521-0240 Code #01

### Clarenceville schools 2

bdrm, all appliances, fireplace, garage, \$800. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 248-356-RENT

### DEARBORN spacious ranch,

bsmt, garage, \$750. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 734-513-RENT

### DEARBORN HTS. Open

House- Jan. 16, clean, nice neighborhood, 3 bdrm, 1 bath, appliances. \$790/mo. \$1100 deposit. (313) 303-0357

### DEARBORN HTS. Open Sat.

Jan 8th, 10-12pm. 3 bdrm, bsmt, garage, appliances. \$1095/mo. 248-231-0074

### DEARBORN HTS. Remodeled

3 bdrm ranch, garage, immediate occupancy, option to buy, \$700. 248-788-1823

### Detroit 14592 Dolphin, Fenkell

& Lasher Option to buy possible. 3 bedroom, Basement, \$500/month 248-476-6498

### Detroit 6872 Grandville,

Warren / Evergreen. Option possible. 3 bdrm, bsmt, garage, \$650. 248-476-6498

### FARMINGTON Clean 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath,

basement, 2.5 garage, fenced yard. \$1200/month + dep. 12 mo. lease discount! Call Tom 248-207-4537.

### FARMINGTON Tiny 1 bdrm.

house. Appliances, quiet, wooded area. Pet fee. \$305/mo. + utilities. (248) 357-1132.

### Homes For Rent 4050

**HOWELL** 4 Bdrm, 2.5 bath, 1st floor master, 2 car, 1 acre, walkout, built 1997. 1-96 @ D19 proximity. \$1550/mo. Jan Taylor 810-923-9083, 810-227-5005

### HOWELL TRIANGLE LAKE

Cozy 3 bdrm ranch, 2 bath, lakefront. Buy/Rent. \$1050 mo. with appliances. 517-546-7450, 520-818-9289

### INKSTER 2 bdrm, bsmt.,

Westwood Schools. Section 8. \$700/mo. plus security deposit. Immediate occupancy. 734-564-1810

### INKSTER remodeled ranch,

bsmt, new carpet, fenced, \$695. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 734-513-RENT

### INKSTER - Sharp 3 bedroom

ranch, immediate occupancy, 2.5 car garage. Option to buy avail. \$600. (248) 788-1823

### LEASE WITH OPTION

**REDFORD** - 3 Bdrm, 1000 sq.ft. 20411 Kinloch. \$900 **WARREN** - 3 Bdrm, 1000 sq.ft. 3860 Bart Ave. \$875 **DETROIT** - 4 Bdrm, 1400 sq.ft., 2 bath, fireplace 18610 Tiresman. \$825 **Rob: (248) 521-5706**

### LIVONIA 3 Bdrm, 2.5 bath

Colonial, finished bsmt, a/c, appliances. No smoking/pets. \$2000/mo. 248-478-6803

### LIVONIA - 3 bdrm, brick ranch,

3 bath, family room, fireplace, finished bsmt, garage. \$1200/mo. 248-478-0213

### LIVONIA 1 bdrm, person

house. "No pets" \$500 mo. \$700 deposit. Month to month lease. (734) 425-3695

### LIVONIA 3 bdrm, attached

garage, deck, appliances, \$850. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 734-513-RENT

### LIVONIA/ARCOLA 3 bdrm,

0 down, or rent to own. \$1000/mo. & others. No Section 8, FIA 313-362-0120

### LIVONIA/GREAT HOME

Good area. 3 bdrm. \$950/mo. Rent to own or 0 down. No Section 8, FIA. (313) 362-0120

### LIVONIA: 7 & Middlebelt

3 bedroom, 1/2 acre, appliances, full bsmt, 2 car garage. 734-207-5123

### MELVINDALE Cute 2 bedroom

ranch, immediate occupancy. Option to buy available. \$550. 248-788-1823

### NORTHVILLE Updated & very

clean, 2 bedroom, basement, garage, large lot. Near downtown. \$1175. 248-474-0927

### Novi - 3 bdrm, large

family room, living room, dining room, bsmt, garage & appliances \$1,500 or sale at \$230,000. 248-225-3600

### NOVI. 2 br., 2 bath, 2 car

garage, on 2 acres. All appliances. Backs to N. Novi Park. \$1,000/mo. 248-926-8990

### OAK PARK: 1435 NINE MILE

2 bdrm, finished room in bsmt, \$790/mo. (248) 569-0082

### Pleasant Ridge Cozy

3 bdrm. Wood floors, appliances. 696 & 175. (313) 884-3989.

### PLYMOUTH - Walk to

downtown. 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, fenced yard, all hardwood floors. \$1225/mo. 734-455-7295

### Homes For Rent 4050

**REDFORD 2 & 3 bdrm houses** - 11 available now, \$675-\$800. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 248-356-RENT

### Redford BAD CREDIT?

YOU CAN STILL BUY A HOME WITH 0 DOWN IN ANY AREA! Short term employment OK. Bankruptcy OK. Call Randy Lesson, METRO FINANCE 248-709-2244

### REDFORD TWP.

1 bdrm., \$495. 2 bdrm., \$695. 3 bdrm., \$955. Clean. Call Dave: (313) 255-5678

### ROYAL OAK - Charming 3

Bdrm bungalow in town, all appliances, bsmt. \$1175/mo. ShareNet (248) 642-1620

### ROYAL OAK - Sharp, Updated

3 Bdrm, wood floors, fireplace, finished basement. \$1250/mo. ShareNet (248) 642-1620

### ROYAL OAK - Very clean &

updated 3 Bdrm, washer/dryer, bsmt, near town. \$1075/mo. ShareNet (248) 642-1620

### SOUTH LYON

Lakefront Silver Lake, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, walk-out & garage. Immediate occupancy. \$1295. Meadow Management Inc. 248-348-5400

### SOUTHFIELD

Lease this completely remodeled 1600 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with 2 car garage on 2 lots for \$1250/mo. (248) 787-7300. Coldwell Banker Schweitzer 2685 Union Lake Rd.

### SOUTHFIELD remodeled 4

bdrm, 1800 sq. ft. pets negotiable, \$650. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 248-356-RENT

### SUPERIOR TWP. - Brand new

home, 2 car garage, 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 1800 sq.ft. \$1700/mo. (586) 481-3541

### SYLVAN LAKE Lakefront, 1

bdrm, approx. 1600 sq. ft. \$1800/mo. 248-521-1978

### TROY - Spacious 3 bdrm,

freshly painted, new carpet, fireplace, 2 car garage. \$1295/mo. ShareNet (248) 642-1620

### WALLED LAKE 2 bdrm, appli-

cances, large lot, pets welcome, \$700. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 248-356-RENT

### Waterford - Newer, 4

bdrm, 2 1/2 baths, bsmt, attached garage & available immediately! \$1,600/mo. or for sale at \$215,000. (248) 225-3600

### WAYNE - 2 bedrooms, base-

ment, garage, fenced yard, \$800/mo. 248-766-5607

### WAYNE

3 bdrm. Rent to Own or 0 down. \$700/mo. (734) 521-0240 Code #03

### WESTLAND 2 bdrm, 1 bath

duplex, A/C, full bsmt, new carpet, all appliances, no Sect. 8. \$750/mo. (734) 216-1206

### WESTLAND 3 bdrm, bsmt,

appliances, option to buy, \$750. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 734-513-RENT

### WESTLAND 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath,

c/a, finished bsmt, appliances, new carpet, painted, no pets. 1-275. \$925. (734) 591-9163

### WESTLAND Available now,

appliances, fenced yard, \$650. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 734-513-RENT

### Rooms For Rent 4140

**CANTON** - Near I-275. Non-smoking & non-drinking. Quiet room, male. \$295/mo. New. No lease. 734-394-1567

### GARDEN CITY

Sleeping room, furnished. No drinking. \$75 weekly, security. 734-731-2637, 734-427-2778

### REDFORD AREA

\$85 per week, shared utilities 313-534-0109

### REDFORD(West)-Large Room

Bath, clean, furnished, sleep. Cable. Security. Working Male. \$110/wk. Other availabilities. (313) 387-9884

### REDFORD-SOUTH BACHE-

LORS ROOM FOR RENT. 313-937-3716

### Office/Retail Space For

Rent/Lease 4220

### Birmingham Executive Suite

Starting at \$550. Call Victoria. (248) 203-2626

### FARMINGTON HILLS

Grand River & 10 Mile Retail Space 1300 - 4480 sq. ft. CERTIFIED REALTY INC. 248-471-7100

### FARMINGTON HILLS

Office Space Available 150 sq. ft. & up Several Locations Great Rates CERTIFIED REALTY, INC. (248) 471-7100

### Farmington



# Jobs and Careers

All Ads Run Online

FREE!

A Value Of Up To \$87.00

www.hometownlife.com

### Help Wanted-General 5000

**DRIVER**  
Growing Livonia based medical equipment company needs full-time driver. Please fax resume to Attn Chuck: (734) 522-9380

**DRIVER FLATED/TRANSPORT**  
No experience necessary, will train. Must have good driving record. Please fax resume to: (248) 684-8713

**DRIVER - TOW TRUCK**  
Will train. Full time, full benefits. Phil's 76 Service, Northville. Must be 21 or older. 248-349-2550.

**DRIVER CDL NEEDED**  
Must be flexible and willing to assist in other areas where required. Please fax resume to: 734-397-5909

**DRIVER**  
For Plymouth manufacturing company. Must be dependable and have current CDL. Great benefits. Apply in person at 14707 Keel St.

**DRIVER/WAREHOUSE**  
With chauffeur's license. Start \$9-\$10/hr. Chance for advancement. Apply in person: 1960 W. West Maple, Walled Lake.

**DRIVERS**  
FULL TIME, OTR, CDL, CLASS A & B  
Needed! For moving company in Farmington. Experience only. Please apply at 34200 W. Nine Mile Rd.  
No Phone Calls Please!

**DRYWALL FAX**  
Must oc last & good with m.o. & repairs. Knowledgeable serious & reliable only. 313 220-1741

**Environmental LAB PACK SALES REP**  
Environmental firm seeks aggressive and motivated Sales Representative S.E. MI. Prior lab pack or environmental sales experience required. Salary, commission & full benefits and retirement plan are included. EOE  
Send resume  
CKLANN.CAI@attglobal.net

**FINANCIAL AID TECHNICIAN**  
Part-time position; 29 hours per week. Interested applicants please refer to our website...  
http://www.schoolcraft.edu/jobs/default.asp  
for the job description and qualifications. Apply online; applications, along with photocopies of college transcript, must be received in Human Resources by no later than 4:30 on Friday, January 21, 2005.  
EOE.

**FLORAL DESIGNER**  
Experienced for full or part time.  
Call 248-477-8931

**FRONT DESK PERSON**  
For Livonia Chiropractor, must be reliable, outgoing, people person, 25-28 hrs. Experience helpful but will train.  
734-427-6333

**GENERAL LABORER**  
Full-time with general knowledge in drywall, framing & finished carpentry. Own tools. Position available immediately Call or fax to (248) 922-0049

**GENERALIST/HANDYPERSON**  
Livonia YMCA. 25-30 hrs. per week. Mechanical aptitude & a good attitude a must.  
734-748-9435

**GET PAID TO WAVE!**  
Temporary day time opportunity, must be outgoing and energetic no exp necessary Call (734) 421-2775

**GLAZIER**  
Leading glass company looking for experienced full time residential glazier. Basic carpenter skills and tools required. Good pay and benefits. Apply in person-

**GLASS**  
3535 Carpenter Road @Division and US 223

**HAIR DESIGNERS & NAIL TECHS**  
Acrylic experience, newly remodeled salon with a new attitude in Royal Oak Call JoAnn for confidential interview (248) 5494311

**HAIR STYLIST & NAIL TECH**  
Booth rental Farmington Hills area. Ask for Carol (248) 474-7810

**HAZARDOUS WASTE FIELD CHEMIST**  
Chemical background and CDL with HW Endorsement desired. Must meet D.O.T. driver qualifications. Travel is required. Excellent wages, full benefits, retirement plan included. EOE.  
Send resume  
to:CKLANN.CAI@attglobal.net

**Hotel Maintenance Personnel**  
Experienced  
Immediate positions available. Full time. Hotel experience preferred.  
Apply in person  
Fairfield Inn  
27777 Stansbury  
Farmington Hills  
(248) 442-9800

**HOUSEKEEPER**  
Watsonwood at Twelve Oaks, a luxury Senior apartment community is seeking to fill a full-time housekeeper position for day shift Mon-Fri. Candidates must be reliable, friendly and outgoing.  
Please apply in person at 27475 Huron Circle Novi, MI 48377  
Or call 248-735-1500 for more information.

**HVAC INSTALLER**  
Experienced person to run crew. Competitive wages. BG/BS & more to ambitious person seeking a career. Dan Wood Plumbing & Heating 248-348-4242

**HVAC SERVICE**  
Are you a top-notch technician? Join our group of professionals commercial & residential experience required. Competitive wages, BG/BS & more. Dan Wood Plumbing & Heating 248-348-4242

**JANITORIAL - Office Cleaning**  
Wixom area. Part time. Evening hours. \$8/hr. Call (248)960-1718

### Help Wanted-General 5000

**LAWSCAPE SUPERVISOR**  
Responsible for managing all aspects of landscape projects. Experienced & CDL required. Must be willing to assist in winter plowing & salting activity. Fax resume to: (734) 397-5909

**Loan Officer**  
Choose a new career path in 2005. Unlimited income potential, benefits, comprehensive mortgage training. Fax resume to 248-746-1297  
Or email to  
careers@hamlinmortgage.net

**MACHINIST**  
CNC Lathe operator, set-up & close tolerances necessary. BC/BS, 401K, Southfield area. Please fax resume to 248-352-7907  
or e-mail resume to  
BZThompson@aol.com

**MACHINISTS EXPERIENCED**  
CNC Lathe & Mill EDM  
Centerless, 10, OD  
7 yrs. minimum exp. for all positions. Must be capable of own set-ups & controls. Competitive wages, full benefits, medical, dental, life insurance, paid holidays & vacation, 401K A/C Facility. Apply in person 8am-4pm  
Die-Namic Inc.  
Haber Tool Division  
42001 Koppernick Rd  
Canton, MI 48187  
EOE

**MAILING**  
Printing firm looking for person to manage direct mail department. Experience with mailing equipment a must.  
Call (734) 427-2887.

**MAINTENANCE TECH**  
For apt. complex in Westland. Exp. preferred. Benefits. Fax resume to: 734-729-7548  
or call: 734-729-0710

**MAINTENANCE TECH**  
Part-time for Southfield based computer co. Mon-Fri, 8am-12pm shift. General repairs, electrical, plumbing & grounds clean-up. HVAC exp. preferred. Send resume to: Maintenance Tech, GCC, 24370 Northwestern Hwy, Ste. 300, Southfield, MI 48075 or email to: employment@gccservices.com

**MAINTENANCE TECH**  
A licensed senior assisted living facility in the Novi area is seeking a full-time maintenance tech. Must have previous maintenance experience and possess own tools. Fax resume to 248-865-1630, Attn: Laura.

**MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN**  
Full-time, experienced, for Canton apt. community. Great opportunity for right person. Please call 734-397-1080.

**MANAGER..**  
Experience in automotive logistics, administrative and operational. Computer knowledge required. Competitive wage & benefit package avail. Fax resume 313-386-1668  
or email apetty@ligi.com

**MARKETER NEEDED**  
Earn income marketing to other local businesses. Call 248-758-2248 for info  
Liberty Tax Service

**MECHANIC (small engine)**  
Repair & perform regular maintenance of equipment including blowers, walk behind mowers, & snow blowers. Must be able to perform routine car & light truck maintenance. Fax resume to 734-397-5909.

**MECHANIC/EXPERIENCED**  
All phases auto & truck. Certification helpful.  
313-532-5210

**MEDICAL BILLER**  
Exp. a must, orthotic prosthetic exp. preferred, full time, benefits. Peta 734-513-8210 or fax 734-513-8219

**MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST**  
Personable, organized, experienced, energetic for established W. Dearborn Medical Office. Send resume to: 2019 Russell, Dearborn, MI 48128

**MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST**  
With at least 2-3 years experience in a medical setting. Will need to handle busy front desk, greeting filing, archiving, registration, phones and insurance verification. Full time position with benefits. Please send references with resume to  
Human Resources  
47 North Huron Street,  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197 or fax  
to 734-484-3100  
EOE

**MORTGAGE PROCESSOR AND LOANS OFFICERS**  
Still growing W. Bloomfield Office seeks 3 full-time loan Officers and 1 processor. Live leads daily! Experienced only! Call Patrick 248-932-4060 or fax resume to 248-932-4144.

**PHARMACY BILLER**  
Specialized Pharmacy Services is seeking a full time Pharmacy Biller. The position is a day shift and will require overtime during heavy billing cycles. Candidates must be able to work with minimal supervision, have basic accounting skills, a working knowledge of Excel and ten-key experience. Nursing home or pharmacy insurance verification and billing is helpful. SPS provides pharmacy services to long-term care facilities. We offer competitive wage and benefits. Interested candidates should forward a resume to: S.P.S., Attention: HR-Biller, P.O. Box 3347, Livonia, MI 48151-3347, by fax to (734) 513-9418. e-mail: jobs.sps@omnicare.com No phone calls please. EOE

**PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
I am top 5 photographer weddings if you & the BESI come join our team! Edward's Wedding Photography is the nation's oldest and most respected family owned studio serving Detroit and all suburbs. You must be available on Sat, have a car and 35mm equip. Experience preferred but we will train the appropriate candidates. Call Cleon or Lisa @ 248.948.9800. Classes begin soon!

**PHOTOGRAPHIC DIGITAL TECHNICIAN**  
Must know Windows Windows Explorer, Windows XP, Photo Editing software, PhotoShop preferable. Color management helpful, but not necessary. Pay commensurate with ability. Apply at:  
NORTH AMERICAN PHOT  
27451 Schoolcraft Rd.  
(at Inkster)  
Livonia, MI, 48150

**PLUMBER 2 1/2 years minimum exp. required. Health, retirement & truck. Call after 4pm, (313) 218-7744.**

**PUBLICATIONS MANAGER EVENT PLANNER**  
Public sector association seeking experienced, high energy, creative Publications Manager/Event Planner to develop, implement, and oversee publications, communications, and educational conferences, and to provide administrative support oversight. Excellent editorial and organizational skills a must. Bachelor's degree and 5 or more years of relevant exp. preferred. Special consideration to applicants with WordPerfect and Excel proficiency. Send resume to Human Resources, PO. Box 247, Northville, MI 48167

**RESIDENT MANAGER**  
Part-Time needed for small Berkley Apt. Community. Housing Included. Please fax resume to 248-352-6737 or call 248-352-3800 Ext. 1239

**ROOFERS / CARPENTERS**  
wanted For fireplaces installations. (Will train) Full time w/benefits. 401K, Life & Health insurance Full medical. Ask for Mr. Green. 248-547-6777. A NICE PLACE TO WORK!

**ROUTE DRIVER**  
Livonia vending company needs a dependable, efficient route person. Good physical condition & driving record required. Will train - excellent pay, full benefits. Fax resume: 734-427-8370, Email: servicefirm1@yahoo.com

**Route Supervisor**  
Livonia vending service seeks an energetic, hands-on person. You must have experience in managing drivers or service personnel. This is an excellent opportunity to join a well established and growing team. Excellent pay, full benefits. Email resume to servicefirm1@yahoo.com or fax to: 734-427-8370.

**SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
Licensed insurance agents & financial service reps. needed: great earning potential. Send resume to: 248-380-2816

**SALES ASSISTANT**  
Part-Time. We are looking for organized, friendly and energetic sales assistants. Flexible hours. \$10/hr. Fax resume to 734.464.7232 or email to: career@hbdvantage.com

**SECURITY POSITION**  
For apt. community, 12 Mile & Telegraph area. part-time, 11pm-4am. 248-356-0400.

**SERVICE SHOP MANAGER**  
Responsible for managing vehicle service shop. Must be able to set & monitor maintenance schedule, set priorities & find and order parts. Experience & CDL a must. Fax 734-397-5909

**SHIPPING & RECEIVING POSITION**  
Dearborn area truck dealership is looking for a person with some experience in shipping & receiving. Computer knowledge a plus. Full time. Willing to train if you're willing to learn. EOE. Fax resume to: 313-584-5681 Attn: Sandy.

### Help Wanted-General 5000

**MORTGAGE LOAN OFFICERS**  
Rochester Hills mortgage broker looking for new and experienced originators. Excellent compensation plus 401K and insurance. Join a growing company offering a full array of mortgage products including conforming, FHANA and sub-prime. Ask for John at (248) 652-2700

**NATIONAL TITLE INSURANCE CO.**  
looking for people at our Livonia office for all aspects of title work. Great benefits, full time. Please fax resume to: 866-276-7197

**OFFICE CLEANING \$10/HR.**  
Plymouth & Wixom areas. After 5pm. Mon. - Fri. \$8.50/hr. 734-981-3541

**OFFICE CLEANING \$10/HR.**  
Belleville - Mon.-Fri. 5:30-8:30 pm. exp. only. 734-424-9247

**OTR DRIVER** - Good driving record with class CA-HT license. 2 yr. minimum exp. Call 734-729-3026

**PAINTER NEEDED**  
Experience necessary. Residential/commercial. Call Kevin: 313-815-7726

**PALLET SORTER**  
immediate opening needed in DC environment. Heavy lifting required, \$8.50-\$9.00 hour to start. Call 888-247-9945 extension 60 and leave name & phone number

**PHARMACY BILLER**  
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**SNOW PLOW TRUCKS & BACKHOES NEEDED**  
for Metro Detroit area. Paid every 2 weeks. Call Customers Outdoor Services (248) 676-0700

**SNOW REMOVAL/SIDEWALK CREWS**  
\$10-\$12 per hour. Call (810) 231-9717

**SPECIAL ED TEACHERS**  
Part-time. Sub-contractor. Advocate for students w/tramatic brain injury. Fax 313 535-9835

**STYLIST WANTED**  
Farmington Salon & spa. Great staff. Great pay. Flexible hours 248-478-7870

**SUPERVISOR**  
Working supervisor needed for DC environment, 2 years minimum experience overseeing daily operations. Heavy lifting, forklift experience, strong communication skills required. \$475-\$525 per week to start. Call 888-247-9945 extension 28 or fax resume to 804-966-1940

**SUPERVISOR**  
Specialized Pharmacy Services (SPS) of Livonia is seeking an individual to manage 15-25 pharmacy employees. SPS is a leading provider of pharmacy services to over 30,000 residents in long-term care facilities. Candidates must have previous supervisory experience in either a retail or pharmacy setting. This position will be responsible for daily production operations of either the day or evening shifts and will rotate weekends. Previous pharmacy experience is preferred. We offer a competitive salary and comprehensive benefit package. For immediate consideration, please forward your resume and salary requirements to:  
Human Resources-Supervisor, SPS Inc., HR Dept., P.O. Box 3347, Livonia, MI 48151, e-mail: jobs.sps@omnicare.com or by fax resume to (734) 513-9418, attn: Supervisor. No phone calls please. EOE

**Surface Grinders, OD/ID Grinders, Sunnen Hone Operators, Polishers, CNC Lathe Operators, CNC Mill Operators**  
Full time positions with excellent benefits. Experienced only need apply in person: Link Tool & Mfg., 9495 Inkster Rd., Taylor, MI 48180.

### Help Wanted-General 5000

**TELEMARKETERS**  
Part time or full time for CPA firm. Experience necessary. Call Bruce: 248-417-4095

**TILE TECHNICIAN**  
Virginia Tile Co. in Farmington Hills has a full-time position open. Candidates must be energetic & detail-oriented. This position entails sorting of materials, UPS shipping & receiving responsibilities. HI-to exp. a plus. Benefits: profit sharing & 401K. Call: HR Manager: (248) 476-7850, ext. 2264 or fax resume: (248) 476-3828

**TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED**  
CDL Class A & B. Local & overnight routes. Fax resume to 734-354-0310.

**WAREHOUSE MANAGER**  
Shipping, receiving, counter sales. Full time. Oak Park location. (248) 399-7901

**WAREHOUSE RECEIVER**  
The Better Health warehouse is looking for Receiver with 1 yr. exp. full time with benefits. Salary based on experience. No calls please. Email resume to: koryrilling@thebetterhealth-tire.com. or fax: 248-344-7555

**Warehouse/Facility Support**  
Responsible adult to maintain small warehouse, light maintenance, limited driving w/out vehicle. Good driving record a must. Fax resume to (734) 454-7165, or mail to Warehouse, 47816 Galleon Dr. Plymouth, MI 48170.

**Waterproofing Contractor**  
part-time. Electrical & plumbing preferred. Call Terry: (810) 229-0940

**Accounting Assistant**  
A/P, A/R, for busy Novi builder Must be proficient in Excel Quickbooks exp. helpful. Excellent benefits, salary commensurate with exp. Fax resume to: (248) 471-1971.

**ACCOUNTING/PROPERTY ADMINISTRATOR**  
Commercial real estate management co. seeks individual with strong accounting and interpersonal skills to work in small office setting. Must be skilled in Quickbooks, Microsoft Word and Excel. Knowledge of commercial leases and MNW reconciliations helpful. Send resume to: Property Manager c/o Rice & Blackman, CPA's 6230 Orchard Lake Road Ste.#100 West Bloomfield, MI 48322

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/JAP CLERK**  
Email resume: pem@peninvestments.com

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/BOOKKEEPER**  
Experience for Livonia accounting firm. Should have exp. with telephone, client contact, filing, invoicing, payroll processing, tax return and financial statement processing, general ledger. Applicant should have working knowledge of Word, Excel, Outlook and Quickbooks. Creative Solutions and Ultra tax are a plus. Experience in a professional office setting is required. Must be able to multi-task. Send resume to: Box 1038, Observer & Eccentric, 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

**ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION**  
Entry Level available for a busy West Bloomfield law office. Please contact Sarah 248-855-7977

**ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**  
KLEIMAN, GARNEY & GREENBAUM, one of the leading Certified Public Accounting firms in Southeastern Michigan is looking for an individual with word processing and computer skills to provide administrative support. Knowledge in Word and Excel required. Excellent compensation package available. Please send your resume to attention of: KCG Employment, 31500 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 150 Farmington Hills, MI 48334

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**  
Small co. in Wixom is looking for someone w/excellent multi-tasking skills. Duties include light accounting, answering phones, receptionist. Must be proficient in Microsoft Office. Exc. benefits. Email resume to: resume@midwestsalesmi.com

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Shipping, receiving, counter sales. Full time. Oak Park location. (248) 399-7901

**WAREHOUSE RECEIVER**  
The Better Health warehouse is looking for Receiver with 1 yr. exp. full time with benefits. Salary based on experience. No calls please. Email resume to: koryrilling@thebetterhealth-tire.com. or fax: 248-



# Jobs and Careers

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FREE!

A Value Of Up To \$87.00

www.hometownlife.com

### Help Wanted-Medical 5060

**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**  
For Canton internal medicine doctor. Must be mature, well experienced in internal medicine. Ability to follow closely and anticipate doctor's protocol a must. New MA students and lack of experience need not apply.  
Fax resume Attn: Theresa, (734) 981-5094

**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**  
Part time. Phlebotomy experience required. Fax resume: 248-474-1548

**Medical Assistant**  
For busy ENT office in Farmington Hills. Full time + benefits. Duties include ear washing & blood pressure. Fax resume w/salary requirements to Attn: Karen 248-737-0636

**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**  
Full-time, clinical duties in Farmington Hills. Must be certified. Self-starter a must. Benefits package. Call Sherry: 248-477-9081

**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**  
OB/GYN office, Farmington Hills. Experience necessary. Must have nursing skills and computer skills. Contact Elaine, (248) 489-1070

**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**  
Part time, Mon., Wed., Fri., hours: 9am-6pm. Must know EKG, injections, vital signs. For fun Farmington Hills Family practice. Fax resume: 248-478-7680

**MEDICAL BILLER**  
Ophthalmology exp preferred. Needed full time in growing practice. Send resumes to: PO Box 250428, W. Bloomfield, MI 48325.

**MEDICAL BILLER**  
Mitchell Home Medical has an immediate full time opportunity at our corporate office in Ypsilanti. Must possess 2 to 3 years' experience with insurance and private payment billing. DME billing experience preferable with working knowledge of HCPC & ICD-9 coding. Excellent wages and benefits including 401K. Fax resume to: (734) 572-0472 or email to: shayden@mitchellhome.com

**MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST**  
Experienced, friendly team player needed for new Livonia office. Duties include phones, collecting co-pays & balances, referrals, & patient coordination. Please email resume to: middlebelt@scbglobal.net

**MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST**  
Full-time immediate opening for physician's office in Farmington Hills. Email resume: medjobs4u@aol.com

**MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST**  
Exp. for internet office. 30-32 hrs/wk. Fax resume to 734-464-8797

**PHARMACY TECHNICIAN/ORDER ENTRY**  
We are seeking experienced full-time order entry technicians for our afternoon (1 to 9pm) shift. Candidates must be able to type a minimum of 40 words per minute, have at least one year of pharmacy tech experience, have excellent organizational skills, basic math skills and the ability to prioritize tasks to meet the needs of our customers. Two years of pharmacy technician experience preferred. We provide a comprehensive benefit package and competitive wages. Specialized Pharmacy provides services to long-term care facilities throughout Michigan. For immediate consideration, please forward your resume to: HR-Order Entry, S.P.S. Inc., P.O. Box 3347, Livonia, MI 48151-3347, by fax to (734) 513-9418, e-mail: jobs.sps@omnicare.com. No phone calls please. EOE

### Help Wanted-Medical 5060

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST**  
For rehab facility, flex time. Fax resume: 248-827-1119

**Physical Therapist - Full or part time.** Dearborn, Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor. Call 734-844-0800 fax 734-844-0808

**RECEPTIONIST** for busy wellness clinic in Plymouth. Multi-tasker, Computer exp. Fax resume: (734) 453-9992.

**RECEPTIONIST**  
For busy family practice, full time, experience preferred, but will train. Also needed full time Medical Assistant.  
Call Judy: 734-464-9540 or fax: 734-464-0438

### Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

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**Flexible Schedule**  
Looking for energetic & passionate people. Apply in person at  
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Making life delicious.  
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**SEE YOU THERE!**

**BRAVO ITALIANA KITCHEN**  
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**CAKE BAKER**  
Evenings.  
Also, Part-Time Kitchen Help, Days.  
Elite Sweets, Livonia.  
(248) 476-3600

**CASHIERS WANTED**  
Westland. Great pay, flexible hrs. Ideal for homemakers, example: 10-2pm. Or students, example: 5-9. (248) 755-8779

**COOK**  
Waltownwood at Twelve Oaks, a Luxury Senior Apartment Community in Novi, is in need of a **Pastry Cook** with home style cooking experience. E.O.E. Apply in person at 27475 Huron Circle, Novi, MI or call 248-735-1500 for more information.

**DELI SANDWICH COUNTER PERSON**  
FT or PT. Apply in person: NY Deli, 19215 Newburgh, Livonia.

**DRIVERS WANTED**  
to deliver food for Chili's & other restaurants to businesses and residential customers. Lunch & Dinner shifts. Must own own vehicle. Call: 248-482-1100 Ext. 1 Between 9am-11am or after 2pm

**EXP. MANAGER**  
For upscale Italian restaurant, must be aggressive and assertive, have wine & liquor knowledge. Also versed in all front of the house operations.  
Please fax or email resume: 313-359-4421 or tony@andiamoitalla.com

**FLIGHT CLUB**  
Metro Detroit's #1 adult entertainment club is now accepting applications for WAIT STAFF & SHOT SERVERS. Day, Night & Weekend Shifts.  
Apply within:  
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29709 Michigan Ave  
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### Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

**Food Service Director**  
A Luxury Senior Property in Oakland County is seeking a Food Service Director for an immediate full-time position. Must have dietary manager experience, strong supervising skills and also be able to prepare food with proper food presentation E.O.E. Please fax resume to: 248-865-1630, Attention: Laura

**RESTAURANT HELP**  
The Loose Leaf-a Tea & bakery located in downtown Birmingham is accepting applications for weekday-daytime help. Duties will include light food prep, in salads, sandwiches, crepes for our growing lunch business. No experience is required but a customer friendly attitude is. Call (248) 283-0260 or visit 172 N. Old Woodward 8-10 a.m. or 2-5 p.m. only.

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**WAITSTAFF**  
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**AUTO SALES NEW & USED CRESTWOOD DODGE**  
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**CRUISE/TOUR SALES**  
Will train experienced or natural born sales people to sell vacations to incoming calls. No cold calling. \$9.00 per hour plus commission averaging \$500 to \$1300 per month with \$2500 potential. 30 to 40 hours per week. Dearborn. 313-278-4100

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For Window treatment Upholstery shop. Please Call Gina. 248-890-6647

**LA FONTAINE AUTOMOTIVE GROUP**  
in Dearborn - Toyota, Honda, Kia, Suzuki, Scion and Hyundai, all in one location. Michigan's largest import dealer is looking for 4 new car salespeople. Excellent career opportunity. Great pay, demo plan, benefits program and training available. Don't miss out. Please fax resume to 313-278-2545

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desiring high end income career position. 10 positions available in all areas of Michigan. Proven successful experience necessary. Laptop required. Please submit resumes Attn: - HR, EMSI 881-US 131 North, White Pigeon, MI 49099 or call (810) 695-0282.

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Seeking sales professionals w/an interest in fine home furnishings & interior design to fill a few key sales positions. Exp. preferred, but will train. Exc. compensation, benefits & paid training. If you are interested in a career with a well-established, growing company, please call: (734) 525-0550 or fax resume (248) 554-9577

**ACCOUNTING MANAGER**  
Metro Detroit Area company is seeking a qualified individual. This position requires an individual with knowledge of A/P, A/R, Payroll, G/L, Job Costing, Construction knowledge and Supervisory skills a must. Must be able to multitask and work in a quick changing environment. Please send your resume to: 33400 Glendale Ave, Livonia, MI 48150. Fax: (734) 513-9560. Email: john@hvac-ges.com. No phone calls accepted.

**A NEW CAREER?**  
REAL ESTATE IS BOOMING! Excellent Commissions. Great Training. **TIM COURTNEY** Oakland/Livingston area (248) 437-2600 **DOUG COURTNEY** W. Wayne (734) 459-6222

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1-800-579-7355

### Help Wanted-Sales 5120

**A NEW YEAR**  
And ready for a new career? Consider a real estate professional with CENTURY 21 Town and Country in downtown Plymouth! A phenomenal marketing program, internet exposure and free training to build your skills! Full time agents can earn \$50,000.00 or more in their first year! Contact Chris Patrick for a confidential interview - 734-455-3600.

**ADVANTAGE YOURS**  
The #1 CENTURY 21 Firm in America has openings for self-motivated sales associates at our beautiful downtown Birmingham office. We have the training, tools, support staff, marketing technology, private offices, and great location to take your real estate career to the next level. Talk to the other real estate companies, then come talk to us. We will show you why CENTURY 21 Town and Country is the industry leader. The advantage can be yours! **CALL Margie Duncan at 248-642-8100 to find out more.**

**PROFESSIONAL LOAN OFFICER**  
With Experience needed to join group of top producing mortgage brokers at Livonia Mortgage firm. Supportive management team and excellent pay scale for the right candidate. Contact Gary Cronk for interview. 734-564-0649

**REMODELING SALES CONSULTANT**  
Immediate opening for outgoing person with sales skills, professional appearance & ability to envision, create and sell new living space. Accelerated draws & medical benefits. Email your resume: remodel@accentremodeling.com or fax to 734-455-0330

**SALESPERSON Full Time**, estimating gutters, siding and roofing. Leads supplied. Fax resume to 313-937-2278 or e-mail: rensheet@scbglobal.net

**Street Canvasser**  
Needed for home insulation company. Call (734) 326-2817.

**TELEMARKETER**  
Energetic, hard working individual with EXCELLENT PHONE SKILLS to enhance telemarketing aspect of Bingham Farms law firm. Must be professional and courteous. Sales background preferred. Part time/full time, evenings/Saturdays required. Email resume to: rrossner@gmail.com

**Telemarketer**  
Part-time mortgage telemarketer needed. Top dollar paid. Fax resume to: 248-746-1297 or call 248-746-9575

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\$9-\$11 base + bonus CALL 248-244-9063 www.peoplestr.com

**SALES ASSOCIATES**  
Full time for areas: Ann Arbor, Dearborn, Novi, Sterling Heights, Taylor. Wireless experience preferred. Training provided & Benefits. Call Khan Graham 313-729-3313 or Email: kgraham@tmsmail.net

**UNIQUE SALES POSITION**  
for a sincere, honest, caring and career minded individual interested in an above average income. No evenings / weekends. Benefits, incentives. You must have a high school diploma. No experience necessary, we provide all needed training. #1 recognized name in the industry, 60+ years and growing, selling a product that directly enhances the quality of life of others. Please call: 1-586-773-3300 ext 23

**FREE CAREER SEMINAR**  
Getting started...Start up costs? Potential earnings? Training? Support? Commission split? We'll answer all these questions and more. Thurs., Jan. 6th @ 6:30pm Fri., Jan. 14th @ 2:00pm Thurs., Jan. 20th @ 6:30pm Call 734-459-4700 www.realestatecareers.net **KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY** Plymouth

### Help Wanted-Sales 5120

**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.

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Are you thinking of making a career move? CENTURY 21, Town & Country offers the largest marketing program, the best tools and the greatest support of any company in Michigan. Consider a move to the Birmingham office of Town & Country, conveniently located in the heart of town. CALL Margie at (248) 642-8100

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TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR FUTURE WITH A NEW CAREER!! Try our Simulator www.recareers.com **SIGNING BONUS** CALL Linda @ 248-208-2905

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Immediate opening for outgoing person with sales skills, professional appearance & ability to envision, create and sell new living space. Accelerated draws & medical benefits. Email your resume: remodel@accentremodeling.com or fax to 734-455-0330

**SALESPERSON Full Time**, estimating gutters, siding and roofing. Leads supplied. Fax resume to 313-937-2278 or e-mail: rensheet@scbglobal.net

**Street Canvasser**  
Needed for home insulation company. Call (734) 326-2817.

**TELEMARKETER**  
Energetic, hard working individual with EXCELLENT PHONE SKILLS to enhance telemarketing aspect of Bingham Farms law firm. Must be professional and courteous. Sales background preferred. Part time/full time, evenings/Saturdays required. Email resume to: rrossner@gmail.com

**Telemarketer**  
Part-time mortgage telemarketer needed. Top dollar paid. Fax resume to: 248-746-1297 or call 248-746-9575

**TELEMARKETERS**  
\$9-\$11 base + bonus CALL 248-244-9063 www.peoplestr.com

**SALES ASSOCIATES**  
Full time for areas: Ann Arbor, Dearborn, Novi, Sterling Heights, Taylor. Wireless experience preferred. Training provided & Benefits. Call Khan Graham 313-729-3313 or Email: kgraham@tmsmail.net

**UNIQUE SALES POSITION**  
for a sincere, honest, caring and career minded individual interested in an above average income. No evenings / weekends. Benefits, incentives. You must have a high school diploma. No experience necessary, we provide all needed training. #1 recognized name in the industry, 60+ years and growing, selling a product that directly enhances the quality of life of others. Please call: 1-586-773-3300 ext 23

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### Help Wanted-Part-Time 5200

**PART-TIME WORKER (30 HOURS)**  
Renewal by Andersen is seeking highly motivated individuals to distribute promotional information throughout neighborhoods in the Greater Metro Area. Hourly pay+incentives. Fax resumes to 248-624-6265 or call 248-624-7000.

**PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY**  
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**Help Wanted-Domestic 5240**

**CARE GIVER NEEDED** to aid nice elderly couple three mornings a week. Must be English speaking, nonsmoking. Mature woman preferred. Joy Road/Merriman area, Westland. Call 248-693-3529

**DRIVER/CARPOOL WANTED**  
Person looking for transportation from Farmington Hills to city of Wayne, Mon.-Fri., 8am-4:30. If interested, please call (248) 444-9699.

**HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED**  
For Farmington Hills bachelor's home. One 8 hour day per week. Please call only if you have written references showing 5 years or more experience at professional housekeeping showing good reliability & absolute honesty. Call A.S. HART at 248-626-4706

**LIVE-IN HOUSEKEEPER/NANNY NEEDED ASAP.**  
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**AAA ATTENTION READERS:**  
Since many ads are from outside the local area, please know what you are buying before sending money.

**ANNOUNCEMENT: NOW HIRING**  
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Answering Surveys Online! \$25.00-\$75.00 per survey! FREE Registration. Guaranteed paychecks! Process E-mails Online! Earn \$25.00/E-mail! FREE Government Grants! \$12,000-\$500.00! Everyone Qualified! www.RealCash Programs.com

**EARN UP TO \$529 WEEKLY!**  
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**ENVELOPES 1000-\$5000.**  
Receive \$5/envelope stuffed with our sales material. Guaranteed! Free information. 1-800-796-6567 24 hrs.

**Government Jobs! Wildlife/Postal \$16.51 to \$58.00 per hour.** Full benefits. Paid training. Call for application and exam information. No experience necessary. Toll Free 1-888-269-6090 ext. 200.

**AVON NEEDS**  
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**JEWELRY STORE** Permanent part time, exp & plus. Plymouth. 734-455-3030

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### Job Opportunities 5310

**HELP WANTED** Earn up to \$409 a week assembling CD cases at home. No experience necessary. Start immediately! Call 1-800-267-3944 ext 119. www.easywork-greatpay.com

**No Boss! No Commute! Learn to earn \$2,000-\$4,000/week!** From home. Call for free message 1-800-259-0519

**POSTAL EXAMS NOW!** Earn to \$47,000 per year/No experience. Announcement numbers with Registration. APPLY TODAY!  
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1-800-679-6857 24 hrs.

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**Childcare Services-Licensed 5380**

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**Childcare/Baby-Sitting Services 5370**

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Fun, safe environment. Low ratio. CPR. 6/Levan. Call Barbara: (734) 464-0448.

**Non-Smoking, Loving Mother**  
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**Childcare Needed 5380**

**CHILD CARE 2 days/wk. 8-5.** 3 boys ages 5 (twins) & 12 mos. Must be outgoing, loving, reliable, non-smoker with own car. Long term. Plymouth. (734) 451-7780

**CHILD CARE PROVIDER**  
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**NANNY needed part-time,** evenings & days in Novi home for 3 children. Must be mature, have transportation, exp., & ref. (248) 762-5330

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**TAX PREPARERS NEEDED**  
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**Business Opportunities 5740**

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80 Machines + Locations! ALL FOR \$10,300. 1-800-344-1277

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**BETTER, FASTER** Internet Service for FREE and we pay you CASH to use it. Go to: Cervonet Use ID #8495

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**WEEKLY \$1380! STUFFING ENVELOPES AT HOME.** FT/PT. No experience necessary! \$50 CASH HIRING BONUS. Guaranteed in writing. 1-877-874-4771

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### Business Opportunities 5740

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# Automotive

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REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE | Thursday, January 6, 2005

# The 2005 Subaru Outback Wagon

Advertising Feature

## Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

Often over the last several years, in their efforts to obliterate the wants and needs of the automotive public, car makers have come up with "solutions" that have been, to put it kindly, overdone. So when the sport-utility-vehicle craze began a decade ago, the Big Three answered in part with new models that were so massive, so high off the ground and generally so overwhelming that some of them hogged the road unforgivably, proved physically difficult for many owners to handle and were almost impossible for some would-be passengers to enter - not to mention the fact that they threatened to dip down into the single digits in mileage performance.

Similarly, over the last few years, the auto industry has perceived its customers clamoring more and more for so-called "crossover" vehicles that combine the best characteristics of SUVs, vans and cars into a whole new breed of solution. The problem with that approach initially was that it produced eyesores like the Pontiac Aztek. And even now, some new vehicles represent so much hybridization that, by trying to serve many masters, they serve none at all. They can execute no clear purpose.

But when it comes to Subaru, I'm happy to report that the company didn't seem to have been affected by all this misplaced strategy when it came to developing and executing the 2005 Outback Wagon. The earlier versions of the vehicles were clearly meant to be regarded and enjoyed as small station wagons, and that's even more the case with the new version of Outback that has been redesigned for 2005.

And yet Subaru has managed to introduce some dramatic improvements in the new version of the wisely conceived Outback. The exterior is shaped a bit, is sharper-looking and less boxy than before. The new Outback series definitely is larger outside and roomier in many ways inside. And the design of

the interior is more attractive, functional and comfortable than before.

The Outback Wagon is an attractive vehicle. Two honeycomb-like bars split the grille horizontally, among other things clearly distinguishing it from its sibling Legacy models.

The new design flows better than the old one. For example, the wagon's roof line drops steadily rearward from the front doors back, providing an aerodynamic touch. And yet, the wagon's designers didn't forget the practical demands that come with posing as a cargo hauler: They provided, among other things, a wide step-on rear bumper that is every bit as practical as a platform for penetrating deep into the cargo hold as are the large steps that are designed into humongous SUVs.

Subaru builds the Outback in sedan and station-wagon styles, making each of them available in two varieties of four-cylinder engines and one six-cylinder engine. Subaru's signature all-wheel drive is available across the Outback line, in slightly different configurations. The top-of-the-line models are powered by a 3.0-liter, flat-six-cylinder engine, but its horsepower has been increased to 250. The XT also is provided with 250 horsepower, but that emanating from a turbocharged, intercooled four-cylinder engine.

The Outback Wagon version I drove came only with the base 168-horsepower, four-cylinder engine, but I was far from disappointed in its performance. Acceleration was powerful and smooth and actually more redolent of a six-cylinder engine, delivering a rated 23 mpg in the city and an impressive 28 mpg



The Subaru Outback Wagon delivers 23 mpg in the city and an impressive 28 mpg on the highway.

on the highway. My evaluation took place mostly during the snowy week around Christmas, but the all-wheel-drive competence of the Outback Wagon came through time and time again in getting me over and through the many unpaved streets of northern Oakland County.

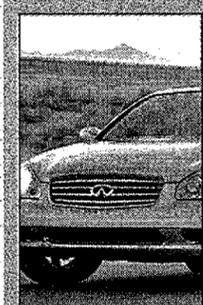
In the 2005 models of the Outback line, the center of gravity has been lowered for improved handling and safety, and while I never drove a 2004 Outback, it only makes sense to assume that these improvements evidenced themselves in the fine job that the 2005 Outback Wagon did in navigating the recent wintriness of these parts.

Apparently, much of the improvement in the 2005 Outback line came inside the vehicles. And I can see where some of it was made. For example, even in the 2.5 I Wagon that I drove, retailing for a suggested \$24,850, there was a nicely designed interior featuring helpfully grippy cloth seats, a pleasant cockpit designed rendered in brushed-nickel finishes, and others that are black and taupe; easily comprehended climate controls; and even front-seat heaters. And the rear cargo room was very adequate, befitting the fact that this was, after all, a station wagon.

The 2005 Outback Wagon is put together the way small station wagons are supposed to be.

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3 p.m. Monday

View the Observer & Eccentric Automotive Classifieds on the web:  
www.observerandeccentric.com

#### 4 Wheel Drive (8280)

**DODGE 2002 2500** pickup, quad cab, 4x4, full power, \$18,995.  
Northwestern Dodge (248) 399-6700

**F-350 1999** 4x4, low miles, dually, 9 foot Fisher snowplow. \$18,500. 248-347-6089

**FORD 1995** Ranger 4x4 Extended cab, priced to sell, \$3,888.  
Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

**FORD 1999** F250 4x4 super cab, \$10,495.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**RANGER 2000** Extended cab 4x4, XLT, mica red, low miles, sunroof, \$9,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**TRACKER 2002** LT, V-6, HT, 4x4, leather, CD, loaded, low miles, certified, \$11,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

#### Sports Utility (8290)

**BUICK 2002** Rendezvous CLX, AWD, loaded, leather, heated seats, \$11,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**BUICK 2004** Rendezvous CX, AWD, capcino, 10,000 miles, loaded, \$16,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**CHEVY 2002** Blazer Extreme, yellow, custom wheels, loaded, low miles, \$12,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**CHEVY AVALANCHE 2002** 2003 4 to choose! 266-771, loaded, call today. \$17,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**CHEVY TAHOE-LT 1998**, 4x4, exc. cond., 103k miles. White/Burgundy leather, full power, premium, \$8500.  
(248) 374-2381

**DODGE 2002** Durango SLT Plus, loaded, 4x4, leather, \$10,995.  
Northwestern Dodge (248) 399-6700

**DODGE DURANGO 1999** 3rd seat, every option, loaded, dark blue, \$6900.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**EXPLORER 2000** Eddie Bauer, 4x4, Spruce metallic, exc. cond., leather, loaded, 56k, \$12,900. (734) 432-5062.

**Explorer 2004 Sport Track XLT** - Black, moonroof, cruise, power seats, Premium Sound, \$20,750. 313-570-8821

**FORD ESCAPE 2002** Leather, power moonroof, \$8500.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**FORD EXPLORER 1996** 4x4, \$2999.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**GMC 2003** Denali, 36k miles, sunroof, factory ext. warranty, new tires, exc. cond., no winters. \$31,500. 248-561-3500.

**GMC ENVOY 1999** Loaded, white, leather, \$9995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

#### Sports Utility (8290)

**HONDA 2000** Passport, V-6, auto, air, full power, 4x4, \$7,995.  
Northwestern Dodge (248) 399-6700

**HYUNDAI 2001** Sante Fe GLS, V-6, auto, air, loaded, \$7,995.  
Northwestern Dodge (248) 399-6700

**PARK AVENUE 1998** black, leather, one owner, only \$6,995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**PARK AVENUE 2002** silver, 32,000 miles, retiree trade, priced to sell \$18,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**REGAL LS 2004** 2 to choose, Bronze/white, leather, alloys, CD. Certified. \$14,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**Regal, 1991** - white, 135,000 approx. Interior, engine, tires, brakes, trans. all good. \$1000/best. 248-763-8883

**Chevrolet (8400)**

**CAVALIER 2001** Coupe, auto, air, 18k, \$7,495.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**CAVALIER 2001** Coupe, auto, red, only \$6,995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**CAVALIER 2004** 4 dr., 20K, full warranty, only \$8,495.  
Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

**CAVALIER Z24 COUPE 2001** 2 Dr., air, alarm, auto, pl, cruise, CD, anti-lock brakes, pw, ps, am-fm stereo, sunroof. New tires & brakes, exc. cond. 248-533-0221

**CREDIT PROBLEMS???** No Turn Downs at TYME. Call for 20 minute credit approval. Down payments as low as \$29.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**MONTE CARLO 2000** LS, auto, air, full power, \$5,995.  
Northwestern Dodge (248) 399-6700

**Chrysler-Plymouth (8420)**

**LHS 1998** Leather, moonroof, \$3850.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**PACIFICA 2004** Air, alarm, auto, pl, cruise, CD, anti-lock brakes, pw, 1 owner, ps, sunroof. Silver with dark grey leather interior, 6 DVD/CD in dash changer, video system, seating for 6, keyless entry. AWD. \$22,000. 313-580-7431

**PT CRUISER 2001** Limited, black, 1 owner. Super-excellent condition, 29,700 miles, \$13,500. (248) 363-0829

**Dodge (8440)**

**INTREPID 1995** Fully loaded w/remote starter, very clean, runs good, 121k mi. \$2500/or best offer. 313-291-0277

#### Sports & Imported (8300)

**BMW 740iL 1998** 79K, silver exterior, black interior, phone, non-smoker. Garaged. All records. Certified. \$19,500/best. (586) 615-8303

**MERCEDES 1996** C36 AMG Sedan, turbo, silver, garage kept, super low miles. Call today! \$19,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**MERCEDES BENZ-C 280** 1994, garaged, 95k miles, no winters, new Michelins, exc. cond. \$7850/best. (248) 374-2381

**Antique/Classic Collector Cars (8320)**

**Cadillac 1959** - 4 door series 62 Baby Blue. New & clean interior. Good condition. \$7500. 313-561-8075

**CHEVROLET CAPRICE 1975** White convertible, V8, exc. cond. \$7500 248-545-1391

**ELDORADO'S 1983** 2 southern cars, needs repair. \$2100/best. (248) 426-9812

**FORD GALAXY 1965** - 390, black/black, 69K miles, \$3900. (248) 347-6089

#### Buick (8360)

**LE SABRE 2000** Auto, air, tan, sharp, only \$7,995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**PARK AVENUE 1998**, 48K, white w/tan leather interior, loaded. 1 owner, excellent condition. \$7,400. 248 646-4677

**PARK AVENUE 1998** black, leather, one owner, only \$6,995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**PARK AVENUE 2002** silver, 32,000 miles, retiree trade, priced to sell \$18,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**REGAL LS 2004** 2 to choose, Bronze/white, leather, alloys, CD. Certified. \$14,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**Regal, 1991** - white, 135,000 approx. Interior, engine, tires, brakes, trans. all good. \$1000/best. 248-763-8883

**Chevrolet (8400)**

**CAVALIER 2001** Coupe, auto, air, 18k, \$7,495.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**CAVALIER 2001** Coupe, auto, red, only \$6,995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**CAVALIER 2004** 4 dr., 20K, full warranty, only \$8,495.  
Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

**CAVALIER Z24 COUPE 2001** 2 Dr., air, alarm, auto, pl, cruise, CD, anti-lock brakes, pw, ps, am-fm stereo, sunroof. New tires & brakes, exc. cond. 248-533-0221

**CREDIT PROBLEMS???** No Turn Downs at TYME. Call for 20 minute credit approval. Down payments as low as \$29.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**MONTE CARLO 2000** LS, auto, air, full power, \$5,995.  
Northwestern Dodge (248) 399-6700

**Chrysler-Plymouth (8420)**

**LHS 1998** Leather, moonroof, \$3850.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**PACIFICA 2004** Air, alarm, auto, pl, cruise, CD, anti-lock brakes, pw, 1 owner, ps, sunroof. Silver with dark grey leather interior, 6 DVD/CD in dash changer, video system, seating for 6, keyless entry. AWD. \$22,000. 313-580-7431

**PT CRUISER 2001** Limited, black, 1 owner. Super-excellent condition, 29,700 miles, \$13,500. (248) 363-0829

**Dodge (8440)**

**INTREPID 1995** Fully loaded w/remote starter, very clean, runs good, 121k mi. \$2500/or best offer. 313-291-0277

#### Dodge (8440)

**INTREPID 1996** all power, 70,000 miles, retiree trade, must see! \$4,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**SEBRING 2001** 4 dr. V-6, auto, air, full power, \$7,495.  
Northwestern Dodge (248) 399-6700

**Ford (8460)**

**CASH**  
Dealer will sell on consignment or pay cash for your used CAR.

**TYME SALES**  
734-455-5566

**ESCORT 2002**, 4 door, very clean, 38,000 miles, \$6200. 248-763-8934

**FOCUS, 2002** Silver/ Z-TS/ auto, 4 dr/ loaded/ exc. cond/ 66K, warranty to 2008 or 100K. \$7,400. (248) 889-2525

**MUSTANG 2000** Convertible Sharp, \$7200.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**T-BIRD 1995** V-8, white, \$1,995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**TAURUS 1996** GL - Auto, air, 6 cylinder, full power, Teal Green. Good condition. \$2900 or best offer. S O L D

**Taurus 1998** SE - Loaded. Moon roof, leather, 6 cd player, 24V, exc. cond. 83K hwy, spoiler. \$4900. 734-718-2902

#### Ford (8460)

**TAURUS 1999** Auto, air, white, \$3995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**TAURUS 2003** SES - Deluxe, like new, Metallic Gray, 19K, 24V V-6, all power, ABS, moonroof, spoiler, remote start. \$12,450. 248-737-8886

**Odyssey EX 2002** 4 Dr., air, alarm, Auto, pl, cruise, CD, anti-lock brakes, pw, full service history, 1 owner, ps, am-fm stereo. Excellent Condition! \$22,000 - 248-723-8482

**Hyundai (8524)**

**TIBERON 2003** GT, moon, leather, CD, \$11,888.  
Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

**Jeep (8535)**

**GRAND CHEROKEE 2003** Laredo 4x4, full factory warranty, \$15,995.  
Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

**GRAND CHEROKEE 2004** Limited, leather, power moon, chrome, \$22,995.  
Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

#### Jeep (8535)

**SCRAMBLER 1984** Rare, black, must see. \$4500/or best offer. 734-667-2689

**WRANGLER 1997** 4x4, won't last, only \$5,995.  
Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

**WRANGLER 2002** 18K, \$2200 below black book. TYME (734) 455-5566

**Lincoln (8560)**

**TOWN CAR 1995** - High miles. Engine/trans replaced. Ext. good condition; int. exc. cond. \$2495. 734-634-6478

**Mazda (8580)**

**MAZDA 2001** 626 4 dr., auto, air, full power, \$7,495.  
Northwestern Dodge (248) 399-6700

**Mercury (8600)**

**COUGAR 1995** V8, black, \$3000/best. Good condition. (734) 667-2689

**Grand Marquis 1989** Clean, good running transportation. 5.0 motor. New tires. \$1000. 734-459-0523, 248-514-6921

**SABLE 1997** 4 Dr., air, auto, pl, cruise, CD, anti-lock brakes, pw, ps, am-fm stereo, sunroof, leather. \$3100 - 734-459-4487

#### Mitsubishi (8610)

**LANCER 2002** ES, auto, CD, loaded, \$6,488.  
Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

**Pontiac (8680)**

**FIREBIRD 2000** T-top, auto, air, power, \$8995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**GRAND AM 2001** GT - Like new, small down, \$106/mo. TYME (734) 455-5566

**GRAND AM GT 1997** Very clean, power sunroof & moonson radio, new engine/brakes & battery, 108K, purple. \$3300. (248) 476-8816

**GRAND PRIX 1995** SE Coupe, red, \$2,795.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**GRAND PRIX 2001** GT 4 dr., blue, \$5,995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**TRANS AM 1994** - White w/white wheels, tan leather, t-tops, loaded. 63K, exc. cond. \$7995/best. (248) 489-9009

**Saturn (8700)**

**SATURN 1998 Sport Coupe** Auto, air, \$3899.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**Autos Under \$2000 (8780)**

**CHEVY ASTRO-1994** 165K miles, runs good, little rust. \$1800/best. (734) 326-4093

#### Autos Under \$2000 (8780)

**FORD EXPLORER 1992**, 4 door, 4x4, \$1795.  
J.P. - 734-377-4949.

**FORD TAURUS-1996** 4 Dr., Fla. car no rust. Must see this car. J.P. - 734-377-4949

**FORD-PROBE 1994** Auto, air, cruise, pw/pl, runs great. 73K miles. Good condition. \$1900. (734) 513-6828

**HONDA 1992** LX, 4 door, loaded, moon roof. \$1995. Wholesale Outlet. J.P. - 734-377-4949.

**HONDA ACCORD 1990**, LX, 4 door, auto, \$1695.  
J.P. - 734-377-4949.

**It's all about ME J.P.**  
(Owner and Salesperson)  
Honesty and ethical standards. 55 yrs. in the car business (affordable cars at low prices).  
**Auto Connection** (Wholesale Outlet)  
12920 Inkster Rd.  
Redford, MI 48239  
(313) 255-2421  
Cell (734) 377-4949

**Mark V 1977** Engine 40,000 miles. Needs brake line & body work. \$600. 734-981-6888

**MERCURY COUGAR 1994** Sharp. \$1695.  
J.P. - 734-377-4949

**NISSAN-1994** A/T, 4 Dr., auto, \$1995.  
J.P. - 734-377-4949

#### Autos Under \$2000 (8780)

**PONTIAC GRAND PRIX 1991** SE 2 dr, auto, 151K miles, \$500. (734) 427-3714

**NEED TO SELL YOUR CAR...**

Truck, RV or Boat? Place a classified ad in the Observer & Eccentric and get quick results at affordable rates! Call our inside sales staff at:

**1-800-579-SELL (7355)**  
OR  
**FAX YOUR AD 734-953-2232**  
INTERNET ADDRESS  
www.hometownlife.com

#### 4 Wheel Drive (8280)

**DODGE 2002 2500** pickup, quad cab, 4x4, full power, \$18,995.  
Northwestern Dodge (248) 399-6700

**F-350 1999** 4x4, low miles, dually, 9 foot Fisher snowplow. \$18,500. 248-347-6089

**FORD 1995** Ranger 4x4 Extended cab, priced to sell, \$3,888.  
Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

**FORD 1999** F250 4x4 super cab, \$10,495.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**RANGER 2000** Extended cab 4x4, XLT, mica red, low miles, sunroof, \$9,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**TRACKER 2002** LT, V-6, HT, 4x4, leather, CD, loaded, low miles, certified, \$11,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

#### Sports Utility (8290)

**BUICK 2002** Rendezvous CLX, AWD, loaded, leather, heated seats, \$11,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**BUICK 2004** Rendezvous CX, AWD, capcino, 10,000 miles, loaded, \$16,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**CHEVY 2002** Blazer Extreme, yellow, custom wheels, loaded, low miles, \$12,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**CHEVY AVALANCHE 2002** 2003 4 to choose! 266-771, loaded, call today. \$17,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**CHEVY TAHOE-LT 1998**, 4x4, exc. cond., 103k miles. White/Burgundy leather, full power, premium, \$8500.  
(248) 374-2381

**DODGE 2002** Durango SLT Plus, loaded, 4x4, leather, \$10,995.  
Northwestern Dodge (248) 399-6700

**DODGE DURANGO 1999** 3rd seat, every option, loaded, dark blue, \$6900.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**EXPLORER 2000** Eddie Bauer, 4x4, Spruce metallic, exc. cond., leather, loaded, 56k, \$12,900. (734) 432-5062.

**Explorer 2004 Sport Track XLT** - Black, moonroof, cruise, power seats, Premium Sound, \$20,750. 313-570-8821

**FORD ESCAPE 2002** Leather, power moonroof, \$8500.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**FORD EXPLORER 1996** 4x4, \$2999.  
TYME (734) 455-5566

**GMC 2003** Denali, 36k miles, sunroof, factory ext. warranty, new tires, exc. cond., no winters. \$31,500. 248-561-3500.

**GMC ENVOY 1999** Loaded, white, leather, \$9995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

#### Buick (8360)

**LE SABRE 2000** Auto, air, tan, sharp, only \$7,995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**PARK AVENUE 1998**, 48K, white w/tan leather interior, loaded. 1 owner, excellent condition. \$7,400. 248 646-4677

**PARK AVENUE 1998** black, leather, one owner, only \$6,995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**PARK AVENUE 2002** silver, 32,000 miles, retiree trade, priced to sell \$18,950.  
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**REGAL LS 2004** 2 to choose, Bronze/white, leather, alloys, CD. Certified. \$14,950.  
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA (734) 525-0900

**Regal, 1991** - white, 135,000 approx. Interior, engine, tires, brakes, trans. all good. \$1000/best. 248-763-8883

**Chevrolet (8400)**

**CAVALIER 2001** Coupe, auto, air, 18k, \$7,495.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**CAVALIER 2001** Coupe, auto, red, only \$6,995.  
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

**CAVALIER 2004** 4 dr., 20K, full warranty, only \$8,495.  
Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

**CAVALIER Z24 COUPE 2001** 2 Dr., air, alarm, auto, pl, cruise, CD, anti-lock brakes, pw

# Filter

PURE ENTERTAINMENT!

**HOT TICKET** - Nothing warms you up like a good case of the blues ... well, at least at the Anti-Freeze Blues Festival.

3

**TABLE HOPPING** - You thought eating the forbidden fruit was bold? Try eating at Eve restaurant, a culinary adventure indeed.

8

## Laughing in the face of Winter



Cold is good, freezing even better when you sample some of the area's best seasonal activities. Page 6

04 05

120th UMS Season

## DJ Spooky's Rebirth of a Nation

A Performance Work by Paul D. Miller,  
aka DJ Spooky That Subliminal Kid  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 8 PM  
Power Center

On the cutting edge of the hip-hop  
and avant-garde music scene,  
DJ Spooky makes his UMS  
debut with a compelling remix of  
D.W. Griffith's monumental and  
controversial movie, *Birth of a  
Nation*, combining footage from  
the silent film with other video  
imagery and a live audio mix.

### FREE EDUCATION EVENTS

#### SYMPOSIUM: Race and Early Film

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9  
12:30-3:30 PM Screening of *Birth of a Nation*  
3:45-5:00 PM Panel Discussion  
7:00-8:30 PM Screening of *Within Our Gates*  
Natural Sciences Building Auditorium  
803 M University Ave.

#### NETWORK Reception

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 6:15-7:45 pm  
Michigan League Hussey Room and Concourse

Presented in partnership with the U-M Office of Academic  
Multicultural Initiatives, Media Partners, WEMU 89.1 FM,  
and Michigan Chronicle Front Page. This event is part of the  
U-M Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium and the Celebration  
of African American Dance.

### Sam Shalabi

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 8 PM  
Hill Auditorium

Program: *Arab American News* (1975-76)  
with the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services

### FREE EDUCATION EVENT: Community Reception

Wednesday, January 12, following the performance  
at 7:00-8:15 PM Atrium

### Stephanie Blythe, mezzo-soprano

WATERLOO, ONTARIO  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 8 PM  
Laurier-Henderson Theatre

Program: *Sybil's Soliloquy* from *Andromache* by Euripides  
and *Phaedra's Soliloquy*

### Ronald K. Brown/Evidence

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 5 PM  
MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 10 PM  
Power Center

Program: *Evil Eye* by  
Hilary Brown, *20th Anniversary* by Ron Brown (M)  
*20th Anniversary* by Ron Brown (M)  
with *Clubs on the Park* (2001) by Ron Brown (M)

### PROGRAM (JAN 17)

12:15-1:30 PM *Evil Eye* by Hilary Brown  
1:30-2:45 PM *20th Anniversary* by Ron Brown (M)  
2:45-3:00 PM *Clubs on the Park* (2001) by Ron Brown (M)

### FREE EDUCATION EVENTS

Ronald K. Brown *Technique Dance Master Classes*  
Saturday, January 15, 12:00pm-1:30 pm and 1:30-3 pm  
Michigan League Dance Studio • Wayne State University  
2847 Cass Ave. • Detroit

### NETWORK Reception

Sunday, January 16, 4:15-6:45 pm  
Michigan League Hussey and Vandenberg Rooms

### SYMPOSIUM AND ARTIST INTERVIEW

*African Roots in American Modern Dance*  
Monday, January 17, 1:30 pm  
Jeffrey Chase Jones Studio • 1310 N. University Ct.

Produced in partnership with Arts of Michigan, funded in part by the  
National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts.  
We gratefully acknowledge the U-M Office of Academic Multicultural  
Initiatives, Media Partners, Detroit Journal News, Michigan Radio,  
Michigan Television, WEMU 89.1 FM, and Michigan Chronicle for  
their generous support of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
Symposium and the Celebration of African American Dance.

### Lahis Symphony

with Louise Bartis

Osma Vanska, conductor  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 8 PM  
Hill Auditorium

Program: *Symphony No. 4* by Beethoven (1808)  
*Symphony No. 5* by Beethoven (1808)  
*Symphony No. 6* by Beethoven (1808)  
*Symphony No. 7* by Beethoven (1812)  
*Symphony No. 8* by Beethoven (1812)

### BANK-ONE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 8 PM  
Hill Auditorium

## Film

# 'Dracula 3000' stinks up the final frontier

What in the galaxy is Count Dracula  
doing roaming around a spaceship?  
Well, what better place is there for a  
vampire than the eternal night of space?

That's the premise of *Dracula 3000*, a  
sci-fi stinkeroo that is at video stores now.  
The story: In the year 3,000, a space salvage  
vessel with the usual crew of misfits comes



Beyond  
Bad

Greg  
Kowalski

across the giant hulk of the  
freighter Demeter, which  
had disappeared 100 years  
earlier.  
A quick check of the  
cargo reveals 50 wooden  
coffins, one of which con-  
tains Count Dracula, who  
we learn had planned to  
leave the Transylvania star  
system and seek new blood  
elsewhere in space. Sw n  
enough, the count's on his  
feet and picking off the  
crew one by one.

Not even brave captain  
Van Helsing can save them from the evil  
count's clutches and ultimately, the only way  
to stop him is to send the ship hurtling into  
a nearby star.

That's about it  
There is a germ of the idea here. If you  
have read Bram Stoker's *Dracula* you will  
recognize the Demeter as the ship that car-  
ried Dracula to London. Van Helsing, of  
course, is the vampire slayer and another  
character here is named Mina, also derived  
from the book.

If the producers had chosen to convey the  
experience of what the crew of the Demeter  
might have faced with Dracula on board  
and transported it to outer space, this story  
might of had a chance. But with bland  
direction, dreary script and too many silly  
plastic teeth, this is a rather anemic affair.

Not even a special appearance by Udo  
Kier — who should know something about  
vampires considering his film experience in  
the genre — can breathe life into the mess.  
The abrupt ending doesn't help matters. It's  
as if the producers said, "OK, that's enough.  
Let's stop."

The only bright moments involve a sexy  
android who is, of course, immune to the  
count's toothy advances.

But if you really want to seek a grand  
space adventure, try *Leprechaun 4*. In this  
one, the little feller causes mayhem on a  
spaceship. It's utterly ridiculous and quite  
amusing, in contrast to the other  
*Leprechaun* films, which are just dumb.

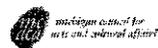
Greg Kowalski believes Dracula should stay firmly  
planted on - or in - the earth. He can be reached at  
(248) 901-2570 or at gkowalski@oe.homecomm.net



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PURE ENTERTAINMENT!

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A HomeTown Communications Network publication



## Hot Ticket

### Let's get ready to

Savoy Brown headlines the festival on Friday. It features legendary musician Kim Simmonds, (second from left), known for playing 'British Blues Guitar.'

**W**inter making you blue? Adjust your attitude with some smokin' hot blues at the sizzling two-day Anti-Freeze Blues Festival Friday and Saturday at the Magic Bag in Ferndale. An eclectic mix of blues musicians will grace the stage, including Savoy Brown and Roomful of Blues.

Brown, a British blues and boogie band is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year and headlines Friday.

Roomful of Blues, a horn-filled, swinging band that attracts young rockabilly dancers and a more mature crowd, headlines Saturday.

"We love playing the Bag," said Chris Vachon, Roomful of Blues guitarist. "It's like home for us."

The festival is a benefit for The Detroit Blues Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting an appreciation for the blues.

Roomful of Blues will perform songs from its 18th CD, *Standing Room Only* (Alligator Records), to be released this month. The band is also celebrating its coveted 2004 WC Handy Blues Award for "band of the year" and "best blues instrumentalist/horns."

Like Savoy Brown, Roomful of Blues has played for years - 36 to be exact. The eight-piece band based in Rhode Island plays jumping blues, R&B, soul and a bit of 1940s and 1950s jazz, Vachon said. They've played with BB King, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Eric Clapton and Carlos Santana.

Over the years, 44 musicians have played with Roomful of Blues. All were established, disciplined musicians, which is why the band's reputation has remained solid for so long.

"We have people coming to our shows who will say they saw the band perform in the late 1960s and they keep coming back," Vachon said. What's really cool is there's also a strong, younger crowd."

Vachon currently leads the band. It was formed in 1967 by former members Duke Robillard (also formerly of the Fabulous Thunderbirds) who now leads his own

## The Anti-Freeze Blues Festival takes the sting out of winter

BY LANA MINI  
STAFF WRITER

### THE ANTI-FREEZE BLUES FESTIVAL

**What:** A benefit for the Detroit Blues Society

**When:** 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 7-8

**Where:** The Magic Bag, 22920

Woodward Ave., Ferndale,  
(248) 544-1991

**Admission:** \$20 each night

**Friday:** Savoy Brown with R.J. & the Rhythm Rockers, Rattlesnake Shake and The Alligators

**Saturday:** Roomful of Blues with Doug Deming's Jeweltones featuring Greg 'Fingers' Taylor, Lady Sunshine & the X Band, The Sunny Girl Band

**For more information:** Visit [www.themagicbag.com](http://www.themagicbag.com)

See related story on 10.

band, The Duke Robillard Band. Co-founder keyboardist/pianist Al Copley moved to Europe in 1984 where his solo career flourishes.

The philosophy of Roomful of Blues: Fill the dance floors at festivals in Italy, France, Turkey and Russia and nightclubs in France, Spain, Switzerland and the U.S.

"The folks in Turkey really like the

blues," Vachon said. We find blues is something people relate with worldwide?"

The horn and guitar-fueled sound is so popular they play year-round.

"I never thought I'd be lucky enough to play guitar for a living; I was an electrician before this gig. But I've playing in the hand since the 1990s, I have no intention of stopping."

*Standing Room Only* features mostly original songs.

"The current lineup was too new on our last CD, so there weren't a lot of original songs. We're really excited about this new release," said Vachon.

Despite lineup changes, the energy of Roomful of Blues' live show is always the same.

"Our goal at each show is to go out and kick butt. ... It's danceable and we never get tired of it. Even when we're not touring, we're playing local clubs on the East Coast," said Vachon.

### SAVOY BROWN

With founder and guitarist Kim Simmonds, a legend among England's guitarists from the 1960s British blues era, Savoy Brown has played with Clapton, Mick Taylor, Peter Green and others.

The band has nearly two dozen CDs and recorded the popular *I'm Fired, Louisiana Blues* and the Motown remake of *I Can't Get Next to You*. Early Savoy Brown band members later formed the 1970s sensation Foghat.

Simmonds has been the one constant in the band that has had more commercial success in the U.S. than in the United Kingdom. Music enthusiasts say Savoy Brown's style paved the way for other blues-influenced rock bands like Led Zeppelin. Today, Savoy's rock/blues sound is sometimes acoustic and other times hard-driving.

"Blues music has always been my first love," Simmonds said. "Somewhere it connects my Welsh roots and enables me to express my emotions and allows the perfect creative outlet."

"Let music make our lives sweeter." And warm us during these winter months.

# Get Out!

Your Guide to Entertainment

Send fax or e-mail items for consideration in Get Out! At least two weeks in advance, to Keely Schramm, assistant managing editor for features, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, fax (248) 644-1314 or e-mail kschrmm@oe.homecomm.net.

## AUDITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

**Plymouth Oratorio Society**  
Rehearses at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays at the First United Methodist Church on North Territorial Road, a quarter mile west of Sheldon Road in Plymouth. New members welcome, call (734) 455-8353. They will be performing Rutter's Requiem and J.S. Bach's Canata No. 4 General Motors Employees' Chorus Open to anyone 18 or older. Rehearse 6:45-9 p.m. Mondays at Lincoln High School in Warren. Visit <http://gmchorus.bravepage.com> or call Keith Jones, (248) 960-0910, for more information.

**Marquis Theatre**  
Peter Cotton Tail, ages 8-15, 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, 135 E. Main St. downtown Northville. Must sing *Do-Re-Mi* from *Sound of Music*, be prepared to read a poem no longer than two minutes. (248) 349-8110.

**Sara Smith Productions**  
*Peter Pan*, youth production, ages 9-18, Friday, Jan. 7, and Sunday, Jan. 9, at the Community House, 380 S. Bates St. Birmingham. A one-minute monologue (does not have to be memorized) and a few bars of a favorite song with music (sheet music only) will be required. Call (248) 644-5832 to schedule an appointment. Show dates are March 5-6.

**Farmington Players**  
Auditions for State *Fair* by Rodgers and Hammerstein, 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9, at the Farmington Players Barn, 32332 West 12 Mile Road between Farmington and Orchard Lake roads. (248) 553-2955. Show dates: April 29 through May 21. *Proof* opens Jan. 28 at the Barn.

**Metropolitan Ballet Academy** 6 Theater Master classes to be held 11:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9. Classes conducted by Victoria Stocki-Kim and Jay Kim, former professional ballet dancers with over 33 years combined experience. Class time

depends on age. \$10. Classes held at 42500 Arena Drive, Novi. Call (248) 735-8850 for information and to register.

**Farmington Community Chorus**  
Will hold new member auditions for its 25th anniversary winter/spring session 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 and Jan. 18, beginning at the William Costick Activities Center on 11 Mile Road, east of Middlebelt, in Farmington Hills. The 90-voice mixed chorus includes singers age 19 and older from throughout the metro Detroit area. All voice parts are welcomed. Call Kathy Hall at (248) 471-4516 or visit [www.farmingtonchorus.com](http://www.farmingtonchorus.com).

**Dance Electric**  
Grease, chorus/dancers, boys and girls (at least 7 years of age), small roles, males and females (adult roles, teen roles), lead roles, males and females (teens); chorus/dancers 4:30-5 p.m.; 5:30-7:30 p.m. (speaking roles) Monday, Jan. 17 and 24, Dance Electric Performing Arts Studio, 24717 Crestview, Farmington Hills. (248) 477-3830 or e-mail us at [danceelectric@twmi.rr.com](mailto:danceelectric@twmi.rr.com) to reserve a spot, [www.danceelectric.com](http://www.danceelectric.com)

**Lakeland Players**  
The Cemetery Club, 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Jan. 17-18; Central United Methodist Church in Waterford; show dates April 1-2, 8-9, call Stu Packard (248) 666-4715 or e-mail [cspackard@hotmail.com](mailto:cspackard@hotmail.com); Big 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 31, and Tuesday, Feb. 1, Karl Richter campus, 920 E. Baird St. Holly; show dates April 29-30 and May 6-7; Sandi or Steve Krupa. (248) 698-3498. or e-mail, [spkrupa@aol.com](mailto:spkrupa@aol.com), or [www.lakelandplayers.com](http://www.lakelandplayers.com).

**Avon Players**  
*Steel Magnolias*, Robert Harling, on Sunday, 6:30 p.m. Sunday-Monday, Jan. 16-17, 1185 Washington Road, one mile east of the intersection of Tienken and Rochester roads in Rochester Hills. For more information, visit [www.avonplayers.org](http://www.avonplayers.org). Show dates are March 4-6, 11-13 and 18-19.

**Heartland Theatre Company**  
Is accepting submissions for Play by Play 2005 until Feb. 28. The marathon is scheduled noon to midnight Saturday, June 11, at Performance Network in Ann Arbor. Visit [www.heartland.com](http://www.heartland.com) and click on the individual project or event for more detailed information.

## AUTO SHOW

North American International Auto Show

Opens Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 15-23, Cobo Conference Center, One Washington Blvd., Detroit, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 15-22; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 23, \$12 adult, \$6 seniors 65 and older, children 12 and under free with parent, at door or visit [www.naias.com](http://www.naias.com)

**Automotive Impressions**  
An exhibit sponsored by the Plymouth Community Arts Council, continues through Sunday, Jan. 30. Artist reception 3-6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday, and Wednesday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Featured artists are Gerald Freeman, Tom Hale and Alexander Buchan. (734) 416-4278, 774 N. Sheldon Road.

## FAMILY FUN

**Redford Theatre**  
Classic films & cartoons, 7:30 p.m. organ overture, 8 p.m. Cabaret, Sylvester & Tweety in Fowl Weather, Friday-Saturday, and 1:30 p.m. (overture) 2 p.m. film Saturday, 17360 Lahser, Detroit, \$3.25, (313) 537-2560, [www.redfordtheatre.com](http://www.redfordtheatre.com).

**Cranbrook Institute of Science**  
Telescope Users Workshop, 7-9 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10. Ages 8 and older. A participating adult must accompany children under 16. Cost is \$12/members and \$15/non-members per person. For more information and to register, call (248) 645-3210. The Institute of Science is at 39221 Woodward Ave. in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. Museum admission is \$7 adults; \$5 children 2-12 and senior citizens (65+); children under 2 and members admitted free. Cranbrook Institute of Science is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and until 10 p.m. on Friday, (877) 462-7262, visit [www.cranbrook.edu](http://www.cranbrook.edu).

**Marquis Theatre**  
Rumpelstiltskin, 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 8-9, 15-16; \$7.50, 135 E. Main St. Northville, (248) 349-8110.

**Youtheatre**  
Debuts forever free: *A Story of the Civil War* 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15 at the Millennium Centre, 15600 J.L. Hudson Dr., Southfield. Musical based on



RICK SMITH

Henrietta Hermelin (Daisy Werthen), and James Bowen (Hoke Colburn) in Brook Theatre's production of *Driving Miss Daisy* which runs through Jan. 30 at the theater on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester Hills. Show times and ticket prices vary, visit [www.mbtheatre.com](http://www.mbtheatre.com), or call (248) 377-3300.

an untold story of the Civil War revolves around a young slave named Kofi: \$8, (248) 557-PLAY (7529) [www.youththeatre.org](http://www.youththeatre.org)

**Theatre Livonia**  
With Paper Bag Productions is offering Acting 101, a workshop for students ages 10-17, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Monday or Thursday, for five weeks, beginning Jan. 10 at Livonia Mall, 29516 Seven Mile Road. Cost \$150 per student. (586) 344-7774.

## MUSIC

**St. Andrew's Hall**  
Rough, tough yet melodic punk band The Explosion plus Most Precious Blood, Rise Against and A Wilhelm Scream, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9. Tickets \$12. All ages welcome. 431 East Congress, Detroit. Call (313) 961-MELT.

**Onnik Oinkjian**  
Will perform a concert of Sacred Hymns of the Armenian Church accompanied by Ara Dinkjian on organ, 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, doors open 5:30 p.m. St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church, 19300 Ford Road, Dearborn. \$20 per person (advanced tickets only), afterglow reception follows concert. [atopouzian@arp-music.com](mailto:atopouzian@arp-music.com) or (248) 851-9225

**DSO**  
Peter Oundjian conducts Romantic *Rachmaninoff* featuring Emmanuelle Boisvert, violin; 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7; 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8; at the Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit: \$16-\$69; (313) 576-5111, [www.detroitssymphony.com](http://www.detroitssymphony.com)

**Dancing Across the Miles**  
Jazz Concert Featuring Ursula Walker, vocals; George Benson, saxophone; Dwight Adams, trumpet; Buddy Budson, piano; Dan Kolton, bass; Pete Sier drums; 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10. The Serengeti, 2757 Grand River Ave., Detroit; \$20, includes refreshments and raffle drawing, benefit performance to send Cass Technical, Martin Luther King and Renaissance High Schools to the International Association of Blacks in Dance Conference, Los Angeles. Hot Club of Detroit

At Shield's Pizza, 25101 Telegraph, Southfield, 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 and Jan. 25, (248) 476-2674, <http://hotclubofdetroit.com>.

**Birmingham Musicales**  
Program 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13. The Community House, 380 S. Bates St., Birmingham. The Weather Report presented by the Musicales's production ensemble, tea follows, donations accepted.

## ART/GALLERIES

**Recycle It for Art**  
Turn basic items into wonderful projects that can be used for a variety of purposes or given as gifts. Bring items to class that you are interested in working on. This class will encourage you to save time, money and the environment. The main objective is to provide you with an opportunity to exercise your creativity. Instructor Petra Boham, 9-10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 15. Farmington High School, 32000 Shiloh Road, Farmington. The fee for this course is \$10. (248) 489-3333, [www.petrart.com](http://www.petrart.com).

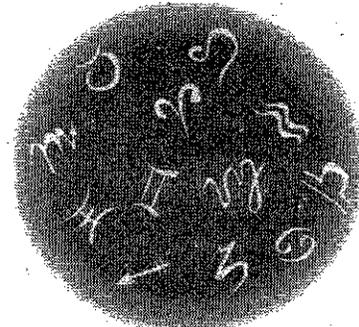
**Epiphany Glass**  
Opens studio to the public 4-9 p.m. today and Thursday, Feb. 3. View an individual-crafted collection of handblown glass sculptures including the Splash Free Form and Nest series. Meet artisan husband and wife team Jason Ruff and April Wagner. Live glass blowing demonstrations will be conducted every half hour. No charge. All welcome, 770 Orchard Lake Road in Pontiac. (248) 745-3786.

**Lawrence Street Gallery**  
Is hosting an all-members' exhibition with gallery fund-raiser celebrating the 50th anniversary of the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan Jan. 11-29. Opening reception 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, 22620 Woodward Avenue, Suite A Ferndale. A percentage of proceeds from sales for the month of January will be donated to help the National Kidney Foundation. Gallery open noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Wheelchair accessible from the Woodward Avenue front entrance. (248) 544-0394, [www.lawrencestreetgallery.com](http://www.lawrencestreetgallery.com).



## Star struck

(Jan. 6-Jan. 8)  
By Dennis Fairchild



### ARIES (March 21-April 20)



The only constant in astrology, as in life, is change. So make the most of current aspects to get your life moving in the right direction again, Rambo. Your ruling planet Mars soon shifting signs signifies that you are in the ideal position to force the pace on the financial front.

### TAURUS (April 21-May 21)



Count to 10 and take action, Bull! For too long, you've put off dealing with something of an emotional nature, but what happens this week will convince you that you can't run forever. Most likely, you'll discover that what you feared was a product of your imagination. Or, bull-headedness.

### GEMINI (May 22-June 21)



The thing to remember is that you are no longer tied to the past, nor are you under others' control or influence, Twins - in fact, the key word now is freedom. Therefore, think of the larger self that is limitless in power and possibilities and spring will be a time of remarkable achievements.

### CANCER (June 22-July 23)



You are justly renowned for being patient, but with Mars about to shift signs it's time to speak up and let others know your feelings and upsets. You may not tell people what they want to hear, but at least they will know where you stand, Moon Kid. Stand strong, kiddo!

### LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)



Try not to be too hard on yourself. Everyone makes mistakes (even a Lion) and the bigger the mistakes you make, the more of an opportunity you have of turning them into something of value. If mistakes are the way we learn, you'll learn something over the coming days!

### VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)



For someone who is supposed to be easygoing, tolerant and compassionate, you appear to be going in all directions at the moment, Virgo. Insure you don't spoil what could be a profitable alliance by insisting that everyone take your word as gospel. Aim for "humble honesty."

### LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)



No matter how much of an individualist you might be, the Sun moving into your sign on the 19th is reminding you that the only way to get what you really want out of life is to work more closely with those who share your goals. There is strength in numbers for you this week.

### SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)



Star-wise, this could be a fortunate week for you, especially if you're ambitious and want to move up in the world. The only danger is that in your haste to get ahead, you might go against your own principles and do something that hurts others, if only indirectly. Be true to yourself, Scorp, and don't be in such a rush.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)



The daydreaming Archers are great ones for wishing they could turn back the clock and make things right. You can't, of course, but what you can do is visualize a time and place in the future when the mistakes of the past no longer matter. Focus on possibilities instead of perils. The Moon in your element is shooting strength to you.

### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 21)



Your way with words opens many doors, but sometimes leads to them being slammed in your face, and that's something you'll have to watch for this week. The Sun in your sign and upcoming Mars change says that being brutally honest isn't the best idea now, especially if your progress and profits depend on it.

### AQUARIUS (Jan. 22-Feb. 19)



You may feel tempted to break with routine and do something completely out of character this weekend. After all, it's been a crazy two months, eh? If you have the support of a certain key person or best pal, all the better. If not, be prepared to stick your neck out and do it anyway. Family can take of themselves.

### PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)



What is important to you now, especially on a material level, won't be so important to you by this time next week. That's good, because it's time you recognized that some things, and some people, are not to be taken seriously. Budget your time and money, don't push yourself. Fish!

Dennis Fairchild is a Birmingham-based astrologer and author of several books on divination. For information about personal consultations, phone (248) 646-3555 or e-mail DenFairchild@aol.com.

## Pure Picks

## Year in Review

Usually we write something here about picking the best weekly events "filtered" just for you. This week we look back and select the best music of 2004 "Filtered" just for you.

It's hard to write a great Year in Review column. Partly because everyone on the planet will have different opinions than you and partly because it's getting harder and harder for me to remember what happened last week, let alone what has happened in the past year. Thinking back, I remember January. It was followed by February and later in the year came July. Due to poor ticket sales, October had to be cancelled, but November more than made up for it. This week, I try to tackle the best albums and songs of 2004 I say "try" because I'm sure when I re-read this column Thursday I'll remember something I haven't included and wish time machines were a reality.

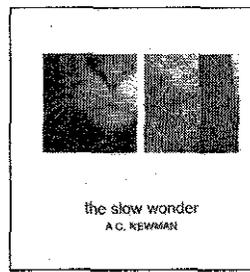
So here is Pure Pick's 2004 Top 10 Albums, in no particular order because chaos is beauty.

**Nino Rojo** - Devendra Banhart: Banhart's Rejoicing in the Hands was also released this year



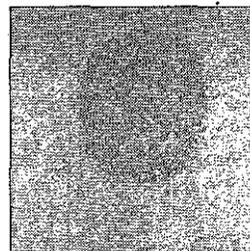
and is awe-totally-some. But Nino Rojo includes At the Hop, a simple song of melody and sadness that is my candidate for song of the year.

**A Ghost in the Machine** - Ghost in the Machine: No, it's not Yankee Hotel Foxtrot. But if you sit with it, you'll start to get it.



**The Milk-Eyed Mender** - Joanna Newsom: Band-wagons have never felt so good.

**The Slow Wonder** - AC Newman: The New Pornographers frontman returned with a solo work so catchy it sound-tracked my summer.



**The Guest** - Phantom Planet. I'm totally not joking. This replaces my Ted Leo/Shake the

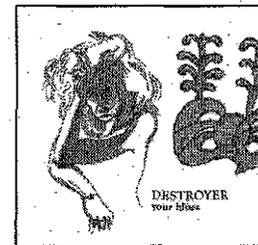
Sheetspick.

**Seven Swans** - Sufian Stevens: You won't even mind the God parts and if you are into that, you'll like it even more.

**Smile** - Brian Wilson: I haven't been totally buried under a rock.

**New England** - Jason Anderson: So simple. So beautiful.

**Tie**: The Futureheads - The Futureheads; *Antics* - Interpol; *Franz Ferdinand* - Franz Ferdinand; *Hot Fuss* - The Killers; Music that might appear on The OC I'll say one thing about popular music: It mostly stinks. I'll say one more thing about popular music: It got a little better this year, or at least a little



more white-kid danceable.

**Your Blues** - Destroyer: This will score you so many cool points when you boldly declare "Man, no one even makes records like this anymore!" I.e. Destroyer is this year's **Best Ian-Eno Pick**.

**Bonus 11th spot:**

**Best local disc:**

**Every Night** -

**Si day** -

**to Me**: It had two ver-

sions. I don't really

need to sav more do

I? OK Fred Thomas is 10 types of adorable.

**Best EP**

**The Tain** - The Decemberists - Ah, sweet, sweet concept album.

Three records that had so much buzz, junkies started **freebasing** them:

**Who Will Cut Our Hair When We're Gone** - The Unicorns  
**Funeral** - Arcade Fire  
**Blueberry Boat** - The fiery Furnaces

I'll give you a buck if you honestly and unbiasedly enjoyed all three.\*

**Songs**

**Sprout and the Bean** - The Milk-Eyed Mender - Joanna Newsom: She's a lot like Hamburger Helper for your ears. First you think it's too odd but you listen to it anyway. Then you find yourself craving silly songs about fruit at 4 a.m.

**Twilight** - From a Basement on a Hill - Elliott Smith: We listened for answers but only found more questions.

**Everybody3 Gotta Learn Sometime** - Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Minds soundtrack - Beck: God, I miss Beck.

**All These Things I've Done** - Mr. Brightside - Hot Fuss - The Killers: I'm sorry if you're too pretentious to love this.

**Peach Trees** - *Want 2* - Rufus Wainwright: A friend of mine refuses to buy any Rufus because quote, "It's too perfect."

**I'd Rather Dance with You** - Riot on an Empty Street - Kings of Convenience: Even hearing this song in an Old Navy commercial could not ruin it.

**Fill in your own Kayne West/The Streets/Madvilliani** song here: \_\_\_\_\_

Because year in review lists are cop-outs to actually finding out what's going on in Detroit during the upcoming week, next week I will list 2004's top shows, books and films as well as 2005's buzzworthy stuff.

\* I actually can't afford lunch so don't actually expect any money because you're actually an elitist twit.

Pure Picks is written by Stephanie Tardy, who writes her own column taglines but usually composes them in third person for effect. Not this week, though. Wanna punch me in the face or congratulate me for this list? Your opinion is valued even if we don't share the same one, thus making yours not as good as mine. You can **tate your p a ; pic ; , p as, gruff l y e-mailing** at stardy@oe.homecomm.net or snail mailing me at Pure Picks c/o Stephanie Tardy, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI, 48009. As always, information regarding local entertainment events is also something I'd be interested in glancing at before I trash it. P.S. I also totally stole one of the jokes in this week's column and I just might do it again, so be witty when you write me.

## Cover story

**Alpine Valley**  
Ski Area - 6775 East  
Highland, White Lake, (248) 887-  
2180 or (snow line) (248) 887-4183,  
www.skialpinevalley.com; 10 a.m. to  
10:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to  
11 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday and  
9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Sunday, some past-  
midnight sessions on Saturdays; tow,  
\$15-\$21, all-area, \$24-\$38. All equip-  
ment rentals, private, and group  
lessons for skiing, snowboard-  
ing. Call (248) 887-6010.

**Mt. Brighton**-  
4141 Bauer, Brighton,  
(810) 229-9581, www.mtbrighton.com;  
10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday,  
10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, not all  
slopes/lifts open at all times; open past mid-  
night on select Saturdays; tow, \$17-\$20, all area,  
\$17-\$28. All equipment can be rented; private  
and group lessons for skiing, racing and  
snowboarding.  
Call (810) 229-9581,  
Ext. 220.

**Mt. Holly**-13536 South Dixie,  
Holly, (248) 634-8269, snow line at  
(800) 582-7256, www.skimtholly.com;  
10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.  
to 11 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday and  
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# White stuff

## Catch a fast ride through wint

**S**now: It annoys us most of the time, but all that white stuff makes for good, fast and thrilling times on area slopes.

And snowboarders and skiers alike can expect to see improvements at Michigan ski areas.

"Almost everybody is adding or expanding terrain parks," said Mickey MacWilliams, executive director of the Michigan Snowsports Industries Association in Clarkston. "The reason for that is that our future lies with the youth."

STORY BY NICOLE  
STAFFORD

STAFF WRITER

Mt. Brighton, for example, added several new features to its terrain park, including a c-box, rainbow rail and rainbow box - a series of three jumps aimed at challenging snowboarding skills. Also new is a chair lift servicing the park. Snowboarders dominate terrain parks and use sails and boxes to perform jumps, turns and other air-bound maneuvers, but the areas are open to skiers, as well.

"It's kind of funny how each year we add a little bit more to the terrain park," said Jack Pippin, director of snowsports at Mt. Brighton. "We kick it up a notch every year, and the talent steps up every year. It's evolving. The bigger the jumps are, the better the kids get. It's a lot of

fun to watch."

Terrain parks cut down on snowboarding traffic on ski runs and at chair lifts, but the battle between skiers and snowboarders is increasingly disappearing, said MacWilliams.

"A lot of people do both now," she said. "Like me, I'll ski one day and then I'll pull out the snowboard. We (adult skiers) were a little bit leery of snowboarding 10 or 12 years ago, but not now."

Several ski areas outside southeastern Michigan have revamped their offerings for snowboarders, too. The Homestead in Glen Arbor has added a second terrain park, and nearby Crystal Mountain plans to construct a 300-foot half pipe.

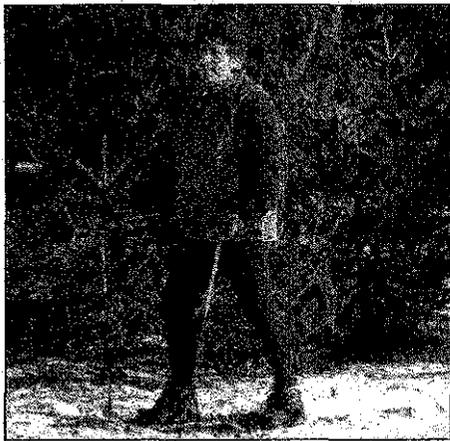
Also new on the scene are dogsled rides at Boyne Highlands.

"It's the first time they've tried this. It should be pretty neat. It's something that they do out West a lot," MacWilliams said.

Of course there are plenty of special packages and discounts available this season.

At Pine Knob, every Tuesday is two for the price of one. Several local ski areas also sell discounted passes for ladies, seniors and adult men on select weekdays.

PLEASE SEE SNOW, E7



Carol Fink of West Bloomfield treks around the wooded area near her home. Snowshoeing is a great form of winter exercise.

## SNOW

FROM PAGE E6

McDonald's "Discover Michigan Skiing," a discounted program for beginners running at 21 Michigan ski facilities through Jan. 31, offers a lesson, equipment rental and day pass for one price. The cost is \$30 for adults, \$20 for children and \$40 for a snowboarding package regardless of age. Vouchers for the program are available at participating McDonald's restaurants, local retail ski shops or by visiting [www.goskimichigan.com](http://www.goskimichigan.com).

"It's away that anybody regardless of your age can try skiing or snowboarding without it being a financial burden," said MacWilliams. "It also provides you with an opportunity to do it the right way the first time."

For downhill regulars, consider purchasing a White Gold Card. Priced at \$169, the card is good for one session at each of 24 participating ski areas, but supplies are limited and dwindling.

Also continuing this season is "Cold is Cool," which provides up to three free lift tickets at each of the 23 participating ski areas to fourth-graders accompanied by an adult.

"The program is valid any day of the season, and it creates a lot of good will, too," said MacWilliams. "Parents are pretty happy when their fourth-grader gets to ski for free."

For general information - Visit [www.goskimichigan.com](http://www.goskimichigan.com).

# On stage What's old is new again in classic 'The King and I'

BY NICOLE STAFFORD  
STAFF WRITER

Two people, two different worlds, one love.

It's an old story that always manages to sound fresh and new.

But Rodgers & Hammerstein's musical *The King and I*, which opens Tuesday, Jan. 11, and continues through Jan. 30 at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit, feels contemporaneous with the here and now.

"It's about two people who are from very different cultures," said Ronobir Lahiri, who is the King of Siam opposite Strfanie Powers as I. "Mr. it foresaw the future. It's a musical about globalization, and we're living in a global world now."

Set in the 1860s in exotic Bangkok, *The King and I* is based on the life story of an English widow named Anna Leonowens who became a governess to the children of the King of Siam with the two eventually falling in love. The 1944 best-selling novel *Anna and the King of Siam* by Margaret Landon also recounts her life.

Rodgers & Hammerstein's original musical version hit Broadway in 1951 with Yul Brynner portraying the King of Siam. It earned five Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

Lahiri, whose acting credits include



JOAN MARCUS

There's plenty of on-stage spectacle, including this festive dancing scene, in the new national tour of Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'The King and I'

## ROYAL LOVE STORY

**What:** Rodgers & Hammerstein's musical *The King and I*.

**When:** Jan. 11-30, shows are 8 pm Tuesday-Saturday, 2 pm Saturday and Sunday and 7:30 pm Sunday.

**Where:** Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit.

**Tickets:** \$30.50-\$68, call Ticketmaster at (248) 615-6666 or the box office at (313) 872-1000 or visit [www.nederlanderdetroit.com](http://www.nederlanderdetroit.com).

appearances in the hit TV show *The Sopranos* and the film, *You've Got Mail*, first joined the Broadway production of *The King and I* in 1997 as an understudy to the King of Siam. He went on to perform in the show's first national tour and London's West End production in 2001.

Other members of the current production team, including one director, were involved in the original show, said Lahiri.

"It's excellent in that we have access to

every version that's ever been done, every script, every tape," he commented. "But, there's a certain feeling of intimidation. I can never approach this role without feeling the shadow of Yul Brynner."

Despite the pressure, Lahiri hasn't significantly altered the role.

"The main thrust of it is the same. If it's not broken, don't fix it. But you can't do this play like it's in the '50s, so it does have a contemporary angle."

Accordingly, Lahiri approached his character through research and psychological study.

"He's a character who is a very creative and very intelligent man. He's a guy that never wants to stop learning. And that's why he's such a likable character. Even though he is stern, he really just wants to better himself and make his country greater and stronger?"

While the new musical is more character-driven, audiences will still experience all the on-stage spectacle that made and continues to make *The King and I* so appealing.

"This production seems very organic and very human," said Lahiri. "But I think the Detroit audiences will get all the spectacle and glamour and glitz, too."

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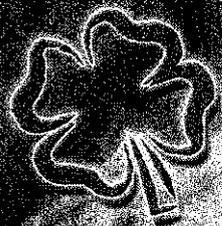
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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 6, 2005 • (\*\*) E7

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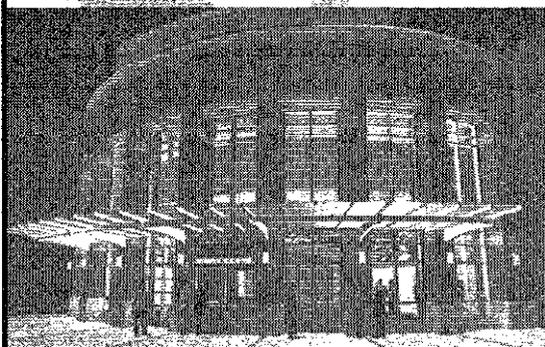
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view the complete schedule, please visit  
[www.cantonmi.org/CPAEC/about.asp](http://www.cantonmi.org/CPAEC/about.asp)

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## Table hopping

# Apple

of our eye

High-toned  
flavors  
spotlighted  
at Eve

"I searched for five years to  
find a location to open my own  
restaurant: 35-year-old  
Chef/Owner Eve Aronoff  
explained. "A Main Street, Ann  
Arbor, location was beyond my  
budget, but Kerrytown has  
become a special culinary  
neighborhood."

Chef Eve is fascinated by  
high-toned flavors and cuisines

showcasing them - North Africa, Morocco, India and  
Thailand. "At an early age, I lived in Israel," she said. "And  
the Middle East exposed me to many different flavors."

A comparative literature degree from Brandeis University  
also helped develop my love of different cultures. I knew  
that if I was going to open my own restaurant, I wasn't  
going to hold back on flavors."

Before attending Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, where she  
gained more multi-ethnic exposure, in addition to earning  
diplomas in culinary arts, wine and spirits, she cooked at  
The Common Grill in Chelsea, worked in Monaghan's Fish  
Market and also helped with the opening of Café Zola, both  
in Ann Arbor.

### MAKING A STATEMENT

Eve, a 75-seat restaurant with reclaimed brick walls,  
understated modern art work, neutral colors, soft lighting  
from suspended clear globes and white tablecloths adorned  
with a small vase of herbs and a couple of white votives,  
offers food that makes a statement.

One that's in keeping with the philosophy Chef Eve has  
expressed in three paragraphs on the back of the menu.  
Grounded in French cooking techniques, she runs a  
"scratch" kitchen, following both her preference for bolder  
flavors, seasonal ingredients supporting local agriculture  
and artisanal endeavors, such as those promoted by the Slow  
Food movement.

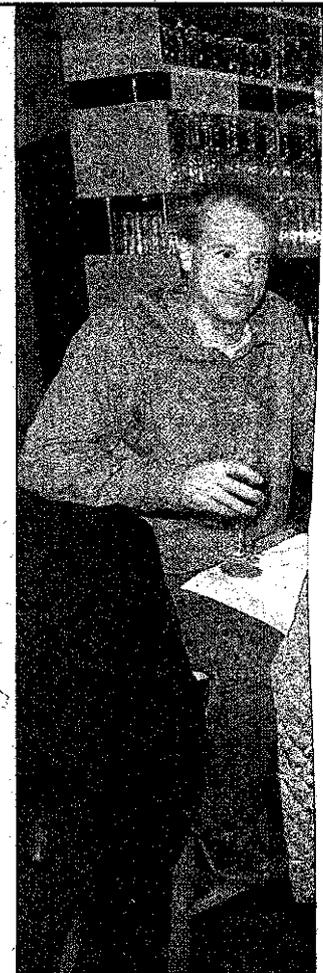
### FOR STARTERS

Shortly after a diner is seated, a well-trained server  
offers a complimentary French baguette board with three  
spreads: salmon mousse, herb butter and guava butter.

Review the tightly edited wine list with well-priced wines  
from California, Washington state, Spain, France and Chile  
principally. flights in several interesting categories of three  
2-ounce pours range \$16-\$24.

The same wine can be found in multiple locations on the

STORY BY ELEANOR HEALD | PHOTOS BY DONALD J. ALLEY



Thursday nights at Eve feature an  
cheeses: Here, Jason Konefal and



Chris Huuy cooks shrimp for an ap

wine list. Chef Eve, who is st  
Master of Wine certification.  
this. "A red Burgundy is pino  
Burgundy; it could be missec

Thai Chicken Dumplings  
with chiffonade of wasabi lea  
tons, accompanied with crèm  
lime puree or Curried Mussel  
sauce with chunks of bread f  
showcasing Chef Eve's love of  
Beer Shrimp, flash-fried with  
accompanied with sweet chil

Soup of the day is not only  
unusual flavors and textures.

A salad of mixed organic g  
pauied by an herbed crouton  
dressed lightly with your cho  
ings, transitions the diner pe



Expanded cheese selection for the 'Cutting Board' item, simply a delicious loaf of bread with a variety of cheeses with a variety of meats. Valerie Konefal, sample the bread and cheese with a glass of wine poured by bartender David Emrich.



petizing salad.

...trying to earn the prestigious... puts an interesting spin on... t noir, but listed only as a... l, so I list it again by varietal."... , minced Thai peanut chicken... f wrapped in flash-fried won-... ie fraiche and a fresh carrot-... s, simmered in a rich curry... or "sopping" are two appetizers... 'bolder flavors. Another is Red... Leopold Bros. Red Lager and... i mayonnaise.

seasonal hut packed with

greens and fresh herbs, accom-... and a win of French cheese,... ice of one of the unique dress-... rfectly to the principal plates.

## EVE

Where: 415 N. Fifth Ave., Ann Arbor (734) 222-0711.

Open: 5:30-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, until 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday brunch, 5-9 p.m. dinner.

Food style: High-toned flavors in a globally-inspired menu prepared with exacting French culinary skills.

Cost: Dinner for two with wine \$100.

Reservations Recommended.

## MAIN ATTRACTIONS

Bolder flavors are in the spotlight with principal plates such as Asian Duck, Lemongrass Roasted Niman Ranch Pork Tenderloin or with vegetarian appeal Peanut Barbequed Tofu Napoleon layered with seaweed, exotic fruit and macadamia nuts.

Although dubbed The Simple Fish and The Simple Steak they are hardly that.

Choose from a selection of fresh fish and seafood that are lightly spiced, pan-seared and finished with fresh lime, or grilled, pan-fried, broiled or blackened to taste and complemented by unique plate garnishes. Simple Steak is from a selection of grilled fresh cuts of the day.

## PERFECT ENDINGS

Cup of Chocolate is drinkable but lasts a lot longer if you spoon it out. Apple, Pear and Sundried Cherry Crumble drives seasonal fruit to new heights with a dollop of rum raisin ice cream and maple cream, topping off a culinary adventure at Eve.



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## Drinkology

# Opt for authentic Mexican tastes

BY ELEANOR & RAY HEALD  
CORRESPONDENTS

Does this happen to you?

Every so often, you just have to eat Mexican food. And what accompanies it best? A great tequila – on its own or as a margarita

Don Eduardo Silver Tequila (\$40/750mL) is produced by the Orendain family from 100 percent blue agave, grown on their plantation outside Tequila, Mexico, and distilled at the Orendain's La Mexicana Distillery in Tequila.

In the United Kingdom, during the 31st International Wine and Spirit Competition last year, Don Eduardo

tequilas took top honors.

In the category of young (joven) tequila, Don Eduardo Triple Distilled Silver Tequila received the coveted Gold Medal.

Dating back five generations to the 1850s, crafting of Don Eduardo Silver begins with a strict selection of "hijuelo," a seedling that grows at the base of the three- to six-year-old blue agave. The best seedlings are planted in the Orendain family agave plantation.

Care continues from then to the time of maturity in eight to 10 years when harvesting occurs.

Don Eduardo Silver Tequila is mellowed by three distillations. Drinking it neat or on the rocks allows you to experience the strong agave aromas and lime-citrus characters.

Hints of caramel, black pepper and cinnamon will enhance an authentic Mexican quesadilla served as an appetizer.

focusonwine@aol.com.



## Festival

# Alligators know the blues, but have fun anyway

BY KEVIN BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

The Alligators have a new CD called *Twenty to Life* that celebrates 20 years playing blues around metro Detroit and the Midwest.

But that anniversary may be eclipsed by one unique tribute. Lead singer Dave Kramer explains:

"I'll tell you a really strange thing last summer in Lansing. A young girl comes up after the gig and says, You're my parents' favorite band – they tell me I was conceived after one of your gigs."

So watch out for that birth-rate spike on Sept. 10. The Alligators perform Friday, the opening night of the two-day 11th Annual Anti-Freeze Blues Festival Jan. 7-8 at The Magic Bag in Ferndale.

The Alligators have earned their reputation as a top regional band. They know their traditional blues, present their own songs and put on a powerful, fun stage show.

"It's chemistry," said Kramer of Livonia, who holds down a day job like the other band members in addition to performing locally and traveling 15-20 weekends a year for shows.

"If we can't get people on the dance floor by the second song we're doing something wrong," explained guitarist Steve Schwartz, one of the self-described blues purists in the group.

Kramer said the '60s British blues invasion – the Rolling Stones, Animals and Yardbirds – won him over to the blues and to the original artists that inspired the British bands. "It's probably just the simplicity and the grit more than anything else."

He played in several groups and

endured the flow of changing tastes. "Blues music suffered dearly in the '70s; disco kicked our a--. It's when The Fabulous Thunderbirds and Stevie Ray (Vaughn) came out that blues started coming back."

Soon after in 1984, The Alligators were hatched. There have been personnel changes, but Kramer and Walin' Dale on harmonica remain from the original lineup. Schwartz and Mark Seyler on drums joined 15 years ago, and Pete Kiss eight years back.

"It's a work ethic. All we ever wanted to do was just play music," Kramer said. The band has a repertoire of around 150 songs, and one third are originals.

High points in the band's history include the time they played a show outside Cleveland, sandwiched between Leon Redbone and Eric Burdon, lead singer of the Animals.

The band is excited about the job engineer Sean Morse did on the new CD, recorded live in a White Lake Township basement. Standout songs include a cover of Son House's *Preaching Blues* and the original, *Crying Time*.

While The Alligators have played their share of festivals, Kramer said there's something special about the Anti-Freeze show, which they've played three times. "This one just has the aura about it. It's very well run and just jammed full of people."

And as The Alligators celebrate their 20th anniversary, band members are hardly tired. "There's at least another 20 in us," Kramer said.

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## CD release

# Grievous Angel just clicks

BY KEVIN BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

The band Grievous Angel celebrates its first CD release at a Troy show on Friday.

But no way is this a first musical project for these veteran musicians, whose credits range from Was (Not Was) to Wilson Pickett.

Guitarist-singer Billy Brandt has backed up Jill Jack for years. David Mosher has sung and played fiddle, guitar and mandolin with a range of local and national acts, and recorded solo CDs. Drummer Ron Pangborn performed with Was (Not Was) and Sheryl Crow, and bassist Nolan Mendenhall has played with Motown legends and won Producer of the Year at the Detroit Music Awards.

But besides all that experience, Mendenhall said the band members just click.

"There's no hipness factor or pretension. It's all based on good songs and good solid arranging and playing." He also praised the original songwriting of Brandt and Mosher.

Grievous Angel takes its name from an early country-rock pioneer G. Parsons, the former Byrd, duet singing partner of Emmylou Harris and friend to

Keith Richards.

Parsons, who died in 1973, sought to play "cosmic American music" - everything from country to soul. Parsons was influenced by Ray Charles' mixing of these genres in the early '60s.

On the first CD, Grievous Angel combines those cosmic American influences with some impressive Crosby, Stills and Nash-like harmonies.

Live, the band covers everything from country artists George Jones and Johnny Cash to Creedence Clearwater Revival, Little Feat, the Grateful Dead, Tim Buckley and Greenwich Village folk icon Fred Neil, whose *The Other Side of This Life* is the only cover on the new CD.

"We do a real backbeat-heavy, Little Feat-sounding version of the Band song *Up on Cripple Creek*," Brandt said. "We do a country-funk version of Dylan's *Mighty Quinn*."

At shows, people remark on the tight rhythm section. When you come from a soul band you can be executed for poor execution of rhythm: Brandt explained, laughing.

"When we do a cover of *Hard to Handle* (previously performed by Otis Redding and the Black Crowes), our cracker funk is very funky?"



Grievous Angel, guitarist-singer Billy Brandt, David Mosher, fiddle, guitar and mandolin, Ron Pangborn, drums, and bassist Nolan Mendenhall, is celebrating the release of its first CD.

The debut CD release party will be at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7, at The Listening Room, Kensington Community Church, 1825 E. Square Lake Road, east of John R., Troy. Tickets are \$7, call (248) 786-0600.

Following the CD release party Friday, the band will perform at 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, at Dick O'Dow's in Birmingham and at 10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14, at the Rochester Mills Beer Co. in Rochester.

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For Monster Jam tickets and information, go to [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or call 248.645.6666

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 6, 2005 • (\*\*\*) E11

Creole Stomp entertains and educates audiences as it performs authentic Creole, Cajun, Zydeco and Louisiana Swamp Pop music.



## Music

# A spicy as a bowl o gumbo

Authentic Cajun style band comes to The Ark

BY LANA MINI  
STAFF WRITER

Begin with a sound straight from Louisiana's bayous and prairies. Add vocals sung in an uncommon dialect that originated in northern France, Caribbean and African. Blend together with washboards, rugboards, fiddle, wooden sticks, triangle, accordion, bass and drums.

Simmer, and the result is Dennis Stroughmatt & Creole Stomp. They're performing authentic Creole, Cajun, Zydeco and Louisiana Swamp Pop music at the Ark on Thursday, Jan. 13.

We're striving not only to entertain, but to educate audiences about American French culture," said Jennifer Stroughmatt, the rugboard/washboard and triangle player of Creole Stomp. She's also the wife of band founder Dennis Stroughmatt.

The music that's a way of life in many parts of Louisiana is still only vaguely familiar to most Midwesterners.

"Most of the year we live on the road," Jennifer Stroughmatt said. We play festivals and other events where we can introduce the music. The music is known in Scotland and France, where it has roots, but when we play in a place, for example like Utah, people at first are confused ... and then they love it."

Creole Stomp has been featured on PBS-TV, CNN's *World Beat*, the Louisiana Folklife Festival, The Cajun French Music Awards and at other events. The band's CD, *Enfin...At Last*, was nominated in 2003 as "Best Album by a Cajun/Creole band based outside of Louisiana" by the Cajun French Music Association.

### SMART MUSIC

Intellectuals attract intellectuals and Dennis Stroughmatt is one of them.

But don't mistake the term for someone who doesn't like to have fun; this music is about living and loving life during both easy and strenuous times.

"People who understand the French influence of the music come to check it out with those who are just curious," Jennifer Stroughmatt said.

Dennis Stroughmatt is a specialist of North American French Creole and Cajun language, culture and music. He was raised in a French area of Vincennes, Ind., but later moved to Old Mines, Mo. There he learned to speak Creole French and play the fiddle, French Missouri style, by attending local house parties with locals.

Stroughmatt eventually went to Louisiana to spend time with the locals and study French culture. A few years later,

### DENNIS STROUGHMATT & CREOLE STOMP

When: Doors open 7:30 p.m., concert 8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 13

Where: The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor

Admission: \$11, call (734) 761-1818;

www.creolestomp.com or www.theark.org

CD: *Creole Stranger*, on Swallow Records, to be released in mid-January

while earning his master's degree in history at Southern Illinois University, he met musicians Jon Watson and John Giffin. In 1995, they formed a band called the Brown Baggers.

A few years after that he earned a certificate in Quebec French Language and Culture from the University of Quebec at Chicoutimi, Canada. Returning to the U.S., he began touring with Louisiana-based groups. He and Watson then formed Creole Stomp.

Other band members include Jim Willgoose, bass player and singer; Robert Russell, singer, lead and steel guitarist; and Jim Bangassar, lead guitar and singer. Watson plays drums and the mandolin.

### LOVE AND MUSIC MIXED

Jennifer Stroughmatt discovered the music accidentally even though it's part of her French Canadian heritage.

"I was working in a coffeehouse in Illinois during college just a few years ago and I saw Dennis playing there. I was so excited the first time I heard it ... something about it."

Noticing her strong interest in the music, Dennis Stroughmatt gave her a triangle to play. Soon she became part of the band. Six months ago the couple married.

"One day before a show he hands me the rugboard and says, 'Try this on stage tonight,'" she said.

She strapped the jagged metal board to her chest and began to play.

### RICH IN HISTORY

Zydeco is a hybrid of French Canadian songs, European instruments and world rhythms. Cajuns are descendants of French settlers of Acadie, Nova Scotia, who were expelled by the British in the mid 1700s. The term "Creole" is derived from Spanish and French people who settled in Louisiana and slaves who were born there. Today, Creole is a loose term used to describe a racially diverse people sharing the French language, Catholicism, cooking, and of course, music.

THE LINE SEPARATING THE LIVING FROM THE DEAD HAS BEEN CROSSED.

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Family fun

# Big hot wheels

## Monster truck exhibit thunders at Detroit Science Center

BY NICOLE STAFFORD  
STAFF WRITER

Have you ever seen a sports utility vehicle "rip the wider" or do a "dry hop?"

Even if you did, unless you're a monster truck fan, you probably wouldn't even know it.

Besides, these stunts are performed by monster trucks.

And aficionados of the sport and novices alike can learn all about these feats, as well as the science behind them, at *Monster Trucks: An Xtreme Exhibition*, running Jan. 15 through May 29 at the Detroit Science Center.

"It's fun and it's behind the scenes," said Jeffrey Wyatt, producer of the exhibit for Clear Channel. "Museum exhibits are often perceived as being staid and boring. Here we have monster trucks. They're like superhero cars. They can jump 20 feet in the air and run over cars."

To say the least, Wyatt, who grew up watching his uncle drive a monster truck, is charged up about the exhibit.

The highlight is the opportunity to climb inside the cab of Grave Digger, a superstar of the Monster Jam racing circuit. Once inside, visitors can take in the 12-foot-high driver's-eye view.

Also on display is Hot Wheels, another well-known monster truck, and one of the enormous tires used by the vehicles.

The 9,000-square-foot exhibit includes many interactive displays that demonstrate the mechanics behind the power of monster trucks, which weigh a minimum of 10,000 pounds yet go as fast as 100 miles per hour. Video screens and sound effects recreate the spectacle of Monster Jam events and include footage of actual races.

"It is loud, especially for a museum exhibit," said Wyatt. "We wanted to present the behind-the-scenes but never lose sight of the theatricality and show."

Another interactive display sure to be popular is "The Orbitron," which simulates the experience of rolling over inside a monster truck. Visitors are strapped inside an authentic monster truck seat and then subjected to a 360-degree spin.

Although the exhibit almost sounds too fun to be educational, "there's a little

### BIG AND BAD

**What:** 'Monster Trucks: An Xtreme Exhibit' explores the science of building and driving monster trucks through interactive displays.

**When:** Jan. 15 through May 29, museum hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday.

**Where:** Detroit Science Center, 5020 John R, Detroit.

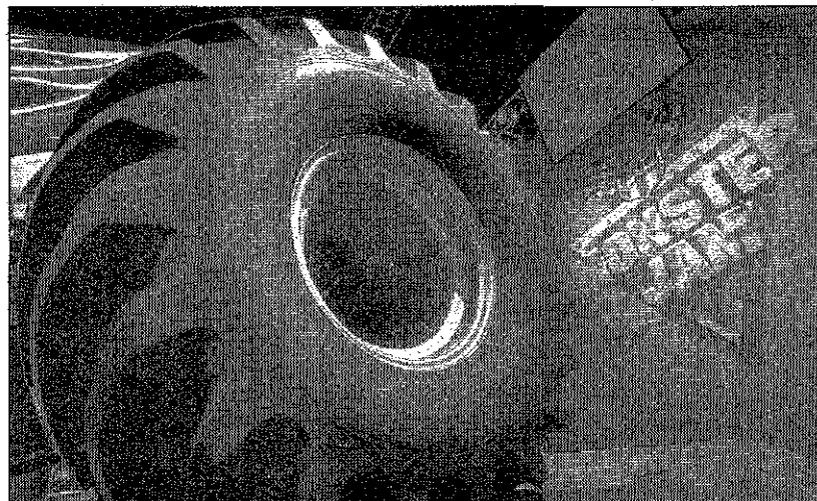
**Tickets:** Adults, \$4, kids age 2 and up and seniors, \$2, plus paid general admission for adults, \$7, seniors and children age 2-12, \$6, members and kids under age 2, free, call (313) 577-8400 or visit [www.detroitsciencecenter.org](http://www.detroitsciencecenter.org).

bit of learning in the process," said Wyatt. Physics, engineering and even chemistry regulate the performance of monster trucks. The exhibit, for instance, includes a display put together by a "dirtologist" who explores the chemical composition of the special dirt mix used for races. Likewise, a deconstructed truck and other displays enable museum visitors to witness the mechanics, hydraulics, combustion processes working inside the vehicles. Other sections explore safety features and paint design. Video footage tells the real-life stories of well-known monster truck drivers.

Ultimately, the exhibit invites parents to engage in an educational process with their children, said Wyatt.

"We definitely wanted to provide that starting point of a dialogue between parents and grandparents and children," he said. "It gives you an opportunity to talk about what dad does in the garage and to share those experiences in a much more personal way than we can. It provides that jumping-off point."

[nstafford@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:nstafford@oe.homecomm.net) | (248) 901-2567



DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER

Monster trucks have massive tires called Terra tires. There's one on display for visitors to touch and even crawl through.

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DESSON THOMSON, THE WASHINGTON POST

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COLIN COVERT, MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE

# FAT ALBERT

[www.FatAlbertthemovie.com](http://www.FatAlbertthemovie.com)

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# MOMMA guide

Where available by deadline, features and times are listed.

Call your local theatre for showings for this week. Check listings below for phone numbers and websites.

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**Star Great Lakes Crossing**  
Great Lakes Shopping Center  
248-454-0366

Thursday Listings  
**BEYOND THE SEA [PG-13]**  
11:40 2:30 5:20 8:10 10:40  
**BLADE: TRINITY [R]**  
11:15 1:55 4:45 7:25 10:05  
**CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]**  
9:55 12:30 2:50 5:25

**CLOSER [R]**  
11:10 1:45 4:15 6:45 9:25  
**DARKNESS [PG-13]**  
10:45 1:25 3:55 6:25 9:05  
**FAT ALBERT [PG]**  
10:10 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:20 10:45  
**FINDING NEVERLAND [PG]**  
7:55 10:25  
**FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG-13]**  
8:00 10:45

**LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]**  
9:50 10:40 11:55 12:40 1:30 2:35 3:30 4:20 5:10 6:20 7:10 9:10 10:00  
**MEET THE FOCKERS [PG-13]**  
10:20 11:20 12:20 1:10 2:10 3:10 4:00 5:00 6:00 6:50 7:50 8:50 9:40 10:40  
**NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]**  
10:05 1:05 4:10 7:05 10:10  
**OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG-13]**  
11:30 2:40 5:35 8:40 9:30 9:35  
**SPANGLISH [PG-13]**  
12:15 3:15 6:15 9:15  
**THE AVIATOR [PG-13]**  
10:30 12:10 2:00 3:50 5:40 7:40 9:30  
**THE INCREDIBLES [PG]**  
12:05 3:00 6:05 9:00

**THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]**  
10:00 11:00 1:00 1:50 3:40 4:40 6:30 7:30 9:20 10:20  
**THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG-13]**  
10:15 12:00 1:40 3:35 5:30 7:00 9:00 10:30  
**THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]**  
10:50 1:20 3:45 6:10 8:40  
**THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]**  
11:45 2:05 4:30

**Star John R at 14 Mile**  
32289 John R. Road  
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On line at [www.fandango.com](http://www.fandango.com)

Thursday Listings  
**BLADE: TRINITY [R]**  
6:45 9:20  
**CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]**  
12:20  
**CLOSER [R]**  
11:50 2:40 5:30 7:50  
**DARKNESS [PG-13]**  
11:30 2:10 5:00 7:20 10:00  
**FAT ALBERT [PG]**  
11:00 1:20 3:40 6:20 8:40  
**FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG-13]**  
7:00 10:20

**LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]**  
11:20 2:00 3:00 4:35 5:45 7:30 8:20 10:35  
**MEET THE FOCKERS [PG-13]**  
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**NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]**  
8:00  
**OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG-13]**  
12:00 2:50 6:10 9:00  
**SPANGLISH [PG-13]**  
12:30 3:30 6:40 10:10  
**THE AVIATOR [PG-13]**  
10:40 2:20 6:00 9:30  
**THE INCREDIBLES [PG]**  
11:40 2:30 5:15

**THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]**  
10:50 1:40 4:25 7:10 9:55  
**THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG-13]**  
12:10 3:20 6:30 9:45  
**THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]**  
10:30 1:10 4:10  
**THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]**  
12:55 3:55

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Thursday Listings  
**BLADE: TRINITY [R]**  
6:20 8:55 11:30  
**CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]**  
12:00 2:30 5:00  
**FAT ALBERT [PG]**  
11:15 1:30 4:15 6:30 9:15  
**FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG-13]**  
7:30 10:00

**LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]**  
11:00 2:00 4:45 7:15 9:45  
**MEET THE FOCKERS [PG-13]**  
11:30 1:10 2:15 3:55 5:10 6:45 8:00 9:30 10:50  
**NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]**  
8:30 11:15

**OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG-13]**  
12:10 2:45 5:30 8:15  
**SPANGLISH [PG-13]**  
1:45 4:30 7:45 10:20  
**THE AVIATOR [PG-13]**  
11:45 3:00 7:00 10:35  
**THE INCREDIBLES [PG]**  
12:30 3:15 6:15 8:55  
**THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]**  
12:50 3:30 5:55

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Thursday Listings  
**BLADE: TRINITY [R]**  
12:20 3:10 6:20 9:20  
**CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]**  
12:40 4:20  
**CLOSER [R]**  
1:30 4:05 7:10 9:50  
**DARKNESS [PG-13]**  
12:10 2:50 5:30 8:00 10:40  
**FAT ALBERT [PG]**  
7:30 8:20 9:10 10:20

**FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG-13]**  
6:05 8:50

**LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]**  
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**MEET THE FOCKERS [PG-13]**  
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**NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]**  
7:15 10:30  
**OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG-13]**  
10:55 2:15 5:20 8:30  
**RAY [PG-13]**  
10:00

**SPANGLISH [PG-13]**  
1:20 4:30 7:45 10:45  
**THE AVIATOR [PG-13]**  
10:50 2:45 6:45 10:35  
**THE INCREDIBLES [PG]**  
12:30 3:50 6:50  
**THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]**  
11:40 2:30 5:40 8:40  
**THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG-13]**  
7:40 10:45

**THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG-13]**  
Digital Projection 11:20 2:40 6:10 9:30  
**THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]**  
11:05 1:50 4:40  
**THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]**  
1:00 3:25

**Star Fairlane**  
18900 Michigan Ave., Dearborn  
313-240-6389  
Thursday Listings  
**BLADE: TRINITY [R]**  
11:25 2:50 6:05 8:55  
**CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]**  
11:50 2:35  
**CLOSER [R]**  
12:25 3:05 5:55 8:40 11:10  
**DARKNESS [PG-13]**  
12:50 3:35 6:10 8:50  
**FAT ALBERT [PG]**  
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**FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG-13]**  
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**LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]**  
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6:40 8:15 9:35 10:45  
**MEET THE FOCKERS [PG-13]**  
11:15 12:00 1:00 2:05 3:00 4:00 4:55  
6:20 7:10 8:00 9:10 10:05 11:00  
**NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]**  
5:20 8:10

**MEAN'S TWELVE [PG-13]**  
12:10 3:25 6:45 7:55 9:45  
**RAY [PG-13]**  
1:15 A.M. 7:45 10:40  
**SPANGLISH P.C. 1#**  
10:40 1:40 4:50 7:30 10:35  
**THE AVIATOR [PG-13]**  
12:20 2:35 4:35 6:35 8:35 10:30  
**THE INCREDIBLES [PG]**  
1:05 3:50 7:00 9:55  
**THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]**  
12:45 3:45 6:25 9:05

**THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]**  
1:20 3:30 5:45

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Thursday 1/6 - Thursday 1/13 Listings  
**THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]**  
Thur 1/6: 11:30 1:15 2:30 4:15 6:00 7:15 9:00 10:15  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 12:05 2:10 4:45 6:15 7:55 11:15  
**THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG-13]**  
Thur 1/6: 11:00 12:15 2:20 3:35 5:30 6:50 8:45 10:00  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 1:00 3:00 4:10 6:15 7:20 9:15 11:35

**CLOSER [R]**  
12:45 3:15 5:45 8:15 11:00  
**KINSEY [R]**  
12:00 2:45 6:25 9:10 11:55  
**FINDING NEVERLAND [PG]**  
Thur 1/6: 1:00 3:45 6:30 9:15  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 1:30 4:00 7:00 9:40 12:00  
**THE INCREDIBLES [PG]**  
Thur 1/6: 11:10 2:00 4:30  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 11:45am  
**FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [R]**  
Thurs 1/6 Only: 7:00 9:45

-Beginning Friday 1/7 - EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT -  
**MILLION DOLLAR BABY [PG-13]**  
12:15, 1:15, 3:25, 4:25, 6:40, 7:40, 9:50, 10:50  
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Thursday Listings  
**THE AVIATOR [PG-13]**  
10:40 1:45 3:30 5:30 7:30 9:30  
**FAT ALBERT [PG]**  
1:10 4:00 6:40 9:00  
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**OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG-13]**  
12:45 4:20 7:15 10:00  
**BLADE: TRINITY [R]**  
10:00 PM

**CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]**  
11:00 A.M.  
**NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]**  
8:15 PM  
**THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]**  
11:45 2:30 5:00

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Thursday 1/6 - Thursday 1/13 Listings

**FAT ALBERT [PG]**  
12:20 2:50 (5:15 @ \$5.50) 7:30 9:40  
**THE AVIATOR [PG13]**  
12:45 (4:30 @ \$5.50) 8:00  
(NP) MEET THE FOCKERS [PG13]  
Thur 1/6: 12:10 1:30 2:40 (4:15 5:10 @ \$5.50)  
6:50 7:40 9:30 10:10  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 12:00 1:30 2:30 (4:15 5:00 @ \$5.50)  
6:50 7:30 9:30 10:00

**LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]**  
1:20 (4:10 @ \$5.50) 7:15 9:50  
**DARKNESS [R]**  
12:30 3:00 (5:20 @ \$5.50) 7:40 10:00  
**PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG13]**  
1:00 (4:00 @ \$5.50) 7:00 10:00  
**LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]**  
Thur 1/6: 12:00 1:15 2:40 (4:15 5:20 @ \$5.50)  
6:50 7:50 9:30 10:10  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 12:00 1:15 2:40 (4:15 5:20 @ \$5.50)  
6:50 7:40 9:30 10:00 (\*Fri 1/7 Only)  
**FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG13]**  
1:10 (4:20 @ \$5.50) 7:20 9:45

**SPANGLISH [PG13]**  
Thur 1/6: 1:30 (4:45 @ \$5.50) 6:45 7:30 9:30 9:55  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 1:30 (4:45 @ \$5.50) 7:30 9:55  
**OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG13]**  
Thur 1/6: 12:00 1:10 2:45 (4:20 5:20 @ \$5.50)  
7:20 8:15 9:50  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 1:10 (4:20 @ \$5.50) 7:20 8:15 9:50

**BLADE: TRINITY [R]**  
Thur 1/6: 7:00 9:40  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 7:15 9:40  
**CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]**  
Thur 1/6: 12:15 2:40 (5:15 @ \$5.50) 7:45 9:55  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 1:15 (4:30 @ \$5.50)

**CLOSER [R]**  
12:50 (4:10 @ \$5.50) 7:10 9:50  
**SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]**  
12:15 2:15 (4:45 @ \$5.50)  
**NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]**  
1:00 (4:00 @ \$5.50) 7:00 8:00 10:00  
**THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]**  
Thur 1/6: 12:00 1:30 2:30 (4:15 5:00 @ \$5.50) 7:30 9:55  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 12:00 2:30 (5:00 @ \$5.50)

**THE INCREDIBLES [PG]**  
12:00 2:30 (5:00 @ \$5.50)  
-Beginning Friday 1/7 -  
(NP) WHITE NOISE [PG-13]  
1:20 (4:40 @ \$5.50) 7:15 9:45  
**KINSEY [R]**  
1:10 (4:00 @ \$5.50) 7:00 9:40  
**BIRTH [R]**  
7:10 9:40

**SNEAK PREVIEW SATURDAY NIGHT (1/8)**  
(NP) COACH CARTER [PG-13] 8:00

**MJR Waterford Cinema 16**  
7501 Highland Rd.  
S. E. corner M-59 & Williams Lake Rd.  
24 hour Movie Line 248-666-7900  
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Free Refill on Popcorn and Pop  
Visa & Mastercard Accepted

Thursday 1/6 - Thursday 1/13 Listings  
**FAT ALBERT [PG]**  
12:30 2:45 (5:15 @ \$5.50) 7:30 9:30  
**THE AVIATOR [PG13]**  
12:30 (4:15 @ \$5.50) 8:00  
**MEET THE FOCKERS [PG13]**  
12:00 1:30 2:30 (4:10 5:00 @ \$5.50)  
6:45 7:30 9:20 10:00

**LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU [R]**  
1:10 (4:30 @ \$5.50) 7:00 9:40  
**DARKNESS [R]**  
12:15 2:40 (5:20 @ \$5.50) 7:45 9:55  
(NP) LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]  
12:00 1:20 2:30 (4:15 5:00 @ \$5.50)  
6:50 7:30 9:20 9:50 (\*Thur 1/6 & Fri 1/7 Only)  
(NP) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG13]  
1:15 (4:20 @ \$5.50) 7:15 9:45  
(NP) SPANGLISH [PG13]  
1:00 (4:10 @ \$5.50) 7:10 9:50  
**OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG13]**  
Thur 1/6: 12:40 (4:00 @ \$5.50) 6:40 7:20 9:20 10:00  
Fri 1/7 - Thur 1/13: 12:40 (4:00 @ \$5.50) 6:40 9:20

**BLADE: TRINITY [R]**  
(5:00 @ \$5.50) 7:20 9:45  
**CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]**  
12:20 2:50 (5:20 @ \$5.50) 7:40 9:55 (\*Thurs 1/6 Only)  
**SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]**  
12:15 2:15  
**NATIONAL TREASURE [PG]**  
1:00 (4:00 @ \$5.50) 7:00 9:50  
**THE POLAR EXPRESS [G]**  
12:00 2:20 (4:50 @ \$5.50) 7:20 9:45  
10:00 PM  
**THE INCREDIBLES [PG]**  
12:10 2:30

-Beginning Friday 1/7 -  
(NP) WHITE NOISE [PG-13]  
1:20 (4:40 @ \$5.50) 7:15 9:45  
**SNEAK PREVIEW SATURDAY NIGHT (1/8)**  
(NP) COACH CARTER [PG-13] 8:00

**Main Art Theatre III**  
118 Main at 11 Mile  
Royal Oak  
248-542-0180  
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**Maple Art Theatre III**  
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**Oxford 7 Cinemas, L.L.C.**  
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**State Wayne Theatre**  
35310 Michigan Ave. - Wayne  
734-326-4600

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**Michigan Theater**  
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**Fort Wyoming Drive-In**  
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**TWO GREAT MOVIES FOR THE PRICE OF ONE**  
OPEN 6:30 PM  
Thursday 1/6 Listings  
**BLADE: TRINITY [R]**  
**OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG13]**

**FAT ALBERT [PG]**  
**FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG13]**  
**MEET THE FOCKERS [PG13]**  
**RAY [PG13]**

**DARKNESS [R]**  
**RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE [R]**  
**LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]**  
**SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE [PG]**

Friday 1/7 - Thursday 1/13 Listings  
**WHITE NOISE [PG13]**  
**SEED OF CHUCKY [R]**

**FAT ALBERT [PG]**  
**FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG13]**  
**MEET THE FOCKERS [PG13]**  
**OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG13]**

**DARKNESS [R]**  
**BLADE: TRINITY [R]**  
**LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]**  
**THE FORGOTTEN [PG13]**

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[6-9]  
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Thursday Listings  
**BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON [R]**  
**SHALL WE DANCE? [PG13]**  
**SHARK TALE [PG]**

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Friday 1/7 - Thursday 1/13 Listings  
**AFTER THE SUNSET [PG13]**  
11:25 2:15 5:05 7:30 10:20  
**BOURNE SUPREMACY [PG13]**  
11:55 2:30 5:10 7:55 10:35  
**BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON [R]**  
11:20 1:50 4:30 7:35 10:10  
**COOKOUT [PG13]**  
11:30 2:10 4:50 7:25 9:40  
**DADDY DAY CARE [PG]**  
11:05 1:30 4:55  
**FORGOTTEN [PG13]**  
11:50 2:20 5:00 7:30 10:00  
**FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS [PG13]**  
11:35 2:25 5:15 7:50 10:25  
**I ROBOT [PG13]**  
11:05 1:45 4:35 7:10 9:50

**LADDER 49 [PG13]**  
11:05 1:55 4:40 7:20 10:05  
**MEAN CREEK [R]**  
7:40 10:25  
**RESIDENT EVIL 2 [R]**  
11:40 2:35 5:05 8:00 10:30  
**SEED OF CHUCKY [R]**  
11:45 2:05 4:10 7:05 9:30  
**SHALL WE DANCE [PG13]**  
11:10 1:40 4:25 7:00 9:35  
**SHARK TALE [PG]**  
11:00 12:00 1:20 2:40 4:20 5:20 6:45 7:45 9:05  
**SHAUN OF THE DEAD [R]**  
10:15

# Celebrating the art of giving

BY LANA MINI  
STAFF WRITER

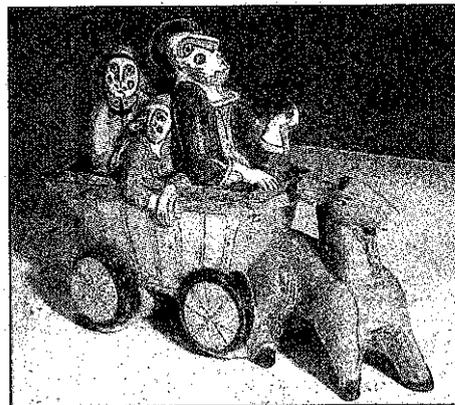
You can see the soul of Dani Katsir's Israel in his miniature stained-glass buildings, store fronts and tiny windows. They are part of the artist's childhood memories of the Holy Land where he was raised.

Amber is the primary color of Katsir's creations because when he was a child, every building, it seemed, was made with that color, he said.

"The natural color, to me, is Israel: Katsir said. "The yellow and the amber ... so when I make miniatures of windows or buildings from Israel I use it almost exclusively?"

Katsir's miniatures are Tzdekah boxes, part of the exhibit *The Art of Giving: Artists Interpret Tzdekah Boxes* at the Janice Charach Epstein Gallery in West Bloomfield through Thursday, Jan. 27. Several artists designed a variety of Tzdekahs and many are available for purchase.

The exhibit, explained Director Sylvia Nelson, demonstrates each artists' devo-



Alex Gruss created '7 Immigrants Journey.'

tion to the concept of "ciddur mitzvah" which means using beautiful objects as "banks" to benefit charity. The boxes are kept at the owner's home and stuffed with coins. When filled, the coins go to charity.

Tzdekah is the act of giving to others. It means "righteousness" and is one of the basic precepts of Judaism. Although Tzdekah boxes are a Jewish ritual, the concept of generosity can be shared by

anyone, Nelson said.

"I was raised Christian, so I can appreciate and understand how the boxes can be given to anyone because they truly are pieces of art," Nelson said.

Nelson, who is also a collage artist, created several boxes that are on display in the exhibit. Her boxes have lids that open and close. They're bright red and gold. The red symbolizes that Tzdekah should come from the heart, Nelson said. Inside the box, she painted words associated with generosity such as "happy, loving, kind, bountiful, enriched and responsible."

Box designs vary greatly. Some are fun while others are elegant and understated. Lola A. Sonnenschein's untitled, attention-grabbing box has an interesting, whimsical style. It's made with plastic, wood, beads and Plexiglas.

Others are more subtle. Idelle Hammond-Sass, who is primarily a jewelry designer, created a thin, almond-shaped box of sterling silver, quartz and 18K gold; *7 Immigrants Journey* by Alex Gruss, is bold and colorful ceramic.

Tzdekah boxes

## THE ART OF GIVING

What *The Art of Giving, Artist's Interpret Tzdekah Boxes*

When: Through Thursday, Jan. 27

Where: Janice Charach Epstein Gallery at the Jewish Community Center's D. Dan & Betty Kahn Building, 660 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Open: 10 am. to 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; 10 am. to 7 p.m.

(Thursday; 11 a.m. to 4 pm. Sunday.

Closed Friday and Saturday. For more information, call (248) 432-5448

Online: Artist Dani Katsir specializes in Tzdekah boxes. view his work at [www.danikadesigns.com](http://www.danikadesigns.com)

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A.O. SCOTT

**MILLION DOLLAR BABY**

PG-13  
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**SAMUEL L. JACKSON**  
**COACH CARTER**

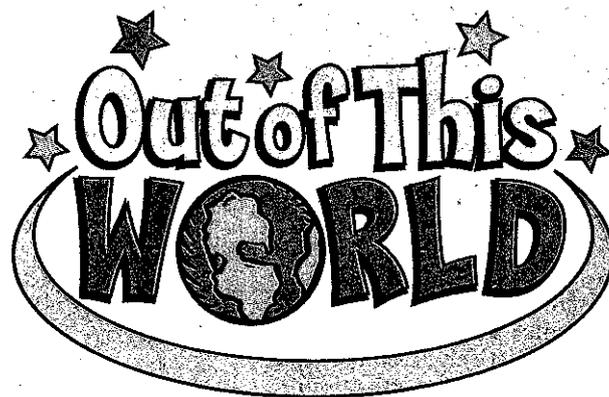
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Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13  
VIOLENCE, SEXUAL CONTENT, LANGUAGE, TEEN PARTYING & SOME DRUG MATERIAL  
For rating reasons, go to [www.filmratings.com](http://www.filmratings.com)

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AMC FORUM 30	SNEAK PREVIEW JANUARY 8 <sup>TH</sup>	AMC LIVONIA 20
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NOVI TOWN CTR.	PHOENIX AT BEL AIR CTR.	PHOENIX WEST RIVER
SHOWCASE DEARBORN	STAR FAIRLANE 21	STAR GRATIOT
STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR SOUTHFIELD	UA COMMERCE STADIUM

CHECK MOVIE GUIDE OR CALL THEATRE FOR SPECIAL SNEAK SHOWTIMES

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**ticketmaster • 248-433-1515**

### SHOW SCHEDULE

THU 2/3 • 11:00, 7:00	WED 2/9 • 11:00, 7:00
FRI 2/4 • 11:00, 7:00	THU 2/10 • 11:00, 7:00
SAT 2/5 • 10:30, 2:00, 5:30	FRI 2/11 • 11:00, 7:00
SUN 2/6 • 10:30, 2:00, 5:30	SAT 2/12 • 10:30, 2:00, 5:30
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TUE 2/8 • 7:00	

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