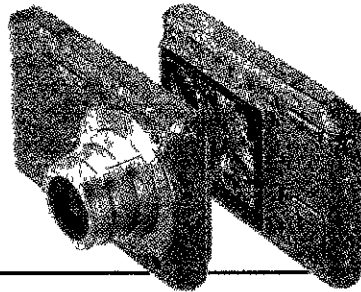


The Rockettes spread warmth and good cheer at the Radio City Christmas Spectacular
FILTER - INSERTED SECTION



Pick a perfect gift for the gadget lover in your life

AT HOME - SECTION B



Giving back
Detroit's largest Greek salad tossed at fund-raiser

TASTE - PAGE B7

THURSDAY
December 1, 2005

CANTON Observer

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Goodfellows need your help

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Some needy families in Canton could use your generosity.

The Canton Goodfellows will be out 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. this Saturday, Dec. 3, selling their newspapers and collecting donations to guarantee no child goes without a Christmas.

"These are our kids," said Nancy Spencer of Canton, who's been president of the Canton Goodfellows for about 15 years. "No child should be without a Christmas. Their little bit will add up. Got to take care of our own."

The Goodfellows volunteers will be out Saturday in business driveways and at such sites as the Holiday Market at Lilley and Cherry Hill. Spencer had about 10 volunteers as of Monday and needs more; to volunteer, call her at (734) 397-8975. You can also show up 9 a.m. Saturday at the Canton Public Library, but it's better to call her first.

"We have 500 children and 175 families. It's just about the same as last year."

The Goodfellows usually raise some \$8,000 from their holiday fund-raisers.

All recipients are from Canton, with kids on the free/reduced price lunch program in school. Spencer has found some people are surprised such needs exist in Canton, because of the large homes.

"They're blown away. They think I'm joking," she said.

The Goodfellows newspaper has information on their other fund-raisers, including a Dec. 8 opportunity to eat at Max & Erma's in Canton. The Goodfellows will get 20 percent of that. A similar program will be held 5-7 p.m. Dec. 15 at the Canton Pizza Hut for those who mention the Goodfellows.

On Dec. 3-4 and 10-11, photos with Santa will be offered at Keller & Stein Florist on Michigan Avenue. Hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2-4 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. Children, adults and pets are welcome for Santa photos.

"We had such fun last year with the animals," Spencer said.

Those who miss the paper sale this Saturday can mail a check to the Canton Goodfellows at township hall, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton 48188.

"I'm absolutely panic-stricken," Spencer said of this year's donations.

Many gave to help Hurricane Katrina victims and those of other disasters, but she sees need close to home.

"Their houses did not get blown away, but life never changes for them," she said.

The Goodfellows provide a turkey dinner, "kid food" for two weeks, gift cards for perishables and for Wal-Mart and Sam's Club. The organization also does 25 food baskets with gift certificates for seniors.

The Goodfellows have also given toys and food to the Salvation Army for holiday distribution.

Bill Moritz, social worker for the Salvation Army Plymouth Corps, is glad for the help of the Plymouth and Canton Goodfellows at Christmas.

"We share each other's lists" to avoid duplication, he said. "We make sure that every family that needs it gets help. We share each other's resources."



Michigan Humane Society investigator Debby MacDonald, who is also one of the stars of The Animal Planet's 'Animal Cops: Detroit,' will be signing autographs at the Canton Pet Supplies 'Plus' store, from noon to 2 p.m. on Dec. 10.

Animal cops

Animal Planet's reluctant 'stars' to visit pet store

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

It wasn't too long ago that Mark Ramos was "the dog catcher." As an investigator for the Michigan Humane Society, for nine years, he's gone out on the streets of the Detroit area to look into hundreds of animal abuse cases every year. But Ramos has for the past three years enjoyed - and been baffled by - celebrity status, since he's become well-known to fans of The Animal Planet's *Animal Cops: Detroit*.

Now, everywhere he goes, he's asked to sign autographs and talk about his experiences on the popular television show. Next weekend, he'll be on hand at a pet store in Canton to do just that.

"People tell me I'm a star, but I just don't believe that," Ramos said.

Ramos and his partner and costar Debby MacDonald will talk about their recent visit to New Orleans as part of the Humane Society's animal rescue efforts after the Gulf Coast hurricanes.

For several weeks, the team joined the national and international relief efforts, searching the areas by foot and by boat, in the hope of rescuing lost,

PLEASE SEE **COPS, A3**

Residents can have a say on upcoming state road projects

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

Canton residents will have the opportunity to view and make comments on the Michigan Department of Transportation's five-year plan. While the meetings are not generally well-attended by residents, they are a chance to get a view of the state's big picture of construction, said Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas.

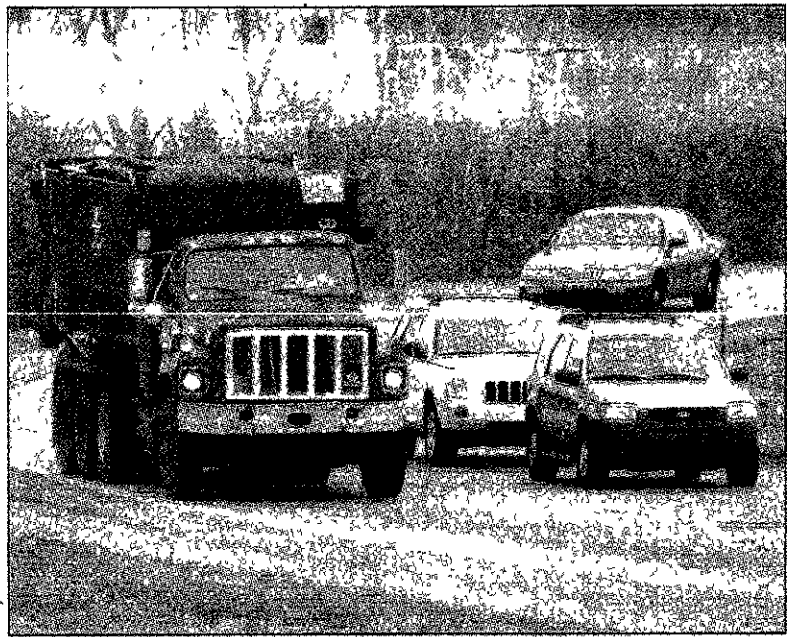
The meeting is just one of a series that will be held throughout the southeast Michigan region, Faas said.

While Faas is satisfied with the

number of projects planned in Canton during the next five years, he said there is always more that could be done.

Most of Canton's roads are the responsibility of Wayne County. Some subdivisions have responsibility for maintenance and clearing of their streets. And just Ford Road, I-275 and Michigan Avenue are under the state's jurisdiction, Faas said.

Faas is happy with the state projects which are planned in the near future - improvements to the I-275 ramp at Michigan Avenue, and a non-motorized path near I-275 and Michigan Avenue, but he's unhappy with



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

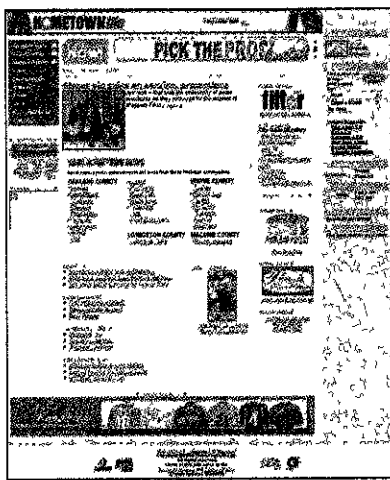
The heavily traveled southbound ramp from I-275 to Michigan Avenue is scheduled for modification in 2006. Additional turn lanes will be constructed.

Wayne County's decision to delay two Canton projects for a year.

"What we're unhappy with is the county is deferring two proj-

ects - Canton Center from Cherry Hill to Palmer, and Lilley from

PLEASE SEE **ROADS, A5**



The new hometownlife.com offers many new features, including nearly all local news and photographs contained in print editions of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Web site expands to serve local growing audience

The *Observer & Eccentric* has a new look on the World Wide Web.

Visit hometownlife.com for a redesigned, colorful, easy-to-use new Web site. The new hometownlife.com offers many new features, including nearly all local news and photographs contained in print editions of the *O&E*. And the addition of careerbuilder.com, apartments.com and homescape.com, a network offering more than 23,000 local real estate listings, will mean market-proven tools for advertisers and Web users.

"Our new, revamped Web site gives us a wonderful opportunity to provide readers and advertisers a new information platform on a 24/7 basis," said Peter Neill, general manager of the *O&E*. "It is an extension of what we do in what has become for us the information business. The culture of our business is rapidly changing, as is the sophistication of our online users, readers and advertisers. It is the online user, reader and advertiser who dictates what they want to see and when they want to see it."

"The changes to our Web site are tremendously beneficial for our readers and advertisers," added Marty Carry, director of advertising at the *O&E*. "And the enhancements to our online classified products are very powerful."

"If you are a business owner or manager and need to hire, we can now provide you with worldwide exposure on careerbuilder.com. Our online real estate offering has also improved and is one of the best in the state. The bottom line for our classified readers and advertisers is we will con-

tinue to be your best source for local classifieds and now we can provide you with worldwide reach online with several categories."

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Putting your ad online expands your reach and keeps you connected to customers, Carry added.

The *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* is now owned by the Gannett Co., a leader in print, broadcast and Web-based information.

"Our enhanced Web site is just one of the benefits of join-

ing with the Gannett Company," said Richard Aginian, publisher of the *O&E*. "In addition to maintaining the most complete and comprehensive site of local news for the community, our readers, advertisers and just plain surfers can now easily link via our Web site to the resources of cars.com, careerbuilder.com and Homescape." Find a job, place an ad, sell a car, read about what's happening in your hometown or search for a story you forgot to clip and

PLEASE SEE **WEB, A5**

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Coming Sunday
on the PINK Page



Make your holiday 'glam plan'

Holiday Luncheon

On Wednesday, Dec. 7, the Canton Chamber of Commerce will host its annual holiday luncheon at Summit on the Park. Buffet begins at 11:30 a.m.

The event will feature the Madrigal Singers and Chamber Choir from the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. Luncheon guests will also enjoy a special unveiling of the Chamber's new Web site, which is being touted as more user friendly.

The Chamber is also collecting gifts once again for the Canton Goodfellows, and guests are being asked to bring an unwrapped gift to the event.

Cost of the luncheon is \$15 per person, and reservations are necessary. Please RSVP to the Chamber office at (734) 453-4040 by Friday, Dec. 2.

Breakfast with Bruce

All seniors are invited for a complimentary breakfast. Here's your opportunity to spend a little time with State Sen. Bruce Patterson. No RSVP required.

This free breakfast will be offered at the Central City Diner, 6600 N Canton Center Rd (between Ford and Warren roads), in Canton, on Monday, Dec. 5, 2005. It will run from 9-10 a.m.

The restaurant's phone number is (734) 354-9100.

Call Sue Trussell, Patterson's district director, at (734) 783-1642 with any questions.

At 9:30 a.m. Dec. 7, Patterson will also be co-hosting, with U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, a program designed to provide insight in the new Medicare prescription drug program. Ron Lieberman of Senior Alliance will provide details of the program and answer questions. The event will be held at the Plymouth District Library is located in downtown Plymouth at 223 S. Main Street.

New employee

Lauren R. Christiansen of Canton was recently hired by Great Lakes Training



Christiansen

Associates, Inc. A member of the American Marketing Association and a graduate of Central Michigan University, Christiansen

will manage marketing, public relations and sales for the company.

Great Lakes Training Associates is a team of profes-

sionals who specialize in interactive management and employee workshops for organizations who want to improve communication, teamwork, morale and productivity. Christiansen will also oversee the design and distribution of all educational materials developed by members of the Great Lakes Training Team.

Emergency guides

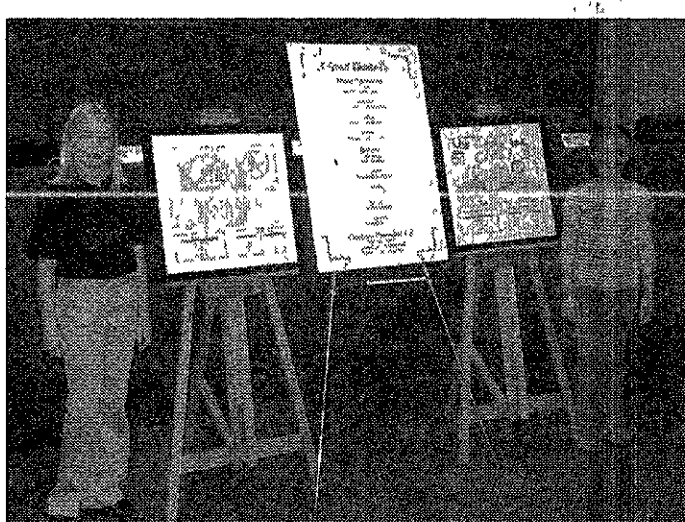
Canton residents should have received in the mail the Family Emergency Preparedness Guides sent out recently by Canton Public Safety. The guide, which should have gone out to all residents, contains useful information on how to prepare yourself and your family for a variety of emergency situations including power outages, snow storms, and natural or technological disasters.

These guides are being provided to the residents as part of Canton's overall emergency management plan, focusing on public education and awareness.

If you do not receive a guide and would like one, or for further information about emergency preparedness, contact Canton's Emergency Management Planner Kathleen Rich at (734) 394-5357, or by e-mail at kathleen.rich@canton-mi.org.

Student achievements

Antonia Spiteri, of Canton, recently received her B.S. in English from Northern Michigan University.



Artists with a message

Sixth-grader Autumn Burin (left) and third-grader Natalie Laurence stand near the posters they designed for the 2005 Fire Prevention Poster Contest sponsored by the Canton Fire Department and the Canton Chamber of Commerce. This year's theme was 'Use Candles with Care.' The girls placed first in their respective age categories. Each was given a \$50 Series EE savings bond, and a trophy to be displayed at their school for the remainder of the school year. Their posters will also be framed and displayed throughout Canton for all to view.

Katie Kelly, who recently graduated from Albion College with a degree in physical education and a minor in health education, is spending the semester teaching physical education at Concord High School. She is the daughter of Patrick Kelly and Janice Kelly of Canton and a graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School.

The Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine welcomes two of the area's own

into the Class of 2009. With 205 students, this is the largest class to enter MSUCOM.

Tim R. Long of Canton is now studying to become an osteopathic physician. In 2004 he received a Bachelor of Science degree in biosystems engineering from Michigan State University. Long chose MSUCOM because "of its great reputation throughout the medical community." The son of Amos and Linda Long of Canton, he attended Plymouth-Canton High School, graduating in 2000.

Angela McKinney received a Bachelor of Science degree in nutritional science from

Michigan State University in 2005. McKinney chose MSUCOM because of "its great reputation for program quality, and medical services, especially in primary care." The daughter of Kim McKinny of Southgate, and Amy McKolay of Canton, she attended Plymouth Canton High School, graduating in 2001.

State appointment

Michigan Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm last month appointed Guozhen Lu of Canton, a tenured professor with the Wayne State University Mathematics Department, to the Advisory Council for Asian and Pacific American Affairs. Lu is appointed for a term expiring April 30, 2008.

Holiday gift fair

United Home Health Services, a non-profit home care company located in Canton, is hosting a Holiday Gift & Craft Fair 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2 at their office located at 2200 Canton Center, Suite 250.

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to United's Patient Support Fund, which is designated for their home care patients who need basic items such as food, clothing, or emergency medications or medical equipment such as walkers, canes, or commodes that they just cannot afford. This fund is also used to provide home care for patients who do not have medical insurance.

All are welcome to attend. Donations to this fund are also being accepted. For more information, call (734) 981-8820.

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

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

Publish: December 1, 2005

Physical Therapy Hands On Center UPDATE

Presented by
Hands On Center For Physical Therapy
EXERCISE GUIDELINES FOR WOMEN

Until recently, the only exercise guidelines available were based on men, and it was not certain whether they also applied to women. However, as more women are being included in medical research, gender differences in some diseases and other health issues are emerging. For the first time, researchers have established how much exercise women should be able to do for their age and found that their capacity is slightly lower than men's. It also declines a bit faster than men's as they grow older. While fitness levels decline for everyone, the research shows that the

difference between men and women become more pronounced with age. Women lose about one percent of their exercise capacity per year, according to the study. As a woman, you are unique! You have your own special needs and concerns. That's why we know you will appreciate the personal care our practice provides. For further information about today's column, contact us at HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY at 455-8370. We are located at 650 South Main Street in downtown Plymouth. We have easy access and parking. New patients are gladly accepted.

P.S. Women are encouraged to aim for an exercise capacity of at least 85% of what it should be.



Johan Coman, PT



Mark Mijnsbergen, PT



Bob Schoemaker, PT

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for an **Employment Assistance Program (EAP)** for the District. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Brenda Armour, Senior Benefit Analyst at The Raines Group at 248-502-1108 or via e-mail at Brenda.Armour@therainesgroup.com. For other information, please contact Dan Phillips in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746. Sealed bids are due to the E.J. McClendon Building, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48154, on or before 1:00 p.m., Friday, December 9, 2005 where they will be read publicly. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
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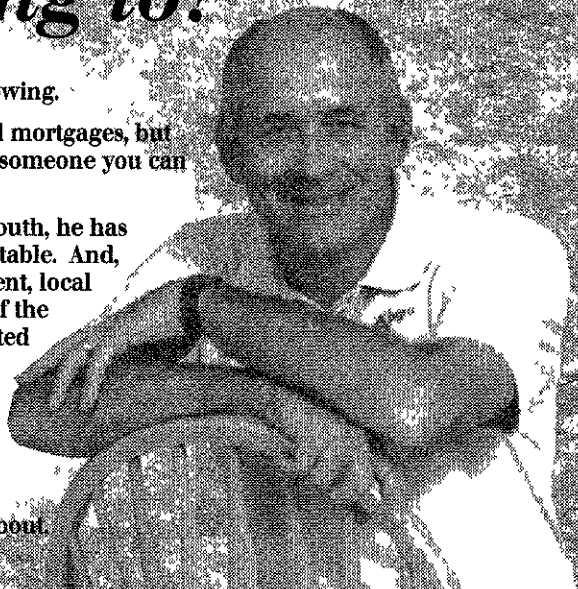
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Mark Ramos, who has gained celebrity status as an investigator on The Animal Planet's 'Animal Cops: Detroit,' will visit Canton and discuss a recent trip to New Orleans as part of the Humane Society's animal rescue efforts after the Gulf Coast hurricanes.

COPS

FROM PAGE A1

stray, and injured animals. Distributing food and water, providing medical care and comfort to pets in temporary shelters, MacDonald, Ramos and the rest of the team managed to save hundreds of pets and reunite a large number with their human companions.

"It's a fund raiser for the Michigan Humane Society," said Ted Linden, store manager at Pet Supplies Plus in Canton. "People are really excited to hear that the Animal Cops are coming here."

Linden, of Garden City, has watched the show and likes it.

"Basically if you're an animal lover, you'll like the show. And you can relate a little bit more to it when you see animals in Detroit being rescued," he said. "The idea behind the show is that the officers answer calls from locals who report animals that appear to be neglected or abused. They go into all sorts of situations, like the episode where they were investigating the drug dealers with alligators in the basement, or the show where they broke up dog fighting rings."

Each year, the MHS Cruelty Investigation Department handles an average of 4,000 cruelty cases revolving around dog fighting, pets exposed to the elements and animal neglect in the cities of Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park. Working in collaboration with the Detroit Police Department, they bring down the offenders and send them to justice.

"We've really worked hard to cultivate that relationship with the police department," Ramos said. "What they've come to realize is that most of the time, if there is animal abuse going on, there is other crime going on. If someone is cruel to an animal, chances are he's also abusing a person in the house. Other kinds of abuse are also associated with other illegal activities like drugs."

This time of year, most of the abuse reports deal with animals left out in the elements. And even though the investigation unit responds to some 4,000 calls per year, only about 50 tickets per year are written.

"What we really focus on is education. A lot of people don't realize how dangerous it is to leave their animals out with no protection," Ramos said.

Michigan Humane Society volunteers will be selling official Animal Cops T-shirts and sweatshirts at the store in conjunction with MacDonald's and Ramos' visit. The shirts are priced from \$10-\$26. Autographed Animal Cops photos will also be on sale for \$5. Proceeds go directly to the Michigan Humane Society.

The Animal Cops will appear at the Canton Pet Supplies "Plus" store, located 43665 Ford Road, Dec. 10 from noon to 2 p.m. For more information, call the store at (734) 981-9191. For more information on the MHS, visit www.michiganhumane.org.

The Animal Cops will also be at the Livonia Pet Supplies Plus

Restaurant owner to spread warmth to Detroit's homeless

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

A local restaurant owner is hoping to spread around a little warmth this winter - for his customers, as well as to about 200 strangers.

Tasi Kanellopoulos, owner of Plato's Coney Island in both Canton and Farmington, is rounding up coats, blankets and gloves to distribute to the homeless in Detroit. In exchange, he'll give donors a hot cup of Eviva coffee.

But Kanellopoulos doesn't want to just bag up the clothing and ship it off to a shelter. He and his staff want to deliver it in person, as they did last year.

"It's more rewarding for us to actually pass them out. You get to meet people and talk to them, and you know the coats will get there," Kanellopoulos said. "It's humbling. You'd have to see it. We met lot of people who only have a blanket for shelter."

Kanellopoulos and crew will also bring 150 Coney dogs to pass out to the people they meet.

This is the second year the staff at Plato's has collected and distributed coats. Last year they delivered some 200 coats, and this year they hope just after the first of the year, they'll be able to distribute even more.

"We got so much last year. It was amazing," said Kim Fernandez, a waitress at the Canton Plato's location, and one of the six people who went to deliver coats in some of the more depressed parts of the city on a very cold night last year. The group is accompanied by a Detroit police officer who knows the city well, and who knows where groups of homeless people try to seek shelter in abandoned and burned out buildings.

Fernandez rarely travels into the city, even in daylight, but said

were these people - people who have to sleep outside and people who have no homes to go to - and they were telling us to be careful, and saying, 'God bless you,' and thanking us. It was really moving how much they cared and appreciated what we were trying to do," she said.

Fernandez said she had no idea there were that many homeless people living on the streets of Detroit, and had not given much thought to their plight. But her eyes and heart are wide open now.

"Even I work with people who have been through some pretty hard times," she said. "And right here in Canton we see people who come in who have very little, and we give them a free meal. It could happen to anyone."

Many of the people Fernandez met while delivering coats were disabled, she said.

"We were really surprised by this, but this year we want to collect Depends (adult diapers) for people who are in the streets and disabled," she said. "They need them really badly." The restaurant will also collect gently used coats, blankets, scarves, hats and thermal socks.

Plato's locations in Farmington and Canton will accept donations through the first week of January. Chippewa Construction, of Canton, has donated a trailer to store all the items and help transport them during delivery.

The Canton location is at 42405 Ford, at Lilley. The phone number there is (734) 981-7301. The Farmington location is at 35227 Grand River Avenue at Farmington Road. For more information call (248) 919-1233.

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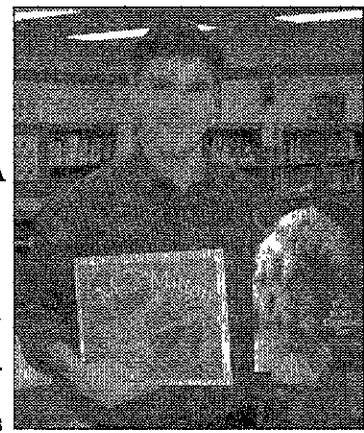
Students at All Saints Catholic School react to a drawing lesson given by Michigan illustrator Michael Glenn Monroe, who visited the school on Nov. 17.

Michigan illustrator thrills All Saints students during visit

Michael Glenn Monroe, illustrator of several children's books, recently visited

who arranged Monroe's Nov. 17 visit.

Monroe is the illustrator for the popular books, *M is for Mitten*, *Buzzy the Bumblebee*, and *A Wish To Be a Christmas Tree*, which he co-wrote with his wife Colleen, as well as several other titles.



Michael Glenn Monroe, an illustrator of several children's books who lives in Brighton, holds up two of his books during a visit to All Saints Catholic School.

"Mr. Monroe's visit helped our students

understand that authors and illustrators are real people, and perhaps they could be one too when they grow up," Alberts said.

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Dance Connection stresses fun

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

It has been 11 years since Carole Jackson opened The Dance Connection at the corner of Lilley and Palmer roads. Up to that point, she had been teaching dance for two decades, and wanted to launch a place of her own in Canton, where she had been living for several years.

Jackson says that was a huge decision in her life, but of course, the next big challenge was to actually bring in some students to teach. She had two things going for her: She was able to bring in some girls who she was already teaching, but also that Canton has just boomed in the last decade, which has brought many families to the community. More importantly for Jackson, it also brought many dancers into her studio.

"Our first year we started with 70 students, and now we're up to 607 kids. We started with one room, and now we're up to three rooms," said Jackson, who grew up in Garden City and is a 1976 graduate of Garden City West High School.

Jackson said she is now teaching the children of her former students. One of those students also happens to be her daughter, Melissa Carron. Having started dancing when she was 2, Melissa ended up dancing professionally for several years and has now come home to help her mother run the studio. Jackson recently made her a partner, something she says her daughter



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Carol Jackson, owner of Dance Connection, watches student Grace Gavin during classes Tuesday evening.

always wished for.

"That was always a goal. She was always into dance, and it was always a dream for her," Jackson said. "It's nice because we're together a lot. And it's nice to know the studio might go on after I'm gone. It's tough to think about teaching for 31 years, and it would all just disappear after I retire."

Carron, who is also getting married in a week, said their goal is "to hit a thousand kids" at the studio, which teaches everything from tap and jazz to hip hop and pom pom. In fact, Aileen Bolatico, who is the coach of the Salem Rockettes, teaches pompon at the studio.

Carron said the success of the studio can largely be attributed to the fact that the studio stresses fun over competitiveness. The studio does have a competitive group, who will perform at half-time of some upcoming Detroit Pistons and Shock basketball

games, but the majority of the girls (there is only one boy dancing at the studio) are there for the camaraderie, to hang out with friends and do what they love - dance.

"We're looking for kids to have fun at what they do. It's not supposed to be stressful. We don't want them dreading coming here," said Carron, a 1997 graduate of Plymouth-Salem.

"We want them to come here, and learn and have fun. I think that's why we have so many kids. So many studios are out to get the most trophies at competitions. For us, it's all about the recitals, when grandma and grandpa can come watch. That's what the kids look forward to."

The Dance Connection, which is open six days a week, is located at 1672 S. Lilley Road in the Oakview Plaza. For more information, call (734) 397-9755.

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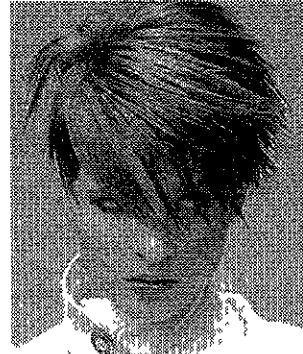
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Annual kettle campaign sluggish

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

What with people giving generously to help victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and a sluggish economy, officials at the Plymouth Salvation Army were being realistic when they set their goal for this year's Red Kettle Campaign.

After raising \$180,000 in the annual campaign a year ago, the Army set its goal at just \$155,000 this year. But if early returns are any indica-

tion, even the lower goal may be tough to make.

Red Kettle Campaign Coordinator Kelly Boelter estimated the campaign is some 20 percent behind last year at the same point. However, she said it's more an issue of volunteers than it is the generosity of the community.

"The kettles we have out there are being filled," Boelter said. "It's just that we don't have enough people to ring the bells."

The Salvation Army maintains locations in Plymouth and

another eight in Canton, and volunteers are needed at all of them. Boelter said the preference is to have kettles manned 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday, but many shifts — particularly during weekdays — are going unmanned due to the lack of volunteers.

Volunteers must either be at least 18 years old, or they have to be paired with someone who is 18 or older. The campaign runs through Dec. 24. Anyone who wishes to volunteer can log on to www.Ringbell.org to view available locations and

time slots; when the page opens, volunteers should click on "Plymouth Community."

Boelter pointed out bell-ringing hours can count as community service hours, a benefit particularly to students who need them.

Money raised in the campaign is used for programs within the community. The Plymouth Salvation Army serves Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville.

For more information, go to the Web site or call Boelter at (734) 453-5464.

MDOT ROAD PROJECTS SLATED FOR CANTON

Canton residents and business owners will have an opportunity to comment on the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) 2006-2010 draft of their five-year transportation program.

The Dec. 5 meeting will be held from 6-8 p.m. at the Taylor Transportation Service Center located at 25185 Goddard in Taylor. For more information call MDOT representative Benjamin Kohram at (517) 335-3084.

Future road construction plans that will directly affect Canton residents are listed below. Some of these projects are part of the MDOT five-year plan and some are planned improvements by Wayne County.

2006 Projects

■ **Warren Road:** Plans include widening Warren to five lanes from Canton Center to Morton Taylor. Upgraded traffic signals will also be put in at the intersections of Warren at Sheldon and Warren at Morton Taylor. The cost of the project is \$4.1 million.

■ **Ford Road:** Plans include replacing the culvert bridge over Fellows Creek, near the Meijer's drive entrance, at a cost of \$1.3 million.

■ **Ford Road (west of Canton Center):** A dedicated right-turn lane for eastbound traffic with mast arm mounted signal heads is planned.

■ **Sheldon Road:** Plans include resurfacing Sheldon from Ford Road north to Westminster Way.

■ **I-275 southbound ramp at US-12:** Turn lanes will be added to the southbound off-ramp for crash reduction. The cost will be \$300,000.

■ **I-275 non-motorized path:** A non-motorized path will be constructed where I-275 and US-12 connect. The project will cost \$166,000.

2007 Projects

■ **Canton Center Road:** Canton Center will be widened to five lanes from Cherry Hill to Palmer. Upgraded traffic signals will also be put in at the intersections of Canton Center at Palmer and Canton Center at Heritage Road.

■ **Lilley Road:** Lilley will be widened to five lanes from Warren to Ford.

■ **I-275 Canton Rest Area:**

The entire rest area is scheduled for renovation.

2008 - 2010 Projects

■ **Cherry Hill Road - Phase 1:** Plans included widening Cherry Hill to five lanes from Canton Center to Morton Taylor.

■ **Joy and Haggerty CSX Rail Crossing:** Haggerty Road is scheduled to be widened to allow for a turning lane north and south of the CSX railway crossing.

■ **Cherry Hill Road - Phase 2:** Plans included widening Cherry Hill to five lanes from Morton Taylor to Haggerty.

■ **Warren:** Plans included widening Warren to five lanes from Morton Taylor to Haggerty as well as widening the freeway overpass that crosses over I-275.

ROADS

FROM PAGE A1

Warren to Ford," Faas said. Both projects were to widen the roads and help alleviate traffic backups. Lilley Road's surface also needs to be improved because it's bumpy, Faas added.

"We were supportive of delaying Lilley to take more time to get the right of way so they can do the proper widening but we're disappointed about Canton Center," Faas said. Both projects have been delayed until 2007.

The project with the biggest impact, according to Faas, will

probably be the Wayne County widening to five lanes of Cherry Hill between Haggerty and Morton Taylor. The project is scheduled for 2008 - 2010.

"There is definitely a capacity problem on Cherry Hill," Faas said.

Although Canton does not receive tax money for road maintenance and improvements, it does invest in its roads, which is uncommon for townships.

In 2006, the township has budgeted \$1.5 million to spend on intersection improvements. This year, Canton paid \$1.2 million to resurface and widen the Warren Road

The MDOT meeting will be held from 6-8 p.m., Dec. 5 at the Taylor Transportation Service Center located at 25185 Goddard in Taylor. For more information call

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OUR VIEWS

Chiefs, fans winners in loss

The Canton Chiefs fell one step short of football history Saturday, dropping a 31-21 decision to Rockford in the Division 1 state championship game at Ford Field in downtown Detroit.

But, if you'll pardon our use of the cliché, that doesn't mean they aren't winners. The Chiefs — and their legions of fans — proved to be exactly that.

The Chiefs fought off adversity all year. They lost two tough games — to Livonia Franklin, which went unbeaten in the regular season, and to Walled Lake Western when they didn't have quarterback Shawn Little.

They had to earn every victory on the road to Ford Field, including coming back from a 14-0 deficit in the regional final against Macomb Dakota, then dominating Dakota in the second half to earn a spot in their first title game.

Against Rockford, the defending Division 1 champion, it would have been perfectly normal for the Chiefs, none of whom had risen to this level in the playoffs before, to come out a bit awed by their surroundings and intimidated by the more-experienced Rams.

It didn't happen.

The Chiefs, led by the calm Little and the exciting Deshon McClendon — and reflecting the style of coach Tim Baechler — actually grabbed a 14-7 lead with a little over five minutes left in the first half. In the end, they simply couldn't stop the Rams, who made the big plays when they absolutely had to have them, as championship teams do.

But there they were, fighting until the final whistle, backed by the effort instilled by their coach and the support they drew from their fans, who numbered in the thousands to make the trip down I-96 to watch their beloved Chiefs.

A proud, boisterous cheering section can often be a "12th man" on the football field, and Canton fans were exactly that Saturday. In the week leading up to the title game, there were signs and messages at various places around town, urging the Chiefs to give it their best.

And then the fans went out and did the same thing. The student section — hundreds of youngsters devoted to the concept of team spirit — were asked to sit down so the people around them could see. Rather than give up the proud tradition of standing and cheering throughout, the kids showed class by simply moving down to the end zone seating, where they could cheer unencumbered by the idea of spoiling the game for anyone.

Yes, the Chiefs lost in their first shot at a state championship, but one gets the feeling Baechler will get them another chance. And on this November Saturday the Chiefs — and their fans — showed they've earned it.

We need to confront our racial problems

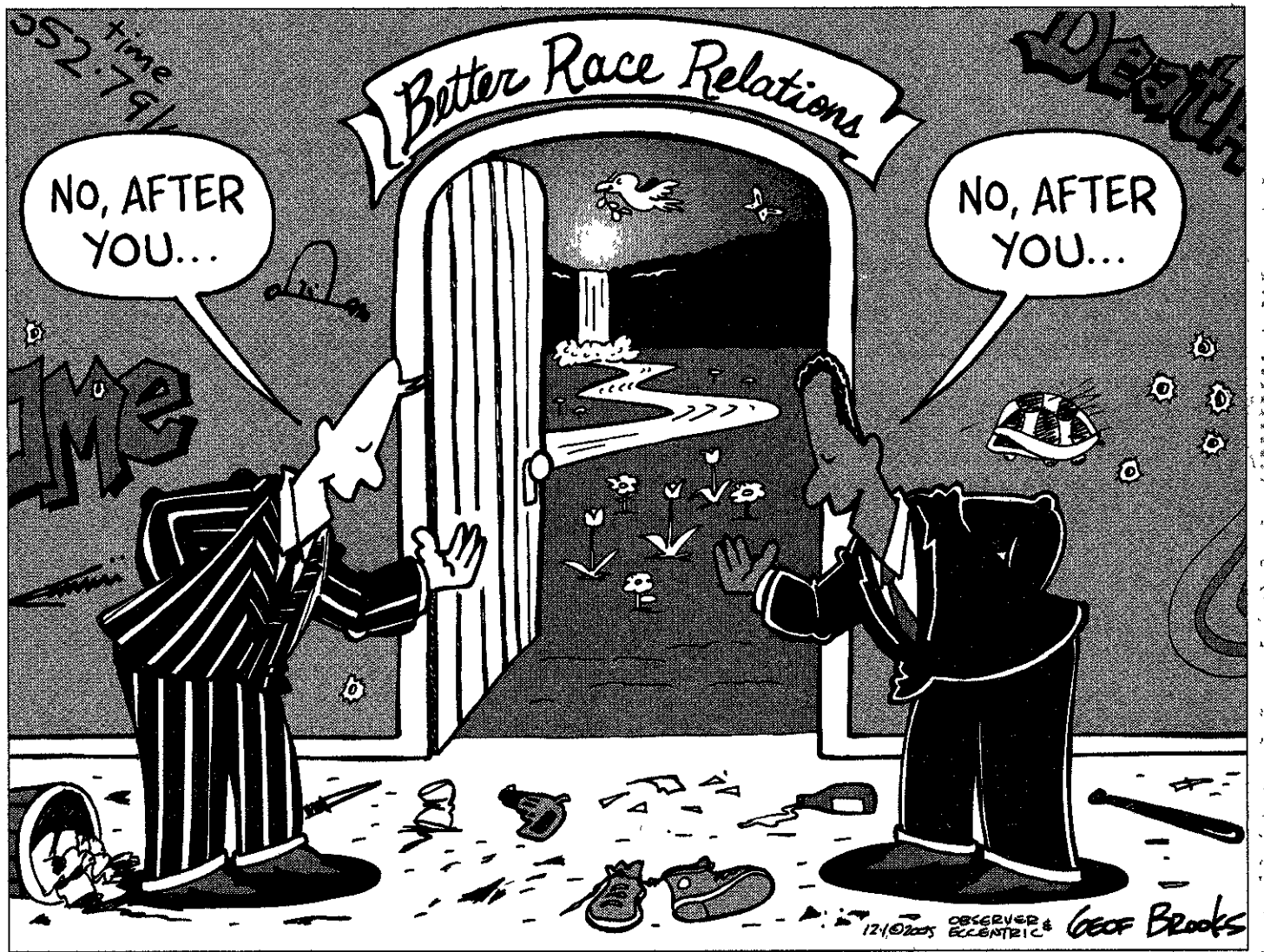
We live in the most racially segregated metropolitan area in the United States. In 2001, the U.S. Census confirmed what we already knew. Though many middle-class African-Americans have moved into the suburbs, the suburbs remain predominantly white and Detroit remains predominantly black.

The city of Detroit is also poor and aging. Despite some high-profile developments such as Fox Center and Compuware, Detroit seems resistant to the renaissance that has been the city's theme for a generation. Instead, population has declined steeply, unemployment has remained stubbornly high, more people live in poverty in Detroit than in any other large city in America, school children continue to underperform suburban children by a wide gap and the tension between city and suburbs seems as taut and dangerous as it has ever been.

In the wake of several racially charged incidents and statements, many area leaders have called for a "racial summit." While we endorse the idea of a meeting on race issues among the leaders of the metro area, we believe that is only one of many steps that need to be taken in what will be a slow process of coming to terms with our racial and economic differences.

Meetings among area leaders are important, but programs that bring people from all walks of life and all age groups together will do more to break down the barriers that have built up over generations.

We are living with the consequences of our history. We need to understand that history, learn from it and break down the walls that have separated us for too long.



LETTERS

Vote down the bond

How is it that the Board of Trustees co-chairman was "surprised" to learn no pool was included in the bond issue for Plymouth High?

The only real surprise was to taxpayers that the school was built without one. It was only a matter of time and we would be expected to rectify the "oversight."

Nancy Eggenberger and her group of pool supporters seem to be the reason for the meeting, which quickly resulted in the insertion of a pool to the bond proposal. This was at the expense of the career and technical center. When did swimming top the list of most sought-after job skills? Are we to believe that a high school that is only a few years old already needs an addition as large as 20,000 sq. ft. to bring it up to standards? In appearance and amenities, it exceeds many corporate headquarters.

I disagree with Trustee Tom Wysocki that the district's reputation and community value will be enhanced by even higher taxes. Fiscal responsibility and adhering to basics might have gotten us a bigger bang for our tax dollars. And to further stir the pot, now we are told a theater is also needed. Why are these additions a priority now, but not before the school was built? The pool and theater need to be shelved for now and the money restored to the career and technical center. Salem, Canton and Plymouth can alternate swim schedules so students share in evening hours. More taxes are not the only answer.

I have never voted down a bond issue in 35 years. I will this time.

Joanne Sonnenberg
Canton

Thank you, Chiefs

On behalf of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education, I want to thank the Canton High School football team for its remarkable run to the state championship game last Saturday afternoon at Ford Field.

Although you did not achieve the results you had hoped for, you represented yourselves, your team and high school incredibly well. We are extremely proud of you.

However, more than playing in a championship game, you brought the best out of our Plymouth-Canton Educational Park and the entire community. Players from Plymouth and Salem high schools, their parents and fans supported this Canton team, its coaches, athletic director and parents. It was a wonderful display of sportsmanship and community.

As the superintendent of schools, I left the game with a great feeling of pride. Seeing that "sea of red" of support running from end zone to end zone only reinforced my belief in this school district and the communities that form our boundaries. For this special day, this was "our team" and everyone who supported the Chiefs left them with a memory they or we will never forget.

Thank you to the team and the fans for a job very well done. I am proud to be the superintendent of the Plymouth-Canton Community School district.

Jim Ryan
superintendent of schools

A moral responsibility

I am a local business owner, and I cannot believe that PetsMart did not react differently to the situation regarding the dog bite. Everyone today is so afraid of being sued for every little incident that no one wants to be involved when something happens. The fact that PetsMart allows animals into the store warrants that they should be prepared for dogs attacking people or other animals. Dogs are animals and no owner can be 100 percent sure that they will not bite or attack. There are no guarantees how your pet will behave when you take it out of its element and subject it to strangers. Why dog owners would take their animals into a store to pick up other dogs' fleas and illnesses is beyond my comprehension.

Ms. Zadak was concerned that the store did not assist her in obtaining the needed information. There comment was she should have assumed the responsibility. She probably was so emotionally upset that she did not think to ask for a name and number from the dog's owner. Her 3-year-old had just been bitten. Why didn't the dog owner offer this information? Maybe the dog had previously been involved in another incident. The store should have been there to assist its customer, even if the assistance was only to fill out an incident report.

I believe that if you deal with the public, you have a moral responsibility to assure their safety to the best of your ability. I also believe that if someone is injured on your property that you should go that extra step to assist that person. Being fearful of a lawsuit is ignorance. No business owner wants to be involved in a lawsuit, that is the reason we pay such high insurance rates. To turn your head and pretend you are not responsible is just wrong. How anyone can compare a store to a community park is just ludicrous.

The real issue, though, is how our society has allowed people to sue and collect unreasonable awards for their own stupidity. Until our legal system gets a hold on these frivolous lawsuits, we all will pay the price.

Marion Rozum
Canton

Culture of learning

Last week it was my privilege to be a co-keynote speaker with former astronaut and U.S. Sen. John Glenn at the Midwest Higher Education Conference held at Ohio State University. Sen. Glenn agreed with me that higher education is the essence of recovery for our economy.

The Michigan Higher Education Commission has provided a study that for every \$1 we invest in higher education, there is a \$26 return to our economy.

The Michigan Legislature has implemented a new funding formula for higher education which will lead to training more engineers, doctors, nurses and health care workers. We have shifted \$91 million more into the higher education budget and every university will receive more funding from the state of Michigan this year than last year.

Universities have proven to be job-generators. There is no mystery why Toyota has chosen to locate 700 new research and development jobs in

Michigan — directly south of Ann Arbor and close to our major universities.

Science and engineering degrees represent 60 percent of all bachelor's degrees earned in China and only 31 percent in the U.S. Now, the "flattening of the world" means that foreign-born engineers and scientists can stay in their native land and do world-class work from their home country.

We need to create a new culture of learning for Michigan's children.

In Michigan, 84 percent of new jobs are coming from the small business sector, so efforts to lower taxes must focus on small business.

Ohio has recently eliminated its personal property tax on businesses and Michigan needs to significantly cut personal property taxes and remove the cost of health care benefits from taxable base of employers.

Yes, higher education is the essence of recovery for our economy.

John C. Stewart

state representative, District 20
chairman, Higher Education Appropriation

Thanks, vets

A big "thank you" to all the veterans who came to the pancake breakfast on Veterans Day at the American Legion Beasley-Zalesny Post 112 in Plymouth.

Sixty-plus of you enjoyed pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee. But most of all, you enjoyed talking with each other. There were many stories told. Some sad, some happy, but good stories that needed to be told.

Thanks also to all of the Legion and Auxiliary members who worked so hard to make this first-time event a success. I am sure this will now become a regular event for our Post.

Following the breakfast, many of you accompanied the Legion and Auxiliary to the "rock" to join with the many community members who came out for the annual Veterans Day service. This service is always held at the 11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month. The American Legion Posts 112 and 391, the VFW Post 1426 and the Vietnam Veterans Chapter 528, all of Plymouth, participated in this event.

After several wonderful tributes to veterans, we all sang a rousing rendition of *God Bless America*, led by state Rep. John Stewart.

Jeanette Burman

American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 112

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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

QUOTABLE

"Even though the season didn't end like I wanted it to, I'm very proud of this team. It was great playing with all these guys. No one ever quit. These guys are like my brothers and this team is like a family."

— Canton High senior quarterback Shawn Little, moments after the Chiefs lost the Division 1 state championship to Rockford, 31-21

It's time for state's leaders to pass tougher school standards

At a time of economic crisis, it's simply astonishing that Michigan's political system is so out of touch and broken.

It's out of touch because those who are supposed to represent us in Lansing are single-mindedly preoccupied with tactical eye-gouging, prior to next year's statewide elections. Meanwhile, most people in Michigan are worried about their next year's paycheck ... and if there will be one at all.

Our system is broken because most folks in Lansing are behaving as though sanctimonious posturing and "gotcha" press releases are the way to fix Michigan's economy for the decade ahead.

Can it be fixed? We'll find that out over the next few months as Lansing considers a far-seeing and sensible set of proposals for a new school curriculum from state Supt. of Instruction Mike Flanagan.

He wants all schools to require four years of math, including Algebra I and II, four years of science, including chemistry, and three years of social science, including a semester of economics.

What a happy shock! Somebody actually has the guts to propose something tough, far-reaching and relevant to our problems!

His proposal is way overdue common sense. Up to now, Michigan has led (or trailed, depending on how you look at it) the nation. The only thing we've required has been civics. We've got this problem in Michigan that we think that "work-ready" means "high school dropout work-ready." "This is a recipe for disaster," Flanagan told me last week. "Today, only one-third of our school districts require Algebra I, only 10 percent Algebra II. Yet that's exactly the skill level that is required today to work in a modern auto plant."

Much of Flanagan's thinking builds on last year's Cherry Commission report. The commission (of which I was a member) found that fewer than a quarter of Michigan's high school graduates take the courses necessary to prepare them for college and that half of those who enroll in college drop out.

That means that less than 20 percent of today's high school freshmen will ever graduate from college. And that, in turn, is a prescription to make Michigan into an economic Mississippi, which long was the weakest state in terms of income and educational attainment. The cute term, of course, is "Mississippi."

So I asked Flanagan what chance his radical proposal has in the quagmire of Lansing. "Pretty good," he replied, sounding hopeful. "Most of the big players seem to be onboard. My biggest concern is a kind of whispering campaign going on that all our kids really are

not up to taking demanding courses. This is simply demeaning to our kids.

"The Japanese expect all their kids to take tough courses, and I don't think our kids are dumber than the Japanese."

Word is that the state Board of Education will approve the proposal in a couple of weeks, which puts the issue squarely in the well-fed lap of the Legislature (one of the nation's highest paid) and the various interest groups.

That's where the going gets tough. There are so many things that can go wrong before next March, which is when curriculum reform has to be adopted to take effect in the fall.

First, there is the education establishment — never a force for far-reaching change — that is already hedging its bets.

The Michigan Association of School Boards is opposed to any move that would require districts to do anything. "We support guidelines; we oppose mandates," says an MASA spokesperson. The Michigan Association of School Administrators, while generally supportive, is worried about issues of local control. A spokesman for The Michigan Association of Public School Academies (i.e. charter schools) says his members are already doing what Flanagan wants.

Forget the educators. You can bet things will get much worse once the proposal gets to the Legislature. Take Rep. Brian Palmer, R-Romeo, chair of the House Education Committee, as an example. He's worried about loss of local control — a mysteriously persistent doctrine that ignores the fact that Proposal A put money (and control) for the schools in the hands of the state in 1994.

"All the districts are concerned about loss of local control. We can't let that happen," Palmer says. Opposition from parts of the education establishment will also play to the legislative knee-jerk reflex to do nothing.

"We should not have anybody in the education establishment disagree with what we're doing here," intones Palmer. Yes, the establishment has done a great job ensuring quality in districts like Detroit.

It's crunch time, folks. The political system can step up and actually do something serious and constructive about saving our state's economy, long term, by adopting the tough curriculum Flanagan is proposing. Or the system can do what it's done so often in the past: fudge, dodge, delay and finger-point.

We'll see. But if you have a stake in this state's future, or kids in the public schools, you might not want to be too passive about it.

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan and a member of the Cherry Commission on Education. He would be pleased to hear from readers at ppower@home.com



Phil Power

Bond plan too expensive when Powell property is an option

The Plymouth-Canton school board is preparing to ask voters to approve a bond initiative in early 2006, including \$13 million to add to the existing elementary schools to cover "equity and growth."

What is this equity issue? According to Dr. Ryan, the district needs to add several new gymnasiums onto some of the schools that currently only have a combination gym/lunchroom for "equity" reasons.

What is this growth issue? According to Dr. Ryan, the district needs to add 28 new classrooms onto existing 50-year-old schools in order to plan for "future" growth.

What the board and Dr. Ryan are not telling you is the real reason: The extreme overcrowding problem that exists now at the elementary level. This situation will not be alleviated when Cherry Hill Village school opens in 2006.

But why wouldn't Dr. Ryan just come right out and say that the schools are desperately overcrowded instead of hiding behind words like "growth" and "equity"? He doesn't want anyone to question not seeking to build a new school on property the district already owns at Powell and Ridge roads.

Dr. Ryan knows he can't very well sell that land and then turn around and ask voters to support a bond to buy additional land for another school. So his job over the coming months is to convince voters adding to existing schools is the right decision, knowing full well that it would be much more expensive, more disruptive and worse for the district.

It was just this past summer that Dr. Ryan stated Plymouth-Canton is at least two schools behind where it should be at the elementary school level. So now, he is going to sell the Powell/Ridge property and permanently eliminate any chance for there ever to be a school built to serve northwest Canton Township, western Plymouth Township and Salem Township.

But, you may ask, isn't a good deal of future growth in our school district coming from southwest Canton? Yes, and the last two schools in the district were built in southwest Canton as a result. But the severe overcrowding has been chronic in the older schools, especially those serving northwest Canton Township, western Plymouth Township and Salem Township, and will continue to be if the district's own population numbers are correct.

Dr. Ryan has said no new school is needed at the Powell/Ridge site, yet he is proposing to add more than the equivalent number of classrooms and at least three gyms to the schools that house the students from northwest Canton Township, western Plymouth Township and Salem Township.

Now did we get to the point where our schools are so overcrowded? It has been 10 years since

the district made the "temporary" decision to convert the art and music rooms into general education classrooms. This was done to reduce class sizes.

If art or music ends up in a suitable classroom in a particular building today, it is purely by happenstance. Most often those classes are taught on a cart, or in a hallway. Portables have been added all over the district, including at the newest schools. The average school with no dedicated art and music rooms and two portables has, at a minimum, 120 children over the designed capacity of the school.

But the impact of this is more than just crowded classrooms; extra lunch periods must be added, which reduces the number/length of gym classes that can be scheduled. Packing kids into schools designed for much smaller populations strains other resources such as the library and playground space. Dr. Ryan knows all of this, but nevertheless continues to couch his rationale for added gyms and classrooms in terms of "equity" and "growth."

Dr. Ryan's plan, however, is ill-conceived. The architects that, in 2003, studied some of the very same schools now being targeted for expansion concluded it was not advisable or even feasible to add on to these buildings. Moreover, these additions will take years longer to complete than building a new school, subjecting the district to many additional years of overcrowding. With the land already owned by the school district, it would be far cheaper, faster and infinitely smarter to build a new school.

Despite all of this, Dr. Ryan has convinced the board expansion is the best plan and he did so without calling the existing situation for what it is: severe overcrowding. Instead, he must hide behind words like "growth" and "equity" so he can get his hands on the pot of money sitting at the corner of Powell and Ridge roads, knowing the extra dollars for his more-expensive plan will come out of taxpayers' pockets.

The use of such euphemisms has the added benefit of giving him a lot of wiggle room if he has to cut something (which he has already begun to do). After all, if you don't admit there is a problem, no one can accuse you of failing to do something about it.

The board has bought into this approach. Of course, this is the same board that chose to do absolutely nothing when its own committee tried to manage the overcrowding at Bird (the smallest school in the district that now houses the largest number of students). This is also the same board that for years has allowed the art and music programs to deteriorate.

We as voters, however, do not have to buy into it. If this bond passes without a new elementary school in the plan, then the district's fate will be sealed for decades to come, and the only available land for a new school in the western district will be gone forever.

Nancy Conzelman is a Plymouth Township resident.



Nancy Conzelman

BRIGHT, EAGER, AND STILL A POOR STUDENT



Your child may have 20/20 eyesight but 0/0 vision—the difference is critical. Eyesight is merely the basic ability to see; vision is the ability to identify, interpret, comprehend and act on what is seen.

Routine vision tests performed by school personnel or by most eye care professional measure eyesight. They do not include the kinds of testing that can find visually related learning problems.

COULD YOUR CHILD BE AT RISK?

- Has trouble comprehending
- Avoids reading or other up close tasks
- Omit, turn around, or confuse letters/words
- Easily distracted
- Short attention span
- Squint, frown, or rub-eyes
- Frustrated when doing homework
- Poor handwriting



Perhaps you know a very bright child who never works up to their potential. Different methods have been tried, even extra tutoring, but they still fall behind. Meanwhile, that bright child is becoming more frustrated, losing self esteem and may already be feeling a sense of FAILURE. Chances are they may have a vision related learning difficulty.

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Speaker: John P. Jacobi O.D., F.C.O.V.D
Developmental Optometrist

Tuesday, December 6, 2005 at 7 p.m.
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Seating is Limited. Please call 734-525-8170
to reserve your place.

Members of College of Vision Development & Parents Active for Vision Education

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Cindy Cicchelli, Information Specialist
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McDowell Center, Room MC 275
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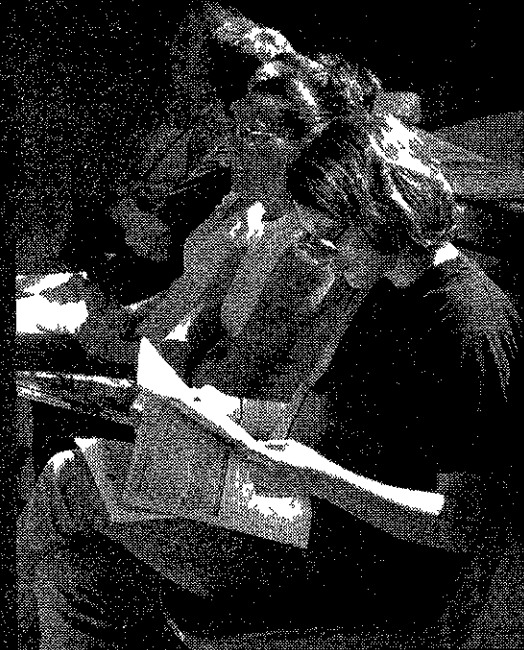
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Return to Learn



Schoolcraft College is a partner in the Governor's Initiative to encourage Michigan adults to complete a college degree.



School districts support group health care legislation

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

A group of Michigan school districts from all over the state are banding behind legislation that will allow them to purchase health care and other benefits as a group in the hopes of avoiding the recent fate of General Motors.

The Affordable Benefits Coalition is backing a package of bills heading through the Michigan legislature that would allow school districts to form into purchasing pools to find health plans to best meet their needs and reform how retirement benefits are administered.

Bill Nowling is a public relations specialist with the Rossman Group, a firm hired by ABC to push its agenda. He said access to accurate health

care use information will give districts good tools to comparison shop.

"This is key, it's information the districts can't get from insurers now," Nowling said. "The pools would have accurate data about what kinds of health care services had been used, how many times and how much those procedures cost."

The teacher's union, the Michigan Education Association, isn't happy about the ABC. Director of Communications Margaret Trimer-Hartley said, without changes, the union couldn't support the effort.

"The language that defines 'carrier' excludes the Michigan Education Special Services Association, which is 55 percent of the market," she said. "They should be allowed."

She added there's no provision to pre-fund any of the benefits in the ABC plan, creating a crisis if anyone asks for their benefits early. There's also a significant risk of insurers picking and choosing who they'll cover and who they'll choose to ignore.

"By releasing the claims data, providers can cherry-pick the youngest, healthiest districts and ignore the others," Trimer-Hartley said. "That's going to undermine attempts to insure everyone."

She said the nation as a whole would do well to start addressing those things that are driving the cost of health care: the millions of uninsured, unaddressed problems with Medicare and Medicaid and the health habits of the country.

SCHOOLS BACK PLAN

Oakland Schools Director of Government and Community Services Brian Whiston said Oakland has been behind the coalition from its inception and added that Michigan schools can't wait much longer for relief.

"Health care and retirement costs are skyrocketing," Whiston said. "We got a \$175 per pupil per year increase in the foundation grant this year. Currently, we've got \$17 billion in unfunded costs. We would have to get a \$200 per year per student increase in the foundation grant to cover the costs of those increases alone. We've got to either close buildings, eliminate programs and increase class sizes or come up with some alternatives."

Without new ideas, like

the ABC, he said school districts are going to have to increase taxes or eliminate jobs — both unacceptable alternatives.

The Tri-County Alliance for Public Education, an association of all public school superintendents in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties, is backing the ABC initiative. Executive Director Kathleen Booher said public schools are facing the same grim realities recently visited on the auto industry.

"Public schools cannot afford the current costs of benefits and health care," she said. "They don't want to reduce benefits but they have to provide them at a more affordable cost."

She said state funding of public education does not meet

the needs of districts and a number of them are facing bankruptcy. Most people aren't aware of this.

"Local communities would be surprised to hear who is going to come up short in the next few years," Booher said. "There are districts that are two years from great difficulty. People perceive their districts are in good condition but the state has not provided sufficient funding for three years straight."

The coalition includes the Michigan Association of School Boards, the Detroit and Michigan Chambers of Commerce, the Oakland Schools, Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency and sister educational service organizations in Ottawa, Muskegon, Kalamazoo and Kent.

Contest winners play at Schoolcraft

Plymouth piano teacher Brenda Krachenberg knows that her 6-year-old pupil, Ivy, can't deal too well with octaves or reach the pedals yet.

Nevertheless, she has entered Ivy into the Ann Arbor Bach Association competition. Ivy will play two Bach minuets from the Anna Magdalena Notebook on Dec. 3, and reach the advanced age of 7 on Dec. 4.

The public can listen to winners of the Bach competition at 7 and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, in the Presentation Room of the VisiTech Center at Schoolcraft College. The recitals are free and will spotlight the 35 winners.

Ivy, a Canton resident, is a second grader who has been studying piano since the first grade. She has drive and talent said her teacher Krachenberg, and has been preparing her pieces since the summer, beginning to polish them by September.

"To her, this is not a competition," said Krachenberg. "It is a performance opportunity. She will go and play. I think she will do just fine, and she is ready to play. The pieces were very challenging for her, but she was eager to try and is very ambitious."

Donald Morelock, professor of music at Schoolcraft and director of the Ann Arbor Bach Association, said this is one of the strongest competitions in Michigan for pianists ages 5 through 18. This year there are 135 entries, which represents a 300 percent growth in 15 years. The majority of performers live in southeastern Michigan, and judges represent college and university music departments from Michigan and Ohio.

"The competition is good for teachers, parents and students so that they can hear other pianists play," said Morelock. "It is part of Schoolcraft's identity to work with the community, colleges and universities to foster high quality performance. I encourage the entire community to come and hear these students play."

The Bach competition is one of four music competitions sponsored by Schoolcraft College, which involves almost 400 musicians. The others include Sonatina Festival, Saturday, Feb. 4; Sonata Festival, Saturday, Feb. 11; and the Schoolcraft Piano Honors Auditions, Friday and Saturday, March 31 and April 1.

For more information, call the Schoolcraft Music Office at (734) 462-4403.

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Greek salad tossed TASTE B7

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Walk for Greenmead



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Walk in the Kusch family front door and meet the bear family.



Rae Anne and David Kusch will have three trees for the holidays. Their house is one of seven on the Christmas Walk tour in Livonia this year.

Holiday homes help out

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

A whimsical family of bears appears with gifts on a sled. Garland and holly ribbon wrap a staircase, hung with personalized stockings, soon to be filled on Christmas Eve.

A 12-foot silver and gold tree in the great room will be adorned with angels and ornaments collected on world travels. Dickens Village scenes add to the holiday ambiance.

It's all in the home of David and Rae Ann Kusch on Maria Court, one of seven residences in Livonia on the 17th annual Friends of Greenmead Christmas Walk, scheduled 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3 (see related item).

Proceeds from the walk are designated for the restoration and preservation of Livonia's Historic Greenmead, a village at Eight Mile Road and Newburgh.

"We're very excited," said David Kusch. "We've always decorated for the holidays and had family and friends over to enjoy it."

"We turn the place into what I call 'the Christmas Palace,'" Kusch said. "We each had our own Christmas collection, and we've added to it every year that we've been married."

DECOR

And it won't be just the great room all decked out. Golden birds and pine cones, velvet burgundy poinsettias, bows and beads make the tree at the top of the steps sparkle.

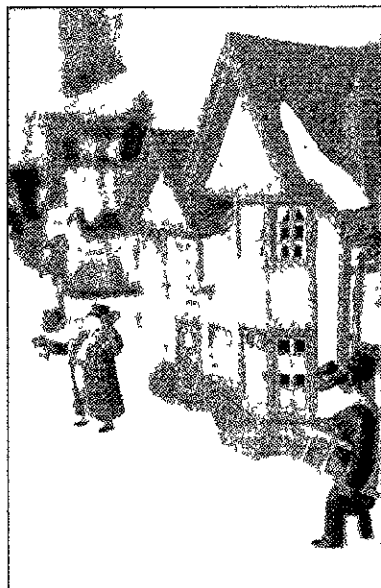
Decorations upstairs are designed to welcome family and guests who stay during the holiday season.

Downstairs, plaid ribbon, family mementos and photos adorn the family tree that displays ornaments given to each family member at a dinner Christmas Eve each year.

Dickens Village scenes catch your eye about the room.

The room is decorated to invite family and friends for

PLEASE SEE GREENMEAD, B4



David Kusch's Dickens Village is on display on the home's lower level.

FRIENDS OF GREENMEAD CHRISTMAS WALK

■ **What:** 17th Annual Friends of Greenmead Christmas Walk featuring seven homes. Proceeds benefit restoration and preservation of Livonia's Historic Greenmead.

■ **When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3

■ **Where:** Start at the Livonia Civic Center on Five Mile just east of Farmington Road, proceed to seven homes, then end the walk at Hill House inside historic Greenmead, where hot chocolate and homemade cookies will be served. Shoes must be removed before entering homes.

■ **Tickets:** \$9 per person in advance, \$10 day of walk. Tickets can be bought at any of the Livonia libraries, the Civic Center Library Gift Shop, Greenmead and the Department of Community Resources on the fifth floor of the Livonia Civic Center.

■ **Information:** Call (734) 466-3540 or (734) 425-4855.



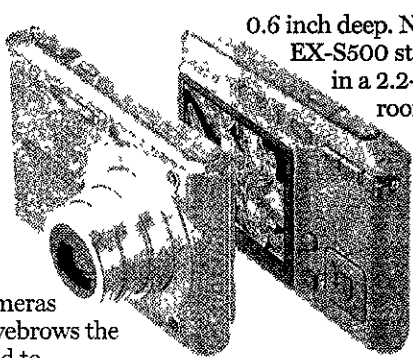
Rae Ann Kusch hangs stockings on the staircase bannister.

Pick a perfect gift for the gadget lover in your life

It's wrapping paper season again! I've spent the last month checking out a variety of nifty gadgets, any of which would make a great gift for your favorite friend, relative, co-worker or technology columnist.

Digital cameras don't raise eyebrows the way they used to, but the Casio Exilim EX-S500 (exilim.com) never fails to draw a crowd when I pluck it from my pocket.

For starters, it's gorgeous. Of the three available colors, I'm partial to the metallic, sports car-like burnt orange. It's also incredibly thin, measuring all of



Some of the year's best gadgets make for some of the year's best gifts. The incredibly thin Casio Exilim EX-S500 packs in a roomy, 2.2-inch LCD and a 3X optical zoom lens, and snaps 5-megapixel photos.

images a bit soft) and offers a wealth of user-friendly features.

The only thing I don't like about the EX-S500 is its lack of an optical viewfinder. You have to use the LCD to frame your

0.6 inch deep. Nevertheless, the EX-S500 still manages to pack in a 2.2-inch LCD (quite roomy by digital camera standards) and a 3X optical zoom lens.

And did I mention it snaps 5-megapixel photos? I don't mean to gush, but this camera truly is a marvel of modern engineering. It takes bright, colorful pictures (though serious photographers may find the

shots. The camera has a list price of \$399, but I've seen it selling online for less than \$300.

DVD TO GO

Portable DVD players are everywhere these days, but many models are so big and bulky that they're not particularly travel-friendly.

That's why I like the Axion AXN-6042 (axiontv.com), which looks like a portable CD player but has a 4.2-inch color screen on top.

It's very compact, it comes with two headphone jacks (as well as built-in speakers), and it can output video to a TV. Speaking of TV, an optional adapter lets



The compact Axion AXN-6042 comes with two headphone jacks as well as built-in speakers, and can output video to a TV. It's a splendid travel companion for children, teens, and anyone who likes to travel light.

you tune in local channels.

Not bad for \$130, though the low-resolution screen doesn't exactly make movies look their best. Even so, the AXN-6042 is a splendid travel companion for children, teens, and anyone who likes to travel light.

IPOD FOR EVERYONE

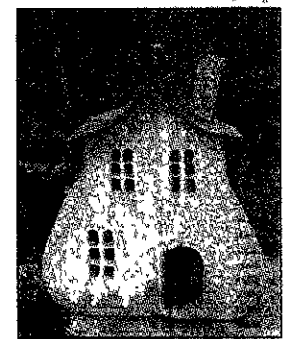
Listening to an iPod doesn't have to be a solitary experience. My wife's iPod Mini has taken up almost permanent residence in the Altec Lansing inMotion iM7 (altec Lansing.com), a portable speaker system that's compatible with all dockable iPods.

There are lots of similar gizmos on the market, but most of

Listening to an iPod doesn't have to be a solitary experience. The Altec Lansing inMotion iM7 is a portable speaker system that's compatible with all dockable iPods.

PLEASE SEE BROIDA, B3

Accents



Potters Market

The 30th Anniversary Potters Market will take place Friday-Sunday, Dec. 2-4, 876 Horace Brown Drive in Madison Heights. Horace Brown Drive is one block south of 13 Mile and west of John R, between Barrington Boulevard and Montpelier Road.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission and parking are free. Strollers aren't permitted.

A special preview sale will take place 6-9 p.m. Thursday. Admission to the preview sale is \$10.

The Potters Market is the largest pottery sale of its kind in the country, featuring more than 40,000 pieces by 137 artists.

It is presented by the Oakland Community College Royal Oak Campus ceramics department.

The featured works will include pots, vases, platters, tiles, mugs, bird baths, jewelry, ceramic-framed mirrors, sculpture, lamps and tile-topped tables.

Selections will range from functional to decorative to whimsical and include products in stoneware, earthenware, porcelain, raku and smoke-fired pottery.

Among the items will be Ruth Rycroft's "spirit houses," one of which is shown here. She describes them as funky English cottages, each one with its own style and spirit.

Rycroft, a Farmington Hills resident, started studying pottery 20 years ago at Pewabic Pottery. After taking a six-year break to have and raise her children, she came back to her passion for crafting pottery about six years ago.

"My goal is to create every sort of pottery and for everything to be as unique as possible," Rycroft said.

The bulk area is a popular bargain feature of the sale. Thousands of items priced from \$5 to \$25 are found here.

For more information about the Potters Market, call (248) 246-2686 or visit www.thepottersmarket.com.

Festival continues

The Festival of Trees, a fund-raising event to benefit Children's

Hospital of Michigan, continues to Sunday, Dec. 4, at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River in Novi.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and ages 2-12, free for under age 12.

Visit www.fot.org or call (313) 966-TREE for information.

Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

HOME CALENDAR

Holiday Shop

The Holiday Shop at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, 1516 Cranbrook Road in Birmingham, will offer eclectic and extraordinary holiday gifts Dec. 2-17. Hours will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. This year, more than 100 renowned artists from across the country will be selling all types of wares, including pottery and textiles. Purchases include complimentary wrapping. For more information, call (248) 644-0866 or visit www.bbartscenter.org.

Ornament personalizing

Artisans will personalize a holiday ornament with an individual name or holiday motif, creating a special keepsake for a loved one, 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at Art Van Furniture, 29905 Seven Mile in Livonia (phone (248) 478-8870). One ornament per person. There is no charge for the ornament or the artist's.

Ypsilanti home tour

Meals on Wheels is sponsoring this year's Ypsilanti Holiday Home Tour, noon to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 on site. Advance tickets are available in Ypsilanti at Mantis Garden Supply, Quinn's Essentials, Haabs Restaurant and Eleven West Salon, and in Ann

Arbor at John Leidy.

For more information, call Meals on Wheels before 1 p.m. at (734) 487-9669.

The seven stops on the tour will include the Town Hall School on the Eastern Michigan University campus; a home decorated to replicate a Victorian Christmas and featuring a 1700s tavern in the lower level; a residence built in 1998 and transformed into a vintage home; and houses with a variety of Christmas trees in each. All proceeds from the tour will go to Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels, which has been delivering meals to the homebound elderly and disabled for 31 years.

Festival of Trees

The Festival of Trees, a fund-raising event to benefit Children's Hospital of Michigan, continues to Sunday, Dec. 4, at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River in Novi. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and ages 2-12, free for under age 12. Visit www.fot.org or call (313) 966-TREE for information.

Kwanzaa celebration

The Storytellers will share stories about the African-American tradition of Kwanzaa, and demonstrate ethnic musical instruments, 2-4 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 10, at Art Van Furniture, 22555 Greenfield in Southfield (phone (248) 569-3770).

This enthusiastic duo performs lively presentations and encourages the participation of the children in attendance.

Meadow Brook Hall

The 2005 Holiday Walk, featuring tours of professionally decorated Meadow Brook Hall, continues to Dec. 18.

Tours are available 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, with last admittance at 4 p.m. A candlelight tour is scheduled 5-9 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5, with last admittance at 8 p.m. Reservations aren't required for any of the tours. Admission is \$20 for adults, \$5 for ages 17 and under, free for under age 2, \$12 for OU affiliates with ID, \$5 for OU students. A special group rate of \$12 per person is available for groups of 20 or more. The museum holiday shop features holiday and gift-giving treasures. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Sunday, 5-8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5. Meadow Brook Hall is on the Oakland University campus in Rochester. Call (248) 364-6200 or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org for information.

A special OU Night, sponsored by the MSU Federal Credit Union Oakland University Branch, will take place 5-9 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5, for all OU affili-

ates and their families and friends, who may attend the Holiday Walk for \$12 per person. For more information, call (248) 364-6202.

Breakfast with Santa will take place 9-11 a.m. Saturdays, Dec. 10 and 17, in the ballroom, including visiting with Santa and making ornaments. Cost is \$25 for children, \$30 for adults. For reservations and information, call (248) 364-6263.

It's a Wonderful Life at the Grand Manor will take place 7-11 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, offering 1940s holiday treats, traditions and entertainment; guests are invited to dress in the style of the period or business casual. The festivities will include candlelight tours, live music, a strolling dinner, jitterbug lessons, a "Martini's Bar" and a showing of the classic film *It's a Wonderful Life*. Reservations are required. Cost is \$65. For reservations and information, call (248) 364-6206. Meadow Brook Hall, a 100-room mansion, was built by Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of auto magnate John Dodge.

Gift gallery

The Holiday Gift Gallery at the Paint Creek Center for the Arts in Rochester offers original gifts handcrafted by Michigan artists. The PCCA is at 407 Pine. The gallery is open now to Jan. 7. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.

to 2 p.m. Saturday; 9 a.m. to noon Friday, Dec. 23 and 30; closed Dec. 24-26 and 31. Call (248) 651-4110 or visit www.pccart.org.

Home decor

Haberman Fabrics, 905 S. Main in Royal Oak, offers a variety of home decor classes for different sewing skill levels.

Call (248) 541-0010, e-mail ContactUs@HabermanFabrics.com or visit www.HabermanFabrics.com. The schedule includes: Kids Creative Christmas Stocking (Saturdays, Dec. 3-10; fee is \$40). Basic Throw Blanket (Saturdays, Dec. 3-10; \$40) and Holiday Hostess Class (Wednesday, Dec. 7; \$20).

In Kids Creative Christmas Stocking, ages 8-11 will get ready for Santa with a fun holiday project. They will learn basic sewing skills, including how to use a sewing machine, while they construct their own stocking. Each student's personality can shine as they embellish it.

In Basic Throw Blanket, make the perfect home accessory for the cold winter months ahead, to keep or give as a wonderful holiday gift. This quick and simple project uses luxurious fabrics like velvet, faux fur or cashmere, and anything from satin to striped cotton shirting for lining.

In Holiday Hostess Class, make a beautiful holiday gift bag for a special bottle of wine or champagne, and learn to make a tablecloth and napkins or place mats to create the perfect holiday table.

Auction

An auction will take place Friday-Sunday, Dec. 9-11, at DuMouchelles, 409 E. Jefferson in Detroit. The auction will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 9, 11 a.m. Dec. 10 and noon Dec. 11. Exhibition hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, Saturday, Dec. 3, Tuesday, Dec. 6 and Thursday, Dec. 8; and 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7.

Call (313) 963-6255 or visit www.dumouchelles.com.

Caroling

Stop by any Art Van Furniture store 1:30-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, to enjoy holiday carols performed by a local high school choir.

Toys for Tots

Donate a new, unwrapped toy (no toy guns) for a child and take it to any Art Van Furniture store now through Sunday, Dec. 11, for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots program. Toys will be delivered to local needy children by Christmas Day.

Santa visits

Santa Claus will greet children and pass out special treats at the Art Van Furniture stores at 14055 Hall in Shelby Township (phone (586) 566-1490) and 6500 14 Mile in Warren (phone (586) 939-2100) Saturday, Dec. 10.

Santa will be at the Shelby Township store noon to 2 p.m. and the Warren store 3-5 p.m. Parents may bring their cameras.

Gallery shop

The Ann Arbor Art Gallery's Gallery Shop features holiday gifts now through Dec. 31. The art center is at 117 W. Liberty in downtown Ann Arbor. For more information and the shop's extended holiday hours, call (734) 994-8004, Ext. 118.

The Gallery Shop presents an expanded selection of original art work from more than 150 Michigan and regional artists, including musical instruments, handmade wood furniture, jewelry, ceramics, glass and fiber.

All purchases at the shop support the art center's mission and offset costs for its visual arts programs.

Send calendar items at least two weeks ahead of the event to Ken Abramczyk, At Home Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, e-mail kabramczyk@hometownlife.com, fax (734) 591-7279 or (248) 644-1314.

GARDEN CALENDAR

Wine event

Goldner Walsh Nursery, 559 Orchard Lake Road in Pontiac, will present The Wines of Burgundy 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3.

Wine aficionado Curtis Vincent will take you on an exciting voyage of the Burgundy region in France. Learn the fascinating history of Burgundy and understand what makes this region

so special. A tasting of both white and red Burgundy wines served with food pairings will be featured.

All attendees must be at least 21 years old.

Cost is \$30 per person. Seating is limited and reservations are required. For reservations and more information, call Goldner Walsh at (248) 332-6430.

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) 4-GARDEN or visit www.michigangardening.com.

The schedule includes: Solving Common Plant and Disease Problems four sessions beginning Thursday Dec. 1, in Livonia or Friday, Dec. 2, in Pontiac (fee is \$137); and Computer-assisted Design, Fridays, Dec. 2-16, in Livonia (\$137).

Send calendar items at least two weeks ahead of the event to Ken Abramczyk, At Home Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, e-mail kabramczyk@hometownlife.com, fax (734) 591-7279 or (248) 644-1314.

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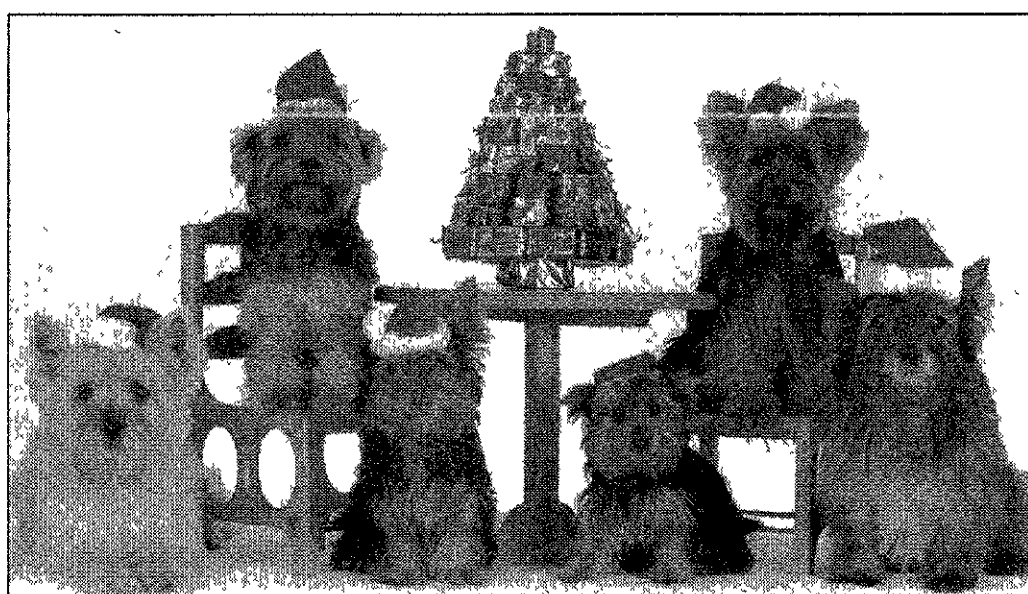
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MARKETPLACE



Pet project

Pet Star greeting cards, by the Pet Star Corporation of Miami, are a fun and unusual way to share your love of those with four feet and a wagging tail.

There's a card to match your pet and your personality - from whimsical "Interfaith" holiday cards featuring a group of different breeds wearing yarmulkes and Santa hats, to Halloween greetings starring pooches as pumpkins and witches.

The fun doesn't stop with holiday cheer. There are patriotic puppy cards, including dogs in sailor uniforms and camouflage.

Most Pet Star cards are blank inside with plenty of room for your personal message. Interfaith, Christmas and Hanukkah cards feature appropriate sayings inside.

The high-quality cards are printed on heavy stock and measure 4-1/4 by 5-1/2 inches.

A pack of six cards and envelopes costs \$10.

Pet Star greeting cards are sold and shipped globally at www.petstar.net or by calling (305) 233-7722. Shipping is free in the United States. The cards are available at select retail outlets.

Pet Star began as a successful photography studio for pets. It is involved in a wide variety of charitable organizations, including Canine Companions, the Humane Society, Adopt-a-Pet, Children's Home Society and the Actor's Playhouse.



BROIDA

FROM PAGE B1

them are, well, hideously ugly. Not so the cylindrical, elegant iM7, a lovely complement to the iPod itself.

The iM7 cranks out deep, boisterous sound thanks to its built-in subwoofer.

It can run off batteries or AC power, and it comes with a wireless remote.

Plus, it has input jacks for connecting other audio devices and a video output for watching iPod videos on your TV.

At \$249, the iM7 is a pricey accessory, but it's absolutely awesome for freeing your music from the confines of your iPod earbuds.

Speaking of mobile devices that involve your ears, the Boostaroo Revolution (boostaroo.com) is a handy accessory: It splits and amplifies headphone output, thus allowing two listeners to share the same iPod, portable DVD player, or whatever.

I use mine in the car, where I have my MP3 player connected to the stereo.

The player's output level isn't

quite loud enough, but the Boostaroo Revolution gives it a major volume boost (400 percent, according to the company).

Unfortunately, the little white gizmo sells for \$79.95, which I think is overpriced. Plus, it relies on AAAA batteries (no, that's not a typo), which aren't always easy to find.

Solution: Buy the original Boostaroo instead. It is \$29.95, runs on AA batteries, and does pretty much the same thing.

FREE INNER SPIELBERG

Your spiffy new camcorder isn't of much value without a good video-editing program. I've tried most of them, and I remain partial to Pinnacle Studio Plus (pinnacle.com) for its simple interface and versatile feature set.

The latest version, Studio Plus 10, lets you copy camcorder footage straight to DVD, no editing required. It also adds support for high-definition (HD) camcorders.

I'll write more about the program in a future column. In the meantime, if you're looking for an inexpensive (less than \$100) but extremely capable video editor, this is it.

COOL GIFTS FOR KIDS

Want to indulge the kids with a new computer game that doesn't involve carjacking and other felonies? Consider Cosmic Blobs (cosmicblobs.com), which lets youngsters express their creativity by creating cool 3D animations. (Pixar, here they come!)

It's a slick program, chockfull of tools for designing animals, vehicles, characters and objects, then animating a scene. However, I disagree with the company's claim that Cosmic Blobs is suitable for children as young as 7.

There's a fairly steep learning curve, so I'd recommend it for ages 10-15.

Children of all ages will love Disney's Magic Artist Deluxe. It's an older program, meaning you can scoop it up online for around \$15, but it's an absolute gem.

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

Read the fine print: Service contracts often worth expense

Service contracts or extended warranties have been around now for a lot of years and the question is still asked by many people: "Are they worth the expense?"

Depending on your viewpoint, there are several ways to answer the question without making it sound all confusing.

YES, service contracts and/or extended warranties are very worthwhile, provided the cost of such is reasonable.

This answer only creates another question of what

is considered reasonable, which leads me to explain the history of contracts and warranties.

Many, many years ago when you bought a major home appliance, the retailer would offer you an extended service agreement on the product that would cost so much for each year of coverage after the initial purchase.

The older the product, the more you paid for the coverage. It was possible that once the product reached 10 years of age, you paid out a lot more for the warranty than you actually paid for the product.

Some appliance retailers really pushed their employees to sell these warranties, such as Montgomery Ward, which was eventually sued by some employees who were fired for not selling enough extended service contracts.

Highland Appliance had seven employees on the phones six days a week, selling these contracts to their customers who had already bought contracts that were about to expire.

All in all, it was very big

Many, many years ago when you bought a major home appliance, the retailer would offer you an extended service agreement on the product that would cost so much for each year of coverage after the initial purchase. The older the product, the more you paid for the coverage. It was possible that once the product reached 10 years of age, you paid out a lot more for the warranty than you actually paid for the product.

business right from the start of it. It was reported that General Electric had cleared a profit of \$22 million a few years ago, just by selling enough service contracts.

There was some trickery used by some retailers at the point of sale where they scared the consumer into buying a contract or they informed the customer of facts that distorted the truth.

There was plenty of ammunition for Esther Shapiro to write several articles on the subject in her newspaper columns.

The conclusion back then was that contracts were way overpriced and not affordable by the average consumer, and yet Montgomery Ward made more money one year selling service contracts than it did in selling the appliances.

After 1996, the utility companies came out with a plan for their customers that would cover not only appliances but also the air conditioning, furnace and hot water tank.

This means that you can

have coverage on seven products or so for less than \$300 per year. Compared to the old way of business as described above, you can now get all this for the price of what some consumers had to spend for coverage on just one appliance.

SHOP AROUND

How can anyone say today that these extended contracts aren't worth it?

Some do because the contract doesn't cover every component on the product. I can understand and accept that fact and realize that most high failure parts are covered. With the costs of service calls and labor always on the increase, it doesn't take much for one call per year to equal the cost factor you spend on these warranties.

When you are out shopping for an appliance these days, you owe it to yourself to listen to any sales pitches on extended warranties.

Evaluate what is being said and, very important, how much it costs.

As anything produced in this country, the cost seems to go down with increased production. This is true also of service contracts.

You now have more than one source to obtain one, so shop around. It's insurance that products won't cost you an arm and a leg after you make the initial purchase.

You already know my viewpoint on how they build products today, compared to yesterday.

A service contract or extended warranty might be the smartest thing you can buy. 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. Do you have a question about an appliance or a problem you have with an appliance? E-mail your question to kabramczyk@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon

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GREENMEAD

FROM PAGE B1

conversation or to sit by the fire to prepare Christmas letters and cards.

The Kusches have only lived in the house since December, but they enjoy the Boulder Pines subdivision. They are pleased to help raise money for Greenmead.

"Anything that preserves history preserves the past and it is important to the community," David said.

"You can go to Greenmead for lots of events. We go to the Highland Games and farmers markets, plus they have events that you can bring the kids to. It is one place that includes the family in activities."

David is principal at St. Paul's Lutheran School at Eight Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. He brings his students to Greenmead for a festival of cultures.

"There's enough room there that you can bring hundreds of kids every day," Kusch said. "Again when you look at Greenmead from a historical standpoint, it's a chance to talk about life and what it was like in the olden days."

At the Kusch home, David enjoys the 12-foot tree in the living room.

"We have many decorations, purchased as we travel, that tell

of all the places we've been," Kusch said.

David also receives pieces for Dickens Villages each year from Rae Ann and other family members to add to the collection.

OTHER HOMES

There will be plenty of sights on the walk:

■ A home on Golfview features kitchen renovations and the addition of hardwood floors. A second kitchen renovation and a great room was added in 2004.

There's a collection of Santa Claus, some from other parts of the world, including Scotland, Poland and the Ukraine.

The new great room features a Children's Tree with all the ornaments collected over the years, each of which holds special places and memories.

■ Visitors will journey to old Rosedale Gardens to a home on Auburndale, where a Victorian-style tree in the living room and a 3-1/2-foot tree in the dining room are decorated with antique prisms.

The family room displays an antique Christmas band. Outside you will see an antique sleigh filled with gifts that has been in the family since the 1940s.

■ A two-story Mediterranean-style home on Fairlane features marble tile

floors in the foyer, sunroom and atrium, and granite tile floors in the kitchen and dining room.

A dining room is described as exquisite with a high-gloss black, glass-topped table with matching chairs and credenza with a dramatic crystal chandelier.

The kitchen contains Old World charm with hand-crafted lighted cabinets with glass doors, ceramic tile and family curios.

■ The owners of a home on Stamford remodeled the kitchen, family room and bathrooms and installed hardwood floors. New doors also were installed and the home's exterior was revised from a Tudor colonial look to the colonial look preferred by the homeowners.

■ A custom Cape Cod home on Vanderhaven was built in 2004. A rustic theme displays the homeowners' love of nature. Warm brown tones are exhibited throughout the home.

A double-sided fireplace is a perfect location to display the village and working train. A 9-foot Christmas tree adorns the great room and is decorated in a rustic, woodland theme.

■ A Victorian colonial on Park has an Amish gazebo, brick walkway, Victorian lamp post and vine-covered arbor. Each room is decorated for Christmas with its own theme.

The living room is highlighted

by a Victorian tree and porcelain dolls, the family room has snowmen. A Christmas train circles the ceiling.

The entertainment room has been taken over by Santa Claus, featured in various styles and sizes. The home office has toy soldiers, while the guest room contains collectibles.

■ At Greenmead, a natural Christmas is the theme for this year's Hill House decorations, decorated by several local Quilter groups.

The library features a Christmas tree filled with dried hydrangeas, foliage and birds. The dining room table and chairs are original to the home. Decorations include a selection of greens, berries and fruit arrangements.

Variety and beauty are home qualities the organizers look at when organizing the annual Christmas Walk.

"We look for homes that are tastefully decorated," said Janet Bennett, president of Friends of Greenmead.

"We'll put together a walk with homes that have a variety of styles in decorating. Some people like homespun, others like modern and we try to get a variety."

Since 1989, Friends have raised \$247,000 through walks, picnics and fashion show fundraisers.

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We've recently refurbished our website. Given it a fresh coat of paint so to speak. We wanted it to be easier to navigate. And great to look at. And useful for everyone. It took us a while but we think we made all that happen. Check it out. A lot of what you see is still there—local news, special sections, classifieds and some of it is new like our partnership with CareerBuilder.com, Apartments.com and Cars.com., three great sites to use when you want really great results. So grab your mouse and see what's happening on hometownlife.com

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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, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

DECEMBER

Concert

Featuring Michael Card and the Ward Church Choir & Orchestra 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Tickets \$10, \$5 in advance for pre-concert dinner for singles at 6 p.m. in Parlor C317. Free childcare. Call (248) 374-5920.

Marian Advent retreat

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, in Madonna University Center and Chapel, 14221 Levan, Livonia. This year's theme is Mary's Christmas and Rev. Daniel Jones, professor, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, will lead events. Activities include reflection and prayer, 3 conferences, lunch, individual reconciliation, Exposition and Benediction of the Bless Sacrament, the mysteries of the rosary with meditation prepared and led by students, and Sunday Mass in the University Chapel at 4 p.m. The cost is \$18 and includes lunch and refreshments. Reservations required, call (734) 432-5524.

Craft show

More than 80 crafters show their wares 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at St. Thomas a Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley at Cherry Hill, Canton. Bake sale and lunch available. Admission \$2, children under age 12 free. Call (734) 981-1333.

Holiday marketplace

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at Hosanna-Labor Lutheran School Gym, 9600 Levere, Redford. Come do your Christmas shopping with us. Vendors include Arbonne, Arvon, Creative Memories, Discovery Toys, Reliv, Nikken, Stamping, Tupperware, and more. Call (313) 937-2424.

Concert

The Detroit Lutheran Singers Christmas Concert 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Tickets \$10, \$7 seniors and students. Call (734) 427-1414.

Cookie walk

After 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services Sunday, Dec. 4, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Road, Belleville. Call (734) 699-3366. Bake up on your treats for the holiday.

Concert

Featuring Schoolcraft College Choral Union's presentation of Vivaldi's Gloria and works by Buxtehude and Finzi 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, in the sanctuary at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, between Merriman and Middlebelt, Livonia, (734) 422-6038. No charge but donations accepted during intermission. Also performing is the Oakland University chorus. Call Schoolcraft College's liberal arts department for more information (734) 462-4435.

Advent celebration

Festival of lessons and carols in the manner of King's College Chapel, Cambridge, England, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, featuring the St. John's Episcopal Church parish choir, handbell choir, children and youth choirs, SonShine and members of the church in Plymouth, 574 S. Sheldon, south of Ann Arbor Trail. No charge and open to the public. A reception will follow the service. Call (734) 453-0190.

Open house

For the Manresa Jesuit Retreat House 3-6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at 1390 Quarton and Woodmont, Bloomfield Hills. Meet the Jesuits and discover the programs and ministries offered to the community. For information, call (877) MANRESA or visit www.manresa-sj.org. The mission of Manresa is to help men and women grow spiritually through prayer, reflection and teaching according to the tradition of St. Ignatius Loyola.

Concert

Birmingham Concert Band present Holiday Ornaments 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple at Chesterfield, Birmingham. The band will be joined by the Lutheran High Northwest Concert Choir. The band is looking for instrumentalists to fill several sections. Call Grant Hoemke, musical director, at (248) 474-4997.

Nativity story

The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit sponsors The Story of the Nativity As Told in Icons, a presentation by the Most Rev. Nathaniel, Archbishop of Detroit and the Romanian Episcopate of the Orthodox Church in America, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at St. George Romanian Orthodox Church, 18405 W. Nine Mile Road, Southfield. The program includes a concert of Orthodox Nativity Carols and Liturgical Hymns of the Nativity by the COCC Inter-Orthodox Choir, a sing-a-long of familiar western Christmas carols, and a visit by St. Nicholas for children. The event is free and open to the public. A freewill offering will be taken. For further information, contact Janet Damian at

(313) 706-0666 or send e-mail to damianj@juno.com.

Christmas concert

Bach's Magnificat and Handel's Messiah, Part I, featuring the Kirk Chancel Choir and soloists, and members of Detroit Chamber Winds 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets \$18, \$15 seniors, \$12 students. Call (248) 626-2515.

Series on Spiritual-Principals

7 p.m. Wednesday Dec. 7 to Jan. 4, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. For more information, call (734) 421-1760.

Journey to Bethlehem

A walk through Christmas play 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, and 2-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 10-11, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster. Walk and sit with the townspeople, shepherds, kings, and angels. Drink at the well and speak with the innkeeper. As you walk through the 30- to 40-minute journey others will follow (about every 20-minutes) and experience the Christmas promise. For more information, call (734) 421-1760.

Christmas with family

Celebrate the holiday season with music, drama skits, dance numbers, flying angels, big screen video and more at Christmas with the Family 2005, 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 9-10, at Detroit World Outreach, 23800 West Chicago, Redford. Desserts will be served at end of performances. Tickets \$5 before Dec. 3, \$10 after and at the door. Call (313) 255-2222, ext. 236.

Detroit World Outreach is a non-denominational church with cutting edge drama productions, energized contemporary music, high-tech video and lighting, programs for kids and teens, a great place for college students, singles, married adults and seniors. Services are 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday (6:30 p.m. the first Sunday of the month), Sunday school for all ages at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Cookie walk

Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church's 12th Annual Cookie Walk is Saturday, Dec. 10, doors open at 8 a.m., sale starts at 9 a.m. and lasts until sold out. Pierogi, stuffed cabbage, bread, nut and poppyseed rolls, and more than 50 different assortments of ethnic (kiefle, kolachy, rugela, koulourakia, biscotti, linzer) and traditional cookies and candy will be for sale at the church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, east of Newburgh, Livonia

Cookie walk

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at St. Michael's Orthodox Church, 26355 W. Chicago, between Beech Daly and Inkster, Redford. Cookies are sold by the pound. Come early for best selection.

Holiday craft fair

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at Tri-City Christian Center, 3855 Sheldon, north of Michigan Avenue, Canton. Admission \$1. Bake sale and refreshments available. Call (734) 495-3363.

Advent concert

The fifth annual Advent Concert, featuring the Langford Men's Chorus, will be held 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard at West Chicago, Livonia. Rosedale's own Campanelle Handbell Choir will also be featured. For information, call Dave Conrad at (734) 717-6356, or Ron Muresan at (248) 540-0621. For information about the church, visit www.rosedalegardens.org or call (734) 422-0494.

Christmas Cantata

Emmanuel Celebrating Heaven's Child 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, 8828 Wormer, Redford. Everyone is welcome. Call (313) 537-7480.

Christmas concert

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church of Livonia, presents their annual Christmas Concert 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, in the sanctuary at 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 522-6830. Featured will be the Christ Our Savior Festival Choir, the Jubilation Handbell Choir, the Ringers of Joy Youth Handbell Choir, the Laudate Choir (grades 7-8), the Confirmation Choir (grades 7 & 8), a Brass Choir, and various instrumentalists providing uplifting holiday music. The concert is free and open to the public with a freewill offering being taken.

ONGOING

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship service at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. Service is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday with an education hour all for ages at 9 a.m. Call (734) 422-1470.

Fall Sunday services

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, 9:30 a.m. Bible study, and 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sunday school, at Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083 Newburgh, Livonia.

Sunday services

Continue with traditional worship and children's Sunday School at 10 a.m.,

and adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m., at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Road. The Beatitudes are now the focus of the school curriculum which features music, computers, games and story telling. Nursery care available. The Mustard Seed service at 6 p.m. offers an informal, casual environment. Handicap accessible. Call (734) 421-1760.

Unity of Livonia

Services 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays, at 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. Call (734) 421-1760.

Shabbat services

The doors of Congregation Beit Kodesh, a Conservative synagogue located at 31840 W. Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, are open to the Jewish community of southeastern Michigan. Call (248) 477-8974.

Bet Chaverim

Services are open to all living in the western counties including Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, and Northville. The congregation follows traditions of Reform Judaism. Interfaith families welcome to attend services at 321 S. Ridge, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. Call (734) 646-3864 for information or visit www.betchaverim.com.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday Services 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Wednesday service 6:15 p.m. - Bible Studies and Worship Center for all ages, at 11575 Belleville Road, (four miles south of Michigan Avenue), Belleville. Parents with Young Children Bible Study 6 p.m. Sundays, includes dinner and child care. Call (734) 699-3361.

Shabbat Rocks

A musical celebration precedes traditional Shabbat service once a month at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100 or visit the Web site at www.adat-shalom.org.

English classes

Conversational English as a Second Language classes are being offered for adults of all ages and backgrounds 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Tutors will work on a one-to-one ratio to help students better understand and speak the English language. No charge. To register, call (734) 525-0191 or (734) 522-6830.

Scripture from scratch

If you've always wanted to learn about the Bible from square one, here's square one 7:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Activity Center at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950 to register.

Sunday school

Congregation Beit Kodesh (31840 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia) is registering children, age 4 and up, for Sunday school. Financial assistance available. Special discounts for new members. For more information, call (248) 477-8974.

Services

St. John Lutheran Church (23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills) invites the community to a new worship service 5:30 p.m. Saturdays. Also, Sunday traditional worship services are 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; contemporary service is at 9:50 a.m.; and Sunday School hour for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. Call (248) 474-0584 for more information.

Single Point Ministries

For ages 30 and older, join more than 350 single adults 11:30 a.m. Sundays for fellowship and related topics in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Coffee, doughnuts, conversations are present. Call (248) 374-5920. Tennis continues 1 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 4 p.m. Tuesdays at Rotary Park, Six Mile and Hubbard, Livonia.

Bible talks

4 p.m. Sundays, at the Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Call (734) 728-9157.

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship services 10 a.m. Sundays at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

The Gap

A new youth Sunday School (God Always Present) at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford Road. Lessons are taught using various media, computers, story telling, games, cooking, music and art, and a small theater complete with popcorn making machine. Adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m. with a traditional service and The Gap at 10 a.m. Child care available. Mustard Seed contemporary service at 6 p.m. with refreshments served afterward. Call (734) 421-7620.

Qigong

The ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine. A safe and effective way to rid body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions. Learn the art of natural movement and breath to cultivate vital life energy. Classes at Livonia Unity, 28660 Five Mile. Monday - movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday - Qigong meditation 10:15 a.m., and Friday - Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for

more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org.

Worship services

8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with an education hour 9:30-10:40 a.m., at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. Social hour follows each service. Call (734) 722-1735.

Detroit World Outreach

Nondenominational church with cutting edge drama productions, contemporary-energized music, high-tech video and lighting, relevant life-changing messages, ministries for all ages; services times are 8 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday (Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m., junior high serves for grades six-eight at 10:45 a.m.), Wednesday services 8:45 a.m. and 7 p.m. (Family Night), and service for ages 18-28 at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at 23800 W. Chicago, Redford. Call (313) 255-2222 or visit www.wayofvictory.com.

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship

services 10 a.m. Sunday at Church of Our Saviour, Presbyterian, 6655 Middlebelt, West Bloomfield. For more information, call (248) 626-7606.

Aerobic class

Trinity Church of the Brethren, 27350 W. Chicago at Inkster, is offering a Women's Low Impact Aerobic Class to the community every Monday and Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the church basement. To participate in this cost-free, 30-minute class, wear comfortable exercise attire (floor mats optional). For more information, call the church office, (313) 937-1199.

Bible studies

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

Community Bible study

Studying the Book of Proverbs, breakfast 7 a.m. or Bible study 8-9 a.m. at the American Table, Eight Mile,

Farmington. Come when you can, leave when you must. For more information, call (248) 924-2779.

Contemporary service

New informal service in a casual environment 6 p.m. Sunday, at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford. Fellowship hour after services including 10 a.m. traditional. Call (734) 421-7620.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday worship 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Bible studies Sundays at 8:50 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., at the church 11575 Belleville Road, four miles south of Michigan Avenue, Belleville. Call (734) 699-3361.

Support group

Provides spiritual, social and educational support for divorced and separated Catholic men and women 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month, at St. Andrew's Parish Center, 1400 Englewood, Rochester. For information, call (248) 652-9173 or (248) 652-3860.



BERYL LUCAS
(nee Henderson)

Age 84, passed away peacefully November 24, 2005. Beloved wife of Sidney. Loving mother of John (Christine) Lucas, Karen (Richard) Paul & Kimberly (Matthew) Pisko. Dear grandmother of John E. Lucas, Erin & Christopher Paul and Mackenzie Pisko. A private service will be held out of the country. R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home (734) 422-6720 in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions to Michigan Humane Society.

DANIEL RICHARD ANDREW

Of Livonia, MI, died Monday, November 28, 2005, age 78. Beloved husband of 56 years to Mary Louise. Dear father of Michele Andrew Lescoe (Paul) and Ann Andrew King (Stephen W.). Grandfather of Monica McDowell (Mark), and great-grandfather of Carson Daniel McDowell. Mr. Andrew was the first industrial coordinator for the city of Livonia from 1963-1970. He served as the chairman of the Livonia Planning Commission from 1971-1984 and was a member of Livonia's Zoning Board Appeals from 1997-2004. He was a member of the Livonia Housing Commission from 2003-2005. He served on numerous civic boards and organizations in Livonia. In 1973 Mr. Andrew co-founded Damone-Andrew Inc., serving as senior vice-president and co-owner of this commercial real estate company head quartered in Troy, MI. He retired in 1999. Visitation Fred Wood Funeral Home, 36100 Five Mile (one mile west of Farmington Road), Friday, 2-5pm and 7-9 pm, Saturday 5-9pm and Sunday 2-5 pm and 7-9 pm. Scripture Service Sunday 7 pm. Funeral Mass will be held Monday, December 5th, at 11 a.m., at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Donations to the National Kidney Foundation and American Heart Association.

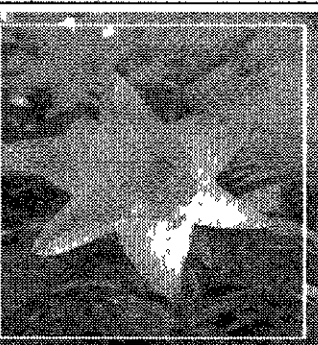
DOROTHY ELIZABETH PAXTON

Age 77, of South Lyon, died November 26, 2005. Born May 15, 1928, in Chester, Pennsylvania. She came to the South Lyon community in 1994, from Novi. She was a retired secretary from the Ford Automotive Climate Control Division. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of South Lyon, and she volunteered with the Michigan Cancer Society. Dorothy was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and sister. She is survived by her husband, John; her children, Karen (Michael) Kozar and Kenneth (Teresa) Quartermoss; her step-children, Randolph Paxton and John J. (Suzan) Paxton; 11 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren; her brother, Kenneth (Linda) McAnall; and her sisters, Jean Fusco and Patricia (Bill) Coopersmith. Funeral from Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main, Plymouth, Saturday 7pm. Visitation Friday 2-9pm and Saturday 2-9pm. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

In Memory Of

JULIE MICHELLE RATKUS

November 27, 1946 to November 29, 2001. Four years can pass like a day, or seem an eternity. Time can change many things, but time cannot diminish the memories, my love for you. Til we meet at sunset. Love, Carl.



DOROTHY L. LENT

November 25 (at 91). Beloved wife of the late Wendell Lent, "Lent's Custom Clothing" and loving mother of Linda (Stewart) Oldford; Karen (James) Tobias; Julie (Dale) Hall; and Jamie Lent. Dorothy's grandchildren Victor (Jill) West; Steven (Sallie) West; Keith Peltz; Brian Peltz; Jay (Julie) Tobias; Kim Tobias; Wendy Hall and Jessica Hall will miss her greatly. In addition, Dorothy enjoyed 9 great grandchildren. Dorothy, a 73 year resident of Plymouth was born and raised in Hillsdale. Dorothy was loved by all who knew her. Always with a smile. She was very active in scouting, Red Cross, community organizations, and a 50 plus year member of First United Methodist Church. Donations may be made to the Red Cross and Plymouth Historical Society. A memorial service to celebrate Dorothy's life is Saturday, December 3 at Plymouth's First United Methodist Church. Lunch will follow the 11:00 AM service. Arrangements by Vermeulen Funeral Home, Plymouth 734-459-2250 www.vermeulenfh.com

JOSEPH L. O'CONNOR

Died peacefully in Ann Arbor on November 23rd, about one month before his 83rd birthday. A beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and brother, he is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Mary E. O'Connor, Sister Patricia Haas (Edward), Brother Vincent (Barbara), children Terrance (Carolyn), Mary Jo (Robert Steinhilber), Karen, Thomas (Donna), and Christopher (Cheryl) Regan as well as seven grandchildren, Kelly, Brandy, Emily, Matthew, Elizabeth, Christopher, and Lucas, and two great-grandchildren, Trey and Reagan. Mr. O'Connor was born January 1, 1923 near Adrian. He was a Navy veteran who served in the Pacific throughout World War II. He went to college on the GI Bill at the University of Toledo, earned his degree in marketing and advertising and thereafter had a long career in the heating and air conditioning business, both building his own successful contracting business and later as a sales engineer. He is a past president of the Toledo Heating and Air Conditioning Contractors Association and was a member of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers. He lived life enthusiastically, even in retirement. He was active as a volunteer in his adopted community of Plymouth, Michigan. He was passionate about his family, politics, history and sports. He will be truly missed by those whose lives he touched especially his grandchildren with whom he formed a special bond. A memorial mass will be held at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, 530 Elizabeth St, Ann Arbor, on Saturday December 3, at 10:30 am. Contributions may be made to either the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, 333 1/2 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE Washington DC 20003-1148 or to The St. Thomas the Apostle Heritage Fund, 530 Elizabeth St, Ann Arbor.

MARY ANN OPALINSKI

Age 83, passed on peacefully at home after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. She was surrounded by her family and left their arms to be with the Lord on Monday morning, November 21, 2005. She was the devoted wife of Ted, for over 61 years, loving mother of Carol (Steve) Lawrence, Ken (Diane) Opalinski and Bob (Darlene) Opalinski, dearest grandmother of Jill Lawrence, Matthew (Jacque) Lawrence, Jeff, Ryan and Brian Opalinski, great-grandmother of Austin and Kaitlyn Lawrence, and loving sister of Michael (Barbara) Wolnick. A memorial Mass of the resurrection will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2005, at St. Maurice Catholic Church, Livonia. Visitation with family and friends begins at 10:00 in the church hall. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Father Solanus Guild, Capuchin Soup Kitchen, or Angela Hospice. Please share a memory with the family at www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com



LUCIUS C. TRIPP, M.D.

November 28, 2005. Age 63. Beloved husband of Delores. Father of Felicia L. Tripp. Brother of Mary Ollie, Betty Houston, Luke Tripp, Jr., James Tripp, Richard Tripp, Brigid Hudson, Judy Smith, Herbert Tripp, and Fred Tripp. Memorial service Friday, 6:00pm, at The Detroit Yacht Club, 1 Riverbank Dr., Belle Isle, Detroit. In lieu of flowers, family suggests memorial tributes to The Old Newsboys' Goodfellow Fund, P.O. Box 44444, Detroit, MI 48244-0444. For information, call A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

MARY ANN BRICKER

Age 55. Passed away November 27, 2005. Formerly of Bloomfield Village. Attended Stephens College. Mary Ann was a member of Northbrook Presbyterian Church, D. A. R. Village Club. Survive by: Daughter Sally Lynn Bricker of R.O. Son: Edward John Bricker of Clawson. Two Sisters: Nancy (David Siebert) Eaton of Beverly Hills and Sally (Henry) Schott of Salt Point, New York. One brother: Charles L. (Susan) Bricker, Jr. of Plymouth, MI. Also Nieces and Nephews. Daughter of the late Charles and Eleanor Bricker. Funeral Services will be held at Wm. R. Hamilton Co., 820 E. Maple, Birmingham, at 11:00 A.M. Thursday December 1, 2005. Visitation was held Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Entombment to follow in Woodlawn Cemetery Mausoleum, Detroit. Officiated by Reverend Peter T. Moore, Pastor Southfield Presbyterian Church. Memorial tributes may be made to: Royal Oak Animal Shelter, 1515 Edgeworth, Royal Oak, Michigan, 48067.

MARY ANN OPALINSKI

Age 83, passed on peacefully at home after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. She was surrounded by her family and left their arms to be with the Lord on Monday morning, November 21, 2005. She was the devoted wife of Ted, for over 61 years, loving mother of Carol (Steve) Lawrence, Ken (Diane) Opalinski and Bob (Darlene) Opalinski, dearest grandmother of Jill Lawrence, Matthew (Jacque) Lawrence, Jeff, Ryan and Brian Opalinski, great-grandmother of Austin and Kaitlyn Lawrence, and loving sister of Michael (Barbara) Wolnick. A memorial Mass of the resurrection will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2005, at St. Maurice Catholic Church, Livonia. Visitation with family and friends begins at 10:00 in the church hall. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Father Solanus Guild, Capuchin Soup Kitchen, or Angela Hospice. Please share a memory with the family at www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

NANCY H. MORRISON

Of Birmingham, passed away November 26, 2005. Wife of the late William S. Morrison. Mother of Julie, Bradley and Laure. Grandmother of Callie and Ryan Wnuk; Joshua and Courtney Morrison. Daughter of the late Lawrence & Harriet Howe. Memorial service, Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills, Friday, December 2, 2005 at 1:00 PM. In lieu of flower, tributes to charity of choice.

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Focus on Wine

Ray and Eleanor Heald

Enjoy outstanding sparkling wine from Michigan

As the holidays approach, you'll probably want to lay away some sparkling wine to highlight your celebration with family and friends. This year, consider the sparklers of L. Mawby, Suttons Bay, Mich. You won't be disappointed.

We've tasted Larry Mawby's sparkling wines in blind comparison with French champagne and they compete favorably with the big guys, but at better prices.

Mawby crafts his wines by the same method as the French, but his best wine, Talismen Brut, is \$27 compared to at least \$35 for an entry level French version.

SPARKLING DECISIONS

Mawby is a farmer, a wine-grower, a vintner who grows and hand harvests his fruit to make small lots of handcrafted wines while paying close attention to every detail. Each of his wines expresses the character of the soil and climate in which they are grown.

Beginning in 1978, Mawby made every wine imaginable from red to white, dry and sweet. In 1980 he began to make sparkling wine by the champagne method, now known as Methode Traditionelle, following a recent agreement between the U.S. and the European Economic Community.

We remember when Mawby decided to imitate the French Nouveau Beaujolais, a red wine made from the gamay grape and released the week before Thanksgiving. His wine was called Turkey Red but it was made from grapes other than gamay. "Back then, I was one of just a few winemakers on the Leelanau Peninsula trying to attract consumers with a variety of tastes," Mawby said.

"Today there are 20 wineries in this region, which means I can specialize. Consumers come to see me if they like sparkling wines because they know that's all I do. If they don't care for sparkling wines, there are 19 other wineries glad to have them visit."

Mawby chose to make only sparklers because that's what he did best. He makes sparkling wines for the same reason the Champenoise do. In their climate, grapes don't always ripen completely. This is an advantage when it comes to sparkling wines because they require high acid grapes and that is exactly what one gets with grapes harvested at low sugar.

THREE TIERS

Mawby grows 12 acres of chardonnay, pinot noir, pinot gris, pinot meunier, seyval and vignoles. His estate wines are so popular that he plans to expand his vineyards over the next few years. Estate wines are Talismen Brut (\$27) toasty, full-bodied, flavorful and Cremant Brut (\$22) distinctive flavor with notes of clove, cinnamon and apricot.

Peninsular Selections from Mawby include some grapes purchased from other Leelanau growers. They include Blanc de Blanc Brut

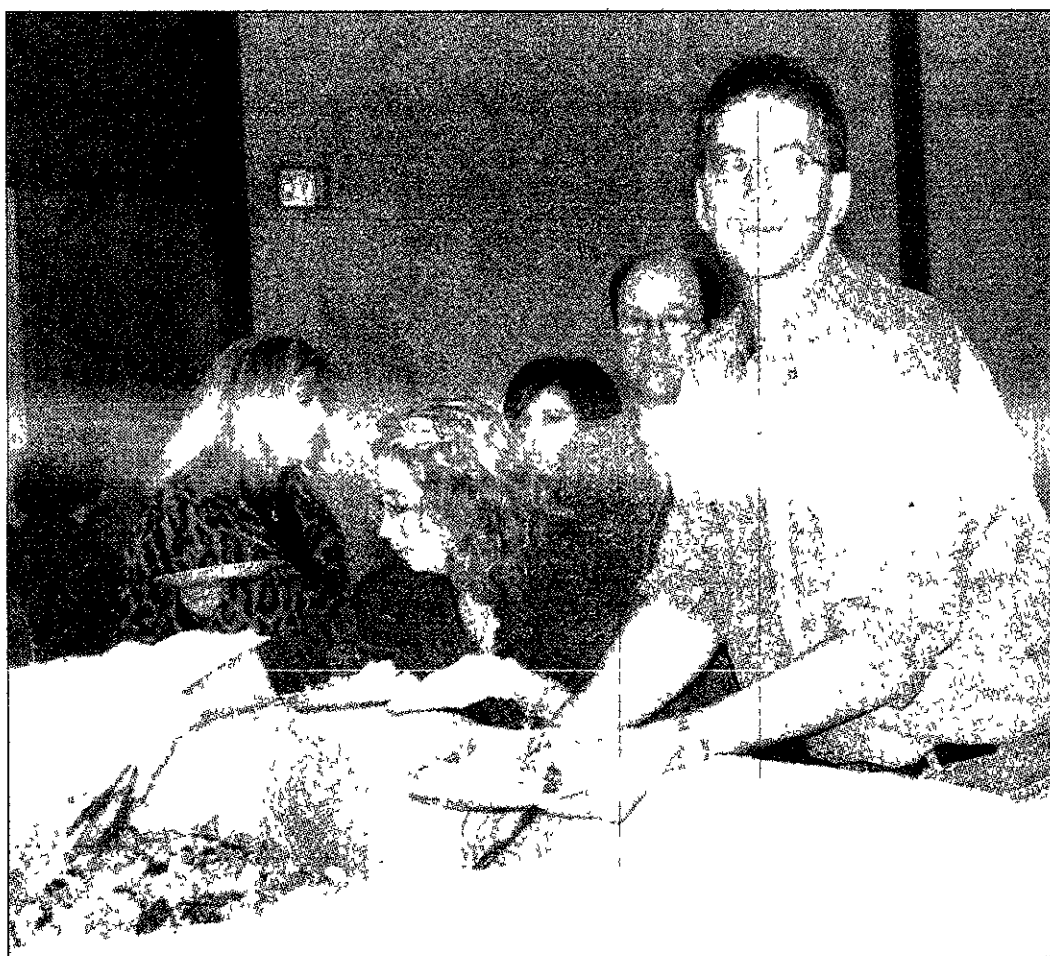
PLEASE SEE MICHIGAN, B10



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WENDY ROSE BICE

Detroit's largest Greek salad consists of 168 heads of lettuce, 60 pounds of feta cheese, 4 gallons of pepperoncini, 3 gallons of olives, two cases of chickpeas, two cases of beets, four cases tomatoes, two cases cucumbers and 9 gallons of dressing.

Giving back



Gary Bice, chairperson of Detroit's Largest Greek Salad, serves up a bowl at the 2004 event, which raises funds for Children's Hospital.

What: Detroit's Largest Greek Salad, a fund-raiser to purchase Beanie Babies for Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit.

When: Noon-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4

Where: Temple Beth El, northwest corner of 14 Mile Road and Telegraph in Bloomfield Hills.

Tickets: \$5 for a bowl of salad and drink. Pre-paid tickets available from any Leo's Coney Island or Temple Beth El or at the door the day of the event.



Chelsea Rosenbaum, Erin Greenberger, Abby Bice and Brian Schulte serve bowls of salad to guests at the 2004 Detroit's Largest Greek Salad to benefit Children's Hospital. Some 400 salads were served at the event last year. This year, organizers hope to top 500.

Detroit's largest Greek salad tossed at fund-raiser

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Six years ago Abby Bice became ill.

Abby stayed for five days at an area hospital, where doctors had difficulty diagnosing her symptoms and she became "gravely ill," her mother Wendy remembers. Once Abby transferred to Children's Hospital, she was diagnosed, treated and released after three days.

Today she is healthy and she's giving back to the hospital that helped her so much.

Abby and her mother have organized "Building Detroit's Largest Greek Salad" for a second year after raising more than \$4,000 last year toward the purchase of Beanie Babies for the hospital. Wendy's husband Gary, and children Jacob and Emily also help with the event.

Last year Abby wanted to ask Leo Stassinopolus, owner of Leo's Coney Island (and Abby's favorite restaurant), to donate salads as part of a fund-raiser. "I said, 'Why not ask him to build Detroit's largest Greek Salad?'" Wendy said. Abby always orders Greek salad from Leo's.

After Stassinopolus agreed to help and Temple Beth El donated the space, organizers and volunteers sold 400 salads last year with enough money raised to purchase an entire year's worth of new Beanie Babies.

That went so well that the event - Building Detroit's Largest Greek Salad - has been scheduled again this year for noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 4, at Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Hills. Organizers hope to sell 500 salads this year.

Last year's salad required 168 heads of lettuce, 60 pounds of feta cheese, 4 gallons of pepperoncini, 3

PLEASE SEE SALAD, B10

Simple sauté saves time during holidays

For many families, a holiday celebration wouldn't be complete without an extravagant and filling feast, but holiday meals don't have to be elaborate to be festive and satisfying.

With a comfort food menu and wholesome seasonal ingredients, you can enliven holiday dishes and add a dash of nutrition without straying too far from family favorites.

This year, try a little olive oil to give traditional holiday dishes a makeover. Using olive oil in place of harmful saturated fats

gives your dishes a dose of heart-healthy monounsaturated fats without sacrificing taste.

Recognized in 2004 by the Food and Drug Administration as heart healthy, olive oil contains more monounsaturated or "good" fat per tablespoon than butter, margarine and all other cooking or salad oils.

"Using olive oil in place of butter or other cooking oils and spreads in traditional dishes adds flavor and health benefits," said Bob

PLEASE SEE SESAME, B10



NORTH AMERICAN OLIVE OIL ASSOCIATION

Sesame-Almond Vegetable Sauté is an easy side dish that can be prepared on the stovetop in less than 30 minutes.

Side dish

Book signing

Brian Polcyn, certified executive chef and owner of Five Lakes Grill in Milford, and author Michael Ruhlman will be on hand Tuesday, Dec. 6, to sign copies of their new book, *Charcuterie: The Craft of Salting, Smoking and Curing*.

A comprehensive book on the subject of preserving meats, Polcyn, who is also a charcuterie instructor at Schoolcraft College, and Ruhlman connect the ancient art to our early ancestors and create recipes that are adapted to the modern kitchen.

The signing will take place in the American Harvest Restaurant in the VisTaTech Center on the Livonia campus from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. There will be refreshments prepared by Polcyn, including examples of charcuterie and hors d'oeuvres.

Copies of the cookbook are available in the college bookstore for \$22.50. The Culinary Arts Department requests that persons who plan to attend call to make a reservation at (734) 462-4423.

Win tickets

Win tickets to Super Bowl XL by filling out an entry form at any Big Boy restaurant in Michigan.

The prize includes Super Bowl XL tickets, round trip, air or ground transportation for two, four nights in a hotel, two invitations to the Diet Pepsi Super Bowl party, two tickets to the NFL Experience at Cobo Center and \$250 in spending money and two gift bags.

A drawing to select the winner will be held on Dec. 26. Entry forms must be postmarked by Dec. 17.

For details, visit any Big Boy restaurant or go to www.bigboy.com

Spice it up

Add a little spice to life this fall with Krispy Kreme's pumpkin spice doughnuts.

The popular flavor is back, in both doughnuts and doughnut holes this year. They are available now through Jan. 29 in participating stores.

Warm up as the weather cools down with this delicious, old-fashioned cake doughnut flavored with pumpkin and spices.

To find the nearest store, visit www.krispykreme.com/storelocator.

Food site

A new database will answer the question, "What's in your food?"

This database allows users to view a 60-nutrient profile for each of more than 13,000 foods.

Launched by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the new resource is called "What's in the Food You Eat - Search Tool."

The database can be a tool for nutrition and health professionals and help consumers make informed decisions about food choices.

Free access to the ARS nutrient information database on thousands of foods typically eaten in the United States can be found at <http://www.ars.usda.gov/Services/docs.htm?docid=7783>.

Try baking sticky buns overnight

BY THE CULINARY INSTITUTE OF AMERICA
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

HYDE PARK, N.Y. (AP) – Why spend all morning in the kitchen making homemade sticky buns, when you can mix the dough and shape the rolls the day before?

In addition to offering a convenient alternative when you have overnight guests or early breakfast plans, the slow rise of the dough in the refrigerator makes the already mouthwatering buns even more moist, tender and flavorful.

Overnight sticky buns are made exactly like those baked the same day. The only difference is that the prepared rolls are stored in the refrigerator up to 24 hours before baking.

Just remove the pan from the refrigerator the next morning and allow the buns to warm to room temperature – depending on the temperature of your kitchen, this can take anywhere from one to two hours.

There's another way to streamline the production of sticky buns to satisfy sudden sweet cravings or unexpected guests.

Marc Haytmon, lecturing instructor in baking and pastry arts at The Culinary Institute of America, suggests, "Freeze the prepared rolls instead of placing them in the refrigerator overnight. Stored in airtight containers between sheets of waxed paper, unbaked sticky buns will retain their quality for about one month.

"The day before you'd like to serve them, place the frozen rolls in prepared pans, store in the refrigerator to thaw, and bring them up to room temperature the following morning before baking."

The following recipe is from The Culinary Institute of America's *Breakfasts and Brunches* cookbook (Lebhar-Freidman, 2005, \$35).

Note: A candy thermometer is essential for preparation.

STICKY BUNS WITH PECANS

2-1/2 teaspoons active dry yeast
1/4 cup milk, warmed to 110

degrees Fahrenheit

4 cups bread flour
1/4 cup sugar
1/4 cup butter, softened
2 large eggs, lightly beaten
1 teaspoon salt
Egg wash (1 egg whisked with 2 tablespoons cream or milk)
1/2 cup pecans
2 cups Pan Smear (recipe follows)
1 cup Cinnamon Smear (recipe follows)

Place the yeast and warm milk in the bowl of a mixer and stir to dissolve; let stand about 5 minutes. Combine 2-1/2 cups of the flour with the sugar, butter, eggs and salt. Mix on low speed using the dough hook just until the dough comes together. Add as much of the remaining flour to the mixture as needed so dough is no longer sticky. Increase speed to medium-high and mix until dough is soft, smooth and elastic, about 5 minutes.

Shape dough into a ball and place in a lightly greased bowl. Cover with plastic wrap and let dough rise in a warm place until doubled in size, about 2 hours. Fold the dough gently over on itself in three or four places. Cover and let rise until doubled, about 1 hour. While dough rises, toast and chop the pecans, and set aside; prepare Pan Smear and Cinnamon Smear, and set aside.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit. Prepare two 9-inch square baking pans by pouring 1 cup Pan Smear into each of them; sprinkle with the toasted, chopped pecans. Roll dough into a rectangle 8-by-14 inches and about 1/4-inch thick. Dust dough and rolling pin with flour to prevent dough from sticking. Brush a 1-inch-wide strip of egg wash along the long side of the dough closest to you. Spread the Cinnamon Smear evenly over the remaining dough. Roll the dough to form a log, starting with the edge opposite the egg-washed strip. Pinch the dough together to seal the seam. Slice into 12 equal pieces.

Place 6 rolls in each of the prepared pans. (You can refrigerate the rolls at this point for up to 24 hours, or freeze up to 1 month.) Cover the rolls and let them rise until they have nearly doubled, about 30 minutes. Brush lightly

with egg wash.

If sticky buns have been prepared in advance, remove them from the refrigerator and allow them to warm to room temperature before baking. Bake rolls until baked through and crust is golden brown, about 30 minutes. As soon as you remove the pans from the oven, turn each pan over onto a plate. Lift the pan away and cool rolls before serving.

Makes 12 sticky buns.

Nutrition information per bun: 470 cal., 9 g. pro., 79 g. carbo., 15 g. fat, 280 mg. sodium, 40 mg. chol., 2 g. fiber.

PAN SMEAR

1 cup light brown sugar
1/4 cup dark corn syrup
1 cup heavy cream

(Note: A candy thermometer is essential for preparation.)

Combine the brown sugar, corn syrup and heavy cream in a saucepan and heat to 220 degrees Fahrenheit, stirring frequently to prevent scorching. Cool to room temperature before using. (The smear will be caramel colored and syrupy.)

Makes 2 cups.

CINNAMON SMEAR

1/2 cup bread flour
1/2 cup sugar
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
3 tablespoons butter
3 large egg whites

Mix together flour, sugar and cinnamon in the bowl of a mixer. Add the butter. Using the paddle attachment, mix on medium speed for 1 minute, or until it looks like coarse meal and there are no visible chunks of butter.

With the mixer on medium speed, add the egg whites one at a time. Continue to mix until fully combined, scraping down the bowl as necessary. (The smear will be a kind of granular paste.)

Makes 1 cup.

The recipes, and more than 175 others, are explained and illustrated in The Culinary Institute of America's *Breakfasts and Brunches* cookbook, available at bookstores nationwide or at <http://www2.ciachef.edu/lm/enthusiasts/cookbooks.htm>.



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Dishes featuring wild mushrooms are perfect for the holidays or when entertaining.

Go wild with mushrooms

BY DANA JACOBI

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Wild mushrooms are perfect for enriching the flavor of dishes and making them seem extravagant. Dishes featuring wild mushrooms are perfect for the holidays or when entertaining. Their deep, meaty flavor lets you offer meatless dishes that will satisfy the taste buds of carnivores as well as vegetarians. Despite their rich flavor, they are actually lean and healthy. You can serve them as an hors d'oeuvre, soup, or side dish.

The mushrooms in the crostini below are often prepared with a technique popular with chefs – dehydrating mushrooms and grinding them into a powder – but impractical in home kitchens. You can achieve approximately the same intense flavor with a simple method, detailed in the recipe below.

Cream cheese adds further richness. The reduced-fat version has a much better taste

For the bread, slices of whole-grain Italian loaf, toasted or grilled, complement the mushrooms nicely.

Their deep, meaty flavor lets you offer meatless dishes that will satisfy the taste buds of carnivores as well as vegetarians. Despite their rich flavor, they are actually lean and healthy. You can serve them as an hors d'oeuvre, soup, or side dish.

2 packages (8 ounces) sliced cremini mushrooms, or 1 1/4 pound whole creminis, stemmed and sliced
1/2 cup chopped shallots
2 tablespoons butter or trans-fat free spread
2 tablespoons fat-free, reduced sodium mushroom or chicken broth
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
1/4 cup reduced-fat cream cheese, softened at room temperature
2 tablespoons finely chopped shallots
1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/2 teaspoon pepper
8 thin slices whole-grain bread, or untoasted black bread

Preheat the oven to 250° F. Set a baking rack on a cookie sheet. Arrange the shiitake mushrooms on the rack. Bake them 20 minutes or until dry but still somewhat flexible. (The thinnest slices may be crisp.)

Transfer them to a plate and set aside to cool. (This may be done up to one day ahead, stored in a bowl, uncovered, at room temperature.)

Place half the cremini mushrooms in a blender or food processor. Add the dehydrated mushrooms and the shallots. Chop the remaining mushrooms and add to the blender. Pulse until finely chopped and moist.

Melt the butter/spread in a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add the mushroom mixture. Sauté until the mushrooms release their liquid, 5 to 7 minutes. Stir in the broth and lemon juice. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the liquid has evaporated and the mushrooms form a mass, about 15 minutes.

Transfer the mixture to a mixing bowl. Mix in the cream cheese and dill with a fork until well combined. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Cool the paté before using. (The spread keeps up to 3 days, tightly covered in the refrigerator.)

To serve, bring the spread to room temperature, toast or grill the bread (leave black bread untoasted) and spread the spread on the bread.

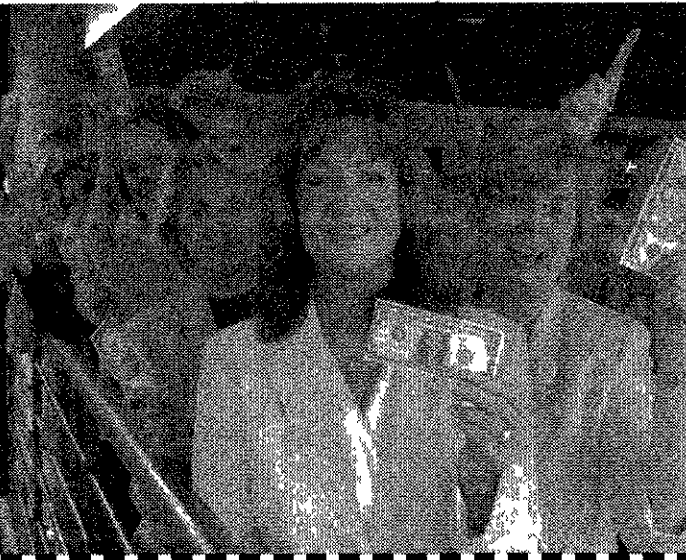
Makes 16 servings (1/2 sheet bread and 2 tablespoons paté each).

Per serving: 74 calories, 3 g. total fat (1 g. saturated fat), 9 g. carbohydrate, 4 g. protein, 2 g. dietary fiber, 106 mg. sodium.

Dana Jacobi is author of *The Joy of Soy*, and recipe creator for the American Institute for Cancer Research.

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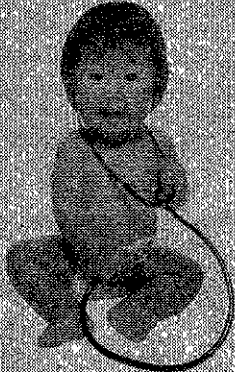
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Fax to: 248-857-7086
Phone: 248-857-7096
Email: foundation@nomc.org
www.northoaklandfoundation.org

PDFC06083030

The women and men of the Auxiliary to North Oakland Medical Centers raised more than \$120,000 for the new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at North Oakland Medical Centers! This group of volunteers has made a difference in the fight against infant mortality. Your gift to the North Oakland Foundation for our NICU fund will help keep our area's tiniest and most vulnerable citizens safe and healthy, saving precious lives.

Get Involved.
Join us to save an infant's life.



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Warm and fruity breakfast is easy fix

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Defeat the shivers and face cold mornings with breakfast bravado!

The following variation of classic oatmeal is so easy to make, the first effect will be a smug glow of satisfaction. The follow-up sensation of well-being will last on through the morning – as we all

know, that's one of the benefits of getting a nutritious start to the day.

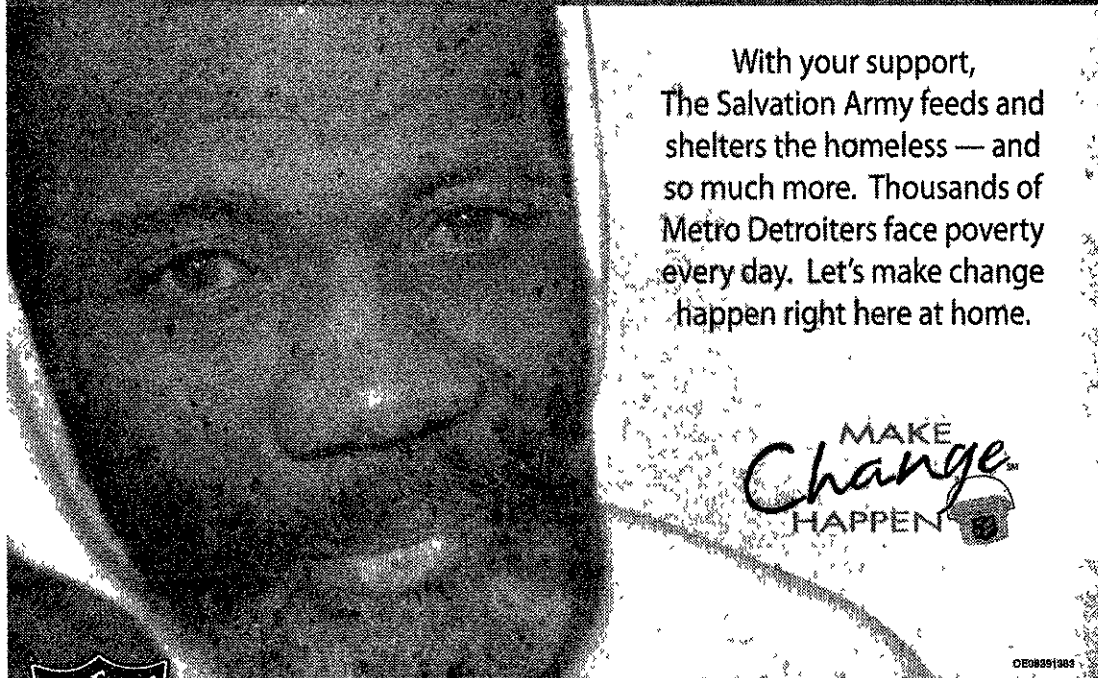
HEARTY OATMEAL WITH PEARS, RAISINS AND PECANS

1 Bosc pear, cored and chopped
1 cup old fashioned oatmeal
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
4 tablespoons brown sugar
1/2 cup raisins

2 cups water
1/4 cup toasted pecans

In a large glass bowl combine pear, oatmeal, cinnamon, brown sugar, raisins and water. Microwave on high for 7 minutes or until pears are tender. Divide between two bowls, top with pecans and serve warm. Makes 2 servings.

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Steaming gives you a break during holidays

Something steamed may be just the break you need during the holiday overeating season.

Steaming is a traditional Chinese cooking technique that uses gentle heat and no oil to cook foods. It is, therefore, a simple, convenient way to prepare low-fat, low-calorie entrées. As an added benefit during this busy season, it is a much cleaner process than stir-frying.

This cooking method also has health benefits. The Chinese diet, abundant in vegetables and just a little animal protein, mirrors the mostly plant-based diet the American Institute for Cancer Research recommends to protect against cancer and other diseases.

Steaming helps avoid overcooking and keeps vegetables crunchy and bright. And, in contrast to cooking directly in water, steaming protects water-soluble nutrients that would otherwise be leached during cooking. Steaming, therefore results in more nutrient-rich food.

A deep saucepan, Dutch oven, pressure cooker, roasting pan, or wok all can be used for steaming food. The pot should be wide enough to hold a heat-proof plate that comfortably contains the ingredients in one layer, and elevated with a space of at least one inch between the plate and the water, which allows steam to circulate evenly around the food.

The plate of food can be set on any kind of heat-proof stand or rack that will keep it stable and high enough to prevent the water from splashing onto the food. The earthy, smoky flavor of Chinese dried mushrooms and black beans provides a full-bodied complement to the delicate taste of seafood in the following steamed dish.



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

The earthy, smoky flavor of Chinese dried mushrooms and black beans provides a full-bodied complement to the delicate taste of seafood in the following steamed dish.

STEAMED FISH AND VEGETABLES

- 2 teaspoons fermented black beans*
- 1/2 teaspoon grated, peeled fresh ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon grated garlic
- 1 tablespoon sesame seed oil, divided
- 12 ounces (3/4 pounds) fillet of white fish, scallops, or shell and deveined shrimp
- 24 small dried Oriental mushrooms (about 1 1/2 cups)
- 4 large scallions, including green tops
- Salt and white pepper
- 3 cups cooked brown rice

In a small cup, mash beans with ginger, garlic and half the oil. Rub into surface of fish and set aside 10 to 20 minutes to marinate.

Soak mushrooms in warm water until softened. Drain and gently squeeze out excess water. (Soaking juice can be saved for later use in sauces or soups.) Cut away stems and discard. Cut large mushrooms so all are about the same size. Diagonally cut white part of scallions into 2-

inch lengths. Finely chop green tops to make 1/2 cup.

Place mushrooms and white scallions on plate used for steaming. Sprinkle with remaining half-tablespoon of oil. Steam until mushrooms are tender.

Add fish to plate. Sprinkle chopped scallion over all. Steam until fish is tender.

Remove from heat and serve, pouring any excess liquid over food. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve with cooked rice.

*Fermented black beans are usually sold in small glass bottles and found in the Chinese food section of markets or in specialty stores. As an alternative, 1 teaspoon grated, fresh peeled ginger can be used.

Makes 4 servings.

Per serving: 292 calories, 5 g. total fat (less than 1 g. saturated fat), 37 g. carbohydrate, 22 g. protein, 4 g. dietary fiber, 68 mg. sodium.

Recipe from the American Institute for Cancer Research.

CALENDAR

If you have an item for the Taste calendar, please submit at least two weeks prior to your event to Ken Abramczyk, Taste editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, e-mail: kabramczyk@oe.hometownlife.com or fax (734) 591-7279.

Cuisine du Jour

Michelle Bommarito, culinary instructor and pastry chef, discusses Appetizers and Desserts on Thursday, Dec. 8 at a hands-on culinary training session at Trevarrow, 1295 N. Opdyke Road, Auburn Hills. For information, call (248) 377-2300.

Schoolcraft classes

Enjoy the following culinary seminars at the VistaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty (between Six and Seven Mile roads), in Livonia this fall. For more information, call Continuing Education Services at (734) 462-4448 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu

Hands-On

Note: Hands-On classes have a prerequisite of the Cooking 101: Skill Development class or instructor's approval. Plan to wear a white chef's jacket, dark pants

and comfortable shoes for all hands-on classes. Please prepare a tool kit with the following: a set of knives, peeler, spatula, dough cutter, thermometer and measuring spoons. Visit Web site www.schoolcraft.edu for more information on these classes and others: Cookie Decorating with Royal Icing, 6-9 p.m., Dec. 6; Live Lobsterfest, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Dec. 8; Cooking Beef Tenderloin, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Dec. 15; Holiday Appetizers, 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Dec. 17.

Busch's

Busch's cooking classes focus on easy, appetizer recipes for adding elegance to holiday entertaining. Learn Busch's favorite shortcuts and garnishes. Make simple, yet elegant, crostini and canapés with tenderloin and smoked salmon. Work with pastry with crab meat-avocado stuffed gougeres and wild mushroom purses. Use frozen and shelf stable appetizer "shells" for various fillings (pear, leek and Gruyère; and chocolate cups with honey mascarpone mousse). Class begins at 6 p.m. Dec. 6 at 24445 Drake in Farmington.

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Westland, MI

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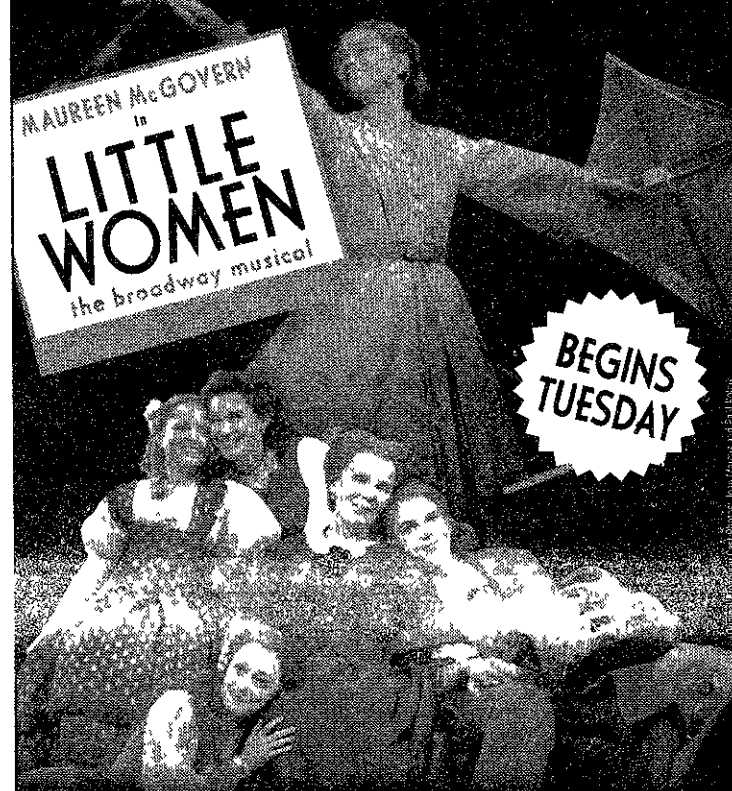
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MICHIGAN

FROM PAGE B7

(\$18) with appley chardonnay fruit, crisp, fresh and delicious; Conservancy (\$22) is off-dry and Consort (\$18) slightly sweet.

The M. Lawrence Series (\$12-\$14) is produced by cuve closed (tank) fermentation from grapes purchased out of state. You will get a sense of Larry's humor just by reading the names of these wines: Us, Sex, Fizz and Redd.

Sandpiper (\$10) has gentle fruit aromas with a hint of toastiness that finishes off-dry. It's available only at the winery or ordered directly

from the winery.

If you don't plan to visit L. Mawby in Suttons Bay or cannot find these bubbles in your favorite retail shop, you can order online and have them shipped directly to your home. Michigan wineries can ship directly to you. Log on to www.lmawby.com, have your credit card ready and be able to verify your age. Case discount is 15 percent.

Cheers!

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.

SALAD

FROM PAGE B7

gallons of olives, two cases of chickpeas, two cases of beets, four cases of tomatoes, two cases of cucumbers and 9 gallons of dressing.

"It is an honor to do this for the children," Stassinopolus said.

"It's really generous of him, that he would do it for nothing," Wendy said. "It's just incredible."

The Bice family lives in Bloomfield Hills. They became involved in the Beanie Babies drive after Abby was diagnosed with Kawasaki's Disease, a rare disease where victims experience high temperatures that don't respond to treatment, rashes and swollen glands.

The Bices were touched when they saw the economic circumstances surrounding some of the families of children hospitalized at Children's.

"Abby saw that the kids around her had few toys and flowers and their families slept in the hospital room with them because it was often better than their own homes," Wendy said.

After talking with hospital staff, Wendy learned that nursing staff used Beanie Babies to ease the hurt of the IVs on the children.

"It seems like a small thing, but those Beanie Babies really help the kids," said Abby, an eighth-grader at Birmingham Covington School and Temple Beth El student. "We hope to see lots of people come out and help us eat the salad. For each \$5 donation, we will be able to purchase two Beanie Babies for these kids."

After Abby recovered, the Bice family showed their appreciation to Children's Hospital by donating several

dozen Beanie Babies to the hospital. The following year, Abby decided to continue the tradition and began an annual crusade to raise money for new Beanies.

In 2003, Children's Hospital asked if the family would donate the Beanies to the IV team so children needing an IV might receive a stuffed animal.

In 2004, the Bices decided to make their crusade public. Last November the Bices, their friends, family and community members rolled up their sleeves and served nearly 400 Greek salads, raising more than \$4,000. Ty Incorporated, manufacturers of the Beanie Baby line of products, heard about the event and agreed to support it by matching funds raised.

Wendy Bice emphasized that Children's Hospital does not want Beanie Babies delivered to the hospital from donors who may want to help.

"(Children's Hospital) wants them clean so they order them directly from the manufacturer (Ty Inc.). We have a fund set up to help them."

Temple Beth El is located on the northwest corner of 14 Mile Road and Telegraph in Bloomfield Hills. Bowls of salad will require a contribution of \$5 and will include a drink.

Pre-paid tickets are available from any Leo's Coney Island or Temple Beth El. Tickets will also be available at the door.

kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net
(734) 953-2107

SESAME

FROM PAGE B7

Bauer, president of the North American Olive Oil Association. "Of the cooking oils available in the grocery store, olive oil is one of the richest sources of heart-healthy monounsaturated fats, and it's naturally cholesterol-free. It also has antioxidants such as vitamin E, which promote good health, making olive oil and even more healthful choice."

Sesame-almond vegetable saute is an easy side dish that can be prepared on the stove-top in less than 30 minutes. Extra virgin olive oil is used to lightly sauté a mixture of favorite autumn and winter vegetables, which are then tossed with fresh thyme and pepper. Toasted almonds and sesame seeds add hearty flavor and crunch to this colorful dish, which is sure to brighten and bring balance to any family meal or holiday table.

For more recipes or information about the North American Olive Oil Association, visit www.aboutoliveoil.org

SESAME-ALMOND VEGETABLE SAUTE

- 1/2 cup chicken broth or water
- 1/2 small (about 2 pounds) butter-nut or butternut squash, peeled, seeded and cut into 1/2 inch pieces (about 2 cups)
- 1 cup baby carrots, halved cross-wise
- 2 cups broccoli florets (about 1 1/2 inches)
- 1 1/2 cups cauliflower florets (about

- 1 1/2 inches)
- 1/2 slivered almonds
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 medium onion, cut into thin wedges
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 to 3 teaspoons fresh thyme leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 1 tablespoon toasted sesame seeds

In Dutch oven or large skillet, combine squash, carrots and chicken broth. Cook over medium-high heat until broth is steaming. Cover and cook three minutes. Add cauliflower and broccoli; cover and cook two to three minutes longer or just until squash is tender and broccoli is brightened. Drain and set aside.

In small skillet over medium-high heat, cook almonds 5 to 7 minutes or until light golden stirring frequently. Remove from heat.

In very large skillet or Dutch oven, heat olive oil over medium heat. Add onion and garlic; cook and stir two to three minutes or until onion is softened. Increase heat to medium-high. Add well-drained vegetable mixture, thyme, salt and red pepper flakes. Cook and stir until hot and tender. Stir in almonds; turn into serving dish. Sprinkle with sesame seeds.

Note: Toasted sesame seeds are available in the spice section of grocery stores. To toast your own, follow the above instructions for toasting almonds, stirring frequently and watching carefully to prevent overbrowning.

Recipe courtesy of the North American Olive Oil Association.

WINE PICKS

When it comes to domestic sparklers from California, it's hard to beat Schramsberg. The following are your choices:

■ Mirabelle Brut (\$19) sports green apple, tropical and fresh citrus crispness pairs with light appetizers and seafood.

■ 2001 Blanc de Noirs Brut (\$31) with its toasted almond and spice notes pairs perfectly with caviar and smoked fish hors d'oeuvres.

■ 2001 Blanc de Blancs (\$33) is simultaneously complex and refined. If you like oysters on the half shell, this is your bubbly to pair with them.

■ 2002 Crémant (\$35) is off-dry (demi-sec) and a dessert-style bubbly that pairs well with crème brûlée or a wide array of spicy Asian dishes.

■ 2002 Brut Rosé (\$37) is alive with strawberry and raspberry aromas and flavors. Try it with sushi, ahi tuna, aged cheeses or assorted fruits.

■ 1999 Reserve (\$70) is 73 percent pinot noir. Its full body suits it to main courses, especially crab cakes.

■ 1999 J. Schram (\$80) is 74 percent chardonnay. Its elegance is heavenly with risotto.

All wines mentioned are available in the metro-Detroit area. If a retailer does not stock a specific wine, ask that it be ordered from the distributor.

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FR/SAT LS 11:15, 11:45

IN THE MIX (PG-13)

11:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25

FR/SAT LS 11:30

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG)

11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

JUST FRIENDS (PG-13)

12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35

FR/SAT LS 11:50

CHICKEN LITTLE (G)

11:00, 11:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 3:30, 5:00, 5:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:00, 9:30

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2005 Prep Hoop Preview



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth sophomore Jake Hager (left) defends Plymouth Christian Academy's Devyn Govan during the two teams' scrimmage Tuesday afternoon in the Plymouth High School gymnasium. The 6-foot-6 Hager will give the Wildcats a strong presence in the paint this season.

Back in black

No losses to graduation could equate to few losses on court for 'Cats

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's boys basketball team returns all of its key players from last year's 11-9 unit — and a couple of talented new players as well — which should make the Wildcats a serious contender in this year's Western Lakes Activities Association title chase.

Plymouth finished fourth in the WLAA last season with a 6-5 record. The curtain came down on the Wildcats' inaugural all-varsity season when it was derailed by Canton in the first round of the Class A district tournament. "We are looking for an improved season," said coach Tom Van Wagoner. "We have a nice mix of experience, youth and athleticism. The team is setting challenging goals."

Van Wagoner said his team should be well-tested by the time the league schedule commences in January. "Our non-league schedule is a tough one," he asserted. "We open by hosting Dearborn Heights Robichaud, which is one of the favorites to win its league this year. We also visit Mega schools Lincoln Park and Trenton, play against Chelsea

PLEASE SEE WILDCATS, C3

Salem icers second in invitational

Chippewa Valley earned the first-place trophy in last weekend's Salem Thanksgiving Invitational hockey tournament at the Plymouth Cultural Center when it outlasted the host Rocks, 3-2, in a double-overtime thriller in the championship game.

The Big Reds iced the title when Kyle White lit the lamp with 2:17 left in the second OT to give them a 3-2 victory. Eric Pedersen assisted on the game-winner.

The setback dropped Salem to 2-1. Steve Heisler gave Salem a 1-0 advantage with a goal mid-way through the second period. Kris Brant and David Russell assisted.

Chippewa Valley knotted the game at 1-1 one minute into the third period when Tyler Beverini scored off a pass from Tim Sena. Three minutes later, John Pelky's goal gave the Big Reds a 2-1 edge, but Salem's Nate Werda knocked the equalizer into the back of the net with 9:37 left in regulation to make it 2-2. Werda was assisted by Evan Meibers.

Salem's Ralph Aspenwall and Chippewa Valley's Joe Boyd were both sensational in front of their teams' respective nets.

The Rocks were whistled for six penalties while the Big Reds were sent to the penalty box just twice.

In the tournament consolation contest, Grand Rapids Forest Northern defeated Canton, 2-1.

The Chiefs notched a 1-0 lead less than four minutes into the game when Pat Gallagher deposited the puck in the back of the net off a pass from Chris Wies.

Northern tied the game at 1-1 on Jeffery Johnston's goal with 12:09 to go in the second period. The game-winner came with 2:15 to play when Luke Swardenski beat Canton goalie Nick Basel with a shot. Swardenski was assisted by Max Rouse and Johnston.

The setback dropped Canton to 0-2. The Chiefs were penalized eight times; Northern was cited for nine infractions.

Sidelines

Free baseball clinic

A free strength-and-conditioning clinic for baseball players will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Velocity Sports Performance training center, located in the Arctic Edge in Canton. Baseball players will be given the opportunity to learn how to prepare correctly for their 2006 season by attending the special demonstration clinic that will be geared to increase overall athletic ability, including: acceleration, speed, balance, quickness, strength and power.

Dennie Taft, the former strength-and-conditioning coach for the Detroit Tigers, will instruct drills and exercises used at Velocity Sports to train professional baseball players. Attendees will also get a chance to meet Detroit Tigers pitcher Nate Robertson and receive an autographed picture of Robertson as part of the clinic.

For more information, contact Velocity Sports Performance at (734) 485-2561.

Free throw aces

Canton Leisure Services and the Plymouth Elks held their annual free throw competition on Saturday, Nov. 19, at the Summit on the Park in Canton. Following are the winners for each age group:

■ **ages 8-9:** 1st place girls - Madison Neff; 1st place boys - Taylor Burke; 2nd place girls - Paige Slominski; 2nd place boys - David Torrey; 3rd place girls - Katie Stevens; 3rd place boys - Graham Eanes.

■ **10-11:** 1st place girls - Sarah Yursis; 1st place boys - Nicholas Flowers; 2nd place boys - Devlin Slominski; 3rd place boys - Zach Hardy.

■ **12-13:** 1st place girls - Bridget Cole; 1st place boys - Josh Osinski; 2nd place boys - John Polonchak; 3rd place boys - Evans Peters.

Youth lacrosse

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department is offering a youth lacrosse program for boys and girls in grades third through eighth beginning in the spring 2006. The program will be instructional at the beginning and will add competitive scrimmages and games as the players' skills develop.

The season will run from mid-April through mid-June with all practices and games played on mid-week nights only. Registration will be held the entire month of January. Visit the City of Plymouth's Web site at: www.ci.plymouth.mi.us or call (734) 455-6620, Ext. 304.

Plymouth boosters

The final meeting of the year for the 2005 Plymouth Wildcat Football Boosters will be held Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. in room 401 of Plymouth High School. Nominations for next year's board of directors will be voted upon.

Knee device reduces gridiron injuries

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

The lateral knee stabilizer devices worn by several Salem football players this fall weighed only a pound, but they were worth their weight in gold when it came to preventing knee injuries.

The Rocks did not suffer one medial collateral ligament knee injury this season thanks largely to the device, said Salem athletic trainer Tony Bower. The Rocks had access to 18 of the \$50 braces, which were purchased through funding by the Salem football team booster club and the athletic department. The sta-

bilizers are made out of a combination of steel, neoprene and velcro.

"We had excellent results with the lateral knee stabilizers," Bower said. "Some of our players liked them, some didn't. Our offensive and defensive linemen were the ones that wore them because they're the ones who were more likely to get other players pushed into their legs or opposing players trying to take the legs out."

"Running backs are not good candidates for the stabilizers because they're a little bulky and running backs are usually sensitive to anything that may slow them down even a little."

The device helps the MCL from getting over stressed when a player is hit low from the side, Bower said.

"Normally, when a player's leg is hit with great force from the side, the force can open up the knee and the MCL is injured," Bower said, adding that the MCL injury is one of the most common knee injuries in football.

While Bower said the device was "100 percent effective" for Salem players this past season, there are no guarantees.

"It cannot totally prevent all MCL injuries," he said. "But it can at least reduce the severity of the injuries."

Bower said MCL injuries are graded one through three, with three being the most severe.

"If an athlete suffers a grade-one injury, it usually takes two weeks to get back," Bower said. "A grade three usually means they're done for the season."

The braces are one-size-fits-all and they are adjustable to fit either knee. Bower, a former athletic trainer at both the University of Toledo and Ferris State University, said many professional and collegiate players utilize the device.

For more information on the lateral knee stabilizer device, visit www.McDavid.com or www.medcosupply.com.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem athletic trainer Tony Bower displays the lateral knee stabilizer device that was used by several of the school's football players this past season. The device helps prevent serious medial collateral ligament knee injuries.

Football final lived up to all the hype

From my press-box seat just a few feet below the rafters at Ford Field Saturday afternoon, the players in the Division 1 football final between Canton and Rockford looked to be about the size of electric football players.

But that was appropriate considering everything about the game was electric.

The game offered just about everything you would expect when you put two of the state's best teams together on the same field:

■ **Crunching hits** (Rockford's leading tackler called it the most physical game he's ever played in);

■ **Dazzling moves** (there isn't a word in the dictionary that could effectively describe the fake Canton's Deshon McClendon put on a Rockford defensive back during his long

PLEASE SEE HYPE, C8



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Andrea Fleming proved to be a fast learner on the diving board for the Plymouth girls swimming and diving team the past four years.

Plymouth diver adapted quickly to new sport

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

To help prepare for dives this season, Andrea Fleming would visualize the twisting and turning maneuvers she was about to perform before her body sliced smoothly into the water.

Based on Fleming's outstanding senior season, her actual dives went as smoothly as her visualizations.

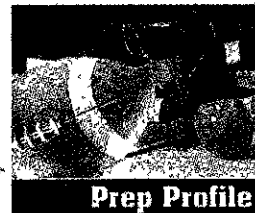
The Plymouth High School senior enjoyed a banner season for the Wildcats, qualifying for the Division 1 regional meet and placing seventh in the Western Lakes Activities Association's confer-

ence meet with a score of 256.35.

The former gymnast's accomplishments are extra impressive considering she didn't perform her first competitive dive until her freshman year at Plymouth.

"Andrea improved every year of her high school career," said Plymouth coach Doug Schade.

"She really came into a tough situation because she hasn't had a steady diving coach here all the time. She would travel out to Eastern Michigan University for practices during her junior year, which was difficult for her because she was away from the



Prep Profile

PLEASE SEE FLEMING, C6

This deer-hunting season is far from over



Outdoor Insights

Bill Parker

Firearms deer season is winding down. Wildly fluctuating weather — warm and sunny one day, wind-swept and snowy the next — and a smaller deer herd than in past years will likely result in

a lower overall deer kill during the 16-day season, which ends Nov. 30. Preliminary numbers have not been released by the state Department of Natural Resources, but indications from reports coming in from hunters around the state point to a lower than normal firearms season harvest. But that's not to say the deer hunting season is almost over. Far from it. Hunters who haven't filled their tags yet still have plenty of opportunities

ahead.

For starters, the December archery deer season opens statewide on Dec. 1 and runs through Jan. 1. Bowhunters can use their archery license, or their regular (not the restricted) combo license, to tag either a buck or a doe. Antlerless licenses are also available in many areas of the state.

On Dec. 2, muzzleloader season opens in the Upper Peninsula and the southern Lower. The muzzle season opens Dec. 9 in the northern Lower Peninsula.

The muzzleloader season is usually a nine-day hunt, but this year the DNR has expanded the season in southern Michigan to 17 days, running Dec. 2-18. The U.P. season is Dec. 2-11 while the season in the NLP runs Dec. 9-18.

The reason behind the change in southern Michigan is to get hunters here to har-

vest more antlerless deer

Over the past several years, the state has been openly trying to reduce Michigan's deer herd, which is estimated by DNR biologists to stand around 1.6 million to 1.7 million animals. Their goal is to reduce the herd to approximately 1.3 million to 1.4 million animals, which they feel is more in tune with the habitat available in Michigan. To reach that goal, biologists are encouraging hunters to kill more does — producers.

Harvesting males of a species is not a good approach to population control. The way to manage a population is to reduce its reproductive ability and to do that the producers must be reduced.

Deer numbers have successfully been reduced in the Upper Peninsula and the northern Lower, where some hunters feel they have been reduced too far. Now, biolo-

gists have their sights set on the southern third of the state, where half of the state's deer population resides.

DESIGN A WILD TURKEY PATCH

The Michigan DNR is encouraging students to submit a design for the third annual wild turkey patch contest, which is being sponsored by the Michigan chapter of the National Wildlife Turkey Federation, Project WILD and the Michigan DNR. All entries must be postmarked by Dec. 5, 2005.

Students from kindergarten through grade 12 can participate in the contest. The winning design will be incorporated into the 2007 Michigan wild turkey management cooperator patch. The winner will receive an award of \$100.

"This is a great opportunity for youth to use their design skills and creativity, and help wild turkeys by improving their habitat in Michigan," Dale Elshoff, Project WILD coordinator at Michigan State University, said in a press

release. "Wild turkeys disappeared from our state in the early 1900s, but now, thanks to proper management, Michigan's turkey population has returned to healthy levels."

Michigan's wild turkey patch program is coordinated by the Michigan chapter of the NWTF, in partnership with the DNR. Young hunters, ages 12-17, who have a valid wild turkey hunting license may receive a free patch. Adult hunters, collectors and other interested individuals may purchase the patch for \$5, including postage and handling.

For more information and complete contest rules, visit www.carrs.msu.edu/projectwild/ or contact Dale Elshoff at elshoff@msu.edu or (517) 355-1712.

(Bill Parker covers the outdoors for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Hunters and anglers are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to: Bill Parker, c/o Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009.)

DECEMBER 2ND & 3RD

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
REQUEST FROM SOIL AND
MATERIALS ENGINEERS, INC., FOR AN
INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES
EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2005

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2005, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider a request from Soil and Materials Engineers, Inc., for a twelve year Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate covering an addition to their existing corporate headquarters located at 43980 Plymouth Oaks Blvd., Lot 7 and part of Lot 6, Plymouth Oaks Business Park, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

The request is on file in the Clerk's Office where it is available for public perusal during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Any Township resident or member of any taxing authority within the Township of Plymouth shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments directed to the Clerk and received prior to the date of the meeting will be considered. Following the public hearing the Board of Trustees may consider the request.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Meeting Room at Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, December 13, 2005, during the regularly scheduled Board of Trustee Meeting. Telephone number 734-354-3224.

Marilyn Massengill, Clerk
Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish December 1, 2005

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
REQUEST TO TRANSFER
INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION
CERTIFICATE NO. 03-312 FROM
VISTEON CORPORATION TO
AUTOMOTIVE COMPONENTS HOLDINGS, LLC
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2005


PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2005, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider a request to transfer Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate No. 03-312 from Visteon Corporation to Automotive Components Holdings, LLC for a facility located at 14425 Sheldon Road, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

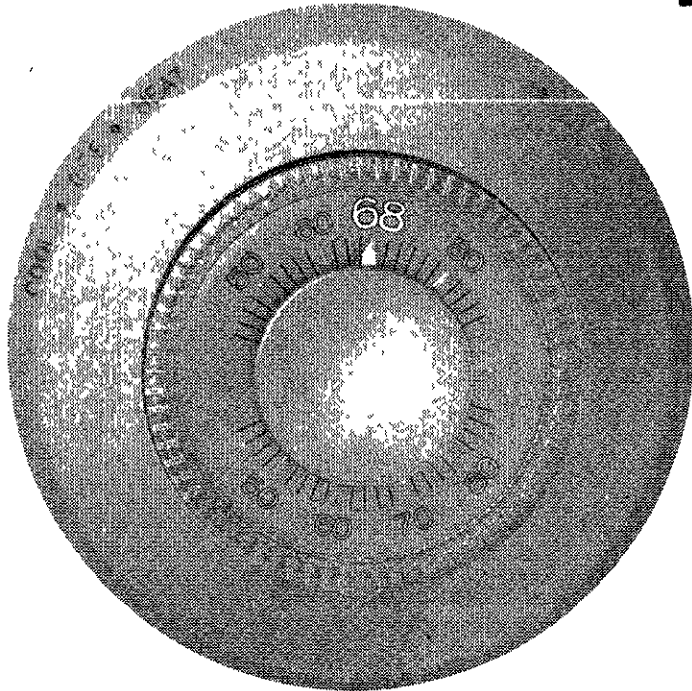
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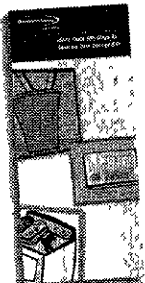
Marilyn Massengill, Clerk
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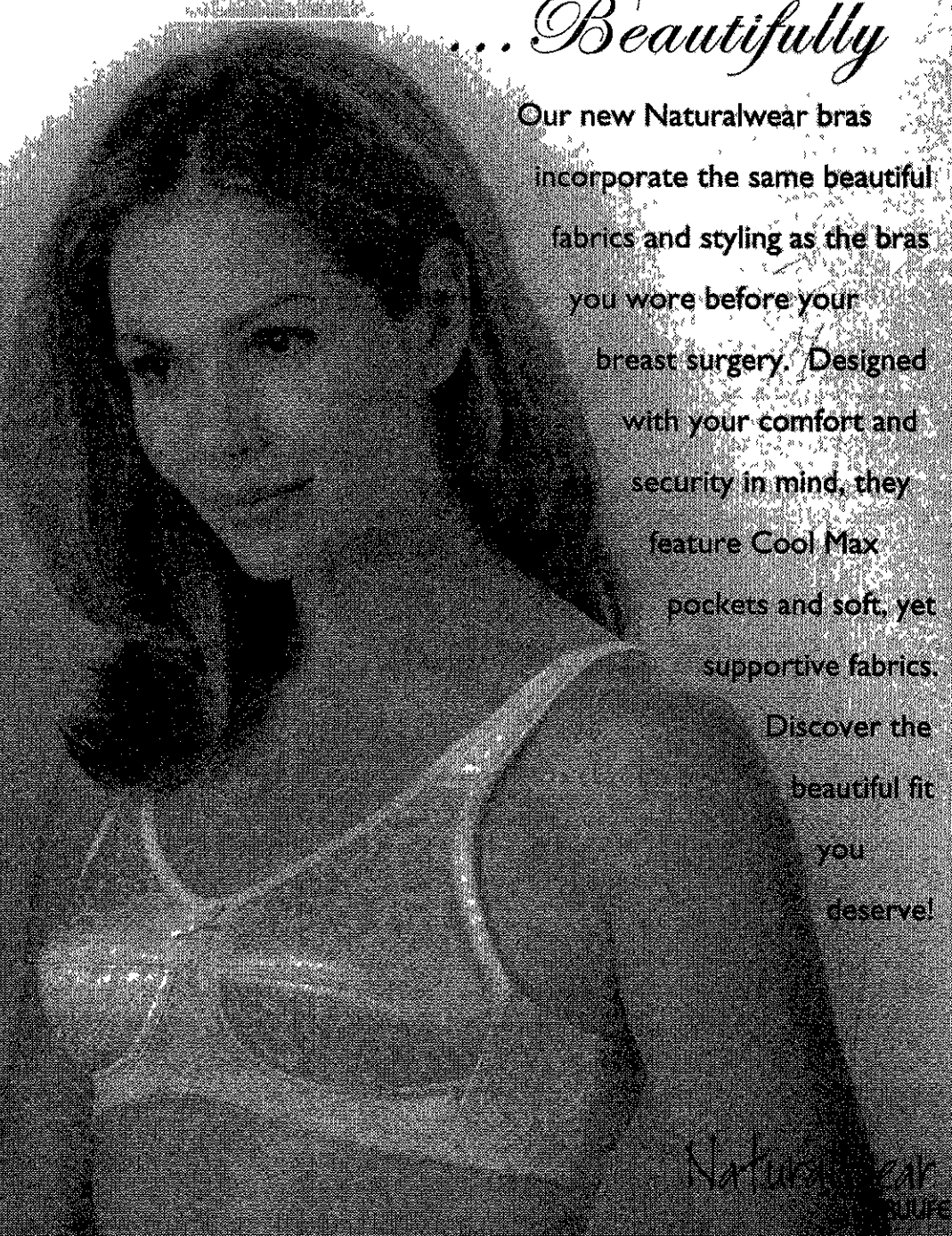



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WILDCATS

FROM PAGE C1

in a holiday invitational and host Adrian, which has a strong program."

Leading the charge for Plymouth this season will be seniors Brent Jones (5-foot-10), Josh Le Duc (6-4), D.J. Coleman (6-1), Jim Wilbur (6-1) and Alex Harvey (6-0). Jones is a smooth-dribbling point guard who led the team in assists last season; Le Duc is a force in the paint and on the perimeter, having averaged 10 points, 10 rebounds and three blocks per game during the 2004-05 season; Coleman paced the Wildcats in scoring (15.0) and steals (3.0); Wilbur was a solid contributor at both ends of the court (8.0 points, 4.0 rebounds) while Harvey supplies a top-notch skills along with a high energy level.

Plymouth has a stellar junior class as well. It is led by 6-3 forward Kulraj Sandhu, who averaged seven points and three rebounds a contest as a sophomore.

"Kulraj is a junior with senior experience," Van Wagoner said.

Other key juniors include Austin Barnett, a 6-0 forward who can rebound, defend and run the court; LaBroderick Caldwell, who is "very explosive," according to Van Wagoner; and Nick Boyd, a strong, athletic low-post player, who "brings size and strength to the mix."

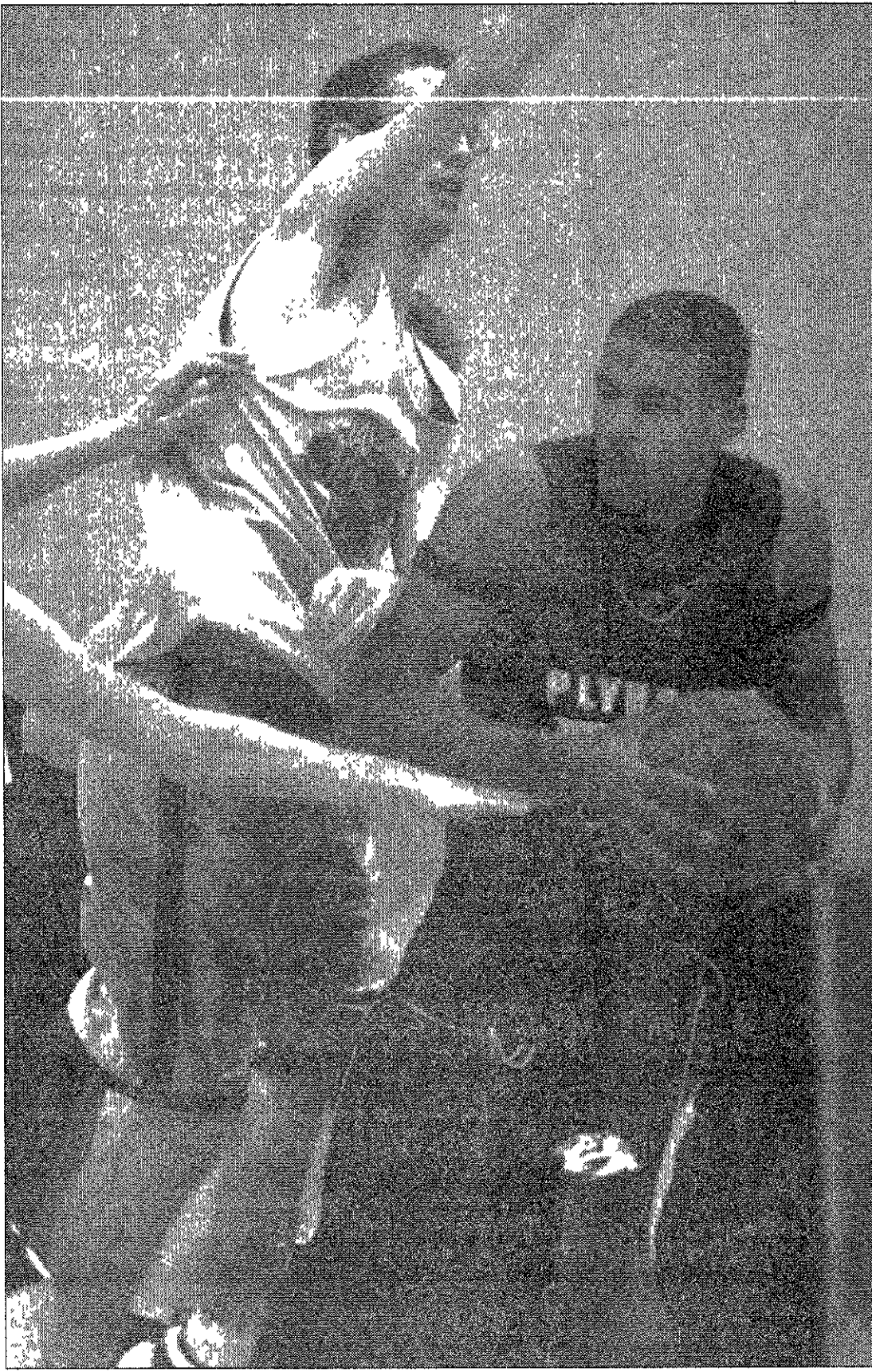
A pair of sophomores will also be seeing considerable playing time, Van Wagoner said.

Brandon Roberts, a 5-10 guard, gained valuable experience while starting in the Wildcats' district game last season, while 6-6 Jake Hager gives the Wildcats a strong low-post player who will either provide strong play off the bench or from the starting line-up.

Van Wagoner said whoever comes out on top of the WLAA's competitive Western Division will deserve the title.

"Our division is wide open with quality teams across the board," he said. "Every team

has its own strengths. Lake Western, has Denard



Plymouth Christian Academy's Scott Brandt (left) makes Plymouth's Josh Le Duc work hard for a shot during Tuesday's scrimmage at Plymouth High School.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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ing Wayne Memorial the

just about everyone, including

Andre Bridges and will be to sh

our cross-campus rival,

Canton has Andre Bridges and

Whalers lose shootout

It's fair to say the Plymouth Whalers gave the top-rated Peterborough Petes all they could handle in a 6-5 shootout loss in an Ontario Hockey League game played Saturday night before 2,647 at the Compuware Sports Arena.

In winning the shootout, Peterborough — the OHL's top team with a record of 20-2-1-0 — has now won 15 games in a row. In losing the shootout, Plymouth (13-8-1-3) remains in first place in the OHL's West Division and picked up a point on Saginaw, which lost 8-2 to Owen Sound on Saturday.

Despite the 10 goals through 65 minutes of play, there was never more than a one-goal differential. Peterborough's Dan Ryder and Steve Downie scored in the shootout to decide the game. Earlier, Patrick Kaleta scored a pair of goals to pace the Peterborough attack, while Aaron Dawson, Jordan Morrison and Fredrik Naslund scored singles.

Plymouth received single goals from John Vigilante, Vaclav Meidl, Jared Boll, James Neal and Andrew Fournier. Evan Brophy contributed three assists and Ryan McGinnis two for Plymouth. There were two penalty shots awarded, which was a first since Compuware Arena opened in 1996.

The teams traded seven goals in a wild first period, which ended with Plymouth ahead, 4-

3. Vigilante, Meidl, Boll and Neal scored for the Whalers.

Naslund tied the game at 4-4 on a penalty shot at 5:51 of the second period, but Fournier gave the Whalers a 5-4 advantage when he scored on a short-handed breakaway with 22 seconds left in the second period.

Kaleta tied the game at 5-5 with 5:17 left in regulation when he scored in the middle of a scramble in front of the Plymouth goal. Whalers' goalie, Ryan Nie got a piece of the shot, but it trickled over the line to tie the game. That set the stage for the shootout. Plymouth outshot Peterborough, 44-39.

Peterborough's 15-game winning streak is approaching league records. The 1983-84 Kitchener Rangers won 25 straight games from Jan. 11, 1984 through March 16, 1984; the 2004-05 London Knights won 18 straight games from Oct. 23, 2004, through Dec. 8, 2004; the Plymouth Whalers won 17 straight from Feb. 4, 2000 through March 12, 2000; and the 1987-88 Windsor Spitfires won 16 consecutive games from Jan. 18, 1988, through March 3, 1988. Plymouth is idle until Friday when it hosts Mississauga at 7:30 p.m. at the Compuware Sports Arena. The Whalers host Kitchener Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available for all Whaler games by calling (734) 453-8400.

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VALA VANDERS' OOH City Clerk

Published December 1, 2005

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No more scapegoats: Now that 'Mo

How did this happen? My mind can't help but to go back to late July in Allen Park. For whatever reason, I always enjoy going out to Lions training camp. I guess it's because my favorite season — fall — is right around the corner. Fall has leaves falling, cider mills, the return of football, start of hockey and hoops, and hope. Yes, hope that *this* year just might be the year the Lions get it right. One playoff win since 1957, no sniff of the playoffs since 1999, this is the year it will be different.

Allen Park was different this July, as well. You had the sense that it was not talk this time. You had the thought that since this division was so mediocre, the Lions could do just enough to at least slip back into the playoffs and raise the North Division banner. Who knows? Anything can happen in



Sean Baligian

the playoffs, right? When you talked to the players after practice, there was no talk of getting better, it was playoff talk. To a man, the motto seemed to be "playoffs or bust." The Lions were in Year 3 of the "Mooch" regime and looked loaded. Joey Harrington finally had some weapons, Kevin Jones was going to see the ball a ton, Rogers and the Williamses were going to light the league up.

Who could stop this offense? The Lions, of course. What happened? How did this go so wrong, so fast? I know many would like to believe it was

Mooch's fault, and are glad he is gone today. Does that mean we will see vast improvement in the last five games under Dick Jauron? Does it mean the excuses will go away since the scapegoat has as well? First off, Steve Mariucci deserved to lose his job. He is a good coach and good man, but it was not working here. Perhaps he was too stubborn, perhaps his system is archaic and obsolete — whatever the reason, it was not working.

Joey Harrington has not progressed; the argument could be made that he has regressed. Is it Joey, or is it the system? I think in this regard, it's 50-50. This system is one in which a quarterback is supposed to excel with high-percentage passes, and Joey is having a problem doing even that. It always makes me laugh when I hear people say that he is in the wrong system, he is

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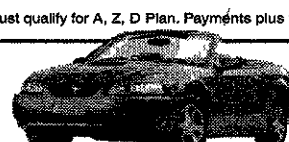
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Tampa Bay at St. Louis	
Washington at Kansas City	
Denver at New England	
NY Jets at San Diego	
Oakland at Philadelphia	

Monday, December 5, 2005

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Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

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Detroit Carolina Buffalo Cincinnati NY Giants Chicago Jacksonville Tampa Bay St. Louis Denver New England San Diego	Detroit Atlanta Buffalo Cincinnati Dallas Chicago Cleveland Tampa Bay Washington Denver New England San Diego	Minnesota Atlanta Miami Cincinnati NY Giants Chicago Cleveland Tampa Bay Washington Denver New England San Diego	Minnesota Atlanta Miami Pittsburgh Dallas Green Bay Chicago Cleveland Tampa Bay St. Louis Kansas City New England Oakland	Minnesota Carolina Miami Pittsburgh NY Giants Chicago Cleveland New Orleans St. Louis Denver New England San Diego	Detroit Carolina Buffalo Pittsburgh NY Giants Chicago Cleveland Tampa Bay St. Louis Denver New England San Diego	Detroit Carolina Buffalo Pittsburgh NY Giants Chicago Jacksonville Tampa Bay Washington Kansas City New England San Diego	Minnesota Carolina Miami Pittsburgh Dallas Cincinnati Chicago Jacksonville Tampa Bay St. Louis Denver New England San Diego	Minnesota Carolina Miami Cincinnati Dallas Chicago Jacksonville Tampa Bay Washington Denver New England San Diego	Minnesota Atlanta Miami Cincinnati NY Giants Chicago Jacksonville Tampa Bay St. Louis Denver New England San Diego

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better going downfield. How do you expect his accuracy or completion percentage to improve if he is throwing lower-percentage passes further downfield?

To Joey's credit, the line never gelled. I heard countless times that this line would be a "work in progress" while out in Allen Park. I guess the work has not really started then, based on its play thus far through 11 games.

The receivers — where to begin? Mike Williams was not ready for this level, which I suppose we should have seen coming since he sat out of football a year. Charles Rogers was finally healthy, but decided it was more important to become his own worst enemy and get suspended. Roy Williams continues to show flashes of greatness, but they are few and far between ... when he is healthy. Marcus Pollard never

provided the impact we thought he would and Ted Tollner could not sack anything as the offensive coordinator. Actually, I think he accomplished part of it — the offense was certainly offensive.

So now we turn our eyes to the interim man, Dick Jauron. The guy who was much maligned for being too conservative with his defensive schemes. Funny how life works out, eh? The guy who probably received more heat than any of the coaches on staff up until this year is now the head coach. Remarkable. Let's be honest folks, if it was not for his defense, it could be very ugly right now. We were supposed to be worried about the defense, but it can be said that maybe it's been the Lions' best unit thus far, with the offense and special teams lacking.

Last, but not least — unless you are

counting his winning percentage since taking over for the Lions in 2001, which is dead last — Matt Millen. The excuses are done, Matt. No more. It's your show now. You have fired three coaches. You have had countless drafts. If things do not progress from here, the buck truly does stop with you.

No more scapegoats, this is *your* team in every sense of the imagination. Do something with it, please. No more talk, we want action. No more building, we want a foundation. Everybody else has been held accountable for your 20-55 record as the Man, when will you?

Are you man enough to step aside yourself if it doesn't work soon?

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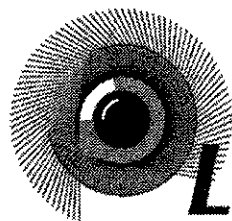
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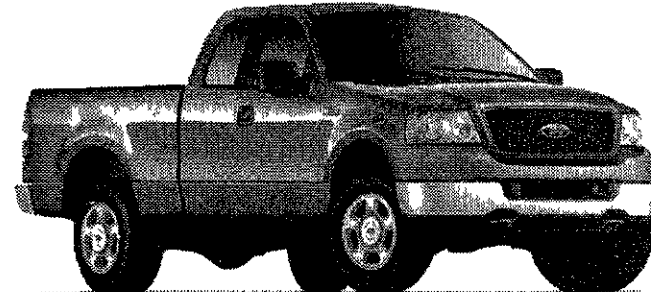
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Plymouth, MI
2nd Place • Week 11
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Random Winner • Week 11
Jason Glogowski
1st Place • Week 12
Bart Johnson
Livonia, MI
2nd Place • Week 12
Susan Fultz
Livonia, MI
Random Winner • Week 12
David Zalewski

YOUR NAME

Could Be Listed Here!

of the Week!

Photo	Name	Team	Radio	Phone	Address
	Tim Flanagan	North Bros. Ford	9-3 84-80	5-7 78-88	5-7 85-99
	Ramona Mugerichian	Papa Joe's	9-3 84-80	5-7 78-88	5-7 85-99
	Gripen	Saab of Troy	9-3 84-80	5-7 78-88	5-7 85-99
	Keith Lang	Tennison Chevrolet	9-3 84-80	5-7 78-88	5-7 85-99
	Stoney	WDFN Radio	10-2 98-46	8-4 88-58	8-4 85-49
	Greg	WDFN Radio	8-4 88-58	8-4 85-49	8-4 85-49
	Jamie	WDFN Radio	8-4 88-58	8-4 85-49	8-4 85-49
	Sean	WDFN Radio	10-2 98-46	8-4 88-58	8-4 85-49
	Minnesota Atlanta	Atlanta	9-3 84-80	5-7 78-88	5-7 85-99
	Miami Cincinnati	Cincinnati	9-3 84-80	5-7 78-88	5-7 85-99
	NY Giants Dallas	Dallas	9-3 84-80	5-7 78-88	5-7 85-99
	Chicago Jacksonville	Jacksonville	9-3 84-80	5-7 78-88	5-7 85-99
	Tampa Bay Washington	Washington	9-3 84-80	5-7 78-88	5-7 85-99
	Denver New England	New England	9-3 84-80	5-7 78-88	5-7 85-99
	San Diego	San Diego	9-3 84-80	5-7 78-88	5-7 85-99

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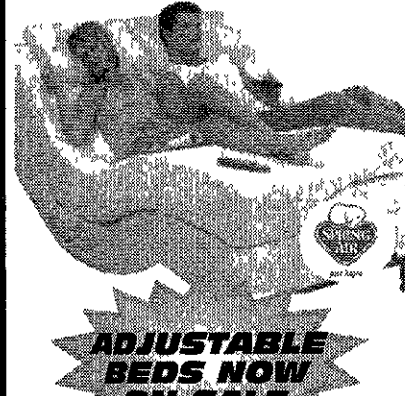
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Showroom • 45287 Market St.
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MU spikers put unbeaten record on the line

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Win or lose, the wonderful ride is about to end for the Madonna University women's volleyball team.

But Crusaders head coach Jerry Abraham is focusing more on getting his team ready to battle for the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics championship than on maintaining a perfect record.

Of course, a national title will secure an unblemished season for 44-0 MU, ranked No. 3 nationally entering Wednesday's play in the nationals at Point Loma Nazarene University in

San Diego, Calif.

"At this point we don't need too much more motivation," said Abraham last week. "We still have goals to achieve and will work very hard to reach those goals."

"We are fortunate to be one of the participating teams in the NAIA National Championships and we'll prepare to compete for our biggest goal, a national championship."

The Crusaders opened up play at the nationals on Wednesday, taking on Indiana University-Southeast in a Pool C match that took place after this issue of the Observer went to press.

By Friday, MU will also face

pool opponents National American (No. 6, 33-1), Azusa Pacific (No. 7, 24-9) and Savannah Art and Design (No. 15, 24-9).

If the Crusaders are one of their pool's two top teams, they will advance to the quarterfinals on Friday.

SPECIAL CORE

According to Abraham, the outstanding run — which included championships in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference regular season and postseason tournament — is due to a myriad of factors.

The top reason is "the core" of the squad, very talented seniors Natalja Tinina (Redford resident), Laura Lesko, Ashley Frost and Stefanie Denardin.

"These four seniors are the core of our team," Abraham emphasized. "Best of all, they are surrounded by a very talented group of players."

Those include Livonia Churchill alums Jacqui Gatt, a sophomore, and Kelsey Mack, a

freshman.

Others include Heather Spooner, Caryn Inman, Becci Crane, Amy Szymanski (Redford/Livonia Ladywood) and freshman Lubovj Tihomirova, like Tinina an import from Latvia.

Abraham said the team's deep roster gives him the luxury of having different players "stepping up and contributing each night. We have excellent balance across the net and play a fast tempo."

Another primary reason for the Crusaders' excellent season is the fact the team is comprised of athletes "with a genuine desire to be the best they can be."

"We've had many remarkable seasons at Madonna with each one being special in its own way," Abraham continued. "But going through an entire (regular) season undefeated is really something... They work extremely hard, love playing with each other and are really focused."

FLEMING

FROM PAGE C1

rest of the team.

"But she was dedicated to getting better and she improved dramatically, especially this year. Andrea is our school record holder and she's set a standard for future divers here to try to meet or surpass."

NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

Fleming had zero competitive diving experience when she walked into her first Plymouth swimming and diving team practice in August of 2002. But she was equipped with two vital elements — athleticism and determination — that helped overcome the inexperience.

"During my freshman year, I pretty much had to learn the basics and the mechanics of diving," Fleming remembered. "The hardest part for me wasn't the physical part of diving — it was the mental part. I'd visualize myself performing the dive, then I'd go do it. When I first started, I thought, 'This isn't so hard.' But now in hindsight, I know now that's not the case. My background in gymnastics helped me a lot at the beginning."

During her junior season, while her teammates practiced in the Salem High School pool, Fleming commuted to Eastern Michigan University, where she was instructed by highly-respected diving coach Buck Smith.

"We didn't have a diving coach at Plymouth, so they

hired a coach at Eastern to work with us," Fleming said. "We'd go out there four nights a week to practice. The coaching was phenomenal and the equipment we got to use was amazing. The bad part was I was separated from the rest of the team and I'd only get to see them at meets."

Matt Breen was hired to work with the Plymouth divers prior to this season.

"Andrea worked hard this year," Breen said. "She also did a good job working with the younger divers. She definitely left her mark on the program and did a nice job of passing the torch to the younger divers."

A B-plus student, Fleming's favorite class at Plymouth is "Early Childhood Education."

"We get to work at the 'Kiddie Campus,' which is like a preschool located at the high school," Fleming said. "It's a great class for me because I want to go into education at the elementary level, so it's good experience. We work with the preschoolers, draw up lesson plans, a little bit of everything."

For the past six years, she's played the fife for the renowned Plymouth Fife & Drum Corps, which has led to several educational summer trips.

"Our big thing every year is to travel to the eastern United States and perform at the historical sites," she said. "We've played at Independence Hall in Philadelphia and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I've really enjoyed it."

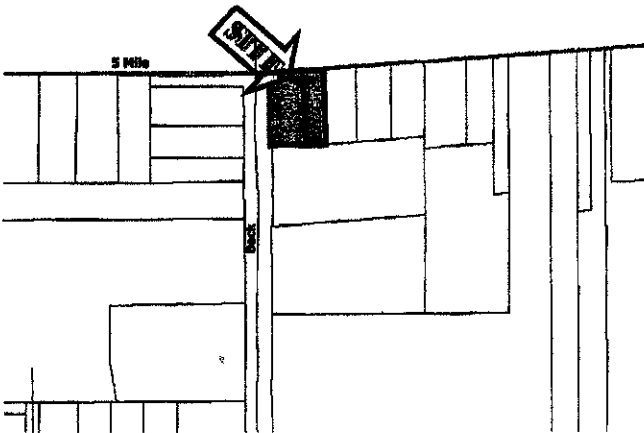
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED ACTION: Request Approval of a Special Land Use
DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, December 14, 2005
TIME OF HEARING: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE OF HEARING: Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received an application requesting **Special Land Use Approval** for expansion of a gas station, relocation of the convenience store and car wash, and construction of a new oil change facility in a General Commercial District (C-2), on Tax ID R-78-010-99-0016-000 and R-78-010-99-0017-701, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Section 13.2.11 and 13.2.12.

Application 1901. **Applicant, Ecorse Landing, L.L.C.**



LEGAL DESCRIPTION: For parcel descriptions, see tax records based on Tax ID Nos. R-78-010-99-0016-000 and R-78-010-99-0017-701

The application may be examined at the Plymouth Township Division of Public Services Building, Community Development Department, during regular business hours from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting and may be mailed to 46565 Port Street, Plymouth, MI 48170 or call 734-453-8131, ext. 37. The meeting will be held in the Meeting Room at Township Hall which is located at 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Township, MI 48170.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township meetings to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's Office, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone 734-453-3840. TDD users: 800-849-3777 (Michigan Relay Service).

**KENDRA BARBERENA, SECRETARY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Publish: December 1, 2005

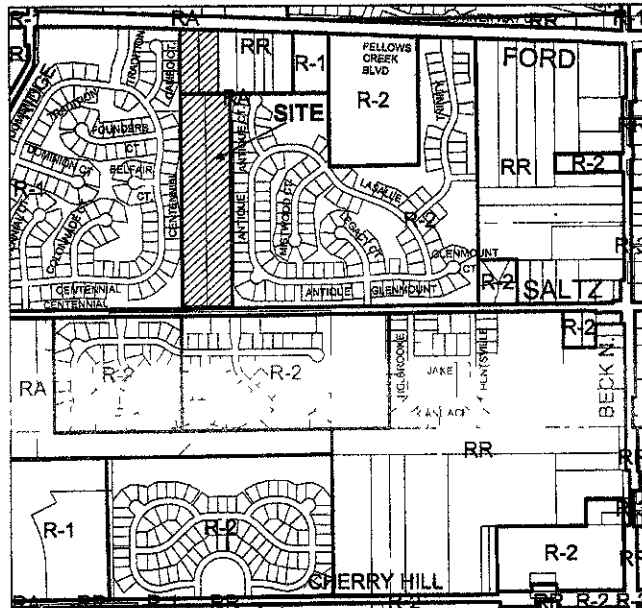
OE08994237

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, December 5, 2005 in the **First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.** on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

BORDINE REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NOS. 066 99 00007 000, 066 99 00008 000, 066 99 00111 000 AND 066 99 0012 000 FROM RA, RURAL AGRICULTURAL AND RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL TO R-2, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located south of Ford and west of Ridge Road.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, December 1, 2005 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Vic Gustafson, Chairman

Publish: November 13 and December 1, 2005

OE08994237

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA DECEMBER 8, 2005

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2005 AT 7:30 P.M. The meeting will be held in the Board Room at the Township Administration Building located at 1150 S. CANTON CENTER ROAD, 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

1. Tim Hader of Schonscheck, Inc., 51331 W Pontiac Trail, Wixom, MI 48393 representing US Tires, Dept. 1400 E Michigan Avenue, Saline, MI 48176, for commercial property located at 41984 Ford Road, north side of Ford Road between Haggerty and Lilley Roads, appealing Sign Ordinance, Chapter 102, Article II, Section 102-35, (1), a, wall sign variance.
Zone C-3.
Parcel 044-99-0009-701 (Building)

Election of officers for 2006

Approval of the October 13, 2005 Minutes

Approval of the November 3, 2005 Minutes

Approval of the November 10, 2005 Minutes

Publish December 1, 2005

OE08994237



REGISTRATION

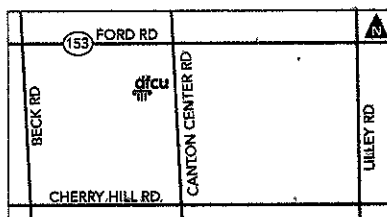
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*Limited time. Drawings to be held on November 5, November 25 and December 9, 2005. Entries only available at the Canton branch. No purchase required. Entries accepted up to the end of the business day. One entry per individual. Each entry good for all three drawings. **Minimum deposit required to receive quoted APY is \$25,000. Penalties apply for early withdrawal. All rates subject to change without notice.

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FRI/SAT LS 11:15, 11:45	
IN THE MIX (PG-13)	11:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25
FRI/SAT LS 11:30	
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG)	11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13)	12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35
FRI/SAT LS 11:50	
CHICKEN LITTLE (G)	11:00, 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00, 9:30
FRI/SAT LS 11:00	

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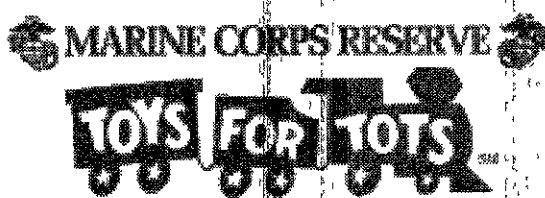
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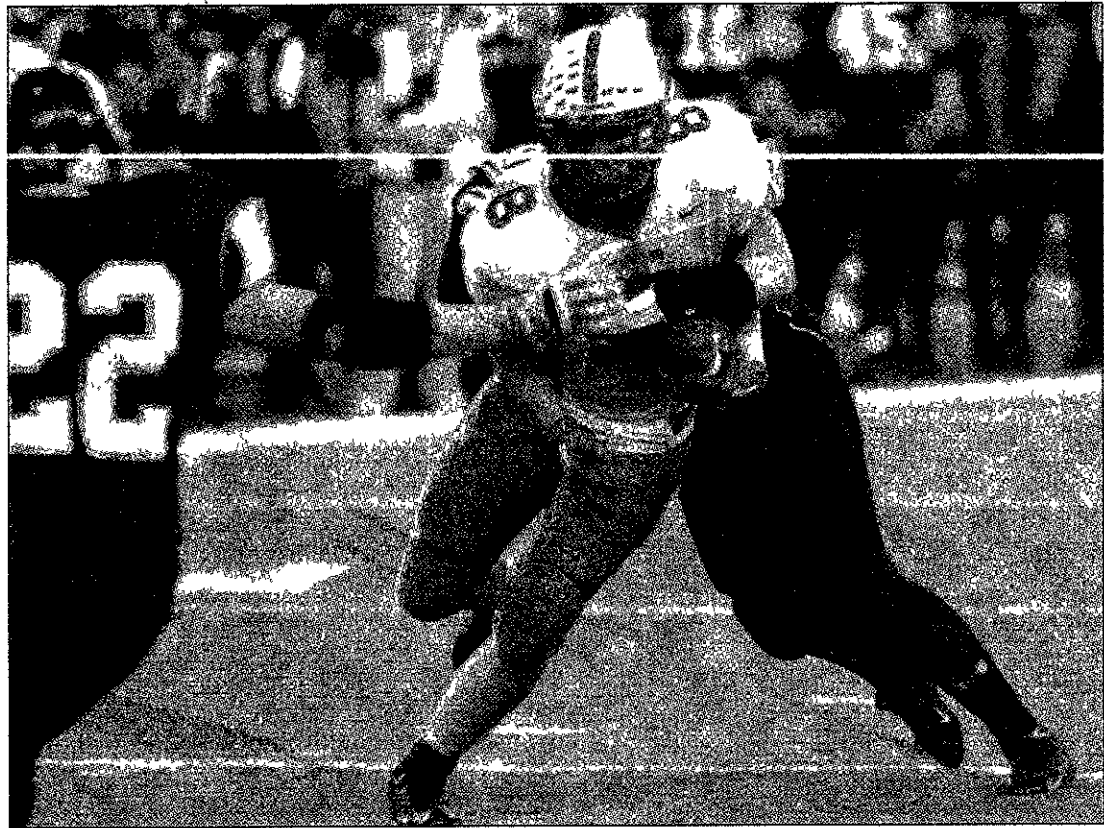


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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brandon Fender (8) is one of several Canton starters who will be returning for the 2006 football season. Fender caught a pair of passes in the Chiefs' 31-21 loss to Rockford in Saturday's Division 1 final game at Ford Field.



Canton running back Deshon McClendon will have an opportunity to pad his team records next year when he returns for his senior season. McClendon eclipsed the 2000-yard mark in total yards this season.

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SPORTS
section

Image of a cheerleader

HYPE
FROM PAGE C1

reception late in the first quarter);

- Nearly flawless execution (there was not one turnover committed by either team despite the intense pressure of playing at Ford Field); and
- Drama (only three points separated the two teams with just over three minutes remaining).

When Canton grabbed a brief 14-7 second-quarter lead, it appeared as if the Division 1 championship trophy would be heading straight to the Phase III trophy case. At the time, the Chiefs were mounting long, sustained drives and they seemed to be wearing down the Rams' talented defense.

More importantly, the Canton defense was coming up big when it had to, stopping Rockford on a couple of key third-down plays.

But in the end, Rockford turned to the big plays it's

to earn its second consecutive state championship.

The Rams' defense was the quickest bunch I've seen this year. The Chiefs executed several plays that gained anywhere from eight to 12 yards. During the regular season and in the playoffs, it was these plays that would often go the distance for Canton. However, the speedy Rams' secondary and linebacking corps prevent-

ed good plays from becoming huge, put-six-points-on-the-scoreboard plays with their excellent sideline-to-sideline pursuit.

Canton's crowd was more than impressive, too. From my seventh-level seat at Ford Field, the huge gathering behind the Chiefs' bench resembled a massive sea of red.

Overall, it was inspiring to see how a group of hard-work-

ing athletes pulled an entire community together for one unforgettable afternoon.

CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
1150 S. CANTON CENTER RD.
CANTON, MI 48188

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction December 06, 2005 at 10:00 AM. The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

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1991 OLDS		4-DR	2G3AL54N4M2346667
1980 BUICK	RIVERIA	2-DR	4Z57RAE429476
1992 CHRYSLER	VAN	VAN	1C4GH54R9NX193776
1991 CHEVY	CAVALIER	2-DR	1G1FP23E6ML160339
1986 DODGE	RAM	VAN	2B6HB23T0GK543456
1993 FORD	AEROSTAR	VAN	1FMC11U3PZB999967
2004 FORD	F-150	P/U	1FTPX14684NB98356
1995 CHEVY	VAN	VAN	1GBFG25K5SF196464

YEAR & MAKE	MODEL	BODY	VIN#
1990 GEO	PRISM	4-DR	1Y1SK5464LZ104291
1995 DODGE	INTREPID	4-DR	1B3HD46T0SF530163
1990 HONDA	ACCORD	4-DR	1HGCB7657LA143143
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Homes do sell during hectic holiday season

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Selling a home during the winter holidays isn't an impossibility.

"The holiday season always presents some difficulties for both the buyer and the seller," said Jason Miller, broker/owner of RE/MAX Home Sale Services in Plymouth. There are typically fewer home showings, but buyers are more focused.

"You get more of the serious buyer who maybe needs to buy a home," he said. Although corporate transfers are down in this economy, those who do plan such a move often come during the holidays when school's out to check out a community and housing options.

"The house shows typically very well," Miller said, noting holiday-time homes are generally clean and nicely decorated. "We tell them to decorate just like they normally would."

Exteriors should be clean and small details matter when selling a home, he said.

Realtors who plan a prosperous 2006 stay focused during the holidays, he added, evaluating properties on the market "and really spend some time looking at their marketing plan."

Miller found the local spring market tends to break earlier here than in other areas of the country, and says it could be pent-up demand. During the holidays, there's less competition for sellers, he said, and a home that's marketed properly and priced right can be sold.

Sellers don't have to wait until spring to put a home up for sale, he said. "Waiting isn't always the best thing to do."

Joan Downing, broker/owner of RE/MAX in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, also finds the holiday slowdown isn't insurmountable. "There may be less showings, but the quality of the buyer is 10 times better," she said.

Downing said it's important to make your home look festive in a tasteful way. For some homes, just walking into the foyer allows a visitor to bask in the warmth and good feelings.

"That in itself helps sell the home," she said, adding such touches as a fire in the fireplace, candles and a nice wreath on the door all help, as does exterior curb appeal.

Downing doesn't slow down too much when the holidays arrive.

"I think it's a time everybody in our profession does use to regroup," she said of the season. Realtors focus on how to improve business and customer service, and ask what changes to

make in their business plans.

It's also a great time of year to touch base with clients from the past year, Downing said, "mostly just to say Happy Holidays, I'm thinking about you."

Dr. Kim Shunkwiler and wife Peggy of Wayne moved in February 2002 to their current home. Shunkwiler, a Westland chiropractor, didn't find selling their Dearborn Heights home and moving to the new one during the holidays all that stressful.

"Of course, I should talk because Peggy did all the work," he said with a smile, adding it was a little more hectic than usual.

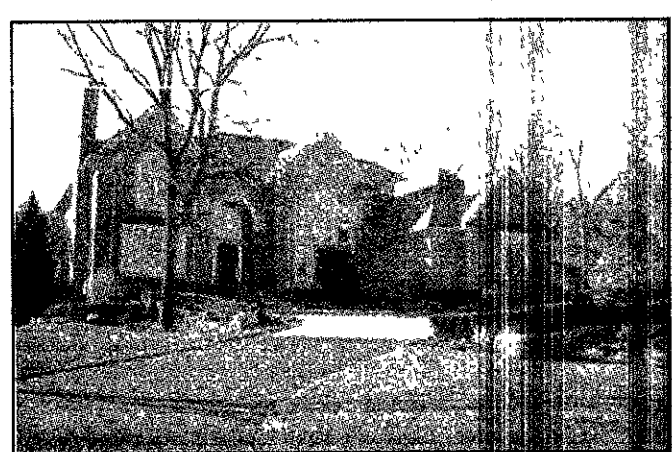
The Shunkwilers faced no real hardships and didn't have to come down on their price. "The market was pretty good back then," he said. "Now it's hard to get buyers into your place."

Adam and Karen Olweean were busy in recent weeks preparing for their Thanksgiving move from Westland, where they have lived 11 years in their home, to Livonia. They have two children ages 7 and 10 and needed more space.

"A little bit," he said of the hectic pace of moving now. "But we'll get it done," said Olweean, a route driver for Snyder's of Hanover.

His family is looking forward to having Christmas in their Livonia home. "It's going to be nice," he said.

FEATURED HOMES OF THE WEEK



FABULOUS BLOOMFIELD HILLS

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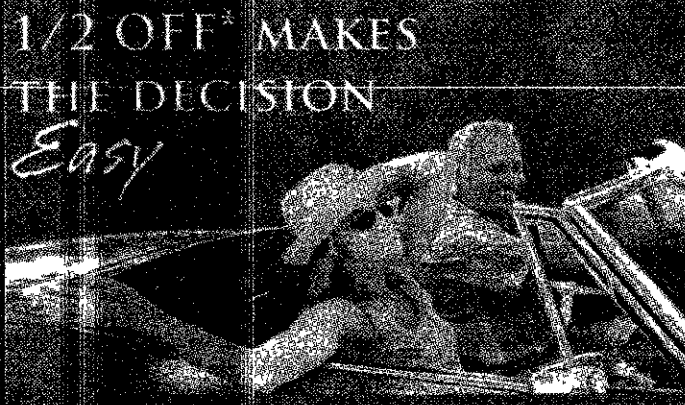
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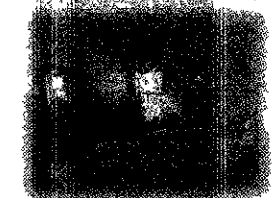
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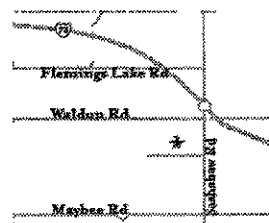
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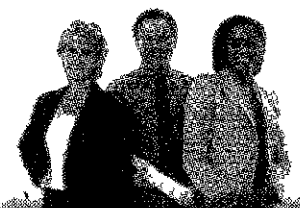
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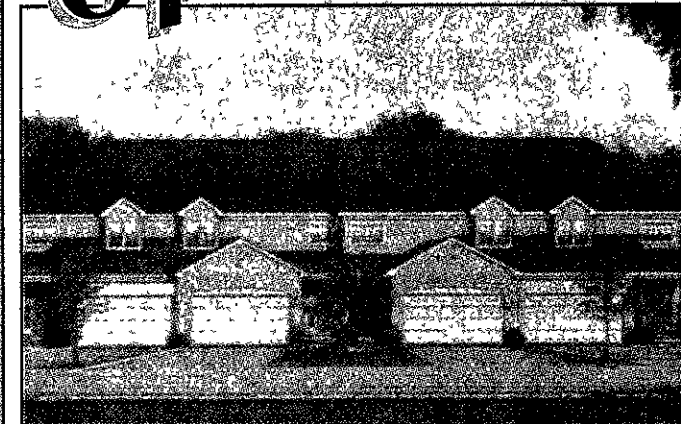
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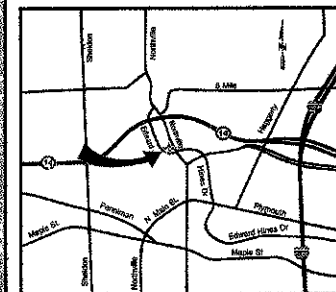
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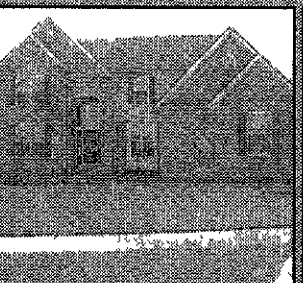
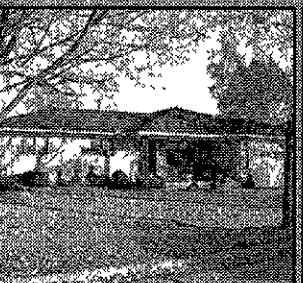
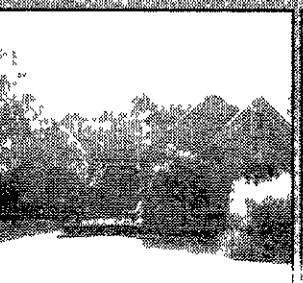
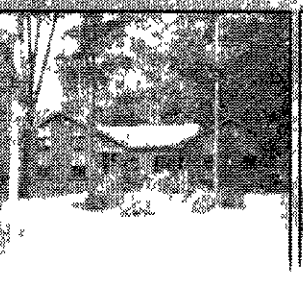
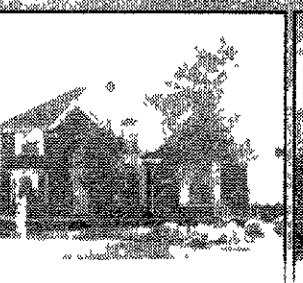
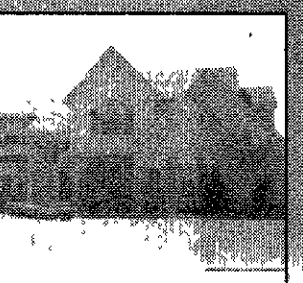
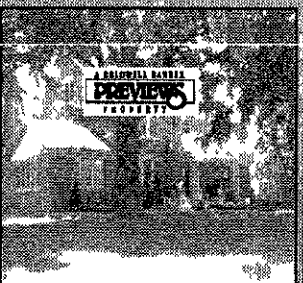
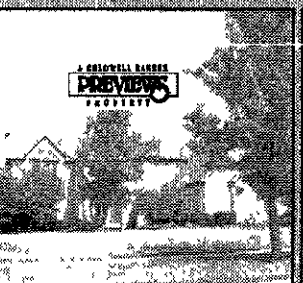
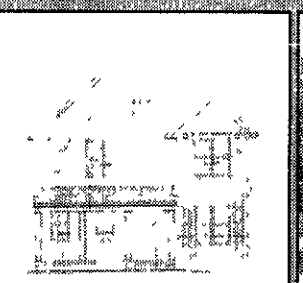
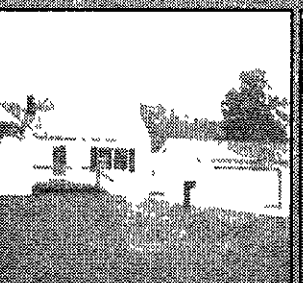
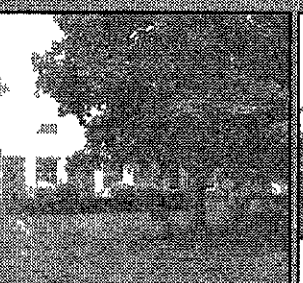
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Beautiful High End Newer Construction, Near B'ham Cc. Gourmet Kit, Flowing Floor Plan, Extensive Use of Granite & Ceramic, Excellent Den/office Space On Entry Level, Mstr Ste w/Bonus Rm, Exceptional Neighbor-hood. MLS# 25168360 248-347-3050**CANTON** \$449,900
3400 sq ft col w/g isind kit, mple cbnts & work stat. Upgraded crmo foyer, kit & pwrdr rm 1st flr w/str oigs & crwn mldngs. Form LR, DR, chdrt mstr suite w/H&H WIC, grdn tub, Lg fin bsmt w/hall BA, Ovrstd cmr lot. MLS# 25151226 734-453-6800**CANTON** \$399,900
Fabulous 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA colonial in "Heritage Farms" Light-bright kit-nook w/HWDW flrs. 2 story family room w/gas fireplace. Master w/jetted tub & fashion bath. Neutral, Full basement 3 car gar. Estate sized lot. MLS# 25163572 734-453-6800**CANTON** \$364,900
Fabulous 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA colonial. Lg lot backing to commons & woods. Spacious kitchen-nook w/HWDW floors. FR open to kitchen w/FP. Lux master suite, 3 car S/E garage. Walk to pool & clubhouse! MLS# 25163687 734-453-6800**CANTON** \$362,500
Phenomenal 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA colonial on picturesque lot backing to large commons. Huge kitchen & nook. Lux master FR is open to kitchen w/FP. Formal dining room. Newer carpet. Freshly painted. MLS# 25168127 734-453-6800**CANTON** \$359,900
Perfect cul-de-sac location for this ranch condo. Golf course & wooded views from all windows. 2 BR, 2 BA, custom kitchen, den & 2 car attached garage. Full daylight basement. A beauty! MLS# 25143605 734-453-6800**CANTON** \$217,900
Brick Detached Condo, Tastefully Decorated & Ready To Move In. Nice Landscaped, Door Wall In Spacious Deck. Large Fam Room W/ Gas Fireplace, Large Mstr Suite W/ Full Bath & Walk-in Closet. Full Basement. MLS# 25168288 248-347-3050**CANTON** \$174,900
Lots Of Updates Including Tear-off Roof With Architectural Shingles, Furnace And C/a, Newer Windows, Aluminum Trim, concrete Drive & Appliances. Hrdwd Floors, Tiled Bsmt, FP in Fam Rm W/gas Log Fenced Yard. MLS# 25169106 248-347-3050**CANTON** \$129,900
Crisp, clean 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath townhouse Open flr plan, skylts over star & main bath Bay wndw in breakfast area, gas f/p, partially fin bsmt. Appls stay New roof & road paving, refinished deck. Priv entrance. MLS# 25168958 734-453-6800**COMMERCE** \$499,000
Welcome Home To This Beautiful 4 Bed 3 1/2 Bath Colonial Gourmet Kitchen W/Granite Counters Is Any Chef's Dream 2-way Fireplace, Formal Dining Rm, Huge Family Rm, Master BD W/Private Bath, Cathedral Ceilings. MLS# 25164688 248-347-3050**DEARBORN HGTS** \$369,000
3 BR, 2 BA ranch w/over 2000 sq ft Large kitchen w/an abundance of counter space. Huge bsmt w/plenty of room for roller blading in the winter Large backyard w/patio for summer fun 1st flr Indry & 2 car att gar. MLS# 25160663 734-453-6800**DEARBORN HGTS** \$137,000
Move in perfect 3 BR, 2 BA brick ranch w/HWH & plaster walls LR w/beautiful bay wndw, updated kit open to dining area Updated baths, wndw, furn, hwh Fin LL w/g rec rm, Indry rm & tons of storage 22x24 garage. MLS# 25164320 734-453-6800**DETROIT** \$78,500
Attractive 3 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath Ranch With Newer Siding, Finished Basement, Central Air, Large 2 Car Garage W/Opener, Large Fenced Backyard That Offers Plenty Of Privacy & More! All At An Affordable Price. MLS# 25164665 248-347-3050**FARMINGTON HILLS** \$249,900
This is a true diamond in the rough. Seller has done some of the updates including new vinyl siding, newer windows, refaced kit cabinets & ripping out overgrown landscaping. Great area w/large lots. MLS# 25167632 248-347-3050**GARDEN CITY** \$169,900
First time buyers dream! You will not find a better value This 3 BR, 2 BA home w/fin basement & heated garage is truly move-in ready Newer roof, furnace, AC, Wallside wndws, updated kit & baths. Freshly painted. MLS# 25163426 734-453-6800**GREEN OAK** \$40,000
Spectacular Tuscan Style Custom Home W/lake Views! Premium Limestone Elevation, Unfin Extra Deep W/o W/ons Of Windows, Dual Staircases Exten Recessed Lighting T/O, Granite Counters, 1st Flr Mstr. MLS# 25150587 248-347-3050**LINCOLN PARK** \$104,900
Large Lot 40x174 Large Kitchen, 21x11, Large Mbr, 14x12 Newly Landscaped Ranch, Beautiful Hardwood Floors, Remodeled Bath Roof Was a Tear Off In, Furnace & A/c New Fabulous Family neighborhood. MLS# 25129997 248-347-3050**LIVONIA** \$329,900
Absolutely Gorgeous, Sprawling Ranch On Almost An Acre Cust Gourmet Kit W/restaurant Appeal, All GE Appliances Walk-in Pantry, Ceramic Floors & Recessed Lights Great Landscaping includes 2 Large Stone Terraces. MLS# 25164340 248-347-3050**LIVONIA** \$280,000
Detached Ranch Condo Located On a Cul-de-sac Open Flr Plan Hrdwd Flrs 10, 12' Ceilings, Appls Frplc W/Oak Mantel Master Suite Has Jetted Tub & Its Own Shower, 2nd Br Has Its Own Bath 6 Panel Drs. MLS# 25160610 248-347-3050**LIVONIA** \$274,900
Well Maintained Lr, Formal Dr, 1st Flr Den & Fam.rm W/frpl Spacious Eat-in Kit, White Cabinets, Micro & Dishwasher, 2 Doorwalls To Multi-level Deck, Bsmt W/loads Of Storage 97' furnace, AC & Roof. MLS# 25146215 248-347-3050**LIVONIA** \$269,900
New construction! 4 BR colonial w/great location Maintenance free exterior & lge lot Spacious kitchen w/nook & breakfast bar, 2 1/2 baths w/Corian cnts, Lge LR w/gas FP & bay wndw, 2nd flr Indry & loft, 2 car gar. MLS# 25168537 734-453-6800**NORTHVILLE** \$49,900
4 BR 3 1/2 BA home bilt in 2004 tiled w/custom touches! HDWD flr crwn mldngs form LR & DR Grnte kit w/2 sided FP to FR Mstr w/2 WIC, ceramic ba & jetted tub, Prof Indcsp yd w/2 tiered deck, paver patio & walkway. MLS# 25153239 734-453-680**NORTHVILLE** \$49,900
Wooded riverfront setting for this 2 BR condo in downtown Northville. Move right in! Vaulted ceilings, FP, 1 1/2 baths, att garage, balcony & appliances included Charming Brownstone across from historic Oldmill! MLS# 25163248 734-453-6800**NORTHVILLE** \$49,900
Gorgeous Private Cape Cod Nestled In Woods W/pond On 2 1/2 Acres! New Lscaping & Circular Dr Fab Extra Deep W/o W/brn, Fr W/2-way Fp HM Theatre Bath, Rec & Work Rm Spacious Gr W/2-way Fp To Huge Kit. MLS# 25145142 248-347-3050**NORTHVILLE** \$49,900
Totally remodeled home nestled in woods on 2 1/4 acres Remodeled kit w/42" maple cab w/granite counters & vaulted cedar ceiling, 100' projection TV screen in f/poured concrete 2nd gar, Florida rm w/900 gal hot tub. MLS# 25159600 248-347-3050**NORTHVILLE** \$49,900
Breckenridge Model In Broadmoor Park On Awesome Private Lot Backing To Preserve 9 Ft Ceilings On 1st Fl, dual Staircases, 3 1/2 Car garage, Full W/o W/bath Rough-ins, bridge Overlooks 2-story flr W/tp, hwd Floors t/o. MLS# 25154879 248-347-3050**NORTHVILLE** \$49,900
Stunning 5 BR cape cod! Quality features & custom upgrades to Grmt kit w/lge nook, island, hearth room & drwall to gorgeous screened-in porch, Jenn-aire appls inc 2 story foyer, vaulted great rm & 9 ft oigs t/o. MLS# 25164784 734-453-6800**NORTHVILLE** \$450,000
Immediate Occupancy! On Large Lot W/southern Exposure To Enjoy The In-ground Pool Mstr Suite w/Sitting 2-story Foyer, Hwd Fls in Foyer, Half Bath & Kit., P Fin Bsmt W/rec Rm & Partial Kit 2 1/2 Car Garage. MLS# 25154837 248-347-3050**NOVI** \$399,000
Beautiful end unit condo located in Island Lakes of Novi \$10,000 lot premium convenient to everything w/clubhouse, pool & tennis courts Full fin bsmt & att 2 car gar. Almost \$70,000 in extras. Turnkey property! MLS# 25151238 734-453-6800**PLYMOUTH** \$1,399,000
Downtown Plymouth estate home! All brick 3 story 5 BR, 5 1/2 BA colonial completely remodeled in past 2 years Gourmet kitchen-nook w/granite Every bedroom is a suite 5-6 car garage Prof fin walkout. MLS# 25148099 734-453-6800**PLYMOUTH** \$627,500
Executive 4 BR, 4 1/2 BA colonial on park-like setting backing to commons. Gigantic kitchen Open FR w/FP Lux master w/FP LR w/FP BR's are enormous Finished LL w/kitchenette & bath. MLS# 25141420 734-453-6800**PLYMOUTH** \$459,900
3-4 BR w/opt study 3 full BA custom bilt brick ranch w/in-law site GR w/gas FP & 10ft oigs 9ft oigs on rest of 1st flr Mstr w/scoaring oig Andersen wndws, Daylites bsmt w/str oigs Ovrstd gar Pick colors & cbnts. MLS# 25162196 734-453-6800**PLYMOUTH** \$429,900
\$5,000 holiday bonus to buyers at closing! Charming home w/major updates inc roof, wndws, siding, pimg & electrical 2 story addition creating huge mstr & FR, 1st flr office New 2 car garage w/unfinished 2nd story. MLS# 25160503 734-453-6800**PLYMOUTH** \$359,900
New construction Now's your chance to own new construction near downtown Plymouth while paying lower township taxes Brazilian cherry HDWD floors, maple cabinetry, fireplace, deck, sod, CA & 2 car garage. MLS# 25149810 734-453-6800**PLYMOUTH** \$159,900
Great Duplex, Priced Right! Investors Take Notice! Wonderful In Town Location Near Schis, Shopping, Churches This Duplex Is in great Cond Newer Roof, 2 Bm Each Side, *don't Snooze on This One! MLS# 25077915 248-347-3050**PLYMOUTH** \$135,900
The Nicest Location In Pinewood Village, 2 Bed, 1 1/2 Bath, Upper Ranch W/amenities Galore, Priv Entrance, Totally Neutral, Great Rm W/cathedral Ceiling, 2 Skylights, Fireplace, Sharp Oak Kit, Large Mbr W/wic. MLS# 25166397 248-347-3050**ROMULUS** \$146,900
Stunning 1 1/2 acres! Enjoy the magnificent views & tranquil setting on peaceful, low traffic street. Property offers plenty of room for a garage or pole barn Updates, roof(04), newer wndws, oak kit, remodeled bath. MLS# 25167088 734-453-6800**ROMULUS** \$129,900
Open Flr Plan, Situated On Quarter Acre Lot Great Starter Home With Nice Finished Basement Which Includes Open Family Room With Bar, Spacious Laundry Area And Additional Storage, 3 1/2 Car Garage With Tall Ceilings. MLS# 25137575 248-347-3050**ROYAL OAK** \$76,900
Updated Condo! Freshly Painted T/O Kit Updated W/fridge, Range, Cabinets, Counter Tops, Disposal, Tile Floor, Sink/faucet Bthrm Updated, Updated Windows & Light Fixtures T/O. MLS# 25086609 248-347-3050**SOUTH LYON** \$389,900
A perfect 10! Located on a premium cul-de-sac, this home is better than brand new! Your fustiest buyer will enjoy the professionally landscaped yard, custom window treatments & decorated like a model interior! MLS# 25121903 734-453-6800**SOUTHFIELD** \$234,900
Park-like lot w/over 1/3 acres, kitchen w/cherry wood cabinetry, Corian counters & ceramic flr, living & dining rms w/hrdwd flrs, Flex rm off kitchen w/nat frpl, family rm w/doorwall to deck, Rec rm in bsmt, Newer windows. MLS# 25155184 248-347-3050**TAYLOR** \$159,900
New Construction End Unit Mstr Suite W/Walk In Closet & Bath, 1st Floor Laundry Room Tops, Ceramic, 36" Gas Log Fireplace W/Wood Mantle & Ceramic Surround, 2 Car garage W/ Drywall & Ceiling. MLS# 25147934 248-347-3050**TAYLOR** \$92,900
Ranch conveniently located to freeways, restaurants, stores, etc Home is neutral w/updated kit, newer crpt, new roof in 99. Lge breezeway that is heated & could be used as a family room. 1.5 car attached garage. MLS# 25168587 734-453-6800**WATERFORD** \$149,900
Newer end unit condo that backs to wooded privacy Built in 1997 w/1242 sq ft, 2 BR & 1.5 baths, GR w/vaulted ceilings & gas FR, kitchen w/ceramic floor, nook & doorwall to deck, 1 car garage & basement. MLS# 25165054 734-453-6800**WAYNE** \$114,900
Cozy home! 3 BR bungalow w/updates inc roof, siding, Wallside windows, water heater, furnace, electrical & new carpeting upstairs. Located near parks, elementary school & community center. Home warranty included! MLS# 25131995 734-453-6800**WEST BLOOMFIELD** \$289,999
Priced Considerably Below Appraisal & Sev. Fabulous Backyard View. Walkout Basement, Great Floor Plan W/very Large Rooms, Very Private Setting Backing To Large Commons Nice Size Lot (111x142), Home Warranty. MLS# 25163220 248-347-3050**FARMINGTON HILLS** \$445,000
Colonial w/2 entry drs, dual staircases, wooded New drmen, roof (tearoff)(04), circ drive(04), 18x18 tile in hall & kit, loft in fr, Andersen wndws t/o, 2 furns & c/a, Fla rm off kit w/4 sklgts & patios, 2 tp's, hwd foyer & dr, 10 ft ceilings in unfn, bsmt. MLS# 248-348-3050

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Following key steps makes loan process easier

Have you ever been faced with a daunting task that you know is sure to sap your time, effort and energy, but you know it must be done? Too often, that formidable task keeps slipping to the bottom of your prioritized stack. Most of us would rather knock out ten simpler list items than tackle "the monster."

Your mortgage loan officer is really no different than you are in that regard. There are some simple things you can do to make sure your file gets "top priority" on your loan officer's list.

An easy way to get your file off to a good start is to prepare to complete a bulletproof loan application. Initially, your lender will need the complete name, current address and social security numbers for each borrower to pull their credit histories.

For most of my clients, I check credit during our very first phone conversation. If your credit report is a bit bruised up, your loan officer may immediately give you specific tasks - I call them "homework assignments" - that will help him or her either clear up those blemishes, or at least mitigate their impact.

Some of these credit-related tasks may include supplying copies of divorce or bankruptcy papers, proof of paid collections, or copies of previously discharged mortgages. These requests may seem trivial (or



Timothy Phillips

even painful), but leaving them undone may result in your loan being left undone. Do these things right away.

During this pre-application phase, plan on also digging out some other documents, including your past two pay stubs, your most recent banking and investment statements, and your past two years' W2s or tax returns, if you are self-employed. Renters should also compile their landlord information for the previous two years, and real estate investors should list property and lien information on each of their properties.

Today's TIMBIT! Getting your mortgage approved efficiently requires a team effort between you and your loan officer. You will usually receive priority service from your mortgage loan officer if you give the same energy in return.

Timothy Phillips is a mortgage banker and newspaper columnist. Visit www.PhillipsHQ.com for free information online or call him toll-free at (866) 369-4516. Homebuyers should always consult a professional for guidance specific to their situation.

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the weeks of July 5-8, 2005, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton	
4063 Amanda	\$230,000
41558 Bedford	\$118,000
4064 Bridgeview	\$52,000
475 Canford Park	\$412,000
8301 Chatham	\$608,000
8446 Chatham	\$313,000
46525 Creekside	\$300,000
40761 Deer Pines	\$85,000
40843 Deer Pines	\$85,000
39542 Dorchester	\$300,000
7474 Emerson	\$250,000
43761 Fredericksburg	\$175,000
43900 Fredericksburg	\$178,000
45689 Graystone	\$184,000
42289 Hanford	\$213,000
46271 Hanford	\$265,000
2176 Hogan	\$219,000
44676 Jeffrey	\$230,000

427 Lenox	\$462,000
42595 Lilley Pointe	\$127,000
45647 N Stonewood	\$187,000
8573 New Haven	\$355,000
1975 Pinacraft	\$174,000
1993 Pinacraft	\$171,000
4744 Pond Run	\$282,000
2203 Preserve	\$248,000
43061 Providence	\$195,000
42462 Saratoga	\$128,000
41452 Singh	\$387,000
42425 Somerset	\$200,000

Garden City

29590 Balmoral	\$137,000
5914 Helen	\$146,000
5694 Henry Ruff	\$190,000
29414 Meadow	\$144,000
30075 Rosslyn	\$219,000

Livonia

15197 Arden	\$155,000
31782 Bretton	\$188,000
38973 Dover	\$215,000
16516 Fairway	\$270,000
31608 Gable	\$192,000
18675 Hillcrest	\$182,000

29622 Mason	\$191,000
19450 Renssler	\$190,000
20105 Saint Francis	\$93,000
9810 Shadyside	\$183,000
37619 Summers	\$216,000
14233 Sunbury	\$155,000
14628 Taylor	\$110,000
16042 Woodring	\$259,000
15117 Yale	\$239,000

Plymouth

11647 Butternut	\$200,000
42506 Hammill	\$162,000

Redford

12903 Brady	\$144,000
16361 Glenmore	\$142,000
25130 Graham	\$175,000
19354 Kinloch	\$108,000
19133 Lexington	\$164,000
19379 Lexington	\$198,000
19995 Lexington	\$123,000
17021 Macarthur	\$160,000
9054 Mercedes	\$186,000
18851 Negeanee	\$132,000
24931 S Sylbert	\$153,000
8892 Virgil	\$179,000

26705 W Chicago	\$137,000
15863 Woodworth	\$133,000

Westland

33716 Arrowhead	\$151,000
31741 Birchwood	\$130,000
34742 Birchwood	\$151,000
7453 Deering	\$88,000
34939 Donnelly	\$118,000
2214 Ellsworth	\$113,000
34640 Florence	\$205,000
34640 Florence	\$87,000
38129 Greenwood	\$104,000
31225 Hivley	\$150,000
8196 Huntington	\$72,000
6394 Pembroke	\$169,000
1331 Rahn	\$135,000
35354 Rosslyn	\$105,000
330 S Byfield	\$157,000
2314 S Christine	\$134,000
4926 S Inkster	\$50,000
4926 S Inkster	\$124,000
2038 S Parent	\$120,000
1147 Sharon	\$145,000
35127 Webster	\$87,000

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

	30 Yr	Pts	15 Yr	Pts	Other		30 Yr	Pts	15 Yr	Pts	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending (734) 459-0762	6.125	0	5.375	0	J/A	GMAC Mortgage Corp. (800) 888-4622	5.625	0	5.375	0	J/A/V/F
1st National Bank in Howell (517) 545-2207	6.125	0	5.875	2	J/A	Golden Rule Mortgage (800) 991-9922	5.5	1.75	5	1.625	J/A/V/F
A Best Financial Corp. (800) 833-8918	5.375	0	5.375	2	J/A	Goodstar Mortgage (800) 764-1074	5.875	0	5.375	0	J/A/V/F
AAXA Discount Mortgage (877) 728-3569	5.5	0	5	2	J/A	Group One Mortgage (734) 953-4000	6.125	0	5.75	0	J/A/V/F
API Financial (877) 234-0600	5.875	0	5.5	0	J/A	Home Finance of America (800) 355-8624	5.875	0	5.375	0	J/A
America's Premiere Mortgage (800) 585-8730	6	0	5.5	0	J/A/V/F	Horizon Financial Group (866) 538-7887	5.625	2	5.125	2	J/A
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp. (248) 740-2223	5.875	0	5.5	0	J/A	JMC Mortgage Corp. (248) 489-4020	5.825	0	5.125	0	J/A
Bay Pointe Mortgage Corp. (248) 652-3598	NR	NR	NR	NR	J/A/V	Keystone Mortgage (866) 539-3733	5.5	2.25	5.25	1.75	J/A
Brighton Commerce Bank (810) 220-9548	5.875	0	5.5	0	J/A	LeSalle Bank Midwest (800) 486-3000	5.875	2	5.5	2	J/A/V/F
Brinks Goldstar Mortgage (800) 785-4755	5.625	0.875	5.25	0.875	J/A/V/F	Lira Financial (586) 228-0900	6	0	5.5	0	J/A/V/F
Capital Mortgage Funding (248) 569-7283	5.75	0	5.5	0	J/A/V	Macomb Schools & Gov. O.U. (586) 263-8800	5.625	2	5.125	2	J/A
Captiva Group Mortgage Co. (248) 682-8643	5.75	0.25	5.5	0	J/A	Mainstreet Mortgage (800) 900-1313	6	0	5.625	0	J/A/V/F
Centerbrook Mortgage (248) 851-4150	5.75	0.25	5.5	0	J/A	Manufacturers (866) 777-1000	5.75	1	5.625	1	J/A
Charter One Bank (800) 342-6338	6.5	0	6	0	J/A/V/F	Mortgages by Golden Rule (800) 991-9922	5.75	0.5	5.25	0.75	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule (800) 585-5608	5.625	1.125	5.125	1.25	J/A/V/F	National City Bank (586) 828-0825	5.875	1.5	5.375	1.625	J/A
Co-op Services Credit Union (734) 466-6113	5.875	2	5.375	2	J	Northlawn Financial (248) 988-8488	5.875	0	5.5	0	J/A/V/F
Community Bank of Dearborn (734) 981-0022	6.25	0	5.75	0	J/A	Pathway Financial LLC (800) 720-2274	6	0	5.5	0	J/A/V
Credit Union One (800) 544-5567	6.25	0	5.875	0	J/A	Peoples Mortgage (800) 730-5087	5.875	0.125	5.5	0	J/A
Dearborn Fed. Savings Bank (313) 595-3100	6.25	0	5.875	0	J/A	Premiere Mortgage Funding (248) 358-2200	6	0	5.75	0	J/A
DFCU Financial (800) 739-2770	5.875	2	5.375	2	J/A	Prime Financial Group (248) 203-7010	6	0	5.5	0	J/A/V/F
ERFI.com (www.ERFI.com)	5.875	1	5.5	1	R	Shore Mortgage (800) 678-6883	5.5	0	5	0	J/A/V/F
Fifth Third Bank (800) 792-8830	6.125	0.375	5.75	0.125	J/V/F	Sterling Bank & Trust (800) 926-5626	6.125	0	5.75	0	J/F
First Alliance Mortgage Co. (800) 292-7357	6.25	0	5.875	0	J/A/V/F	United Mortgage Group (586) 288-9500	6	0	5.5	0	J/A
First International Inc. (248) 258-1584	5.875	0	5.5	0	J/A	York Financial Inc. (888) 839-9675	5.875	0.75	5.375	0.75	J/A

Above information available as of 11/29/05 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on \$150,000 loan with 20% down. Jumbo rates, ARM rates, specific payment calculations and most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. All participating lenders are Equal Housing Lenders. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arms, V = VA, F = FHA, R = Reverse Mtg. and NR = Not Reported. © Copyright 2005 Residential Mortgage Consultants, Inc., All Rights Reserved

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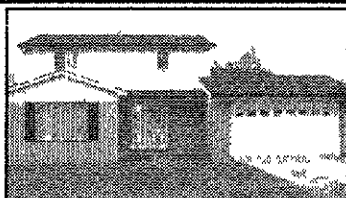
On our website @ www.cbpreferred.com



CUTE NEW CONDO Gorgeous newer condo on a low traffic street. Clean, bright and neutral décor. Direct access garage. Stove and refrigerator included. Why rent when you can own in a sought after Canton area? \$159,900 (P-885CA)



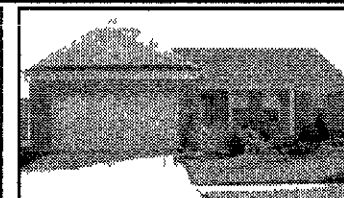
EYE CATCHING FEATURES In this newly constructed condo offering a ceramic foyer, 1st floor laundry, hardwood and autumn maple kitchen, dual toned paint, master w/ garden tub, treated deck & more. \$209,900 (C-472GL)



SMART BUY Move in an settle down in this awesome 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial situated on a huge lot that measures to almost half an acre! Updated roof, furnace, electrical, window, paint, fixtures and more. Home warranty too! \$179,900 (P-314KE)



NOT JUST NEW CONSTRUCTION This is a quality constructed Redford ranch with high eff. furnace and air, all kitchen appliances, a 9 foot basement, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and more. Still time to pick your own colors. Call now. \$154,900 (C-945SA)



NICELY DONE RANCH Many upgrades in this beautiful Pulte built ranch. Hardwood in the great room, dining & kitchen, newer carpeting in the bedrooms, extensive landscaping w/large brick paver patio. Over 1600 sq. ft. \$257,000 (P-673TI)



ESTATE SIZED LOT Overlooking adjoining commons with impressive details and upgrades throughout. Well planned beautiful landscaping, deck w/hot tub, finished basement, 4 bedrooms (possible 5th) and 3.5 baths. \$510,000 (P-118ME)



LOOK NO FURTHER! Than this exquisite 4 bedroom colonial in Canton's Central Park. Grand entry, hardwoods, gourmet kitchen, formal areas, fireplace, a superb master and an oversized lot! \$379,900 (C-077LI)



A NATURAL BEAUTY Custom ranch on 5 acres in Canton. Features include: 9' ceilings, egress windows, "euro style" island kitchen w/granite, ceramic floors, side entry garage and an out of this world master. Wow. \$449,000 (C-250MO)



NEED A LOT OF SPACE? This home has 3 huge bedrooms upstairs plus a storage room, 1 full bath, dining and living room open to the breakfast nook, big kitchen w/ walk in pantry to the Florida room overlooking the backyard. 2233 sq. ft. \$145,900 (P-274EL)



STOP RENTING! This home is ready to be lived in! Nice size living room, 2 bdms on the first floor and a full bath. Huge bdms. upstairs with an extra 6x7 area. Basement garage and a cute screened in porch to enjoy all summer. \$74,999 (C-946EV)



THIS ONE WONT LAST Brick ranch with 3 bedrooms on a quiet street in Livonia. New roof, furnace and central air. Fabulous 3 season room in a very pretty fenced yard. Just move in and enjoy. \$159,900 (P-863WE)



A HOME FOR ALL SEASONS Extend your summer in the 3 season sunroom with a hot tub or cozy up to the family room fireplace in the fall. This well cared for home offers formal living areas, oak kitchen w/Pergo floor, a private master and more. \$259,900 (C-490AA)



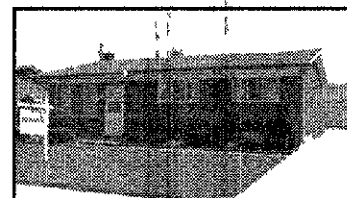
HILLTOP TREED SETTING 4 bdrm ranch on a beautiful 1.6 acre setting. Atop the hill you'll find an impressive master, an oversized kitchen w/center isle/snack bar, finished walkout, 3 inviting deck and a 3 car garage. Like new presentation throughout. \$499,900 (P-655WA)



HOME SWEET HOME One of the biggest homes in the neighborhood, with a large upstairs dormer, finished basement w/rec area. Updated roof, carpet, furnace & more. Central air, appliances and a garage. \$120,500 (C-092EL)



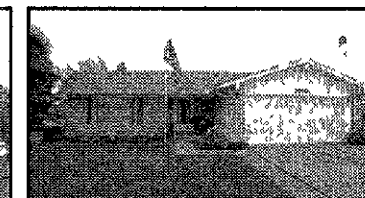
ALL ABOUT THE SETTING Backing and sliding to hillsides & woods this Plymouth condo has 3 bdms, each with a bath, 2 kitchens, loft overlook, 25 ft. snack bar, central vac, intercom system, morning porch and notable ceiling detail. \$535,000 (P-401BE)



AMAZING BRICK RANCH Beautifully maintained Dearborn Heights home with a family room fireplace, formal living & dining rooms and major updates that include sprinklers, windows, plumbing, furnace and more. \$174,900 (C-261MI)



FIRST TIMED OFFERED Maintenance free brick ranch featuring newer windows, a finished basement, newer roof, fenced yard, updated kitchen with appliances, hardwood floors and a home warranty! Can't be beat for only \$145,000 (P-825SAL)



THE TOTAL PACKAGE Quality brick ranch with 3 bedroom/2.5 bath. Large floor plan offering rich hardwood floors, huge eat in kitchen, appliances, family rm. fireplace, finished basement, 1st floor laundry, air, attached garage and fenced yard. \$250,000 (P-448SH)



LOCATION! CONDITION! PRICE! All 3 are perfect and you even get a park like setting in a cul-de-sac! Beautifully maintained 2-story with a fabulous kitchen, fin. basement, 1st floor laundry and lots of updates. Must see! \$225,000 (C-245TE)



CUTE STARTER HOME Turn key condition with neutral décor, wonderful curb appeal and a huge updated oak kitchen. Newer vinyl windows, air, 6 panel doors, 1st floor laundry and kitchen appliances stay. Even has a pool! \$107,900 (P-730DE)



EASY CONDO LIVING At a great price! Location plus charm abounds in this 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo. Updates include the deck, carpeting, kitchen and paint. Close to the schools, shopping and major freeways. Downriver area. \$124,000 (P-703RW)



IMMACULATE PRINCETON MODEL 2-story foyer, lighted crown moldings, large family room w/ fireplace, hardwood floors, large master w/ vaulted ceilings, fashion soaking tub and WIC. Finished basement w/ bar, beautiful deck and a premium lot. \$306,000 (C-748SH)



JUST TURN THE KEY To this welcoming starter home with 2 bedrooms and 2 full baths. Formal living room plus a family room in a great open floor plan. Numerous updates, privacy fence, large front porch and a great location. Call today! \$123,500 (P-781PU)



LOVELY HOME 4 bedroom Cape Cod with an updated garage door, landscaping, furnace, hwh, and vinyl siding. Big country kitchen, dining area w/bay window, master with walk-in closet. Don't miss this one! \$69,900 (C-573EV)

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FARMINGTON
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WESTLAND/GARDEN CITY
(734) 392-6000

PLYMOUTH
(734) 459-6000

LIVONIA
(734) 425-6060

Statute impacts state residents

Q. I understand that there is a new zoning statute in Michigan regarding contract or conditional zoning; can you be of any help?

A. Governments, land use planners, property owners and developers have a new tool at their disposal to assist in reaching compromise regarding development or re-development of land in Michigan. The new legislation which pertains to various zoning acts affecting townships, cities, villages and counties is essentially identical and generally provides as follows:

1. An owner of land may voluntarily offer in writing and the (township, or city, or village or county) may approve, certain use and development of the land as a condition to a rezoning of the land

Real Estate Inquires

Robert Meisner

or an amendment to a zoning map.
2. In approving the conditions under

subsection (1), the (township, or city, or village or county) may establish a time period during which the conditions apply to the land. Except for an extension under Subsection (4), if the conditions are not satisfied within a time specified under this subsection, the land will revert to its former zoning classification.


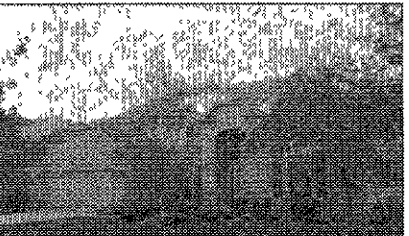
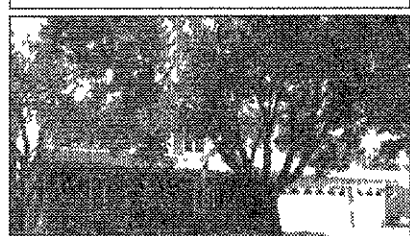

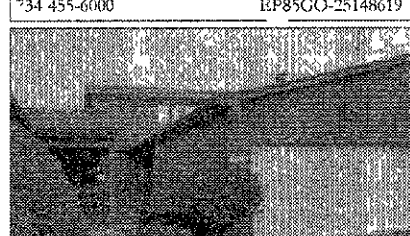

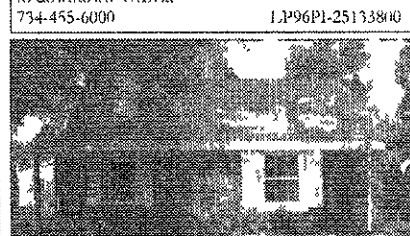
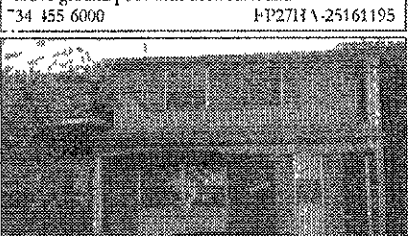
3. The (township, or city, or village or county) shall not add to or alter the conditions approved under subsection (1) during the time period specified under subsection

(2).
4. The time period specified under subsection (2) may be extended upon the application of the land owner or approval of the (township, or city, or village, or county), and
5. A (township, or city, or village or county) shall not require a land owner to offer conditions as a requirement for re-zoning. The lack of an offer under subsection (1) shall not otherwise affect a landowner's rights under the act, the ordinances of the (township, or city, or village or county) or any other laws of the state. You are best advised to consult with your real estate attorney concerning the ramifications of this new and relatively expansive zoning statute.

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 \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote *Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

WEIR MANUEL REALTORS

Birmingham 248-644-6300
Plymouth 734-455-6000
Rochester 248-651-3300
West Bloomfield 248-851-5300

 <p>CANTON \$400,000</p> <p>A great home in a golf course community and 1 car family membership at the Summit Center. Don't wait to preview this 3213 sq ft home built in 1999. It has the fantastic master bedroom suite area.</p> <p>734-455-6000 P16CJ-25170285</p>	 <p>NORTHVILLE \$429,900</p> <p>A must see! Gorgeous 3000+ home with open floor plan. Entry provides breathtaking views of the tree line. Dual staircase provides access to kitchen & great room. Large 1st floor master w/spacious bath.</p> <p>734-455-6000 P6313A-25168621</p>
 <p>PLYMOUTH \$370,000</p> <p>Move right into this Freshwood Colonial with 3 car garage. Numerous replacements include windows, turbine, roof, rear off, hickory kitchen cabinets & floor, carpet, 1st floor, utility. New rec room.</p> <p>734-455-6000 P85CJ-25148619</p>	 <p>GARDEN CITY \$245,000</p> <p>Amazing custom home in Tall Timbers sub offers lots of open living space! Great room w/2 story ceiling & stone fireplace, white kitchen w/island & appliances. Family room off kitchen. Upper loft 650 sq ft.</p> <p>734-455-6000 P90KA-25112784</p>
 <p>PLYMOUTH \$221,900</p> <p>Immaculate 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo with living room, dining room, family room w/fireplace, finished basement, 2 car garage. It's all here! Walking distance to downtown Grosse Pointe.</p> <p>734-455-6000 P96P1-25133800</p>	 <p>WAYNE \$169,900</p> <p>Call it home. Incredible - many updates, including kitchen with hardwood floors & oak cabinets, all appliances included. 4 bedrooms & 2 full baths. Above ground pool with deck surround.</p> <p>734-455-6000 P271A-25161195</p>
 <p>PLYMOUTH \$167,000</p> <p>Charming four brick ranch in desirable Plymouth Twp. Refinished hardwood flooring in main living areas. Contemporary updated kitchen with new cabinets, granite and all appliances.</p> <p>734-455-6000 P50PA-25155601</p>	 <p>NOVI \$142,000</p> <p>Adorable townhouse! Neutral decor & newer carpeting throughout, updated kitchen & baths. Bedrooms sized for roommates or home office. Full private basement. Assoc fee includes gas, water, pool, etc.</p> <p>734-455-6000 P210A-25161793</p>

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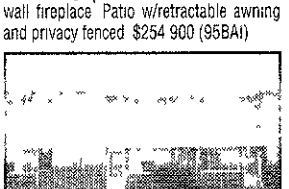
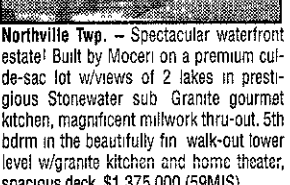
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<p>BELMONT</p> <p>AUGUSTA TWP.</p> <p>FROM \$249,900</p> <p>734.461.9608</p>	<p>IRISH HILLS</p> <p>HARTLAND</p> <p>FROM \$234,900</p> <p>810.629.2264</p>
<p>PARKLANE</p> <p>WOODHAVEN</p> <p>FROM \$129,900</p> <p>734.675.7550</p>	<p>CARRIAGE TRAILS</p> <p>SOUTH LYON</p> <p>FROM \$279,900</p> <p>248.446.1439</p>
<p>WOODLAND RIDGE</p> <p>COMMERCE TWP.</p> <p>FROM \$259,900</p> <p>248.684.1335</p>	

BROKER'S WEBSITE

Featured HOMES OF THE WEEK

Presented By **REMERICA INTEGRITY REALTORS**

 <p>CANTON - Beautiful 2,400 sq. ft. colonial that backs to creek. Great room w/cathedral ceilings and a natural fireplace. Large kitchen w/island and hardwood floors, 1st floor laundry, 6 panel doors, formal dining room, master suite has walk-in closet and master bath. Finished bsmt, underground sprinklers, C/A and more! \$215,000 (38TRE)</p>	 <p>CANTON - Curtis built 2-story condo w/3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. Gas fireplace in living room, neutral decor, full bsmt, 2 car att. garage, stove & fridge stay. First floor laundry, master suite has walk-in closet and bath. Morgan Creek is a newer subdivision of only 88 units with a 20 acre nature preserve. \$214,900 (63CON)</p>
 <p>DEARBORN HGTS. - Gorgeous 3-bed, 1.5 bath brick ranch. Family room w/fireplace, attic fan, hardwood floors, 6 panel doors, double sinks in bath, oak kitchen cabinets, pantry, Pelia windows, large closets, beautiful sunroom. Finished bsmt, private fenced yard, newer electric, roof shingles, garage. \$235,000 (16TIM)</p>	 <p>LIVONIA - Well maintained 3-bed brick ranch on a quiet cul-de-sac location. Basement, sprinklers, 2 car att. garage, bay window, updated kitchen including oak cabinets, Pergo floors and newer appliances. Kitchen opens to generous family room w/gas fireplace. Doorwall to deck w/ retractable awning. \$234,900 (99BA)</p>
 <p>Livonia - Beautiful 3-bed, 1.5 bath brick ranch on a gorgeous landscaped corner lot. Oak trim and doors in all rooms, 2 car att. garage. Sprinklers, bsmt. open floor plan from the kitchen to family room overlooking a beautiful California stone wall fireplace. Patio w/retractable awning and privacy fenced. \$254,900 (96BA)</p>	 <p>Livonia - 3-bed, 2 bath brick ranch with a home warranty. Updated windows & doors, basement w/block windows, 2 car garage w/opener, newer hot water heater, fenced yard. Bsmt, hardwood floors, underground sprinklers copper plumbing, front porch, bsmt w/4th bedroom and full bath. \$159,900 (21HAT)</p>
 <p>LIVONIA - Freshly painted 2-bed condo. Updates include remodeled kitchen with oak cabinets, newer electrical service with breakers and newer windows. Coved ceilings in living room and dining room. C/A, bsmt. appliances stay. Very nice condition. Association fee includes water. \$81,900 (12MID)</p>	 <p>Livonia - Adorable 3-bed, 2 bath brick ranch. Newer roof, new windows, garage door, remodeled kitchen and bath, all refinished hardwood floors, 2nd full bathroom in finished basement. Home warranty, 2 car garage, fenced yard. \$169,900 (12PER)</p>
	 <p>Northville Twp. - Spectacular waterfront estate! Built by Moore on a premium cul-de-sac lot w/views of 2 lakes in prestigious Stonewater sub. Granite gourmet kitchen, magnificent millwork thru-out, 5th bdrm in the beautifully finished walk-out lower level w/granite kitchen and home theater, spacious deck. \$1,375,000 (59MIS)</p>

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 <p>PLYMOUTH TWP 5 BEDROOM COLONIAL. 1st floor laundry! Master suite has 2 walk-in closets. Large lot backing to school playground. All important systems are updated: roof, furnace, C/A, vinyl windows. U G sprinklers & low maintenance exterior (GRE57) \$309,900</p>	 <p>CANTON HOME W/LOADS OF UPGRADES. Wonderful floor plan. Oversized 2.5 car garage. Front porch, hardwood floors, raised island, custom lights. Crown moldings, 9' ceilings, custom windows, gas fireplace, master suite w/Jacuzzi, pan ceiling, LL plumbed, upgr elec. All appl pre-inspected (RIV69) \$409,999</p>
 <p>NORTHVILLE 4 BEDROOM, 3.5 BATH COLONIAL. Cathedral ceiling GR with gas fireplace, chef's kitchen, granite counters, butler's pantry, library. Master suite with bath, walk-in closet, princess suite. Jack N' Jill. Walk-out bsmt. (BIN92) \$699,900</p>	 <p>PLYMOUTH WARM HARDWOOD FLOORS in LR & DR. Open kit is all new. Added counter space & pantry. Newer appls stay. FR has gas flp. Large laundry room, 2 full baths - one fully redone - other updates include: roof, siding, windows. Great area (SHA54) \$239,900</p>
 <p>PLYMOUTH TWP COLONIAL BOASTS updates. Hardwood in foyer, kitchen & dining room. Updated kitchen w/wood. Family room w/corner flp & built-in bookcase. Newer windows & doorwall. Fully remodeled main bath. Free-form patio in a spacious 80' yard (MAP47) \$279,900</p>	 <p>CANTON 3 BEDROOM COLONIAL. 19x10 LOF, 2.5 baths, hardwood floors, 1st floor laundry, beautiful master suite, large WIC, granite bathroom, professionally finished basement w/wet bar. Large corner lot, sprinklers, patio, deck (WEL52) \$309,000</p>
 <p>CANTON RANCH IN POPULAR SUB. Walk to schools & parks. Open kitchen w/Pergo fls & lots of cupboards, fireplace in FR, remodeled bath. Updates-roof, windows, carpet. Finished basement w/huge laundry storage area. Heated inground pool. (DER09) \$228,900</p>	 <p>CANTON HOME AVAILABLE FOR LEASE! 2-story foyer w/grand staircase, 2nd stairway to large kit. Granite and all kit appls LR w/cathedral ceiling, den w/FR doors. Hdwd floors, laundry w/ceramic floor, mstr ste w/cathedral ceiling, WIC 3 car gar. Beautiful yard backs 1/3 acres of commons! (CHE23) \$2,000/mo.</p>
 <p>CANTON QUAD W/LOTS OF ROOM! Ceramic entry freshly painted kitchen w/new counter, oak floor, vaulted ceiling & doorwall. Formal DR. Large FR w/flp. Full kitchenette. Newer roof, CA & landscaping. All appls to stay. 3 car gar. Warranty (KIN93) \$244,500</p>	 <p>CANTON 3 BDRM, 1.5 BATH HOME. Lg corner lot, full bath redone, tear-off roof '00 and newer windows. Gas FP, master appl stay, part fm bsmt, kit updated w/new floor ceiling fans and more. Home warranty! (MEAS9) \$209,900</p>

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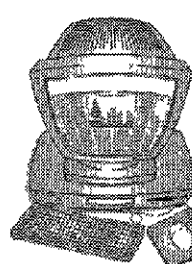
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14254 Shadywood
N of Wilcox & W of Haggerty
Very sharp & updated! 3 bdrm, 2 baths, living room, dining room, family room w/gas fireplace. Hardwood floors, clean & neutral. New kitchen, bath, windows, roof & more! Lake Pointe sub. See it on Sunday! \$239,900 (SH454) Call Lynn DeJohn (734) 451-5400

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All brick custom home on private golf course. Two master bedroom suites, walkout lower level. Motivated seller.
\$625,000
Call Jeff (810) 300-2429
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Westland
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This 2 bdrm ranch w/deck & hot tub. Lots of updates! A must see!!! \$94,900
HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

WIXOM 846 Nature's Cove
N of Maple, E of Beck. Beautiful 2 bdrm., 2.5 bath townhome w/full finished walk-out bsmt & attached garage. \$184,900. ALSO FOR RENT - call for details.
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COMPLETELY UPDATED 1950'S BUNGALOW
Along Tree Line Blvd, 3 bdrms, 1 bath, new kitchen, 3.5 car detached garage w/ electricity, newly landscaped, hardwood floors, all appliances incl., unfinished bsmt. MOVE RIGHT IN! \$229,000, 248-544-2359

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BEAUTIFUL
3 bdrm., 2.5 bath Colonial w/2 story hardwood entry, hall & powder room. Family room w/fireplace & French doors to lg. deck. Dining room w/bay window. Nice kitchen w/all appliances. Bsmt 2 car attached garage \$344,000 (GL453)

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By Owner
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BRICK RANCH 3 Bedroom, Finished Basement. \$0 Down \$500 approximate move in cost. \$17 202 9294

Farmington Hills 3145
By Owner
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3 bdrm, totally updated ranch, new kitchen \$20,000 off original price. Must see! Great schools. Quiet street \$184,000. Call Jeff 248-787-3807

By Owner
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3 Bdrm, 1.5 bath brick ranch. Exc. cond. Hardwood, large new kitchen w/ appliances. New paint in/out. Bsmt w/ washer, dryer, C/A, 2 car w/ opener. \$169,900. 248-867-5963

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HOME FOR ALL SEASONS!
Peaceful 238 acre setting surrounds this lovely 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on paved private road. Home features family room with striking full wall brick fireplace and doorwall to 10x15 screened porch, attractive white kitchen, large 18x14 walk-in closet off master bedroom, walkout basement, large deck for relaxing, 2 car attached garage plus 4 car detached garage and 10x12 potting shed! Hartland Schools \$310,000.

ENGLAND REAL ESTATE
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Howell 3280
IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
3200 sq. ft., 4 br, 3.5 bath, walkout, 4.5 acres, 64x52x14 heated out building. \$410,000 (517) 548-5229

Garden City 3170
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3 bdrm, 1.5 bath home backing to nature preserve, living room, family room w/fireplace, furnace, a/c 05, 2 car garage. \$210,900
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1/2 ACRE LOT, 1 YEAR OLD. Over 3500 sq. ft., upstairs family room, 3 car garage, absolutely loaded. Extras \$49,900. Call DANNY for details. (734) 454-0000

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Peaceful 10 acre treeed setting surrounds this 2492 sq ft 1 1/2 story home! Home includes 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, brick fireplace and skylights in living room, spacious kitchen, Florida room off dining and full finished walkout lower level. 3 car attached garage, 60x54 horse barn, 48x35 utility barn and more! Hartland Schools. \$548,000

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING?
This appealing 3 bedroom ranch on pretty 2.84 acre setting would be perfect! Great location on paved road with natural gas. This spacious 2438 sq ft home includes Great room, family room w/fireplace, 3 season room, large mud room, full finished basement, fenced yard, nice kitchen with eating area, 2 car attached garage and more! Hartland Schools \$319,900

A HOME FOR ALL SEASONS!
Peaceful 238 acre setting surrounds this lovely 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on paved private road. Home features family room with striking full wall brick fireplace and doorwall to 10x15 screened porch, attractive white kitchen, large 18x14 walk-in closet off master bedroom, walkout basement, large deck for relaxing, 2 car attached garage plus 4 car detached garage and 10x12 potting shed! Hartland Schools \$310,000.

ENGLAND REAL ESTATE
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Howell 3280
IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
3200 sq. ft., 4 br, 3.5 bath, walkout, 4.5 acres, 64x52x14 heated out building. \$410,000 (517) 548-5229

Livonia 3280
CAPE COD 17135 Starwich
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Just reduced! 3 bdrm, 2 bath colonial on 3/4 acres in Livonia 20250 Melvin. Must see! \$167,500 313-330-8137

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By Owner
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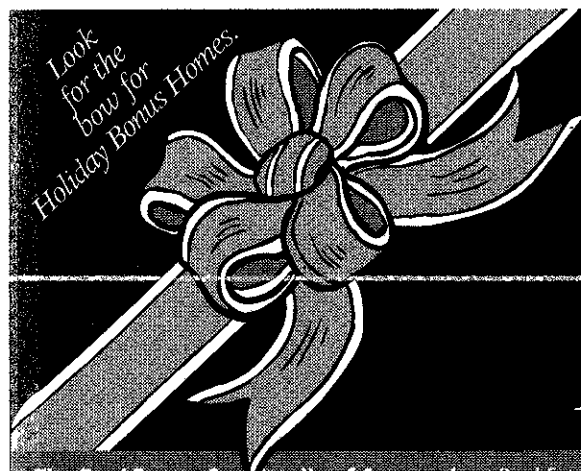
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CANTON 734-455-7000
POPULAR GLENGARRY SUB 3-car gar. 1st fl Indry. Lg deck 2-story foyer. Kit w/oak cabs, isl, hrdwd flrs. FR w/gas FP. LR w/bay window. Mstr ste w/cath ceiling, mstr BA w/shower. Wood wndws. (25111125) \$330,000

CANTON 734-455-7000
RANCH CONDO ON 26TH FAIRWAY! Instantly appealing. Upgrades T/O. 2BR, 2BA, den, lg. GR. 2-way FP. Deck. Beautifully decorated. (25163038) \$310,000

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ATTRACTIVE AND INVITING COLONIAL! Meticulously cared for, on cul-de-sac, charming kit & brkfst area, LR w/vaulted ceiling, cozy DR, comfortable FR, wonderful fin bsmt, 2 brick paver patios. 349-6200 (25151186) \$300,000

CANTON 734-455-7000
FAMILY-FRIENDLY EXECUTIVE COLONIAL! Beautiful 4 lg bedrooms including a sumptuous master suite, 2.5 BAs, new carpet, freshly painted, newer built. (25104771) \$294,000

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CANTON 734-455-7000
CLOSEST THING TO CAREFREE LIVING! Best of in complex, backing to woods. Hardwood floors, Mstr w/mar fl. Corian counters Jetted tub 3BR/2.5BA (25165192) \$264,900

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New construction, 2 Flr Pns to choose from. Prices starting at \$219,900. Loc SE Corner of Joy & Sheldon. (COLUMBIA) \$219,900

CANTON 734-455-7000
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MOVE RIGHT IN! A wonderful 2 BR, 2.5 Bath condo with full basement. Everything is done. One of the best locations in the complex. Hurry, and check out the view in back. (25131534) \$199,000

CANTON 734-591-9200
2 bedrooms, 2.5 bath dramatic staircase in GR. Cath ceiling w/fan & FP. Mstr Br has 2 WIC. Bright kit has new fir & drwall to patio, apple sty. 1st flr Indry. 2 car gar & bsmt. (25009266) \$175,900

CANTON 734-326-2000
WOW! 1,440 SQ. FT. OF PURE LUXURY w/these wonderful upgrades: appliance package, maple raised paneled cabinets, brushed chrome hardware, rollout shelves. 2Bd BR & 2BA located near the Pool. (25149374) \$162,900

CANTON 248-348-6430
CANTON-FORD & SHELDON-BEAUTIFUL 3 BR Condo w/1 1/2 BA. Close to shopping & freeways, & fin bsmt have new carpet. Eat-in kit w/new maple cab & all appl. Ceramic tile in foyer & bathrooms. 349-6200 (25130248) \$147,500

COMMERCE TWP 248-348-6430
BUILDERS MODEL 3300 sq ft. All granite t/o 1st flr mstr, GR, custom kit. Fully landscaped & cedar deck. Beautiful! Nothing spared. 349-6200 (25167921) \$600,000

COMMERCE TWP 248-348-6430
CUSTOM BUILT HOME IN TWIN SUN LAKE Home features 1st & 2nd flr mstr suites. Sun bathed GR w/soaring ceiling opens to lg DR. Backs to commons, pond & play area. Community offers lake access. 349-6200 (25129270) \$339,900

DEARBORN 248-348-6430
SUPER SHARP! 5 BR 2.5 BA HOME Totally remodeled from the inside out in 2004. New kit, baths, win, doors, roof, siding, plumbing, hrdwd flrs. 349-6200 (25136031) \$170,000

DEARBORN HEIGHTS 734-591-9200
Huge new eat in kitchen with tons of storage in the new oak cabinets. Great open flr plan perfect for entertaining large groups of family & friends. Newer wndws, roof, furn and more. (25162385) \$144,900

DETROIT 734-455-7000
A VERY UNIQUE 3BR BUNGALOW! Lg front porch. Back deck w/hot tub. Huge Mstr BR w/2 lg closets. Spacious kit w/dining area. FR w/drwl leading to deck. Roof is 4 yrs. old. Newer wndws on main lv. (25133232) \$132,000

DETROIT 734-326-2000
TERRIFIC INVESTMENT Is this 3/3 Flat. Lower unit w/ Oak Cabinetry & Moldings. Clean & Well maintained with a Basement. Upper Rented. Two Boilers and two Electrical Meters. Garage. (H644) 25066364 \$79,000

FARMINGTON 248-348-6430
ATTRACTIVE COLONIAL ON A PRIVATE WOODED LOT 4 BR, 2 full & 2 half BA, huge kit. w/panoramic view of serene back yard. 6 panel doors t/o, fin LL w/frplc, bath, wet bar, home warranty. 349-6200 (25148796) \$366,500

FARMINGTON HILLS 734-591-9200
Do some of your own updating and reap the rewards. 3 BR brick ranch in ever popular Kendalwood w/large lots. Liv Rm w/FP, fam rm, full bsmt, 2 cat att gar. Good condition & some updates. (25153478) \$219,900

GARDEN CITY 734-326-2000
WOW \$179,900 FOR ALMOST 2000 SQ FT! No I don't have a Basement- I have SQ FT! 2 yes I said 2 Master Stes. 1 EL (Perfect for Mom-in-law. 2 addl BR, 2 BA, GR w/FP, 1st FL Laundry, Fence for Fido. (C570) 25148918 \$169,900

GARDEN CITY 734-455-7000
SUPER HOME! You'll love this beautiful brick ranch. Fin. bsmt, 2 full baths. Newer roof, A/C, deck, copper plumbing, kit, carpet, circuit box, HWH...too many to list. Call today! (25139275) \$159,900

GARDEN CITY 734-326-2000
ROOMY YET COMPACT Is this Unique 3 Bedroom Tri-Level in Garden City with 1 1/2 Baths. Refinished Hardwood Floors, Family Room, LL Walkout, C/A, and 2 Car Garage. (D325) 25142267 \$154,900

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COUNTRY ATMOSPHERE Defines this Aluminum Bungalow on a Huge 92x135' Lot with Family Room, Ceramic Tile Bath, Hardwood Floors, Newer Roof & Garage. All for only \$144,900 (H288) PC 220992 25135991 \$144,900

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If you want to move into a home & relax, this 3 BR ranch is for you. Wonderful updates thru-out: Roof, kit, plbg, elec. Beautifully finished bsmt w/1/2 BA, special patio effects in backyard & more (25102517) \$129,900

INKSTER 734-326-2000
PERFECT STARTER HOME Cozy & Comfortable 2 BR, Brick Ranch has an Open Floor Plan. Fire place, lg. eat & hot tub off the Family Rm. New carpet, new BA. All Appliances inc (A515) 2515815 \$93,000

LATHRUP VILLAGE 248-348-6430
CLEAN AND READY IN LATHRUP VILLAGE Move right in to this awesome ranch! 3 bedrooms, finished basement, hardwood floors and 2 car garage. 349-6200. (25148771) \$179,900

LIVONIA 734-591-9200
Location, quality, value & charm! Attractive 2400 sqft brk colonial, 4 BR, 2.5 BA, FR w/FP, 1st flr Indry, bsmt & 2 car att gar. New roof & doors. All appls stay (25076879) \$314,900

LIVONIA 734-591-9200
Well Maintained HBH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch located in Green Brier Estates Sub. .5 acre lot with mature trees. Home also has a Florida Rm and a 2.5 car garage (25131287) \$299,900

LIVONIA 734-591-9200
Hurry to this beautiful 4BR, 2.5 bath colonial in Francavilla Sub! Fabulous curb appeal, fam rm w/FP open to kit. Bsmt, 2 car att gar. Clean great 500 sq ft deck. Liv Stevenson HS. (25080889) \$289,900

LIVONIA 734-455-7000
WELCOME HOME! Move in! Updates thruout, Lg kit w/corian counters. 2-1/2 car att gar. Part fin. basement, Mstr BR/BA. Wallside windows, roof on house and garage new in 2001. (25128638) \$217,000

LIVONIA 734-591-9200
Location, quality, value & charm. 1200 sqft brk ranch completely updated in 05. Updts incl: new kit w/cabs, car. tile flr & cntr tops. New appls. All new BA. Refin hrdwd flrs, bsmt & 2 car gar (25131463) \$189,900

LIVONIA 734-326-2000
AVAILABLE TODAY Is this 3 bedroom Vinyl Bungalow on a Half Acre lot in Livonia W/ Family Room with Fireplace, 1 1/2 baths, redecorated Kitchen, and 2 Car Garage. (G155) 25071070 \$189,900

LIVONIA 734-591-9200
Livonia! All You Are Looking For! 3 BR brick ranch w/fin rec rm. Feat. newer; Weather Guard Wndws w/marble sills & DRwall leading to deck & fenced yrd. Newer furn & C/A, oversized gar dr w/opener (25083982) \$179,900

LIVONIA 734-326-2000
COME SEE WHAT'S NEW in this 3 BR brick & vinyl Livonia ranch w/full fin bsmt w/bar, 2 full baths, Central air, newer windows & 2 1/2 car garage W/opener, you won't be disappointed. (H906) PC 220892 25092598 \$169,900

LIVONIA 734-591-9200
3 BR, 2 BA brick ranch w/ finished basement. Neutral t/o, FR w/ fireplace, garage, fenced yard, fire pit. (25136766) \$167,900

LIVONIA 734-591-9200
Great! Updated 3 bedroom ranch with Livonia Schools! 2 car garage. Fireplace, new roof, windows, furnace, kitchen, bath, ect. (C28546) 25135123 \$154,900

LIVONIA 734-591-9200
3 BR, 2 BA brick ranch in excellent location. Fenced yard, large deck, detached garage, and all mechanicals updated. (25156213) \$149,900

LIVONIA 734-591-9200
All brick bungalow. Livonia with 1467 sq ft. 2 full BA, newer roof, electrical, HWH & more. 2.5 car garage w/220, heat, built in air lines & a second story for finishing or storage (25149222) \$149,900

LIVONIA 734-591-9200
Beautiful updated private entry 1st flr, 2 BR, 2 Bath 971 sq ft condo. Scenic views of the private nature pond. All appl. stay. (25120925) \$119,000

NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430
STATELY COLONIAL ON 0.4 ACRES Kit has island, cherry cabs, granite cntrs & high-end appliances. Lib w/bev/gls drs & custom cherry bk cases. LL has custom wet-bar. 349-6200 (25137759) \$1,190,000

NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430
RAVINES OF NORTHVILLE EXECUTIVE HOME 4 bdrm, 3.5 baths. Gourmet kit w/granite island, FR w/vaulted ceiling. Spacious mstr suite. Jack-n-Jill bath. Extensive use of crown molding & wainscoting. 349-6200 (25160133) \$599,900

NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430
OWN A LITTLE PIECE OF HEAVEN 3.5 acres. Beautiful prop. Secluded yet close to everything. Custom bilt ranch. Tons of upgrades. Granite kit, amazing LL w/2020 add'l sq ft. 349-6200 (25166299) \$570,000

NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430
CLOSE TO TOWN. UPDATED 3 BR RANCH Custom kit, refinished hrdwd flrs, fresh paint in & out, new carpet. DR w/bay window, GR w/FP. Quiet cul-de-sac location close to parklike commons. 349-6200 (25146840) \$349,900

NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430
HISTORIC NORTHVILLE Walk to quaint downtown Northville. Charming cape cod. Two frplcs. DR w/bay window. Updated kit & baths. Mechanics dream garage. Lovely lot w/many perennials. 349-6200 (25068900) \$314,900

NORTHVILLE 248-349-6200
OPEN FLOOR PLAN IN THIS CHARMING RANCH Beautifully maintained, updated thruout, hrdwd flrs in kit, DR, & FR. Super LL w/daylight windows. Country feeling, walk downtown. A great condo alternative. 348-6430 (25034152) \$299,999

NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430
BEAUTIFUL CONDO Spacious 3 bdrm 2.5 ba unit with a fin bsmt. Updated kit, furnace, A/C, H2O, wndws. Deck, frplc, newer carpet. Everything you want is in this one. 349-6200 (25126841) \$199,900

NORTHVILLE 734-591-9200
Desirable 2 BR ranch condo features prof finished bsmt with 2nd full bath, private patio with deck, many updates. Highland Lakes-A great place to live. (25150365) \$149,900

NOVI 248-348-6430
COZY LITTLE WELL MAINTAINED HOME Loving pride of ownership reflected t/o this fine ranch home in wonderful Whispering Meadows subdivision. Located back in the treed section Lg GR w/frpl. 349-6200 (25072285) \$221,900

NOVI 248-348-6430
UPDATE IT OR LOVE IT! Wonderful home, private yard backing to stream, nice oak kit, 3 BR, 2 full BA, lg laundry, new drive, covered patio, new hi E furnace, well cared for home 349-6200 (25096192) \$200,000

NOVI 248-348-6430
LAKE ACCESS, BIKE TRAILS & MUCH MORE Enjoy this 2 bdrm, 2 bath Novi condo overlooking Walled Lake. Buyer must be 50+, upper unit near elevator in bldg. All appl included. Assigned carport. 349-6200 (25093259) \$127,900

PLYMOUTH 734-591-9200
Built in 2001, 3 BR, 2.5 BA cape cod, delivers exclusive upgrades, incl maple kit cabs, extensive HDWD flrs, 1st flr Mstr w/bath that offers jetted tub & sep shower, volume clngs in GR & FP. (W51013) (25130836) \$424,900

PLYMOUTH 248-348-6430
Nature lovers delight 2.2 acres w/Plymouth-Canton schools. Tons of features including new oak kit, new roof, vinyl wndws, hrdwd flrs. Spacious room sizes w/4 bdms & 2 full baths. 349-6200 (25141161) \$299,950

PLYMOUTH 734-455-7000
SPACIOUS COLONIAL IN OLD ORCHARDS SUB 3BR, 1.5BA COL. Easy access to I-275 & dwntwn Ply. New roof. White bay cabs, Corian sink. Cozy FR w/FP, bookshelves on sides of brk hearth. Dbl doors into Mstr. (25139267) \$223,900

PLYMOUTH 734-455-7000
BEAUTIFULLY MAINTAINED AND UPDATED Spacious 3BR home in affordable Twin Arbors with outstanding 12 x 11 sunroom w/Pella windows and doorwall. (25134481) \$219,900

PLYMOUTH 734-455-7000
WALK TO DOWNTOWN PLYMOUTH 2BR upper ranch condo w/bay window, vaulted ceiling, sky lights, oak cabs. Mstr BR has 2 WICS. Andersen windows, new furn in Aug 05. Seller motivated. (25139282) \$129,900

PONTIAC 248-348-6430
CHARMING BRICK RANCH ON PEACEFUL STREET Enjoy the warmth of plaster walls and cove ceilings in beautiful shades of beige. Hrdwd flrs t/o. Newer ceramic flr in kit. Full bsmt for storage. 349-6200 (25125884) \$134,900

REDFORD 734-591-9200
3 BR, 2.5 BA, 2200 +/- finished sft. Hardwood, FR w/fireplace, Master w/full bath, HUGE Florida room. Treed lot, great value! (25154185) 174,900

REDFORD 734-591-9200
Lots of home for the money! 3 BR brick ranch, 2.5 BAs, full basement, and enclosed breezeway to attached garage. Put this one on your list to see. (25133401) \$158,900

REDFORD 734-591-9200
3 BR, 1.5 bath ranch, finished basement with bar for entertaining family & friends. Bath and a half on the main floor. All appliances stay. (25158479) \$144,900

REDFORD 734-591-9200
Wonderful brick home located in desirable neighborhood within walking distance of parks and schools. 3BR, full bsmt, side entry gar, lots of nice updates, doorwall walks out to deck. (25101125) \$129,900

REDFORD 734-591-9200
This wonderful home has an awesome backyard, beautiful landscaping & big ticket updates like furn & wndws. Lrg eat in kit has plenty of room for table & lg wndw overlooking backyard. (25124629) \$116,900

REDFORD 734-591-9200
Affordable, updated ranch. All new kit w/car flr, updated BA w/marble flr & pedestal sink. Refin hrdwd flrs, all new paint & lgt fixtures. Clarenceville Schls. Appls tool (25157771) \$104,900

ROCHESTER 248-348-6430
BROOKLYN PIZZA/ICE CREAM BUSINESS Downtown Rochester. Wood-fired oven, homemade ice cream, gelato, Italian ice. 1800 sq ft, seats over 40. Includes equipment & inventory. 349-6200 (25084901) \$100,000

ROMULUS 734-455-7000
AFFORDABLE GOLF COURSE LIVING! Sharp and stylish contemporary cape cod on the golf course! 3BR, fin. bsmt w/4th BR, 1st fl mstr ste, open and airy GR. Tons of upgrades. 40' deck. (HBH) (25120465) \$224,900

SOUTH LYON 248-348-6430
VERY SPECIAL HOME-PRETTY AS A PICTURE! Attractive remodeled Col., stone frplc in DR, charming kit, lovely LR, oak flrs, crown molding, 3 bdms, 2 baths, covered front porch, side porch, stone patio. 349-6200 (25164144) \$219,900

SOUTHFIELD 248-348-6430
SPACIOUS DETACHED RANCH CONDO-AMUST SEE Wood entry w/pantry closet. White kitchen w/wood flrs, eat-in area. Lg laundry rm w/lots of cabinets & desk area. 2 assigned parking spaces in front. 349-6200 (25125546) \$139,900

SUPERIOR TWP 248-348-6430
BETTER THAN NEW Move-in ready. Landscape, deck, sprinklers, C/A, wndw treatments-all done. Brook model w/add. sq ft upgrade. Open flr plan, neutral, lg. yard, commons playgrd. 349-6200 (25126363) \$215,000

WARREN 248-348-6430
GREAT STARTER CLOSE TO GM TECH CENTER LR carpet, door, & wndws in '04, vault cell w/skyites in mstr bdrm & DR, lg Fla rm in front, remodeled kitchen w/newer oak cabs, freshly painted. 349-6200 (25156408) \$100,000

WATERFORD 734-591-9200
1947 sq ft 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, Mstr suite w/bath & WIC, kitchen w/oak cabs, walk out bsmt, backs to woods, lake access to Pleasant Lake, deck and paver patio. (C617) \$249,900

WAYNE 734-326-2000
BEAUTIFUL FAMILY FRIENDLY HOME! Lighted Deck, Hardwood Foyer & Hallway, Island Kit, Mstr. w/Bath, FP, Basement ready for Drywall, framing complete, plumbed for full bath. Immed occupancy. (B500) 25149281 \$189,900

WAYNE 734-326-2000
COUNTRY IN THE CITY 3 BR Ranch, 3 car gar, & 1st Shed. Newer Wndws & Rt, Mud Rm, MBR w/W.C., 25111125, PC 221012 (25127909) \$103,000

WESTLAND 734-591-9200
Well maintained 5 BR, 3 full bath home in Westland. Mother in-law apartment upstairs w/2BR & 1 BA. Lg. home offers newer roof, newer wndws, hrdwd flrs, lrg eat in kit, part fin bsmt. (25119773) \$204,900

WESTLAND 734-591-9200
Newer Construction Condo w/loads of updates. Fully fin basement w/bar, Egress wndw. Home features gas fireplace, deck, ceramic tile, hrdwd flrs, stainless steel appliances and much more (25074971) \$199,900

WESTLAND 248-348-6430
Very Nice! Very neutral! Very nearly new! 3 BR, 2.5 BA colonial w/professionally fin bsmt. Built in 2001, home is bright, neutral & in move-in condition. Newer sub w/sidewalks & close to everything. 349-6200 (25156459) \$195,000

WESTLAND 734-326-2000
IDEAL OPPORTUNITY In this 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath 2 story condo in Westland. Full finished basement, 2 car attached garage, first floor laundry, C/A. (D702) PC 220082 (25142587) \$168,000

WESTLAND 734-591-9200
Charming 3BR brick ranch with full bsmt. Home features family room with fireplace, deep lot, 2 car garage, hardwood floors, newer roof, glass blk windows and much more. (25104228) \$149,900

WESTLAND 734-326-2000
BEGIN HERE AND LOOK NO MORE! Enjoy this beautiful 3 BR, 2 BA home. Everything is just like new. Independence begins by owning your own home. This home is perfect for the 1st time buyer. (G323) (25124963) \$145,900

WESTLAND 734-326-2000
PERFECTLY PERFECT! No stone unturned. Beautiful hardwood floors, brand new kitchen, updated bath, finished basement, new roof, new windows. Squeaky clean! (F318) (25149851) \$139,900

WESTLAND 734-326-2000
ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS OPEN FLOOR PLAN! 2 Walk-in Closets in a huge Master BR, formal DR, lg eat-in kit, C/A, sharp landscaping, 2 car garage, deck. Couldn't be any cleaner. Move in condition. (B143) (25165648) \$139,900

WESTLAND 734-326-2000
GREAT RETURN FOR A SMALL INVESTMENT! This duplex is in great shape! Newer roof & plumbing, vinyl siding. Both sides are rented. This one won't last long. Hurry! (A316) (25123915) \$109,900

WESTLAND 734-326-2000
GREAT RETURN ON A SMALL INVESTMENT! This duplex is in great shape! New roof, new furnace in 1 Unit, updated kitchen & bath in the other. Both units are rented. (A317) (25123925) \$99,900

WESTLAND 734-326-2000
SHARP DUTCH COLONIAL Great curb appeal on this 3 BR 1081 Sq Ft Colonial w/fin bsmt. Needs minor TLC. Lots of bang for the buck w/newer furnace, windows & siding. Big front porch! (C232) (25078766) \$89,900

WESTLAND 734-326-2000
BUDGET WISE? Then you will appreciate this 2 bedroom brick ranch with full basement in Westland. Newer carpeting and windows & remodeled kitchen and bath. (A259) (25080976) \$84,900

Observer & Eccentric



Real Estate

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Westland 3445

JUST LISTED!

\$124,900 GETS ALL THIS!

3 spacious bdrms, garage, 1st floor laundry, bsmt, covered patio, C/A, newer roof, windows, carpet, driveway. Fresh & clean! Call DANNY for details. Group Ten Realtors (734) 454-0000

JUST LISTED!

BEAUTIFULLY MAINTAINED Brick Ranch 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, w/finished wood floors & walls. Sides windows. Bsmt w/bar all appliances stay. New roof on house & garage. \$159,900. (GA825)

BRING ALL OFFERS! 3 bedroom ranch, living room, dining room, 3-season Florida room, never furnace & roof, basement. \$141,000

CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300 www.premiersoldit.com

BY OWNER - Meticulously maintained home is ready for immediate occup. Most of the expensive updates are done 3 bdrm, 1 bath, fin. bath, 1020 sq. ft. \$162,500. Additional info call. 734-425-8003

SHARP & CLEAN 3 bdrm, brick ranch, finished bsmt with office, newly remodeled oak kitchen with built-in appliances, \$558,800. W. of Wayne, off Avondale. Open Sat-Sun, 1-4pm. \$157,900. 734-812-3455

WESTLAND Rent to own, \$900/mo. 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 1 car attached. Brand new kitchen & bath, Dave. 248-910-1077

Lapeer County 3515

CHRISTMAS IN METAMORA! Magnificent stone & brick country French home on 10 acres. 4 bedrooms, 6 baths, vaulted ceilings, great room, den, 1st floor master, granite, hardwood floors, finished walk-out, 4 fireplaces, new carriage house, trout pond, private gated assoc. Additional 10 acres avail. \$1,395,000. Can't be duplicated for this price! Much more. Snyder, Kinney, Bennett & Keating 248-505-7770

Livingston County 3520

SEARCH THOUSANDS of homes online @ www.livingstonmi.com 810-593-6471

Wayne County 3570

NEEDS TLC! 3 Bedroom ranch w/garage. As-is! Fixer-upper w/lots of potential! \$59,900 (39D0)

PACK YOUR BAGS! Move-in ready! 2 bedroom Ranch. Many updates & upgrades! \$33,900. (391S)

Century 21 Hartford South 734-464-8400

Real Estate Auction 3620

Grosse Isle, MI AUCTION 12-3-05

Personal property 10am Real Estate 2pm 796 Acre 20521 Meridian Road 2365 sq. ft. ranch Open 11-27-05, 1-3pm 11-30-05, 6-7-30pm Bid Your Price, Call for your FREE Property Info. Packet (517) 676-9800 sheridanauctionservice.com Harry Davidson Soft Tail, Pontiac Firebird, Firearms, Commercial Equip including End Loader, Old Pocket Watches, Collectibles, Meat Processing, Generator, Tools & much more! Visit website www.auctions.com Or call (248) 473-1547 SHERIDAN REALTY & AUCTION CO

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Real Estate Services 3640

FORECLOSED HOMES Residential, commercial & land Low % rates, \$0 down. 1st time buyers or investors 1-800-949-8020

Condos 3720

Belleville BETTER THAN NEW! 2 bdrm and unit condo backs to pond. Tons of upgrades, great room, eat-in kitchen, 1st floor master, 2nd bdrm or loft, all appliances, bsmt with egress window, garage. CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300 www.premiersoldit.com

Bloomfield Hills - City of Gorgeous condo 2 bdrm., 2 bath, den, dining room, living room, kitchen w/a nook, 2 car attached garage, model condition. Overlooking park-like setting. 1835 sq. ft. \$349,000 or lease. Michael @586-929-6055. Killarney Realty 1280 US 12.

Bloomfield Hills By owner, better than new, completely updated 3 bdrm, 3 1/2 baths, library, atrium, finished bsmt. MUST SEE! \$549,900 (248) 433-1184

It's no gamble... when you advertise in The Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

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Condos 3720

JUST LISTED!

FARMINGTON HILLS GATED COMMUNITY Spotless 1650 sq. ft., 2 bdrm., 2 1/2 bath end unit brick ranch Condo w/1,000 sq. ft. in finished daylight bsmt. Great room w/fireplace. Master suite has private bath w/Jacuzzi & separate shower. First floor laundry. All appliances stay. Vaulted ceilings throughout. 2 car garage. Treed park-like setting. \$325,000 (SA369)

Century 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000 www.century21today.com

FARMINGTON HILLS Two bedroom condo with stunning view from every window. Balcony faces trees and river. Freshly painted Kitchen includes appliances. Association fee includes water and heat. Move in and enjoy! Century 21 Hartford North 734-525-9600

GROSSE POINTE CONDO Walk to Village & Hospital 3 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 Baths, lots of upgrades. Basement & attached garage. 2,000 sq. ft. \$1,650 00/mo CMS (248) 549-0900

LIVONIA - 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, full bsmt, carport. Spacious, sharp, 6 appliances, heart of Livonia. Many features! \$124,900 313-635-1183

1999 BUILT 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath ranch w/convenient location Deck, attached garage, all appliances. Immediate occupancy. Now \$169,900. MARY McLEOD RE/MAX Alliance 734-462-3600 248-477-2006 www.marymcleod.com

JUST LISTED! LIVONIA Don't miss this 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath w/basement & 2 car attached garage. 1st floor laundry, hardwood flooring, skylight, fireplace & so much more! \$250,000 Call Wally Justus Century 21 Row 734-464-7111

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Condos 3720

JUST LISTED!

LIVONIA Gorgeous premium and unit Cape Cod style condo w/open floor plan. Huge great room w/fireplace, library, gourmet designer kitchen & 1st floor laundry. Bsmt. 2 car attached garage. \$329,000 (NE376)

Century 21 TODAY (734) 462-8888 www.century21today.com

LIVONIA New Construction, 3 bdrm., finished bsmt., attached garage. Super low assoc. fee. \$277,900. Karen 734-502-8289 Century 21 Row 734-464-7111

1995 BUILT 3 bdrm, 2 bath detached ranch w/bsmt and 2 car attached garage. Beautiful neutral decor, cathedral ceilings, open floor plan. \$349,900. MARY McLEOD RE/MAX Alliance 734-462-3600 248-477-2006 www.marymcleod.com

By Owner

PLYMOUTH UPGRADE 2 bdrm ranch condo in beautiful downtown. Heated underground parking. Move in immediately! \$239,900 734-416-8176.

It's all here!

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Condos 3720

JUST LISTED!

SOUTHFIELD ONLY \$157,900 Well maintained & spacious 1,520 sq. ft., 3 bdrm., 2 1/2 bath townhouse Condo. Living room w/fireplace & dining room have hardwood floors. Updated kitchen w/breakfast area, 2 doorways to patio/garden area. Bsmt. awaits finishing touches. Carport. Pool in complex. (FR260)

Century 21 TODAY (248) 647-8888 www.century21today.com

TROY: 2 bdrm condo in Strathmoor complex. New appliances in kitchen. Hot tub. \$163,900 248-752-0342

WEST BLOOMFIELD 2 bdrm, 2 bath, totally updated w/beautiful view of pond & woods; balcony, garage. \$150,000 248-921-6632

JUST LISTED! WEST BLOOMFIELD ONLY \$167,900 Spacious 2-story Condo w/open floor plan, high ceilings & skylites. Living room w/fireplace. Kitchen w/dining area, bay window & appliances. 2 1/2 baths. Two bedrooms including master suite w/walk-in closet & bath. Finished bsmt. Brick paver patio. Two car attached garage. (GR706)

Century 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000 www.century21today.com

Sell it all with Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL

Westland TWO YEARS NEW And ideally situated at the rear of complex, this 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit is neutral with vaulted ceilings, deck, attached garage and more. \$157,500

MARY McLEOD RE/MAX Alliance 734-462-3600 248-477-2006 www.marymcleod.com

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Condos 3720

JUST LISTED!

WESTLAND Woodland Creek Manor, 7633 Manor Circle, No. 201, Central City Parkway/Warren 915 sq. ft. upper unit, 2 bdrm, 1 bath, large walk in closet master bdrm, in unit laundry. New Laminite kitchen/dining room floor. Includes kitchen appliances. \$93,500. Call for appt 248-982-5513

Manufactured Homes 3740

CANTON - For sale in Holiday Park 734-453-0589, 269-963-7677

GREAT DEALS! SKYLITE HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS! 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, All Appliances, Separate Laundry Room With Washer & Dryer, C/A, Shed, Hot Covered Deck \$45,000

VICTORIAN WELCOME HOME! 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, All Appliances, C/A, Garden Tub, Shed, Deck Must See! \$14,000

SKYLITE MUST SEE! 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Includes, Stove, Refrigerator, Dishwasher, Garbage Disposal & Shed \$28,200

SKYLITE - MODEL HOME SWEET HOME! 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Includes, Stove, Refrigerator, Garbage Disposal, Separate Laundry Room & More! \$29,900

QUALITY HOMES at HIGHLAND HILLS ESTATES on Seelye Rd., N of Grand River (248) 474-0320

24 x 56, 3 bed, 2 bath, appliances Only \$13,900

16 x 68, 2 bed, 2 bath Only \$7,900

QUALITY HOMES at Sherwood Village Wayne-Westland Schools on the southeast corner of Michigan Ave. & Haggerty Rd. (734) 397-7774

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Resort & Vacation Property 3800

FLA. MONTHLY RENTAL Bonita Springs Condo. 2 bdrm, 2 bath, 1700 sq. ft. 1st floor. 2 ft Lanai, attached garage, pool, club house, golf, gated. REDUCED 248-342-0871 or 586-350-5142

Lots & Acreage/Vacant 3820

FARMINGTON HILLS Buildable lot, all utilities available, 8 mile and Gill area. \$75,900 248-563-2737

Real Estate Wanted 3870

AVOID FORECLOSURE! Trouble selling your house? We'll buy or lease your house, make your payments, do repairs, close quickly, any area, any price, any condition. 248-496-0514

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Cemetery Lots 3880

WESTLAND 2 Great plots, 2 vaults and double plaque at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West. List \$7500, asking \$6200. Call (313) 277-1269

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Plymouth Commercial/Multi-Family For Sale 1. On Ann Arbor Tr. 176 frontage. Development opportunity \$1,495,000. 2. 3-Family 1 blk from Main St. \$353,000. 3. 3-Family on Ann Arbor Tr. Superb cond. Fully leased. \$295,000. C21 Curran & Christie - Commercial 313-563-4210

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Apartments

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Apartments

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

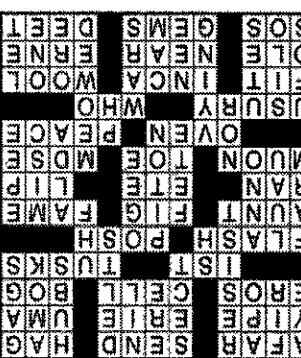
- 1 Miles away
- 5 E-mail option
- 9 Old crone
- 12 Omigod!
- 13 Great Lakes port
- 14 Mr. Thurman
- 15 Love god
- 16 Nun's room
- 17 Soggy ground
- 18 Devotee's suffix
- 20 Walrus teeth
- 22 Sparkle
- 25 Ritz
- 27 Close relative
- 28 Brownish fruit
- 29 Blown
- 33 Made tracks
- 34 Dog days in Dijon
- 35 Mouth part
- 36 Physics particle
- 38 Dactyl
- 39 Inventory wd.
- 40 Roasting chamber

42 Nobel Prize category
43 Loan-sharking
46 Which person
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48 Andean empire
51 Sweater material
55 Bullfight yell
56 Kind of miss
57 Sea eagle
58 Soap pad brand
59 Mineral finds
60 Bug repellent

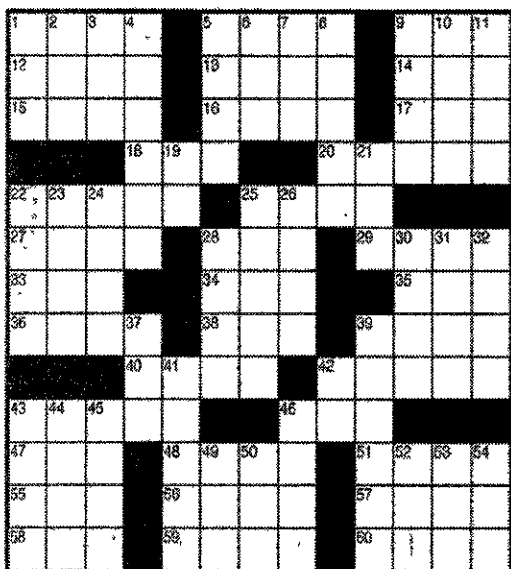
DOWN

- 1 Yes vote
- 2 Evergreen tree
- 3 GI mail drop
- 4 Stand up to
- 5 Faction
- 6 Sooner than anon
- 7 Goose egg
- 8 Shoulder muscles
- 9 Wheel parts
- 10 On a rampage
- 11 Comedian's stock
- 19 Library sound
- 21 TV band
- 22 Raise com
- 23 Hula-dance feast
- 24 Livy's year
- 25 Rock climber's aid
- 26 Pointed arch
- 28 Big celebration
- 30 Swift co-star
- 31 Var. topics
- 32 Touche provoker
- 37 Neither's mate
- 39 Caterwauls
- 41 Striving to win
- 42 Soil test datum
- 43 Pilots' sightings
- 44 Corn holder
- 45 Comanches' kin
- 46 Treaties end them
- 49 Maiden-name indicator
- 50 Trippet
- 52 Mother lode
- 53 Four quarters
- 54 Sanction

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



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1 bdrm, air, coin laundry, private wood deck. LG storage. Heat/water included. \$575/mo. 313-682-7225

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PLYMOUTH 2 bdrm 2 bath
Laundry, air, all appliances. Close to everything. \$825. 734-455-4169

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1 Bedroom, bath, Laundry facilities. No pets. Basement. Immediate Occupancy. Approx 700 sq. ft. includes heat, water, stove, refrigerator, microwave, gar disposal, a/c, assigned parking, updated, clean & quiet. \$570/mo. 248-740-9836

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• CABLE READY
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• Balconies
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• Livonia school system
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BLOOMFIELD HILLS 1 Bdrm.
washer/dryer, large storage unit. Club house, pool. \$650/mo. (248) 310-9129

CANTON CHERRY HILL VILLAGE
Brand New - 2 Bdrms, 2 baths, 2 garages, Bsmt. 1800 sq. ft. \$1500/mo. 248-761-1008

FARMINGTON 3 Bdrm. 2 bath
condo. Cathedral/Hardwood. Furnished or Unfurnished. \$1450/mo. Bath 734-521-0185

Apartments/Unfurnished 4000

Westland HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS LIVING AT WESTERN HILLS

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\$199 MOVES YOU IN!
1 Bdrm. \$489
2 bdrm. \$559
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Mon-Fri 8-6pm, Sat. 10-2
* CONDITIONS APPLY

Apartments/Furnished 4010

Birmingham - 700 Ann St
One bedroom, 1 bath, living room, kitchen, utilities included. All amenities. Small building. Laundry facilities. Carport. \$975/mo. 248-546-3056

BIRMINGHAM - Downtown
Townsend. 1 bdrm, completely furnished. Off street parking. \$995 mo. incl utilities. 6 mo. minimum. Moly. 248-642-7789 or 248-705-8281.

BIRMINGHAM Downtown luxurious 2 bdrm, 2 bath apt. Avail. Jan. 1 - May 1. 248-647-9207, 248-761-2014

FARMINGTON HILLS - Park
Motel. Furnished rooms, efficiency & apts from \$150/week. No deposit. 248-474-1324

Condos/Townhouses 4020

AN OLDE REDFORD TOWNHOUSE
2 bdrm, carpeted, blinds, bsmt, heat, water, cable. \$725 + security. 248-735-0877

BELLEVILLE 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath
All appliances, water & gas free. Carport. No pets. Non-smoking. \$750 mo + security. 734-461-1861

BIRMINGHAM 1 bdrm
remodeled condo. Lease w/ option to purchase or short term lease avail. 248-790-1256

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Edgewood Court North - Grant
at Davis Not a Condo, Luxury Townhouse Rentals. Live in style without the commitment of ownership. Spacious, updated 2 bed / 1.5 bath with private patio, full basement, hardwood flooring, covered parking. Short distance to shopping, dining, & entertainment.

Maple Road Townes - Maple
at Columbia (east of Adams) Close to downtown from these quaint updated 1 bedroom townhomes (\$820), and 1 bedroom apts (\$725), in ry-covered building.

Edgewood Court - 14 Mile
between Pierce and Greenfield. Beautiful kitchens highlight these updated 2 bed, 1 bath townhouses with covered parking. \$995

All have central A/C, 1 cat OK w/fee EHO
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149 Columbia (south off Maple between Adams & Eton)

Offered by the Benecke Group 248-642-8686

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washer/dryer, large storage unit. Club house, pool. \$650/mo. (248) 310-9129

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Condos/Townhouses 4020

LIVONIA First mo. rent free. 2 bdrm, 2 bath, screen porch, appliances. \$1050/mo. D&H Properties 248-737-4002

NORTHVILLE RENT OR RENT TO OWN
Large 1 bdrm, 1 bath condo, \$675 rent. 1st Mo. Rent FREE! 24 hr recorded message 866-237-2647 ext. 11.

NORTHVILLE 1609 sqft.
2 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 2 car, built 2003. Stainless, washer/dryer. \$1500. 734-502-4512

PLYMOUTH 2 bdrm
facing woods, newly renovated, garage, 2.5 bath, deck, no pets. \$980 (734) 354-9613

Plymouth Charming Ranch Condo
Right downtown. Cathedral ceilings, skylights, fireplace, balcony, open floor plan. Tastefully decorated and clean. Freshly painted, neutral throughout. \$995/month lease - also for sale.

Century 21 Hartford North
734-525-9600

SOUTH LYON New 2 bdrm, bsmt., hardwood floors, close to town. \$785/mo D&H Properties 248-737-4002

SOUTHFIELD TOWNHOUSE/CONDO
2 bdrm, 2.5 baths, full bsmt., 2 car garage. 1600 sq. ft., no pets. 1 1/2 month sec. deposit. 248-855-8110

SOUTHFIELD Beautiful 2 bdrm
2 bath, hardwood floors, new appliances, \$750/mo. Share Net Realty. 248-642-1620

Duplexes 4030

Belleville 2 bdrm
Hwd floors, updated kitchen w/all appliances, new vinyl windows, new blinds, bsmt w/washer & dryer hookup & possible 3rd bedroom. \$825/mo, \$1000 sec dep. 2 bdrms avail now. Pets negotiable. Call Tina 734-416-8736

BIRMINGHAM - Lower, 2 bdrm
hardwood floors, bsmt, air, no pets. \$1100/mo. (248) 844-1689

CANTON 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath
Appliances. No pets. Ford/Sheildon area. \$865/mo. Call 248-514-0585

Dearborn Area EVERGREEN & FORD RD.
Newly renovated 2 bdrm duplex w/ bsmt, near Fairlane, HFC, & U of M East. \$525 + sec. Avail now! 248-388-2905

GARDEN CITY - 1 bdrm
duplex, no smoking, appliances, no pets, \$495/mo. Leave message 734-425-5305

HAZEL PARK - 2 bedroom
upper \$575/month includes heat, water cable and garage.

NORWAYNE 2 bdrm
+ partial finished kitchen & bath never cat pet, freshly painted, nice location. \$569/mo. 313-278-0282

Westland - 2 bedroom
Full basement. Clean & neat. Quiet neighborhood. Immediate occupancy. From \$645/month. Call Jamie 734-721-8111

WESTLAND Norwayne area
Duplex 31561 Alpena, 2 bdrm, \$540 mo + security. 32406 Lapeer, 3 bdrm, \$650 + sec. Call (248) 420-0573

WESTLAND/NORWAYNE
2 bedroom. Clean. Remodeled kitchen. Under \$660/ security. 734-416-9799

Flats 4040

BERKLEY - Lower flat.
1207 Dorotha 2 bdrm, 6 rooms. Updated Appliances. Clean. \$850 per mo. 2 yr/\$925 one year lease. (248) 770-1964

BIRMINGHAM, Downtown
1 bedroom upper flat, includes heat, garage & balcony. \$800. 248-645-0171

FERDALE 467 W. Chesterfield.
1 bdrm upper, \$650, 2 bdrm lower + office, \$800. Both nice. 1 1/2 mo. sec credit check. 248-855-0616

Flats 4040

PLYMOUTH - DOWNTOWN
Great location, seconds to downtown, 1 bdrm, lower flat. Updated thru-out, freshly painted, hardwood floors, neutral decor, large eat-in Kitchen w/all appliances, Bonus Room could be office or 2nd bedroom. Bsmt w/extra storage, washer/dryer, Central Air, & vinyl windows. 1 yr lease. \$655/mo, \$1000 sec dep. Pets negotiable. 641 Forest St. Avail. now.
Call Tina. 734-416-8736

Homes For Rent 4050

BAD CREDIT? YOU CAN STILL BUY A HOME WITH SO DOWN IN ANY AREA!
Short term employment OK. Bankruptcy OK. Call Randy Leskin, METRO FINANCE. 248-709-2244. metrofinance.net

BIRMINGHAM
2604 Manchester, renovated, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, hardwood floors, all appliances, fireplace, finish bsmt, garage, fenced, deck, \$1595/mo. 248-761-0627

BLOOMFIELD Well-maintained, 4 bdrm, 2 bath Ranch, fireplace, attached garage, \$2150. ShareNet Realty 248-642-1620

CANTON - 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath,
deck, fireplace, appliances, 2 car garage, fenced yard, bsmt, c/a, \$1500/mo. 734-716-7827

CANTON - We have
new homes for rent. Pets welcome. Call Sandy at Sun Homes for details at. 888-304-8941
Skyline/Clayton Retailer

CANTON 3 Bdrm. ranch.
2.5 detached garage. \$1185/mo. Call: (734) 416-9799

CANTON 4 bdrm, bsmt, 2 car
attached garage, fireplace, fenced yard, pets okay, all appliances, \$1400/mo. Derek: 810-533-2342

CANTON TOWNSHIP
3 bdrm Colonial, \$1395/mo. (734) 354-9725

CLAWSON Clean one story home, 4 bdrm, living room & family room, nice kitchen, laundry room, garage, fenced yard, \$995 year lease or will consider option to buy. (248) 709-1120

COMMERC 5 bdrm, 2 car
garage \$1495/mo. Also 3 bdrm avail \$1395. Both brick homes on lg wooded lots. Option to buy 248-613-3752.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS 6198 Mayburn 3 bdrm brick
ranch 1 car garage, fenced Avail immediately. \$795 SHOWING: Sunday @4pm Wednesday @6PM. Call: 248-703-5870. 248-647-9726

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DETROIT-16580 Woodbine
2 bdrm, bsmt, \$675 mo. 6 mile. W/Telegraph 248-476-6488

FARMINGTON HILLS - Grand
River/Middlebelt 3 bdrm, \$800 + security & utilities. Lease. No pets. 248-553-8095

FARMINGTON HILLS 1500
sq ft colonial 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, 2 car attached, lg, fenced yard \$1350/mo. 248-388-7869

FARMINGTON HILLS 3 bdrm,
1 bath, 932 sq ft. Fenced, 1.5 car garage. \$900 / mo. Available now. 248-763-6151

FARMINGTON HILLS
Grand River & Middlebelt. 2 bdrm, wood floors. Gas heat, screened porch. Double lot. \$750 rent + deposit, references. (248) 348-0066

FARMINGTON HILLS-Rent To Own
2 bdrm, 1.5 car garage, lg. lot, \$700/mo. 248-328-0492, 248-760-8051

FERDALE 2 master bdrm
fireplace, new kitchen w/appliances. Bsmt. w/laundry, oak floors. \$900. 248-350-2499

This Classification continues in Section G

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

Your Weekly Guide to Apartment Living

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Education Seminars

The Building Association of Southeastern Michigan is sponsoring the following seminars:

■ 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 1 — “Condominium Nuts and Bolts: When To Consider Using a Condominium Format” at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Registration fee is \$20 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$40 for guests. (248) 862-1033.

■ 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, “Builder’s License Preparation Course” at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Material covered will include topics on the exam, laws and rules, construction drawings, codes, procedures, sample test questions and test tips. Registration is \$200. (248) 862-1033.

■ 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 5, “Convention Strategies” at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Registration fee is \$20 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$40 for guests. (248) 862-1033.

■ 8:30-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, “Extreme Success” seminar at Stagecrafters Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. A discussion on risks that yield better results, new ways to deal with fear and how to break free from the “Struggle Syndrome.” Registration fee is \$59 for sales and marketing

council members, \$89 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$109 for non-members and guests. (248) 862-1033.

■ 8 a.m. to noon Thursday, Dec. 8, “Codes and Quality Control” at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Chuck Breidenstein of Builders Professional Services Group will discuss setting performance expectations, a superintendent’s responsibilities regarding codes and will provide tips to enforce code compliance on the job site. Registration fee is \$145. (248) 862-1033.

■ 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 12, “Managing a Business for the Long Term” seminar at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Richard G. William, CPA, of Polk and Associates PLC will discuss strategic planning for the small to medium size business, exit strategies and business valuation. Registration is \$20 for BIA or AAM members and \$40 for guests. (248) 862-1033.

■ 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 16, “Managers Roundtable” discussion at AAM headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. The program is free for Property AAM, PMC and BIA members and \$15 for guests. Coffee and bagels will be provided. (248) 862-1033.

How To Classes

Oakland Builders Institute will offer the following:

■ Builder’s Pre-License Class — This course will help those who want to subcontract the construction of their own home, real estate investors, developers and building trades people.

Classes will be held 6-10 p.m., Monday/Wednesday, Dec. 5, 7, 12 & 14, at Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn Heights Campus, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights, (313) 317-1500, \$189 for residents and \$208 for non-residents, plus a \$20 textbook and sample question fee; and 6-10 p.m., Tuesday/Thursday, Dec. 6, 8, 13 & 15, at Berkshire Middle School, 21707 W. 14 Mile, Beverly Hills, (248) 203-3800, \$190 plus \$20 for textbook and sample questions.

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MON-FRI 9-6, SAT 10-5, SUN 12-5





HOMES SOLD IN OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 8-12, 2005, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Birmingham			Southfield		
1207 Bird	\$276,000		17048 Addison	\$169,000	
1750 Bradford	\$225,000		29528 Fairfax	\$139,000	
529 Catalpa	\$336,000		29852 Fairfax	\$145,000	
1051 Chapin	\$660,000		17305 Gateway	\$217,000	
1109 Derby	\$145,000		17359 Gateway	\$169,000	
1858 Graefield	\$134,000		18515 Hilton	\$155,000	
1481 Hazel	\$229,000		23389 Hunters	\$160,000	
588 Larchlea	\$460,000		20415 Ledgestone	\$221,000	
724 Madison	\$570,000		16256 Mayfair	\$182,000	
1380 Pierce	\$375,000		23604 Mcallister	\$172,000	
1889 Pine	\$490,000		23805 Oak Glen	\$165,000	
1990 S Bates	\$206,000		25169 Parsons	\$219,000	
1239 Webster	\$417,000		24030 Philip	\$205,000	
1860 Yorkshire	\$477,000		24044 Pierce	\$205,000	
Bloomfield Hills/Township			24750 Plumridge	\$139,000	
150 Billingsgate	\$154,000		20499 Roseland	\$192,000	
1979 Devonshire	\$265,000		22060 Rougewood	\$175,000	
434 Fox Hills	\$102,000		19820 W 12 Mile	\$81,000	
2709 Indian Mound	\$1,060,000		29075 Wellington	\$146,000	
7410 Jackson Park	\$700,000		17530 Westland	\$215,000	
7440 Jackson Park	\$435,000		20455 Westover	\$105,000	
5645 Meadow Wood	\$3,500,000				
2845 Meadowood	\$785,000		Troy		
2409 Mulberry	\$129,000		2346 Alexander	\$198,000	
2499 Parcels	\$212,000		1918 Axtell	\$132,000	
2712 Rambling	\$306,000		1942 Axtell	\$134,000	
1793 S Hill	\$195,000		233 Cloveridge	\$323,000	
903 Tartan	\$395,000		1914 Crimson	\$349,000	
1145 Timberview	\$247,000		6929 Dakota	\$754,000	
240 Warrington	\$900,000		2265 Deer Path	\$615,000	
662 Wattles	\$313,000		685 E Maple	\$120,000	
42160 Woodward	\$187,000		3859 Fadl	\$630,000	
Farmington			3930 Fadl	\$635,000	
33677 Alta Loma	\$160,000		60 Florence	\$158,000	
32718 Grand River	\$91,000		1449 Fountain	\$352,000	
31641 Lamar	\$195,000		3943 Gatwick	\$495,000	
23021 Orchard Lake	\$105,000		3107 Heritage	\$285,000	
22824 Violet	\$145,000		2790 Mayfair	\$329,000	
Farmington Hills			5804 Northfield	\$192,000	
37882 Amber	\$297,000		926 Norwich	\$210,000	
23103 Ashley	\$181,000		4045 Parkstone	\$395,000	
21410 Collingham	\$140,000		2755 Roundtree	\$140,000	
32040 Coronet	\$235,000		5705 Whitfield	\$217,000	
24514 Creekside	\$258,000		1005 Woodslee	\$133,000	
22772 Glenmoor	\$155,000				
29362 Laurel	\$163,000		2554 Alden	\$345,000	
28767 Leamington	\$265,000		7494 Autumn Hill	\$543,000	
22279 Nearbrook	\$415,000		1536 Bawtree	\$154,000	
32626 Olde Franklin	\$330,000		6338 Bentley	\$583,000	
34519 Princeton	\$275,000		2160 Bordeaux	\$265,000	
38192 Saratoga	\$218,000		6555 Bridgewater	\$712,000	
35088 Savannah	\$325,000		7499 Buckthorn	\$320,000	
22391 Sheffield	\$388,000		3741 Elder	\$368,000	
33712 Stocker	\$186,000		4397 Foxpointe	\$225,000	
30049 Stockton	\$189,000		3138 Gilbert Ridge	\$345,000	
31291 Stonegate	\$360,000		6707 Grassland	\$180,000	
22139 Tuck	\$135,000		7380 Honeysuckle	\$327,000	
Novi			2361 Horseshoe	\$413,000	
24815 Apple Crest	\$250,000		2526 Ivanhoe	\$153,000	
43042 Ashbury	\$480,000		2575 Ivanhoe	\$140,000	
24427 Bashian	\$159,000		3655 Knollview	\$163,000	
30835 Centennial	\$218,000		4447 Laurel Club	\$165,000	
22817 Cranbrooke	\$168,000		6776 Locklin	\$258,000	
29345 Douglas	\$260,000		3825 Lone Pine	\$115,000	
44634 Dunbarton	\$350,000		2541 Middlebelt	\$282,000	
40624 Heatherbrook	\$235,000		6639 Minnow Pond	\$973,000	
44781 Huntingcross	\$385,000		2953 Moon Lake	\$215,000	
40712 Ladene	\$254,000		7109 N Merrybrook	\$215,000	
42695 Morgan Creek	\$140,000		1878 Oldtown	\$184,000	
30251 Pennington	\$456,000		3774 Pine Lake Knoll	\$638,000	
25640 Portico	\$272,000		6930 Playfair	\$157,000	
25642 Portico	\$235,000		5533 Putnam	\$265,000	
41811 Quince	\$260,000		6575 Stonebridge	\$620,000	
			1591 Sugar Maple	\$430,000	
			7322 Village Square	\$565,000	
			5380 W Briarcliff Knoll	\$237,000	
			2468 Walce	\$167,000	
			7295 Willow Oak	\$265,000	

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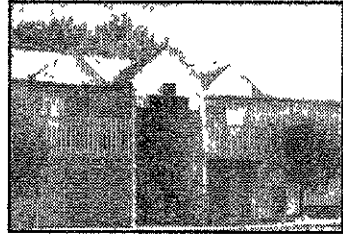
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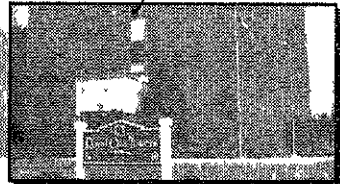
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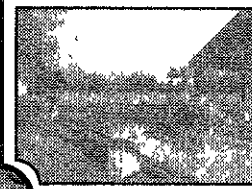
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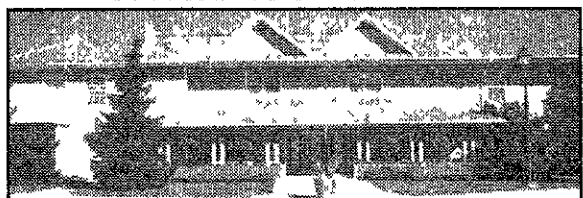
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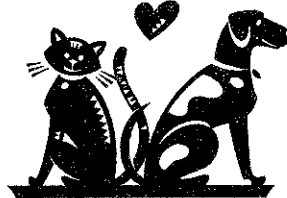
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extension 206



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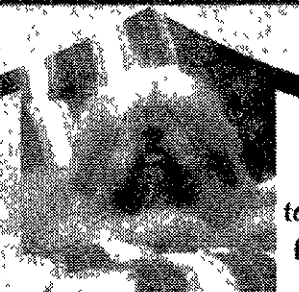
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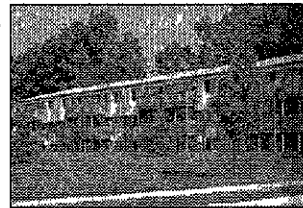
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WESTLAND Great Location
2 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo w/Livonia schls! Close to shopping & dining. Neutral decor, LR w/natural flrplc to DR. Doorwall to private deck, kitchen, appliances & washer & dryer included. 2 WIC, basement & att gar.
(E83PRI) 734-455-5600 **\$139,000**



NORTHVILLE TWP. Spacious Colonial
On beautiful interior lot in Crestwood Manor. Everything from hwdw 2nd story foyer w/winding staircase, to full professionally fin bsmt. Formal DR, FR w/fireplace, den w/bay window, mstr ste w/WIC's & Jacuzzi + att gar.
(E10ROL) 734-455-5600 **\$684,000**



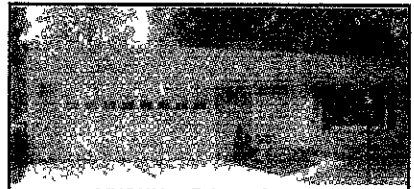
NORTHVILLE Stately Colonial
4 BR, 3.5 BA home on approx 2.4 acres. Formal DR, FR, master suite w/rplc & balcony, 2nd flr laundry, lovely kit w/maple cabs, HWF. Conan counters, 2nd BR has private BA plus Jack & Jill bath for 3 & 4th BR.
(E01SEV) 248-349-5600 **\$714,900**



NORTHVILLE Walking Distance To Town
Contemporary condo w/many upgrades. Hardwood floors, heated floor in master bath. Large WIC, fin LL. W/O Two large bedrooms, 2 car attached garage on wooded setting. All appls. Large deck off dining room.
(E00MOU) 248-349-5600 **\$320,500**



LIVONIA This Is The One!
3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch located on double lot w/privacy fence for entire backyard. Open floor plan, updated kitchen & bath, awesome finished basement w/bath & 2 car gar. Newer shingles, windows & drvl.
(E68BUT) 734-455-5600 **\$207,900**



LIVONIA Private Setting
Ranch, pool, many updates! Roof (tear off), newer windows w/marble sill, siding, gutters and driveway. Spacious kitchen, finished LL with gas fireplace, 2 car attached garage and updated baths.
(E59MAY) 734-455-5600 **\$204,000**



WESTLAND Meticulously Maintained Condo
Cathedral ceilings, 1st floor master suite w/WIC & bath, large kitchen w/eat-in area. Large 2 bedrooms w/full bath, 1st floor laundry, finished basement, large deck, 2 car attached garage & ready to move into.
(E23DAN) 734-455-5600 **\$189,900**



REDFORD Nice Size Corner Lot
4 bedrooms, new windows, gutters & glass block in cedar paneled LL, since 2004 Hardwood under carpet on 1st floor. Entire home repainted in '05. Partially finished LL, 2 car garage w/extra storage next to it.
(E02WOR) 248-349-5600 **\$135,000**



WEST BLOOMFIELD Designer Perfect!
House beautiful on a wooded cul-de-sac! Maple cabinets, granite and hardwood in this cooks delight kitchen. Grand master suite w/glamour bath, Jack and Jill guest suite, private backyard and 3 car garage.
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This 3 bedroom newer windows, steel entry doors, oak cabinets in kitchen, basement and a home warranty is included. This home is ready for you.
(E35LON) 734-455-5600 **\$64,000**



PLYMOUTH 5 Star Condo
Amazing 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath townhouse w/2 car attached garage, finished LL, walkout, library, 2 fireplaces, hardwood floors, loft overlooking GR, all appls, gated courtyard w/brick pavers and much more.
(E41BEA) 734-455-5600 **\$429,700**



CANTON Freedom From The City
Updated 3 bedroom custom brick ranch on approx 1 acre. Open floor plan, great room sizes, huge finished basement, fireplace in living room and heated workshop in 2 car garage.
(E88DIO) 734-455-5600 **\$249,900**



REDFORD Cozy Comfortable Home
Fall in love with this home. Newer windows, furn/AC. Updated kit w/ceramic flrs. Lg owner suite, freshly painted t/o. Hwdw flrs t/o. Two car gar. Close to schools, shopping & x-ways. Maintenance free brick exterior.
(E27WIN) 248-349-5600 **\$134,900**



CANTON Ranch End Unit
Great location. Newer windows, carpet, neutral throughout. Spacious living room, children's play area. Plymouth Canton schools. Why pay rent, when you can own. A must see.
(E38ORC) 248-349-5600 **\$94,900**



VAN BUREN Updated Brick Ranch
3 bedroom, 2 bath with partially finished basement, fenced yard backing to open park-like area. Updated kitchen w/Pergo floor, newer bathroom sink, glass block windows, newer roof, electric, walls/ce windows, C/A.
(E34JAC) 734-455-5600 **\$159,900**



LIVONIA Enjoy The Tranquility
Of sitting around your inground pool or in the Florida room on hot summer days + lovely family room w/cozy fireplace for cool winter night! All this in this 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch w/fin bsmt & 2 car att gar.
(E30PER) 734-455-5600 **\$209,900**



MILFORD Cul-De-Sac
3 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial backs to nature preserve. Custom interior painting, shows like a model. Exterior roofed and painted in summer of '05. Closet organizers in all bedrooms. A must see!
(E51DOR) 734-455-5600 **\$299,900**



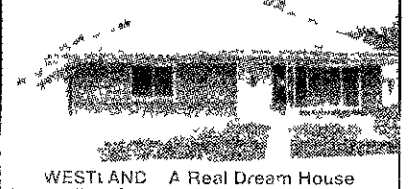
GARDEN CITY Tree-Lined Streets!
3 BR ranch, LR w/Anderson bay window. Reduced w/oak cab doors, pull-out, B-I dishwasher & stove incl. Cozy FR w/Anderson d-wall to patio. 90% plus furnace, C/A. Heated 2.5 car gar w/opener. 1 yr warr.
(E37BRO) 248-349-5600 **\$139,900**



LIVONIA Updated Ranch
Convenient location 3 bedroom, 1 bath ranch with lots of updates including roof, kitchen, crown moldings, hardwood floors LR & FR. 2 car garage. Livonia schools, one year home warranty.
(E05PAD) 248-349-5600 **\$159,900**



PLYMOUTH Walk to Downtown
This fabulous one floor plan offers easy to clean laminated wood flooring in kitchen, foyer and high traffic areas. Freshly painted with neutral colors t/o. Added room in partially finished basement.
(E19ANN) 734-455-5600 **\$159,900**



WESTLAND A Real Dream House
Home offers 3 bedrooms w/gorgeous basement w/summer kitchen nicer than you can imagine. It's only outdone by the main floor that is wonderful! Updated kitchen, A/C, turn, roof, windows and drive.
(E39GIL) 734-455-5600 **\$168,900**



PLYMOUTH Gorgeous Colonial
This spacious 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home has it all from formal dining room, gas fireplace in family room, large eat-in kitchen w/cherry cabinets & granite counters, 3 car attached garage, master suite w/dressing area, more.
(E60WIL) 734-455-5600 **\$417,900**



LIVONIA Popular Coventry Gardens
4 bedroom 2 bath cape cod. Priced for an immediate sale. This home has plenty of room to enlarge or keep things as are and enjoy this great home. A great opportunity.
(E30EDI) 248-349-5600 **\$209,900**



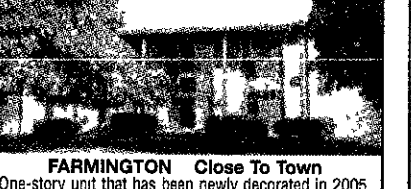
SOUTH LYON Classic Custom Cape Cod
Two-toned cherry cabs, granite counters, upgraded trim & molding t/o. Two story GR w/large stone faced fireplace & custom mantle. 4 car garage insulated & fin. Park-like yard w/mature trees. 27 hole golf course.
(E60POI) 248-349-5600 **\$659,900**



PLYMOUTH Immaculate Colonial
4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home w/newer kitchen w/all built-in appliances, master suite w/renovated master bath, new furnace & HW/H '05, FR w/gas fireplace, finished basement & 2 car attached garage. Prof landscp.
(E40PAL) 734-455-5600 **\$274,900**



LIVONIA Nestled Deep In The Sub!
This spacious home provides a tranquil setting within walking distance of schools. Updated garage door, kitchen, bath, lav, furnace, A/C, roof, windows and more in this 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath brick ranch.
(E83HEE) 734-455-5600 **\$211,900**



FARMINGTON Close To Town
One-story unit that has been newly decorated in 2005. Refrigerator and flat top range 2005. Carpeting and excellent landscaping. Great location - close to schools, shopping and expressways.
(E53KIN) 248-349-5600 **\$75,900**



DEARBORN HGTS. Just Pack Your Bags!
This 3 bedroom brick ranch home is move-in ready. Updated carpet, paint, electrical and much more. Super location! Garage, fenced yard, appliances and one year home warranty included. Quick occupancy, better hurry.
(E79MCK) 248-349-5600 **\$109,900**



WEST BLOOMFIELD Fabulous Walkout
Bring your tastiest buyer to this elegant colonial. Maple cabinets/kitchen, granite in all baths, 2-story family room w/wooded view. Newer deck and brick pavers. 3 car garage. Grand master suite. Freshly painted.
(E01PEM) 248-349-5600 **\$649,900**



REDFORD Buyers Require A 10+
This is the one. Stunning 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath brick ranch with South Redford schools. Sensational updated kitchen & main bath, beautiful hardwood floors, awesome finished basement + all appls stay & garage.
(E35WES) 734-455-5600 **\$179,500**



CANTON Look No Further!
Spacious 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath colonial w/2 story foyer, fin bsmt, 2 car att gar, hrdwd flrs t/o kit, LR, FR, w/rplc, 2nd flr laundry, extra high ceilings on FF. Open floor plan from kitchen to family room. A real must see!
(E96FEN) 734-455-5600 **\$359,000**



DEARBORN Remarkable Home
4 bedroom, 2 bath brick tudor w/2 full baths, profess fin bsmt, 2.5 car garage, newer furnace '00, newer roof '01, excellent landscaping. Great location - close to schools, shopping and expressways.
(E16KEN) 248-349-5600 **\$224,900**



SOUTHFIELD Move-In Condition
Clean, bright and spacious 3 bedroom ranch with updated windows, shingles and exterior doors. Spacious family room. H2O - '05 Appliances included. Home warranty also included.
(E97EVE) 248-349-5600 **\$109,750**



LINCOLN PARK Great Area
3 bedroom, 2 bath bungalow w/full basement, oversized 2.5 car garage. Florida room, deck, large covered country porch, newer roof, furnace & A/C, all nestled in a quiet serene neighborhood in desirable area.
(E04LEB) 248-349-5600 **\$119,000**



TAYLOR Make It Your Own
The charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch home has gorgeous rear yard with 1/2 moon BBQ grill. Newer furnace, C/A & roof. Open floor plan w/fireplace & hwdw flrs. Used as residential but zoned commercial.
(E48GOD) 734-455-5600 **\$239,000**



FARMINGTON HILLS Fantastic Cape Cod
Freshly painted! Newer hardwood flooring in foyer, hall and formal DR. GR w/natural brick flrplc, vaulted ceiling to liv/FR and formal DR. Kit w/loads of counters. Fin bsmt w/ree room, play room and cedar closet.
(E26BRI) 734-455-5600 **\$299,500**



REDFORD My First Home
Great brick ranch with many updates throughout. Refinished hardwood floors, newer windows and some painting. Finished basement, private fenced yard and one year home warranty included.
(E23FIV) 248-349-5600 **\$116,000**



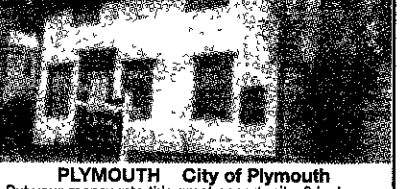
NOVI Super Condo
Exquisite! This one won't last. Impressive upgrades. Ground level 1 bedroom with wheelchair access. Extra large bath. Neutral decor, freshly painted. View of woods. Shows like a model. Access to Walled Lake.
(E55SLA) 248-349-5600 **\$85,500**



CANTON One Of 'Sunflower's' Finest
Feels like nature preserve. Backs to Fellows Creek Lg MBR. Prof designed brick paver entry. Leaded glass window above entry door. Fin bsmt & storage. Prem lot. Oversized kit w/island. Covered screened porch off kit.
(E99MOR) 248-349-5600 **\$353,000**



WESTLAND Terrific Home!
This 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home features attached garage, basement, hardwood floors in living room & bedrooms, family room w/natural fireplace, awesome 2 tiered deck + updated oak kitchen, bath & windows.
(E40RED) 734-455-5600 **\$169,000**



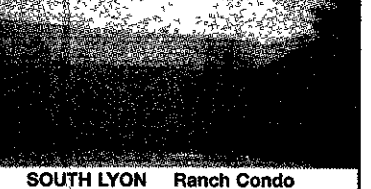
PLYMOUTH City of Plymouth
Put your money into this great opportunity. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1834 built home. Restore it to its original beauty and get your cash back very quick. Buy now. Home sold as is. Seller motivated.
(E87ADA) 734-455-5600 **\$170,000**



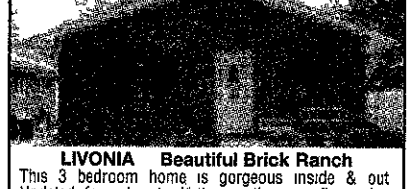
DEARBORN Welcoming Bungalow
3 BR brick bungalow near Fordson H.S. with hardwood floors t/o. 2nd floor bedroom with huge walk-in closet. Partially finished basement. All appliances included. Two car garage. In nicely fenced deep yard.
(E49MAP) 248-349-5600 **\$149,900**



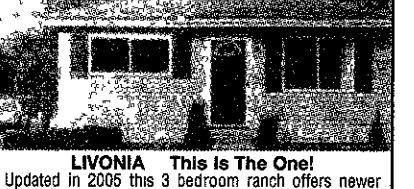
NOVI Ranch - Like New
Accessible with no steps and 1 car att garage. Double lot w/privacy fence & above ground pool. Fresh paint & newer carpet. Jetted tub in master bath. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Super location near x-ways, 12 Oaks & schs.
(E30PAR) 248-349-5600 **\$189,900**



SOUTH LYON Ranch Condo
55+ ranch corido in Centennial Farms w/clubhouse and beach on Crooked Lake. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, newer carpet and paint. C/A, Florida room, finished basement and covered porch.
(E69CAM) 248-349-5600 **\$125,000**



LIVONIA Beautiful Brick Ranch
This 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home features attached garage, basement, hardwood floors in living room & bedrooms, family room w/natural fireplace, awesome 2 tiered deck + updated oak kitchen, bath & windows.
(E82ANT) 734-455-5600 **\$189,000**



LIVONIA This Is The One!
Updated in 2006 this 3 bedroom ranch offers newer kitchen, bath, windows, hardwood floors, interior and exterior doors, vinyl siding, so much more and priced to sell.
(E05STF) 734-455-5600 **\$134,900**



NORTHVILLE Golf Course Community
4 BR, 4.5 BA col w/hwd flrs. Kit w/granite counters & tumbled marble backsplash. Wow! LL w/built-in media center/surround sound. Dramatic raised patio w/Pergola backs to 1st fairway. Crown molding.
(E93RIV) 248-349-5600 **\$659,000**



NOVI Spectacular Custom Home
Beautifully detailed - offers 4 spacious bedrooms, 4.5 baths. Master suite features fireplace, 2 WIC & granite bath. Gourmet kitchen w/Viking stove, Sub Zero frig. Walkout LL w/hdwd floors, sauna & full granite kitchen.
(E55VAS) 248-349-5600 **\$899,000**



LIVONIA Immaculate Condo
2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths whenever carpet, updated kit, custom molding & spacious open flr plan. Lg utility rm, newer appls. Custom lighting. Carport & screened-in patio. Cust wdw trmts. Clubhouse w/pool & gym.
(E83UNI) 248-349-5600 **\$139,900**

Relocation Services
800-448-5817

CENTANT
Mobile Broker Network

Birmingham 248-642-8100	Chesterfield Twp. 586-949-5590	Clarkston 248-620-7200	Clinton Twp. 586-286-6000	Commerce Twp. 248-363-1200	Fraser 586-234-3655	Grosse Pointe 313-886-5040	Northville 248-349-5600
Plymouth 734-455-5600	Rochester 248-652-6000	Royal Oak 248-280-4777	Shelby Twp. 586-731-8180	St. Clair Shores 586-778-8100	Sterling Heights 586-939-2800	Troy 248-524-1600	West Bloomfield 248-626-8900

Observer & Eccentric



Apartments

HOMETOWNlife.com

This Classification continues from Section F

Homes For Rent 4050

FERDALE - 3 bdrm, appliances, new C/A & furnace, large back yard, full size bsmt. \$925. 248-399-6974

FREE RENT!
New homes for rent 1 month free and \$100 off FIRST 6 months.
All appliances and a/c included.
Pets Welcome
888-304-0078
College Park Estates
51074 Mott Rd.
Canton MI 48188
(Between Geddes & Mich Ave, off Ridge Road).
*on select homes
Skyline/Clayton Retailer

Garden City - Very clean 3 bedroom bungalow. No pets. First, last & security, \$850/mo + utilities. 734-954-0554

GARDEN CITY
Newly remodeled, 2 bdrm home, 1 car garage, \$850/mo (313) 350-5227

GARDEN CITY, LIVONIA Both are 3 bdrm, bsmt, garage. \$995, Sec. 8 okay, Dec Free! lease option. 734-467-7777

GARDEN CITY: 139 BRANDT
4 bedroom, 2 bath, family room with fireplace, C/A, appliances, microwave, shed, fenced, granite throughout. Available now.
Reduced \$795/mo.
Showing Wed & Sun @ 4:00
313-920-5966/248-593-0064

INKSTER 3-4 bdrm, 1.5 baths, garage, bsmt, c/a. Wayne/Westland schools \$975/mo. 734-461-6113

INKSTER Remodeled 3 bdrm brick ranch, 2 car garage. Avail. now option to buy avail., \$800 248-788-1823

Homes For Rent 4050

LIVONIA \$1275 w/\$500 move in. Beautiful ranch w/3 bdrm 1.5 baths Attached garage. Hix/Joy area. Mark Regal, Agent Direct 734-718-6176

LIVONIA - 2 or 3 bdrm, 2 bath home Middlebelt & Plymouth Rd Natural fireplace, appliances. Starting at \$800 (734) 207-5123

LIVONIA - Updated 3 bdrm ranch, 1 bath, 2 car attached garage, fenced yard, \$985/mo 734-420-5154

LIVONIA - 3 bdrm, 2 bath brick ranch Fireplace Wood floors, all appliances FL room. \$1200 313-999-4719

LIVONIA 1200 sq. ft. 3 bdrm 2 bath Newly remodeled Very clean All appliances \$1150 mo. Incl water OPEN HOUSE SUN, noon-4pm, 34239 Wadsworth St 48150 734-716-1918

LIVONIA 2 Bdrm, 2 car garage, \$825/mo. plus \$1000 sec. deposit Avail immediately Please call (734) 395-2131

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!
1-800-579-7355

LIVONIA 2 bdrm carpet, appliances, garage, no pets, option to buy. \$725/mo + security. (248) 685-8138

LIVONIA 3 bdrm bungalow. All appliances, air, fenced Pets OK. \$1111 High \$995+ sec 313-779-6506

LIVONIA 3 bdrm ranch, garage, freshly remodeled. Fenced Option to buy on LC. \$1000/mo. 313-805-6309

LIVONIA 3 bdrm, brick ranch, 2 bath, Livonia schools, lg garage, hardwood \$1180/mo. avail Jan. 15, 810-923-9057

LIVONIA 3 bdrm, carpeted, fenced, garage w/ walk up storage, \$1050/mo + security 248-684-4398, 248-259-1556

Homes For Rent 4050

NOVI-24018 LYNWOOD
3 br, Ranch 1.5 bath, 2 Car 1600 sq ft \$1,290/mo. (248) 760-3373

OAK PARK Cute & remodeled 2 bdrm ranch, immediate occupancy Option to buy avail. \$550 248-788-1823

OAK PARK Gorgeous 2 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car Finished bsmt. \$1100 mo. Ferndale Schools. 248-217-2077

PINKNEY on 10 acres, 3 bdrm, 2 bath home!!! 5320 Patterson Lk Rd, 1600+ sq. ft., pets ok, basement, avail NOW, \$1075 760-598-6000

PLYMOUTH 3 bdrm Colonial, 1 1/2 bath, finished bsmt, 2 car garage, natural fireplace with many updates, \$1450 mo. Call for appt. 734-812-1743

PLYMOUTH 5 bdrm, 4 bath, 2500 sq. ft. Finished bsmt, 2 car garage. \$2000 mo + security. 734-788-1642

PLYMOUTH Completely updated 1930's 2 bdrm, bsmt, garage, CA, gas FP, deck & garage \$1100 + security Georgious! 734-576-0894

Redford 2 bdrm ranch, basement, garage \$700 mo 19435 Ponciana, 7/1nster 248-476-6498

REDFORD Inkster/ Schoolcraft, 2 bdrm, bsmt, garage. Fenced, appl \$775 mo + security 248-869-2624

REDFORD Very nice, very clean, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath ranch, 2 car garage, lg yard, all pets welcome. \$997 + security, 734-429-2111, leave message

REDFORD (South) 3 bdrm bungalow, 1250 sq. ft., new bath & kitchen, appliances, finished bsmt, new a/c & furnace, garage No Section 8 \$990/mo 248-872-6706

RENTERS: Dreaming of home ownership? Call me for a list of affordable homes in your area. Sue @The Michigan Group., 810-844-2335

Homes For Rent 4050

ROCHESTER HILLS S. boulevard & Livonia area. 3 Bdrm, 1.5 bath, \$900/mo. (313) 824-0543

ROYAL OAK
Downtown Charming Wow! The best location and a sweet house just 2 bks from downtown!!! 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, 2 car garage, 1600sq. ft. Never been a rental before! Flexible lease terms \$1300-1600
Call Jeff (Agent) (248) 376-1513

SOUTHFIELD
2 Bdrm, 1.5 bath, brick ranch. could be 0 down-\$675mo. Call Misti 734-521-0194

SOUTHFIELD 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath ranch. Newly refurbished, 2 car garage, large lot Telegraph & 9 Mile. \$1200 mo 248-722-5577

SOUTHFIELD
3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 garage, Central air Private 2.5+ acres, wooded, on Rouge/Ravine, walkout/rec room, new furnace, washer/dryer, appliances, deck, No water bills! No smoking, please! Immediate Occupancy! Miller's Leasing and Property Development
\$1900 - 313-345-9950

SOUTHFIELD 8 Mile & Inkster, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, upgraded kitchen, lg deck. \$950/mo. + 1/2 sec dep. 248-225-2737

SOUTHFIELD Very nice 3 bdrm brick ranch, 2 car garage, Section 8 welcome. \$1200. 248-914-0819 or 0707

Homes For Rent 4050

TROY 4 bed, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage, almost new Full bsmt, deck, Troy Schools 2100 sq ft \$1900. 248-641-7928, 248-342-9218

WAYNE 3 Bdrm, bsmt, garage and appliances. Fenced yard \$900/mo + security (734) 326-2622

WEST BLOOMFIELD
467 APPLE VALLEY
Newly remodeled 2700 sq ft. 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, family room, fireplace, appliances 2.5 car attached garage, deck, C/A. \$1310-25966, 248-593-0064
REDUCED TO \$1995/mo

WEST BLOOMFIELD - 3 bdrm ranch, 2 bath, fireplace, c/a, garage, fenced, beach privileges, \$1085. 248-478-0213

WEST BLOOMFIELD 5 bdrms, 3.5 bath quad-level. Remodeled 2.5 car garage, Maple & Orchard Lake. \$2150. Immediate Occup 248-577-5725

WESTLAND 2 & 3 Bdrm duplexes (Venoy/Palmer) clean, new carpet & paint, fenced 2 Bdrm \$625 mo. 3 bdrm \$700 mo Avail. 313-418-9905

WESTLAND 2 Bdrm, 1 bath, c/a, updated kitchen, stove, fridge, dishwasher, \$850/mo. \$1,000 sec. (734) 891-1571.

WESTLAND 3 Bdrm w/hot tub, could be 0 down \$775/mo Ask about our 3 month special Call Jennifer, 734-521-0184

WESTLAND
3/1.5 brick ranch, Bsmt, Carport No pets. \$950 + security 734-576-0894

WESTLAND Fairfield Glade Sub Deluxe 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath luxury home \$1450/mo + sec. Also will rent with option to buy. (248) 344-2120.

WESTLAND Newly renovated, 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, next to schools, fenced in backyard. \$675/mo. Sect. 8 welcomed Must See. (734) 397-7283/ 734-644-4464

Homes For Rent 4050

WESTLAND - BAD CREDIT OK!
Rent to Own, 38249 N Jean 3 bdrm, bsmt, 2.5 car Appliances \$1200/mo 734-306-2006

WESTLAND-MUST SEE!
3 bdrm, 1 bath brick ranch, \$1200/mo. 1st & last mo rent + \$750 security 734-341-1010

YPSILANTI 4 Bdrm, 2 bath, Pulte home built 2003, deck, sprinkler system & appliances \$1695/mo. (734) 516-2492

Lakeland/Waterfront Homes Rental 4060

SOUTH LYON 3 br., 2 bath, brick ranch, canal front to chain of lakes, 2 car garage, c/a, \$1,600/mo, \$1,000 security deposit. 248-640-7531

Mobile Home Rentals 4070

CANTON We have new homes for rent. Pets welcome. Call Sandy at Sun Homes for details at: 888-304-8941 Skyline/Clayton Retailer

REFURBISHED MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE OR RENT
Small down payment & seller finance Small, family oriented community Free month's rent to qualified applicants-ask for details. Riverview Mobile Home Park 734-721-7215

Southern Rentals 4080

ENGLEWOOD FLA Waterfront, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, brand new condo, \$2800/mo, discount for 3 mo. rental. Security dep & references 248-379-4501

Living Quarters To Share 4120

PLYMOUTH, Private bdrm and snare kitchen/bath, or studio w/ private kitchen/ bath/ bed. \$350 - \$550 734-646-1135

PLYMOUTH - Gorgeous home, \$420/mo includes utilities Storage avail. Lots of amenities. 734-262-5500 anytime.

WESTLAND 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath condo, to share, utilities incl \$400/mo. + \$400 sec (352) 430-8506 leave mess

Rooms For Rent 4140

Highland Lakes Condo - Northville. Mature, professional, Like cats Kitchen/laundry privileges. 248-349-7334

NORTHVILLE or PLYMOUTH Downtown 1st week with full deposit. Furnished sleeping rooms. Newly decorated \$80 weekly. Security deposit (248) 305-9944

PLYMOUTH Sheldon & Ann Arbor Rd \$400 Kitchen use, working person. Call: 313-615-3463. Home: 734-416-1285

REDFORD:
Mature male, non-drinker, digital TV \$100/week 248-477-5726, 248-886-2152

TRIPLE A DELUXE MOTEL
A/C, Jacuzzi in rooms, maid service, HBO Low daily/wkly rates.
Tel-96 Inn 313-535-4100
Royal Inn 248-544-1575
Fairlane 248-347-9999
Relax Inn 734-595-9990

"It's All About Results" Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL

Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease 4220

Buckingham Office Park
Middlebelt Rd, N/ of I-96 Campus setting, Great Parking, Private Entrances. 575 - 7,200 sq. ft. CMS (248) 549-0900

Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease 4220

FARMINGTON HILLS
Retail Space Great Exposure 1300 - 4480 sq ft Excellent Rates **CERTIFIED REALTY INC.** 248-471-7100

GARDEN CITY - Near Garden City Hospital Medical/Dental Office, 1100 sq ft. \$1200. (734) 427-6590

NOVI - OFFICE SUITE
440 sq ft 9 Mile & Novi Road area Utilities incl \$475/mo. 248-349-0260 ext 202

REDFORD TWP.
Office Suites 2 or 3 room suites. Beautifully redecorated. Great Rates including utilities. **CERTIFIED REALTY INC.** (248) 471-7100

Commercial/Industrial For Rent/Lease 4230

CANTON - RETAIL
1500-3000 SQ. FT retail space in new building in Canton. On Michigan Ave., between Haggerty & Lilley, \$18/sq. ft. Bela Sipos 734-747-7888, eves 734-669-5813 Reinhardt Commercial #2412466

LIVONIA - COMMERCIAL/ OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE
Incl kitchen, garage storage area & 2-3 offices Call Tom at: 248-777-3707

Lease/Option To Buy 4580

CANTON
3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car attached Gorgeous! Work last long. \$1595/\$7500 negotiable 248-921-2432

NORTHVILLE Rent to own \$900/mo 2 Bdrm, 1 bath condo, 1 car attached garage. Pool, Dave 248-910-1077

Observer & Eccentric



Employment

HOMETOWNlife.com

5000's Jobs and Careers

5000 Help Wanted-General

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5000-5980

Employment

Help Wanted-General 5000

ACCOUNTANT
Send resume to Attn S.W. 41800 W Eleven Mile Rd, Suite 101, Novi MI 48375

ADMINISTRATOR
SWIFT TRANSPORTATION
Now Hiring **SAFETY COMPLIANCE ASSISTANT**
Will Ensure That All Driver Qualification Files Are Accurate & Complete Swift Offers A Competitive Compensation Package Including, Full Benefits After 30 Days, 401K, & Stock Purchase Plan. E-mail or Fax Resume To Alan_Tyson@swifttrans.com Fax 734-753-2350 Contact Alan Tyson

APPLIANCE INSTALLER
Kitchen Appliance Installation company looking for fulltime dependable hardworking person with a good driving record to assist with appliance installation Exp helpful but willing to train Fax resume to 248-642-9152

ASSEMBLER'S
Home-based position \$4-\$9 hour average greatakesassembly.com

COLLEGE STUDENTS
SEMIESTER BREAK WORK
\$17.25 BASE/APPT. Special 1-5 week program flexible schedule, customer sales/service, work Part-Time in spring or secure summer work all ages 18+, cond apply Call Now! 248-426-4405

AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN
CRESTWOOD DODGE (734) 421-5700

AUTO SERVICE ADVISOR
Growing import dealer seeks Service Advisor, preferably experienced with European lines & Reynolds & Reynolds This full time position offers great pay, benefits and good working environment Contact Brian Strook, Service Manager, Dwyer & Sons imports, (248) 624-0400 Fax (248) 926-3471

Help Wanted-General 5000

Auto Service Appointment Coordinator
needed for growing import dealer Full time position, experience preferred, great pay, benefits and working environment Contact Brian Strook, Service Manager, Dwyer & Sons imports, (248) 624-0400 Fax (248) 926-3471

AUTO TECHNICIANS
CRESTWOOD DODGE (734) 421-5700

Beverage Technician
person with mechanical/technician ability, diagnostic skills & good driving record Drug testing & ability to travel locally Self motivated, reliable & great customer service skills Competitive pay, benefits & company vehicle Complete application at www.kensbeverage.com and fax or email with resume to (734) 729-7149 or hire@kensbeverage.com Or stop in at Ken's Beverage 3970 2nd St. Wayne, MI 48184

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on AMF 8270 or will consider good B Mechanic Call: (734) 664-7973

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Donna let us know about her results...

"We had a fantastic response from our ad, probably 75 people came in to apply and we had several phone calls (and the phone number wasn't even advertised!)"

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Individual will be responsible for engine tear-down, record keeping, cleaning and testing of components, and final inspection. Candidates must have strong work ethic and good mechanical and computer skills.

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Hills is seeking qualified
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include building main-
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resurfacing, skate sharpening
& customer service. Must be
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Resources Office, 1750 E.
Canton Rd., Canton, MI 48103.
Be picked up at the Canton
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p.m., December 2, 2005.
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Must be willing to travel. Min
Bachelors deg., exp. in busi-
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Experience with gravel
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Mon-Fri. 9am-4:30pm
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Full time, no exper. Req'd. We
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call 734-595-6400

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'Rebound Hiring' More Personal Than Hiring



WORKWISE
by
Mildred L.
Culp

How does the process work on both sides of the desk?

"In the past," says Beth Carvin, CEO of Nobscot Corp., a software manufacturer in Honolulu, "we thought that when a person left, he wasn't loyal and would be gone with the next opportunity. Research is showing that if they find the grass isn't greener, they come back more loyal and stay longer."

Lynn Walters, freelance journalist and writer in Rye, N.H., was recruited back by the Norwood, Mass., branch of FM Global, a leading mutual industrial insurer, after an eight-week maternity leave. (In 1988, the company didn't offer part-time schedules.) She'd worked there nine years, editing a magazine about property conservation. "I left on good terms, with all of my projects in order," she says, after training her fill-in, who was hired after Walters resigned.

Hank Park, senior partner out of the Irvine, Calif., branch of the Lucas Group, specializes in recruiting enlisted personnel for civilian jobs through his company's military division. In 2002, he left, taking note of management's

disappointment, for the golfing industry, which he loved. One telephone hint about interest in returning led to two recruiters inviting him back when three of the company's other seasoned recruiters returned to active duty in late 2004.

"From a personal standpoint," Park says, "it seemed to make sense. When you're surrounded by military people, you form a really tight bond. No matter how long you've been away from that fire, you still have that bond. I'd always known that Lucas' management team believed in rehiring good employees."

'KNOWN QUANTITY'

Seven months after resigning, Walters heard the voice of her former boss on the other end of the telephone. This was the beginning of a five-year return to the company until her second child. She attributes his offer of temporary work to her being "a known quantity," but her technical knowledge of the industry played a role, too. Assignments kept multiplying until a back injury sent her immediate boss home. When the disability became permanent, she received the offer. "There were several others in the department who also had necessary experience," Walters quips, "but I believe my boss may have thought I had a better 'work' ethic than they had - despite quitting!"

Park attributes his return to virtually

the same factors: "past performance and intangible skill sets," such as loyalty and dedication. He'd felt very secure at the company but concedes that its interest in rehiring made him fear failure, spurring him "to work harder and perform well," he says. "When I came back, I was more motivated and loyal than ever." He's a top producer again.

"High performers know the culture and have relationships established," Carvin comments. "They get up to speed quickly, because they know the organization." Walters muses, "I believe that as long as it's easy to understand the reason for leaving, the company will be more receptive to re-hiring."

PROCESS

Although these cases make clear that rehiring requires an extremely personal touch, large organizations with heavy recruiting demands may benefit from the new Rebound Recruiting module of WebExit, introduced in late November to collect and analyze data for "rebound hiring." Carvin maintains that exiting employees who disclose online their likes, dislikes and recommendations provide valuable information. "If one person says something negative," Carvin states, "you ask if that's a problem employee. When you start to see 12 people in the same area saying the same things, it's not anecdotal any more." Such information is particularly important for high performers, she mentions, as a record of



Do you rehire good employees?

"hot-button issues" providing substance for organizational change and conversations about returning. Employees indicate whether they'd be interested in being contacted by the company. In 75 days, those who assent receive an e-mail about the possibility of returning.

The bottom line is that rehiring may be even more personal than hiring, software or not.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp comments upon the workplace in national media. Copyright 2005 Passage Media.)

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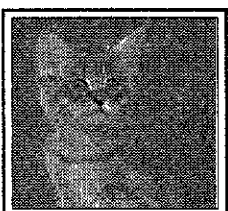
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NEWSPAPERS

WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD

* 6 line maximum. Must be Prepaid - we accept all major credit cards. Photos may be mailed or e-mailed but must be received by 12/16/04. No photos will be returned.

CHRISTMAS WITH YOUR PETS

Your pets already think they're the stars of the family... now let them see it in print. Place your pets photo on a special page designed just for them. This page will run in our papers on December 25.



Tiger

Our Little Angel.
We hope we bring him as much joy as he brings us.

The Miller's • Livonia, MI

ACTUAL SIZE OF AD

SHARE ANY SENTIMENT YOU LIKE.

\$15*

JUST

DEADLINE IS 12/16/05

Send picture and info to:
"Christmas with the Pets"

Classified Dept.
36251 Schoolcraft
Livonia, MI 48150

or email to:

customerad@hometownlife.com

THE
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Buy • Sell • Find

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7000's Merchandise

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7040... Arts & Crafts
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7080... Automobile Sales/Parts Market
7100... Estate Sales
7120... Garage Sales
7140... Moving Sales
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7180... Household Goods
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7000-7750 Merchandise

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File 1 three drawer metal letter w/lock & key 2 fax machines, 1 electric typewriter, 1 PA system. (734) 522-8589

FIREWOOD & KINDLING
 Seasoned, ready to burn. Waterford 248-673-4701 or 248-981-5236

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 We make house calls, estate and private sales and internet sales. Insurance and Estate appraisals. We are also looking to purchase. Fine china, crystal, silver, oil paintings, furniture, costume and fine jewelry. Member of ISA
 515 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak Mon-Sat 11-6 248-399-2608
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DOLLS-MADAM ALEXANDER
 6 inch, countries Sale, \$35 each Cash
 248-474-6186

NORMAN ROCKWELL SOCIETY Christmas Plates
 Knowles-Issued, 1982-2000. Each mint. Certificates, brochure \$45 per plate, best. 248-852-2498

Antiques/Collectibles **7020**

Another Holiday Sale
 Nov 10th - Dec 31st
Town & Country Antiques
 (Behind East Side Mario's)
 31630 Plymouth Rd
 Livonia 734-425-4344

ANTIQUE ESTATE SALE- See Everything Goes ad section 7100 today's paper

Antique Show & Flea Market
 Sun Dec 4 10-3 (Southgate)
 248-624-3365

Antiques Bought! Paper dolls, postcards, dishes, perfume bottles, Shelley bone china, factory badges. 248-624-3365

Antiques/Collectibles **7020**

Antiques & Collectibles.
 Lots of items to choose from Sat Dec 3, 10-4pm
 Baldwin House Apartments,
 200 Chester, Birmingham

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 \$25 each Accessories \$5-
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MAKE SOME EXTRA HOLIDAY CASH

Sell your household items by advertising in the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds.

Only \$3.50 per line!

If you don't sell your item you can renew for 50% off.
 Your ad will appear in the Observer & Eccentric in Birmingham, West Bloomfield, Rochester, Troy, Southfield, Farmington, Clarkston, Lake Orion, Oxford, Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Redford, Garden City, Westland as well as either the Mirror Oakland OR Mirror Macomb.

Call today 1-800-579-7355

Two issue, 5 line minimum. Offer valid through Dec. 31st 2005

Auction Sales

CHRISTMAS SILENT & LIVE AUCTION
 Friday, Dec 2, 6:30PM-7:30PM
 Raffle, Hors d'oeuvres. Cash bar. The Nativity of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, 5 Mile & Haggerty, Plymouth. 734-420-0131

• ESTATE • AUCTION
 Sat. - Dec 3 - 7pm
Cultural Center
 525 Farmer
 Plymouth, MI

Antiques/Collectibles
 Depression/Glassware
 Porcelain/China/Pottery
 Furniture

Cash/MC/Visa
 Bank Debit Cards
 No Checks
 Doors Open 6pm

J.C. Auction Services
 734-451-7444
 jcauctionservices.com

7100 Estate Sales

FARMINGTON HILLS
 46 years in home, 1950's modern furniture, Hammond Organ, Baldwin Piano, 200+ Life Magazines, records, books, kitchen tools, cameras, pool table, full of household misc 29050 Glenarden, take Chesterbrook South off 13 Mile, W. of Orchard Lake Rd. Go W on Wayburn, to end, then left to address. Fri-Sat, 9-4pm.

FARMINGTON HILLS Fri-Sat.
 Dec 2 & 3, 10:30-4:00. 27520 West 8 Mile. Antique furniture, lamps, clocks, fans, bdrm, dining, kitchen, art glass, costume jewelry, old toys, doll house. Lots of vintage items

MULTIPLE ESTATE SALE
 Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward Ave., Detroit Dec. 10, 9:30am-3:00pm. Secured parking.

SPECTACULAR ESTATE SALE!
 Thurs-Sat, Dec 1-3, 9-5
 89 Lakeshore Dr.
 Corner of Warner & Lakeshore Dr.
 South of Moross
 Designer clothes, jewelry, shoes, purses. Many beautiful items! Glassware, Christmas decor, furniture, statuary and more!
ESTATE SALES PLUS
 (586) 795-3252

Garage Sales **7110**

GARDEN CITY: FREE HALLMARK ORNAMENT & COLLECTIBLE SHOWS, 11-4pm
 Star Wars, Barbies, Shirley's, Hot Wheels, GI Joes, Hummels, Beatles, Every Sun. in Nov. & Dec. Mr Bigs Stuff, 29552 Ford Rd. & Middlebelt, facing K-Mart parking lot 4 ft tables \$12, 8 ft \$20
 734-591-3252
FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

W. BLOOMFIELD Big holiday moving sale! More - accessories, home-garden, clothing, shoes, furniture 5030 Walbrook Ct, N. of 14 W. of Inkster Sat-Sun, 10-5pm.

Moving Sales **7130**

BIRMINGHAM - Furniture, appliances, bikes, clothes, goods. Sat-9-5pm-Sun-1-4pm. 6711 Woodside Trail, 48322 (15 & Middlebelt) 248-626-0316

CANTON Fri-Sun, Dec 2-4. 8am-5pm, possibly later 39410 Koppernick, btwn Joy/Warren, runs Hix to Haggerty Furniture fridge, etc. All must go! 734-453-6955

NORTHVILLE Estate Sale - Furniture & misc Sat-Sun, 10am 6pm - 650 East St. 248-219-3367

WEDDING DRESS Stunning satin, lace & beaded, w/ train & plastic cover for small frame, worth \$2000 asking \$1000 248-417-1458

Antiques & Collectibles

ANOTHER BERNARD DAVIS ESTATE SALE
 (313) 837-1993
 University District
 17375 Parkside, Detroit Off McNichols, between Livernois and Woodward Fri & Sat
 Dec 2 & 3, 9am-4pm
 Baby Grand Piano, Sofas, Lamps, Plants, TV's, VCR, DVD, Stereo w/ Speakers, Lazy Boy Chair, Sleeper Sofa, Art, End Tables, China Cabinet w/ Table, Accessories, Kitchen Appliances, Kenmore Stove and Refrigerator Round Table w/ chairs Outdoor Furniture King Bed w/ Dresser, Queen Bed, Dresser, Chest, Dresser, Bed, Day Bed, Fabric, Washer and Dryer, Tools and MUCH-MUCH MORE!!!

Antiques & Collectibles **7040**

TUPPERWARE Holiday Inventory Blow Out Sale! Sat Dec 3, 2-5pm & Sun Dec 4, 1-4pm Deep discounts on select items Door Prizes www.tupperware.com/galia (313) 565-2205

Antiques & Collectibles

Antiques & Collectibles
 Fri & Sat, Dec 2 & 3, 9-5
 2841 Hickory Grove Rd., Bloomfield Hills, btwn Franklin & Square Lake Sale BY NOSTALGIA DAYS GONE BY ANTIQUES, 248-431-4552

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 Baldwin House Apartments,
 200 Chester, Birmingham

DEPT. 56 VILLAGES
 \$25 each Accessories \$5-
 \$10 248-931-2294

Household Goods

- FURNITURE - LEAVING STATE
 Must sell! Will sacrifice beautiful new furniture items include elegant Italian leather sofa & loveseat (cost over \$3,000), will sell both pieces for \$1,550), also have beautiful 13 piece formal Chippendale cherry dining room suite, 2 king-sized cherry 11-piece bedroom suites, 2 cherry queen-sized bedroom suites, cherry five piece game set, 3-piece cherry pub table set, all wood 9-piece cherry kitchen set, cherry & mahogany grandfather clocks, two 3-piece cherry coffee table sets, gorgeous 24 percent lead crystal and solid brass lamps, pictures, silk trees, etc. All less than 3 mos old & in excellent condition. Must be sold as soon as possible. Private party. Please call 248-853-8124

BABY GRAND PIANO
 Immaculate, make offer. Piano, table, 4 chairs, washer, dryer, make offer 248-396-4105

BED - Brand New super pillow-top mattress set, in plastic, with warranty. Must sell! Can deliver. 734-231-6822

BED - King size, \$300/best offer 734-427-7184

BED - SLEIGH BED
 Queen size, Cherry. Brand new in box, can deliver, \$300. 734-326-2744

BEDDING SET - 2 piece queen size pillow top mattress set. New in plastic with warranty. \$160. 734-326-2744

BEDROOM SET
 7 piece, girls, honey color wood, good condition, \$250. 248-553-0906

BEDROOM SET Girls, twin size, 8 pieces, Dark Cherry, mint condition, \$1800/best. (734) 425-6090

BEDROOM SET Girls, White, w/Carpet or Bed. Loft bunk bed & other pieces. Fair but best offer. 734-687-1306

BEDROOM SET Cherry, King piece, Stunning Lexington Atlantic Overture. Fossil stone tops. Mattress set included. Moving, must sell. \$6500. Call 248-854-7055

BEDROOM SUITE King size, pecan, dresser w/ mirror, chest, night stands, head board, frame and mattress. Queen size bdrm suite w/ storage. (248) 760-5197

BOOKS, Christmas Decorations, oak finish storage cabinet, office supplies. 734-728-2061

BUFFET - Large, 2 pieces, maple, good condition, \$150 248-355-0176

DINING ROOM SET - Queen Anne, 2 leaves, 6 chairs, 2 with arms, excellent condition, \$1000 248-489-1353

DINING ROOM SET Formal, glass top table, 6 ball & claw seat chairs new exc cond \$400. Best offer 248-115-2888, or 734-426-3426

DINING ROOM SET
 Thomasville, pecan, rustic dining table 8 chairs, hutch, server. Gorgeous! Like New! Paid over \$8000 Sacrifice \$3600 - 248-841-5113

Household Goods

DINING SET 'Bent Bros' maple oval double pedestal table, 6 chairs, 2 leaves, incl china cabinet w/ hutch & side buffet. Quality furniture, exc. cond. Make offer. 734-454-0679

DRESSER W/ HUTCH W/ changing table, 4 drawer, white, exc. condition, \$250. All wood. 5 years old, best offer. MUST GO! 734-414-1726

Entire Kitchen - Renovating House - Beautiful European style cabinets, Corian counter tops & sink, many extras. All appliances, bathrooms. Cash & carry. Photos available. 248-302-2883

FIREPLACE INSERT Buck Stove, wood or coal burning, used only 4 seasons. Complete w/owners manual. \$500/best. (248) 442-4943

FURNITURE - Flexsteel sofa \$75. Love seat \$50. Ethan Allen chair & ottoman \$100. Sligh solid cherry TV cabinet (fits up to 27" TV) \$200. All excellent cond. 734-254-1328

FURNITURE - Dark oak king frame, armoire, 2 night stands, dresser w/2 mirrors, \$950. Dark oak 6 ft table, 3 leaves, 4 side & 2 arm chairs, server, china cabinet, \$1000. Natuzzi burgundy leather couch, \$700. Glider rocker, White, w/stool. \$75 248-651-3893

FURNITURE - Large sleeper sectional, Baker's rack with shelves, sofa & chair set, large entertainment center. 734-354-0473

FURNITURE - House of Denmark bedroom set, Toshiba big screen TV, desk set, end tables, leather furniture, etc. (313) 402-5154

FURNITURE Like new 6 piece sunroom furniture set, Rattan/Hawaiian print. \$800 (248) 646-5870

FURNITURE 5 piece, neutral, scotch guarded sectional 8 piece glass top dining buffet, Black TV units, Parsons and occasional chairs. Chrome glass cocktail tables. Top quality, sold separately/together \$4000 (248) 851-9726

HIGH CHAIR Prima Pappa, Cherry TV cabinet, china, dorm refrigerator, Acces-sories. Much more! (734) 667-2425

KITCHEN TABLE/CHAIRS
 Round/cornered glass table w/6 grey/black chairs \$400 248-910-0699

MASTER KING SUITE SET
 White, 13 piece, mattress, custom built, contemporary, top quality, one of a kind, like new. Was \$900 now \$2500. 248-535-1212

MATTRESS - PILLOWTOP
 Brand new, in plastic, with warranty 248-866-9100

NORTHVILLE HOME
 (Redecorating) Items for sale. Tables, chairs, dishes, art, etc. 734-426-3426

PERSIAN CARPETS Top quality hand woven for sale by private owner. Wool, silk & combination. Various sizes & colors. Liquidating below cost. Good Investment. Please Call 313-888-7900, 248-357-3911

POOL TABLE 8 solid playing surface. Balls, stick, cues, rack. Good Condition. Disassemble and take with REFRIGERATOR - 1947 Fridge. Large good working condition. Take with! \$350 734-591-1946

SECTIONAL SOFA Off-white/taupe/blue plaid, ottoman & pillows, like new, oak storage end tables. 248-952-5137

PHOTOS AVAILABLE ONLINE

SEWING MACHINE
 Singer, Heavy duty, for sale. Good condition. (248) 352-6120/ 248-722-6968

SIDEBOARD/SERVER By Habersham. Cream distressed finish. 89X24X45. Not yet unpacked-too large for present space. \$4500. 734-421-8690

SNOW THROWER, ARIENS 27" Self-propelled 3 speeds forward, 1 reverse. Electric start \$250. Light oak dresser, \$125. True treadmill, 8 programs, elevation, \$825. 2 antique typewriters, \$75 each. 248-737-4838

SOFA BED Black/white, \$200. Kenmore sewing machine w/ cabinet. \$125. antique treadle sewing machine, \$175. Call 248-477-2958.

VICTORIAN CHAIRS (Mr & Mrs) Wicker buggy, folding ice cream table & rod iron beds (248) 644-8056

Household Goods

APPLIANCES Washer, gas dryer, 23 cu ft Chest Freezer, Small Refrigerator. Excellent condition. Will separate. \$450 313-791-0911

Dishwasher, KitchenAid. Whirlpool side-by-side. GE Spacemaker microwave. All must go! 734-414-1726

FRIDGE - SIDE BY SIDE. Exec. cond \$400 (734) 254-0277

GE WALL GAS OVEN. GE gas cook-top. Remodeling, must sell. \$75 ea. or best offer. (734) 464-1529

REFRIGERATOR GE, \$250/best, commercial freezer, org. \$1800 asking \$350. (248) 867-6145

REFRIGERATOR Sears, side by side, runs good, good condition. \$350/best offer. (734) 261-8736

REFRIGERATOR, AMANA Side-by-side Clean! \$400. 734-453-9284

Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs **7190**

HOT TUB 2005, Brand New Still in wrapper, seats 6 w/ lounger. Retail for \$2950, sacrifice for \$2250. 734-732-9336

Business & Office Equipment **7240**

OFFICE FURNITURE Local training and office center closed. Computers, desks, tables, chairs, and more; all equipment must go. Matching units, sold separately or as group. Call for price. 248-719-5081

TOSHIBA STRATA DK96 PHONE SYSTEM
 Complete System-Operations Box and Phones with 3 main line phones. Handles up to 40 phones \$500. Ask for Chuck, (734) 453-8700.

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HOME THEATER SYSTEM-HIGH END New, 900 watts 6 speakers, incl. radio tuner \$400/best. 248-788-1099, afternoons or evenings

Christmas Trees **7420**

Christmas Tree Artificial 12 ft, top quality, very full/realistic, flame-retardant \$290 (248) 889-2525

Hobbies-Coins, Stamps **7450**

LARGE DOLL HOUSE
 39'X23'X28' h, finished w/ over 50 pieces of furniture \$350, (734) 459-7512

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BLAZING 7 VALLEY SLOT MACHINE
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New Victorian Wedding dress, size 10, ivory, \$500. Kid's bike trailer, \$50. Man's Citizens watch, \$100. 248-348-7363

PIANO (Henry Miller upright), approxed at \$1300, was free for \$300! Queen sleeper sofa \$50. 248-391-8251

RANGE Used Kenmore 30 electric freestanding range, \$275.00 and stainless steel corner sink, \$65. 248-478-6171

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Automotive

The 2006 Lincoln Navigator

Advertising Feature

Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

After a highly demanding five-day family trip over Thanksgiving, one of my favorite vehicles of all time remains one of my favorite vehicles of all time: the Lincoln Navigator. And it's difficult to pay a higher compliment to a machine and to Ford Motor Co. than that.

We didn't exactly do "over the river and through the woods." Actually, what we put a 2006 Navigator through was much tougher than that idyllic but short trip to Grandma's house. Instead, my family and I traveled about 1,000 miles across Michigan and around the lake - Lake Michigan, that is - through the treachery of downtown Chicago, the snow and ice of wintry Wisconsin, and the deep frustration of accident-related backups on Interstate 94 near Battle Creek, until we made it back again.

But all the while, the dependably smooth performance and reliably comfortable amenities in the 2006 Navigator took a huge edge off the aggravation. When we finally got back to the Detroit area to resume our post-holiday lives, we had a hard time wanting to get out of the vehicle!

Let's start by conceding the obvious: Navigator, even in its spruced-up latest version, remains an exemplar of one of the worst aspects of the modern automotive business: gas-guzzling sport-utility vehicles. Even with gasoline hovering at prices closer to \$2 a gallon than the apocalyptic \$3 a gallon of several weeks ago in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Navigator took a big chunk out of my wallet. I had to make a handful of \$40 refuelings during the course of the round trip, which I wasn't happy about.

But just like most of the rest of America, we weren't about to let fuel-consumption concerns or any other economic worries impinge on our annual Thanksgiving trip. And having put that hurdle behind us, there was nowhere we'd rather have been than safely inside this Navigator.

Styling-wise, Navigator doesn't offer all that much: It's huge and boxy, obviously meant to carry a lot of human and other cargo in a commanding and secure position high above most other vehicles on the road. In other words, I don't care that much how it looks. Having said that, however, the 2006 Navigator does retain the happy results of the moderate facelift that the vehicle got with the 2005 model, giving it a



Dale Buss said, "The 2006 Navigator was the smoothest large SUV I've driven."

friendlier and less truck-like appearance.

And no doubt about it: On a walkaround, Navigator is more pleasing to the eye than other SUV behemoth competitors such as Chevy's Tahoe and Suburban models. Navigator's relatively new and subtle appearance enhancements include new side cladding and a boldly horizontal lower air intake on the fascia.

At the same time, the most impressive aspects of the outside of the black Navigator we drove were, not surprisingly, the amenities. Automatically retracting running boards are a first-rate feature, quietly extending out by four inches when a door is opened - and back in when all are closed. Auxiliary turn signals and approach lamps housed in the mirrors are great features that come in handy in myriad ways.

I also grew to like Navigator's power lift gate and the separately opening window glass on the rear, though the door swung open a little too slowly for my tastes.

Speaking of power: Navigator was the smoothest large SUV I've driven. The thrust provided by a three-valve V8 engine was fantastic across my range of needs, and the six-speed automatic transmission capably handled the broad range of gear transitions that were required by many kinds of driving and varied conditions. I especially appreciated the ability to

shift from fourth gear to a sixth, overdrive gear manually.

Inside, Navigator really shines. The room it provides throughout the inside of the vehicle is just grand, both for cargo and people.

With the black exterior of the vehicle I drove, Lincoln matched a tan interior that complemented nicely the overall look. The front compartment is roomy and smartly designed, with a huge center console and ample numbers of everything, from vents to stereo speakers.

I do think that Navigator could have made a little more creative use of the center-console space rather than simply using most of it for drink holders. And I don't like having to wait for a little motor to raise the navigation screen from in front of the input for the CD player before I can stick a disk in and play it. But these are minor disputes with an overall very functional passenger compartment.

The second row of seats was equipped with a DVD player and, just as important, reclining captain's chairs so my two teenagers could watch the show in comfort. The DVD screen covered nearly all of what I normally would have seen in my rear-view mirror, which was of significant distress for me, because I've driven vehicles where the obstruction of the view wasn't nearly as complete.

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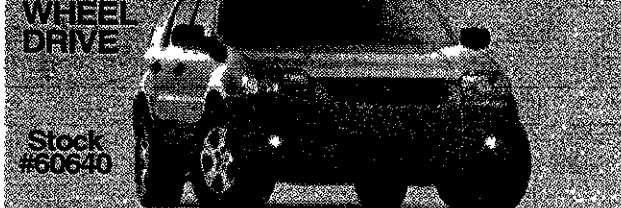
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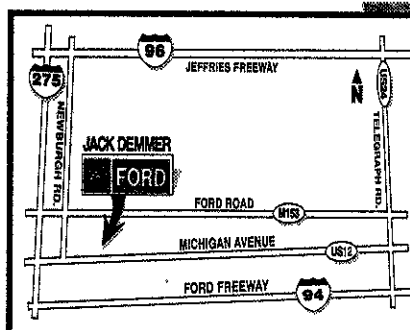
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