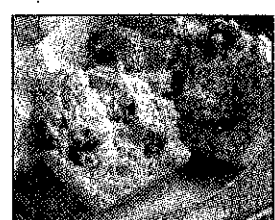




Cold is cool
Give yourself a lift, discover
Michigan's ski resorts.
INSERTED SECTION



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

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), 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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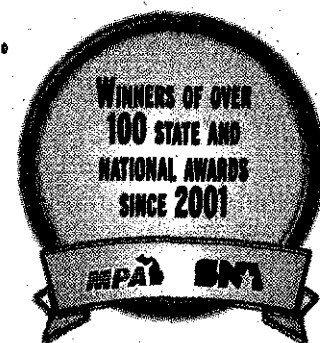
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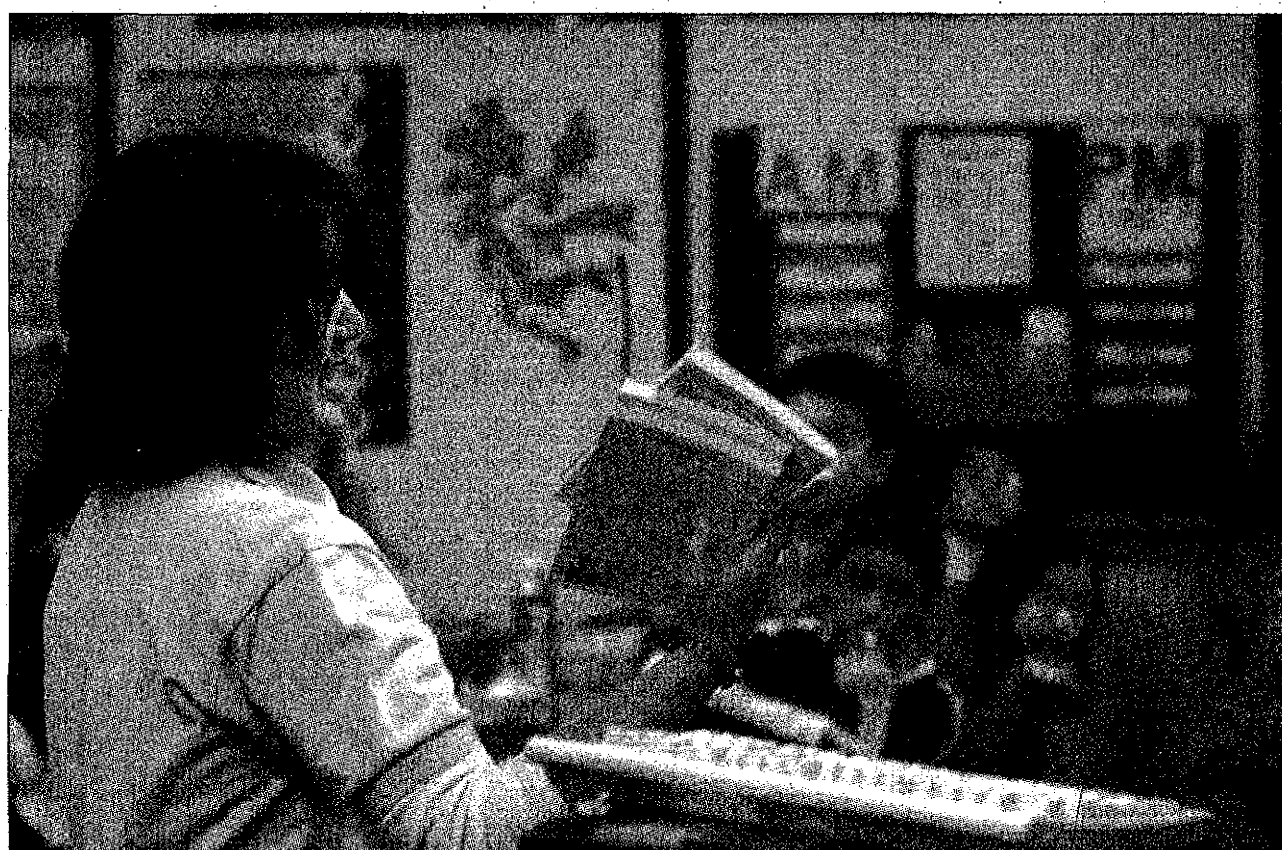
VOLUME 30 NUMBER 54

CANTON Observer

www.hometownlife.com



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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.hometownlife.com | (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) 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.

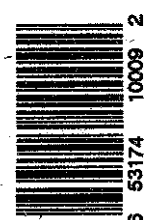
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spas.



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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

DAYCARE OPENHOUSE

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

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.

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 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.

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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 KADRIC
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.

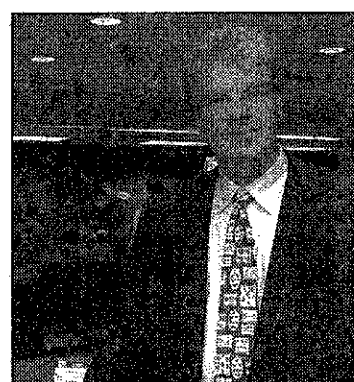
It's not the first time a Lawton has been elevated to that lofty position; Bill's father was the CEO back in the '70s, when Bill worked there as a middle-schooler. Now, after spending a few years running the credit union's IT department, Bill has ascended.

"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.bapscare.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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Do You Have An IRA or 401 K?
You May Be Getting Trapped
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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?

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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.



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

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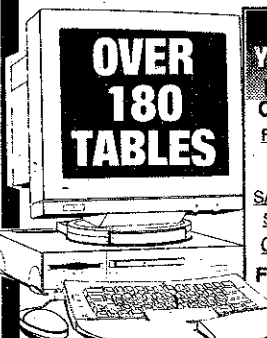
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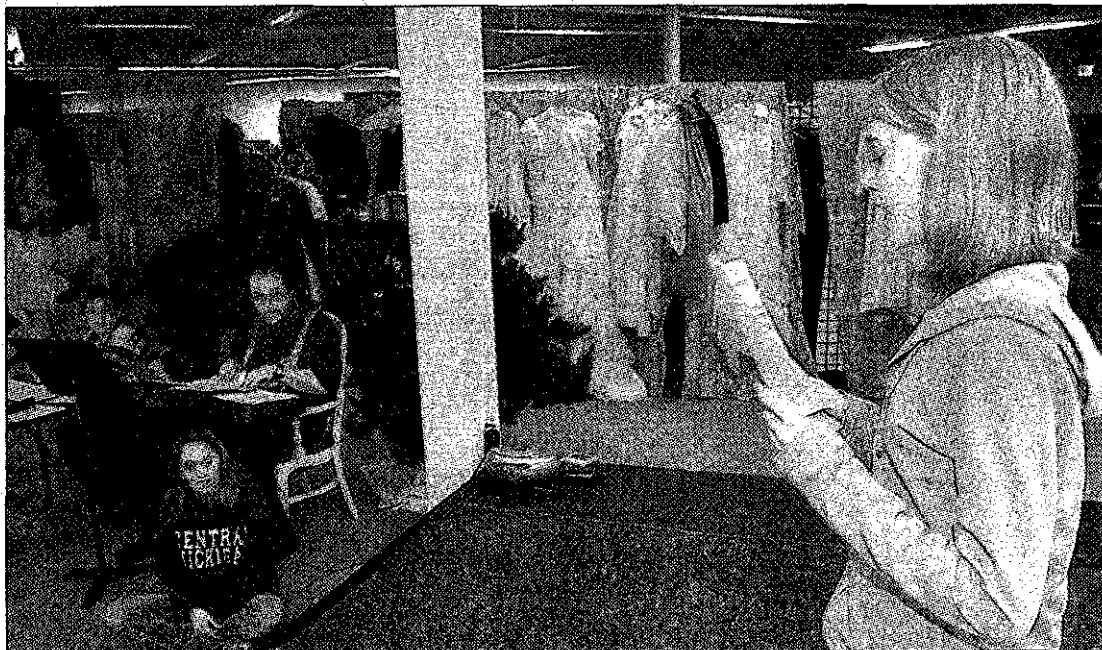
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PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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.

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Cycl shop had wild ide

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 'lenn, bar, and judged a bikini contest v h ppo n 'o y Ness, a veteran chopper builder from Dublin, Calif.

At the end of the trip Oct. 5 t Alal "We had lil

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 c 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 its 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 hi opponent, "I have a lot of respect for Cory and his family," Gorges said.

For more information about Voodoo Choppers, visit www.voodoochoppers.com. For more information about the show *Biker Build-Off* visit www.discovery.com.

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OUR VIEWS

Tragedy felt close to home

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) 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 that the Canton community and it's 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 two 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 of dollars 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. I 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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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

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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.

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.



Phil Power

'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.

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.



Jack Lessenberry

A PURPOSE DRIVEN LIFE SERIES

Detroit Unity Temple: 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Services

Rev. Argentina Glasgow
Senior Minister



the immediate past Chair of the Association of Unity Churches Board of Trustees and a member of the Leadership Council for the Association of Global New Thought invites you to join in a series that will prepare you for a journey with a purpose.

Required text(s):
A Purpose Drive Life and
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JANUARY 2, 2005

White Stone &
Twelve Powers Sunday: Faith
What on Earth Am I Here For?
Introduction to a Special 40-Day Series
Rev. Argentina Glasgow, Speaker

JANUARY 10, 2005 (Monday)
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
for a Mission

Rev. Argentina Glasgow, Speaker

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- 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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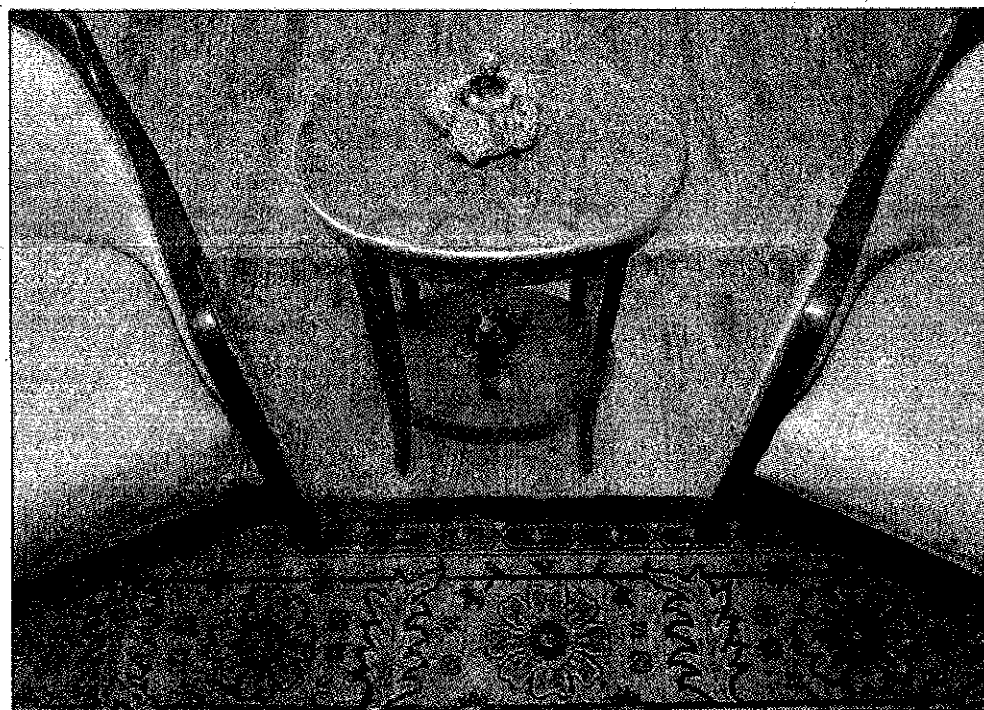
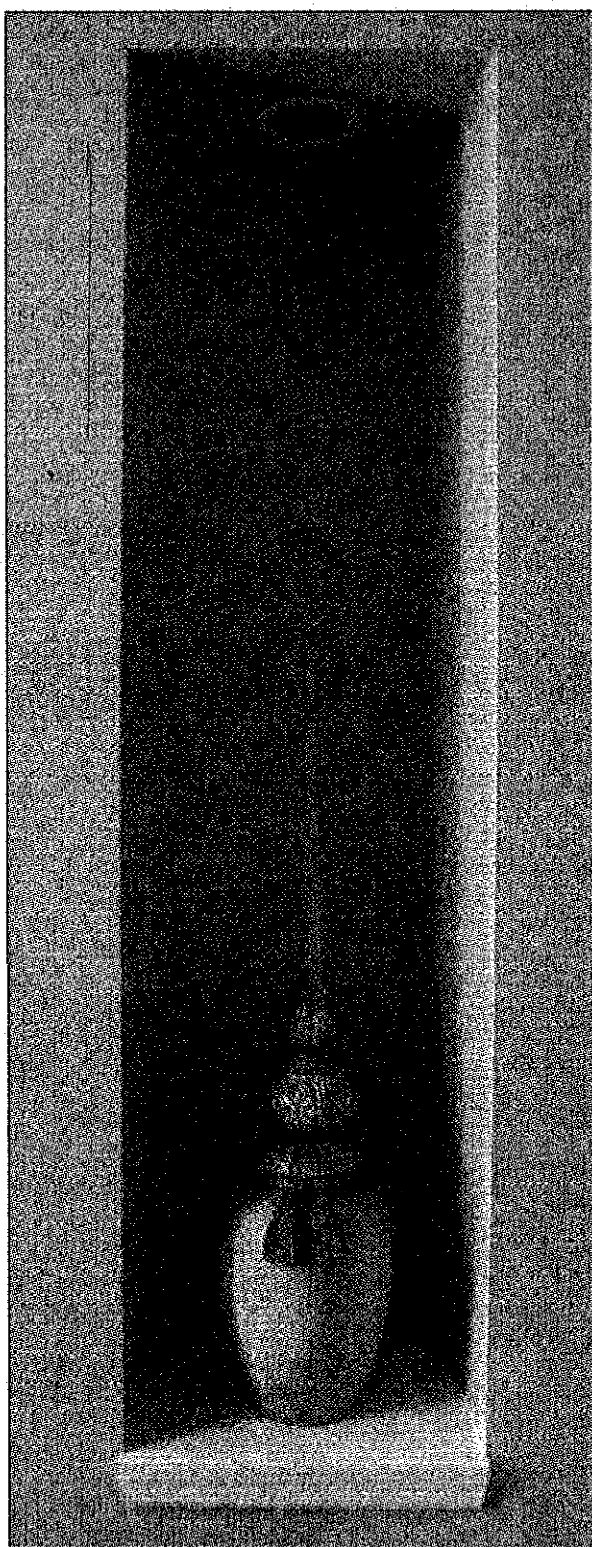
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PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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

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



NAPS

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

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.

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 Mesa Granite 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.

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 Goldner Walsh 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 between Ford Road and Michigan. 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, a holly 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 classes 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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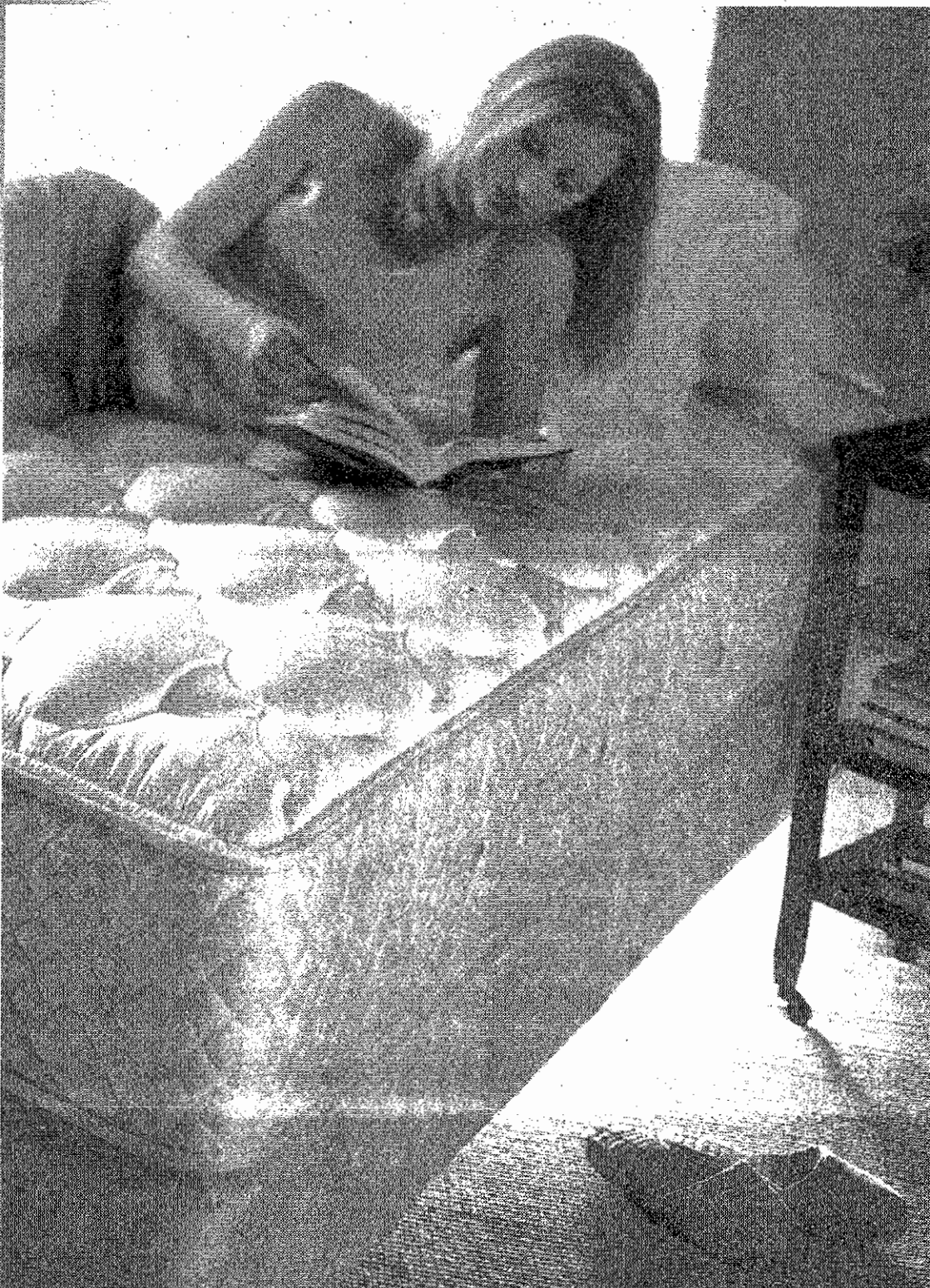
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COLORS

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 Clay 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 grasscloth, 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.

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.

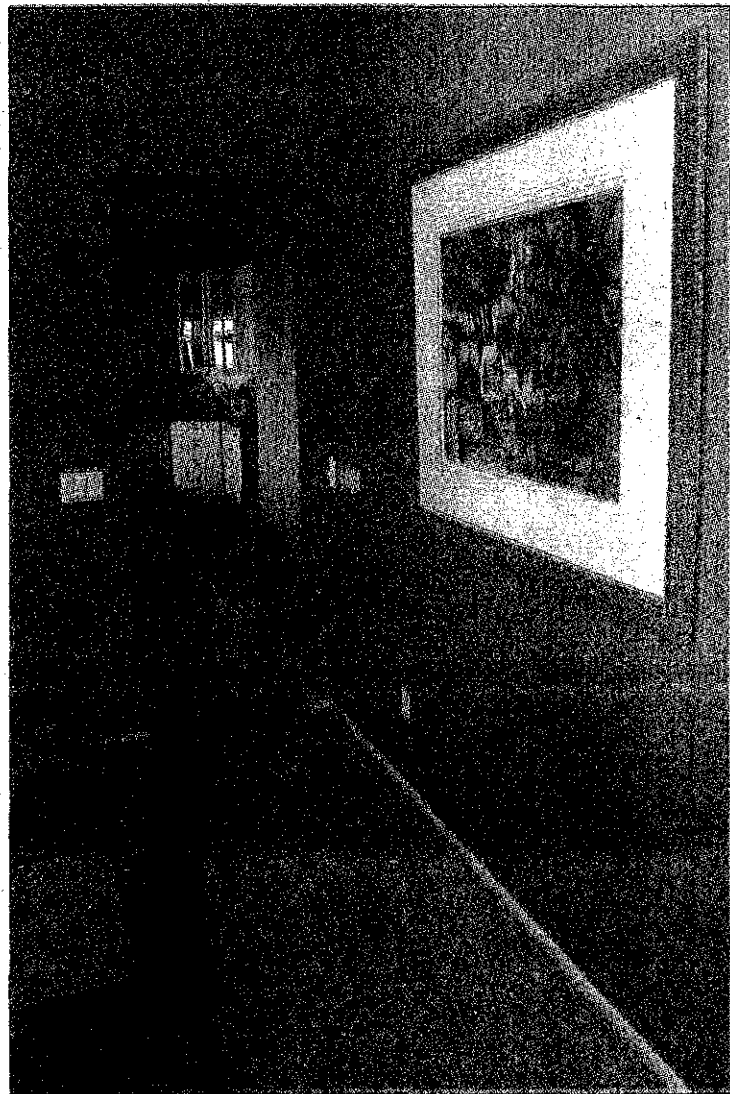
Tangerine and marigold throw pillows added color, as

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 ColourFutures 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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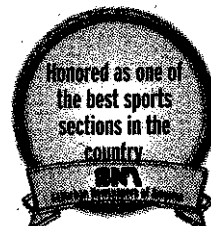
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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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. PCS won, 3-2.

Penguins outskate Regina, 3-2

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

With their once-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

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

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 Dafer 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.

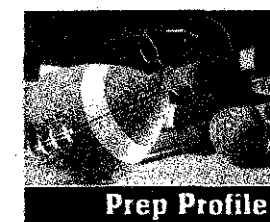
Ladel Harris came off the bench to lead Pioneer's balanced attack with 11 points. Joplin and Matt Fileccia both netted 10.

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-

PLEASE SEE CORTELLINI, C2



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.

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 Václav Mečíř. Kevin Tuckey, Thomas Harrison and Patrick McNeill 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 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.

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 hoop

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.

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	F15GPGD00011
1985	OLDSMOBILE	DELTA 88	1G3BN69Y2F9124975
1992	FORD	CROWN VIC	2FACP72W9NX207472
1989	FORD	RANGER	1FTCR1498KPA25072
1987	DODGE	CHARGER	1P3BM4460HD676302
1984	FORD	BRONCO	1FMD61540ELA23533
1994	EAGLE	VISION	2E3ED66F9RH157537
1996	GMC	JIMMY	1GK0T13W5T2546126

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Publish: January 6, 2005

OE08285701

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 Capps 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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(SAT/SUN 11:45) 2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40
FR/SAT 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
FR/SAT 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
FR/SAT LS 11:40
THE INCREDIBLES (PG)
(SAT/SUN 11:40) 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:10
FR/SAT LS 11:20



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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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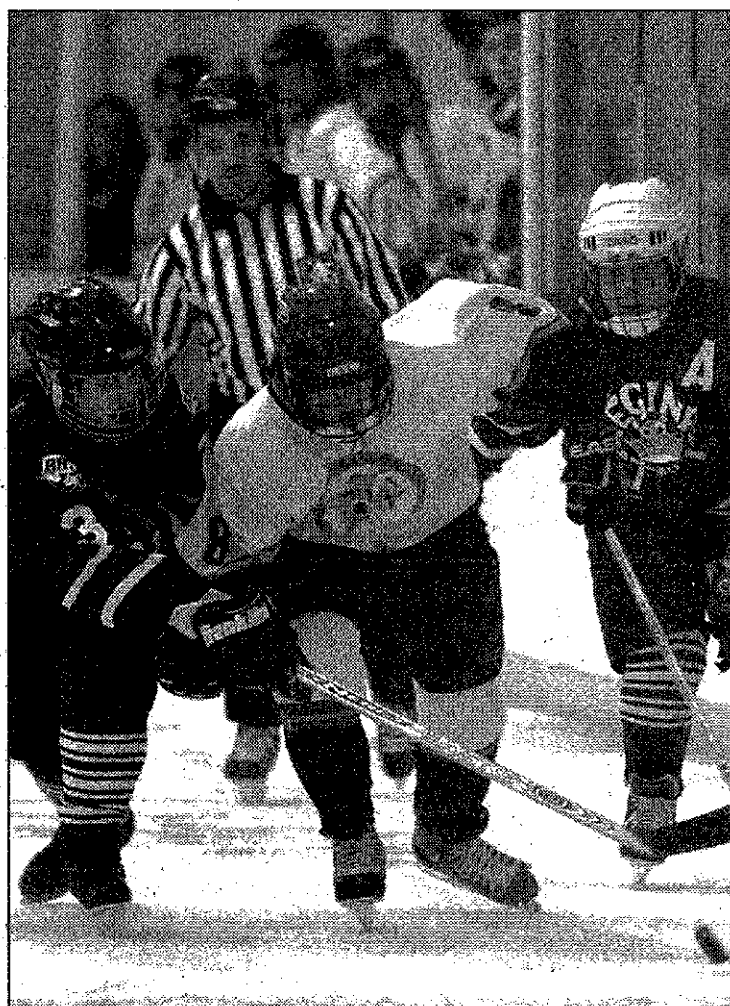


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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PCS's Adrienne Cercone knifes 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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THE WEEK AHEAD

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/Walled Lake, 9 p.m.
PCS Penguins at Walled Lake

at suburban Arena, 5:30 p.m.

BOYS SWIMMING

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 Rooper 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

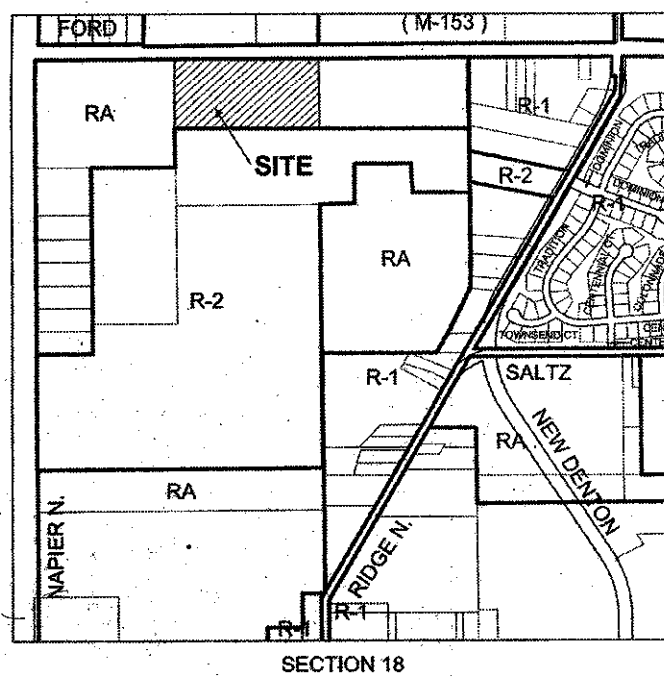
UM-Dearborn at Madonna, 5:30 p.m.
Alpena CC at Schoolcraft, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 8
Madonna at Siena Heights, 1 p.m.
Schoolcraft at Delta CC, 1 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Thursday, Dec. 30
Whalers at Saginaw Spirit, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 4
Whalers at Saginaw Spirit, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 6
Whalers at 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/40 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

OE08282652

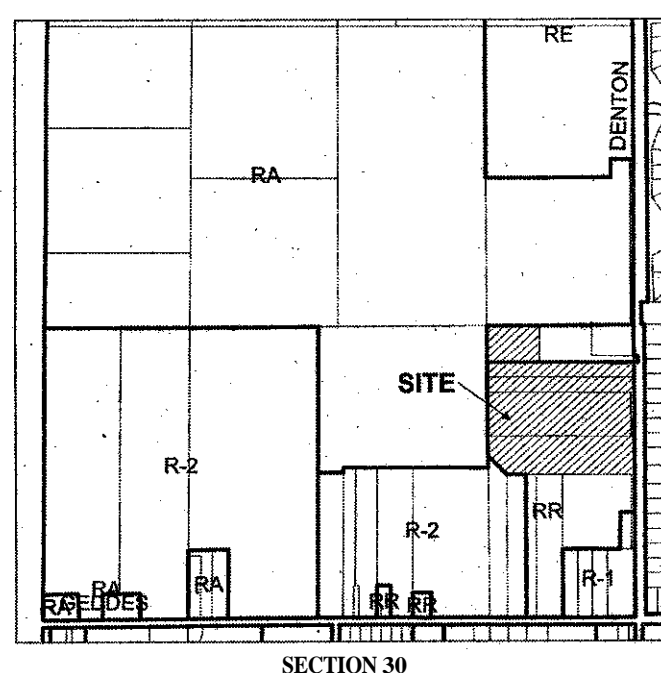


PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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 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 0011 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

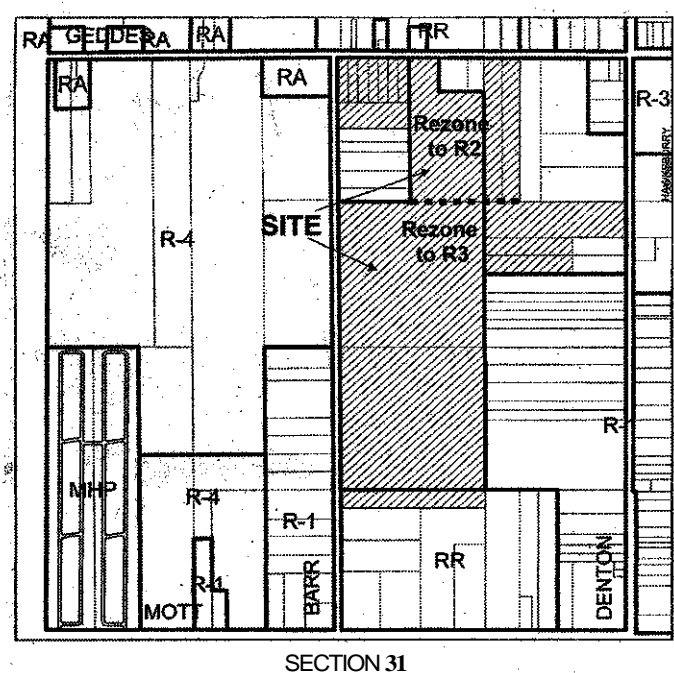
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PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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:

PULTE REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NOS. 121 99 0012 000, 121 99 0013 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 0031 000, 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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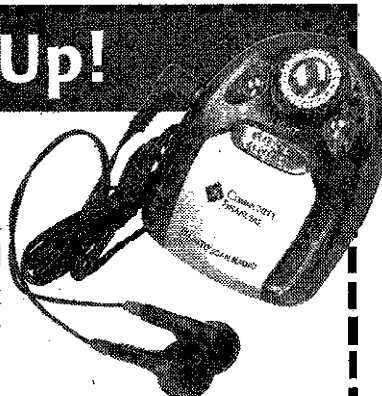
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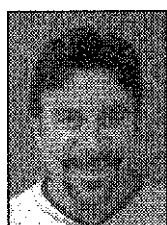
Lions' 2004: The good, the bad and the ugly

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.

"Winning three times on the road was



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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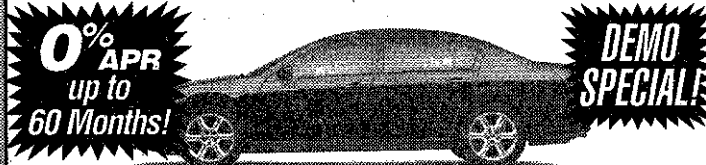
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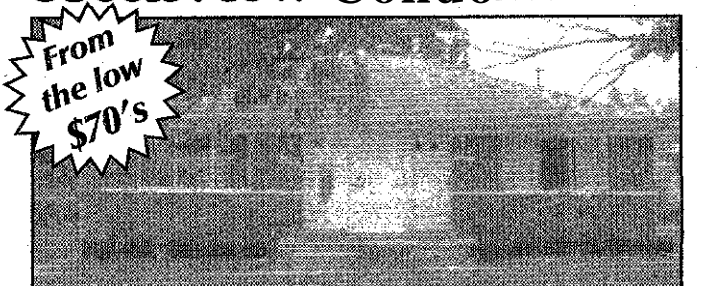
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FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

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 in 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 WKRR-FM (97.1). He's a former Associated Press and Michigan Association of Broadcasters Michigan Sportscaster of the Year. He lives in West Bloomfield.

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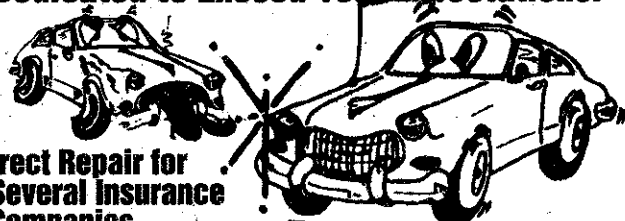


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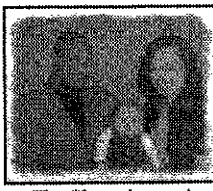
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It's Easy To Criticize...

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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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. Matthew's, 30900 Six Mile, between Meridian 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

Newburg 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 some time 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

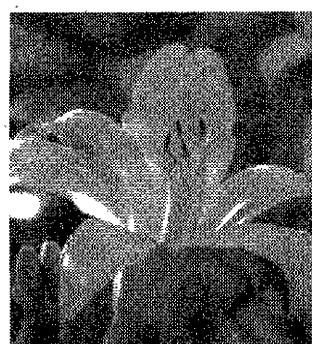
Presents Everyone Dance, a varied program of music based on dance with concert Tom Trenney and Friends 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14, in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church 1669 West Maple, between Cranbrook and Southfield roads. A meet the artists reception follows the program. No charge but a freewill 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

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 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 Hills, two brothers, David (Joan) of Milan, Dale (Lee) of Allegan, four nephews and a niece. He was preceded in death by his grandparents.

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 Lycos 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

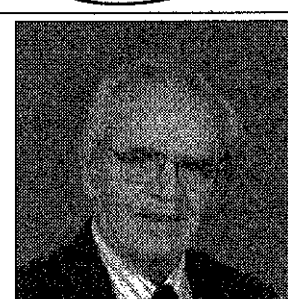
Of Redford. Age 76, Jan. 01, 2005. Beloved wife of the late Louis. Dear Mother of Linda Smith, Kenneth (Donna) Belles, Robert (Kimberly) Belles and Janet Weidman. Loving Grandmother of Michelle (Scott), Lauren, Nikki, Grant, Kelsey and the late Michael. Great Grandmother of Hunter and Kendyll. Dearest 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 Warner, 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

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 Card 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



THE REV. MR. VERLE E. FRIDLEY, SR.

Age 83, of Anderson, Indiana, passed away December 29, 2004 after an extended illness. Rev. Fridley was born June 3, 1921 and was a minister for over 50 years in churches in Lufkin, TX; Hammond, LA, Bastrop, LA; Baltimore, MD; Mishawaka, IN; Milwaukee, WI; Flint, MI; Clarkston, MI and Sumter, SC. He was at various times a member of the Rotary Club and Kiwanis Club. Verle was an avid reader, dedicated pastor and loving husband, father and grandfather. He was also an accomplished amateur photographer and woodworker. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Grace I. (Muterspaugh) Fridley; son, Verle E. Fridley Jr.; two grandsons, Daryl E. (Stephanie) Fridley of Cape Girardeau, MD and Scott T. (Wendy) Fridley of Anderson, IN; beloved niece, Cheryl Muterspaugh (Raymond) Dorff of Baltimore, MD; treasured family members, Lucille Fridley of Anderson, IN, Virginia Sample of Mishawaka, IN, Claude and Ruth Fridley of Anderson, IN, Louis Fridley of Middletown, IN, Alvin Fridley of Anderson, IN, Max and Sandra Fridley of Anderson, IN, Stephen Fridley of Anderson, IN, Joseph and Ella May Fridley of Markleville, IN, Earl and Ann Muterspaugh of Muncie, IN, Elvis and Joanne Sullivan of Limestone, TN, Everett and Linda Muterspaugh of Pendleton, IN, Evelyn Muterspaugh of Anderson, IN, and numerous cherished nephews and nieces. Funeral service was held Monday, January 3, 2005 at the Eastside Church of God, with Rev. Kerry Robinson officiating. Burial followed at the Maplewood Cemetery. A Scholarship Fund is being established at the Anderson University School of Theology.

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 Wroblewski. 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

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends

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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.)

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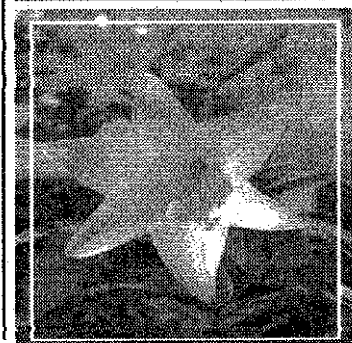
Friday 5 PM for Sunday
Wednesday Noon for Thursday
 Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

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or toll free
 866-818-7553
 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.

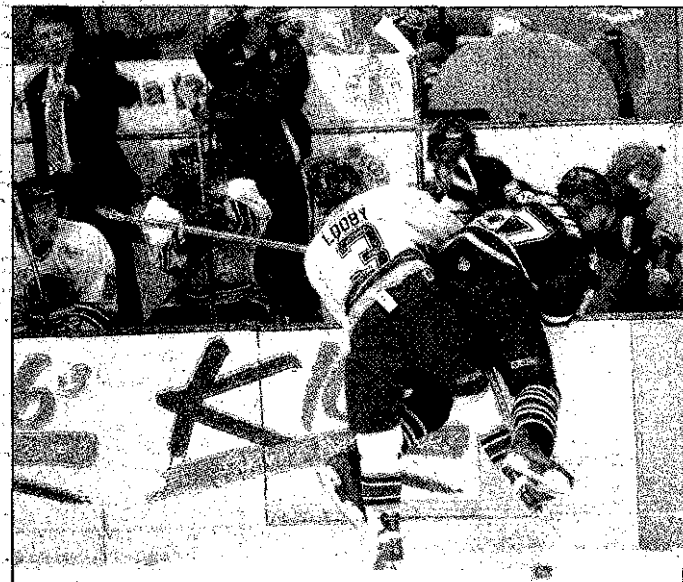
Complimentary chants aren't unusual at Whalers' games, but they're normally reserved for the organization's more familiar players who have spent at least a year toiling for the hometown team.

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 C. T. 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 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.

Whenver 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."

'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 Orbeck 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.

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), and a list 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 in 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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Mail-in rebates valid on purchases from December 1, 2004 through January 27, 2005. All rebate requests must be postmarked by March 31, 2005 and received by March 31, 2005. See Service Advisor for details.

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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

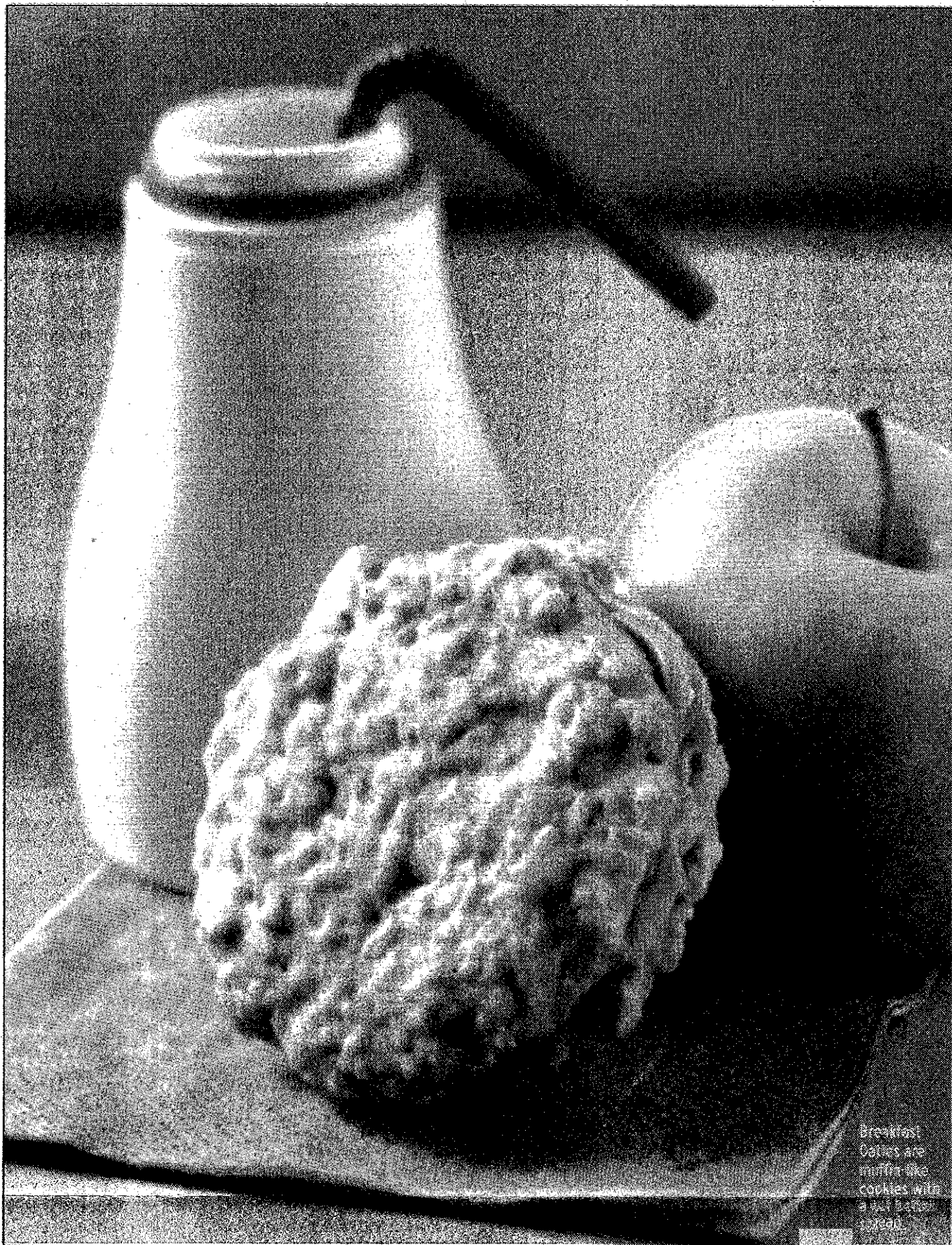
Some other syrahs we like:

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
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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, 1/4 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 Swiss cheese, 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, 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 career 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 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.

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.rochestercommhouse.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.

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.

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.

Children's favorites

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

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.

Chicken curries

Prepare delicious tandoori chicken that is great for barbecues, chicken tikka masala, chicken dhansak and chicken doh-piazza, 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.



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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:
½ cup oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)
½ cup firmly packed brown sugar
3 tablespoons chopped walnuts
2 tablespoons whole-wheat flour
2½ teaspoons vegetable oil
1 teaspoon vanilla

Muffins:
1 cup fat-free milk
½ cup oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)
½ cup vegetable oil
2 eggs
1 package (14 ounces) banana quick bread and muffin mix
½ 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 ¾ 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
½ teaspoon salt (optional)
½ teaspoon maple extract (optional)
1 cup oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)
1½ 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.

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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, spirits and restaurants for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Contact them by e-mail at 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
2½ cups fat-free milk
½ cup whole wheat flour
½ cup unbleached all-purpose flour
¼ cup toasted wheat germ
1 tablespoon sugar
1 tablespoon baking powder
½ 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 bark in your diet, like in these pancakes.

1, 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 ½ cup batter for each pancake onto hot pan.

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 oattoffer@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 are a great breakfast treat that can be enjoyed at home or on the go. Developed in the Quaker Oatmeal Kitchens, these muffin-lie "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

¾ cup firmly packed brown sugar
¾ cup 60 percent vegetable oil spread with no trans fat

1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla
1½ cups mashed ripe bananas (about 3 medium)
1 cup all-purpose flour
¾ cup whole-wheat flour
2 to 2½ teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
½ teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt
2 cups oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)
½ 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 350°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-inch circles.

Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until edges are lightly browned. Remove to wire rack. Cool completely. Store tightly wrapped.

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
1½ cups Quaker Squares cereal
½ cup maple-flavored syrup, regular or light
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ cup snipped dried apple chunks
½ cup snipped dried apricots
½ cup dried cranberries
¾ cup dry roasted peanuts or lightly salted almonds

Heat oven to 325°F. 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 ½ 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.

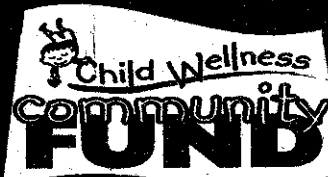
Spread whole-grain bagel half with peanut butter; sprinkle with trail mix, pressing lightly into peanut butter.

■ 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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Thursday, January 6, 2005

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Keely Schramm, editor
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Real Estate Inquires

Robert M.
Meisner

Legal rates often based on experience

Our 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 to top of the board. One of the members says we should just wait until they sell the unit to get them to correct the problem. What do you think?

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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-associates.com.

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Owners of this transitional farmhouse-style home selected Board and Batten vinyl siding from LP Vinyl 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 homebuyer 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.home-buying.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.

Timothy Phillips is a mortgage banker and newspaper columnist. You may access his Wealth Academy archives at www.PhillipsHQ.com or phone him toll-free at (866) 369-4516.

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-hurried 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.

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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 dune 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.

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 typi-

cal 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 REACTOR," 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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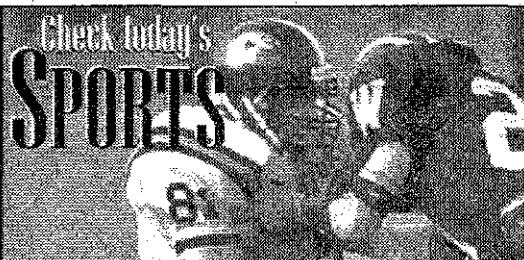


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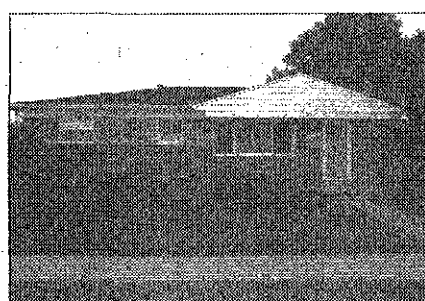
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Immaculate 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath ranch in desirable Eisenstein sub. Updated and neutral w/finished basement and 2 car detached garage. Immediate Occupancy. 734-455-6000 EP12MA-24141064

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SUNFLOWER SUB COLONIAL. This colonial at the one you have been waiting for Fresh paint, custom trim are just part of many features of this home. Family room w/fireplace, newer carpet, living room, formal dining room, full basement w/tons of storage. Call us today for your showing! (P70HED) \$239,900

CANTON
SMOKER TRUESDALE SUB! Great family home with loads of updates! 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. New maple kitchen with ceramic floor. Cul-de-sac location. Home warranty at closing! (P99WAL) \$199,900

NORTHVILLE
NORTHVILLE ESTATES HALF-ACRE SITE! This spacious tri-level features 2865 sq. ft., 3 huge bedrooms, 2.5 baths, updated kitchen, and a walk-out family room. Private wooded lot. All this for \$289,900. (P56SUM)

PLYMOUTH
LAKEPONTE SUBDIVISION! Quietly located, yet convenient to everything! 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home w/wood ceilings, hardwood floors. Living room, dining room, oak kit. Large family rm w/fireplace. Spacious deck, mature trees. Call Today! (P24CLE) \$232,000

PLYMOUTH
BREATHTAKING PLYMOUTH RANCH CONDO Exclusive Eaton Estates. Finished walkout. Master suite with jet tub and separate shower, 2 fireplaces, 3 baths, oak kitchen with island and 2nd kitchen in lower level. Priced below SEV. (P88EAT) \$379,900

CANTON
GREENBROOK VILLAGE SUB NO 1 Beautiful newer kitchen w/corain counters & cabs. Open to a larger family room. 3 b s, 2.5 baths, finished bsmt. Mat makes a great rec-room. Walk out to landscaped yard. Mat everyone will envy. Much more... (P73RUD) \$228,500

GARDEN CITY
GARDEN CITY BRICK RANCH W/EXTRA-DEEP LOT Lovely 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath brick ranch w/2.5 car garage & rare deep lot (60x295). Updated kit w/ceramic tile, vinyl windows, hrdwd under furnace, humid. HWH, roof, bsmt w/half bath & glass block windows. Exceptional! (P27BEE) \$169,900

ROMULUS
FAIRWAYS AT GATEWAY SUB! 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath, 1st floor laundry, 1st floor master suite & finished basement, great room/office. Motivated Seller! Must see! (P23GRY) \$219,900

PLYMOUTH
WALK-TO-SCHOOL NEIGHBORHOOD 4 bdrm, 2 full baths, large family room w/gas fireplace. Updated kit, w/ Pergo floor. Updated baths. New furnace & garage door. Private fenced yard has underground sprinklers, lush perennial gardens and mature trees. Quick occupancy available (P19FAR) \$239,900

GARDEN CITY
FIRST TIME BUYERS DELIGHT! Walk to schools and hospital from this updated ranch. New dishwasher, new kit, bath, w/h, furnace elect, carpet and paint. Nicely manicured yard w/deep lot. (P75HEL) \$120,500

WESTLAND
MIND CONDITIONS! 3 bedroom brick ranch, 4th bedroom in basement. Oak kitchen w/Pergo floor, updated carpet & windows. Dining a rm in living room replaced w/air off. Oversized garage. Just a great house! (P05BEE) \$149,900

WESTLAND
COUNTRY IN THE CITY! This must be the place. Spacious 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial sitting on just about an acre. With over 2,300 sq. ft. Custom built. Family room (32x20), it's gorgeous. Oak kitchen, formal dining room, & finished basement add to the list. MUST SEE! (P27COW) \$285,900

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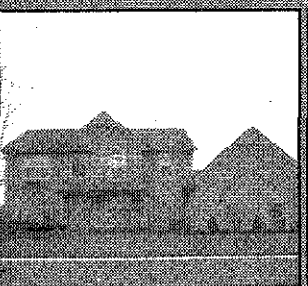
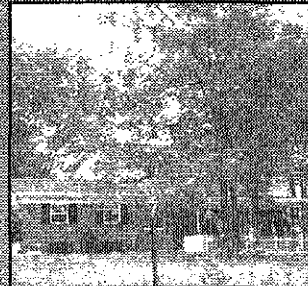
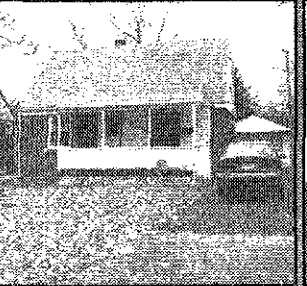
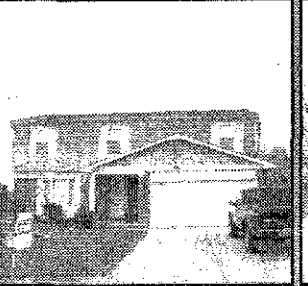
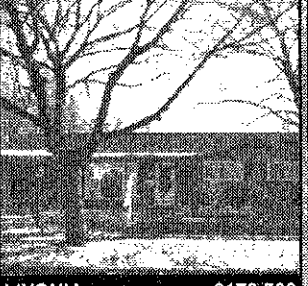
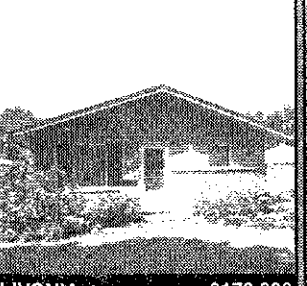
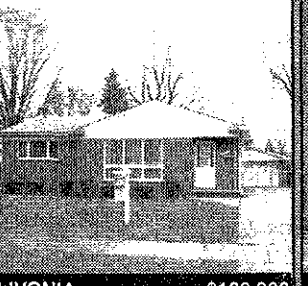
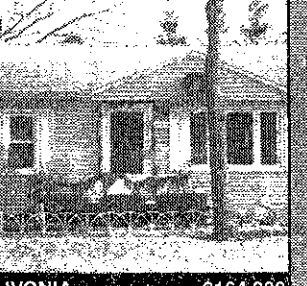
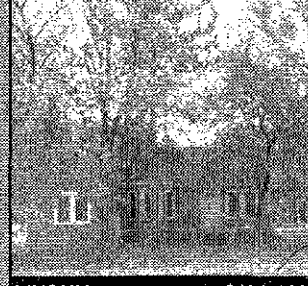
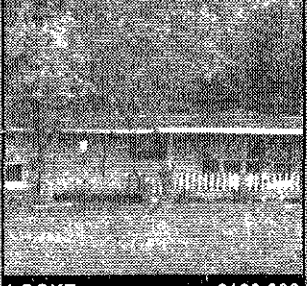
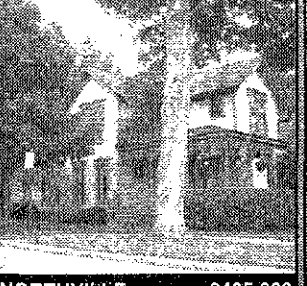
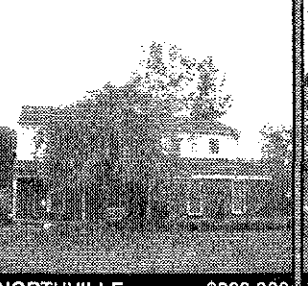
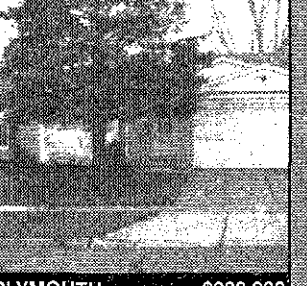
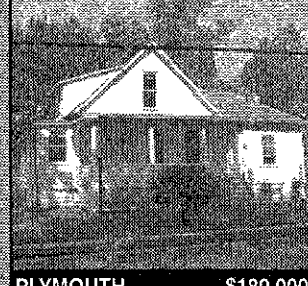
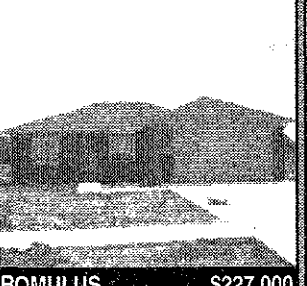
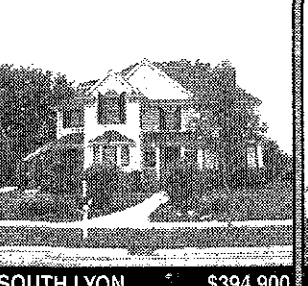
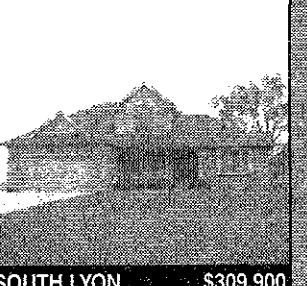
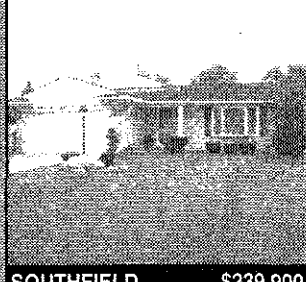
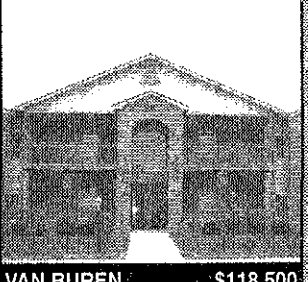
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**ANN ARBOR** \$309,900
Best lot in sub! Tudor w/woods on side & back on cul-de-sac. Spacious kitchen overlooks FR w/vaulted ceilings & skylights. 6 panel drs t/o. Spac kit & FR open to private yd. New dbl front drs w/leaded glass. 1st floor Indry. (OEP49POT) 734-453-6800**BRIGHTON** \$299,900
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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 Flrs In Foyer, Kit & Nook. Luxurious Vaulted Master Suite/Finished Basement. (OEL38SAN) 734-591-0333**CANTON** \$409,500
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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/whdwd Flr, Formal Living & Dining Rm (OEN26WOO) 248-347-3050**CANTON** \$234,900
Colonial 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bath w/e/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 "sunflower 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 landscaped 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 Appliances * Not A Drive By! (OEL31GRE) 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. (OEN58WOF) 248-347-3050**GARDEN CITY** \$174,900
Beautiful Garden City Ranch! Everything Has Been Done. Vinyl Siding, Roof, Windows, Hardwood Flrs, Electrical, Plumbing, Master Bdrm Has Cathedral Ceilings, Jacuzzi, Walk-in Closet, Hdwd Flrs 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. (OESLY64ASH) 248-437-4500**HOWELL** \$174,900
Wow! Great family home great lot and curb appeal galore! Newer roof furnace air H2O heater and gutter helmets. Excellent location! Partially finished basement with possible 4th bedroom. (OESLY61GLE) 248-437-4500**INKSTER** \$95,000
Absolutely Stunning! New Barber Carpet new Vinyl Wndws 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 Mstr Suite. (OEL32WES) 734-591-0333**LIVONIA** \$289,900
Totally Updtd. Maint. Free Home- Mstr Bdrm 12x25, FR 13x27- 2 Skylights Each- Updtd Wdws- Kitch W/oak Cab, 2nd Flr Lndry- Wd Drs- Jetted Tub Mstr- 90% Eff Furn- & Fr- 366 Sq Ft Rec Rm U/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 Cabs, cnts, flr & Appls. New Bath & Half Bath. (OEN47GRA) 248-347-3050**LIVONIA** \$170,000
Price Reduced!! 1212 Sq.ft. brick Ranch In Stevenson District. Aggressively Priced For A Quick Sale. Updates Incl: oak Kitchen W/appl., Remodeled Bath, Newer 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
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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
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Pella windows, 96% Furn. Recessed & indirect lighting in great rm. Ceramic tile in kit & DR. Merrill cabinets. Separate shower & tub in master. 6 panel doors, wood blinds. 2 car gar. w/2 car sized workshop attached. 2nd flr. (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/p 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 Furn. 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 2lt. across home, crpt, appl, cbnts, lghtng, elev, deep bsmt, ext alum, sky lts, clng fans, elec air c/nr, 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 cul-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, W/C. Refin. Hdwd Flrs 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. Hdwd Flrs 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 & W/C. 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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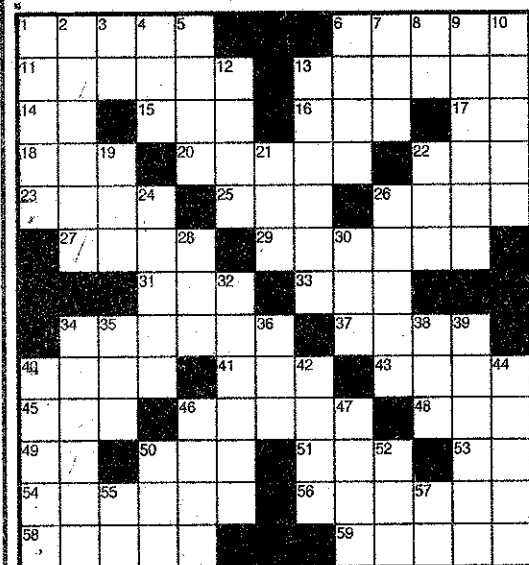
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includes all utilities. 6 mo. lease or longer. \$525/mo. plus deposit. 734-434-6686

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BIRMINGHAM - DOWNTOWN 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, hardwood floors, full bsmt, washer/dryer, a/c, covered parking, no pets. \$1000. (248) 901-1643
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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www.etkinandco.com

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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 suite & 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. Extremely 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 & FR! 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 **\$237,000**

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/et 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 bunglow. 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 flplc. 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 appls 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 rm/den on first floor. The perfect turn-key starter home! 349-6200 24139198 **\$109,900**

248-348-6430

TAYLOR

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Condos/Townhouses 4202

BLOOMFIELD HILLS 2 bed-room, 2 bath. Renovated, lake front, carpet, \$995/mo. 248-891-1918/248-891-4203

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, hookups for washer & dryer, and we. Absolutely Adore Pets! \$780. (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. \$965 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 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, fireplace, 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 bath, 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 4202

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

Duplexes 4030

CANTON
2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, appliances. No pets. \$735/mo. (248) 514-0585

EVERGREEN & FORD RD.
2 bdrm duplex with bsmt, near Fairlane & UofM. \$495 + security. Avail now! 248-388-2904

WAYNE Large 2 bdrm, all appliances. Great neighborhood, garage, air & full bsmt, w/stor-age. \$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. 248-515-4791

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 lower, updated, hardwood floors. Pets neg. \$895/mo. Great location! 248-854-3232

Homes For Rent 4050

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 248-249-0898

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

Clareville 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.

FARMINGTON HILLS 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 932 sq.ft. Fenced. 1.5 car garage. \$950/mo. Available now. 248-763-6151

FARMINGTON HILLS 3 bdrm, all appliances, pets welcome, \$925. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 248-356-RENT

FARMINGTON HILLS Cute, clean, secluded, cottage type 2 bdrm, all appliances including washer/dryer, c/a, blinds, deck, storage shed, no bsmt/garage. Lawn Maintenance. No dogs. \$850/mo. (248) 474-5594

FARMINGTON HILLS Ranch, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, attach garage, Farmington Schools, nice neighborhood. Rent or lease w/option to buy, \$1250/mo. Agent: 248-875-7388

FARMINGTON HILLS ranch, pets negotiable, 10 Mile & Middlebelt, \$850. Small fee. RENTAL PROS 248-356-RENT

GARDEN CITY - 2 bedrooms, living room, family room/fireplace, 1200 sq.ft., large yard. \$950. 248-361-1015

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 29643 Glenwood, Cherry Hill & Middlebelt. Option possible. 3 bedroom, bsmt. \$600. 248-476-6498

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. \$600. (248) 788-1823

LEASE WITH OPTION
ALL NEWLY REMODELED:
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 5 mile & Levan area. 3 bdrm tri-level with attached garage, 1 1/2 bath, family room, C/A, large yard, great home, excellent area! \$1100/mo. + security. Avail now! 248-388-2904

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. Back to N. West Park. \$1,000/mo. 248-926-8999

OAK PARK: 14135 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

PLYMOUTH 3 bdrm brick executive home, fireplace, fenced yard, attached garage. Just remodeled, new paint & carpet. All appliances. 6 mos. lease available. \$1250/mo. T.Y.M.E. 734-455-5566

PLYMOUTH TWP. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, all appliances, air, fenced yard, basement. No dogs. Avail mid. Jan. \$1100. Credit ref. 248-661-3641

PLYMOUTH- Near Town
Victorian, 2 bed lower, wood floors, high ceilings. Garage, bsmt. \$975/mo. Lg 1 bed upper, x-tra computer room, garage, prime area. \$750. 734-591-6530 / 455-7653

REDFORD - Charming S. Redford brick bungalow, clean, move-in. 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 1 car garage, \$1100. 734-634-6070

REDFORD 3 bdrm brick ranch, 1000 sqft, bsmt, garage, possible rent to own. \$900/mo. + security. (248) 471-4550

REDFORD 3 bdrm. bungalow, new paint & furnace, bsmt. Appliances. 15809 Lenane, \$900/mo. (248) 701-2295.

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 Lessner, METRO FINANCE 248-709-2244

REDFORD TWP.
1 bdrm., \$495. 2 bdrm., \$695. 3 bdrm., \$995. 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 1800 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with 2 car garage on 2 lots for \$1250/mo. (248) 787-7300

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, 4 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, appliances, 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, basement, garage, fenced yard. \$800/mo. 248-766-5907

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, 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

WESTLAND
3 bdrm, \$700/mo. Rent to Own or Could be 0 down. (734) 521-0240 Code #02

WESTLAND: (Merriman/Palmer) Nice 2 bedroom ranch, carpet, fenced, \$750 monthly. 313-418-9905.

Mobile Home Rentals 4070

HOMES FOR RENT
3 bdrm, 2 bath, \$595/mo. All appliances and a/c included. Close & convenient to shopping & entertainment. Call Today! 734-495-0012 Located - College Park Estates 51074 Mott Rd. Canton MI 48188 (Between Geddes & Mich Ave. off Ridge Road).

Wayne
1000 to 3000 square ft. Office/Warehouse space. Excellent cond. 734-728-7200

Lease/Option To Buy 4500

Canton, Garden City, Howell
Northville, Wayne
Owner will finance or rent to own. Bad credit OK. 5 nice homes to choose. \$124,900 to \$229,000. Free recorded info 24 hrs. 888-356-6102

CANTON: 3/5 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, 2 car garage, finished bsmt. Great neighborhood - great house. 248-348-4700

FOR LEASE
1-275 exposure. Offices from 168-2,700 sq.ft. mo. to mo. leases available. JA Bloch & Co/Gach Realty (248) 559-7430

PALM COAST, FL Beautiful, new, luxury 3 bdrm oceanfront condo. Heated pool, many amenities. (248) 669-1069.

St. Augustine/Palm Coast, FL
Are you ready to try something new? Located between St. Augustine & Daytona Beach. Brand new 3 bedroom oceanfront, spectacular southern exposure ocean front. Heated pool, w/1000 sq. ft. room, gated community. Rent's monthly only. \$2500 per mo. 248-360-1508 or 1-800-728-2762

Vacation Rental/Resorts 4110

ARUBA Week of March 5, 2005 at Marriott Aruba Surf Club, 1 bdrm. rents for \$200 per night. For more info, (248) 645-6076

FORT MEYERS, FLA. New furnished condo, sleeps 4-6, gated golf course community. Avail. Jan. 15/05. No pet, non-smoking. 586-255-2144

SARASOTA, FL 1 bdrm., Park Model, Sun & Fun Resort, \$750/wk. Minimum stay 1 mo. Avail. Feb., Mar., Apr. no pets. 313-402-4036

Living Quarters To Share 4120

REDFORD - furnished bdrm., & kitchen/laundry privileges, storage area, utilities incl. \$375/mo. non smoking working gentleman. 313-537-8953

Rooms For Rent 4140

CANTON - Near I-275. Non-smoking & non-drinking. Quiet room, male. \$295/mo. New. No lease. 734-394-1557

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 BACHELORS 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 REAL



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
FLATBED/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.d & 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) 474-7610

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

LAVOSCAPE 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. BG/BS, 401K, Southfield area. Please fax resume to 248-352-7907
or e-mail resume to
B2Thompson@aol.com

MACHINISTS EXPERIENCED
CNC Lathe & Mill EDM
Centerless, 10, 0D 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 Northstar, Ste. 300, Southfield, MI 48075 or email to: employment@gccservicing.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 gpetty@ilgi.com

MARKETER NEEDED
Earn income marketing to other local businesses. Call 248-756-2248 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. Pete 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 4714 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.

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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
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
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 S photographer weddings if you love the best 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 PHOTO 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, P.O. 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 fireplace 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@nbadvantage.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 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.

SLITTER HELPER
For Steel Processing. Must have 3 years experience. Full-time, benefits. Apply in person: 13900 Joy Rd, Detroit.

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 3000 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

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@nbadvantage.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 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.

SLITTER HELPER
For Steel Processing. Must have 3 years experience. Full-time, benefits. Apply in person: 13900 Joy Rd, Detroit.

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

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Full time positions with excellent benefits. Experienced only need apply in person: Link Tool & Mfg., 9495 Inkster Rd., Taylor, MI 48180.

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: koryvilling@thebetterhealth-ltore.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/full-time. Electrical & plumbing preferred. Call Terry: (810) 229-0940

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

CASHIER - PART TIME
Victory Honda of Plymouth has immediate opening for part time cashier. Some evenings & Saturdays required. If enjoy a fast paced environment & working with the public please apply in person at 315 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth. No phone calls please.

Clerical Assistant
Entry level. Looking for clerical assistance for billing department. Computer experience a must. Currently in Plymouth soon to move to Novi. Competitive salary & benefits. Fax resume to: 734-455-9248 or email to swrona@generalmedicine.com

CLOSING DEPARTMENT
Made even more. Full time. Good benefits. Fax resume to: 866-276-7197

DATA ENTRY
Could earn \$15/hour and up! Medical billing. Training provided. PC required! Call 7 days. 1-800-936-1311 ext 308.

DATA ENTRY
Flexible Hours \$\$\$\$ GREAT PAY \$\$\$\$! Serious, responsible applicants w/personal computer work from home. 1-800-913-2823 ext #63.

IATA ENTRY
Flexible Hours \$\$\$\$ GREAT PAY \$\$\$\$! Serious, responsible applicants w/personal computer work from home. 1-800-913-2823 ext #63.

Help Wanted-General 5000

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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@sbcbglobal.net

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
Full-time immediate opening for physician's office in Farmington Hills. Email resume: medjobs4u@aol.com

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
Exp. for internist office. 30-32 hrs/wk. Fax resume to: 734-464-9797

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN/ORDER ENTRY

We are seeking experienced full-time order entry technicians for afternoon (1 to 5pm) 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@nccare.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 well-ness 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

AMAZING OPPORTUNITIES NOW INTERVIEWING
For:
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• COOKS
• TO GO SPECIALISTS
Flexible Schedule
Looking for energetic & passionate people.
Apply in person at
Macaroni Grill
32729 Northwestern Hwy, Farmington Hills.
SEE YOU THERE!

BRavo ITALIANA KITCHEN
Popular new restaurant seeking professional Servers, Host Staff, & all Kitchen Positions. Excellent income potential with a fast-growing company for the right individual.
APPLY IN PERSON ONLY 2-5 Monday-Friday
17700 Haggerty Road, Livonia.

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
Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks, a Luxury Senior Apartment Community in Novi, is in need of a Prep 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. 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 use 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 be versed in all front of the house operations.
Please fax or email resume: 313-359-4421 or tony@andriaitalia.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:
FLIGHT CLUB
29709 Michigan Ave
Inkster

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, ie. 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.

Sandwich Maker/Prepwork
Mon-Sat. 10-4. \$7.50 to start. Call Tony a Maya's Deli in Plymouth. 734 453-8870

WAITSTAFF
Full/Part time. Flexible schedule at an Irish sports pub. Sheehan's On The Green. 5 Mile, E. of Haggerty 734-420-0646

WAITSTAFF
Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks, a luxury Senior Community in Novi, is seeking responsible, mature, dedicated individuals to fill full time and part time waitstaff and dishwasher positions. Must be flexible and able to work weekends. E.E.O. Apply in person: Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks, 27475 Huron Circle, Novi, Michigan (behind 12 Oaks Mall-off 12 Mile Rd.) or call (248) 735-1500.

AUTO SALES
GM Certified used salesperson needed. Contact Scott Schmidt at Lou LaRiche Chevrolet, (734) 453-4600

AUTO SALES NEW & USED
CRESTWOOD DODGE
(734) 421-5700

CRUISE/TOUR SALES
Will train experienced or natural born sales people to sell vacations to incoming calls. No cold calling. \$8.00 per hour plus commissions averaging \$500 to \$1300 per month with \$2500 potential. 30 to 40 hours per week. Dearborn. 313-278-4100

EXP. SALESPERSON NEEDED
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 a new car salesperson. Excellent career opportunity. Great pay, demo plan, benefits program and training available. Don't miss out. Please fax resume to 313-278-2545

LEASING AGENT
Part/Time for Westland Apts. Leasing/ Customer service exp. preferred. Must be reliable. 734-425-0052

MEDIA SALES EXECS
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 48099 or call (810) 695-0282.

New Year - New Career
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

HELP WANTED-PROFESSIONAL
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. Knowledge and Supervisory skills a must. Must be able to multi-task and work in a quick changing environment. Please send your resume to: GSE/JCP 34400 Glendale Ave. Livonia, MI 48150 Fax: (734) 513-9560 Email: john@hvac-ges.com No phone calls accepted.

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. Knowledge and Supervisory skills a must. Must be able to multi-task and work in a quick changing environment. Please send your resume to: GSE/JCP 34400 Glendale Ave. Livonia, MI 48150 Fax: (734) 513-9560 Email: john@hvac-ges.com No phone calls accepted.

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REAL ESTATE IS BOOMING
Excellent Commissions.
Great Training.
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Oakland/ Livingston area
(248) 437-2600
DOUG COURTNEY
W. Wayne (734) 459-6222

REMERICA

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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 - 734-455-5600.

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 248-642-5100 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@accntremodeling.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@sbcbglobal.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: rrosner@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
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The Mobile Solution

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

HELP WANTED-Part-Time

AVON NEEDS

Representatives Now! Call 734-425-1947

JEWELRY STORE Permanent part time, exp. a plus. Plymouth. 734-455-3030

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Help Wanted-Sales 5120

REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS
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

Real Estate Agent
A CAREER IN REAL ESTATE! LOOK NO FURTHER
If you desire to work in western Wayne county, be with number 1, see our other ad for details.
Call Lian Sanderson 734-392-6000

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PREFERRED REALTORS

Real Estate Agents

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ALL REAL ESTATE COMPANIES ARE NOT THE SAME
If you are serious about entering the business and profession of Real Estate Sales, you owe it to yourself to investigate why we are #1 in the market place and best suited to insure your success.

*#1 Rated Franchise System
*Continuous Individualized Training
*100% Commission Plan
*Group Health Coverage
*Free Pre-Licensing
*Latest Technical Computer Programs
*Enable You To Have The Competitive Advantage
*Unsurpassed Local and National Advertising Exposure

DISCOVER THE DIFFERENCE
Call Jim Stevens or Alissa Nead

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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
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HELP WANTED-Part-Time

NEED A BREAK?
Dependable. Hardworking. Reasonable rates. 9 yrs. exp. Ref. Call Rose, 248-561-3150

Landscaping

COMPLETE LANDSCAPING BY LAURENCE SERVICES
Fall clean-ups, re-landscaping & new landscaping, grading, sodding, hydro-seeding, all types retaining walls installed. brick walks & patios. Drainage systems, lawn irrigation systems, low foundations built up. Weekly lawn maintenance. 30 yrs. exp. Lic & Ins. Free Est. 248-489-5955

Painting/Decorating Paperhangers

BEAT ANY WRITTEN ESTIMATE
248-476-0011
313-835-8610
Painting, Papering, Plastering, Repairs, Wallwashing

ACCURATE INT PAINTING
plaster/drywall repair, small jobs OK. 46 yrs exp., ins. Free Est. Larry 734-425-1372

ADVANCED PAINTING
30 yrs. exp./references. Also Wallpapering and Removal. Insured. Bob, (248)568-9295

CONTEMPORARY PAINTING
Interior expert painters, res. & commercial quality work guaranteed. (248) 808-0008

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Experienced. Bonded. Weekly, Biweekly, Monthly, Senior discount. 313-535-6179

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*Group Health Coverage
*Free Pre-Licensing
*Latest Technical Computer Programs
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COMPLETE LANDSCAPING BY LAURENCE SERVICES
Fall clean-ups, re-landscaping & new landscaping, grading, sodding, hydro-seeding, all types retaining walls installed. brick walks & patios. Drainage systems, lawn irrigation systems, low foundations built up. Weekly lawn maintenance. 30 yrs. exp. Lic & Ins. Free Est. 248-489-5955

Painting/Decorating Paperhangers

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248-476-0011
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Painting, Papering, Plastering, Repairs, Wallwashing

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plaster/drywall repair, small jobs OK. 46 yrs exp., ins. Free Est. Larry 734-425-1372

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Interior expert painters, res. & commercial quality work guaranteed. (248) 808-0008

HOUSECLEANING
Experienced. Bonded. Weekly, Biweekly, Monthly, Senior discount. 313-535-6179

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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 248-624-6255 or call 248-624-7000.

PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY
8-10 hours per week \$7 per hour. Ideal for retiree. (248) 474-8290

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

Caregiver: Live-in, caring, mature woman, English speaking. Salary + room & board in Westland. Barbara 8-4pm, 810-229-7246

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. (248) 635-6762

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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.

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For 2004 Postal Jobs \$16.40 - \$59.00/hr. Paid training, full Federal benefits, no experience necessary. Green Card OK. Call 1-800-606-5049 ext #1000.

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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.

HELP WANTED-Part-Time

NEED A BREAK?
Dependable. Hardworking. Reasonable rates. 9 yrs. exp. Ref. Call Rose, 248-561-3150

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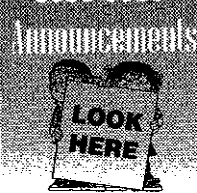
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REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE | Thursday, January 6, 2005

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 eye-sores 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.

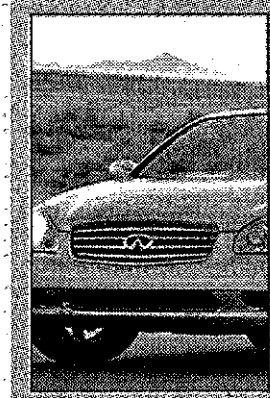
on the highway. My evaluation took place mostly during the snowy week around Christmas, but the all-wheel-drive competence of the Outback Wagon came through time and time again in getting me over and through the many unpaved streets of northern Oakland County. In the 2005 models of the Outback line, 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.

OE08285765

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ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA 734-525-0900

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.
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MERCEDES BENZ-C 280 1994, garaged, 95K miles, no winters, new Michelins, exc. cond. \$7,850/best. (248) 374-2381

Passat-2001 Autotran 45000 mile, 4 Cyl \$13,900. 248-371-0682 Under Warranty

Antique/Classic Collector Cars (8320)

Cadillac 1959 - 4 door series 62 Baby Blue. New & clean interior. Good condition. \$7,500. 313-561-8075

CHEVROLET CAPRICE 1975 White convertible, V8, exc. cond. \$7,500 248-545-1391

ELDORADO'S 1983 2 southern cars, needs repair. \$2,100/best. (248) 426-9812

FORD GALAXY 1965 - 390, black/black, 69K miles, \$3,900. (248) 347-6089

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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 \$16,950.
ROGIN BUICK-LIVONIA 734-525-0900

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CAVALIER 2001 Coupe, auto, air, 16K, \$7,495.
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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, \$6,200.
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, \$7,200.
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. \$2,900 or best offer. S O L D

Taurus 1998 SE - Loaded. Moon roof, leather, 6 cd player, 24V, exc. cond. 83K hwy, spoiler. \$4,900. 734-718-2902

Ford (8480)

TAURUS 1999 Auto, air, white, \$3,995.
BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

TAURUS 2003 SES - Deluxe, like new, Metallic Gray, 13K, 24V V-6, all power, ABS, moonroof, spoiler, remote start. \$12,450. 248-737-8886

Hyundai (8524)

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

Jeep (8535)

GRAND CHEROKEE 2003 Laredo 4x4, full factory warranty, \$15,995.
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GRAND CHEROKEE 2004 Limited, leather, power moon, chrome, \$22,995.
Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

Ford (8480)

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BOB JEANNOTTE PONTIAC (734) 453-2500

TAURUS 2003 SES - Deluxe, like new, Metallic Gray, 13K, 24V V-6, all power, ABS, moonroof, spoiler, remote start. \$12,450. 248-737-8886

Honda (8520)

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. \$2,495. 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 1999 Clean, good running transportation. 5.0 motor. New tires. \$10,000. 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

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

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TOWN CAR 1995 - High miles. Engine/trans replaced. Ext. good condition; int. exc. cond. \$2,495. 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 1999 Clean, good running transportation. 5.0 motor. New tires. \$10,000. 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

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

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, \$8,995.
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 & moon radio, new engine/brakes & battery, 108K, purple. \$3,300. (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. \$7,995/best. (248) 489-9009

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Autos Under \$2000 (8780)

CHEVY ASTRO-1994 165K miles, runs good, little rust. \$1,800/best. (734) 326-4093

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

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 N. 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
Michigan League Hussey Room

Program: *Arts in Michigan*
Whitney Ford, *Arts in Michigan Under the Hood* (see television
Media Partner: Arab American News, Arab American News, Detroit
with the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services)

FREE EDUCATION EVENT

Community Reception

Wednesday, January 12, following the performance
6:45-7:45 PM Arts

Stephanie Blythe, mezzo-soprano

Waterloo, Illinois, 1840

January 13, 8 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 8 PM

Michigan League Hussey Room

PROGRAM

Stephanie Blythe, mezzo-soprano, Virginia Williams,
and the Detroit Symphony

Ronald K. Brown/Evidence

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 5 PM

MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 1 PM

Power Center

PROGRAM: 1871-1874

Harold Brown, *1871-1874: A History of the Detroit Music
Scene* (see *Arts in Michigan*)
William O. Brown, *1871-1874: A History of the Detroit Music
Scene* (see *Arts in Michigan*)

PROGRAM: 1871-1874

Harold Brown, *1871-1874: A History of the Detroit Music
Scene* (see *Arts in Michigan*)
William O. Brown, *1871-1874: A History of the Detroit Music
Scene* (see *Arts in Michigan*)

FREE EDUCATION EVENTS

Ronald K. Brown, *Technique Dance Master Classes*
Saturday, January 15, 12 noon-1:30 pm and 1:30-3 pm
Michigan League Dance Studio • Wayne State University
2847 East Ave. • Detroit

NETWORK Reception

Sunday, January 16, 4:15-5:45 pm
Michigan League Hussey and Vandenberg Rooms

SYMPOSIUM AND ARTIST INTERVIEW

African Roots in American Modern Dance

Monday, January 17, 1:30 pm

John House Dance Studio • 1310 N. University Ct.

Arts in Michigan, a part of the Arts in Michigan, is a part of the
National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts.
We are in partnership with the U-M Office of Academic Multicultural
Initiatives, Media Partners Detroit Jewish News, Michigan Radio,
Michigan Television, 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.

Lahis Symphony

with Louise Lortie, soprano

Osma Vanska, conductor

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 8 PM

III Auditorium

PROGRAM

Kullonen, *Andante from The Last Remains* (1973-74)
Lortie, *Andante from The Last Remains* (1973-74)
Vanska, *Andante from The Last Remains* (1973-74)
Lortie, *Andante from The Last Remains* (1973-74)

PROGRAM

Kullonen, *Andante from The Last Remains* (1973-74)
Lortie, *Andante from The Last Remains* (1973-74)
Vanska, *Andante from The Last Remains* (1973-74)
Lortie, *Andante from The Last Remains* (1973-74)

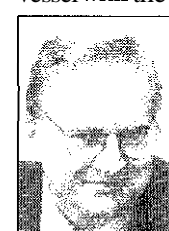
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Symposium and the Celebration of African American Dance.

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 is 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.

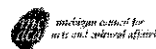
Greg Kowalski believes Dracula should stay firmly
planted on - or in - the earth. He can be reached at
(248) 901-2570 or at gkowalski@oe.homecomm.net



All Tickets On Sale Now!

734.764.2538 www.ums.org

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Eve Aronoff runs a "scratch" kitchen." following her preference for bolder flavors, seasonal ingredients at Eve in Ann Arbor.

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Creole Stomp is entertaining, and educational too.

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Filter

PURE ENTERTAINMENT!

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www.hometownlife.com



Savoy Brown headlines the festival on Friday. It features legendary musician Kim Simmonds, (second from left), known for playing 'British Blues Guitar.'

Hot Ticket

Let's get ready to

Winter 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 RJ & the Rhythm Rockers, Rattlesnake Shake and The Alligators

Saturday: Roomful of Blues with Doug Deming's Jeweltone featuring Greg 'Fingers' Taylor, Lady Sunshine & the X Band, The Sunny Girl Band

For more information: Visit 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 band 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 Tired, 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 kschramm@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.bravepages.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 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.

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 to reserve a spot, 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; 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, or www.lakelandplayerstheatre.org.

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. 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.heartlandtheatre.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

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.

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.

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 the 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, 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

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 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

Dancing Across the Miles
Jazz Concert Featuring Ursula Walker. vocals: George Benson, saxophone: Dwight Adams, trumpet; Buddy Budson, piano; Dan Kolton, bass; Pete Sierdrums: 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.

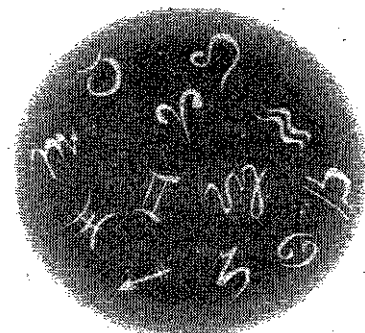
Epiphany Glass
Opens studio to the public 4-9 p.m. today and Thursday, Feb. 3. View an individually crafted collection of handblown glass sculptures including the Splash Free Form and Nest series. Meet artisan husband and wife team Jason Ruff and April Wagner. Live glass blowing demonstrations will be 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.



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!

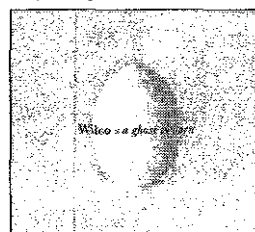
Dennis Fairchild is a Birmingham-based astrologer and author of several books on divination. For information about personal consultations, phone (248) 646-3555 or e-mail DenFairchild@aol.com.

Pure Picks Year in Review

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.

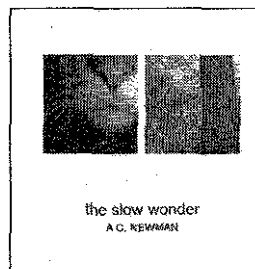
So here is Pure Pick's 2004 Top 10 Albums, in no particular order because chaos is beauty.

Nino Rojo - Devendra Banhart: Banhart's Rejoicing in the Hands was also released this year

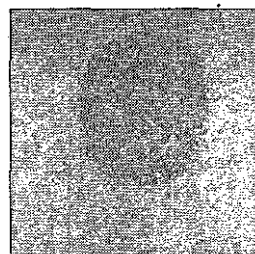


and is awe-totally-some. But Nino Rojo includes At the Hop, a simple song of melody and sadness that is my candidate for song of the year.

A Ghost if Born - Wilco: 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

Sheetpick.

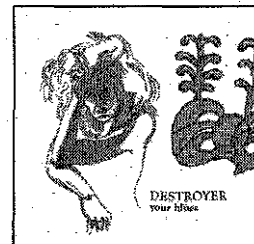
Seven Swans - Sufian Stevens: You won't even mind the God parts and if you are into that, you'll like it even more.

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

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.



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 I ss-Bian-Eno pick.

Bonus 11th spot:

* Best local disc:

Every Night -

Sid day L i k to Me: It had two versions. I don't really need to save 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/Madvillany 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 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 take your pick; pick, pass, gruffly 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
Sunday; tow, \$20, all area, \$25 and \$29. All
equipment can be rented; private, semi-pri-
vate and group lessons for skiing and
snowboarding offered, call (248) 634-
8260. Newly remodeled Lift
Lounge, ski shop.

Pine Knob Ski Area -
7777 Pine Knob, Clarkston,
(248) 625-0800,
www.skipineknob.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-
Sunday; tow, \$20, all area, \$25 and \$29.
All equipment can be rented; private,
semi-private and group lessons for
skiing and snowboarding avail-
able, (248) 625-0800.



White stuff

Catch a fast ride through wint

Snow: 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

www.hometownlife.com



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.

"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.

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. "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.

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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www.hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 6, 2005 • (**) E7

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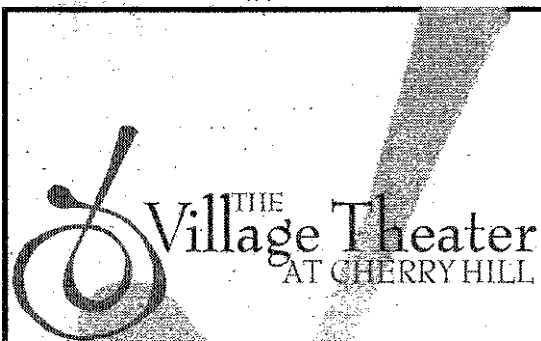
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Mon-Thurs 1130a-1000p

Fri-Sat 1130a-1100p

Sunday 1200-930p

PDF 0502049302



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AT CHERRY HILL



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Canton

To purchase tickets, visit Summit on the Park
Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
The Village Theater ticket office will be open
two hours prior to each performance.
To purchase tickets by phone, call **734-394-5460**.
For more information about the theater and to
view the complete schedule, please visit
www.cantonmi.org/CPAEC/about.asp

The Shirelles

The Shirelles were the first
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"Will You Still Love Me
Tomorrow?"

Dedicated to the One I Love"

"Mama Said"

and so many others

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Tickets \$30

**A Champagne Series
Event**

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



Thursdays at Eve feature an cheese: 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

STORY BY ELEANOR HEALD. | PHOTOS BY DONALD J. ALLEY



Expanded cheese selection for the 'Cutting Board' item, simply a delicious loaf of bread with a variety of cheeses. 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
...mayonnaise.
...seasonal hut packed with

...greens and fresh herbs, accom-
...and a win of French cheese,
...ice of one of the unique dress-
...perfectly to the principal plates.

EVE

Where: 415 N. Fifth Ave., Ann Arbor (734) 222-0711.

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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 Krammer 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 Krammer 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.

Krammer 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 Krammer 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," Krammer 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, Krammer 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," Krammer 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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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 mnsic 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 mots, 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 pm, concert 8 pm, 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. Si 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, mnsic.

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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.

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."

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11:15 1:55 4:45 7:25 10:05
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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
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11:30 2:40 5:35 6:40 8:30 9:35
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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
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
248-585-2070
On line at 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]
11:10 12:40 1:50 3:10 4:50
6:50 7:40 9:35 10:25
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

Star Southfield
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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]
11:15 12:45 2:10 3:40 4:50 6:30 7:50 9:40 10:50
MEET THE FOCKERS [PG-13]
11:00 12:00 1:10 2:00 3:00 4:00 5:10 6:00 7:00 8:10 9:00 10:10
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]
10:55 11:35 12:35 1:30 2:20 3:15 4:20 5:10 5:55 6:55 7:40 8:25 9:25 10:20
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG-13]
11:05 1:55 5:00 7:25 10:45
LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
10:35 11:45 1:45 2:45 4:10 5:25

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 4:45 7:45 10:40
SPANGLISH PG-13
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 9:30 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
*These Times Available on Fri 1/7 & Sat 1/8 Only

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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
THE DARKNESS [PG-13]
12:30 3:15 6:15 8:45
MEET THE FOCKERS [PG-13]
10:50 12:15 1:30 3:00 4:10 5:45 7:00 8:30 9:45
SPANGLISH [PG-13]
10:30 1:20 3:30 4:30 7:50
LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
11:15 1:00 2:00 3:45 4:45 6:30 7:40 9:15
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 AM
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 5:30 @ \$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
7:10 9:40

SNEAK PREVIEW SATURDAY NIGHT (1/8)
(NP) COACH CARTER [PG-13] 8:00

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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 *Thurs 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
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

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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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ALL SHOWS \$1.50 EXCEPT FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AFTER 6:00 PM ALL SEATS \$2.00

Friday 1/7 - Thursday 1/13 Listings
AFTER THE SUNSET [PG13]
11:25 2:15 5:05 7:30 10:20
BOURNE SUPREMACY [PG13]
11:35 2:30 5:10 7:35 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
SUPERBABIES: BABY GENIUSES 2 [PG]
11:00 1:35 4:15 6:50 9:15
TAXI [PG13]
11:15 2:00 4:45 7:15 9:55

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Thursday Listings
(NP) MEET THE FOCKERS [PG-13]
12:10 1:20 2:35 3:45 5:00 6:10 7:25 8:45 9:50
(NP) THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA [PG-13]
1:00 3:55 6:50 9:45
DLP-Digital Projection 11:40 2:35 5:30 8:25
(NP) R. E. AVIATOR [PG-13]
11:50 3:20 6:30 9:50
(NP) BEYOND THE SEA [PG-13]
11:35 2:05 4:35 7:05 9:35
EMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS [PG]
11:25 12:50 1:50 3:15 4:15 5:40 6:40 8:05 9:05
SPANGLISH [PG-13]
12:25 3:05 5:45 8:25
OCEAN'S TWELVE [PG-13]
12:00 2:40 5:20 7:00 8:00 9:40
CLOSER [R]
12:10 4:10 7:10 9:25
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS [PG]
11:45 2:10 4:35
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX [PG-13]
12:15 2:40 5:05 7:30 9:55

Celebrating the art of giving

Tzdekah boxes

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.

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 p.m. 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

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THIS YEAR. A WORK OF
UTTER MASTERY."
A.O. SCOTT

MILLION DOLLAR BABY

PG-13
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SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW THIS SATURDAY

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INSPIRED BY
A TRUE STORY

SAMUEL L. JACKSON
COACH CARTER

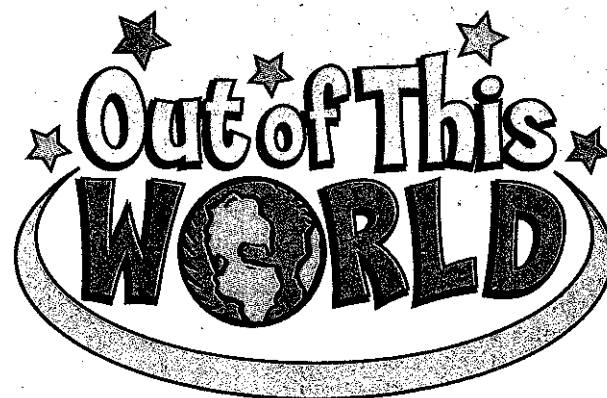
PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13
VIOLENCE, SEXUAL CONTENT, LANGUAGE,
TEEN PARTYING & SOME DRUG MATERIAL
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SAT 2/5 • 10:30, 2:00, 5:30	FRI 2/11 • 11:00, 7:00
SUN 2/6 • 10:30, 2:00, 5:30	SAT 2/12 • 10:30, 2:00, 5:30
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