

### **THURSDAY** January 12, 2006

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# Miller students might be bused to Livonia school next year

#### BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Students at Plymouth-Canton's Miller Elementary could be bused to a Livonia school next year as a year-long, \$4.5 million renovation project beginning in June will force the Canton Township school to be closed for an entire school year.

Plymouth-Canton administrators are talking to Livonia Public Schools officials about the availability of Washington Elementary on Ann Arbor Road at Hix, which is scheduled to be closed as part of Livonia's Legacy Initiative to restructure grades because of falling enrollment.

Last year, Superintendent Jim Ryan originally announced a preliminary plan that would house Miller's 660 students at the new Workman Elementary in Canton's Cherry Hill Village for one year, alongside students assigned to Workman. The new building is expected to open in August,

just before the 2006-07 school year begins. However, when Livonia

announced it was closing seven schools, Plymouth-Canton administrators envisioned another possibility.

"It appears this school could help us enormously with where to put 500 students," said Barbara Church Rodenberg, assistant superintendent of instruction, who noted 139 students currently bused to Miller from Central Park Estates will be in the

Workman attendance area next year. "We've had some discussions with the Livonia business department."

Church said Washington Elementary wouldn't be large enough to house all 500 general education and Talented and Gifted program students.

"Our proposal is to put the TAG classrooms at Workman Elementary for one year, and move the remaining Miller students to Washington," she said. "If we can work out a lease, this is the very best solution.

"Then, we can create the attendance boundaries for Workman Elementary to take effect this fall, and have students who live within sight of Workman attend it, instead of having them bused past the school.'

Superintendent Jim Ryan met with several dozen Miller parents Monday night to explain the possible change from original plans.

"It's something that can work for the Miller community," said Leslie Raiford, 'Miller

PTO president. "Going to Washington doesn't present any larger problems than moving to Workman."

Raiford, who has a first and third grader attending Miller, said the move can be a positive one for students, if plans are made well in advance.

"A lot of people are working hard to make this move as easy on the kids as possible," said Raiford. "We're doing everything to make it go smoothly."

PLEASE SEE STUDENTS, A5

# **Cancer-stricken** woman in search of a miracle

#### **BY CAROL MARSHALL** STAFF WRITER

Jan Fallat thought she had cancer licked. Three years ago, she was diagnosed with breast cancer, underwent chemotherapy and radiation treatments, and then went into remission.

"We seemingly beat it and she was good for five months," said her hus-







Rick Stallings and Jane Tirey of Plymouth own Pump It Up, a children's party spot focated on Michigan Avenue in Canton.

# **Rolling with the bounces**

## Children's party spot takes owners into next phase of life

**BY CAROL MARSHALL** STAFF WRITER

**Rick Stallings and Jane** Tirey were graduate students at Notre Dame when they met. Twenty-five years into their marriage, the Plymouth couple has been through ups and downs, for sure. And starting this weekend, the ups and

downs will be even more plentiful.

Last weekend, the couple opened their second Pump It Úp, an indoor party spot featuring inflatable equipment, in Canton.

If you'd have told them a couple of years ago they would own not one, but two businesses which are loud, hectic

providers of children's birthday parties and Cub Scout entertainment, they'd have said you were nuts. But today, they're enjoying success at one location and hope for future success at another.

Can't blame Stallings and Tirey for not seeing it coming. Just a few short years ago, Tirey was happily retired from her career at General Motors, where she worked as a certified public accountant.

And Stallings was at the height of his career as a senior partner for auditing firm Arthur Andersen. Before his company's client, Enron, became a household name

PLEASE SEE PARTY, A4

# Win a chance to bowl with NFL legends

If you are a creative wordsmith and have a good idea how to spend a day in Canton's downtown business district, you might just win two complimentary tickets to bowl with some current and former NFL players and other celebrities in the first-ever Super Bowl NFL Charities Bowling Classic, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4 at Canton's Super Bowl Lanes on Ford Road.

Two tickets to participate in the event, which are worth \$750 each, will be awarded to the two contestants who best describe, in 500 words or less, a "Super Day in Canton's DDA," illustrating how a family of four might spend an interesting day (8 a.m.-10 p.m.) patronizing some of the 300-plus business, hospitality, and entertainment establishments in Canton's DDA

(Downtown Development Authority) District. A list of these establishments is available on the Canton DDA Web site at http://www.cantonmi.org/dda/dbd.asp.

Along with the opportunity to bowl with NFL players and celebrities, the winners will also receive a limited edition commemorative Super Bowl XL bowling ball, and souvenir pin, a tote bag, official NFL Super Bowl XL apparel from Reebok, an all-day buffet and other prizes.

Entries should be addressed to Kathleen Salla, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, MI 48188. And are due by Monday, Jan. 23. Winning entries will be creative, resourceful and realistic. For more information, please call (734) 394-5186.

band, Dr. Larry Fallat.

But in May 2004, Larry Fallat traveled to Nigeria for a 10-day medical mission, and when he returned his wife didn't meet him at the airport the way she usually does.

When he got to their home in Canton, he found his wife very ill with a sore throat. Two days later, she was diagnosed with leukemia.

Though the leukemia was detected very early, the stress Jan Fallat's body underwent to fight the breast cancer had taken a toll. And it's possible the chemotherapy may have caused the leukemia, Larry Fallat said.

"The chemotherapy and radiation destroyed her bone marrow," he said. "And now she's fighting to make red blood cells."

What that's meant to his wife of 27 years (who he met when he was a medical school resident and she was a nurse) is that she's been chronically ill and in severe pain, and may not be able to fight off the leukemia without a stem cell transplant.

The Fallats are hopeful, despite the fact that Jan has a very rare factor in her blood which is making the search for a donor very difficult, according to friend Marion Rozum, who is helping to organize a bone marrow drive at St. Thomas a' Becket this weekend.

Jan Failat of Canton, who was diagnosed with leukemia just months after beating breast cancer, is in dire need of a stem cell transplant.

Entering in the bone marrow registry database is simple – a finger prick and small blood sample is all it takes to send genetic information to the National Bone Marrow Registry. Information is stored until the potential donor reaches his or her 60th birthday, or asks to be removed from the registry.

The bone marrow drive will be 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Jan. 14 at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 Lilley in Canton.

Donors who are in good health and are between the ages of 18 and 60 are asked to pay a \$25 taxdeductible fee (waived for people of Spanish, African or Asian descent) to be entered into the registry, but Larry Fallat will pay the fee for those who cannot afford it.

"Well, of course I'll do that." he said, hoping one of the donors is a match for his wife.

"What difference does it make what it costs? She's my wife."

For more information, contact Susan Dorr at Oakwood Hospital, (313) 593-7554.

cmarshall@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

© The Observer **Coming Sunday** INDEX Select Money Market & Eccentric CommunityFinancial For Home Newspapers APARTMENTS F9 on the PINK page BELIEFS & VALUES C6 Delivery call: G5 F11 AUTOMOTIVE Volume 31 Thinking forward. Banking right. (866) 887-2737 CROSSWORD Number 56 Jennifer G2 JOBS % Gray's MOVIES D14 (877) 937-2328 toll free www.cfcu.org (734) 453-1200 C6 OBITUARIES Body CANTON Novi Plymouth 'Northville REAL ESTATE F1 Beautiful SERVICE GUIDE G5 Boot C1 3.66% APY is as of 1-04-06 and subject to change. Rate may vary after accound opened, Fees, if any may reduce earnings, additional Money Market opt available at great rates, call for details, **NCLA** Accounts Federally insured by National Credit Union Administration, 02005 Community Financial openation SPORTS Camps B5 TASTE Annual Percentage Yield

### Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 12, 2006

### Offices closed for MLK Day

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All Canton Township administrative offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 16, in observation of Martin Luther King Day.

### Celebrating Dr. King

The Canton community will



honor Martin Luther King Jr. Day with an event called 'Canton Celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." on Jan. 16 at the Village Theater

at Cherry Hill. The program begins at 7 p.m. but attendees are encouraged to arrive at 6:30 p.m. to allow time to view the extraordinary exhibit, "A Countdown to Eternity." This photo-documentary of King and the civil rights movement from the archives of internationally acclaimed photographer Benedict J. Fernandez provides a rare and intimate view of the famed civil rights leader in the proud, contemplative, triumphant and final moments of his life.

At 7 p.m., the celebration will begin, with a performance by Vision, the Men's Glee Club from the Detroit School of the Arts, under the direction of Shervl Valentine. Guest speaker Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Wade Harper McCree will address the audience with a talk titled "The King Legacy -Our Unfinished Agenda." McCree has served as president of the Association of Black Judges of Michigan and is the son of Wade H. McCree, Jr., the second black U.S. Solicitor-General.

An original video, "A Tribute to Rosa Parks," compiled and edited by Canton Township

cable, will also be shown. The program is free to the public. No reservations are required but early arrival is recommended. For more information, call the Canton Public Library at (734) 397-0999.

### Cookies for troops

It's that time of year again for Girl Scout cookie sales. Girl Scout Troop #433, based in Canton, has once again adopted members of the Michigan National Army Guard. These troops are currently serving in Iraq. If you do not wish to purchase cookies for yourself, please consider buying a box or two for our troops. The girls will personalize each box with a note (and your name if you'd like) and send them to Iraq.

Boxes are \$3.50 each and come in the following varieties: Carmel deLites, Peanut Butter Patties, Shortbread, Thin Mints, Peanut Butter Sandwich, Reduced Fat Lemon Pastry Cremes, Reduced Fat Cartwheels, and Thanks-A-Lot.

To make an order, call (734) 459-0675. Profits from cookie sales will go towards community service projects, badges, field trips, and program supplies.

### Back to Bach

Orchestra Canton will present "Back to Bach" at 8 p.m. on Jan. 14. at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. The show, which is the third of five in Orchestra Canton's second season, will feature performances by several guest musicians, and will be conducted by Orchestra Canton Music Director Nan Washburn. The program includes some of Bach's more popular works, including Brandenburg Concerto No. 5, Suite of Bach Favorites (Sheep May Safely Graze, Air on a G-String & Jesus Joy of Man

Desiring, arranged by Nan Washburn), and Bach's Coffee Cantata No. 211. The Cantata's soloists, performing in costume and in English, take a comical look at the evils and pleasures of drinking coffee.

The evening will actually begin an hour earlier at 7 p.m. in the theater's Biltmore Studio with a buffet-style dinner, which will include several courses. Tickets for the dinner and concert together are \$40. Tickets for the concert only are \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors and \$11 for children. Tickets may be purchased in person at Summit on the Park, by calling the Summit at (734) 394-5460, or by calling the Orchestra Canton office at (734) 451-2112. Available tickets may also be purchased at the Village Theater box office one hour before the performance. For more information on Orchestra Canton's second season please visit www.orchestracanton.org.

### Hall of Fame

nominations

Nomination forms for Hall of Fame and Community Achiever/Supporter awards are now available at the Canton Supervisor's office, Canton Chamber of Commerce and on Canton's Web site, www.canton-mi.org. Forms are due back to the Canton Supervisor's office no later than Friday, March 3.

The annual reception, which will take place on April 2, honors the Hall of Fame inductee, (an individual who has made a long-time, long-lasting contribution to the Canton community), Community Achievers (those who made a specific contribution to the community in the previous year), and Community Supporters (individuals or groups who continue to make an ongoing contribution to the community). For more information, please call (734) 394-5188.

### Post office hours

The Canton post office, 480 N Canton Center Road, will be open on Martin Luther King Day (Jan. 16) and President's Day (Feb. 20) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Since September, the branch office has been operating under extended hours, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 8

a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays. Besides extending retail

hours, the Canton post office recently installed an Automated Postal Center (APC) to enhance customer service. It works much like an automated teller machine, and customers can by stamps or mail packages anywhere in the U.S. using a credit or debit card. The Canton APC is available 14 hours a day, six days a week. In addition, many Post Office services are now available on-line at usps.com.

### Master plan on Web

Canton's Comprehensive Master Plan is now available on the Planning Services page on the township's Web site at www.canton-mi.org. The Comprehensive Plan is a general, long-range "blue-print" for development, which promotes high-quality orderly growth for Canton Township.

The plan is comprised of a general historical perspective and profile of the community; an analysis of population, housing and employment trends; and an analysis of existing land use patterns, physical development and public facility constraints. The plan also includes goals, objectives, policies and strategies for future land use, the transportation network, public utilities, and recreational facilities.

It is the intent of the plan's goals, objectives and policies will reflect Canton's overall vision for the community's future and provide a valuable decision-making tool for the Planning Commission, Township Board of Trustees and the staff. For questions regarding the Comprehensive Plan contact Canton's Planning Services at (734) 394-5170.

### Youth artist competition

The application deadline for the Plymouth Symphony's Youth Artist Competition is Friday, Jan. 30. The competition itself is scheduled to be held on Sunday, Feb. 12 at Evola Music, 7170 N. Haggerty Road in Canton.

Through the generosity of the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs, local service organizations and other sponsors, the Plymouth Symphony recognizes young orchestral talent from the greater



## Magic man

Las Vegas magician Aaron Radatz will be performing at The Village Theater, on Jan. 13 for one performance only at 8 p.m. Radatz, who was born and raised in Detroit, combines music, storytelling, and audience participation in his shows. The highlight of the show will feature him recreating an escape made famous by Harry Houdini. He will be restrained in a regulation straitjacket and hung by his ankles 40 feet above the stage as he tries to escape and beat Houdini's best time. Currently, Radatz and his cast have toured over 37 U.S. states, 25 countries, and 5 continents. He is the only magician commissioned by the U.S. Pentagon for a command performance for the U.S. military. His dedication to the troops in the armed forces has earned him several international awards, including such high honors as the Commander's Coin of **Excellence and the Scroll of** Appreciation of Honor and Admiration. Tickets cost \$30, and can be bought by calling (734) 394-5300. Visit www.aaronradatz.com for more tour information.

Plymouth-Canton and surrounding communities through this competition and offered music scholarships to area youth since 1978.

The competition is composed of three divisions: Senior Instrumental (grades 10-12), Senior Piano (grades 10-12), and Junior Division (combined instrumental and piano grades 7-9). Applicants must be piano, band or orchestra students in the school districts of Livonia, Northville,

Novi, Plymouth-Canton, Van Buren (Belleville), Clarenceville, or Wayne-Westland. Celebration Youth Orchestra members and students at Evola Music are also eligible. The first prize winner in each Senior Division shall receive \$500 and the first prize winner in the Junior Division shall receive \$250. If applicable, honorable mentions will also be acknowledged.

www.hometownlife.com

Past participants are encouraged to reapply, however, musicians are eligible to win only one first prize award in each division. Winners may have the opportunity to perform with the PSO or Orchestra Canton. Applicants must be available to perform at the competition. For an application or more information, please contact Ellen Elliott at (734) 451-2112 or by e-mail at  $\sim$ info@plymouthsymphony.org. Applications are also available on the Plymouth Symphony Web site at www.plymouthsymphony.org.

### Ash tree talk

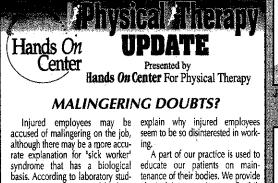
Kristine Hahn of the MSU Extension Service will talk about filling the void left by the loss of so many ash trees to the ash borer during a presentation at the Plymouth District Library. The presentation, hosted by the Plymouth Library Garden Club, takes place 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19. The library is located at 223 S. Main (at Church) in downtown Plymouth. The Plymouth Library Garden Club meets the third Thursday of every month. For more information, call (734) 464-4165.

### K-grams Gymnastics Night

K-grams, Inc. (Kids Programs) invites your family to the Fourth Annual K-grams Gymnastics Night at the University of Michigan women's gymnastics meet against the Ohio State Buckeyes. Local families are invited to join more than 1,000 elementary students from Kgrams, fans, students, and mentors, as we cheer on the teams and engage in fun for the whole family. The meet is scheduled for Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. at Crisler Arena in Ann Arbor.

K-grams will also have special raffles and prizes for all children in attendance. Just by attending K-grams Gym Night, you will help raise money for mentoring and literacy pro-

Po it yourself... Save **Free Appliance** on **Every Part Repair** Help Use promo code CANOBS www.RepairClinic.com oniine or bring it to our 1-800-269-2609 Parts Counter, Expires Jan 31, 06 48600 Michigan Avenue, Canton (1/4 mile west of Beck Rd.)



ies, nerve injuries caused by lowforce, highly repetitive movements result in the production of proteins known as cytokines. These proteins appear in injured nerves as early as three weeks after the first signs of cell stress. Cytokines are also linked to malaise, enough so that the inflammatory proteins in the bloodstream may trigger a self-protective effect in which those affected begin to back off the repetitive tasks that caused the injury. If so, this may

physical therapy to increase flexibility, range of motion and function, build strength, and correct postureall of which are important aspects of having a healthy every day life. If you have been referred for physical therapy, call the HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY at 455-8370. You'll find us conveniently located at 650 South Main Street in downtown Plymouth. New

P.S. Cytokines may be to blame for employees calling in sick with unexplained symptoms that include low-grade depression.

patients are welcome.

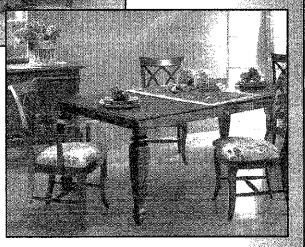


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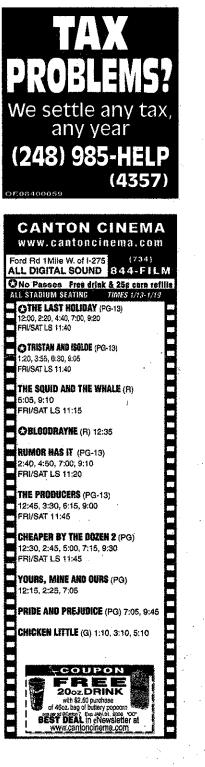
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grams in K-5 schools. K-grams has partnered with Comcast, which will donate \$1 to kids programs for each person who walks through the door.

Admission is free with a university ID, and \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. For more information, visit the group's Web site at

www.kgrams.org/gym, or send an e-mail to gym@kgrams.org.





TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

Katherine, who trains at Canine Training & Sports Center in Canton, takes a closer look as her picture is being taken. She will compete this weekend in a prestigious dog show in Tampa.

# Canton-trained sheltie earns shot at national championship

#### BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

After winning dozens of ribbons and defeating hundreds of dogs in renowned competitions, Katherine – a Shetland sheepdog from Westland – is ready for her television close-up.

Katherine, 2 1/2 years old, has become so respected that she earned a coveted spot in this weekend's invitation-only Eukanuba National Championship in Tampa, Fla.

The two-day competition, sponsored by the American Kennel Club, will air at 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday on the Discovery and Animal Planet channels.

Depending on how she fares, Katherine, who trains at Canine Training & Sports Center in Canton, may get her close-up, but nearly 3,000 dogs will be competing for attention from judges.

"It will be tough," said Walt Christensen, who owns four award-winning Shetland sheepdogs with his wife, Mary.

The couple has been showing dogs for 10 years, and they breed them, too. Their four shelties – Katherine, sister Erin, 3 1/2, their mother Shelby, 9, and Rebel, 13 – have accumulated hundreds of ribbons and appeared in national dog nublications This weekend's competition in Tampa is one of the top two championships in the nation. Katherine will compete in the other one – the Westminster Dog Show in New York – next month.

Tuesday afternoon, Katherine looked like canine royalty as she sat next to Mary Christensen inside the family living room near Merriman and Ann Arbor Trail. She has won more ribbons than Erin, Shelby and Rebel.

"She looks like the prima donna, and she knows it," said Kristina, one of the Christensens 24-year-old twin daughters and the mother of their grandson, Sean. The other daughter is Dana.

Katherine gets no special treatment in the Christensen home, though. And, as if to dismiss any notion that she may be a snob, she decides to leave Mary Christensen's side and jump onto a love seat, where she spends the rest of the interview resting her head on the reporter's leg.

To qualify for the Tampa competition, Katherine had to become one of the top 25 winners in the nation for her breed. She and the other shelties in the Christensen home have earned their ribbons by traveling to contests as far away as Florida and Nebraska, and to international events in Canada. Today, Katherine and her owners will begin the journey to Tampa in a Ford van that has 92,000 miles on it after little more than three years. Dog shows are an expensive hobby. They bring mostly ribbons, little money.

for General Motors Corp., and Mary, whose job is caring for and teaching the shelties, don't mind spending thousands of dollars each year for a hobby they love. "Some people spend money on their boats or golfing," Walt Christensen said. "We spend it on our dogs."

It has paid off. All of their shelties have earned top honors in one competition or another. They start training as early as 7 weeks old at home and at such places as the Canine Training & Sports Center in Canton.

The Christensens, married for 25 years, recoup only part of their money by breeding shelties. They've bred 50-60 dogs during the last 10 years, and their reputation has resulted in buyers as far away as Oregon. Katherine has had one litter, but breeding has to be carefully timed so that it doesn't interfere with dog shows.

On Tuesday, Mary Christensen said her dogs know when they are preparing to enter a contest.

"They can tell when they're going to a competition, and they know they'll have fun," she said. Katherine will behave like a

Katherine will behave like a sheltie princess while she's being judged this weekend in such categories as structure and expression. She'll stand perfectly still when she should, and prance around when the time comes. If she earns a bestof-breed honor and gets her TV close-up, it will be during the Sunday evening show.

# River trail, Patriot Park rank high on recreation wish list

#### BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

As a weeklong celebration of the 10-year anniversary of the Summit on the Park looked back over the past decade of accomplishments, the Canton Leisure Services department moved ahead to look five years into its future.

Immediate plans include a \$1 million project to improve park and golf maintenance buildings. The item is included in the 2006 budget and the township board approved the hiring of an architect at its Dec. 10 meeting. Other plans include a \$400,000 non-motorized trail along the Lower Rouge River, which will be discussed at a study meeting this spring, according to Township Supervisor Tom Yack, and will coincide with sewer improvements in the township.

"With the sewer project that's being planned, there's an opportunity to work with the county and with WTUA (Western Townships Utility Authority) to put in a path there," Yack said, adding that the partnership allows for more bang for Canton's buck.

The projects are identified in Leisure Services' five-year master plan, which is available now for citizen review and will be presented in its final form to the township Board of Trustees at its Feb. 14 meeting.

The plan is required in order for the township to qualify for grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, according to Leisure Services Director Ann Conklin. And the grants can be significant, as was the \$1 million grant for acquisition of land at Ford and Ridge, which will be the 132acre Patriot Park, and a \$750,000 grant which paid for the 2001 Summit expansion.

Many of the items on the list of possible improvements for the next five years were based upon a survey conducted by Leisure Services in 2004, in which 5 percent of Canton residents – 3,854 people – were surveyed. There were 878 residents who responded.

What residents have consistently said they wanted, according to Conklin, is a trails system, with 77 percent of respondents naming it as high on the list of priorities for Leisure Services.

"Those are not inexpensive to put those in but they're not amenities that require a lot of expense in maintenance," Yack said.

Also of interest to residents are an outdoor pool, with 46 percent of residents saying it would be a top choice for future facilities, a second splash park, identified by 29 percent of residents as attractive, and a community garden, which 27 percent of residents said they would like. Residents reported that 89 percent of them had used Heritage Park, and that most had either visited or knew of Village Theater and Cherry Hill, Cherry Hill School, and Pheasant Run Golf Course.

"What I liked about the survey is that it said to me that

people are satisfied with the level of services that we have, even if they identified other things they'd like to have, like the trails and walking areas Yack said.

The majority of residents responded that they strongly agreed, or somewhat agreed that leisure services programs make Canton a desirable place to live, improve the health of residents, increase property values, strengthen families and communities, and reduce crimes, Conklin said.

Next year's plans could include the \$6 million development of Patriot Park. The park's master plan included trails, playgrounds, fields for baseball, soccer and football, wetlands and open space, and picnic areas.

"We're proposing that for the interview of the park can be the park can be the developed in three or four the phases.

In 2006, Canton residents will contribute an average of \$143 per household to the Leisure Services budget, com pared to \$147 per year last year (based on a home value of \$240,000), according to Conklin. The Leisure Services budget receives approximately 13 percent of the Canton Township portion of the average property tax bill.

Residents who wish to review the draft of the master plan may do so at http://leisure.cantonmi.org/pdfs/2006\_draft\_mas ter\_plan.pdf.

cmarshall@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700



"All of them are best-ofbreed winners," Walt Christensen said.

Just last year, Katherine ranked in the top 15 of 700 shelties and earned a national Award of Merit during an American Shetland Sheepdog Association contest in Collinsville, Ill.

Walt Christensen, a contractor who manages Web servers "She'll be very serious while she's competing," Walt Christensen said, "But when she's done, she'll be her same old goofy self."



# PARTY

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FROM PAGE A1

synonymous with scandal, Stallings was certain he'd retire from Arthur Andersen, comfortably supported by stock options in the company.

But all that disappeared in 2002 when the company was forced to surrender its CPA licenses after the company was convicted of obstruction of justice for shredding documents related to Enron. The conviction was overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court in May 2005, but Stallings, and some 85,000 of its employees around the world, were no less unemployed as a result of the scandal.

He was also no less out of his retirement, and all of his investments in the company were gone.

"Did we want to go out and beat the pavement?" Stallings said. "We decided that wasn't really what we wanted to do. So we looked at starting a company, purchasing a franchise or buying a business." The couple decided to do some of each.

"We started one company (InterSlice Studios, a multimedia and marketing firm) and bought one franchise," Stallings said.

The first was a natural for both Tirey and Stallings, as they both had extensive and successful corporate backgrounds. But the franchise? The franchise that eventually led them to own 16 inflatable bouncer play sets? That was out of the blue, they said.

'We didn't know a thing about franchises," Tirey said. "And it's kids' parties, which are ... well, kids' parties."

Stallings and Tirey consulted with a franchise broker who told them, "You're going to hate this. It's birthday parties."

But they liked the numbers they saw for the profitable franchise. It was probably their youngest son, John, who is now 13 years old, who had the biggest impact on their decision.

"Our son and his friends were just crazy about these things," Tirey said. So John became the couple's "CIO," or chief inflatable officer, and they were convinced they could make a go of it. "We decided that if we

could get one up and running, then hire a manager, we could get another one going, and become pretty hands-off owners," Stallings said.

That's exactly what they did.

We worked like dogs for a year to get it going," Stallings said of the Wixom location, the first Michigan location they opened in May 2004.

"What we were shooting for then, and what we still want, is to hear 'Wow' when the kids come in and whining when they have to leave," Tirey said. It worked, and the couple was soon able to hire a manager to help with operations. Then they hired a second manager, who will help get the Canton location going.

Each location has two 4,500-square-foot arenas, where there are four gigantic inflatable bouncers.

Party goers use the arenas for 90 minutes before heading off to a party room, where they can stay for another two hours to enjoy food, games, gifts, or whatever the party calls for.

"Basically there is no setup, no clean-up and the kids burn off steam before heading to the party room," Tirey said.

It's a simple kind of party to plan, Tirey said. Customers call to book the time for the party. Pump It Up then mails the host the invitations to send out to guests. The night before the party, Pump It Up will call the host to inquire about needs for food, balloons, or goody bags. The day of the party, children arrive and watch a two-minute

safety video before heading into the party, which is private for invited guests only. The Wixom location aver-

ages 150 parties per month, with more than 20 kids per party. It's been a formula for success for Tirey and Stallings.

"In our peak times, it books up more than six weeks in advance," Stallings said.

Though they're not that surprised by the success of the business, Tirey admits to being surprised by how much fun it is to own a Pump It Up franchise. The whole idea is no hassles for mom and dad. "It's fun to see the kids come in and say wow," Tirey

said. "But if I hear the birthday song one more time I'm going

to kill myself," she added, laughing. In addition to private parties, Pump It Up is open twice a week for pop-in play time at

10 a.m. to noon Monday, and 4-6 p.m. Tuesday. Cost for pop-in play is \$6 per person. Pump It Up Inflatable Party Zone is located at 46090 Michigan Ave.,

Canton. For more information, call (734) 495-1222 or visit online at www.pumpitupparty.com.

cmarshall@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700



BILL BRESLER I STAFE PHOTOGRAPHER

Jane Tirey tries out the inflatable throne for the birthday boy or girl at Pump It Up, the children's party spot she owns with her husband on Michigan Avenue.

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<ul> <li>Fenced, lighted, 24-hour video surveillance</li> <li>For home or business</li> <li>Computer-controlled, 7-day access</li> <li>"Offers ends January 31, 2006, See Fort Knox for details.</li> <li>www.fortknoxmi.com</li> </ul>	<b>POSTAL PERIODICAL REQUIREMENTS</b> The Canton Observer - Publication NO. USPS 663-670 Published every Thursday and Sunday. Periodical postage is paid at Livonia, Michigan 48150.	Call me today to hear about these new optional features: New Car Replacement, Accident Forgiveness and Deductible Rewards.			
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THE GOLD STANDARD IN SELF STORAGE	In the Matter of Case No: JG500604 NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING Petition for Guardianship of A Minor	Joseph Pacut (734) 207-0255			
PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS	Madyson N. McKinney READ this NOTICE Carefully. An important court proceeding that affects your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice, contact a lawyer for help.	45656 Ford Rd. Canton You're in good hends.			
<b>NOTICE TO BIDDERS</b> The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community	<ol> <li>NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Petitioner has filed with the Court a Petition for Guardianship of A Minor</li> </ol>	Features are optional and subject to terms, conditions and availability. Deductible rewards apply to collision coverage. Patent Pending. Alistate Property and Casualty insurance Company. Northbrook, IL. @2005 Alistate Insurance Company			

Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a Bid for Asbestos Abatement at Farrand, Fiegel, Gallimore, and Isbister Elementary Schools. The project will be completed in early 2006 prior to building renovation activities and will include the removal and disposal of asbestos flooring materials, asbestos thermal system insulation, asbestos transite materials, and windows with asbestos window caulk. Bid documents will be available for pickup on or after January 16, 2006 at HealthAir, Inc., 23491 Research Drive, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335 or by phoning (248) 426-0165. A Pre-Bid meeting will be held on January 17, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. at Salem High School located at 46181 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187. All submissions should include 3 bid copies (1 original, 2 duplicates) which are due to the PCCS E.J McClendon Educational Center, RE: School Abatement Bids, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170, on or before 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 31, 2006 where they will be read publicly. For additional information, phone Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746. 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 district.

> **Board of Education** Plymouth-Canton Community Schools JOANNE LAMAR, Secretary

> > OE08403830

Publish: January 12 & 19, 2006

Publish: January 12, 2006

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### 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 the Remodeling of West Middle School. Bidding documents prepared by TMP Associates, Inc. will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI, 48335; FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit; Construction News Service, Grandville; and Reed Construction Data, Novi, MI.

Bid Division descriptions include: 103:Selective Demolition 105:Interior Concrete Flatwork / 106:Masonry / 107:Steel 108:Carpentry/General Trades / 109:Roofing/Sheetmetal / 114:Aluminum Windows/Storefront; Entrances, Glass & Glazing / 115:Metal Studs, Drywall IFS / 117:Acoustical Treatments / 118:Resilient Flooring & Carpet / 120:Painting / 121:Visual Display Beauda / 100:Science Consume / 120:Win 1 Boards / 129:Science Casework / 130:Window Treatments / 137:Food Service Equipment / 138A:Elevator Upgrades / 140:Plumbing / 142:HVAC / 143:Electrical / 160:Pre-Pricing of Vertical Unit Ventilators (for reference only).

A pre-bid meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, January 16, 2006 at West Middle School located at 44401 West Ann Arbor Trail. Plymouth, MI 48170. Bidders are STRONGLY encouraged to attend. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith Inc. with the corresponding bid division identified on the outside of the envelope. All submissions should include 2 bid copies (1 original, 1 copy) and a valid familial disclosure statement. Bids are due to the PCCS E.J McClendon Educational Center on or before 1:30 p.m., Thursday, January 26, 2006 where they will be opened and read publicly. For additional information, phone Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746. 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 district.

> **Board of Education** Plymouth-Canton Community Schools JOANNE LAMAR, Secretary

> > OE08403769

HEARING INFORMATION. A Court hearing has been scheduled to consider the

HEARING DATE AND TIME: 01-23-2006 at 9:80 AM HEARING PLACE: 1810 S Lewis St. Mesa, AZ 85210 BEFORE: Judge Pro Tem Thomas A. Kaipio

**RESPONSE.** You can file a written response to the Petition. File your original written response with the court, mail a copy of the original response to the petitioner(s), and provide a copy of your response to the Judge/Commissioner named above at least 5 business days before the hearing. Or, you can appear in person at the hearing. You must appear ONLY if you wish to object to the petition. 3.

DATED December 9, 2005

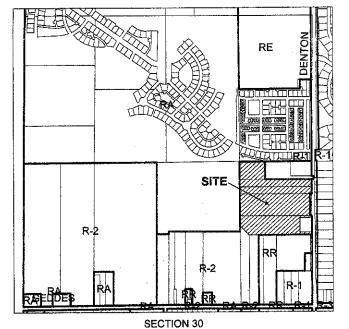
Publish: December 29, 2005, January 5 & 12, 2006

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

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2006, 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:

**CLARIDGE PARK PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT** (PDD) - (PRELIMINARY PLAN)- CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PDD AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NOS. 120 99 0010 704,120 99 001 1 000, 120 99 00 12 000, 120 99 00 13 000 AND 120 99 00 14 000 (PART OF). Property is located north of Geddes and West of Denton Road. (First Public Hearing.)



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, January 19, 2006 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

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Publish: December 29, 2005 & January 12, 2006

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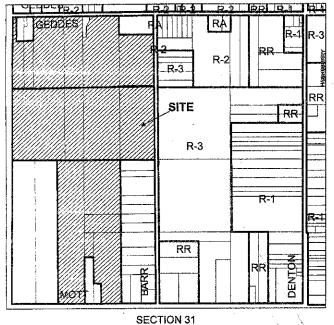


### PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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**RIDGEWOOD MANOR PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) - (PRELIMINARY PLAN) -** CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PDD AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NOS. 122 99 0002 000, 122 99 0003 000, 122 99 0005 701, 122 99 0006 000, 122 99 0007 000, 122 99 0008 000 (PART OF), 122 99 0011 000, 123 99 0003 000, 123 99 0004 000, 123 99 0005 000, 123 99 0015 000. Property is located south of Geddes between Barr and Ridge Roads. (First Public Hearing.)



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, January 19, 2006 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Vic Gustafson, Chairman

Publish: December 29, 2005 & January 12, 2006

## LOCAL NEWS

### www.hometownlife.com

# Observer honored for school, sports coverage

The Canton Observer's coverage of local education and school issues has been recognized with an honor in a national newspaper contest.

Staff writer Tony Bruscato's efforts in covering the Plymouth-Canton School district resulted in a second-place honor in the 2005 Suburban Newspapers of America's 2005 **Editorial Contest. Stories** throughout the year included the district's quest for a bond issue and overcrowding issues at Bird Elementary.

It was one of two awards won by the Canton Observer in the SNA contest. Sports writer Ed Wright's sports section, which appears in both the *Plymouth* and Canton Observers, was named "Best Sports Section" in its class

Overall, the Observer € Eccentric won 25 awards in the SNA contest, which was judged by the American Press Institute. The awards were announced Friday.

The SNA called the 2005 contest the most competitive in the association's 35 year history with more than 3,100 entries, a 40-percent increase over last year's record number.

"Considering the volume and quality of entries, it was difficult to pick winners," said contest judge Jody Calendar. "Outstanding journalism is alive and well as evidenced in this contest. In many categories I awarded ties and honorable mentions and in each case it was always a difficult decision what not to honor. Congratulations to all for an impressive body of work."

Öther Observer winners included Plymouth Observer **Community Editor Brad** Kadrich, who was honored with a first-place award in the "Best Opinion Column" category, and the Redford Observer, which took first place for best front page. Redford Observer Community Editor Dave Varga took third place for best editorial writing, and Observer Managing Editor Hugh Gallagher earned a first pla

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

Golfers wondering what it's going to be like to play Hilltop under new management only have to travel to Canton to find out.

The Plymouth Township board Tuesday night approved a five-year lease agreement with Fellows Creek Canton, Inc., the same management team that runs Fellows Creek Golf Club in Canton. Fellows Creek replaces American Golf, which ran the township-owned course the last 10 years.

Canton team swings Hilltop manager gig The new managers promised that scared some of the to pay attention to the desires of the people who play the

course. "We're going to find out what they're looking for," said Fellows Creek's Dennis Ross. "We want to improve the course visually, and in the way it plays.'

Township trustees unanimously picked Fellows Creek over Glendale Golf Management, LLC, run by Plymouth resident Jim Salagi. Glendale had proposed a fiveyear lease with an "almost automatic" five-year extension trustees off.

While most of the provisions in the proposals were similar, the amount of revenue generated under each agreement was different. Fellows Creek offered a percentage of golf and food income. Glendale's proposal offered a percentage in the first year, then guaranteed minimums of \$260,000-\$280,000 over the final four years.

"It comes down to guaranteed money versus non-guaranteed money," Treasurer Ron Edwards said. "(But) I don't

think we need to go any further than five years."

Fellows Creek will pay the township 50 percent of the amount over \$400,000 in gross revenue from greens fees and golf cart rentals, and an additional 5 percent of the food/beverage gross revenues.

Based on 2005 revenue figures reported by American Golf, that would bring the township at least \$158,000. According to Edwards, American Golf under-reported their revenues. He expects the lease to generate some \$240,000 in the first year.

The challenge will be increasing play at the course. While both applicants agreed the golf industry as a whole has suffered a 12-15 percent drop, they both said rounds at Hilltop are off 27 percent over the last three years.

"There are some tee surfaces that need work, some playability issues on some of the holes and it needs consistent maintenance," Ross said. "We feel confident when we put the program in effect, play will come back."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700.

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for best opinion columns.

# STUDENTS

FROM PAGE A1

Miller principal Lynn Haire said it will be tough to say good-bye to students and teachers who don't make the move, but leasing Washington is the best move.

"I think all things considered, it's a no brainer," said Haire. "It's such a golden opportunity for the district to solve an overcrowding problem."

The distance from Miller to each of the two alternatives is approximately 4.5 miles.

Ryan said he hopes to have information on a lease for Washington in early February. He's estimating the cost of leasing and providing student transportation to Washington Elementary, as well as the cost of transporting TAG students to Workman Elementary, to equal the cost of operating Miller for one year, which he said is approximately \$225,000.

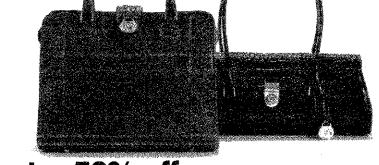
Workman Elementary Principal Jim Burt said the availability of Washington will make it easier on all concerned.

"I think it's the best decision for the most kids in the school district," said Burt. "If we can get kids who live in the Workman attendance area to go to that school, it will solve a lot of problems for a lot of people."

The Plymouth-Canton housing committee will discuss the Washington Elementary alternative next Tuesday.

If Plymouth-Canton were to lease Washington Elementary, it would be the second time in recent memory the district has rented from Livonia Schools. Before Discovery Middle School was opened in August 2000, students attended Lowell Middle School, located on Hix Road south of Ann Arbor Road, in Westland from 1992-2000.

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 12, 2006

# Slowdown can be a positive

**OUR VIEWS** 

At first glance, the news that Canton experienced a slowdown in new housing last year seems a bit worrisome. With all the rest of the bad news concerning the area's economy, a slowdown in the housing market could really be a devastating blow.

Certainly the numbers don't lie.

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The number of housing permits issued in Canton in 2005 declined over the previous year. The township issued 338 permits for single family residences in 2005, compared to 390 in 2004. There were also permits issued for 96 multifamily buildings (467 units) in 2005, compared to 124 buildings and 803 units the year before.

Consider also that the township has averaged about 1,000 residential permits a year over the last decade.

Despite the dropoff, township officials remain upbeat, however. As do developers. Canton's housing market is among the strongest in southeast Michigan, and the whole state, according to recent statistics released by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

Developers still find Canton an attractive place to build, particularly in the southern portion of the township, where there are still some large parcels of undeveloped land left. In fact there are a number of residential developments planned for 2006 in the vicinity of Geddes, Denton and Proctor roads. Michigan Avenue has also seen a surge in commercial development, largely to meet the demand of all the new residents on the town's south side.

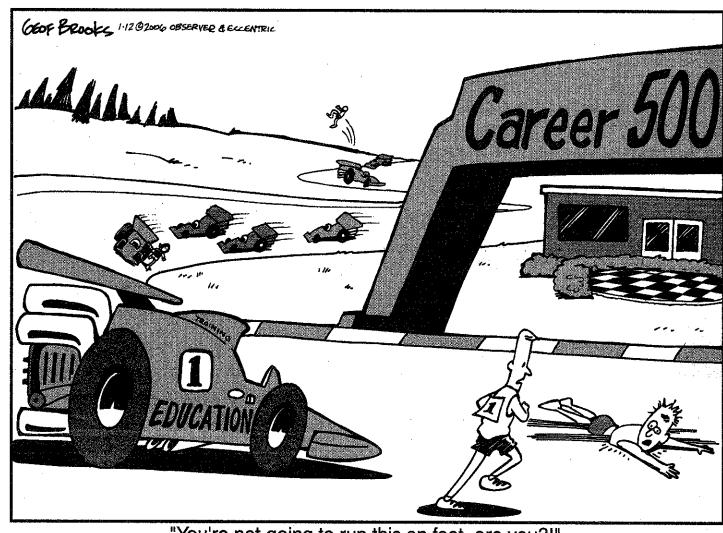
The fact is Canton has grown so quickly over such a short period of time, planning officials have barely had enough time to catch their breath. So a bit of a slowdown can actually be a positive thing. Perhaps Melissa McLaughlin put it best.

"I'm OK with a slowdown," said the planning commissioner and township trustee. "Taking a breath is a good thing. We've been cranking along and meeting market demand, but it doesn't hurt sometimes to slow down a bit."

It is almost hard to fathom, but there isn't much remaining vacant land in Canton. Township officials should really look at what is left and make sure the land is developed wisely. The development boom that has so altered Canton's landscape over the last 20 years is nearing its end, and there won't be a second chance to do things right.

# Invest in education

www.hometownlife.com



"You're not going to run this on foot, are you?!"

### LETTERS

### Not anticipating IKEA

I reside within the Pickwick subdivision that borders the under-construction IKEA at Ford and Haggerty.

I'm not against retail development that creates jobs and increases tax revenue for Canton Township. But I am against the severe effect this development is going to have on Canton residents as far as traffic, congestion, crime and the desire to develop Canton into a destination city. I have lived in Canton for more than 30 years and have purchased three new houses within the township. I never had the intention to reside in a township that the officials of Canton want to make into a retail Mecca for southeast Michigan. They are forecasting 2 million visitors to the Canton IKEA. and that will require an additional 25,000 vehicles daily in the most congested intersection in Canton - Ford and Haggerty.

The Canton IKEA was first proposed to the city of Troy and the city commission in Troy decided that IKEA was not in the best interests of the residents due to IKEAs negative effect on residents with traffic increases. I attended several of the planning board meetings when this development was first proposed to the board. My question then as it is now, what positive effect will this IKEA have as far as improving the lives of the average Canton citizen? I specifically asked Mr. Yack and Mr. Brian Amann, who is the attorney representing IKEA, to keep the residents informed that border this development and none of us were kept informed. I can see the new IKEA from my backyard and certainly could hear all of the construction noise this past summer. We have seen and read about problems with IKEAs in other cities with rioting and customers being trampled to death and this is what our Mr. Yack wants for us. At a recent grand opening in Texas, people were camping out 10 days before the store officially opened. In England last year at a grand opening of a new IKEA, one person was trampled to death and several injured. The blue and yellow format of the IKEA store is absolutely contrary to anything that has been developed in Canton in recent history. Even our Wal-Mart and Sam's Club look better than the Canton IKEA. What allowed the Canton planning commission and Canton Township board to approve such an out-of-place structure? I have seen several IKEAs that have been in business and the buildings look very unattractive after a few years with the blue and yellow fading.

ent and future of Canton along with the large number of active volunteers are doing a very commendable job of steering the community in a positive direction. I am fortunate to be a volunteer and personally experience the cooperation between those elected to guide, and the volunteers willing to assist them.

Being a member of a volunteer group, I am cognizant of the great amount of time spent to ensure that each segment of the community is recognized as having a particular need. Adults, adolescents and children all are considered in the planning and construction of the Summit, the Village Theater, the many green areas, parks and also representation in community celebrations like Liberty Fest and other special events.

Canton is indeed a unique community, whose leaders all deserve a great deal of applause.

#### **Ron DePentu** Canton

tural experience Canton has to offer its citizens and those from all around the state and nation. There is a strong leadership and technical support team in place within Canton for the Village Theater and all avenues of the arts. It has been my pleasure to work with these people to build the Canton Concert Band and present the many concerts with which we have been blessed to perform.

We have been privileged to perform several times at the Village Theater, film a professional corporate commercial there, provide a benefit concert for the hurricane victims via Habitat for Humanity's relief efforts, perform at Canton's Liberty Fest celebration, and provide several summer concerts through the "Band on the Run" series of concerts developed by the Canton Leisure Services Group. Soon we will also attempt to represent Canton at the 29th Annual Association of Concert Bands Convention in 2007. All of this has been possible because of a strong cooperative

# for a better future

<sup>18</sup>The new year is a time to make changes for the better. Many of us resolve to improve our bodies, vowing to stop smoking, start exercising and eat less.

We all know the benefits of good health habits - less illness, more energy, a longer life.

But what about the benefits of improving our minds? Going back to school to finish a degree, earn an advanced degree or expand our knowledge has both physical and financial benefits.

Those who exercise their minds maintain their mental sharpness — even as they age.

They also get an edge when competing for jobs and promotions in the workplace, and make more money than their co-workers with less education.

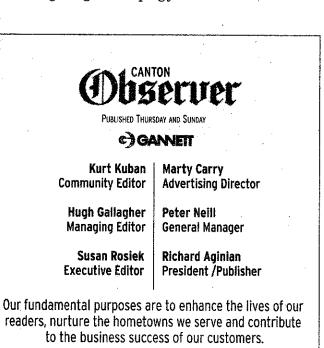
According to Princeton economics professor Alan B. Krueger, an extra year of education raises an individual's earning about 10 percent. For someone earning the national median household income of \$42,000, that equates to \$4,200. Over the course of a career, that amount can multiply into several hundred thousand dollars.

In Michigan — where high-paying manufacturing jobs are disappearing - only one in five adults has a college degree. The national average is one in four.

In September 2004, Gov. Jennifer Granholm set a goal of doubling the number of college graduates in 10 years. She recognizes that education benefits not only the individual, but the state economy. States with the most educated workforce have the healthiest economies and the lowest unemployment rates.

Michigan is still struggling economically. But workers with college educations increase their chances of getting and keeping jobs.

3 . .



Canton will definitely have a hipper image, but the residents of Canton will not be able to travel to and from their homes due to Mr. Yack's desire to make Canton a destination city.

### **Robert W. Cieslak**

Canton

### Great place to live

My wife and I have been Canton residents for just over two years. In just this short period of time, we have discovered what a jewel of a location we have decided to live in. Those elected to guide the pres-

### Media aren't tough enough

I read the column that Kurt Kuban wrote in support of the media in the United States.

Mr. Blumberg, and apparently his wife (parents of fallen soldier Trevor Blumberg), feel that the media is at fault for Americans turning away from supporting the war in Iraq.

Osama bin Laden destroyed the World Trade Center in the middle of New York City in broad daylight. Most of his henchmen were Saudi Arabians. Following that, the United States invaded Iraq under false pretenses.

I respect Trevor's sacrifice. He deserves more than a flag pole outside the Charter Township Hall. He deserves to be alive.

I support our troops. We won. Mission accomplished. I read it in the media.

Americans are kicking down doors thousands of miles away from home while our economy is ravaged from within by burrowing bureaucrats and corrupt politicians.

What are Americans doing while their soldiers fight, kill and die? Filling up with Saudi gasoline, buying foreign goods and giving jobs away. If there is any complaint about the media, it is that they are not aggressive enough in getting answers.

Put yourself in the place of the Blumbergs. If the war ends, it will be deafeningly obvious that Trevor really isn't coming back. Now reflect again on their insistence that we must stay the course. There is no need to send more to join him in their graves.

Bereaved parents nor the media do not make public policy. One is punished by it and the other makes note.

> **Alfred Brock** Canton

Arts thrive in Canton

I have been extremely fortunate in many ways as founder and director of the new Canton Concert Band, and as a resident of the Canton community.

My experience as founder of the band has opened my eyes to the depth of the cul-

### QUOTABLE

spirit representing the best Canton has to offer to all.

The invitation to participate on the Artist Advisory Council of Canton has also shown how much more than just the performance arts are supported within our community. Not only are concerts and plays developed and supported to benefit the community, but also artistic expression in the form of art gallery openings and showings at the Village Theater, consideration and presentation of art forms for sculpting, art education, and so much more. There is an abundance of art expression supported by Canton, for which we all benefit and enjoy.

This is rare within the communities I have lived in my past. I am very grateful for a community, and for community leadership, that looks beyond the dollars and cents of community necessities and supports the arts as a way to improve the quality of life for the residents. I am very grateful that our community leaders don't just support a functional type of life for its citizens, but seek to offer a more fulfilling and encompassing lifestyle for residents of many generations.

But beyond the activities that the cultural arts offer our community, the true and lasting benefit to all is the environment the support of the arts creates. An environment in which people can be more than just neighbors in a subdivision, but can be offered opportunities to grow as individuals and as families, build lasting bonds as friends to others and as community citizens. Dedication, friendship, loyalty, participation, cultural beauty, a true feeling of belonging and "home" and respect for community; none of these can be measured by dollars, but are priceless to the value and life-blood of a lasting and growing community.

I have been privileged to enjoy all of this here. Thank you for your vision. To discontinue support of the arts would be to strangle the life from our community. I want to applaud you for looking beyond the dollars and for supporting the rare and intangible beauty within our community - the arts.

> **James Blough** director, Canton Concert Band

"The malaise of the economy with Ford and General Motors making horrible announcements week after week after week

### has taken its toll."

- Dick Lewiston, developer of many homes in Canton, commenting on the recent slowdown of new housing starts in the township. However, he said Canton's housing market is still among the strongest in southeast Michigan.

#### www.hometownlife.com

# Auto Show is big news for region's economy

he show starts this Saturday and it's an important show for our region. I am not referring to the Super Bowl, that's coming in 25 days. I am referring to the 2006 North American International Auto Show. Each year it's an important event for Detroit but this year it takes on even greater importance.

Why? In case you have missed it, the Big Three – Ford, General Motors and to a lesser extent DaimlerChrysler – are reeling with their North American operations. They are not making any money and in GM's case recording large significant losses. The word bankruptcy, vehemently denied by GM's executives, keeps cropping up in conversation. They are attacking their cost struc-



Richard

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ture with a vengeance but when all is said and done, after costs are in line, it's product and quality that counts. If the consumer doesn't buy the product and if it is not quality, costs don't mean a thing. This year's show is about product.

Believe me, it's there, not only from the domestic automakers but the imports as well. Outstanding product, better fuel economy and excellent quality.

The argument has been made that the domestics did not have the product consumers will buy. They have heard the message and responded. You will see it in production vehicles as well as the concepts on display.

Here are some of the new product and concept vehicles that made an impression on me.

General Motors is introducing the 2007 Cadillac Escalade which will be on sale in the first quarter of 2006. It's a full size SUV with a new V-8 engine, new interior styling and a unique instrument panel featuring gauges that are continuously white-LED backlight. The Escalade ESV is comparable but 21 inches longer so it has more seating room as well as cargo room. It goes on sale this summer.

Buick is showing its Enclave crossover 2008 concept vehicle. Crossovers harken back to the station wagons of old but are much better. They have the comfort of a car ride and the space of an SUV. They are more fuel efficient. The Enclave is a roomy six-passenger vehicle with an innovative sunroof that extends almost the entire length of the vehicle.

In the muscle segment, GM introduced a retooled Camaro concept vehicle. How many of us in my age bracket remember the old Camaro? I had one and enjoyed it. Now GM is bringing it back as a concept vehicle.

Not to be ignored in the hybrid vehicle seg-

ment, GM introduced the 2007 Saturn Vue Green Line and the 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe. The surprise was the very competitive pricing of the Saturn Hybrid, less than \$23,000.

Ford is also aggressive in its product announcements. Lincoln introduced the MKX, described as a luxury crossover vehicle and a new luxury sedan the Lincoln MKS. These are two very impressive vehicles. The MKX has some very excellent features such as a panoramic sun roof, heated as well as cooled seats and adaptive front head lights. The crossover segment will be very competitive and this vehicle should do well. The MKX in the luxury sedan segment will go head to head with Cadillac and the imports such as Lexus, BMW and Mercedes. These vehicles are not standing still so the stakes for success remain high.

Ford introduced its crossover vehicle, the Edge. It has some of the same features as the Lincoln such as the panoramic sun roof but not all the luxury of a Lincoln.

What's interesting is that General Motors has introduced many new SUVs; Ford is projected that in 2006 the crossover vehicles, CUV, will out sell SUVs. CUVs sold more than two million vehicles in 2005. For Detroit's sake let's hope that both Ford and General Motors are correct and that many SUVs and CUVs are sold.

Chrysler introduced the Imperial concept. It is building off of the success of the Chrysler 300M. It's very impressive. Introduced as a concept was the Challenger. As with General Motors, Chrysler is reaching back into its successful past for its concept vehicles updating them with style, performance and fuel efficiency as appropriate.

Jeep introduced its all new 2007 Jeep Compass, a SUV that has performance, styling, SUV functions and fuel economy at the price of a small SUV. It's built on the concept SUV, the Jeep Compass. It will be available this fall.

In my opinion, Detroit has gotten the message and has product that should meet the public's desires because product and quality make a car company successful. Certainly costs have to be in line but product is the answer.

I highly recommend a visit to this year's auto show and be prepared to be dazzled. The show begins Saturday and ends Sunday, Jan. 22. The price for adults is \$12, seniors is \$6; ages 7-12, \$5; children 6 and under are free.

It's a great event at a reasonable price to take the whole family. Enjoy.

**Richard Aginian** is president and publisher of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. He welcomes your comments via e-mail at raginian@hometownlife.com.

# Believing in miracles easier seeing transplant recipient

aybe it was a good sign the password to get information about Andri Hill's progress from a Web site was

"believeinmiracles." Over the Christmas holiday, that's exactly

what the plucky 9-year-old Plymouth girl got.

Andri, who experienced congestive heart failure at 9 months old and has battled heart problems ever since, started the New Year off the way her family had hoped — with a new heart. Andri came home from Children's Hospital Dec. 30, just 13 days after the surgery her parents are praying for saved her life. Andri's homecoming, greeted by a couple of



Brad

Kadrich

hundred people (some of whom had never even met her), ended — at least for now — some of the most anxious moments in the lives of her parents, Angela and Brian. After much consulting with

doctors, and prayer with God, the Hills last summer decided to add Andri to the waiting list for a new heart. She had a bout with rising blood pressure that

kept her name off the list until Aug. 29.

At that point, Angela Hill was given a beeper with which medical professionals would contact her if a heart became available. There wasn't much choice; Andri had been diagnosed with restrictive cardiomyopathy, a heart disease that, among other things, keeps the heart from relaxing between beats.

Doctors and nurses told Angela Hill when they gave her the beeper they'd try some other way to contact her in person, but the beeper still settled on Hill's belt like a weight. When I talked to the Hills this summer, I was struck by the anguish barely disguised behind the tears that welled in Angela's Hills eyes just talking about it.

"Emotionally, it's very hard," Hill said at the time. "It's harder for us as parents. You look at Andri, and she looks healthy, but the doctor is telling us she's sicker than she looks."

Not anymore. Andri made it home just 13 days after the transplant, a mask covering her mouth to ward off airborne elements, as surprised as her mother at the welcome she received when she drove up to the family's Arthur Street home.

Friends, relatives, strangers, even some news media, gathered to welcome her home, to wish her well. It was an outpouring of love that caught the family by surprise.

"I'm so overwhelmed by everybody, I can't believe it," Angela Hill said with tears in her eyes. "We're very lucky to have a great supportive school and community. I never imagined this."

Maybe it would have been tough to imagine,

but it's probably not so surprising. Members of Andri's school community at Our Lady of Good Counsel ran bake sales, fund-raisers and developed the "Believe in Miracles" bracelets to financially support the Hill family.

When Abigail Pray, who is the best friend to Andri's sister, Ally, heard about Andri's problem last summer, she didn't hesitate. According to her mom, Abigail marched to her room and emptied her piggy bank, then gave the money to the Hill family.

Abigail and another friend, 6-year-old Kaylee Carr-Taylor, put up a lemonade stand in front of Oasis Pottery on Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth, selling bracelets, refreshments and assorted baked goods in an effort to help their friend.

"Kaylee wanted to have a lemonade stand all summer, but never had the chance," said Diane Pray, Abigail's mother. "When they (Abigail and Kaylee) found out about Andri, they concocted this idea. They just have the hearts to help."

A lot of people do. That's always one of the best parts of stories like this, the people who come together to help someone who needs it. It's not a position the Hills are accustomed to, but one in which they found themselves anyway. Accepting the help was one of the first hurdles to jump.

"It's hard to be on the receiving end," Angela Hill admitted. "We've never been in this position before. It's overwhelming."

The story isn't over yet. The Hills have traded one kind of angst for another, turning their attention to helping their daughter recover from the surgery while fighting off the knowledge rejection is still possible.

But those worries are for the dark moments, late at night when such fears creep into the psyche. For now, Andri Hill is home with her new heart. She's already doing better, no longer winded simply by walking around the house.

After removing her mask long enough to thank all those well-wishers who greeted her with balloons, signs and — most importantly — love, Andri paraphrased Dorothy from *The Wizard of Oz*.

"There's a lot of really good people out there praying for me, and it makes me feel so happy," she said. "It's really good to be home. Thank you for all your prayers ... and continue to believe in miracles."

That's easier to do when you're looking at the product of one.

**Brad Kadrich** is community editor of the *Plymouth Observer*. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734) 459-2700.

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# Who do you think you're talking to?

Mark Savitskie is very definitely a numbers man, which is a very good thing when it comes to doing taxes and mortgages.

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But understanding the numbers is only part of it. Whether it's preparing returns, recommending mortgage programs or offering financial plans, Mark Savitskie understands *people*.

"Even with something as cut and dried as tax or interest rates, if you don't understand a person's total picture, numbers don't mean much. They're just... numbers."

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### **COUNTY NEWS**

# McCotter supports review of all House GOP leadership

McCotter

### **BY HUGH GALLAGHER** STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, is asking that Republicans in Congress hold a vote on the party's leadership slate from the Speaker on down in the wake of scandals involving lobbyist Jack Abramoff and former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Texas.

On Tuesday, he said that Speaker Dennis Hastert of Illinois was supporting a vote only on DeLay's majority leader position. DeLay had temporarily stepped down from the position following his different Tony Trupiano, a candidate indictment on several charges in Texas. On Saturday, he announced that he would not attempt to regain his position.

A story in the Sunday Los Angeles Times quotes McCotter as calling for a "potential housecleaning" and a full disclosure of GOP leaders' relationships with lobbyists.

"It's fundamental for the conference of Republican leaders to open it up," McCotter said Tuesday.

Lobbyist Jack Abramoff has pleaded guilty to conspiracy, tax evasion and mail fraud in connection with his lobbying activities for several American Indian tribes in support of casinos. He has agreed to cooperate with the FBI about contributions to many members of Congress, on both sides of the aisle but predominantly Republicans. Abramoff was a close associate of DeLay, who is facing criminal charges of money laundering in Texas unrelated to the Abramoff scandal.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 12, 2006

### **CANDIDATE CONCERNS**

for the Democratic nomination in the 11th Congressional District, said he is concerned that McCotter has refused to return campaign money from DeLay and former Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham, who pleaded guilty recently to accepting \$2.4 million in bribes in exchange for legislative favors.

"I'm sending Thad a letter today about accountability," Trupiano said Tuesday. "He's clamoring for top to bottom



Trupiano

housecleaning in the House but this has been going on for more than a year.

McCotter said he accepted campaign money from DeLay and Cunningham political action committees as he accepted other campaign contributions "to inform voters of his position on the issues." His office said that "should an investigation uncover said monies were obtained illegally, the Congressman has stated numerous times publicly he will return the funds."

McCotter's office said he received at total of \$20,000 from DeLay's ArmPAC ending in 2003. In 2002 he received \$5,000 from Cunningham's PAC.

### **MEMBERS RESPONSIBLE**

McCotter said individual House members are responsible for contributions to their campaigns.

He said that just because a member of Congress received a contribution from a question-



Raczkowski

able source doesn't mean there was a "quid pro quo" favor. He mentioned Michigan Democrats Dale Kildee and John Dingell as honorable members who had received money from an Indian tribe represented by Abramoff. Both declined to return the money because they said the contributions weren't connected to

Abramoff. McCotter said congressional members had to be especially careful of accepting gifts from lobbyists such as free travel and other perks not available to ordinary citizens.

"The question for lobbyists is have you deprived the public of an honest representative," he said. "If I wasn't in office, would anyone take me to Scotland to golf?'

McCotter said he would consider new legislation concerning lobbying but that there are already laws that cover the illegal actions of House members. "Bribery is still illegal," he

said. "As a realist you can pass

He said the image of Cunningham resigning in disgrace "should be embedded in every member's mind and is a

all the laws you want and still

have people who break those

laws.

better deterrent than laws." He added, though, that House ethics rules need to be changed to include stiffer penalties.

Trupiano said he "would love to see public funding of campaigns" but doubted that it would ever be passed. He said lobbying reform hasn't gone far enough, but he said it isn't always easy to mark the line between contributors who agree with a candidate and those who want to influence the candidate.

"I'm a big labor guy, labor will support Tony Trupiano," he said. "We're on the same page on issues. Does that mean they have special access to me, I would hope not."

He said Democrats and Republicans both have problems with questionable contributions.

### SUPPORTS BOEHNER

Trupiano called for the Republicans to have a "transparent" leadership contest.

The other announced candidate for the Democratic nomination in the 11th District, Ray Raczkowski, said he is disturbed by the situation in Congress. He said laws governing lobbyists should be reviewed by an independent group similar to the 9/11 commission. He said the **Republicans in Congress should** "have been keeping better track" of their leadership. Despite his differences with Hastert about a vote on all House positions, McCotter said Hastert is a good Speaker and would easily win reaffirmation by the GOP majority.

"I think the strength of Speaker Hastert is that he is not an ego-driven man," he said. "As a former wrestling coach, his job is to get the best out of the team. He's been maligned since he began and we've been a strong team."

<sup>8</sup> McCotter said he is supporting Ohio Rep. John Boehner for House majority leader in his contest with Missouri Rep. Roy Blunt, who has been serving as majority leader since DeLay stepped down in October. McCotter said he was impressed by the way Boehner was able to push through a year-end pension bill by getting support from business leaders and the UAW. "He was able to work both sides and we need people who can do that," he said.

He said he is supporting his fellow Michigan Rep. Mike Rogers of Brighton for the majority whip position.

hgallagher@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2149

ADVERTISEMENT **Dealer To Sell Used Cars** For \$100<sup>00</sup> Down

DEARBORN, MI - Without a doubt, the best used car sale to be held in Metro Detroit will be this Monday, January 9th through Friday, January 13th at Village Ford located at 23535 Michigan Ave. in Dearborn (2 blocks east of Telegraph). Over 100 quality used car. trucks. and SUV's will be offered at rock bottom prices.

According to Sales Manager John Cunningham, Village Ford offers all high quality vehicles and this sale will be no exception. In the past twentyfive years, Village has instituted policies and procedures toward commitment to long-term customer satisfaction that has resulted in increased sales and customer satisfaction.

The reason for a sale of this magnitude is a simple rule of economy: Volume, By selling at a smaller margin, everybody is a winner. Many vehicles are less than four years old and

have under 40,000 miles. The majority of these vehicles are certified which means they come with the balance of the new car warranty, as well as, 6 years 75,000 Ford powertrain from the in-service date. Our finance experts will be on site during this event. Village Ford is sure to get you done as long as you have sufficient provable income. Be sure to bring your current driver's license, payroll stub and phone bill. No finance application, will be refused. Trade-ins welcome So, if you are in the market for a quality used car, truck or SUV, make sure you stop by Village Ford and receive the most pleasant car buying experience of your life. Sales hours will be: Monday and Thursday 9-9; Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 9-6. Please direct all p hone

inquiries to Charles

(313) 565-5991.

# Southeast Michigan grows at a slow 1.7 percent

The U.S. Census Bureau released new population estimates for all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia at the end of 2005.

Michigan's estimated population for July 2005 is 10,120,860, which is 0.2 percent higher than the newly

### revised 2004 figure of 10,104,206. Since the 2000 Census, Michigan's estimated population has increased by 1.8 percent, or 182,380 peo-

ple. The seven-county region of Southeast Michigan closes 2005 with an estimated pop-

# Herniated Disc Technology Discovered by NASA Scientists

Ann Arbor - A new free report has recently been released that reveals how breakthrough medical technology is offering new hope for sciatica sufferers. Discover how research has proven nonsurgical decompression 86% successful in treating debilitating back pain. Find out how NASA's accidental discovery led to the most promising treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" Call 1-800-293-2595 for the toll-free recorded message. limited - call

ulation of 4,916,852 according to figures released by SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

This new estimate represents a 1.7 percent increase in population (or an average of 40 persons per day) since the 2000 census.

The population growth rate of Southeast Michigan is estimated to be less than onethird of the nation's growth rate.

The region's fastest growing county, in percentage terms, since the 2000 census is Livingston County. During that time, it grew 17.7 percent, from a population of 156,951 in 200

The county gaining the greatest number of people is Macomb County, which added 46.502 residents since the 2000 census.

Wayne County's population has declined since 2000, from 2,061,162 to 2,004,541 in 2005.

Among Southeast Michigan communities, Macomb Township grew the most since the 2000 census, adding more than 21,000 people and ending 2005 with an estimated population of 71,881 (Macomb Township's population in the 1990 census was 22,714.)

The number of households in Southeast Michigan has grown 4 percent since the 2000 census, more th

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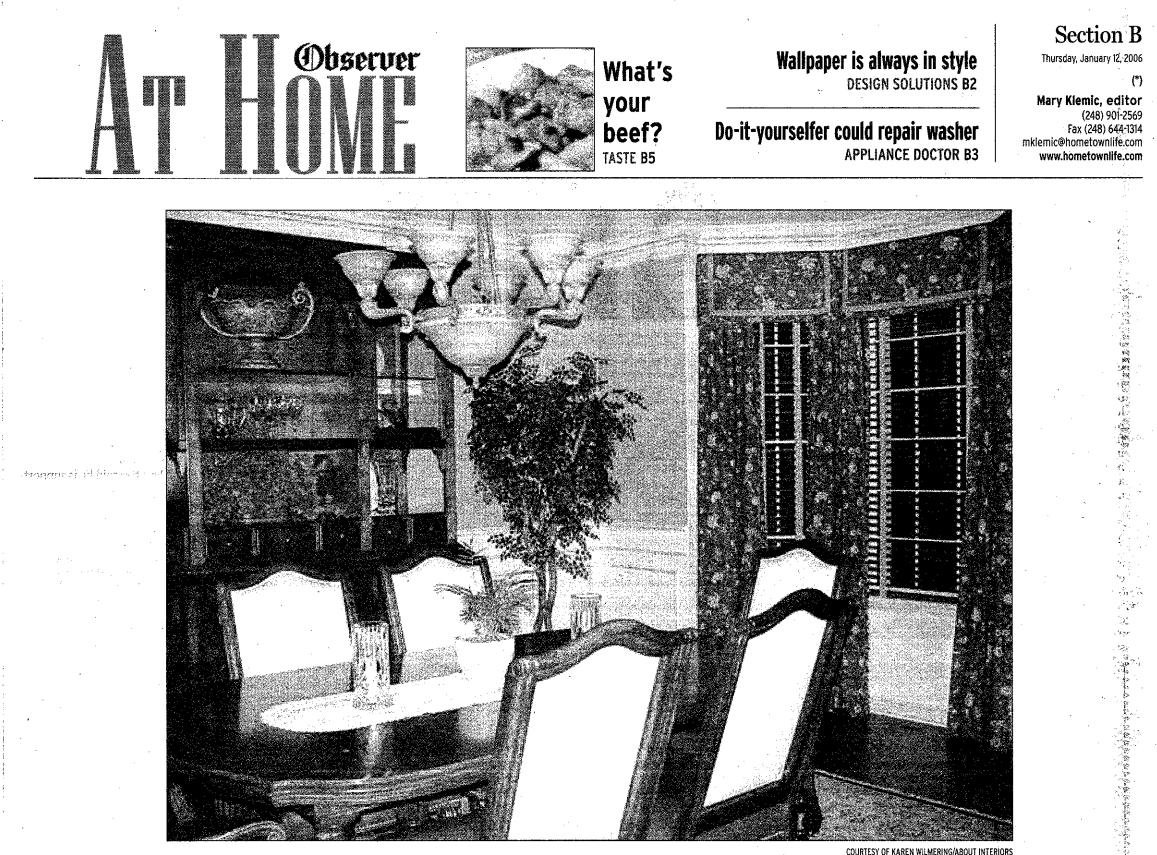




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An Old World ambiance is a popular interior design trend for 2006, says Karen Wilmering of About Interiors in Livonia.



BY MARY KLEMIC STAFF WRITER

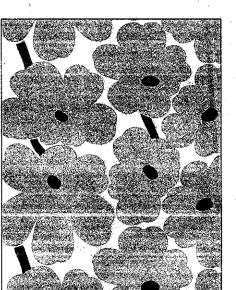
nterior design trends for 2006 include a movement back to the classics.

"Everything old is new again," said Shirley Maddalena of Maddalena Design in Birmingham. "I'm seeing a lot of movement back to

soft, neutral colors . . . In pillows and art work the colors are stronger."

Mohair, leather and natural fibers in upholstery, pillows and rugs and wool in window treatments are some elements, she said.

"The European Old World appeal is a very popular trend right now," said Karen Wilmering of About Interiors in





# **Old World** elements, plants, retro looks hot for 2006

Livonia.

"The woods are more exotic, away from oak."

More molding, iron accessories at windows, painting techniques that impart an aged look to walls, wood floors and Oriental rugs are ways to give an Old World feel to rooms, said Wilmering, an adjunct professor at Lawrence Technological University and Eastern Michigan University, where she teaches interior design courses.

Changing a few features in a room can give it a new look. A new piece of art, pillows or throw rug, or putting an old accessory in a new place can update a room, Maddalena said.

### FABRIC

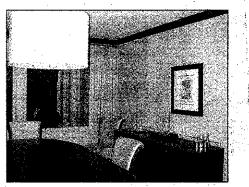
Marimekko® fabrics, by a company in Finland, have made a comeback according to Haberman Fabrics in Royal Oak. The contemporary fabrics, new and retro at the same time, are popular with young people as well as with people who remember them from the 1960s and 1970s.

Haberman's Marimekko Gallery

PLEASE SEE TRENDS, B4



Marimekko® fabrics can be used for upholstery, draperies or pillows, or put on wooden stretcher frames for quick and easy wall art. This design is called Unikko.



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COURTESY OF SHIRLEY MADDALENA/MADDALENA DESIGN

Walls are neutral and wood molding is darker in this year's design trends, says Shirley Maddalena of Maddalena Design in Birmingham.

# Trade unwanted DVDs for wanted ones with new Web service

CoffeeTime Cafe in Commerce Township enjoying the roomy decor, excellent java and free Wi-Fi, trying to decide this week's column topic.

I could tell you about the Consumer Electronics Show in



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

Las Vegas, except that I haven't left yet. Watch for my gadgetfueled report next

week. I could fill a few paragraphs about LogMeIn

(logmein.com), the free remote-access software I'm using to reach across the Internet from my

notebook to my home

o here Lam, sitting at the PC. I previously used a similar service called WebEx, but the company discontinued its free version, and we starving columnists like free.

As it happens, I like LogMeIn a lot better. It's significantly faster, and the connection process requires fewer steps. Like Mom always used to say:

One remote-access software door closes, another remote-access software door opens.

Maybe it's time I mentioned Peerflix (peerflix.com), a new DVDtrading service I've been trying out for the last couple of months.

Not to be confused with the excellent Netflix DVD-rental service, Peerflix lets you trade unwanted movies for wanted ones.

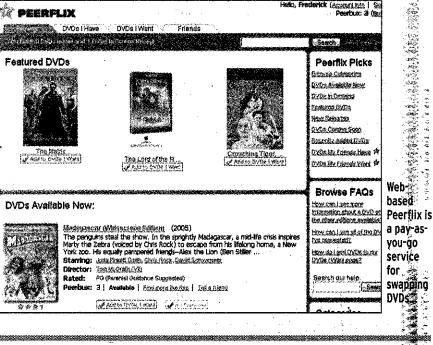
It's a pretty smart idea, especially if you're sitting on a pile of, say, outgrown kid movies or unwanted

Matrix sequels. After signing up for the service, you compile a list of DVDs you own and no longer want, and another list of DVDs you want to receive.

When a match occurs, meaning another Peerflix user wants one of the DVDs in your library, you receive an e-mail with instructions. You print a mailing envelope on your printer, slip the DVD into it, affix postage, and send it on its way.

Doing this accrues Peerbux, which you "spend" on DVDs in your Want list. The problem is, there's no guarantee you'll ever get any. Trying to score, say, season two of Arrested Development is nearly impossible because it's in such high demand (and no one in their right mind would part





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### **GARDEN CALENDAR**

#### Garden design

(\*)

**B2** 

Focus on Design, a class at The Community House in Birmingham, will offer an in-depth look at the elements of garden and landscape design - site analysis, making a base plan, texture, color, shape, line, focal point, harmony, contrast and repetition The class will take place on four Saturdays, beginning Jan. 14. Cost is \$137.

To register, call The Community House at (248) 644-5832, or visit www.communityhouse.com. The Community House is at 380 S. Bates. Learn how gardeners can use the elements to improve existing plantings and evaluate proposed designs This class is required for the Michigan School of Gardening Certificate of Landscape and Garden Design. Instructor Sue Grubba has been designing residential and commercial landscapes since 1985. She is the owner of Creative Scapes, a landscape and flower garden design firm, and is an advanced master gardener and senior instructor at the Michigan School of Gardening.

### Michigan Orchid Society

The Michigan Orchid Society will meet aT 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15, at First Baptist Church of Birmingham, 300 Willits one block north of Maple (15 Mile) at Bates, east of Southfield Road. Eynn O'Shaughnessy, winner of numerous American Orchid Society awards and owner of Free Spirit Orchids, will talk about how to grow orchids to specimen size.

#### The public may attend. School of Gardening

The Michigan School of Gardening presents a variety of classes for different levels at The Community House in Birmingham, 380 S. Bates; at Michigan School of Gardening, 29429 Six Mile in Livonia, just west of Middlebelt; at Troy Continuing Education, 201 W. Square Lake Road; at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro in Ann Arbor; 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. Special class sessions can be arranged for groups of 15 or more. For more information, call (248) 4-GARDEN or visit www.michigangardening.com. The schedule includes Effective Handdrawn Design, Tuesdays, Jan. 17 to Feb. 7, in Livonia (fee is \$168); Ins and Outs of Plants, Tuesdays, Jan. 17-31, in Pontiac or Thursdays, Jan. 19 to Feb. 2. in Ann Arbor (\$102); Gardener's Health, Wednesdays, Jan. 18-25, in Pontiac (\$72); and Growing Vegetables, Mondays, Jan. 23 to Feb. 6, in Pontiac (\$102).

### Lawn care

A Municipal Lawn Care Seminar: Tips for Green, Rouge-friendly Lawns will take place 8:30 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Feb. 1, at the Southfield Public Library, 26000 Evergreen, south of I-696.

aurel

Admission is free but advance registration is required. To register, call the Southeast Oakland County Water Authority at (248) 288-5150 or the Wayne County Department of the Environment at (734) 326-3936. The seminar is sponsored by SOCWA, the Wayne County Department of the **Environment and the Oakland County** Drain Commissioner's Office, in cooperation with the Assembly of Rouge Communities and the Michigan Green Industry Association. DPW, grounds maintenance and parks staff; planners and engineers; water quality specialists; and community volunteers should attend. Topics will include Lawns and the Rouge: Water Quality Update, by Kelly Cave, director of the Wayne County Watershed Management Division; Don't Guess - Soil Test, by Rick Lazzell of Lazzell Horticultural Services; Healthy Lawn Care: Mowing, Fertilization, Irrigation, by turf grass specialist Kevin Frank of Michigan State University Extension; Retailer Program Update: Earth-friendly Fertilizers: Designing a Cost-effective Lawn Maintenance Program, by Gary Eichen of Mike's Tree Surgeons Inc.;

and "Grow Zones" and "No Mow Zones": Low-maintenance Improvements with Native Plants, by Rouge River Advisory Council facilitator Bill Craig.

### Horticulture symposium

Troy is one of five cities in the country that will be the site of Color Rich Gardens: Designing with Distinctive Plants, a Horticulture magazine symposium on design, plants and garden making.

Co-sponsored with Cranbrook Gardens Auxiliary, the all-day symposium will take place Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Michigan State University Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road.

Fee is \$119 for a Horticulture subscriber or a Cranbrook Gardens Auxiliary member, \$129 regular. The fee includes all handouts and refreshments and a boxed lunch. Register early, as space is limited. To register and for more information, call (877) GDN-PROG toll-free or visit www.hortmag.com. Among the speakers will be Janet

Macunovich, co-founder of the Michigan School of Gardening and the author of eight books on gardening topics; Ed Lyons, executive director of Rotary Gardens in Janesville, Wis.; Nan Sinton, director of programs for Horticulture; Helen Dillon, a leading gardener in Ireland; and Denver-based Rob Proctor, who specializes in creating intimate gardens and who has written 10 books.

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

# Let it roll: Wallpaper is always in style

arilyn S. of Canton asks: "What has happened to good wallpaper stores? I would like to wallpaper a couple of rooms in my condo and I am unable to find a store with a knowledgeable staff and a good selection of wallpaper. Has wallpaper just gone out of style?"

Wallpaper's popularity changes with current design fashions, but



tively at his or her own home. Let me explain.

#### There are Guastella several very good reasons

to use wallpaper.

These include a desire to add pattern and texture to rooms that don't have any (kitchen, bathrooms, etc.); a need to hide damaged walls, such as those with years of accumulated paint along with poor plaster and drywall repair work; and a necessity to protect walls that take regular abuse.

### ADD PATTERN

Lyn Peterson, author of Real *Life Decorating*, interior designer, and president of the wallpaper company, Motif Designs, writes, "We tend to think that an absence of pattern is restful. Quite the contrary. Our eyes need something on which to focus. A blank wall causes the eye to overwork in

search of a focal point. "In addition to giving our

eyes a rest, pattern hides a multitude of sins. Kitchens and bathrooms cry out for wallpaper. These rooms usually have few furnishings. No sofas, no chairs, no curtains, plus lots of hard surfaces on the floor, countertops and cabinets. Where's the warmth? You

know where: the wallpaper." She goes on to discuss the need for wallpaper in transition rooms such as hallways, laundry rooms and vestibules. I am in agreement with her

philosophy on this and also that family rooms and computer rooms already have far too much going on in them to add more pattern with wallpaper.

### HIDE WALL DAMAGE

Older homes have lots of charm, but can also come with years of wall damage. Instead of assuming that you

need to tear out all of the plaster or drywall, consider wallpaper.

Wallpaper can camouflage the shape of an awkward room, and can hide soil, stains, spots, scratches and scuff marks. Poor wall repair and uneven surfaces can be hidden with patterned wallpaper.

Choose a large-scale print in areas where the entire repeat of the pattern can be viewed, such as hallways.

Stick with a little smaller scale when working in the kitchen if the only available area to wallpaper is the 18 inches between the counter and the bottom of the cupboards, or the 12 inches over the top of the cupboards. You will want to see as much of the pattern as possible.

### **PROTECT THE WALLS**

Have you ever wondered why hotels, business offices and other public spaces are wallpapered? Wall coverings are simply more durable than paint.

Wallpaper protects the walls from damage. You can wash it and depending on the quality of the paper, you can scrub it quite thoroughly as long as you don't use an abrasive cleanser that will scrub away the pattern. Most spray cleaners are fine.

Areas like hallways and stairwells are ideal locations for wallpaper, especially with children or high traffic. The paper will protect the walls from those nicks and bangs that happen in an active home.

You also asked about wallpaper stores. There are many places that carry wallpaper for you to look at. Wallpaper can also be bought on the Internet.

The problem is that many of these resources aren't equipped to aid the customer in the selection process. Many people aren't sure of what they want and need assistance.

One store that I am familiar with is Windows, Walls, & More in West Bloomfield. They have hundreds of books in stock for their customers to look at.

They also have on staff several interior designers to help you in your search for the perfect wallpaper.

Bring in your bathroom towels, counter samples or kitchen tiles to match up colors. Photos are also very helpful.

If all of this isn't bringing you any closer to a decision, consider having one of the designers come to your home to help you.

For a nominal fee, one of the Windows, Walls, & More interior designers will schedule an appointment with you and come out and help you make the selection.

Or you may want to consider hiring an outside designer for consultation during this selection process.

It is to your advantage to pay a professional for a couple of hours of consultation time and be assured of a good choice.

I would also encourage you to buy the wallpaper from the store in which you viewed the wallpaper book. Wallpaper stores have to buy these books and the Internet is partly responsible for the demise of many of these small business-

The service provided at a local wallpaper store is well worth any additional cost of the paper itself. This service includes recommendations of reputable installers, assistance in calculating the amount of wallpaper needed, tracking the orders, and handling damages or returns.

Wallpaper isn't out of style. The available patterns and colors are current, durable and quite beautiful.

Take your time in selecting the right pattern. Make sure you can check the books out of the store to view the pattern in your own home.

Good luck with your search.

Terri Guastella, an interior designer and a Canton resident, specializes in space planning, design and color consultation. Do you have a question about interior design or decorating your home? Contact Terri Guastella at: www.exclusiveinteriordesign.com.

# Something new: A different type of screwdriver

### BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

About four years ago, we met with an engineer and inventor who said he had designed a new type of screw head; one, he said, "that would revolutionize screws as we know them."

He pulled his new driver bit out along with a handful of screws and it was unlike anything we had ever used. The driver tip looked kind of like a cross between a Phillips and a souare head. What makes this new style of screwdriver different is that it has been designed with eight points of contact, which is double that of either the Phillips or the square head. The Phillips has four points of contact within the screw head, and the square head also has four points of contact within the screw head. The Phillips is certainly quick and easy to use. The tapered tip makes it very forgiving for the novice (or anyone, for that matter) when attacking a screw

#### lem. Otherwise, the square drive from almost any angle. However, the taper that is a great tool. makes the Phillips easy to insert TECHNICAL is the same thing that makes it hard to hold in high-torque situ-

Here's the technical mumbo jumbo:

Phillips – The Phillips tip has four points of contact with the screw (one at the face of each of four surfaces). These points are perpendicular to the screw axis

Perpendicular force is the strongest and provides maximum allowable force. However, the taper of the tip that makes if slip in easily also allows cam-out or slippage when force is applied. Square head - The square head tip also has four points of contact (one at each of four corners). These points of contact are diagonal to the screw axis. Diagonal force isn't as strong as perpendicular force and shear can occur under high torque. The good thing is that the square tip has almost no taper and therefore doesn't slip or cam-out.

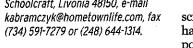
So, the Phillips is really quick and easy to use. But it's no good for high-torque jobs.

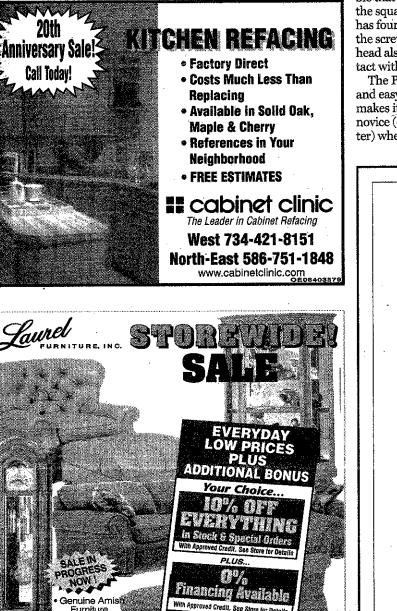
The square head doesn't require a truck driver's power to send a screw home like the Phillips does, and the square head does high-torque driving "fast and tight."

But, because there isn't a lot of "bite" or grip surface with a square head, it takes about 10 bits to do the job you would expect from one.

The new screw tip looks like a between a Phillips and a square head - actually, four little square heads clustered together and slightly offset from center (and each other).

need for wallpaper when a homeowner looks objec-Solutions Теггі





torce required to hold the tip in the screw slot (to get a tight high-torque connection).

ations where a great deal of

screw - as in hardwood or

We no longer buy slotted

screws. For the important jobs

that require positive fastening,

square head. There is no slip-

out (cam-out) and no operator

we have gotten used to using the

metal.

pressure is needed to install the

Unfortunately, square heads shear very easily and we find ourselves going through tips by the dozens. Basically, the very corners of the square-shaped bit wear down in no time. When this happens, the tip slips and strips (rounds out) the inside of the screw and makes it almost impossible to remove.

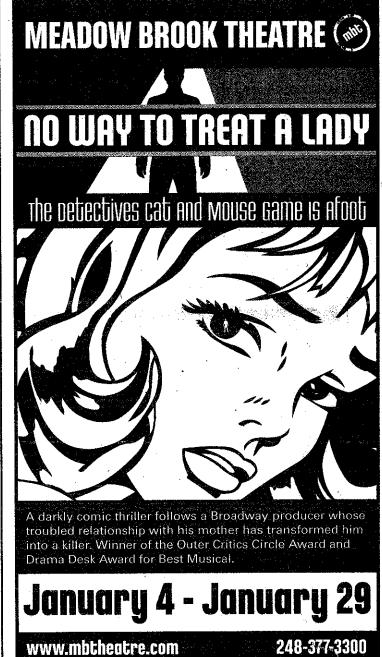
With square heads, it is imperative to change the bit regularly so this won't cause a prob-

Thus, the screw offers eight points of contact. Four are perpendicular to the screw axis like the Phillips and four are diagonal to the axis like the square head.

For more home improvement tips and information, visit the Careys' Web site at www.onthehouse.com, or call them at (800) 737-2474 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturdays. And, good luckl



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#### B3 (\*)

# Typical do-it-yourselfer could make these washer repairs

nne of Farmington Hills writes: "Last night I went to retrieve a load of laundry from the washer. It was quite wet. I thought maybe I had lost power and went to repeat the spin cycle.

"The washer isn't spinning and I can't physically turn the agitator either. It is a 10-year-

Appliance could fix ourselves?

old Whirlpool washer. "Do you feel it is worth getting a service call on and whom would you suggest, or do I just buy a new one? Is there anything that might seem apparent that we

Doctor

Joe Gagnon

Thank you, Anne. It's always one of my greatest pleasures to be able to help consumers like yourself.

advice."

Your Whirlpool washer is also produced for Sears under the brand

I don't think I'm far from accurate when I say that several hundred thousand couplers have been sold or replaced in this country during the past 10-year period. These repairs can be performed by the typical do-it-yourselfer.

name Kenmore. As a result the majority of homeowners in this country may someday have the same problem you're having, or maybe they already had it.

In all honesty, there are two parts on this product that are what we call in the appliance service industry "money makers." One is the lid switch and the other is the motor coupler.

I don't think I'm far from accurate when I say that several hundred thousand couplers have been sold or replaced in this country during the

past 10-year period.

These repairs can be performed by the typical do-it-yourselfer. All you need is a little guidance on how to remove the washer outer cabinet. The Whirlpool brand washer is probably the easiest machine to fix today.

For consumers who are accustomed to repairing the old style belt-driven model, don't remove the back panel on these newer style washers.

My suggestion at this point is that you make a few phone calls to appliance repair centers in your area. Simply ask if they will show you how to take off the cabinet and how to check out these parts. A positive answer indicates the company you want to deal with.

### **REFRIGERATOR IN GARAGE**

Thomas writes: "Although I am a frequent reader, I have never actually asked an appliance question . . . until now.

"When I decided to replace my refrigerator, I put the old one in my (unheated) garage to use for extra cold storage.

"If the fridge is exposed to the cold in the winter, will it be damaged? If not, do I need to leave it plugged in even when the outdoor temperature is. well below freezing?

"Thanks for your diligent advocacy on behalf of consumers."

Thank you, Thomas, for the kind words and especially for your questions.

I have received dozens of phone calls during the cold winter blast of December concerning refrigerators in unheated garages. This gives me an opportunity to repeat some very important facts.

Refrigerators aren't designed to operate in temperatures below 55 degrees.

Yes, there are refrigerators recently introduced into the marketplace that will perform this task, and they are expensive.

Homeowners called and told me that the food in the freezer was thawing. The simple answer has been that the control in the refrigerator measures the temperature in the garage and so it shuts off the product for a

long period of time. Food will then thaw out in the freezer section.

Another thing that happens is the  $\frac{1}{10}$ cold causes the oil in the compressor to congeal and break a valve inside the compressor. This can result in a \$600 repair bill.

The best remedy is to pull the plug during the cold winter months and operate the refrigerator during safe temperature periods.

My last point on this subject leads to the high energy cost of operating the refrigerator in the garage.

Keep in mind that during the hot, days of summer, the refrigerator will run non-stop. That's a lot of money just to keep the pop cold. Use ice -271 cubes, it's cheaper. Stay tuned.  $\pi \gamma^{2}$ 

Joe Gagnon can now be heard on WWJ-950  $\frac{661}{824}$ and WXYT-1270. He is a member and past prestdent 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. 1 3

### HOME CALENDAR

"Thank you so

tunity to ask your

much for the oppor-

### Auction

DuMouchelles, 409 E. Jefferson in Detroit, will conduct an auction at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13, 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, and noon Sunday, Jan. 15. Exhibition hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday. Call (313) 963-6255, visit www.dumouchelles.com. Activity sheet

### Children at all Art Van Furniture stores will get a fun-filled winter activity sheet Friday and Saturday, Jan. 20 and 21, while supplies last.

**Rummage collection** 

Start collecting your stuff now for the Rochester Community House's annual Great Everything Sale, the biggest rummage sale in town. Whether you're cleaning out your house or looking to furnish, join in the event Friday-Saturday, Jan. 27-28. Drop-offs will be accepted the week of Jan. 22.

Call the Rochester Community House at (248) 651-0622 for information. Interior design

Winter continuing education classes at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit include Elements of Interior Design, 10 Saturdays beginning Jan. 28. Cost is \$295, plus \$10 material fee. Call (313) 664-7691 to register and for more information.

An overview of the interior design field, the course will show the methods used to create a room that is physically, visually and intellectually

es. Students will work toward creating a finished residential room. Sesame Street Live! Friday, Feb. 10, is Art Van Family Night at Sesame Street Livel, with all tickets offered at the discount rate of \$10. Register to win four VIP tickets to the show and a meet and greet with a favorite character.

Entry forms are available now through Saturday, Feb. 4, at all Art Van Furniture stores in metro Detroit and Ann Arbor. Each store will select one prize winner.

### Sculpture for home

**HMFRNSHNGS: Utilitarian Sculpture for** the Home, an exhibit of work by students, alumni and instructors of the **College for Creative Studies, continues** to Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Janice Charach Epstein Gallery, in the D. Dan and Betty Kahn Building at the Jewish **Community Center of Metropolitan** Detroit, 6600 W. Maple in West Bloomfield.

Call (248) 661-1000, visit www.jccdet.org.

The show pushes the boundaries of functionality for furniture and other items in the home. The furnishings are available for purchase. Admission is free.

On the closing night of the exhibit, a reception featuring a satellite hookup with Carl Reiner will take place 7-8 p.m. at the gallery.

Send calendar items at least two weeks ahead of the event to Ken Abramczyk, At Home Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36

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satistying Instruction will include the basic principles of space planning, drafting, color theory and materials and finish-

Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, e-mail kabramczyk@hometownlife.com, fax (734) 591-7279 or (248) 644-1314.

# Cleaning up your vinyl siding is an easy chore

#### BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

If you're the new sheriff out to clean up the town, there's nothing to it if the town has maintenance-free vinyl siding. All such siding normally needs is a good rinse with a garden hose

But after a few years of wear and tear, you might have to work a mite harder.

The boys over at the Vinyl

Siding Institute suggest using a soft cloth or a long-handled, soft-bristle brush.

For tough stuff like stubborn dirt, use household cleaners such as Fantastic, Lestoil and Windex.

For really tough stains like paint or tar, use mild abrasive cleaners like Ajax, Comet or Soft Scrub.

But be careful, partner; rub too hard or too much and you might scratch up the surface.



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# **Cleaning showerhead could** cut down on leakage woes

### BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Beverly asks: "The bathtub knobs for hot and cold water are separate and then there is a stopper to allow the water to go to the shower. When the stopper is pulled up, the shower works, but there is still water coming through the spout in the tub. How can I stop this water from going into the tub and redirect it to come from the showerhead?"

Your showerhead and tub spout are connected to the same pipe. When you toggle the valve lever on the spout (the diverter valve) you redirect water from there to the showerhead. Once in the redirected position, this type of valve often leaks to some extent.

However, if you are experiencing excessive leakage you may want to replace the tub spout, ending up with a new valve and, possibly, less leaking. Cleaning your showerhead also should help.

Clean the showerhead by filling a plastic bag with straight vinegar (any kind). Place the bag around the showerhead like a feedbag for a horse. Fully immerse the head in the vinegar.

Tie the open end of the bag in place around the shower arm with a twist tie or a rubber band and let sit for 24 hours. Run the shower for about a

minute once you remove the bag. It should run more freely.

To replace the tub spout, you must first determine whether the spout is held on to the plumbing pipe with a threaded connection or if it is a slip connection.

Look at the underside of the spout. If there is a screw, then remove it and the valve should slip right off.

If no screw is visible anywhere on the base of the spout, then simply turn it counterclockwise and unscrew to remove it.

If a screw exists and you can't seem to slip it loose, try unscrewing it. Some have both a threaded connection and a retaining screw.

The rotted flooring needs to

be replaced and this entire

process could cost anywhere

between a few hundred to a

couple of thousand dollars.

### Rotted flooring must be replaced You may also need to remove

### BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Jay asks: "I have dry rot underneath my vinyl floor, next to the shower in the bathroom. There is a "bubble" formed. What kind of repair is involved and what is the estimated cost? Also, is this a do-it-yourself project?"

Yes, this is a nice and challenging DIY project.

Here's what you'll need to do: Tear out the vinyl flooring and the underlaying.

BROIDA

### FROM PAGE BI

with it). Indeed, after I signed up with Peerflix, I waited a full month before receiving a single DVD, despite having sent out three movies of my own. Most of the movies on my Want list

showed as "available," but none of them came. Meanwhile, numerous emails to customer service went unanswered.

Thankfully, Peerflix has over-

come at least some of its growing pains. I've now traded

received nearly as many in

I think is very reasonable.

Plus, you receive only the

The company charges just 99

cents per inbound trade, which

But it's still quite confusing

in some areas, and customer

service hasn't improved much.

DVDs - no box or supplemen-

tal materials. That's necessary

to allow for easy, inexpensive

mailing, but it's still a disap-

Bottom line: Peerflix is

return.

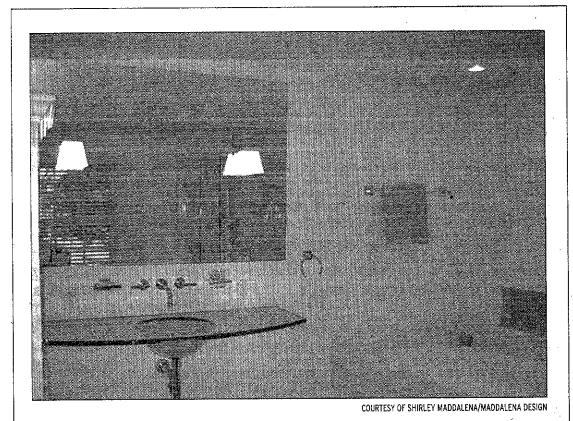
pointment.

worth trying out if you like the idea of refreshing your DVD roughly half a dozen discs and library, but be prepared to wait.

the shower.

Nope, sorry — I still haven't come up with a decent column idea. Maybe next week.

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 Your Palm Handheld, 5th Edition, and 101 Killer Apps for Pocket PC. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.



Neutral colors are popular for walls this year.

### TRENDS FROM PAGE B1

includes designs with large, whimsical flowers or abstract shapes, and patterns resembling an artist's sketch of people in a sidewalk scene. Some of the designs date to the 1970s. "They can be everything

from curtains to pillows," said Barbara Scraggs of Haberman Fabrics. Put one of the Marimekko

fabrics on wooden stretcher frames and hang it on a wall for "instant art," she said. Some of the fabrics are

PVC-coated - like oilcloth and are good for raincoats and hats, window shades and tablecloths, among other items.

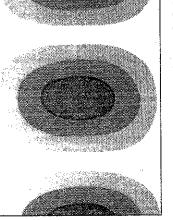
Besides the Marimekko pieces, another popular fabric is microsuede, an alternative to leather, Scraggs said.

### HOUSEPLANTS

Houseplants are another type of furnishing or accessory

"January is the biggest houseplant time of the year," said Julia Janiak, garden center manager and buyer at Goldner Walsh Nursery in Pontiac. "Everyone has put everything away for the holidays and walls are bare. "Shows like Queer Eye for

the Straight Guy feature houseplants." Bigger plants



Melooni is one of the new-and-retro Marimekko® fabrics.

houseplant show in the country takes place in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in January, Janiak said.

After she attends the show, Janiak will present What's New in Houseplants for 2006, part of Goldner Walsh's Cabin Fever Lecture Series next month.

"Hip" houseplants include such easy-care plants as Microsorium musifolium 'Crocodyllus,' coffee plant (Coffea arabica) and sansevieria, Janiak said.

Also known as crocodile fern, the hardy 'Crocodyllus' has lush foliage with multipointed leaves and a network of black veins. The plant develops a texture that resembles shiny scales of crocodile skin.

The fern does best in low-

red berries that contain the common bean used to make coffee.

The plant can grow up to 36 inches. It responds well to pruning to keep it short.

Ŝansevieria is also called snake plant or mother-inlaw's tongue. It grows up to 48 inches and is good for low-light, high-traffic areas.

Goldner Walsh carries more than 20 different kinds of sansevieria, Janiak said. Sansevieria comes in dark green, green with yellow edging, pale green, light yellow and light green.

NASA compiled a list of the 10 top houseplants for clean air that fight sick building syndrome. These plants make good gifts for someone moving into a brand-new home, Janiak said. The list includes spider plant, bamboo palm and the Chinese or prosperity plant.

The latter is used in feng shui, and in kitchens because it absorbs odors, Janiak said. What's New in Houseplants for 2006, presented by Julia Janiak, will take place 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26. at Goldner Walsh, 559 Orchard Lake Road. Cost is \$10. Reservations are required. Call (248) 332-6430 for reservations and more information. 📾 Maddalena Design: (248) 644-4919, www.maddalenadesign.com About Interiors: (734) 464-4222 Haberman Fabrics: (248) 541-0010, www.habermanfabrics.com

8 or 9 feet tall, topped with umbrella-like broadleaf are popular in larger houses. The biggest tropical

to medium-light conditions. It grows to 24 inches. Coffee plant has darkgreen, ruffly leaves. It forms

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6

8



# Tuscan wines let the land speak

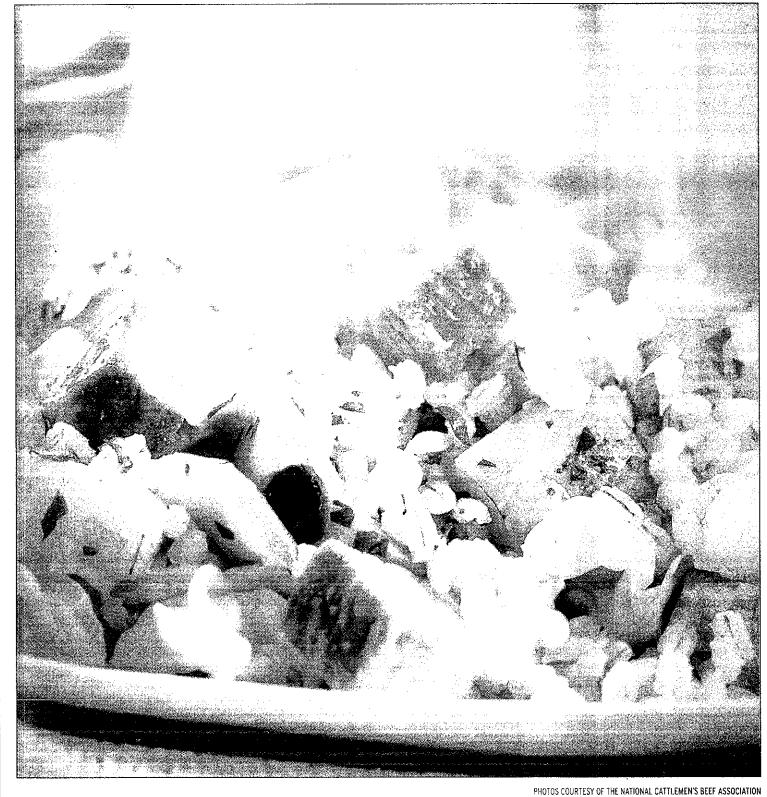
Marchesi de Frescobaldi, one of Tuscany's noble families since the 13th century, has been growing grapes and making wine for more than 700 years or 30 generations.

From their ancestral home in Florence, the Frescobaldis have acquired wine estates throughout Tuscany. Archives contain letters demonstrating their wine sales to the English royal courts of Edward III (1327-1377) and Henry VIII (1509-1547).

The Frescobaldi estates cover 10,000 acres in Tuscan regions from Chianti Rufina (one of seven Chianti zones that also includes Chianti Classico) in the north to the Maremma in the south. Each estate, with its different soils and climate, has on-site staff in charge of vineyards and winemaking.

In an important move, the company recently dedicated itself to updating and modernizing its vineyards through replanting better clones, improved trellising systems and increased planting densities to emphasize the distinctiveness of each terroir. They are currently replanting at the rate of 250 acres per year.

"Our style is to let the land speak," explained president Vittorio Frescobaldi. "Our goal is to achieve the highest level of quality in our wines by respecting the grapes that express the personality of each piece of land." To do this the Frescobaldis are reducing grape yields to maximize grape and wine quality.



Mango, barley and beef combine for a potent punch in this salad. See recipe on Page B7.



Donarski presents cooking seminar

Dan Donarski, an outdoor writer, flyfisherman, and chef from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., will present his seminar, Cooking Ain't Hard, at the Ultimate Fishing Show, Jan. 12-15, at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

Donarski's specialties are preparing fish and game. He will demonstrate the preparation of Walleye Bruchetta (see related recipe) and will offer tips and techniques for making fish and game recipes come alive.

Donarski's presentations are 4 p.m. Friday, 200 Jan. 13 and 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. His seminars are free with general admission - \$9 for adults and \$4 ] (

for children 6 to 14. Kids 5 and under are admitted free of charge.

During all four days of the show, patrons can try a "Shore Lunch" dinner: a basket of deep-fried walleye fillets coated with a special batter, plus fries and slaw. Reduced family prices of \$7.99 adult and \$3.99 children are in effect for the show.

Show hours are 2-

### **FRESCOBALDI ESTATES**

Castello di Pomino is located 25 miles northeast of Florence in the hills of the Sieve Valley, part of the Apennine mountain foothills. The appellation has the same name, Pomino, and lies within the Chianti Rufina zone, where red wines are made from sangiovese, the principal Chianti variety.

Castello di Nipozzano is also located northeast of Florence in the heart of Chianti Rufina. Constructed for defense near the beginning of the 11th century, this castle remains a symbol of the Frescobaldi tradition of winemaking in

Tuscany. Beside producing Chianti Rufina, it makes the single vineyard, 100 percent sangiovese, Montesodi and Mormoreto, Toscana IGT, a blend of Bordeaux varieties.

Wines previously known as SuperTuscans are now designated Indicazione Geografica Tipica (or IGT) an appellation meant to cover serious wines that fall outside traditional DOC categories.

Tenuta di Castiglioni is located 12 miles southwest of Florence in the Chianti Colli Fiorentini district. Its clay-rich soils hold water during dry summer heat, allowing complete grape ripening without dehydration, common in dryfarmed vineyards.

In 1989, the Frescobaldi family purchased Tenuta di Castelgiocondo, situated in the appellation Brunello di Montalcino, south of Siena. The wines are produced from a superior clone of sangiovese known as brunello, which is never blended with other varieties because it produces rich, full wines on its own. Castelgiocondo also produces Crushed red pepper adds a spicy kick to this Szechuan Beef Stir-Fry.

### Szechuan Beef Stir-Fry

- This fast and easy stir-fry gets a spicy kick from crushed red pepper. 1 package (10 ounces) fresh vegetables, stir-fry blend
  - 3 tablespoons water
  - 2 beef shoulder center steaks (ranch steaks), cut/cinch thick (about 8 ounces each)
  - 1 clove garlic, minced ½ cup prepared sesame-ginger stir-fry sauce ½ teaspoon crushed red pepper
  - 2 cups hot cooked white or brown rice, prepared without butter or salt
  - ½ cup dry-roasted peanuts

Combine vegetables and water in large nonstick skillet; cover and cook over mediumhigh heat 4 minutes or until crisp-tender. Remove and drain vegetables. Set aside.

Meanwhile, cut beef steaks into  $\ensuremath{^{1\!/}}_{4^{\!-}}$  inch-thick strips.

Heat same skillet over medium-high heat until hot. Add half of the beef and half of the garlic; stir-fry 1-2 minutes or until outside surface of beef is no longer pink. Remove from skillet; keep warm. Repeat with remaining beef and garlic.

Return beef and vegetables to skillet. Add stir-fry sauce and red pepper; cook and stir 1-2 minutes or until heated through. Serve over rice. Sprinkle with peanuts. Makes four servings.

Cook's Tips: Four cups assorted fresh vegetables, such as sugar snap peas, broccoli florets. bell pepper strips, and shredded carrots, may be substituted for one package vegetables stir-fry blend.

Your favorite stir-fry sauce flavor may be substituted for the sesame-ginger flavor.

Nutrition information per serving: calories. 351; fat, 11g; saturated fat, 3g; monounsaturated fat, 5g; cholesterol, 64mg; sodium, 1,147 mg; carbohydrate. 29g; fiber. 3.0g; protein, 32g.

Recipes courtesy of the National Catlemen's Beef Association. For more recipes, please see B7.

## ookbook promotes its nutrients

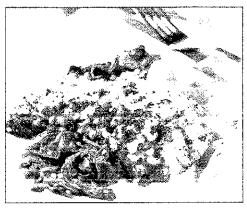
#### BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER

You may be concerned that beef is too high in fat to eat on a daily basis. Your doctor also may have raised concerns to you about your cholesterol levels.

But the National Cattlemen's Beef Association has teamed with the American Dietetic Association to produce *The Healthy Beef Cookbook* (John Wiley & Sons, New York) written by Dallas chef Richard Chamberlain and registered dietitian Betsy Hornick. More than 130 recipes are published in the 280-page cookbook and focus on beef's nutritional value and how beef can be enjoyed at the dinner table.

"The ADA partnered with the National Cattleman Beef Association to provide a cookbook to show that beef can be consumed within the context of a healthy diet," said Neva Cochran, registered dietitian, nutrition consultant and chair-elect of the American Dietetic Association Foundation. "Not only are these recipes

### PLEASE SEE BEEF, B7



Flank steak is delicious pounded thin, breaded and cooked in a skillet.

Bistro Beef Stew will warm up a chilly evening.

### BISTRO BEEF STEW

The tantalizing aroma of this simmering beef stew is sure to beckon everyone to the table on chilly evenings. <sup>1</sup>cup all-purpose flour b teaspoon pepper 2 pounds boneless beef bottom round roast or boneless beef chuck shoulder pot roast, cut into 1-inch pieces 5 teaspoons ofive oil, divided 1 teaspoon sait 2 medium onions, chopped 6 cloves garlic, minced 2 teaspoons dried thyme leaves, crushed 1 cup dry red wine 1 can (14 to 14-1/2 ounces) ready-to-serve beef broth 12 ounces assorted small whole mushrooms (such as cremini, shiitake, and button) 2 cups packaged baby carrots 1 cup frozen peas Combine flour and pepper. Lightly coat beef with flour mixture; reserve any remaining flour mixture. Heat 2 teaspoons oil in stockpot over medium heat until hot. Brown half of the beef: remove from stockpot. Repeat with 1 teaspoon oil and remaining beef. Remove beef from stockpot; season with salt. Heat remaining 2 teaspoons oil in stockpot.

Add onions, garlic, and thyme; cook and stir 3-5 minutes. Add wine; increase heat to medium-high. Cook and stir 1-2 minutes or until browned bits attached to stockpot are dissolved. Stir in broth and reserved flour mixture. Return beef to stockpot. Stir in mushrooms: bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover tightly and simmer 1-½ hours. Add carrots to stockpot; continue simmering, covered, 30 minutes or until beef and carrots are fork-tender. Stir in peas; simmer 5 minutes, or until tender. Makes six servings.

Nutrition information per serving: calories, 281: fat, 9g; saturated fat, 2g; monounsaturated fat, 5g; cholesterol, 64mg; sodium, 711 mg; carbohydrate, 19g; fiber, 3.3g; protein, 29g. 9:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 12; noon to 9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15. For more info, go to UltimateFishingShow.c om or call (800) 328-6550. **BRUCHETTA WALLEYE** 

> 2 walleyes, filleted and skinned. (Yields four fillets averaging 8-10 ounces)
> 4 Roma tomatoes
> 2 medium-sized sweet onions
> 3 tablespoons minced garlic
> 2 tablespoons Italian seasoning mix
> Olive oil
> Nonstick spray
> 4, 12-inch square
> pinotice of duminum

pieces of aluminum foil. Foil squares should be large enough to wrap fillets.

Pat dry fillets with paper toweling.

Use non stick spray on foil.

Slice one onion and place a single layer on foil.

Place fillet on foil

Seed tomatoes. Discard the seeds, and watery debris. Dice tomato meat.

Dice second onion and add to tomato.

Add garlic to tomato/onion mixture.

Add seasoning.

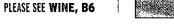
Drizzle with olive oil. Spoon mixture over

walleye. Wrap foil over

fish/bruchetta.

Cook in oven at 375° F for 20 minutes, or on medium-high heat grill for 10 minutes.

Recipe courtesy of Dan Donarski.



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## WINE

### FROM PAGE 85

Lamaione, Toscana IGT, 100 percent merlot from grapes grown on steep slopes, composed of slate and limestone.

Adjacent to Castelgiocondo is Luce della Vite originally farmed in partnership with Napa Valley's Robert Mondavi, now jointly owned with the Frescobaldis by Michael Mondavi and his family. The estate produces Luce and Lucente, Toscana IGT blends of sangiovese and merlot.

Tenuta dell'Ornellaia is located in the Bolgheri appellation, on the Tuscan coast, a region known for its Bordeaux blends of cabernet sauvignon, merlot and cabernet franc. Wines like Sassicaia and Angelo Gaja's Ca' Marcanda have made the region and its wines famous

### **MARCHESI DE FRESCOBALDI WINES TO BUY:**

2004 Chianti, Castiglioni, \$13

🖬 2001 Nipozzano Riserva, Castello di Nipozzano Chianti Rufina, \$22

2003 Tenuta di Castiglioni, Toscana IGT, \$25

2001 Pomino Rosso, Castello di Pomino, \$25 🖬 2001 Mormoreto, Castello di Nipozzano, Toscana

IGT, \$50 2000 Brunello di Montalcino, Castelgiocondo,

\$60 2001 Lamaione, Castelgiocondo, Toscana IGT,

\$75

The Healds are contributing editors for the internationallyrespected 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.

### WINE PICKS

While we're in a European mood, the following are some French CHABLIS (100 percent crisp and minerally chardonnay) wines that are perfect if you like fresh ovsters: 🖬 2004 Joseph Drouhin Chablis Premier Cru. \$29 2004 Joseph Drouhin Chablis-Montmains Premier Cru, \$33 🖬 2003 Louis Moreau Chablis, S26 2002 Louis Moreau Vaillon Premier Cru Chablis, \$39 OTHER ITALIAN wines we highly recommend: 🔳 2004 Bootleg Chianti, \$15, a fun pizza or pasta wine. 🔳 2002 Masi Campofiorin, S17. really delicious at this price. 🔳 2003 Il Poggione Rosso di

Montalcino, \$23, think steak with zip sauce.

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

# Brighten your winter days with clementines in salad

On bleak winter days, salads can bring both color and nutrients to your plate.

Dark leafy greens such as spinach and winter citrus are a good combination for taste, health and appetizing eye appeal.

Spinach may be used raw in salads or cooked and used as a vegetable or as part of an entrée. Fresh spinach that has been picked recently has the most folate, an important B vitamin that may help prevent cancer and heart disease. Romaine lettuce is also a good source of folate. Raw spinach also is a good source of vitamin A, and provides lutein and other carotenoids linked to eye health. It also is a rich source of iron and vitamin C.

Some varieties of spinach have curly leaves. Baby spinach, however, is a flat-leaf variety. It has tender leaves, a mild flavor and is often sold pre-washed, making it perfect for salads. Mature spinach can be very gritty and should be thoroughly rinsed.

Fresh spinach is available year-round. Choose leaves that are crisp, dark green and smell fresh. Spinach can be refrigerated in a plastic bag for up to three days.

The dark green of spinach leaves is a nice contrast to the bright orange of clementines, the smallest of the small mandarin oranges that most Americans call tangerines. Clementines require nothing but a flick of the thumb to release them from their skins. They used to be called kidglove oranges because it was said a lady could eat the fruit without taking her gloves off.

Clementines are so fragrant they have been used to scent body care products. Their flavor is so intense that the Corsicans make clementine wine. They are used in desserts, salads and stir fries.



Dark leafy greens such as spinach and winter citrus are a good combination. for taste, health and appetizing eye appeal. 'nΜ

These tiny orange fruits have always been popular in Europe but have come to the United States fairly recently. We get most of our clementines from Spain, but the U.S. industry is growing. Thousands of acres of clementines have been planted in California.

Citrus fruit is a good source of flavonoids, natural substances found in many fruits, vegetables, tea and wine. They are powerful antioxidants that researchers believe help protect against heart disease and cancer.

Celery and walnuts give this salad crunch, and red onion and dried fruit add even more color and texture.

### SPINACH & CLEMENTINE SALAD

2 pounds clementines (8-12) 2 pounds baby spinach, washed and dried 4 celery stalks, cut into thin

diagonal slices 1/2 cup walnuts pieces, toasted , í 1 cup red onion, sliced thin 1/4 cup dried cherries or cran-: 001 Sati berries 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar 121.1 :5 Pinch of sugar raoi 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil -ped l teaspoon Dijon mustard 1 small clove garlic, minced 23750 Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Peel clementines, removing all white pith. Separate segments.  $\mathcal{F}_{i}$ Put in a large salad bowl with spinach, celery, nuts, onion and berries. Mix well. Reti

Whisk together remaining store ingredients in a small bowl. Drizzle over salad and serve.

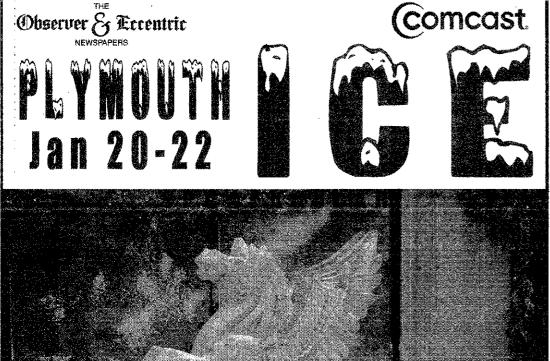
Makes 8 servings.Per serving 195 calories, 12 g. total fat (1 g. saturated fat), 19 g. carbohy-1.8197 drate, 6 g. protein, 6 g. dietary fiber, 120 mg. sodium. 34 Recipe courtesy of the American SamA Institute for Cancer Research. 11280

# Bridal Spectacular Open House Saturday, January 14, 2006 Sunday, January 15, 2006 Noon 'til 5:00 p.m.

Enjoy the opportunity to view an exquisite selection of bridal bouquets and arrangements in a relaxed atmosphere.

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# **Nominate Outstanding Community Volunteers**

Winners will be honored at United Way for Southeastern Michigan's Celebrate Volunteers...Recognizing HomeTown Heroes Awards Luncheon, April 18.

The award categories are as follows:

**Acts of Kindness Award Bernie Firestone Award CorPLUS** Award **Exemplary Group Service Award Governor's Honor Roll Outstanding Youth Award** Young Adult Award of Excellence **Outstanding Business Award** 

Call United Way at 313-226-9430 for complete nomination information or go to www.uwsem.org. All nominations are due to United Way by 5 p.m., January 20.

Observer & Eccentric

## BEEF

### FROM PAGE B5

lower in fat, they taste good."

"The beauty of beef is its versatility," writes P.M. Kris-Etherton, a registered dietitian and director of the Diet Study Center at Penn State University in the book's foreword. "It can be a key ingredient in a food as simple as chili, grilled to perfection as a steak, or elegantly prepared as a holiday roast."

Beef also possesses a "nutrient-dense profile" with protein, B vitamins, zinc, selenium, phosphorous, niacin, riboflavin and iron. "Two servings of lean beef (at 3 ounces each) can easily be included in a heart healthy diet that provides less than the recommended 10 percent of calories from saturated fat," according to the book. "For individuals on a cholesterol-lowering diet that restricts saturated fat to less than 7 percent of calories, 5 ounces of lean beef can be included in the diet daily."

The book runs the gamut from quick meals, such as onedish soups, sandwiches and stir-fry, or meal ideas for special occasions.

Chamberlain, owner and executive chef of Chamberlain's Steak and Chop House in Dallas, contributed his own favorite recipes and added his own accents on others. Cochran said she eats at Chamberlain's restaurant frequently. "I know he's a great chef," Cochran said. "His meals at the restaurant are wonderful."

Many of the recipes in the book feature less than 15 grams of fat and less than 5 grams of saturated fat per serving

The book includes colorful charts and comparisons with pork and chicken in terms of beef's fat levels and nutrient charts for each cut of beef. For example, a 3-ounce round steak contains 154 calories, 5.3 grams of total fat, 1.9 grams of saturated fat, 66 milligrams of cholesterol, 24.8 grams of protein, 2.3 milligrams of iron, 4 milligrams of zinc, 0.09 milligrams of thiamin, .19 milligrams of riboflavin and 3.6 milligrams of niacin.

Cooking techniques are highlighted: pan-broil, broil or grill tender steaks, such as T-bone, sirloin tip center steak, top sirloin, tenderloin, top loin (strip) steak and tri-tip steak. (You can also stir-fry all of the above except the Tbone.)

Braise boneless chuck shoulder steak, flank steak, bottom round and eye round. For stews, use boneless chuck shoulder steak, bottom round steak, chuck shoulder pot roast, bottom round roast, flat half brisket and shank cross cuts.

An appendix contains a quick guide to matching a beef cut with a recipe.

Dave Zino, director of the Beef & Veal Culinary Center, points to Provençal Beef Stew as a great example of the book's versatile flavor profiles. This savory stew features flavorful beef chuck shoulder pot roast combined with a fresh vegetable medley of zucchini, yellow squash and new potatoes. Niçoise olives and Herbes de Provence provide flavors native to the south of France.

Stew may a popular dish in cold weather, but the book highlights recipes that can be created all year long.

'You can have beef in salads, you can have beef in sandwiches," Cochran said. "One of the nicer things about the book is the recipes are fairly simple."

The cookbook retails for \$21.95 and can be purchased online through Amazon.com, at bookstores nationwide, and by visiting www.BeefitsWhatsForDinner.com.

### BEEF, MANGO, AND BARLEY SALAD

Mango adds a potent punch to this salad, both with its sweetness and with a boost of vitamin C.

- 2 medium red bell peppers, cut into 1-1/2 inch pieces Nonstick cooking spray
- 1-1/2 teaspoons sweet paprika, divided 1 beef tri-tip roast (about 1-1/2 to 2 pounds)
- 1 cup uncooked quick-cooking barley ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- ½ cup fresh lime juice
- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- 2 medium mangoes, cut into 1/2 inch
- pieces ½ cup chopped green onions
- ¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 4 large Boston lettuce leaves (optional)

Heat oven to 425ºF. Place bell peppers on metal baking sheet; spray with nonstick cooking spray. Set aside.

Press 1 teaspoon paprika evenly onto all surfaces of beef roast. Place roast on rack in shallow roasting pan. Do not add water or cover.

Roast in 425ºF oven 30-40 minutes for medium-rare, 40-45 minutes for medium doneness. Roast bell peppers in oven with beef about 30 minutes or until tender. Set peppers aside to cool.

Remove roast when instant-read thermometer, inserted into center of thickest part, registers 135ºF for medium-rare, 150ºF for medium. Transfer roast to carving board; tent loosely with aluminum foil. Let stand 15 minutes. (Temperature will continue to rise about 10ºF to reach 145ºF for medium-rare, 160ºF for medium.)

Meanwhile, cook barley according to package directions. Set aside to cool slightly.

Cut beef into//2-inch pieces; season with salt and black pepper.

Whisk lime juice, oil, and<sup>1/2</sup> teaspoon paprika in small bowl until blended.

Toss with beef, barley, roasted peppers, mangoes, green onions, and cilantro in large bowl. Serve in Boston lettuce leaves, if desired. Makes sixeight servings.

Cook's Tip: To quickly cool barley and prevent it from clumping, spread on a metal baking sheet.

Nutrition information per serving: calories, 309; fat, 9g; saturated fat, 3g; monounsaturated fat, 4g; cholesterol, 60mg; sodium, 246mg; carbohydrate, 35g; fiber, 4.3g; protein, 26g.

### LEMON, PARSLEY AND PINE NUT-CRUSTED FLANK STEAK WITH SHERRY-WILTED SPINACH

While often marinated and grilled, flank steak is also delicious pounded thin, breaded, and cooked in a skillet. <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cup dry bread crumbs 3 tablespoons chopped pine nuts 2 tablespoons chopped fresh Italian

parsley 2 teaspoons freshly grated lemon peel ½ teaspoon coarse-grind black pepper ¼ teaspoon salt 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour ¼ cup egg substitute 1-½ pounds beef flank steak 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided Salt, as desired

### SHERRY-WILTED SPINACH

4 teaspoons olive oil 1 tablespoon minced garlic 2 packages (10 ounces each) fresh

> spinach, stemmed, torn into large pieces

½ teaspoon salt 1/2 teaspoon pepper

<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup dry sherry

1 lemon, cut into 6 wedges

Combine bread crumbs, pine nuts, parsley, lemon peel, coarse-grind pepper, and<sup>1</sup>/4 teaspoon salt in shallow dish; mix well. Place flour on plate and egg substitute in second shallow dish. Set aside.

Cut beef steak diagonally across the grain into six equal pieces. Place one steak piece between two pieces of plastic wrap or parchment paper. Using smooth side of meat mallet, pound to<sup>1</sup>/+-inch thickness. Repeat with remaining steak pieces.

Dredge one side only of each steak piece in flour, shaking off excess. Dip floured side into egg substitute, then into bread crumb mixture to coat.

Heat 1 tablespoon oil in large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Place three steak pieces in skillet, breaded sides down. Cook 5 to 7 minutes for medium-rare to medium doneness, turning once after breading develops a lightly browned crust. (If necessary, reposition steaks in skillet for even browning.) Wipe out skillet with paper towel. Repeat with remaining tablespoon oil and three steak pieces. Season with salt, as desired. Keep warm.

To prepare Sherry-Wilted Spinach, heat oil in large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Add garlic: cook and stir 1 to 2 minutes or until fragrant and lightly browned (watch

carefully to prevent burning). Add spinach a handful at a time until all spinach has been added, cooking and stirring constantly 2 to 3 minutes or until leaves are evenly coated with oil and wilted. Stir in salt and pepper. Drain spinach in colander. Add sherry to same skillet; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer 3 to 5 minutes and until reduced to<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup. Return spinach toskillet; toss to coat. Cook until heated through.

Serve steaks with spinach and lemon wedges.

Nutrition information per serving: Calories, 334; fat, 17 grams; saturated fat, 4g; monounsaturated fat, 9g; cholesterol, 42mg; sodium, 481mg; carbohydrate, 13g; fiber, 3g; protein, 29g.

### **PEPPERED STRIP STEAKS** WITH FRENCH HERB CHEESE

Flavored with garlic and fresh herbs, this rich, creamy cheese is easy to make at home.

### French Herb Cheese

4 ounces reduced-fat cream cheese 2 tablespoons reduced-fat\_dairy sour cream

1 teaspoon finely chopped fresh basil 1 teaspoon finely chopped fresh oregano

- 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh chives ½ teaspoon salt

Dash freshly ground black pepper

- 1-2 tablespoons coarse-grind black pepper
- 4 boneless beef top loin (strip) steaks. cut<sup>3</sup>/-inch thick (about 8 ounces each)

### salt, as desired

To prepare French herb cheese, place cream cheese, sour cream, basil, oregano and garlic in food processor bowl. Cover; process until smooth. Transfer to small bowl. Stir in chives, salt, and pepper. Cover and refrigerate. Press coarse-grind black pepper evenly onto beef steaks. Place steaks on grid over medium, ash-covered coals. Grill, uncovered, 10-12 minutes for medium-rare to medium doneness, turning occasionally. Season with salt, as desired. Cut each steak into 2 equal portions. Top each portion with 1 tablespoon French Herb Cheese. Makes 8 servings

Nutrition information per serving: calories, 202; fat, 9g; saturated fat, 4g; monounsaturated fat, 3g; cholesterol, 66mg; sodium, 133mg; carbohydrate, 2g; fiber, 0.2g; protein, 27g.

TASTE 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.homeco mm.net or fax (734) 591-7279.

### **Create Pan-Asian**

Learn how to create your own Pan-Asian pantry with items like Shiro Miso and Tamarind Paste. Attendees 🚟 who complete this class will be able to re-create dishes from favorite Asian A... restaurants, such as Malaysian Samosas, Roasted Miso Tofu, Chinese Braised Red Pork, Pad Thai and Stir Frys are some of the recipes that will be demonstrated and sampled. Classes are 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19 at 15185 Sheldon in Plymouth and Thursday, Jan. 26 at 24445 Drake in Farmington. (In case of a heavy snowstorm, contact the store to see if class is still scheduled. Food samples are not available for standing room quests, but they can participate in the raffle at the end of class.)

### **Nutrition and Cooking** Seminar

This seminar will make you aware of the latest scientific discoveries in nutrition 2:30-6 p.m. Sunday, March 12, at Metro Seventh Adventist School, 15585 Haggerty (just north of 5 Mile Road), Northville. Cancer, heart disease and diabetes are largely preventable through proper nutrition. There will be lectures, cooking demonstrations with recipes and menu plancs. Cookbooks will be available for purchase.A vegetarian meal will conclude the day's activities. Suggested donation is \$10 per person. To register call Dr. Arthur Weaver at (248) 349-5683 or Helen and Floyd Morris at (313) 531-2179.





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### TASTE

# Hoisin sauce adds a gentle hint of heat to Asian dishes

### BY DANA JACOBI AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

At the Chinese take-out place I order from, my favorite dish is a colorful stir-fry combining chicken, red and green peppers and walnuts. It contains water chestnuts, too, but what I love most is the flavor of its brown sauce.

I was determined to find out how they make this just-right sauce, which is not too salty or too gloppy, and is just a bit sweet, with a gentle hit of heat at the end. With patience, I eventually managed to communicate my desire to learn how this sauce is made, and one day I was briskly motioned to come behind the counter and stand in the doorway to watch as a cook tossed together my order of Shanghai Chicken with Walnuts.

The secret of the sauce was revealed when the cook added hoisin sauce to the usual seasoning trio of soy sauce, vinegar, and roasted sesame oil. Sometimes called Chinese ketchup or barbecue sauce by Americans, hoisin contains fermented soybeans, garlic, wheat flour and sugar, plus other flavorings. According to Bruce Cost, an expert on Asian cooking, star anise is the reason for its distinctive, rounded sweetness.

Americans know hoisin sauce as the chocolate-colored. jam-thick condiment used on



Sometimes called Chinese ketchup or barbecue sauce by Americans, hoisin contains fermented soybeans, garlic, wheat flour and sugar, plus other flavorings.

the pancakes served with Peking Duck. Incorrectly, some also call it barbecue sauce. although it is only one of a blend of ingredients Chinese cooks use for flavoring roasted meats and poultry.

Hoisin sauce is not commonly used in stir-frying. The cook who makes my favorite take-out stir-fry uses it because its unique flavor fits the Shanghai taste for dishes that are a touch sweet. It also adds body, so the sauce does not require the amount of cornstarch typically used. It may seem tedious, but do

but evenly. If you can find them (most likely at Chinese markets), fresh water chestnuts have more crunch than the canned version.

take time to cut all the ingredi-SHANGHAI WALNUT CHICKEN ents into small pieces that are 2 tablespoons hoisin sauce even in size. This ensures that the ingredients cook quickly

- 1 tablespoon reduced sodium soy sauce 1 teaspoon rice vinegar 1/4 cup fat-free, reduced-sodium
- chicken broth 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1/4 teaspoon toasted sesame oil

#### 1 tablespoon peanut or canola oil, divided

- 3/4 pound chicken cutlets, cut into 1/2-inch cubes 1 green bell pepper, cut in 1/2-
- inch dice 1 red bell pepper, cut in 1/2-inch
- dice 1 green chile pepper, thinly
- sliced
- 1 garlic clove, chopped 1 can (8 ounces) diced or sliced water chestnuts, rinsed and
- drained 1/4 cup coarsely chopped wal-
- nuts

In a small bowl, combine the hoisin sauce, soy sauce, vinegar, broth and cornstarch. Mix in the sesame oil. Set the seasoning sauce aside.

Set a wok or large frying pan over high heat. Drizzle in 2 teaspoons of the canola oil, swirling to coat the cooking surface. Stirfry the chicken until it is white. Turn it out onto a plate.

Add the remaining oil to the pan. Stir-fry the green, red, and chile peppers, and the garlic, for 2 minutes. Return the chicken to the pan. Add the water chestnuts and walnuts. Restir the seasoning sauce and add. Stir-fry until the chicken is cooked through. Serve immediately, along with cooked rice, preferably brown.

Makes 4 servings.Per serving: 247 calories, 10 g. total fat (1 g. saturated fat), 17 g. carbohy-drate, 22 g. protein, 5 g. dietary fiber, 378 mg. sodium. Dana Jacobi is author of The Joy of Soy and is a recipe creator for the American Institute for Cancer Research.

# Everyone Makes Resolutions. At Curves, You Keep Them.



# Taste wines at Vino Mania

The Community House will host Vino Mania, a unique wine event that combines wine tasting, wine games, food and live music, at 7:30-10:00 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9.

Attendees can learn about wine in a fun and entertaining setting.

The event features wine tasting and wine trivia games combined with a live jazz band and a wide array of appetizers.

Certified sommelier Nidal Daher hosts the

event. Daher has been working in the wine industry for over 15 years. He is the former fine wine director and buyer for Merchant of Vino and is co-author of Romance Begins in the Kitchen.

The registration fee for Vino Mania is \$50. You must be 21 or older to attend.

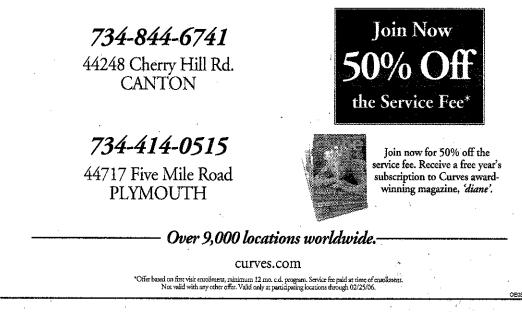
To register, contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates St., Birmingham at (248) 644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com.

88 (\*)

> This year, find out how over 4 million women who thought they couldn't get fit have discovered they can. At Curves, you can too. Our fun, simple workouts take just 30 minutes, three times a week. Success is right around the corner.



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# Yo, Adrian Maples jump to early lead and coast to win over 'Cats

### BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

If Tuesday night's game against Adrian had been a fish, Plymouth's basketball team would have thrown it back.

If it had been a Christmas gift, the Wildcats would have returned it - unwrapped.

But since the tough 51-36 loss to the Maples was its final nonconference game, Plymouth will simply try to forget about it, especially with Friday's Western Lakes Activities Association opener at Walled Lake Central looming.

The loss, which came less than 24 hours after a solid 47-28 victory over Lincoln Park, left the Wildcats with a 2-4 mark. Adrian improved to 2-5.

The Maples jumped to an 8-0 lead in the game's opening three minutes and never trailed. Their biggest advantage came with 35 seconds left in the third quarter when Jordan Kelly's triple made it 37-16.

"Adrian got an early lead on us and we couldn't mount any runs on them," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. "Give them credit. They're a physical team and they played well."

The visiting Maples walked the line when it came to the number of fouls called. Adrian attempted 25 free throws to the Wildcats' three.

"I've liked what I've seen since we changed our style of defense a couple of games ago," said Adrian coach Marc Comstock. "Prior to this season, we've always been a straight man-toman team, but we switched to a half-court trap and then we fall

back into a match-up zone. "The kids feel good with what we're doing now and they've

played well recently." Only one player scored in

### 'Adrian got an early lead on us and we couldn't mount any runs on them." Tom Van Wagoner

Plymouth coach

Ohrman (Brent's older brother) and Nick Ford, who both netted eight.

Senior forward Josh Le Duc paced the Wildcats' attack with eight points, including a monstrous break-away dunk with 1:00 left in the opening quarter. Five players tallied four points each for Plymouth: Brandon Roberts, LaBroderick Caldwell, D.J. Coleman, Jim Wilbur and Jake Hager. Le Duc's six rebounds also led the Wildcats.

Led by Threet's 11 boards, Adrian out-rebounded Plymouth, 35-22. Brad Ohrman

chipped in with eight boards. Plymouth was limited to just four second shots, which wasn't good considering they weren't hitting a lot of their first shots. The Wildcats yanked down just four offensive rebounds compared to the Maples' 13, and shot 36 percent from the field (17-for-47).

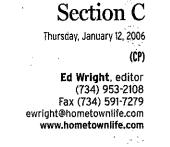
Adrian also went 17-for-47 from the field, but they made two more threes than the Wildcats and canned 13-of-25 free throws while Plymouth went 0-for-3 from the charity stripe.

The Maples led 28-12 at the half and 37-19 after three quarters. Plymouth committed 20 turnovers; Adrian registered just 10 miscues.

Le Duc was the star of Monday's 19-point victory over the Railsplitters. The senior forward recorded 10 points and 13 rebounds, both team highs.



**HOCKEY** – Plymouth's Gibson shines in debut



2

8

**MORE HOCKEY** – Whalers swap 2 at deadline



Wrestling fund-raiser The Canton wrestling team will be holding a fund-raiser from noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Jan.

22, at the Old Village Yarn Shop located at 42307 E. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth. A learn-to-knit class for anyone 8-years-old and older will be offered. The cost of the class is \$35 and advance registration is required. Space is limited. For more information, contact Bridget Konsitzke at (734) 455-4515.

Door prizes and refreshments will be available.

Plea to coaches

The area's prep athletic coaches are encouraged to call in the results of their team's competitions to Observer sports editor Ed Wright so that the high school athletes receive the recognition they deserve.

Results can be phoned in to Wright at (734) 953-2108; faxed to (734) 591-7279; or e-mailed to ewright@hometownlife.co

If Wright is covering an event at the time of your call, please leave a message and he will return your call promptly.

The deadline for Thursday's Observer is Tuesday at 11 p.m. The deadline for Sunday's Observer is Friday at 11 p.m.

double-digits: Adrian's Brent . Ohrman poured in 10. Ohrman's effort was complemented by Steve Threet, who had nine points; and Brad

Hager scored nine. Plymouth led by 10 at the half and never looked back.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108

Plymouth's Austin Barnett glides in for a lay-up during Tuesday night's 51-36 loss to Adrian. Barnett finished with two points, two rebounds and two steals.

# Chiefs put hold on 1st-place trophy

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

The Canton wrestling team's trophy case is a little more crowded and its record book is a little thicker following the Chiefs' first-place performance at Saturday's Jackson Parma Western Invitational.

The Chiefs sent six of their 13 competing wrestlers to the finals as they accumulated a school-record 212.5 points, 36.5 more than runner-up Three Rivers.

"Overall, it was a good performance by our team," said Canton coach Casey Randolph. "I was extremely happy with the way we wrestled the first two rounds. We only had one loss, so that was phenomenal. We did well in the semis, too, putting six into the finals."

A pair of Chiefs turned in gold-medal

### **PREP WRESTLING**

efforts. Konrad Konsitzke won the title at 145 pounds when he edged Parma Western's Jeff Chambers, 2-0, in the championship match.

"Konrad had a great day against some really good competition," said Randolph. "He destroyed the kid he wrestled in the semis and then he beat a kid who finished fifth in the state in Division 2 last year."

Canton's other champion was 160pounder Marwan Faraj, who went 5-0, defeating Marshall's Adam McCormack, 5-2, in the final match. Faraj led 3-2 with 25 seconds left when he executed a takedown to seal the win.

Corey Phillips, the Chiefs' previously unbeaten 135-pounder, suffered his first setback of the season when Three Rivers' Ryan Lucas won, 4-0, in a final match. The loss dropped Phillips, a junior, to 21-1 while Lucas, who has finished no lower than fourth at the past three Division 2 state meets, improved to 25-0.

Canton's other second-place finishers were Mike Haar at 103 pounds, Alex Amberg at 189 and heavyweight Donnie Laramie. Haar lost, 6-4, in the finals to Hudson's Taylor Smith; Amberg dropped a 7-2 decision to Zach Jones of Three Rivers; and Laramie fell to unbeaten John Barrett of Coldwater.

Also earning big points for the Chiefs were Tom Bonnell (215), Matt Sweda (152), Joe Wilson (140) and Steve Cox (125), Sam Santilli (119) and Ryan Schnettler (112).

Canton will battle Livonia Franklin

### PLEASE SEE WRESTLING, C3

# 'Cash' finally crashes NHL party

#### BY TIM SMITH STAFF WRITER

Everything's a blur to Jason Bacashihua now. But that's the way he likes it.

Just called up to the St. Louis Blues of the National Hockey League, the 23-yearold Garden City native is quickly getting accustomed to how fast everything moves in the bigs.

Bacashihua (pronounced ba-CASH-huah), who last Thursday made his first hometown major league visit as St. Louis' backup goaltender, still finds himself in awe of where he is and who he's playing against.

The opposing goalie in his first NHL victory, at Phoenix Dec. 20, was none other than former Red Wing and potential Hall of Famer Curtis Joseph. He defeated Chicago's Nikolai Khabibulin in another contest.

"It's nice looking at the other end and

seeing these guys," said Jason in a telephone interview from St. Louis early last week. "And to actually beat them really fired me up."

He also is learning quickly that things happen in a flash in the majors. Every player can blast the puck from any spot on the ice. Plus, the pace is so fast that he can no longer take an extra moment to regain his bearings or even reach behind him to grab the water bottle when action is at the other end of the rink.

"It's a lot quicker and guys are much smarter with the puck," said Bacashihua, a former Plymouth Whaler with nine NHL games to his credit since being recalled from Peoria of the American Hockey League in mid-December. "Against Phoenix, I made a save and directed the puck into the corner.

"But their guy just fired it right back

PLEASE SEE 'CASH', C3 NHL's St. Louis Blues.



Dedication and talent are two reasons why Garden City native Jason Bacashihua is playing for the

Penguin icers knock off the '05 champs

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### **BY ED WRIGHT** STAFE WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team replaced question marks with exclamation points Tuesday night in its 3-1 victory over defending state champion Cranbrook Kingswood in a key Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League game played at the Arctic Edge in Canton.

"Before the game, the girls thought they could beat Cranbrook and they hoped they would beat Cranbrook, but they weren't sure if they could beat them," said PCS coach Lori Callahan. "That's why this was a big win for us mentally. It was a huge mental hurdle we needed to get over, especially because we have Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South coming up. This win will give us an extra boost going into those games."

The victory propelled the Penguins' record to 7-0. The Cranes slipped to 3-3.

Both goalies - PCS's Kristie Kowalski and Cranbrook's Katherine LaGrasso - dominated the first two periods, which ended with nothing but goose eggs on the scoreboard.

PCS lit the lamp first when Kristin Schwan stuck the puck in the back of the net 36 seconds into the third period. Schwan was assisted by Lisa Ealy and Amy Coleman. The Cranes knotted the game at 1-1 28 seconds later on Pilar Ming's goal.

### **Pistons clinic**

Ward Church in Northville will be hosting. a Pistons basketball clinic for kids in kindergarten through fifth grade on Saturday, Jan. 28, from noon to 4 p.m.

The clinic will be conducted by Steve Moreland of the Detroit Pistons and Detroit Shock professional base ketball teams.

The cost of the clinic is \$15 per participant, each of whom will receive a 🗞 free Pistons T-shirt.

To register or for more information, call the church at (248) 374-5932.

### **Euro Stars shine**

The Euro Stars boys and girls gymnastics teams both excelled in separate competitions this past weekend.

The girls squads in levels 5 through 8 captured first-place trophies in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

The Euro Stars level 5. and 6 boys teams both turned in first-place efforts in a meet held at Twistars in Lansing. 🗔

### **MU softball camp**

Madonna University varsity softball coach Al White is hosting a fourweek fundamentals camp from noon to 2:30 p.m. beginning Saturday, Feb. 12

All phases of girls fastpitch softball are covered in the camp.

The cost is \$150 per camp, with checks payable to Madonna Softball. For more information,

please call White at (734) 432-5783.



## LOCAL SPORTS

### Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings-January 3, 2006

A regular study meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton held Tuesday, January 3, 2006 at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. <u>Roll Call</u> Members Present: Bennett, Caccamo, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Staff Present: Director Conklin, Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz, Abe Vinitski, Kathleen Salla, Lt. Robert Kerr Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, seconded by Zarbo to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously. STUDY SESSION TOPIC Item 1. Ford Road Task Force Ford Road Steering Committee Update The Downtown Development Authority receives a Market Analysis of "Downtown Canton" December 12, 2002, Retail categories identified, Trade area identified, Regional retail competition, Consumer findings 1. Address Ford Road traffic issues a. **Recommendations**: Reduce curb cuts b. Address congestion at I-275 and Haggerty/Ford, c. Cross access between developments, d. Need to cluster stores....move away from strip appearance, e. Image enhancement, f. Attract upscale retailers, 2. Attract moderate/better price point retailers, a. Attract up-scale anchors b. Creation of a town center development/lifestyle center, c. Attract category voids...books, apparel, home furnishings and restaurants Ford Road Business lan Purpose: Work cooperatively to develop strategies to address Ford Road as Canton's commercial corridor. Committee was formed in September 2003 and included 18 members, including representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, Planning Commission, Board of Trustees, and Staff. Areas of Effort A. Planning Issues: Develop a zoning overlay for Ford Road, Access management, Infrastructure improvements, Review sign ordinance B. Downtown Development Authority: Aesthetic improvements, Access management, C. Business attraction and retention activities: Image enhancement, Marketing of Canton, Marketing of DDA, ICSC participation, Develop a database Progress Report A. Planning A1. Overlay District for entire Ford Road District (adopted fall 05), Architectural elements Signs, Parking ratios Public Art, Setbacks Compatible and non-compatible uses, Access management, Landscaping, Lighting, Storm water, Roof lines, Uses A2. Access Management Study Completed and adopted (fall 05), Study explored the use of smart lights, computerized signals on Ford, Road, additional ramps at Warren, and access management, Map was developed identifying driveways to be eliminated or combined A2.1 Two existing curb cuts eliminated (fall 05) A2.2 Additional discussions continuing on Warren I-275 access (ongoing), Identified capacity enhancement projects A3. Ford Road Infrastructure **Improvements** Additional lane westbound Ford from I-275 to Lilley (completed 05), Southbound Ford Road ramp added lane (completed fall 05), Northbound Ford Road ramp lanes (completed spring 06), Computerized signals (two installed in 05), Additional computer signals (fall 06), Deceleration lane in front of IKEA (construction spring 06), Improvements at Canton Center and Ridge intersections (completed 05) B. Downtown Development Authority B1.

Infrastructure improvement, South approach to Sheldon/Ford intersection replaced (completed summer 05), Mast arm improvements at 9 intersections (construction summer 06), Plan to phase overhead utilities to underground, Phase one - Meijer/Taco Bell area (construction winter/spring 06), Phase two – North side of Ford Road in front of Wal-Mart/Sams (summer 06), Phase three -Haggerty to Lilley (construction 07), Phase four - Lilley west (construction 08), I-275 to Haggerty (construction 08) B2. Plan to install DDA lights throughout district (construction 06) B3. Garden wall installation on redevelopment/development parcels (as opportunities arise) **B4.** Improve entry to Knottingham Subdivision (summer 06) **B5.** Sign replacement program (first two centers summer 06) B6. Image enhancement, Branding package approved by DDA (fall 05), Wayfinding package approved by DDA (fall 05) C. Business Retention and Attraction C1. Database of business owners developed (completed spring 05) C2. DDA newsletter launched (completed spring 04) C3. DDA visitor guide produced and distributed (spring 06) C4. DDA visitor map produced and distributed (spring 06) C5. DDA business development seminars (fall 05 - fall 06) C6. Kiosk development and placement (fall 05 – spring 06) C7. IKEA feeding meetings (winter 06 – spring 06) C8. Sign ordinance revisions (winter 06) C8.1 Replacement of outdated signs (fall 05) C9. Attract "B" retailers to Canton, Bed, Bath & Beyond (fall 05), IKEA (spring 04), Border's (winter 06), Sporting goods (fall 05), National retailers (on-going) C10. Become involved in International Council of Shopping Centers, Membership (winter 04), Regional meetings (fall 04) Item 2. Canton Community Marketing Committee Presenters Roger Gallerini - Fisherman's Marketing, LLC; and Karyl Niemi - Canton Creative Marketing, Diane Cojei, President Chamber of Commerce, Lt. Robert Kerr Informational update on the activities of the Canton Community Marketing Committee. The Committee is comprised of representatives from the Canton Township Board (Karl Zarbo), Canton Downtown Development Authority (Kathleeen Salla, Christine Poppoff), Canton Chamber of Commerce (Bart Patterson, Cheryl Gniewak, Diane Cojei), Canton Public Safety (Lt. Robert Kerr), and Canton Administrative Services (Communications). Lt. Kerr stated a 5 day Grand Opening is scheduled. The Grand Opening will be Wednesday through Sunday, with the busiest days being Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. There will be a parking management company hired to facilitate stadium parking with a shuttle service from off site parking areas. Lt. Kerr stated a command post vehicle will be onsite and staffed. There will be officers for intersection traffic control, mobile patrol (motorcycles/bicycles), partnering with neighboring police departments and MSP for monitoring I-275 freeway traffic. Lt. Kerr stated pre-opening signage will be placed on I-275 along with directional signage on surface streets (Canton permit) and barricades on residential streets, for local traffic use only (Wayne County permit.) Lt. Kerr stated forms of communication to the local community will be: Letter to selected residential areas, Meeting with businesses at the coffee meetings for concerns, Present plans to residents and businesses through the forms: Press releases, Canton website, Canton Focus, Canton Cable, Brochures for businesses (private parking and parking), Proactive with media Item 3. LEISURE SERVICES UPDATE PRESENTER: Ann Conklin ADDITIONAL PRESENTERS: Deb Bilbrey-Honsowetz 1. Discussion on the draft of the Leisure Services Department Master Plan (delivered under separate cover) First Board meeting in February will be the Public Hearing for the adoption of this Master Plan. Master Plan (draft) Five Year Plan, Required by DNR to be eligible for grants, Guides future decision making for capital projects, Acts as "umbrella" bringing other plans together, Information compiled as outlined by DNR guidelines. Supervisor Yack stated Leisure Services is working vith the Human Relations Commission on the Martin Luther King Day activities. Plan on attending on Monday, January 16, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Theater for a community celebration. The celebration includes a men's glee club from the Detroit School of Arts, guest speaker, photo exhibition, tribute to Rosa Parks. The admission is free and no registration is required and doors open at 6:30 p.m. 2. Discussion on the draft of the Partnership/Sponsorship Policy PURPOSE: To guide the process for Leisure Services to partner with private, non partner with private, non-profit or other public entities for the development, design, construction, operation and advertisement of construction, operation and advertisement of recreational facilities and/or programs that may occur on Township property. Director Conklin stated all suggestions by the Board will be made on the final policy. 3. General Update a. Continental Catering – Director Conklin stated Continental has been a great partner so far and very professional. b. Park Maintenance Facility - Director Conklin stated an RBA will be on the January 10, 2006 Board Meeting agenda for recommendation to hire the architect. c. T-Mobile Proposal -Director Conklin stated on the Board meeting agenda for January 10, 2006 an RBA for T-Mobile to put a cell tower at the Softball Center for an initial fee of \$10,000 to the Township and a monthly fee of \$1,000 per month to the Township. Other: Trustee LaJoy requested an update on the "Move the Barn". Trustee Zarbo inquired if the capital required to move the barn is not collected in full what happens to the money. Clerk Bennett stated the money will be returned. Clerk Bennett stated the money is being deposited in the Canton Community Foundation. Discussion regarding the former Damon's building. Trustee McLaughlin stated the recommendations of the Planning Commission with the modification of the water tower (tower has been eliminated) and the addition of a landscape island in the parking area have been met. Trustee McLaughlin stated she will advise Texas Corral Grill to come prepared for their item to go before the Board. Dan McCausland spoke in opposition of a Board member being contacted by an entity. Adjourn Motion by Zarbo, supported by McLaughlin at 9:34 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. - Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor - Terry G. Bennett, Clerk -

# Plymouth's Gibson shines in debut

Plymouth goalie Nathaniel Gibson made a positive first impression in Saturday's 4-2 victory over Mason.

Playing in the first high school hockey game of his career, Gibson knocked away 26 shots. The victory improved the Wildcats' record to 5-4-2.

"I thought he played great," said Plymouth coach Chuck Dubois, assessing Gibson's debut between the pipes. "He was a little nervous at the beginning and he gave up a power-play goal, but he settled down after that."

Following a scoreless first

### **PREP HOCKEY**

period, the Wildcats jumped in front, 1-0, on Brandon Winowiecki's goal 1:40 into the second period. Winowiecki was assisted by Michael Barile and Mark Olivier.

After Mason notched two straight goals, the Wildcats' knotted the game at 2-2 on a Barile goal with 1:30 left in the second stanza. Olivier assisted on the game-tying lamp-lighter. Plymouth won the game in

the third period thanks to

PREP BASKETBALL

to 4-2. Macomb dropped to 1-5.

### stellar goal-tending by Gibson and goals from Nick Cote and Barile, Justin Michalek and Adam Lazorko assisted on the third-period goals. On Friday, Jan. 6, Plymouth

fell to Walled Lake Western, 3-1. The Warriors were paced by red-hot goalie Mike Purcell, who turned back 44 shots. The Wildcats' lone goal came when Cote beat Purcell on a shot assisted by Michalek and Joe Perkovich.

Christian Blick was solid in net for the Wildcats, stopping 26 Western shots.

The Wildcats pounded Taylor Truman, 11-2, on Jan. 4. Three players scored a pair of goals: Brett Kavulich, Olivier and Cote. Billy Gauthier (four assists) and Jason O'Guinn (three assists, goal) also turned in exemplary performances for the winners.

John Knoerl, Kyle Goll and Michalek scored single goals for Plymouth while Perkovich and Michalek each recorded a pair of assists.

Junior goalie Justin Desilets notched the win for the Wildcats, who return to action Saturday against Canton. The cross-campus match-up is set to face-off at 6:40 p.m. at Compuware Sports Arena.

Canton improved its record to 4-2 Tuesday night with a 46-42 victory over visiting

Redford Union. The Panthers, who slipped to 2-6, led 12-9 after one quarter before the Chiefs seized a 27-18

halftime lead and 38-33 advantage after three quarters. Senior guard Andre Bridges led the winners with 19 points. Junior center Ryan Waidmann

chipped in with 10 and junior forward Steve Paye contributed nine points and five rebounds.

Senior guard Chris Brown led RU with 18 points while

sophomore guard Terrell Beard had eight. Canton hit 7-of-16 free throws while the Panthers connected on 2-of-5 shots from

the charity stripe. Canton returns to action Friday night when it hosts

Salem at 7 p.m. PCA 69, MACOMB CHRISTIAN 50: On Tuesday, the Eagles soared to a 21-12 first-quarter lead and never looked back as they improved their record

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **REQUEST FOR BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, January 26th, 2006 for the following:

> PURCHASE OF SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUSES

Bid forms may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department counter or you may contact Mike Sheppard at (734) 394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

# **Canton cagers edge Panthers**

points. Jack Anleitner and Derek Leathers both netted 14 for the winners.

AGAPE 63, MONROE LUTH. SOUTH 41: A substantial third-quarter run lifted Canton Agape Christian to a 63-41 victory over Monroe Lutheran South Friday night in a game played at Garden City United Christian.

The win boosted the Wolverines' record to 3-0. Lutheran South slipped to 0-3.

Senior forward Derek Leathers had a huge night for Agape, tallying 20 points, 13 rebounds, six steals and five assists. Sophomore point guard Jack Anleitner also shined for the Wolves, netting 17 points, four steals and four assists.

Frank Lucas paced Lutheran South with 19 points.

Agape raced to a 17-10 first-quarter lead and 34-19 halftime advantage. The winners put the game away in the third stanza when they outscored their guests from Monroe,

WASHTENAW CHRISTIAN 55, PCA 45: On Friday, Washtenaw Christian wiped out a 21-17 halftime deficit with a 14-0 third-quarter run to improve its record to 4-1. The Eagles, who led 9-7 after one quarter, slipped to 3-2.

The Eagles closed a 10-point gap to five with 40 seconds left and they possessed the ball. However, PCA's hopes for a last-minute comeback simmered when it misfired on a triple attempt and Washtenaw answered by hitting a three with 20 seconds to play.

Sophomore guard Trevor Zinn led PCA with 13 points, six coming on two long threes. Other standouts included Matt Saagman (10 points and six rebounds), Scott Brandt (10 points), Ben Welton (seven points) and Derek Elenbaas (five rebounds).

BELLEVILLE 49, JOHN GLENN 41: Jackie Wilson, a 6-foot-2 junior forward, poured in a game-high 20 points and grabbed 12 rebounds, but it wasn't enough as upset-minded Westland John Glenn (0-5) fell Friday to the host Tigers (3-3). Glenn led 29-22 at the half and

36-31 after three quarters before Belleville roared back.

All-Stater Leon Freeman, who played only the second and fourth quarters, led the Tigers with 16 points. Carlos Clark added 15.

Wiley Roberts and Earl Hardison each added five for the Rockets, who hit 10-of-15 free throws

Belleville was 14-of-27 from the line.

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at Public Auction, January 13, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. The auction will e held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Road, Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing aı

PUBLIC NOTICE

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YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	BODY	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
1981	Lincoln	Town Car	4 Dr	1LNBP94F5BY668593
1995	Ford	Taurus	$4  \mathrm{Dr}$	1FALP5345SG252704
1994	Chevy	' Lumina	$4 \mathrm{Dr}$	2G1WN54TXR1101635
1990	Chevy	Lumina	$4 \mathrm{Dr}$	2G1WL54T7L1196684

Sophomore point guard Trevor Zinn paced the winners with 23 points. Matt Saagman also turned in a solid offensive effort with 20 points. Devyn Govan chipped in with 12 for PCA.

Issac Jackson netted 18 for Macomb.

On Tuesday, Summerfield used its size advantage to send the Wolverines (4-1) to their first loss of the season. Summerfield led 17-11 after one quarter, 39-18 at the half

Jack Anleitner paced the Wolves

with 13 points. Rusty Willard contributed 11. CANTON AGAPE 62, MACOMB CHRIST-IAN 22: The Wolverines led early (17-1

after one quarter) and rolled to their fourth straight victory Monday night. Terrell Pierce led the Wolverines with a career-best 15

play.

Christian on Friday. SUMMERFIELD 60, CANTON AGAPE 41:

and 49-28 with eight minutes to

with 18 points; Derek Leathers added 13 for Agape. Leon Stuewe led a balanced Summerfield attack

# 17-4

PCA will host Canton Agape

Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our website www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval.

Publish: January 12, 2006

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: January 12, 2006

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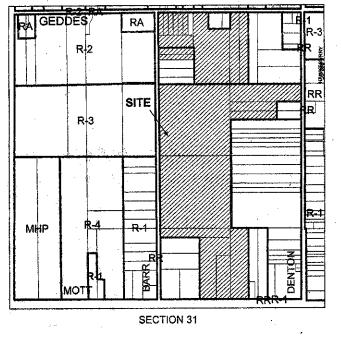
#### Chevy Lumina $4 \,\mathrm{Dr}$ 2G1WL54T7L1196684 1ZVBT21C7K5298652 Ford 2 Dr Probe 1G4CW53L6M1601259 4 Dr Buick Reliant 3P3BK46K5KT008488 Plymouth 4 Dr JT3AC12R8N1015350 SUV Tovota $4 \, \mathrm{Dr}$ 2C1MR5295T6745142 Metro Geo Mazda JM1EC4357R0321574 MX3 2 Dr1G8ZG1270WZ209787 Saturn 2 DrPublish: January 8 and 12, 2006 OE08401979

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

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2006, 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:

ESTATES PLANNED GRANDVIEW DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) - (PRELIMINARY PLAN)- CONSIDER **REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PDD AS PERMITTED IN SECTION** 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NOS. 121 99 0012 000, 121 99 0013 000, 121 99 0014 000, 121 99 0015 001, 121 99 0015 002, 121 99 0024 002, 121 99 0025 000, 121 99 0026 000, 121 99 0027 000, 12 1 99 0028 000, 121 99 0029 000, 121 99 0030 000, 12 1 99 0032 000, 12 1 99 0033 000, 12 1 99 0034 000, 122 99 0038 000, 124 99 000 1 000, 124 99 0002 000, 124 99 0003 005, 124 99 0004 000, 124 99 00 10 000. Property is located south of Geddes between Denton and Ban Roads. (First Public Hearing.)



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, January 19, 2006 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Vic Gustafson, Chairman

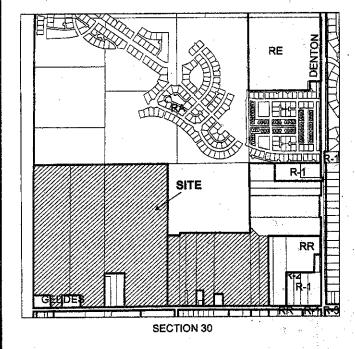
Publish: December 29, 2005 & January 12, 2006

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

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2006, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

SOCIETY PARK PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) - (PRELIMINARY PLAN)- CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PDD AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NOS. 119 99 0001 000 (PART OF), 1 19 99 0002 001, 1 19 99 0003 001, 1 19 99 0007 000, 120 99 0002 000, 120 99 0003 000, 120 99 0004 000, 120 99 0006 000, 120 99 0009 001, 120 99 001 5 000 AND 120 99 0016 000. Property is located north of Geddes between Denton Road and Napier Roads. (First Public Hearing.)



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, January 19, 2006 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Vic Gustafson, Chairman

Publish: December 29, 2005 & January 12,2006

## 'CASH'

### FROM PAGE C1

and it bounced in off my arm. When you play in the 'A' you can see 30 or 35 shots, whereas here you face 20 and 10 or 11 are quality shots."

Bacashihua continues to work and learn his craft on the job, both in practices and games. That's where the quickness is helping him.

### AT THE JOE

"You can tell the difference between up here and the minors," he said. "I think one thing that I've learned is my game has gotten better just from practicing with guys at this level. I feel myself getting better and getting faster."

An area Bacashihua continues to deal with is the mental aspect, the emotional ups and downs that go with playing goal in the pressure-packed NHL. On New Year's Eve, he gave up two goals to Anaheim in the first eight minutes and soon found himself on the bench in favor of Curtis Sanford (the goalie whose injury briefly elevated Jason to No. 1 status).

"One was a screen shot and the other was under the bar," said Bacashihua about the Anaheim game. "But you can't get too frustrated. When I get another chance, I want to play well."

To the chagrin of family and friends who came out to Joe Louis Arena for Thursday's game one that Bacashihua immediately underlined on the Blues' schedule after his recall - the goaltender didn't get that chance in his hometown. St. Louis does return once more, for a Feb. 1 matchup.

Even though he didn't play last Thursday, Jason said it was exciting to skate out onto the ice for the pre-game warmup and look up into the red and white seats he often sat in as a spectator while growing up.

"It's a great feeling, (but) you just hope to play against your hometown team," said Bacashihua in the Blues dressing room following the game. "Still it was exciting. I'm just trying to let it soak in."

Also excited about the homecoming were his parents, John and Carol Bacashihua of Dearborn Heights as well as hockey friends Jason made playing as a youngster for teams based out of Garden City Arena.

What a thrill it's been to see him play," said John Bacashihua. "But I try to stay low-key."

Jason's mom and dad have always been his top fans, making numerous road trips to watch games in American Hockey League stops like Salt Lake City, Worcester and Peoria as well as any other place within driving distance of their home.

Continuing the tradition, John Bacashihua traveled Dec. 28 to United Center in Chicago after finding out Jason was slated to start that night against the Blackhawks. Jason earned a 2-1 win, losing his shutout with less than five minutes to play.

"We started making those (road trips) when he moved to play (Tier 2) junior hockey with the Chicago Freeze," John said. "After doing that 10 or 15 times, it's a walk in the park. Utah wasn't

## THE BACASHIHUA FILE

175).

Who: Jason Bacashihua, (pronounced ba-CASH-hu-ah). Born: Sept. 20, 1982, Garden City, Mich. (5-11,

Family: Parents, John and Carol Bacashihua

of Dearborn Heights; sister, Keli, 25. What: Goaltender, St. Louis Blues. Youth-junior career: Youth hockey in Garden City Youth Athletic Association, with the Devils, Thunder and GC Travel. Junior hockey with Chicago Freeze of North American Hockey League (Tier 2), 1999-00 through 2000-01; major juniors with Plymouth Whalers of Ontario Hockey League, 2001-02. Pro career: Drafted 2001 by Dallas Stars of NHL; played one game with Utah Grizzlies (AHL) at end of 2001-02 season and also played 2002-03 and 2003-04 seasons with Utah: traded June 2004 to St. Louis of NHL: played 2004-05 with Worcester IceCats of AHL; began this season with Peoria (AHL) before being called up by the Blues.

too much trouble, we flew in several times."

### **KEEPING TRACK**

The 2004-05 season, when Jason played for the Worcester IceCats (then the Blues' top farm club), proved much tougher on the family.

"The nearest airport was Providence, and so it was an hour drive for Jason to pick us up and to drop us off," the elder Bacashihua said.

But there's always the Internet and digital TV to keep track of Jason's season.

"Sitting there, watching him on TV, I'm nervous before every game," continued John Bacashihua. "But I'm very happy, very proud for him. It's been a long road. He's worked hard."

Perhaps the easiest year to keep tabs on their son was 2001-02, when Jason played for the Whalers of the Ontario Hockey League, a developmental pipeline to the NHL. "It was nice to have him home," John

Bacashihua said.

According to the goalie, that season with Plymouth was a good one for many reasons.

"I had a chance to live at home and see my family and friends again," Jason said. "I had a good year there. I made the All-Star game. All in all it was a lot of fun."

As great as his Whaler days might have been, Bacashihua is really having a blast now, finally living his lifelong dream. "It's awesome, every minute of every game that I've played's just been an awesome experience."

And it's really just now getting started. tsmith@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2106

### THE WEEK AHEAD

**BOYS BASKETBALL** 

Friday, Jan. 13

Salem at Canton, 7 p.m.

Agape Christian at PCA, 7:30

Plymouth at W.L. Central, 7

p.m. Boys swimming

Thursday, Jan. 12

W.L. Central at Canton, 7 p.m.

Salem at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 14

Canton at Rock-Kilgore Invite

at Salem, noon

Salem at Adrian Invite, 10 a.m.

**Plymouth at Wildcat Team** 

Tourney

at Plymouth H.S., 10 a.m. GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Saturday, Jan, 14

Canton at Holland Invite, 10

PCS Penguins at Livonia Ladywood, 6:30 p.m. Canton at Plymouth at Compuware Sports Arena, 6:40 p.m. **GIRLS VOLLEYBALL** Tuesday, Jan. 10 PCA at Southfield Christian, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 11 Canton at Salem, 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12 PCA at Zoe Christian, 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14 Salem at Troy Invite, 8 a.m. PCA and Plymouth at U-M Dearborn Invite, 9 a.m. **MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL** Saturday, Jan. 14 Madonna at Aquinas, 3 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKET-

BALL Saturday, Jan. 14 Aquinas at Madonna, 1 p.m. Wayne County at Schoolcraft, p.m.

**ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE** Friday, Jan. 13 Whalers at Kitchener, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 14 Whalers vs. Kitchener at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 14 Whalers vs. Ottawa at Compuware Arena, 2 p.m. TBA - time to be announced.



tonight in a key Western Lakes Activities Association dual meet set for 7 p.m. in the Patriots' gymnasium. WILDCATS SIXTH: Plymouth placed sixth at the 16-team

(CP)

Saginaw Heritage Tournament held Jan. 7. Hartland, the No. 1ranked team in the state, won the event followed by Ogemaw Heights, Holland, Capac and Bay City Central.

"When we face competition like Hartland, which had seven first-place finishes, it only makes our guys better wrestlers," said Plymouth coach Sam Amine. "Ogemaw Heights and Capac impressed us with their competitive style and showed ' great strength in their programs."

Seven Wildcats captured medals: Steve D'Annunzio (112)," Ben Kosmalski (119), Andrew Saunders (135), Steve Korpus (140), Ali Youseff (145), John Hagar (152) and Danny Jammoul (189).

Plymouth will take an 11-4 record into tonight's home match against Northville. On Saturday, the Wildcats will host the Plymouth Wildcat Team Tourney.

ROCKS GO 3-2: Salem fared well at Saturday's Richmond Invitational, finishing with a 3-2 record to improve its overall mark to 14-6.

Four Rocks went unbeaten: Jake Bennett (145), Nick Steiger (119 and 125), Jeremy Henderson (189) and Andrew Ross (171).

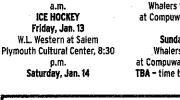
"All four of those guys really stepped up, especially Nick Steiger," said Salem coach Greg Woochuk. "He wrestled against some top competition at 119 and 125 and wrestled extremely # well."

Jerald Bonkowski went 4-1 at 130 while Kevin Hayter (140), Matt Stott (135) and Alex Kemp (103) recorded 3-2 records: Jeremy Epley went 2-1.

> ENERGY answers

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108







**BOYS WRESTLING** Thursday, Jan. 12 Canton at Livonia Franklin, 7 p.m. W.L. Northern at Salem, 6:30 p.m. Northville at Plymouth, 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14 Canton at Springport Duals, 9:30 a.m.

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- 6 p.m., Jan. 19 Baldwin District Library 300 West Merrill Birmingham
- Noon., Jan. 21 Providence Hospital Fisher Auditorium 16001 W. 9 Mile Rd. Southfield

American Stroke Association A Division of American Heart Association

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www.hometownlife.com



# Ford Field's Feb. 5 matchup will

t's 25 days until Super Bowl XL takes place at Ford Field in Detroit, and after another dreadful Lions season, it is a breath of relief from the continuous nightmare that Chancellor Matt Millen's regime has wrought. Having said that, I'm fearful we won't get the best Super Bowl matchup we could possibly get if Greg Brady and not Paul Tagliabue were NFL commissioner.

We may still get a great game, but it just seems all the quality matchups either won't happen at all, or they'll happen in the conference playoffs leading up to Super Bowl XL. It has started to make me wonder if all four major sports are getting it wrong at times by insisting that geography and tradition supercede the critical components that a championship sporting event could have: the two best teams.

Look at the majestic and heartstopping BCS title game in college football between Southern Cal and Texas last week. There was never a question who the



two best teams seemed to be all season long, and there still was some drama as to whether they'd meet. But every single person who watched that game came away satisfied that they got their money's worth and then some.

With Super Bowls, that isn't always the case. You can track your way back into recent history and think of all the great Super Bowl matchups that we've been denied by the rigidity of

the compulsory AFC/NFC game. Granted, we did get the games anyway in the conference championship, but you can't argue that we were denied history.

If you were to truly have the best two teams take each other on in the Super Bowl, we would have been treated to San Francisco and Dallas playing at least twice, maybe three times in the 1990s instead of the blowout wins each team ach Tampa Bay and Philadelphia instead of Jon Gruden's Bucs matched Raiders team. And have the matchup the whole see, regardless of when it is Indianapolis.

### DREAM TEAMS

Colts-Patriots. Brady-Man Who doesn't want this? Now don't always get what we wa not happen anyway. I don't e too much trouble with a Stee secondary and that is going straight weekend. So it's up t their magic and beat a sudde sive Denver team in Colorad ownership, management, pla



C4 (\*)

feature teams worth watching

ed. Three seasons ago, ould have played, owing out an overs year, maybe we'd otball world wants to ew England v.

ig. Belichick-Dungy. fe isn't perfect and we so this matchup may ect the Colts to have 's team with a weak the road for a second he Patriots to continue fearless and aggres-Other than the Denver rs, cheerleaders and

select family members, is there anyone that wants the Broncos to deny us the Colts and Patriots meeting in the playoffs for a third straight season?

And while I'm sure Colts/Seahawks, Colts/Bears, or a Patriots/Panthers rematch isn't necessarily going to guarantee a snoozer of a game, it is a shame that the game we'd most desire to see Feb. 5 is the one we can't possibly see: Indianapolis trying to wrestle the crown away from New England.

Just imagine if the NHL finals could have been Wings/Avalance a few of those years. The NBA finals in 1990 as Pistons/Bulls.

How do you solve this dilemma? Crossover during championship weekend. After the initial two rounds of playoffs, cross over and let the top seed in the AFC play the second remaining seed in the NFC and vice versa. So if the seeds do hold with the exception of the Patriots beating the Broncos, we'd see Chicago traveling to Indianapolis, and New England traveling to

Seattle. Is anyone disappointed with these matchups? How could you be.

I realize the flaw in my system is you are in some cases denying a conference championship banner to a team, but if both teams from the NFC get knocked out, I don't think anyone will argue if the team with the best record, Seattle this year, wants to proclaim themselves as conference champs.

The NFL doesn't do much wrong and I admit I might be perceived as trying to fix something that isn't broken. But the thought of a Patriots/Colts showdown at Ford Field is too tempting not to wish for. At the very least, Colts/Seahawks wouldn't be too disappointing, either. Let's face it, it'll be the first NFL game ever at Ford Field where at least one of the two teams isn't an utter disappointment.

Listen to Greg Brady 6-9 a.m. weekdays on the "Jamie and Brady Show" on Sports Radio 1130 AM WDFN,



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 12, 2006

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## BELIEFS & VALUES

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#### **CECILE BAK**

Age 78, January 10, 2006, beloved wife of the late Stanislaw. Dear mother of George (Marilyn), the late Mark, and daughter in law Theresa. Dearest grandmother of Jenna and Renee. Loving sister of Josephine and Roger. Family will receive friends Thursday 3-9pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Funeral service will be Friday 11:00am at the Funeral Home. Family appreciates memorials to Angela Hospice.



#### CLAIRE NEWELL MENKEL

Passed away on Sunday, January 8th with her children at her side in Northhampton, MA. She was 87 and had recently moved to the Rockridge Retirement Community nearby. She was born in Ogdensburg, NY in 1918 and was the daughter of W. Allan Newell and Edith Judson Newell. She was a graduate of the Emma Willard School in Troy, NY and attended Vassar College. She married Anthony Menkel in 1940. During her early married years, she worked at the Ogdensburg Journal and volunteered at Hepburn Hospital. They moved to Michigan after WWII where Mr. Menkel worked for the Ford Motor Company and for Brighton Hospital. During her years in Michigan, Mrs. Menkel had leadership roles with the Easter Seals Society, the Cub Scouts and Brownies and the PTA at various schools. The Menkels retired to Williamstown, MA in 1977 where she was involved with the Milne Public Library and the Community Chest. Claire and Tony were the unofficial heads of the Williams College Class of 1939 in Williamstown, hosting many reunion and mini-reunion events. After Tony's death, Claire was voted an official member of the class and its' vice-president. Claire and Tony spent their summers in Chippewa Bay in the Thousand Islands on the St Lawrence River in upstate New York. She was a member of the Chippewa Bay Yacht Club and was an avid and skilled bridge player. Tony Menkel predeceased her in 1994. Claire's fulltime and preferred vocation was being the mother of her four children who survive her. The oldest is Anthony Menkel and his two children, Maxwell and Margot of Williamstown, MA; Lane Menkel and Mike Watt of Hartford, CT and her children, James, Milliam and Sara Benet and her hus band Pedro Marquez; Allan and Sally Menkel and their children Zachary and Seth of Westhampton, MA Margot Menkel and Anthony Clarke and their children Alexander and Joshua, also of Westhampton, MA. Claire's children would like to thank the staff of Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton, MA. She received excellent treatment in the ER. ICU and 2 West. We all were supported and cared for by the Palliative Care Team headed by Dr. Jeffrey Zesiger.A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, January 15th at two o'clock at St. John's Episcopal Church in Williamstown, MA. A reception will follow the service. In lieu of flowers, friends are encouraged to make donations to the American Red Cross, the Milne Public Library, 1095 Main Street Williamstown, MA 01267 or the Hammond Fire and Rescue Squad, 300 Lake St., Hammond, NY 13646.



### JUDITH G. WHITE-ORA

Age 66, of Brighton, passed away peacefully at home from breast cancer on January 9, 2006. She was born on June 24, 1939 in Port Huron to William and June (Fisher) Waun. Mrs. White-Ora received her Masters in Education from Eastern Michigan University. She was a teacher and the Curriculum Director of and Ypsilanti Public Instruction 'for Schools from 1966-1985. She was the Superintendent Assistant for Farmington Public Schools from 1985-2001. Her mission was to change the life of children through teaching. Family was very important to Judy. She was a woman of faith and was devoted to God. Judy was a fun loving and spirited woman who was known for her humor and laughter. She shared a love of traveling and cooking with her husband Dick. Survivors include her husband Richard W. Ora, whom she married on October 2005; her mother June Waun; her 1, 2005; her mother June Waun; her children, David (Charmaine) Prichard, Cindy (Kim R.) Shellabarger, Daniel (Phyllis) Prichard, and Kimberly (Kevin) Kelley; her brothers Chuck (Joyce) Waun and Rodger (Vicki) Waun; and 9 grandchildren. She is also survived by 11 step-children and 24 step-grandchildren. Visitation will be held Thursday from 3:30-7:30pm and Friday 2-8pm at Casterline Funeral Home. Inc. 122 W. Dunlan. Funeral Home, Inc. 122 W. Dunlap, Northville. A Funeral Service will be held Saturday 11am at the First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main St., Northville. Mrs. White-Ora will be laid to rest at Fairview Cemetery in Brighton. The family would appreciate memorial contributions 'to the American Cancer Society, 18505 W. 12 Mile Road, Southfield, MI 48076.



LISA ANN SMITH Age 43, of Northville, MI, died January 9, 2006, in Grand Blanc, MI.



#### SANDY RICHERT

January 7, 2006. Devoted wife of Rolly. Loving mother of Lesa (Chad) Van Meter and Ryan (Beth). Sister of David Carnahan, Carolyn Hobbs, Lois Carnahan, and Tom Carnahan. Grandmother of Roman. Sandy lived in Livonia for 14 years. She and her husband are involved in youth ministries. She is the CFO of their ministry called "Outside The Box". Sandy is also the Christian artist music liaison between their ministry and the various Christian artists. Funeral memorial service 7pm Thursday, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile Rd., Northville. Arrangements by R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 734-422-6720. Memorials may be made to Sandy's FOREVER FUND (Outside The Box Ministries, PO Box 530751, Livonia, MI 48153). Please sign the online guestbook at www.rggrharris.com





### SHARON ANN CADWALLADER

of Oxford, passed away on Monday, January 8, 2006, at home, after a long battle with Dystonia, at the age of 58. She is survived by her parents, Kenneth and Virginia Cadwallader, siblings Patricia (Tim) Pulliam, Thomas (Pat) Cadwallader, Peggy (Michael) Symonds, and Barbara (Bernie) Slovan-Ballantyne. Also survived by 10 nieces and nephews and 7 great nieces and nephews. Sharon attended Lake Orion High School and enjoyed traveling, a good party, music, and dancing. Funeral services will take place Thursday, 10 am, at St. Clement Catholic Church, Romeo. Arrangements by Henry M. Malburg Funeral Home, Romeo. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Dystonia Medical Research Foundation.



Rev. David Kasbow (left); Christie Careathers, professor of world religions at Wayne County Community College; Rabbi Mordehi Waldman, Beth Tephiloph Moses Synagogue in Mt. Clemens, and Rev. Bogdan Milosz, Our Lady Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, Hamtramck were among 120 American clergy who recently visited Israel, the Gaza Strip and Jordan.

# Pastor encouraged by clergy coming together in Middle East

#### BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

The Rev. David Kasbow returned from a trip to Israel, the Gaza Strip and Jordan heartened by the growing desire of religious leaders to work together for peace. Kasbow has visited the region four times in the last two years and remembers residents and tourists fearful to walk the streets because suicide bombers were killing innocent bystanders. Last November was different as everyone prepared for their particular holidavs.

Kasbow, a Livonia resident, was among 120 American ministers, rabbis, priests, and imams who took part in a pilgrimage to bring unity among religions in the Middle East. The American Clergy Leadership Conference has organized 17 similar trips since May 2003. The Rev. Sun Myung Moon founded the organization and the Family Federation for World Peace & Unification to bring harmony among Christian denominations.

"Now you can see a difference with more tourists and residents on the streets. People look more calm. I left very encouraged," said Kasbow, pastor of the Unification Center & Family Church in Warren.

Federation for World Peace &

will eventually unite. It is the

Unification believe all religions

Kasbow and the Family



As much as Rev. David Kasbow was encouraged by the coming together of clergy in the Middle East, he was shaken by a painting of a lion (Israel) attacking a victim (Palestine) on a checkpoint wall leaving Bethlehem.

ple see religion as a problem when, he believes, it's the solution. Kasbow was raised a Catholic but decided to enroll at the Unification Theological Seminary in New York after earning degrees in psychology and working as a limited license psychologist at the Counseling Associates in Southfield. He became pastor of the Unification church in Warren in 1995 and still occasionally takes his father Lawrence to a Catholic church in Hamtramck to hear Polish Christmas carols.

as carols. A

hotels bombed by terrorists in Jordan. We signed condolences on the wall, prayed and did a prayer walk," said Kasbow. "We gave out Ambassador for Peace certificates to people who had done outstanding work in the peace process. One man's son was killed by Palestinians, but he donated the organs to a Palestinian family so their daughter could live. Fifty percent of the Jordanian population has roots in Palestine so they're directly tied into the struggle with Israel."

As much as Kasbow was

### **DIANNE BRADLEY**

Age 55, Jan. 6, 2006 of Livonia Beloved wife of Keith, dear mother of 2; Kelly (Steve) Kachnowski & Kirk Bradley. Dear sister of Joann Dzbanski, Mary Ann (Brian) McGlade, John (Patti) Dzbanski and the late Frankie Dzbanski. Also leaves 3 nieces; Ann Marie, Emily & Megan and Aunt Mamie. Dianne was Born in Detroit August 26, 1950, lived in Indian village and married Keith the day after Thanksgiving in 1969. They later moved to Livonia where they lived for 35 years. Dianne was a member of St. Michaels Church in Livonia for 35 years and attended regularly. She loved to light the candles when she visited the church. Dianne has travelled all around the U.S. Spain, Bahamas, and Niagara Falls She loved cookbooks and the Food Network. Dianne graduated from Cass Tech in Detroit and was a Legal Secretary for many years, she was most recently at Mervyns for about 15 years. She was "The Life of The Party" there. Dianne always took care of everybody else before herself. She had a warm spirit and always wanted to have fun. Funeral Service was held Vermeulen Funeral Home, Westland. To leave message of condolence for the family, log on to www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

JAMES "BERNARD" SMITH

January 7, 2006, age 84 of Redford. Beloved husband of 58 years of Mary E. Dear father of Lawrence (Judy) & Janice (Hal) Conway. Loving grandfather of Jamie, Robbie, Amy, & Jimbo. great grandfather of Stefanie, Ericka, & Robbie. Brother of Gene, Hugh, & Rossie. Predeceased by 5 brothers, 2 sisters and 1 grandaughter. Visitation at the Harry J. Will, Funeral Home, 25450 Plymouth Road, Redford, Tuesday 3-9 & Wednesday 12-9. Celebration of Life service Thurday 1 pm at the funeral home. Interment at Parkview Cemetery.

She was born on May 25, 1962, in Huntington, WV, the beloved daughter of Robert Hollberg and Linda McCoy Smith. Despite being stricken with two neurological diseases, Lisa was always a shining light to those around her. Her warm smile and friendly conversation were a blessing to everyone She made the most of the time and health that God gave to her. She was afflicted with Myasthenia Gravis as a child, but persisted through this to graduate from Schoolcraft College and Eastern Michigan University in 1991, and enjoy a professional career. Lisa grew up in Indianapolis, IN, before her family moved to Northville, MI, in 1977. She was a member of the Plymouth (MI) First Baptist Church. Six years ago, Lisa was stricken with Devics, a neuromuscular disease similar to Multiple Sclerosis, which left her bedridden with blindness and completely paralyzed. Lisa had a special ability to see beyond her limitations and appreciate the world around her. She always took an interest in the lives of her family, visitors and caretakers. In addition to her parents, she is sur-vived by siblings Theresa Woodward of Northville, MI, Robert Smith, Jr. of Plymouth, MI, Ericka Miller of Grand Ledge, MI, Stephen Smith of Livonia, MI, Catherine Smith of Novi, MI, Paul Smith of Plymouth, MI, and Matthew Smith of Manistique, MI. Aunt of Rachel Long of Greenwood, IN, Sarah Smith of Brighton, MI, and Jack and Kathleen Miller of Grand Ledge, MI. Great Aunt of Grace and Gabriel Long of Greenwood, IN. Lisa was the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Homer C. (Kid) and Eva McCoy and Dr. and Mrs. Stewart H. and Evelyn Smith. One of Lisa's joys was her beloved dog, Roxie. Visitation Thursday, 3 to 8 p.m., at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth, MI, with the funeral service on Friday at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Plymouth, 45000 N. Territorial Rd., Plymouth, MI. Interment is at the Rural Hill Cemetery, Northville, MI. Memorial tributes to The Multiple Sclerosis Society and The Transverse Myelitis Association.

### MARION G. WILKES

Age 96, died Monday, January 2, 2006 at Good Shephard Hospice in Lakeland, Florida. She was born June 10, 1909 in Port Huron and lived there until the age of 36. She retired in Lantana, Florida. She was a homemaker and a member of the First Baptist Church in West Palm Beach. She is survived by her loving daughter, Sharon Applegate of Lakeland, FL; a grandson, Kevin Jon Applegate, and one great-grandaughter, Daniela Applegate. Marion was preceded in death by her husband, John V. Wilkes and her daughter, Janet L. Akerly. A memorial service will be held at the First Baptist Church in West Palm Beach on Monday, February 6, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Good Shepard Hospice, 1919 Lakeland Hills Blvd., Lakeland, FL 33801

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734-953-2070

er Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 ar foll hav 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

reason Kasbow joined the Unification movement while attending Wayne State University in Detroit. "What you're reading in the newspapers isn't the whole story. The bad news always gets printed first. In sections of the religious community there is the willingness to work together. We need to continue

is the willingness to work together. We need to continue the pilgrimages which are helping to bring peace," said Kasbow. "Politics takes place on the foundation of what's going on in the religious world. When peace can be created in the Middle East it will be the model for how peace can be created anywhere. If we can do it there, we can do it anywhere."

Kasbow believes many peo-

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.

### JANUARY

### Lifeworks

The Rev. Dick Bonk speaks on a topic of importance to single adults in today's society 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Presented by Single Adult Ministries. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and share with the group in open discussion. Free childcare. Call (248) 374-5920.

### Ethics workshop

The ethics of end-of-life decisions workshop will not advocate a position but explore the question so an individual can make an informed decision 2:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15. Dr. Wesley Brun, executive director of Samaritan Counseling, facilitates at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Cost is \$10. To register, call (248) 474-4701. "Once Christians can work together then you can go out and embrace the other religions. All religions are good and should work together," said Kasbow.

"The problem is badly practiced religion. The solution is true practice of religion. All the major faiths teach to serve other people and to honor and réspect others. If we are doing that then the problems will be solved."

As simple as it sounds, religious leaders have to reconcile before they can work together for peace. During the trip representatives of the American Clergy Leadership Conference met with ministers, rabbis, and imams from the Christian, Judaic and Islamic faiths, all descendants of Abraham whether they follow the teachings of Jesus, Moses or Mohammed.

"We went to two of the three

## RELIGION CALENDAR

People of life exhibit An inspirational testament to life debuts during a 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15, service at St. Aidan's Church, 17500 Farmington, Livonia, to remember the 33rd anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

### Sunday services

Continue with traditional worship and children's Sunday School at 10 a.m., and adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m., contemporary service at 6 p.m. every Sunday (featuring Family Tree trio Jan. 15), at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Road. Handicap accessible. Call (734) 421-7620.

#### Choral concert

7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15, The Moody College Chorale performs at Ward Presbyterian Evangelical Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. No admission. Call (248) 374-7400.

#### Eucharistic adoration

The monthly program of Parish Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration continues Wednesday, Jan. 18, at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will open for worship from 10 a.m. until the 7 p.m. Benediction encouraged by the coming together of clergy in the Middle East, he was shaken by a painting of a lion (Israel) attacking a victim (Palestine) on a checkpoint wall leaving Bethlehem.

"You've just seen where Jesus was born and then you see this stark reminder of the conflict," said Kasbow. "To get through you have to go through the dividing walls. There are new ones every time I visit. During my trips in the last two years I saw them going up. Every time it gets worse as far as them building more walls, but suicide bombings in Israel have decreased."

The next American Clergy Leadership Conference trip to Israel is scheduled for March. For more information send email to kasbow@earthlink.net or call (734) 546-4395.

Ichomin@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2145

service. The program continues on the third Wednesday of each month for all area Catholics interested in attending. For information, call (734) 261-5331.

### Coffeehouse

An evening of relaxation and fun while listening to live entertainment 7-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville, Presented by Single Adult Ministries. Cost is \$5 and includes specialty coffees. Refreshments follow. Free childcare provided. Call (248) 374-5920.

#### Opera concert

Featuring music of Bizet's Carmen, Puccini's La Boheme and Gershwin's Porgy and Bess 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 22, at Detroit's Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, north of Grand Blvd. in the New Center Area. The music will be performed by the Metropolitan Vocal Staff and be directed by Dr. Kelley Hale of Cincinnati. A reception follows the concert where you may greet Dr. Hale and the Metropolitan Vocal Staff.

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Tickets are \$15. Call (313) 875-7407, ext. 324. The public is invited. Free and supervised parking available adjacent to church.





### WRESTLING RANKINGS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 12, 2006

#### OBSERVERLAND WRESTLING RANKINGS (as of Jan. B)

**TEAM:** 1. Livonia Franklin; 2. Canton; 3. Salem; 4. Westland John Glenn; 5. Lutheran Westland.

#### INDIVIDUAL

103 pounds: 1. Jamie Preiss, Wayne; 2. Dustin Ashley, Garden City; 3. Tommy Myshock, Livonia Stevenson; 4. Mike Haar, Canton; 5. Kevin Bennett, Salem; 2. Ken 112: 1. Lengmy Stankowitz, Salem; 2. Ken

112: 1. Jeremy Stankewitz, Salem; 2. Ken Nelson, Redford Union; 3. Ryan Schnettler, Canton; 4. Steve D'Angunzio, Plymouth; 5. Andrew Murray, Livonia Churchill. 119: 1. Mike Warren, Livonia Franklin; 2. Ben

Kosmalski, Plymouth; 3. Sam Santilli, Canton; 4. Brandon Nikula, Westland John Glenn; 5. Nick Steiger, Salem.

125: 1. Cory Mervyn, Salem; 2. Jon Roos, Franklin; 3. Greg Roberts, Churchill; 4. Steve Ludke, Garden City; 5. Jared Stephens, John Glenn.

**130:** 1. Josh Billiau, Franklin; 2. Steve Korpus, Plymouth; 3. Dan McCahill, John Glenn; 4. Steve Cieslik, Lutheran Westland; 5. Dwuan Burris, RU.

135: 1. Corey Phillips, Canton; 2. Robert Bytner, Lutheran Westland; 3. James Jones, Franklin; 4. Rowdy Glasgow, John Glenn; 5. Andrew Saunders, Plymouth.

**140:** 1. Jacob Bennett, Salem; 2. Jim Wood,

#### John Glenn; 3. Jacob White, Livonia Clarenceville; 4. Alex York; 5. Ali Youseff, Plvmouth.

145: 1. Konrad Konsitzke, Canton; 2. Ed Manier, John Glenn; 3. Jon Hagar, Plymouth; 4. Ziad Kharbush, Stevenson; 5. Adam Kibner, RU.

Adam Kibner, KO.
152: 1. Adam Kokenakes, Stevenson; 2.
David Woods, John Glenn; 3. Steve Kemp, Lutheran Westland; 4. Saif Khan, Clarenceville; 5. Rob Carmichael, RU.
160: 1. Josh Kelly, Churchill; 2. Jeff Elswick, Wayne; 3. Nate Turco, Franklin; 4.
Marwan Faraj, Canton; 5. Billy McNally,

Stevenson. 171: 1. Blake Karkoska, Franklin; 2. Andrew Ross, Salem; 3. Brent Robbins, Clarenceville; 4. Cody Rize, Stevenson; 5. Andrew Hein, John Glenn.

National Control Contr

215: 1. Shamir Garcia, John Glenn; 2. Taylor Fox, Plymouth; 3. Robert Coffey, Wayne; 4. Greg Schuyler, Franklin; 5. Tom Bonnell, Canton.

275; 1. Matt Shileikis, RU; 2. Donnie Laramie, Canton; 3. Kyle Brown, Franklin; 4. Michael Oesterling, 5. Kevin Hanka, John Glenn.

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### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: January 12, 2006



# Whalers swap 2 at OHL deadline

The Plymouth Whalers made a pair of trades a few hours before the Ontario Hockey League's 6 p.m. Tuesday trading deadline.

In one deal, Plymouth sent 19-year-old left wing Vaclav Meidl to Saginaw in exchange for 18-year-old right wing Joe McCann and Saginaw's thirdround draft choice in 2007. Meidl, a Nashville Predators' draft choice selected ninth

### HOCKEY

overall by Plymouth in the 2003 Canadian Hockey League Import Draft — had six goals and 11 assists in 30 games this season.

Meidl scored 32 goals with 55 assists and 232 penalty minutes in 163 career games with the Whalers. McCann. a 6-foot-3, 203pound native of Essex, Ont., was originally selected in the fourth round in the 2003 OHL draft by the Kitchener Rangers and acquired by Saginaw last season.

McCann has eight goals with 10 assists for Saginaw this season.

Between Kitchener and Saginaw, McCann has 13 goals with 17 assists for 30 points and 79 penalty minutes in 95 career games.

In another deal. Plymouth sent 18-year-old defenseman Scott Madden to the Oshawa Generals for Oshawa's seventhround draft choice in 2007. Madden — acquired by the Whalers in a trade with Mississauga last summer for forward Jeff McFarland — had one assisted in 20 games for Plymouth this season.

# Chief gymnasts 3rd in Rockford

The Canton gymnastics team placed third at Saturday's 16team Rockford Invitational. The Chiefs earned 138.775, which placed them behind only first-place Forest Hills (140.80) and runner-up Rockford.

Competing for Canton in Division 1 were Alyssa Kelley, who finished third on vault (9.40), fifth on the uneven bars

### PREP GYMNASTICS

(8.50), first in the floor exercise (9.50) and third allaround (35.55); Kara Ahern, who was fifth on the beam (8.80) and third on the floor (9.125); Kate Staley, who finished fifth in the all-around (34.60) and Jessie Murray who notched scores of 8.75 on the beam and 8.35 on the bars. Medaling for Canton in Division 2 were: Mina Pirzadeh, who was sixth on the beam (8.45); Chelsea Selden, who was fifth on the beam (8.550); Kaitlyn Burns, who was fifth on the vault (8.55) and seventh on the floor (8.650); and Olivia Stephens, who finished 12th on the vault (8.10). Strong performances were also turned in by Janelle Hudak, Andrea Houdek, Kate Carol and Amanda Smith.

The Chiefs return to action Saturday at the Farmington Invitational. On Monday, they will take on cross-campus they salem at 7 p.m. at Plymouth High School.

# Wildcats sweep Vikings in WLAA opener

Plymouth's volleyball team opened its Western Lakes Activities Association slate with a decisive three-game sweep of Walled Lake Central Monday night in the Plymouth High School gymnasium.

The Wildcats, who improved their record to 15-2 overall, ousted the Vikings 25-10, 25-10 and 25-21. Jeanine Moise led the winners with 10 kills, two solo blocks and seven digs. Sarah

### PREP VOLLEYBALL

Haskins also played well, netting 22 assists, three kills and eight digs.

Plymouth also received strong efforts from Brittany Henges (seven kills and three solo blocks) and Lindsay Vogelsberg (12 blocks). The Wildcats return to

action Saturday when they compete in the University of Michigan-Dearborn Invitational. The opening serve is set for 9 a.m. in the UM-Dearborn gymnasium.

### PCA SWEEPS SOUTHFIELD

Plymouth Christian opened its Michigan Independent Athletic Conference volleyball slate with a decisive four-set victory over Southfield Christian Tuesday night. The Eagles won 25-18, 25-16, 24-26 and 25-12.

"It wasn't pretty, but we did enough to get the job done," said PCA coach Missy Henry. "We didn't play bad, but we didn't play great either."

Kelsie Tietjen led the winners with 18 kills, 20 digs and eight blocks. Also excelling for the Eagles were Julie Bahbah (25 digs, 27 service points and eight kills) and Stephanie Auwers (10 kills, seven digs and seven service points).

PCA returns to action Thursday at Warren Zoe Christian



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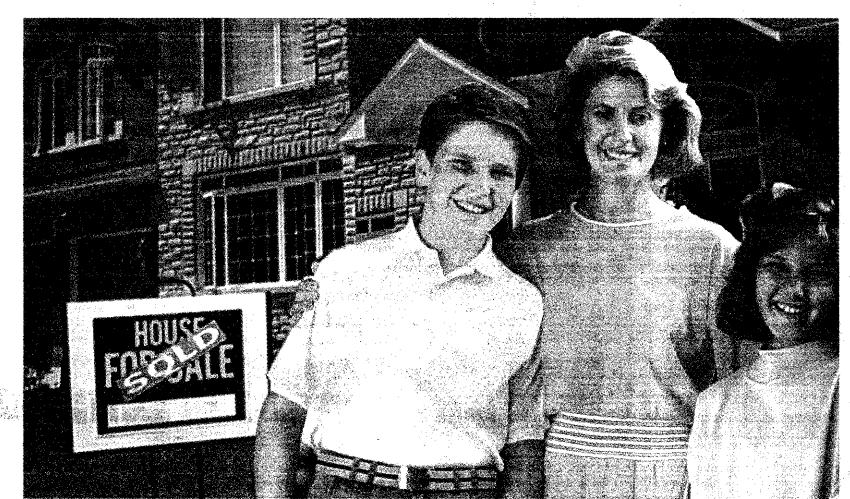
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Thursday, January 12, 2006

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# Women strong force in homebuyer market

Andrea Holmes of Westland is a renter, but she just may go house shopping this year.

"I've got to get my credit back in order," said Holmes, 29, an administrator at the Livonia Family YMCA. The single mom, who has a 4-year-old daughter, also needs to save for a down payment.

'The house that I'm in right now I really like," she said. "I've been there for two years." It has three bedrooms and a nice-sized yard.

"The amount of room is perfect. There are kids her age that she can play with." Even so, Holmes would be happy to become a homeowner

"You build your credit more, you get equity."

Holmes isn't alone in her attitudes toward owning a home. According to the State of the Nations Housing: 2004 report, compiled by the Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University, "social and economic trends have given women a more powerful presence in housing markets. Between 1980 and 2000, the number of households headed by unmarried women increased by almost 10 million." The same study, however, also states that, "because women still earn less on average than men

do, they are more likely to face housing problems than either married-couple households or households headed by unmarried men."

Here are some statistics on women and homeownership, found on the National Association of Realtors Web site:

The single female segment of the homebuyer population accounted for 18 percent of all homebuyers in 2004.

Single women purchased approximately one in five homes in 2003, while more than one in 10 were purchased by single men.

More women (15.5 million) than men (11.8 million) lived alone. Among these, women were more likely than men to own their homes (56 percent vs. 47 percent).

About one-quarter of the nation's nearly eight million single mothers spend more than half of their incomes on housing, compared with one-10th of households headed by single fathers.

Over the time period of 1994-2002, the number of unmarried females owning homes climbed from 13.9 million to 17.5 million.

### **BOOKS & OTHER RESOURCES**

The following materials are available through NAR's

Information Central Library. Call (800) 874-6500 for assistance. A \$10 fee may apply.

Buying Solo: The Single Woman's Guide To Buying a First Home, (New York, NY: Penguin Group, 2005). HF 5438 Su6

2004 NAR Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers, (Chicago, IL: National Association of Realtors, 2004). HD 1341 N21hs

Redesigning the American Dream: Gender, Housing, and Family Life, (New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Co., 2002). HD 7293 H39

10 Tips for Selling to Female Buyers, (Communique, April 2000).

Americans and Their Homes: Demographics of

Homeownership, (Ithaca, NY: New Strategist Publications, 1998). HD 1341 R91

Don't Overlook Single Women Buyers!, (Today's Buyer's Rep, May 1998).

Assisting Women Head of Households To Own More Homes, (California Real Estate, May 1997).

Home of Her Own, (Georgia REALTOR, January 1997).

Staff writer Julie Brown contributed to this report.



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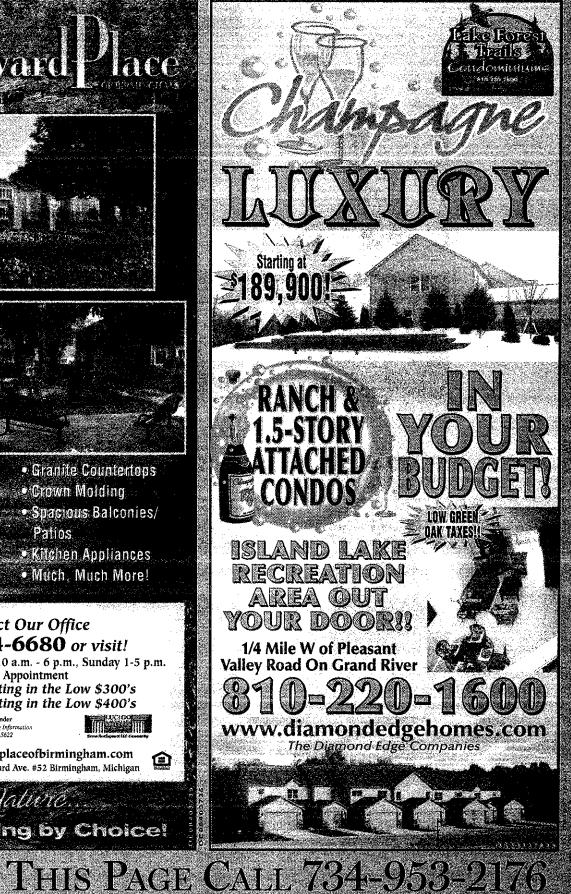
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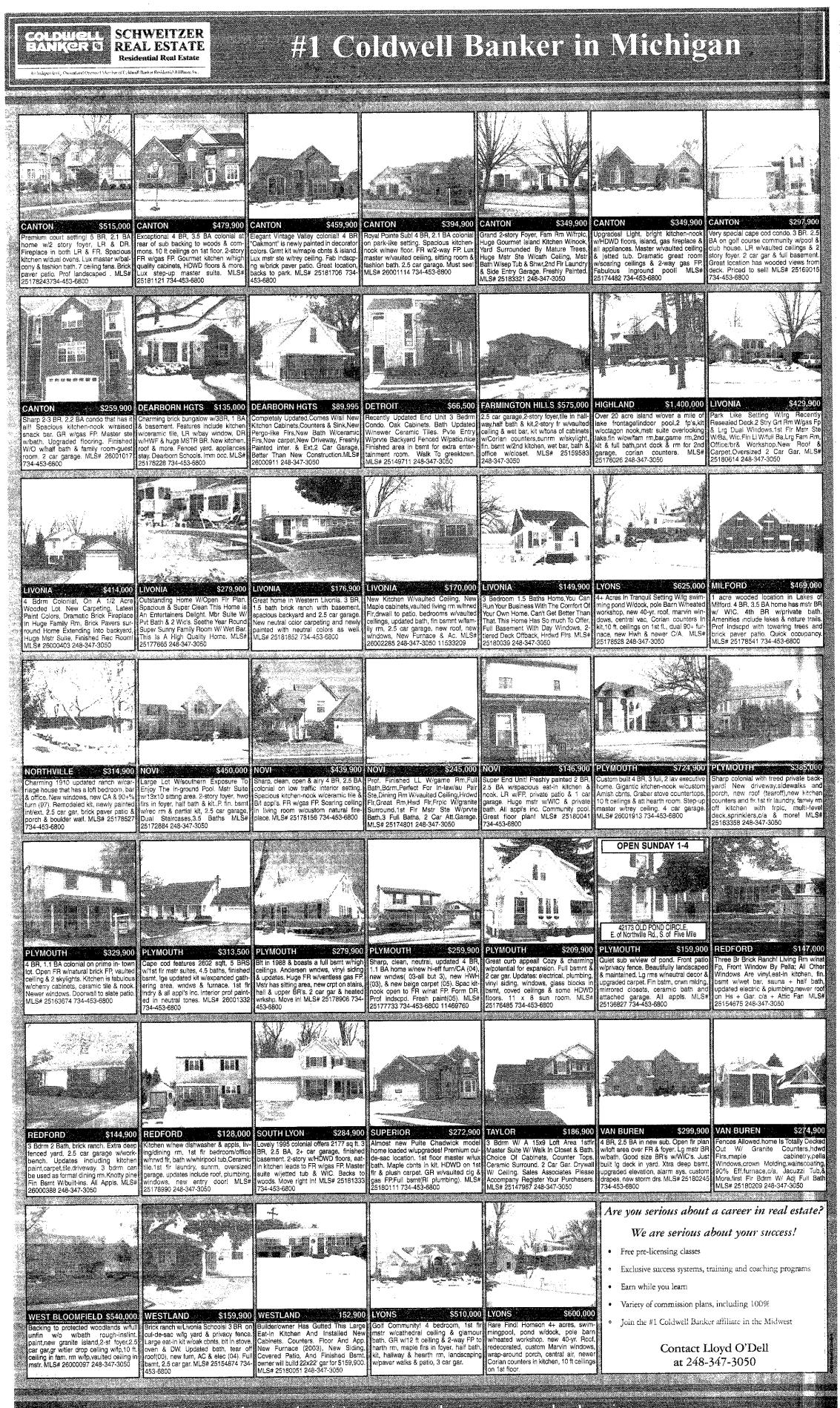
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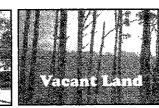
HAVE IT ALL! Immaculate brick ranch featuring a roomy kitchen with oak cabinets , recessed lights and ceramic tile. Spacious beautiful moldings, ceiling fans and super clean. \$134,000 (P-638HU)



SPECTACULAR LOTS SALEM TWP. One of the most Fairways at Pheasant Run col w/ private yard overlooking the condo in a quiet complex with 2 Comfortable Dearborn Heights Must see this 3 bedroom, 1.5 prestigious developments in Salem Twp. Prem 2 acre + wooded w/os. Close to shopping Easy w-way access Priv asphalt road. Bring the plan of your dreams. Deed restricts apply. \$160,000 & up (P-000HI)



Beautiful updated brick ranch remodeled ranch w/newer backs to woods. Superb finished windows & custom window occupancy Nicely maintained lot basement, newer carpet, treatments, flooring, carpet, & storage space and dry bar, wall appl. Newer vinyl windows, & fenced yard. Well maintained, windows, doors, roof, & furnace, more, Newer patio in backyard, Hardwood floors, throughout, furnace, & hwh. Neutral décor, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, plus a bonus Open floor plan, neutral décor, move-in condition. Ready room. Great price for the area. in-ground. Quiet location. A must \$63,500 (C-623AR) seel \$215,000 (P-032BR) (C-132CA)



UPDATES GALORE! Newer built READY TO BUILD Two parcels **GREAT ALTERNATIVE TO UPDATES GALORE!** Newer built **READY TO BUILD** two parcels
beautiful townhome condo is in
mint condition. Designer colors,
hardwoods, & window
treatments. Ready to move in
immediately. Close to everything,
all it needs is you! \$189,900 (P110NE) **UPDATES GALORE!** Newer built **READY TO BUILD** two parcels
4 Bd. Cape Cod! All new carpet available. Great location close to
thru-out, Ceramic Kitchen, 2.5 x-ways. Secluded area w/that up
ceramic baths, vaulted Great north feeling. Sewer tap paid for
Room w/gas FP. Hardwood by seller, boring test on file,
Flooring, attached Garage, Huge zoned residential, & private lake
to w/Built in pool!! This one access on Horseshoe Lake. Just
shows like a model. Come take a bring your plans. \$59,000
lock \$309,900 (C-302OA) (P-000OL)

beighborhood. \$99,900 (C-729PA)

MOVE

IN Maintenance free home w/ immediate occupancy. 2 or 3

SOLD

CONDITION HIDDEN JEWEL Well maintained central air, 2 car garage, & a new Kit w/bay window, newer vinyl furnaces. Seller is extremely Gorgeous FF Master w/Jacuzzi, beighborhood. \$99,900 huge Garage w/lots of storage space. \$125,000 (P-657PR)

HURRY! Charming 3 bedroom BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED 2 Bd, ranch w/remodeled. kitchen in 2.5 ba condo w/large spacious '05. Part. finished bsmt w/extra rooms. Wonderful Galley Kitchen



A NATURAL BEAUTY Custom IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY in ranch on 5 acres in Canton, this beautiful Burton Hollow Features include: 9' ceilings, colonial with hardwood floors egress windows, "euro style" throughout. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 island kitchen w/granite, ceramic baths, formal dining, large family floors, side entry garage and an room w/fireplace and Livonia out of this world master. Wow. schools. Don't miss it. \$273,900 (P-319AL)





bedroom colonial with 2.5 baths, formal dining, family room fireplace, all newer appliances in a large eat in island kitchen, 2 car garage and more all on a quiet cul-de sac. \$394,900 (C-



STARTER WEST DEARBORN CHARMER bundalow

TURN-KEY CONDO Absolutely

- F3

(\*)

beautiful condo w/remodeled Kitchen & baths. All neutral décor w/hwd floors t/o. Full basement, new windows, hi-ef furnace, circuit breakers, & copper plumbing. A must see! \$77,500 (P-349JA)



landscaping & a brick paver Patio. The list goes on and on. A must see! \$359,000 (C-955SO)



**COLONIAL** 4BR/2.5BA. Updated Pella windows & doors, completely renovated baths – seller has relocated and looking master w/Jacuzzi tub, fireplace, at all offers. Large floor plan, 2 hardwoods, new light fixtures, car garage, fireplace and many new landscaping in large private fenced yard. Footsteps to the elem schi. \$294,900 (P-906FL):



basement, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths and a nice view from the deck. New carpeting, ceramic tile, a cozy fireplace and kitchen appliances. A nice home for a nice price at only \$229,900 (P-646EA)



ATTRACTIVE PULTE PRINCETON Offering a large 4 pedroom tioor

include hardwood floors, formal

living & dining plus family room fireplace, vaulted master and



Awesome 3 Bd brick Newer 3D roof, new

Low maintenance brick ranch Great floor plan with hardwood with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths on a floors, 2 baths and great table lights and ceramic tile. Spacious beautiful tree lined street space in the breakfast room. living rm w /fireplace, newer c/a, adjoining downtown. 2.5 car Updates: vinyl windows, entry new roof 2004 - tear off, crown garage, finished basement, doors, garage door, gutters & central air, spacious lot and many updates. Call for the list! downspouts, plumbing, paint, full basement, 2.5 car garage and appliances! \$169,700 (C-805PI)

Nicely

hardwood in the great room w/

decorated.

### WONDERFUL BRICK RANCH Great floor plan with hardwood floors, 2 baths and great table in! No expense was spared with with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and a the upgrades when this was built. fabulous open floor plan with a Rich hardwood floors, ceramic newer kitchen and great room tiled baths, fireplace w/mantle & combination. Finished basement, ceramic surround, upgraded newer windows and super clean. elevation and more. \$249,900 Totally turn key. \$229,000

\$449,000 (C-250MO)



IN THE FINER THINGS IN LIFE AWESOME VIEWS From the SHARP AND CLEAN Canton THE

bedrooms and 1.5 baths.

ULTIMATE Oak ranch with 3 roomy bedrooms

\$124,900 (C-283MA)

kitchen with ceramic tile, fresh large kitchen, a garage, and an finished basement and 2 car



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COMFORTS OF CONDO LIVING

Brand new end unit with the

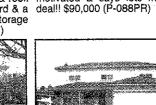
benefits of snow removal right to

your door, tons of windows for natural lighting, 9' ceilings on the

first floor, bsmt. w/egress windows, awesome kit w/ appliances & lots more. \$214,900 (C-460GL)

NI 18







Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 12, 2006



NO CAR NEEDED! This - 2 bedroom ranch condo is within Brick walking distance to everything, bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2568 sq Kitchen basement, pool.



this GREAT LOCATION For immaculate end unit ranch in Amenities include Canton. cathedral ceilings skylights, cathedral ceilings, updated roof, furnace & central air. Bright kitchen w/appliances, full basement, pool, clubhouse and more. \$129,900 (P-374SO)



OUTSHINES THE REST By far one of the nicest homes in Canton!!! Wide open design with beautiful windows for lots of light and a spacious feel. All of the and you desire features immaculately clean. Garage, bsmt, frplc & glowing wood arage, Large lot. Call wood \$373,000 (P-446ST) bsmt, frplc & glowing floors. \$230,000 (P-091CH)

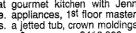


CLEAN, AFFORDABLE CONDO First floor condo in Redford with a courtside view and private entry. One bedroom, common basement. laundry room storage. Perfect for first time buyer. Community pool summer enjoyment. \$44,000 for (P-301FI)

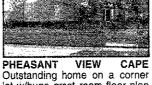
NORTHVILLE/NOVI

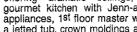


for details.



a 3 car garage. \$419,900 (P-215CR)





a jetted tub, crown moldings and





\$429,900 (P-481DE)

PERFECT PLACE TO CALL HOME Beautiful ranch offering a blinds, great backyard w/a deck & shed ceiling. Ceramic baths. Neutral plus room for a garage! Close to and tastefully done décor. Great everything. \$199,900 (P-868CO) price at only. \$159,999

 NORTHVILLE/NOVI
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 (248) 305-6090
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 (248) 478-6022
 (734) 392-6000
 (734) 459-6000
 (734) 425-6060



this wonderful end unit with an

ceiling & massive Fieldstone FP, overlooking Truly beautiful. \$1,100,000 (P- 855CO) 551OA)

Sax au a

POPULAR ROSEDALE RANCH

Brick exterior with over 1300 sq. ft. offering updates like the roof,



4 bedroom on 10 acres at the end of a Livonia Schools! Spacious living the custom walkout, an elevator to Finished basement, garage and accommodate the handicapped. a roomy floor plan. \$176,900 (C-

newer central air, 2 full baths and 3 more. bedrooms, appliances stay. appliances too! \$164,900 (C-204TE) 8204 Terri





LOCATION For this with Livonia Updated roof and a wet bar, new carpet and paint, 

Westland ranch finished basement and a huge windows, finished basement with garage. Updated kitchen w/ a wet bar, new carpet and paint.

ideally

neutral décor all on an oversized lot in Canton. \$289,900 (C-318SH)



**RENTING!** Maintenance free 2 bd Livonia townhouse is move in ready! Neutral décor,



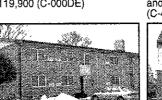
Canton home with 4 bedrooms, w/appliances; common 2-sty foyer, hwd firs, spacious kit 2.5 baths in mint condition. ent, pool, laundry w/lots of cabs. Mstr ste w/vaulted Amenities include: a brick

IF CONDITION COUNTS ... You'll

want to see this fully updated



and one wooded. Successful \$119,900 (C-000DE)



CONDO LIVING AT IT'S BEST! PRIME LOCATION, MINT bd. solid brick ranch has Canton Spectacular view of the woods CONDITION 2 bedroom condo location. Open flr plan featuring from every room in this 2 with new carpeting and Pergo, all

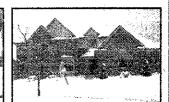
COLONIAL LUXURIOUS Spacious open floor plan with

2nd story laundry and family 1633 sq ft, GR w/gas fp, roomy bedroom, 2 bath end unit. Master upgraded appliances, balcony room. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, kit & dining area. Soaring w/separate tub & shower, 1<sup>st</sup> overlooking the commons. Pool, Jacuzzi tub, recessed lighting, ceilings w/ refreshing feel. A lg floor laundry, a private study w/ clubhouse and a carport. More available for quick occup, cathedral ceilings and a \$249,900 (P-977Ti) fireplace. \$310,000 (P-865WE) (P-199SH)

GIVE YOURSELF A GIFT ... This GREAT

beautiful brick ranch located on a quiet court with a schools. garage. Maytag appliances, hwh & windows. Immediate occupancy \$154,900 (C-943SY)

RANCH With fireplace and doorwall to the covered patio backyard.



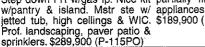
SMART MOVE Fabulous designer touches await you in this GC comm colonial. 2 story turnace, windows, doors, and entry, pillared DR, den w/ French more. Great floor plan w/vaulted drs & soaring 22' ceiling in GR. ceilings, a cozy fireplace and Kit designed w/entertaining in retro finished basement. mind, prof. fin hemt w/helf bath Attached garage & appliances Don't miss this 3403 sq ft beauty negotiable. \$177,900 (P-211IO) on premium court settingl \$419,900 (P-418WA)

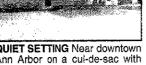
GREAT OPPORTUNITY To own ceramic kitchen, 2 full baths, nice attached garage, large great master, a private study, custom room floor plan and master suite huge basement and a with walk in closet and cathedral

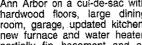
price at only. \$159,999 (P-143EL)

UNBEATABLE LOT ON A CUL- QUIET SETTING Near downtown DE-SAC Pulte Princeton w/ Ann Arbor on a cul-de-sac with premium elevation & larger than hardwood floors, large dining most priv lot. Trad LR/DR, 2568 room, garage, updated kitchen, & sq ft, 2 story entry & hwd floors. new furnace and water heater, Step down FR w/gas fp. Nice kit partially fin. basement and all w/pantry & island. Mstr ste w/ appliances. Home warranty too! jetted tub, high ceilings & WIC. \$189,900 (P-926BR)









# 

large dining



PRISTINE CLEAN TRI-LEVEL 3 bedroom contemporary with a brick/vinyl exterior, huge 1560 square foot floor plan, gorgeous perk test on file. Located just a windows, hwh, air and carpeting, cross the street from the church. Totally neutral. Nice sized rooms

and a fenced yard. \$134,900 (C-448MA)

pillared DR & private FR behind fireplace and kitchen, spacious paint, pergo floors, basement, extra large family room with a garage. Updates include the root, french drs. Oak kit w/cer firng & 1st floor master w/oversized deck the backs to a commons & warm and cozy fireplace. Totally furnace and refinished hardwood butter's pantry. Private deck & jetted tub, finished basement an attached garage. \$157,900 (C- updated & clean. Don't miss it. floors, Lots more to see, call for details. \$164,900 (C-945MA)



SITUATED ON 2 LOTS! Extra lot is a great bonus for this charming colonial with hardwood floors, a finished basement, new remodeled kitchen, new vinyl furnace and central air, fresh carpet, custom blinds, big windows, hwh, air and carpeting. paint and a new front porch and bedrooms, private basement with sidewalk. Come take a look

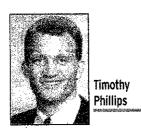
wont be disappointed. \$189,900 (C-947MC)

## **REAL ESTATE**

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 12, 2006

eginning Jan. 1, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, America's two largest home loan repositories, allow borrowers more money to purchase homes. This year, conventional mortgage limits for single-family homes will be 417,000, up from \$359,650 ih 2005.

Though Fannie's average mortgage amount for most of ast year was only \$172,000, this increase will have a profoundly positive effect on other homeowners whose loan amounts are at or above the previous upper limit. Many jumbo mortgage borrowers could save tens of thousands of dollars as a result of the changes. Freddie Mac estimates that total mortgage interest savings for a borrower



with a typical 30-year fixedrate mortgage at the new conforming loan limit is as much as \$24,700 over the life of the loan.

Jumbo borrowers with current loan balances between \$359,650 and \$417,000 may have a lot to gain by refinancing their existing mortgages into this new extended "nonjumbo" category. For example, if an existing jumbo borrower with a \$375,000 balance can improve her rate, she may drop her total interest payments by about \$1,450 per year. Alternatively, she may opt to take out \$20,000 in cash and still lower her interest rate and mortgage payment a bit.

Additionally, these soon-tobe ex-jumbo borrowers will now access other conforming loan products that may improve their situations. Short-term adjustable rate mortgages are very popular for borrowers with loans approaching the upper conforming loan limit. In some instances, a three- or five-year ARM can save homeowners enough money to pay for a subsequent refinance many times over.

Even homeowners with jumbo-sized mortgages who remain slightly above the new limit can benefit from the change. Piggy-back or split loans are still great alternatives for those seeking the warmer waters outside the jumbo zone.

Today's TIMBIT! If you are not sure if the new 2006 conforming loan limits affect you, you can usually get a decent analysis of your situation with a quick phone call to your mortgage loan officer. A simple phone call could lead to some hefty savings.

Timothy Phillips is a mortgage banker and newspaper columnist. You may access his Wealth Academy archives at www.PhillipsHQ.com or phone him toli-free at (866) 369-4516. Homebuyers should always consult a professional for guidance specific to their situation.

# Watch for attorney conflict of interest

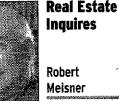
Q. Our condo board is upset with our management company and our attorney who they recommended to us. We now have a problem with the management company and the attorney refuses to help us. What can we do?

A. Apparently, the attorney failed to advise the board or perhaps advise the earlier board of his/her unwillingness to pursue your management company, probably because he/she was referred by the management company and has close economic ties to it. This quasi-incestuous relationship is unfortunately not uncommon and enlightened boards should avoid that type of arrangement. Each board should ask their attorney whether in fact if there was a dispute between the association and the management company or its suggested contractors, will he/she be in a position to represent the association. If he or she

is not, get another attorney and beware of the management company's referrals of an attorney who they push as opposed to other attorneys who they may claim to be "more expensive."

Q. We were dissatisfied with our attorney who was recommended by our

management company and when we sought a new attorney, the management company pleaded with us to talk to the old attorney and claims the new attorney would not provide the same value for this services. We thought this was somewhat unusual and the new



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attorney said this is not uncommon on the part of certain management companies. What do you think? A. My experience has been that management companies have their favorite attorneys and other professionals with whom they have close working relationships. I have also seen situations where these attorneys have done favors for the management company or in some instances have represented the management company or principals in the management company in consideration for referrals. Beware of such close-knit arrangements to the extent that it undermines the best interests of the association obtaining objective and independent advice from their attorney, which is that attorney's ethical responsibility.

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.

### HOMES SOLD IN WAYNE COUNTY

		20209 Inkster		\$164,000		
These are the Observer	& Eccentric-	8964 Lamont		\$181,000		
area residential real-est		Plymout	h -			
recorded the weeks of A	•	46381 Academy		\$291,000		
2005, at the Wayne Cou	42351 Hammill		\$195,000			
Deeds office. Listed belo		14049 Meadow Hill		\$218,000		
addresses, and sales pri	ces.	Redford				
Canton		9373 Appleton		\$131,000		
46349 Aarons	\$238,000	17310 Brady		\$115,000		
8730 Eastham	\$485,000	26732 Grand River		\$70,000		
306 N Village	\$40,000	15830 MacArthur		\$139,000		
2047 Pinecroft	\$270,000	17710 Olympia		\$119,000		

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1-275	Farmington Rd.	Eight Mile Rd.	
		Seven Mile Rd.	And a subscription of the
20.203	575.8400.		A REPORT OF A REPORT OF

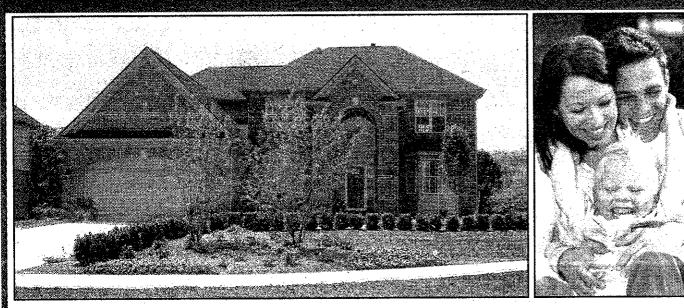
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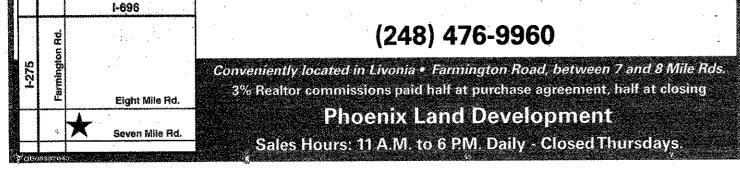




### Luxury Single Family Homes from the \$380's

• Single family homes, attached 2 and 3 car garages • 2500-2900 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms & 2.5 baths • Highly regarded Livonia schools • Get to freeways easily

Walkouts and so much more...



#### 2047 Pinecroft 710 0 \$185,000 42928 Ryegate \$122,000 20520 Seminole 41567 Simcoe \$220,000 14220 Westgate \$181,000 49532 Taft \$135,000 Westland \$123.000 30952 Birchwood 36019 Ann Arbor \$75,000 \$120,000 31038 Birchwood \$198,000 28678 Bayberry 36520 Hiveley \$177,000 30559 Bobrich \$240,000 32567 Mason \$72,000 20653 Chestnut \$140,000 232 N Hix \$215,000 15860 Foch \$225,000 \$228.000 37505 Robinson 18528 Gillman \$132,000 \$119,000 31011 Steinhauer \$58,000 15055 Hubbard \$55,000 15410 Hubbard

### **REAL ESTATE BRIEFS**

### **Business/Real Estate Investing** Seminar

Learn What You Need to Know When Your Seller Is in Bankruptcy - presented by David Ruskin - sponsored by **Real Estate Investors** Association of Oakland will be held 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, at Knights of Columbus Hall, 870 N. Main St., Clawson. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742. (www.REIAofOakland.org). For additional information, call Don Eichstaedt, (248) 552-8030.

### **Education Seminars**

The Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan is sponsoring the following:

🖩 8:30 a.m. to noon Thursday, Jan. 12, lien law seminar, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Registration fees including continental breakfast are \$75 for BIA and Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$100 for guests. (248) 862-1017.

🛢 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20, "Builder's License Preparation Course" at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Registration fees are \$200 for **BIA** or Apartment Association of Michigan, members guests and nonmembers. (248) 862-1033.

🛚 8 a.m. to noon Friday, Jan. 27, "Safety and Security" at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Registration fees are \$145 for **Remodelors Council members**, **BIA or Apartment Association** of Michigan members and guests. (248) 862-1033.

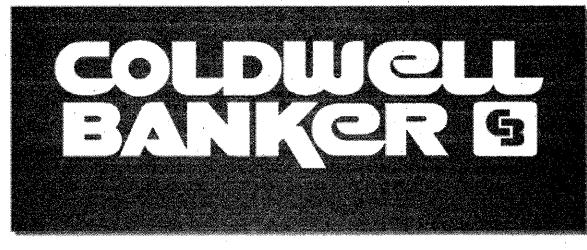
■ 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, Certified Graduate Builder seminar, "Construction Contracts & Law," BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Fees, including breakfast, lunch and course materials, are \$140 for **Remodelors Council members** and \$160 for BIA members and guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

**8:30-10:30** a.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, Executive Image Seminar on "Hiring Trustworthy, Hard-Working People," BIA headquarters. 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Fees, including continental breakfast, are \$40 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$60 for nonmembers and guests. (248) 862-1033.

🖬 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, 9, 16 and 23, Builder's License Preparation Course, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Course is designed to prepare students for the Michigan Residential Builder's License Examination. Fees are \$200 per class for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members, guests and nonmembers. (248) 862-1033.



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 12, 2006



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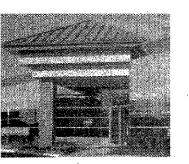
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Plymouth 218 South Main 734-453-6800 Manager: Shawn Riley

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# Home rich in Plymouth history

If the walls at 40810 Ann Arbor Trail could talk, they'd have some interesting tales to tell.

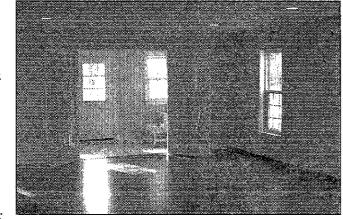
The Plymouth Township home was formerly owned by the late Martin and Leona Schomberger. Schomberger was Justice of the Peace and a volunteer fireman for the township. They moved into the home in approximately 1937, and raised their five children there. The home has a rich and interesting history, hosting a variety of events such as weddings in the living room, court sessions on the front porch, and piano sing-alongs for friends and neighbors.

The home was extensively remoteled by local builder Kevin O'Keefe of Modern Method Construction and Ron Garner, the two forming R.K. Development, LLC. It boasts custom trim work, Brazilian cherry hardwood floors throughout most of first level and maple cabinetry. There's a year round sun porch with French doors. The home has 1,770 square feet and three bedrooms.

The home is available for sale, listed with Realtor Deborah DePriest at Coldwell Banker Schweitzer-Bake. The original home was built in the mid-1920s, and was reno-



The home on Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth Township was built in the 1920s.



The site was home to a former justice of the peace and his family.

vated recently by O'Keefe and Garner.

Neighbors and family the community, DePriest

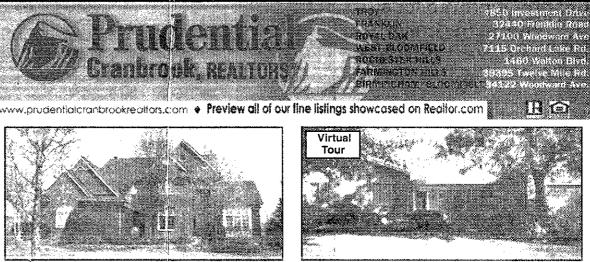
"They had piano singand very well-constructed."



WONDERFUL FAMILY HOME in great fmiy nghbrhd! Comm. pool, clubhouse & tennis crts. PC schools! Howd fir in fover, kit & nook '02; Wallside wndws '03; new crot 04; appl stay incl dish, ref, sink, W & D; fresh pnt; crowr molding in DR, LR, FR & foyer; DR w/bay wind & chair miding: lead giss entry dr. sprink. syst, invsble fence, dok, hot tub; sell agt to ver meas. \$294,900 (REG72) CANTON GREAT FAMILY NEIGHBORHOOD Timing is great. 3 BR,

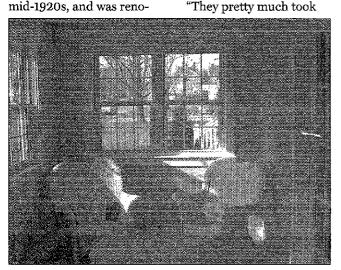
1.5 BA, sit on Ig corner lot w/sunrm. Full BA has just been redone. Tear off rf in 00 & newer wndws. FR w/gas FP, most applistav. Part fin bsmt, kit updated w/new fir, ceil ians & more. P/C schools. Hm warr. \$209,900 (MEA39)





PLYMOUTH TWP. Magnificent model home in Plymouth commons on premium lot w/nature preserve. Granite island kitchen, custom tile, vauited ceilings, grand master suite w/ private dressing & bathing area 5-star home! \$449,000 (26001984HOW) 248-851-4400

LIVONIA - SUPERB RANCH ON GORGEOUS LOT! 3 bdrm, 2.5 baths. Open, tiled kitchen w/GE appliances. Formal DR w/Bay picture window. Florida rm w/cathedral ceiling, family rm, MBR w/walk-ins. 1600 sq ft fin lower level w/wet bar! \$296.500 Also



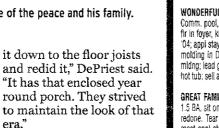
The sun porch is an inviting spot to rest or read.

era."

members told her some of the home's history. Some family members still live in

said. alongs every weekend." Plymouth has older homes dating to the 1800s, she said, but the home on Ann Arbor Trail is now some 80 years old. "It is a very unique and beautiful home

Hometowne





CANTON - RARE OPPORTUNITY! Located deep in sub & backs to commons & nature! Recent updates incl kitchen, baths, windows, carpeting, roof, sprinklers, deck & more! Excellent fin bsmtl Enjoy the all-sports municipal park close by! \$225,900 (25173367REC) 248-324-3800



CANTON. Best condo deal in town! 2 bdrms, 2 full & 1 half baths. Cathedral ceiling in LR. Large kitchen, FP, ceramic tile, Berber carpet, full bsmt, lots of closelt space, 2 car garage, 1st floor laundry. Backs to woods for privacy. Patio & deck! \$199,000 (25140869PRE) 248-324-3800



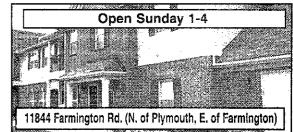
LIVONIA. Priced for quick sale! 3 ibdrm ranch won't last! Immaculate condition. Large kit w/brkfst nook. Hrdwd firs. Neutral carpeting. Stone & brick patio overlooking pool. Backyard great for entertaining. \$176,000 (26002584OLS) 248-324-3800



WESTLAND. You will be not disappointed! Newer roof, furnace, HWH, vinyl siding, windows, neutral carpeting, paint & wonderfully finished basement w/possible 4th bdrm/office. Brick patio w/fire pit in back yard. \$149,900 (25131670HAZ) 248-324-3800

per of The Prodential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc. The Prodential Insurance Company of America.

for lease \$2,100/mo (25171999BLU) 248-851-4400



LIVONIA. Picture perfect condo! Over \$13,000 in upgrades. Sophisticated, modern, open & airy. Hardwood & ceramic firing, crwn moldings, top quality appliances, surround sound system & more. Highly desired Livonia Schools! \$204,000 (25165254FAR) 248-324-3800



WESTLAND. Beautiful East facing home on gorgeous 200' wooded lot. Nicely landscaped, vaulted ceiling in great rm, open kitchen w/oak cabinets, natural fireplace. Large master bdrm w/full bath. Textured walls throughout. 1 Year Warranty. \$194,900 (25178862MAR) 248-324-3800

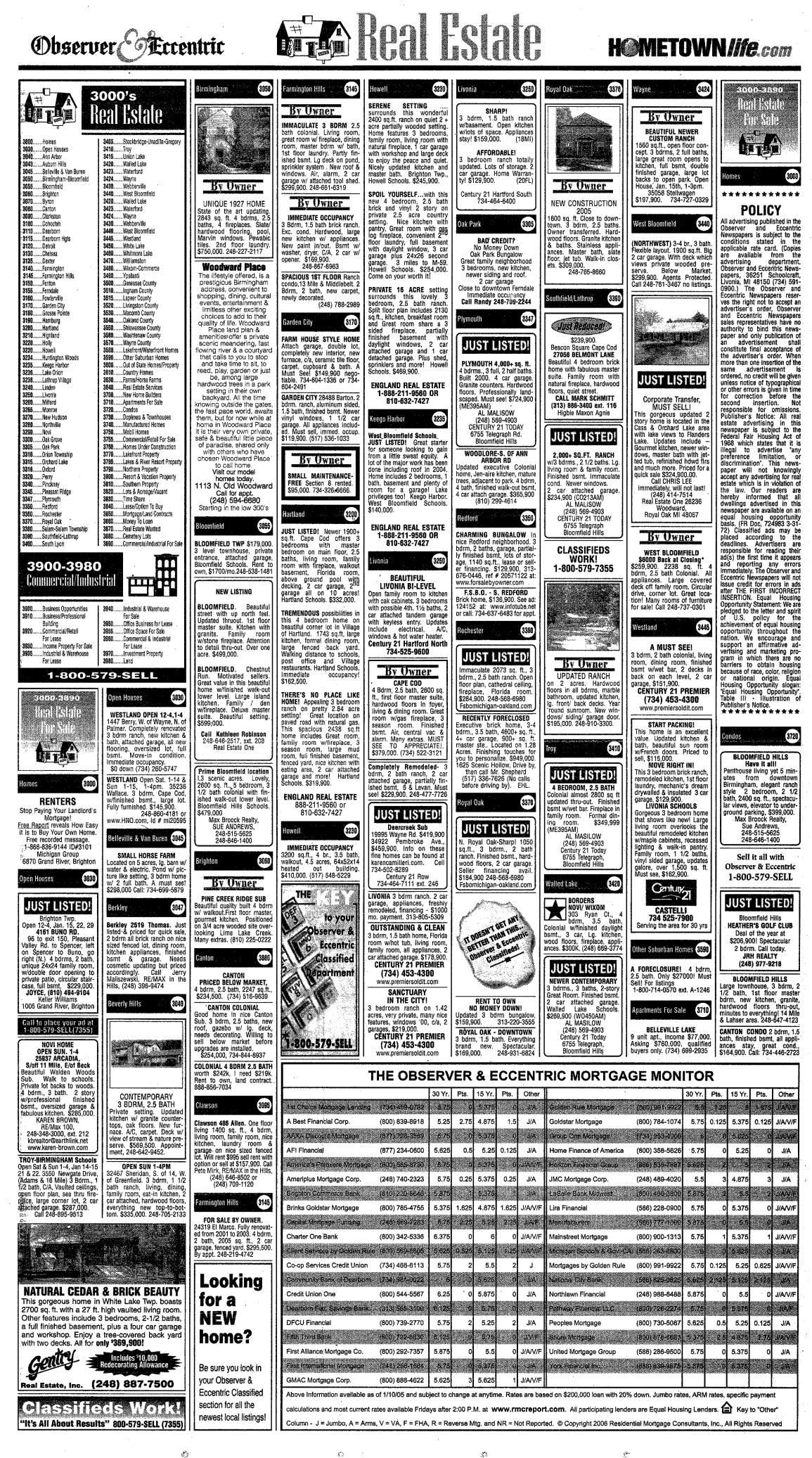


LIVONIA. Livonia ranch with newer roof and windows features a sunken family room and warm fireplace that opens up onto a terrific 3 season sun porch. Finished basement w/ bar and 1/2 bath, fenced yard, 2 car attached garage. \$169,900 (25162589PAT) 248-324-3800



HUGE PRICE REDUCTION!! LIVONIA Nestled in the heart of the Laurel Park District! Updated kitchen & baths, all appliances incl. Delightful screened porch w/ panoramic view. \$129,900 (25193123UNI) 248-547-2000

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 12, 2006

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248-851-1900 NORTHVILLE GOLF COMMUNITY-SOPHISTICATION & ELEGANCE Spectacular lot overlooks woods, golf course. Hardwood firs, soaring ceilings. Toffee maple, granite kit. 5BR, 4.5BA. Conservatory. Incredible master ste. Newly fin LL. (25083789) \$1,059,000



248-348-6430 NOV ELEGANT BRICK HOME IN TOLLGATE RAVINES Beautiful hardwood floors, Gourmet island kit. Mstr BR has 2 WIC, whirlpool tub. All 3 BR have full baths. Cozy natural FP in Ig open GR is perfect for entertaining. 349-6200 (25144750) \$424,900 \$424,900

RANCH CONDO ON 26TH FAIRWAY! Instantly

appealing. Upgrades T/O. 2BR, 2BA, den, large Great

Room. 2-way FP. Deck. Beautifully decorated. (25163038) \$310.000

CANTON



PLYMOUTH 734-455-7000 PRESTIGIOUS LIVING! Gorgeous Cape Cod in Country Club. 3BR & loft. Gourmet kitchen w/cntr island, maple cabs, custom counters & hardwood floors. 2-sided FP. 4-car garage. (25165961) \$624,000



734-326-2000 CANTON NOT A COOKIE CUTTER VERSION OF EVERY OTHER! 2 Front doors, stamped concrete patio, lush landscaping,hrdwd floors, 2 story Great Room w/ bridge, 2 sided FP, 4 BD, 3.5 BA, part. fin bsmnt, Lush Master w/jetted Tub. (T497) \$489,900



734-591-9200 LIVONIA UNIQUE! 2-homes-in-1. Approx 3200 sq ft on 2 acres. 6 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 3 fireplaces and much more. (25165367) \$374 900

734-326-2000



WOODED WONDERLAND Serene setting on picturesque lot, spacious brick ranch, huge kit, lg mstr.comfortable GR.full w/o bsmt.priv circular drive,rolling acreage.349-6200 (25113632) \$449,900



WEST BLOOMFIELD 734-591-9200 Over \$50,000 in updates & upgrades. Beautiful court setting w/private yard. Floor plan offers soaring ceilings, floor to ceiling windows, 4 BR, 2.5 BA, loft, walk out basement w/fireplace & more. (25179251) \$359,900

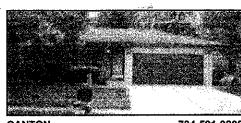


CANTON 734-455-7000 FAMILY-FRIENDLY EXECUTIVE COLONIAL! Beautiful! 4 large bedrooms including a sumptuous master suite. 2.5 BA, new carpet, freshly painted, newer built. (25104771) \$294,000 \$294,000



734-455-7000

LIVONIA 734-591-9200 Beautiful 2,222 sq ft 4BR, 2.5 BA Colonial in Laurel Park South. 1st floor laundry, Family Rm w/FP, new C/A, newer roof, windows in '00, & more. (25178096) \$288,900





Huge 4 BR ranch on 1.5 acres. Totally renovated up

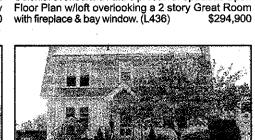
& down & stem to stern. 4 BR, FR, LR, new white

kitchen, DR, 3 car garage & more. (25178532)

WONDERFUL HOME! Nicely updated & in desirable Nottingham Woods sub. New roof, updated kitchen & baths, Andersen windows, brick walkway & Livonia Stevenson High School area. 349-6200 (25148476)\$309,900



248-348-6430 OCEOLA GOOD AS NEW & GOOD TO GO No waiting to build on this less-then-1 yr old home. Beautiful 3 BR. 2.5 BA w/walkout bsmt. Hardwood floors, gas fireplace, island kit w/maple cab. Sub has pool & sidewalks. (25095225)\$232,000



PLYMOUTH 734-455-7000 LOOKING FOR PLYMOUTH? LOOK NO FURTHER! Historical home has everything you need including a great price, 2 car garage. Great backyard, walking distance to downtown. This is a must see! (25142167) \$230,000





#### PLYMOUTH 734-591-9200 Beautiful home in the heart of Plymouth, Huge backyard w/large deck. Updates incl: New windows. roof, newer furn, HWH, & landscaping. Hardwood floors, part fin bsmt, & more. (25123021)





\$389,900

734-591-9200

248-348-6430 CANTON GET BACK TO NATURE This 4 BR, 2.5 Bath Colonial overlooks a nature preserve. Spacious Open

CANTON 734-591-9200 Outstanding ranch! Conveniently Located. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, family room, eat in kitchen, & part finished bsmt, plumbed for lav. Plymouth/Canton School System. \$211,900 Home warranty (25070973)



SOUTH LYON

248-437-3800 Updated Ranch In Quiet Sub! Extra large family room with extra 1/2 bath. Central air, updated kitchen with oak cabinets, newer floor and counters! Home is ready to move in!! (25150507) \$199,500

87041

FARMINGTON 248-851-1900 DESIRABLE RANCH in desirable Bel-Air Hills Sub. Remodeled 2005. Beautiful new kit cabs. New carpet, refin hardwood floors. Newer roof, windows, HWH, garage, blinds. Brick paver driveway. Mint cond! (25142292) \$197.500

COUNTRY IN THE CITY Gorgeous Wooded Ravine Lot. Full Brick Exterior, Cove Ceilings, Fireplace, Formal Dining Room, Finished Basement, C/A & much, much more! (W321) PC 220612 \$189,900



734-326-2000 WESTLAND GREAT HOME, GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD GREAT SCHOOLS! Located in the Livonia School System, this roomy home has upgrades galore! Brand New Carpeting on the first floor & fin. basement. Home Warranty Included. (25167350) \$189,900



CHARMING & COMFORTABLE HOME 3 BR,1.5 BA, cove ceilings & hardwood floors under carpet. Partial finished bsmt. Updates incl: roof, furnace, A/C & windows. Newer washer & dryer remain. \$179,900 349-6200 (25167969)



WESTLAND 734-326-2000 IDEAL OPPORTUNITY In this 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2 story condo in Westland. Full finished basement, 2 car attached garage, first floor laundry, C/A. (D702) (PC 220082) \$168,000

734-591-9200

\$154.900



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. 2 Big BR & 2BA located near the Pool. (25149374)\$162.900



NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430 END UNIT CONDO ALL ON ONE FLOORI Great 2 \$139,900

BR, 2 BA condo all on one floor. Wallside windows. Pergo floor in kit. Lg laundry room. All appl stay. Newer refrig & self-cleaning convection oven. 349-6200 (25175980)

			949.	437-3	00
Plymouth To	washipl Gre	eat locatio	n with i	3 BR.	FI
	or laundry,				
(25138224				\$184	

734-591-9200

Perfect for downsizer or 1st time buyeri 2 BR, 1 BA condo. Freshly painted w/new furn, C/A, windows (except front), updated elec & newer appl. Updated est in oak kit, bath and more! (25160751) \$69,900

 Subrount
 (2510101)
 Total 455-7000

 1
 734-455-7000
 WIXOM
 248-348-6430

 BEAUTIFULLY MAINTAINED AND UPDATED Spacious
 PARK-LIKE SETTING FOR THIS GREAT CONDO Backing to a nature preserve, hrdwd t/o, neutral \* light kitchen adds to its beauty.
 248-348-6430

 12 x 11 sunroom w/Pella windows & doorwall. (26001103)
 \$209,900
 Soaring ceiling in great room w/fireplace. All appl. stay 349-6200

 (26001103)
 \$209,900
 \$234,900

734-591-9200 LIVONIA 3 bedroom brick bungalow in Livonia. Updated great kitchen & bath! Livonia schools. (25167701) \$159,900

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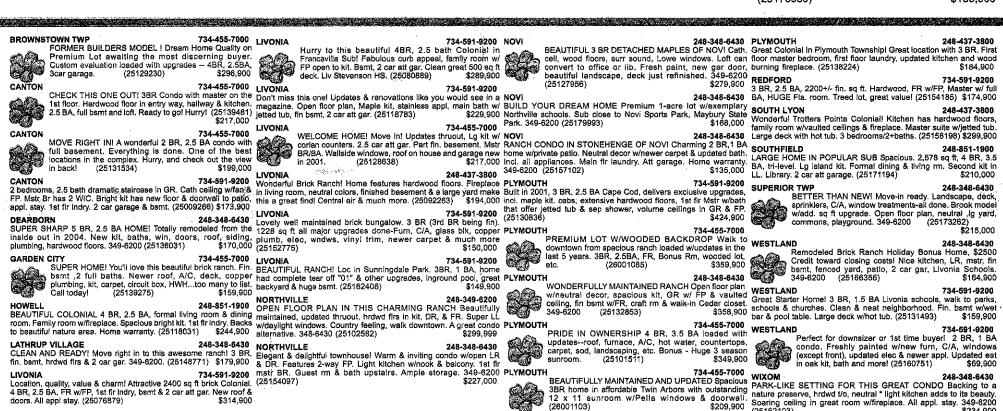
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WESTLAND BROWNSTONE CONDO Hardwood entry & kitchen, 9 ft. ceilings, 2 BR, 2.1 BA.1 car att garage. Bsmt w/ daylight wndws. Last Avaion style. Immed Occ. All appl. stay. 349-6200



(25145749) \$159,900









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This Classification continues from	Homes For Rent 4050	Homes For Rent 4050	Homes For Rent 4050	Homes For Rent 4050	Homes For Rent 4050	Living Quarters To 4120 Share	Rooms For Rent 4140	Office/Retail Space For 4220 Rent/Lease
Section F	OAKPARK Lease to executive couple. Furnished, 3 bdrm, no pets. (248) 770-3694 or mgrayer@mnsi.net	REDFORD BEAUTIFUL HOME. Lease Option Available! Bad- Credit OK! Immediate Occupancy. \$1200/mo.	SOUTHFIELD Admirable ranch featuring many nice updates. Spacious bedrooms, fireplace, new car-	WESTLAND 3 bdrm in a nice family area, extra clean, bsmt, garage, air, appliances, wash- er/dryer, screened in porch.	WHY JUST RENT when you can RENT-TO-OWN!! No Bank Qualifications	CANTON CONDO - W. of 275 Includes kitchen, laundry, utilities, private bedroom & bath. \$450. 734-394-0491	REDFORD-SW: Bachelor, furnished room, non-drinker, digital TV. \$100 moves you in. 248-477-5726, 248-866-2152	NORTHVILLE - OFFICE BLDG. 17000 Northville Rd. 1800 sq.ft., will split or remod- el also avail, 12x12 office incl. heat & electric. 248-347-5990
VONIA SW - Clean ranch. 3 drm, 2 bath, finished bsmt, 2 ar garage, appliances, updat-	PLYMOUTH 3 bdrm, 2 bath w/ separate living quarters for relative, 1300 sq. ft. \$1100 mo, 734-455-0391	313-575-1070 <b>REDFORD Clean 2 Bedroom</b> Basement, Garage, Large Lot. 19435 Poinciana \$650 mo. 248-476-6498	peting throughout, new paint 04. Florida room. Garage, nice sized lot, etc. Avail: immedi- ately. \$1300/mo. Option to buy. Agent, (248) 252-1340.	\$1075/mo. (248) 982-4210 WESTLAND 3 bdrm, large yard, appliances, 1612 Elias, \$900 + sec. 734-891-9786	"PICK YOUR OWN HOME!!" Or stop Foreclosure!! MARKETPLACE	CANTON- Gorgeous home, \$400/mo. includes utilities. Storage avail. Lots of ameni- ties: 734-262-5500 anytime.	TRIPLE A DELUXE MOTEL A/C, Jacuzzi in rooms, maid service, HBO. Low daily/wkly rates.	<b>NOVI - OFFICE SUITE</b> 440 sq.ft. 9 Mile & Novi Road area. Utilities incl. \$475/mo. 248-349-0260 ext 202.
I, \$1175. 734-422-0861 <b>WONIA</b> Very clean, 3 bdrm, 5 bath, family room, fin- hed bsmt, appliances, 1250 + sec. 248-529-6870	PLYMOUTH 3 bdrm. bunga- low, appliances, master bdrm. 23x13. bsmt. \$1400/mo. D&H Properties248-737-4002	REDFORD TWP 2 bdrm., utili- ty room, 1.5 car garage, newly remodeled. \$675/mo. 313-937-3680, 9am-6pm.	SYLVAN LAKE- W. Bicomfield Cute 4 bdrm, 1 bath, fenced yard, W. Bicomfield schools. \$1150/mo. 586-703-8850	WESTLAND 3 bedroom, rent to own, \$850/month. Won't last! (248) 478-5660	HOMES, LLC (734) 277-1762 karen@marketplacehomes.com	LIVONIA Good neighborhood. Clean, quiet, spacious home. Full house privileges. Private bath & laundry. Utilities incl. \$450/mo. 734-513-9690	Tel-96         Inn         313-535-4100           Royal Inn         248-544-1575           Fairlane         248-347-9999           Relax Inn         734-595-9990	REDFORD TWP. Office Suites 2 or 3 room suites.
VONIA- NE (2) 2 bdrm. arpet, appliances, porch, pet e. \$455 and \$705/mo + util- es. 248-356-7719.	PLYMOUTH All new 3 bdrm. Colonial. Corlan kitchen, new carpet, bsmt. 2 car. \$1700/mo. D&H Properties248-737-4002	REDFORD TWP 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, new windows, a/c, 2.5 car garage, \$950 + sec., will check credit, 313-588-0287	TROY 3 bdrm, 2 bath, full bsmt, 1250 sq. ft. brick ranch duplex, near 1-75. Dead end street. \$1000. 248-524-1831	WESTLAND 4 bdrm brick ranch w/ bsmt. Must see to appreciate. Preferred sub. 2 car garage, fenced. Close to	Mobile Home Rentals (4070) CANTON We have new	PLYMOUTH Private studio with kitchen/ bath; \$550/mo or Westland room, \$350/mo. Both incl. utilities.	Office/Retail Space For 4220 Rent/Lease Buckingham Office Park	Beautifully redecorated. Great Rates including utilities. CERTIFIED REALTY INC. (248) 471-7100
MADISON HEIGHTS, WEST Bdrms., bath, 2 garage, undry facilities. Immediate ccupancy. Cute Doll House,	PLYMOUTH Completely updated 1930's 2 bdrm., bsmt., garage, C/A, deck & garage \$995 + security.	REDFORD/South. Absolutely gorgeous 2 Bdrm. on huge lot. Newer kitchen, bath, windows, siding. Immediate Occupancy.	TROY 4 bdrm., 2.5 bath. Finished bsmt. 2 car garage. Lease to buy. \$2100/mo. Credit issues ok. 248-390-5764	shopping. \$1150 mo. + secu- rity. 734-341-1010 WESTLAND 4 bdrm, 1.5 bath. All appliances incl. \$1025 mo.	homes for rent. Pets welcome. Call Sandy at Sun Homes for details at: 888-304-8941 Skyline/Clayton Retailer	(734) 646-1135 <b>REDFORD</b> - Nice clean quiet 3 bdrm home, responsible male, female, student. \$400/mo, incl	Middlebelt Rd., N/ of I-96. Campus setting, Great Parking, Private Entrances. 575 ~ 7,200 sq. ft.	ROCHESTER 2nd floor. Approximately 800 sq. ft. North Main St., very desirable location. (248) 652-9081
pdated. Great local excellent ferences/credit required 248-528-0038	Gorgeoust 734-576-0894 PLYMOUTH Downtown, 2 bdrm, 1300 sq. ft., updated, townhouse w/ bsmt, c/a, appli-	\$795. 734-776-1440 ROMULUS Sharp 3 bedroom, basement, 2 car garage, family room, Option to buy available. \$850. 248-788-1823.	WATERFORD -Traditional 3 bdrm bungalow, appliances, C/A, bsmt, garage, <b>\$7</b> 75. ShareNet Realty 248-642-1620	+ security & uitilities. Cherry Hill/ Wayne. 989-839-0463 WESTLAND AREA Merriman/ Warren. 3 bdrm bungalow.	Southern Rentals 4090 DEL RAY BEACH FL - CONDO Beach access on I/C. All new	utilities. 313-535-3669 ST CLAIR SHORES Lg. master bdrm, private bath, walk-in closet, house privileges,	FARMINGTON HILLS Premier sleep clinic suite in medical building on	Commercial/Industrial 4230 For Rent/Lease CANTON -RETAIL
3 bdrm, 2 bath, \$699/mo. FIRST MO. FREE All appliances and a/c included. Pets Welcome	ances, \$900. (734) 716-5257 PLYMOUTH OPEN HOUSE	ROYAL DAK - DOWNTOWN 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath. Everything brand new. Spectacular. \$1275/mo. 248-931-6824	WAYNE 2 bdrm.,w/garage. Pets ok. Fenced yard. \$895/mo. Appliances includ- ed. (734) 722-8943	Air, fenced, very clean. \$950 mo. 734-536-8976 WESTLAND brick ranch, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, finished bsmt,	inside, 2 bdrm, avail now. \$4000/mo. 248-613-6958 JENSEN BEACH FLA Ocean front condo. Corner unit, 4th	garage. \$415. 734-216-7328 WAYNE Student looking for responsible roommate to share 4 bdrm, 2 bath home, \$550/mc. incl ultilities, serious	Orchard Lake Road, 3000 sq.ft., ideal layout on ground floor with interior & exterior entrances. Available early 2006 or sooner.	1500-3000 SG. FT. retail space in new building in Canton. On Michigan Ave., between Haggerty & Lilley. \$18/sq. ft. Bela Sipos 734-747-7888,
1 MONTH FREE!* 888-304-0078 College Park Estates 51074 Mott Rd.	Sunday, 3pm-6pm 40642 Ann Arbor Trail REDFORD 19610 Garfield. 2 bdrm. Exc. cond. New appli-	ROYAL OAK 3 bdrm., fresh paint. Hardwood, appliances. Patio, fenced. Bsmt., garage. \$1295 mo. 513-382-4670	WEST BLOOMFIELD Cozy 3 bdrm, Walnut Lake privileges. Appliances. Newly painted. \$1050. Chuck, 248-851-0588, or Joan. 248-789-9378	c/a, clean, heatsaver windows, no pets. \$995, 734-591-9163 WESTLAND Elbridge, 2 Bdrm, 1 bath, fenced yard, appli-	floor. 2 bdrm, 2 bath. Available now! \$2700/ mo. (248) 698-4134	WESTLAND 3 bdrm.,1.5 bath condo to share, utilities incl. \$400/mo. + \$400 sec.	(248) 352-9770	eves. 734-669-5813 Reinhart Commercial #2412466
Canton MI 48188 (Between Geddes & Mich Ave. off Ridge Road). *on select homes Skyline/Clayton Retailer	ances, garage. Great neigh- borhood! \$800. 734-812-9261 <b>REDFORD</b> 2 bdrm. brick ranch, faces Glenhurst Golf	ROYAL OAK 3 Bdrms., Basement. Remodeled, fenced iarge backyard. Must see. \$1400 - 517-546-9646	WEST BLOOMFIELD 4467 APPLE VALLEY. Newly remodeled 2700 sq.	ances, updated. \$600-\$650 /mo. includes water. (734) 716-5257 WESTLAND Fairfield Glade	HARBOR SPRINGS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, luxury condo. Downtown with view of bay.	(352) 430-8506 leave mess. WESTLAND roommate want- ed for father & family. Male or female, w/ good, housekeep-	Great Exposure. 1300 - 4480 sq.ft. Excellent Rates. CERTIFIED REALTY INC.	Lease/Option To Buy 4580 CANTON 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2 car attached, Gorgeous! Won't
IORTHVILLE 3 bdrm brick anch, 2 car attached garage,	course. Appliances. \$800. D&H Properties248-737-4002 REDFORD 3 bdrm, 1 bath & 2 bdrm, 1 bath, 1½ mo. securi-	ROYAL OAK Main St/Catalpa Rd area. Clean 2 bdrm. ranch w/fireplace & 2.5 car garage.	ft. 4 bdrm., 2.5 bath, family room, fireplace, appliances. 2.5 car attached garage, deck, C/A. <b>313-920-5966</b> , 248-593-0064.	Sub. Deluxe 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath luxury home. \$1450/mo + sec. Also will rent with option to buy. (248) 344-2120.	For prices and availability call Dennis at 231-838-5678 PALM COAST FL New Cinnamon Beach resort.	ing skills preferred. \$100 week. 734-658-1077 Rooms For Rent 4140	Livenia - 5 Mile/Farmington 1 & 2 room windowed	last long. \$1595/\$7500 nego- tiable. 248-921-2432
c, bsmt, appliances, option buy, \$1650, 313-805-5309 NORTHVILLE DOWNTOWN haming 2 bdrm house, lots of	ty. Btwn 5 & 7 Mile and Beech Daly. (248) 661-9523 REDFORD 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath brick ranch. Air, garage, all	\$1050/mo Matt 248-848-3005 ROYAL OAK- 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, finished basement, garage, air, kitchen appliances. \$950/mo. (248) 443-8920	REDUCED - \$1895/mo WEST BLOOMFIELD - 3 bdrm ranch, 2 bath, fireplace, c/a,	WESTLAND Super clean 4 Bdrm, 1.5 bath. Full bsmt, stove & refrigerator. No pets or smoking, \$1000/mo + utili-	3 bdrm, 2 bath condo, ocean view. Avail. weekly, monthly. Call: 770-671-1674 SIESTA KEY/ SARASOTA	CANTON AREA All utilities. Cable TV. Non- smoking. \$300/mo.	offices, utilities included. 734-422-2321 LIVONIA 6 mile/Farmington 2000 sq. ft. Will divide. \$11/ft. Newer building.	
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# BREAKING STEREOTYPES OF YOUNGER WORKERS



The word

"slacker" just won't slip out of the vocabulary. It's stigmatizing an entire generation. Do

some workers under 30 break the stereotype?

Twenty-six year-old Sean Sloan is an associate at Saul Ewing in Philadelphia, a legal firm with 260 attorneys in eight offices in four states and the nation's capital. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees magna cum laude, and bar admissions in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He also garnered at least three job offers.

Sloan has been working in the Business Department for 16 months, specializing in labor and employment law. "In our legal afield," he states, "there are a lot of firms representing large clients and dealing with the same issues. When it came down to it, the type of individuals and people I'd want to work with are those who stay late at night to finish a project. The ones here are more willing to take responsibility for work that goes out. Older attorneys are more willing to stay hands-on. Other firms may just be looking for people who will stay late. It's proved true. Every individual I've met has been great."

At 27, Lisa Rand is account executive in the New York office of The Kellen Co., an association management company with 175 employees headquartered in Atlanta, with four offices in the United States and one in Brussels. As executive director for two nonprofits, she manages daily operations, communicating with boards and handling strategic and conference planning for Distinguished Restaurants of North America (DiRoNA) and the Home Fashion Products Association (HFPA).

### **SELF-PROMOTION**

Both Sloan and Rand invest time in building relationships. Rand's method reflects traditional self-promotion. "I make certain that folks in the company see I'm delivering a quality product, that I'm approachable and that I'm able to speak eloquently about our products and services," she says. In particular, she advocates "maximizing your relationship with your supervisor . . . I try to do things I hope an employee would do for me," she explains. "I try to answer all of her questions before she asks, with weekly updates, including on what's on the sidelines. Older employers may think we're not dist people, or organized, that we're wait and see, not take-charge. Our age group needs to prove them wrong. I'm really lucky, because promotions aren't based on age; but performance and results." She pitches in, advisedly, during evenings and

weekends -- voluntarily -- when others need help.

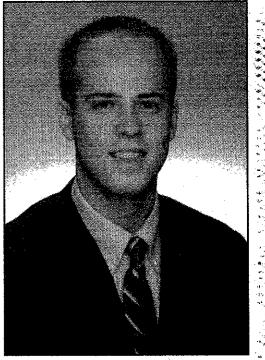
Sloan speaks in terms of building relationships where senior attorneys "see that you're a good representative for the firm, good for its future, because we're trying to recruit younger attorneys. A great way to do that is speak directly with them." He clarifies that this is "self-promotion, but not in the selfish sense in which that is used. Just like the older attorneys here, I see myself staying here for awhile, doing anything I can to make the law firm look better. Then I can speak with younger attorneys and help build business development contacts to help the firm prosper."

### METTLE

Relationship-building may make these employees visible, but so does their belief in accountability. Sloan recalls an error in a project "reflecting poorly for the attorney who signed it." This is a rite of passage for young attorneys. However, Sean went directly to the attorney, apologized and said that he'd approach even the small things with care in the future.

"The attorney didn't go immediately to the client and blame me," Sloan states. "He said, 'That's my responsibility, my name. I was directing you and I accept responsibility."

Rand's Achilles heel became evident at



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 12, 2006

Twenty-six year old Sean Sloan is a hard working associate at Saul Erving in Philadelphia.

lunch with the CEO a month after she'd been hired. "He asked me if I knew the mission statement and the company's core values," she says. "A ball formed in the pit of my stomach. I could barely eat my entrée. I was terribly embarrassed." Now that she knows them, she works toward them.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp comments upon the workplace in national media. Copyright 2005 Passage Media.)

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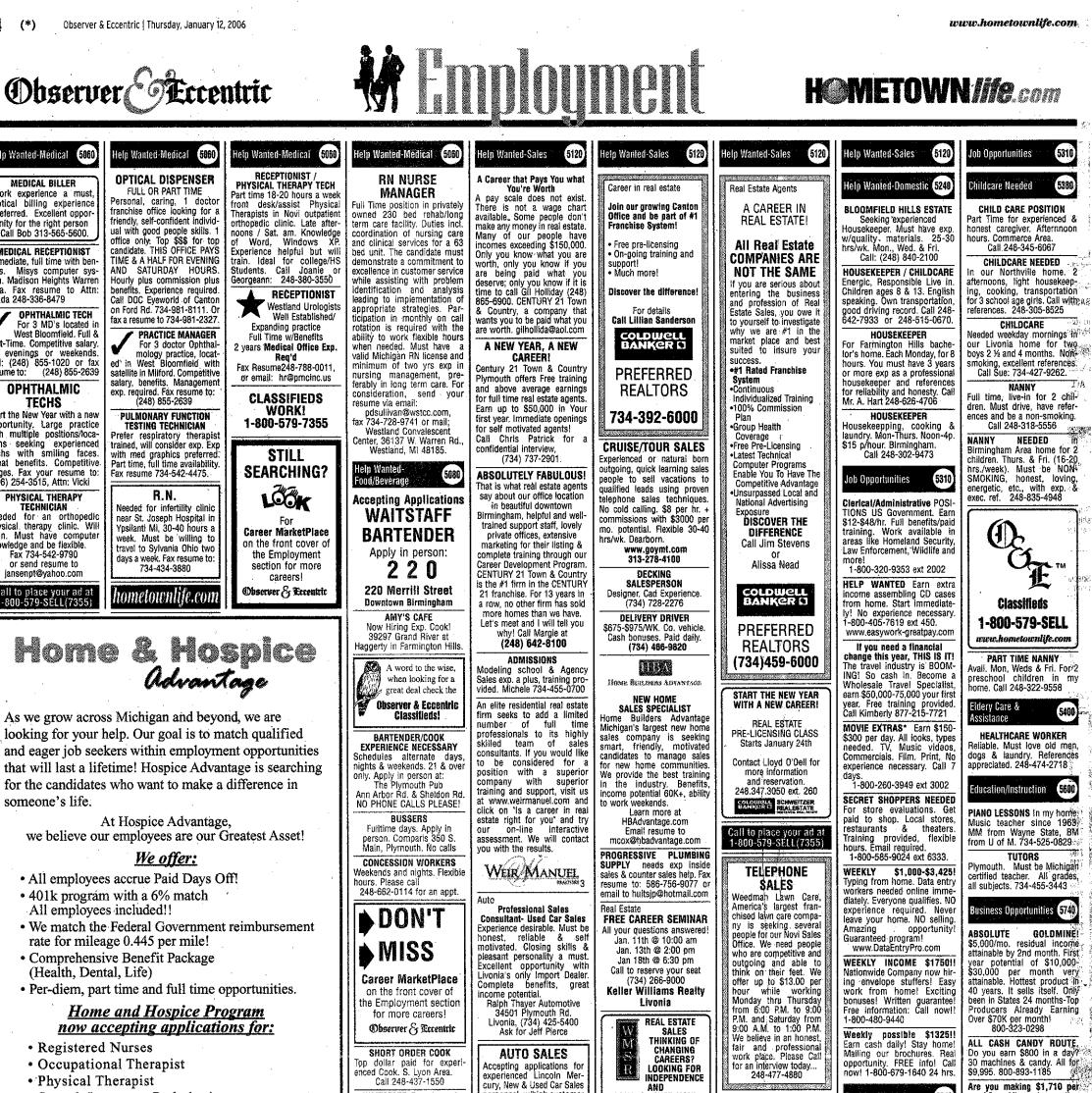
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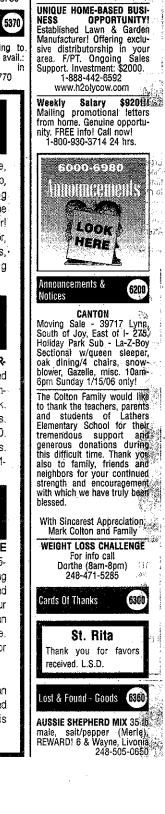
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